

Douglas County Tenant Experience Survey

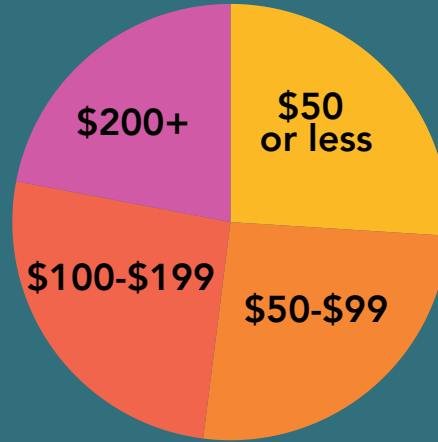
Sexual Violence Prevention Workgroup

Cost-Burdened

49%

Nearly half of renters are cost-burdened, spending over 30% of their income on rent.

67% of renters reported rent increases in the past 2 years.



Nearly 50% reported monthly increases of \$100+

"We had to move ... because we couldn't afford to eat"

Power Imbalances & Safety Concerns

94%

Didn't have legal representation during eviction process

45%

Had felt unsafe in their rental home

63%

Had unresolved maintenance requests

Power imbalances between landlords and tenants were frequently reported by Douglas County renters.

Top 3 reasons rental applications were denied

57% No reason provided by landlord

46% Credit history

28% Financial history

"Housing is not a luxury it is a NEED."

Read the full report by scanning the QR code or going to www.bit.ly/TES-Report



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Policy Recommendation	Overview
Tenant Opportunity to Purchase ordinance	A Tenant Opportunity to Purchase ordinance is a law that gives tenants in multifamily buildings the right to purchase their building when the landlord intends to sell it.
Tenant Right to Counsel ordinance	A tenant right to counsel (TRTC) ordinance is a law that guarantees tenants facing eviction legal representation provided by the government.
Just Cause Eviction ordinance	A just cause eviction ordinance, also known as a "good cause" ordinance, is a rule that limits the reasons a landlord can evict a tenant. These ordinances are designed to prevent arbitrary, retaliatory, or discriminatory evictions.
Eviction Record Sealing & Expungement policy	Expungement removes the eviction record from the court system's public view, as if it never happened. This prevents an eviction from being on a tenant's rental history. Sealing obscures eviction records from the public but may allow access to key parties like a tenant's attorney or academic researchers. Local lawmakers can enact these protections through laws or administrative policies and orders.
Junk Fees Prohibition ordinance	"Junk Fees" can show up in all stages of the rental process, including during the application process, during tenancy, and post tenancy or during the eviction process. A Junk Fees Prohibition ordinance encourages transparency and fairness in the rental market, including capping or eliminating unnecessary rental fees.
Tenant Bill of Rights ordinance & education	A Tenant Bill of Rights ordinance is a set of laws that protect tenants from landlord exploitation and ensures their rights.
Rent Stabilization/Rent Control ordinance	Rent stabilization and rent control are government-enforced policies that limit how much landlords can charge for rent and protect tenants from excessive rent increases. Unfortunately, Kansas state law currently prohibits rent control.
Inclusive screening practices	Tight screening standards can create barriers for potential renters who have a history of eviction filings, criminal offenses, or credit challenges. These potential renters are frequently screened out of a large majority of available rental housing. Policymakers can address the high barriers imposed by restrictive screening by releasing guidance and reports to support landlords as they develop and implement more inclusive screening protocols.