

OREGON RENTERS NEED RELIEF: CANCEL THE RENT!

CAT TENANT HOTLINE & SURVEY OF OREGON RENTERS



Even before the Covid-19 pandemic, 40% of Oregon's low income tenants **paid more than half of their income on rent**. Now, over 100,000 of these cost-burdened renter households have lost work.

MOST RENTERS HAVE BEEN PAYING THE RENT THROUGH EMERGENCY

RENTERS PAID ALL OR SOME RENT



HOW TENANTS COVER THE RENT

Renters make every effort to pay rent by going **without essential needs and by using saved money** that depletes their resilience for any further emergency.

HOW ARE YOU PAYING THE RENT?



52%

Cutting back on
essential needs



52%

Using
savings



33%

Applying for
unemployment

AFTER 4 MONTHS OF HEALTH AND ECONOMIC EMERGENCY:

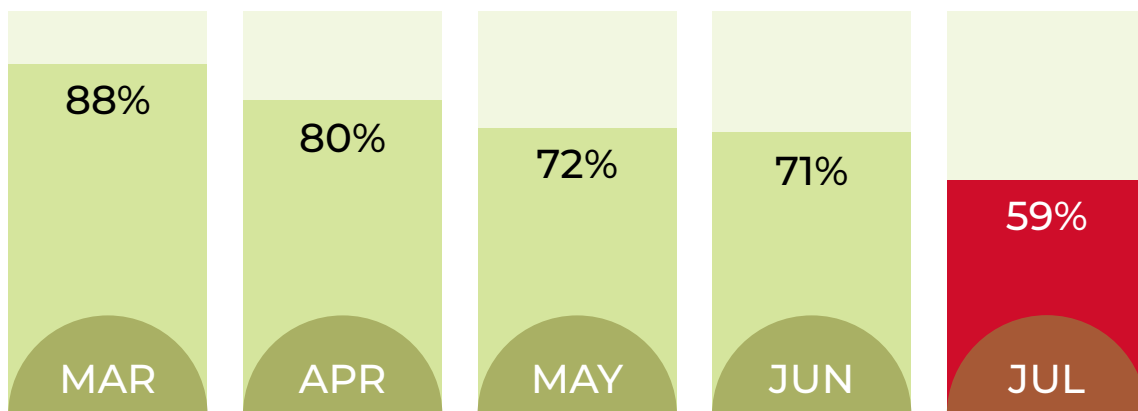


Most tenants who have rent debt cannot pay it back.

OREGON'S BIPOC RENTERS HAVE BEEN HIT THE HARDEST!

56% of BIPOC renters owe some back rent.

BIPOC RENTERS WHO PAID ALL OR SOME RENT



AND ALL RENTERS ARE BEING HARMED



Renters experiencing physical or mental health stress due to their housing situation.

CAT HOTLINE: 585 CALLERS
(3/15/20-6/30/20)



52%

Extremely low income



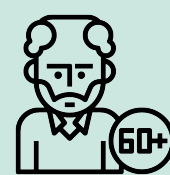
47%

People with disabilities



23%

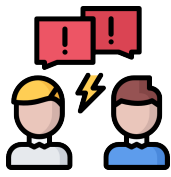
Single mother family



15%

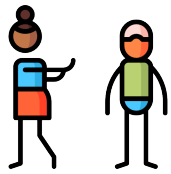
Elders

TOO MANY LANDLORDS ARE NOT HOLDING UP THEIR END OF THE RELATIONSHIP



22% of landlords

are being hostile, harassing, or threatening



23% of landlords

are not communicating at all

Even during the emergency, hundreds of tenants sought help with eviction threats, rent increases, and landlords not following health guidelines. Callers to CAT's hotline need more information about the eviction moratorium and their rights during the pandemic.

I can't afford to stay, but the landlord won't let me break my lease without paying a huge fee.

I've gotten a no cause eviction notice - even during the moratorium!

Do I have to let the manager or prospective tenants into my apartment during the health emergency?

My landlord is pressuring me to pay and charging late fees.

Can my landlord increase the rent during the pandemic?

SURVEY: 460 RESPONDENTS

(conducted by PSU, 6/23/20-7/23/20)



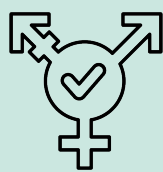
53%

Working currently



39%

People with disabilities



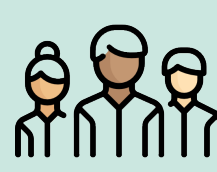
31%

LGBTQ



17%

Single parent family



40%

BIPOC



17%

Immigrant, refugee

THE EVICTION MORATORIUM IS IMPORTANT, BUT IT IS NOT ENOUGH

Many tenants have reached the limit of their capacity to keep up with current rent and also pay past due amounts.



Oregon has not funded sufficient rent assistance for everyone in need, leaving tens of thousands of renter households at risk of eviction and houselessness when the moratorium ends. The costs of a mass eviction event — to individuals, families, communities, and the general public — would be enormous.

OREGON'S TENANTS NEED TRUE STABILITY, IN AND BEYOND THE PANDEMIC

Based on our findings, essential principles for pandemic recovery housing policy are:

