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**NLIHC Releases “The Gap”: Millions of the Nation’s Lowest-Income Renters Struggle to Afford Homes**

Inbox



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| **National Low Income Housing Coalition outreach@nlihc.org** [**via**](https://support.google.com/mail/answer/1311182?hl=en)**gmail.mcsv.net** |

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| National Low Income Housing Coalition  |

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| [View this email in your browser](https://mailchi.mp/nlihc/report_042122?e=caa6b7a75d)  |

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| share on Twitter Like NLIHC Releases “The Gap”: Millions of the Nation’s Lowest-Income Renters Struggle to Afford Homes on Facebook  |

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| **NLIHC Releases “The Gap”:Millions of the Nation’s Lowest-Income Renters Struggle to Afford Homes** |

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| NLIHC released today its annual report, [*The Gap: A Shortage of Affordable Homes*](https://nlihc.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e702259618becdc3f0451bd5d&id=895906f114&e=caa6b7a75d), finding the lowest-income renters in the U.S. face a shortage of approximately 7 million affordable and available rental homes. Drawing on multiple data sources, the report documents how the pandemic has exacerbated the housing crisis for the lowest-income renters. The report examines both short- and long-term policy interventions needed to address the immediate housing impacts of the pandemic and the underlying shortage of affordable housing.  |

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| [**Read The Gap**](https://nlihc.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e702259618becdc3f0451bd5d&id=8d26b3724b&e=caa6b7a75d)  |

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| Just 36 affordable and available homes exist for every 100 extremely low-income renter households. This shortage for the lowest-income renters impacts every state and the District of Columbia, resulting in widespread housing cost burdens. As a result of this shortage of affordable homes, 71% of extremely low-income renter households are severely housing cost-burdened, spending more than half of their limited incomes on housing. They account for more than seven of every 10 severely housing cost-burdened renters in the U.S.  |

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| The report demonstrates how these lowest-income renter households disproportionately suffered from the effects of lost income and housing insecurity during the pandemic. At one point – in January 2021 – nearly 8 million renters were behind on rent. The federal government took unprecedented actions to protect these renters. The government’s interventions, though, were temporary and limited in scope. Resources such as federal emergency rental assistance are now running out in many areas. Longer-term federal investments in affordable housing are needed to combat the underlying shortage of affordable housing that exposed the lowest-income renters to housing instability in the first place.Congress must make sustained investments in key HUD and USDA Rural Housing programs to address the underlying systemic shortage of rental homes affordable to the lowest-income renters. These investments should include significant commitments to deeply income-targeted programs such as the national Housing Trust Fund, Housing Choice Vouchers, and public housing. As *The Gap* demonstrates, the housing crisis for the lowest-income renters will persist long after the pandemic without such investments.The full *Gap* report and interactive map are available at: [https://nlihc.org/gap](https://nlihc.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e702259618becdc3f0451bd5d&id=74075ad0f5&e=caa6b7a75d)   |

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| The National Low Income Housing Coalition is dedicated to achieving racially and socially equitable public policy that ensures people with the lowest incomes have quality homes that are accessible and affordable in communities of their choice.    |

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