

Questionnaire for Individuals (names removed)

What are your connections with Durham (live here, work here, own property here, etc.)?	What town do you live in?	What is your current living situation?	How does the cost of your housing, or housing in general, impact you (in terms of economics, family, transportation, location, schools, services, etc.)?	What, if anything, would you change about your housing situation?	Is there anything else related to housing that you would like to share?
Work here	East Hampstead	Rent studio	Transportation is \$200/month gas/maintenance	Location - want to be in Durham	
Work here	Portsmouth	Apartment	Got lucky, expensive not horrible, right downtown	Pricing	Parking in Portsmouth is worse than Durham
Work for UNH	Dover	Renting an apartment	It is so expensive and in order to live near where I work, most of my income has to go to my housing.	I would change my location but there are not enough houses in the price range to be able to do that	
Research Assistant and Graduate Student at UNH	Durham	Shared apartment with 2 other roommates	It's more than half my income which is a financial burden. Means I cannot live on my own as I would prefer, cannot spend money on anything that isn't strictly necessary, like getting take out or going to non-urgent medical appointments.	I would prefer to live alone, and closer to downtown so it would be easier to get groceries instead of all the way out on Mast Road. But there are very very few studio or 1-bedroom apartments in Durham that are within walking distance to campus.	I would really appreciate if the town would allow the construction of more apartments, especially for people who don't have cars and don't need giant parking lots taking up a lot of extra room where there could be even more apartments. Especially in the downtown area where it is easier to get to things instead of having to walk a half hour from Mast Road.
I am a PhD student at UNH	Newmarket	Renting	It limits me significantly and represents between 45-50% of my monthly take home income.	I live in a basement. I would prefer to have more windows and not need to worry as much about flooding. However, I cannot afford to move.	I will add my voice to the no doubt significant number of people calling for more affordable housing options.

I work for UNH and attend classes at UNH	Rochester	Living with friends who own their home	huge impact on me. I recently had to move out of my apartment in Dover because the cost of housing was too high, and move in with some friends farther away from Durham in Rochester, so I'm farther from my workplace and my established community in Dover/Durham. However, I just can't afford to live any closer, and there's limited options as well!		
Rent an apartment and work on UNH campus	Durham	Apartment rental	Heavily. I spend > 50% of my monthly income on rent and utilities, which means I have to strictly budget to avoid going into the red. I also have no savings to fall back on in case of unanticipated expenses.	More affordable housing	Allowing landlords to require resigning leases only a few months after starting a lease should not be allowed. Making a major financial decision so far ahead (7/8 months before the lease takes effect) is very hard to plan for and sets up trapping people in bad financial situations.

I work at UNH as a PhD student.	Dover, NH	I live in a 2 bedroom apartment with a roommate.	<p>The cost of my housing is about 50% of my monthly income. (Graduate students make a stipend of about \$2000/month, and I pay \$800 + \$100-200 in utilities a month for housing.) While I am able to make do, I feel stuck financially due to the housing situation combined with my graduate stipend. It is hard to put money aside for emergencies or saving for the future, such as retirement, homeownership, or having a family. Additionally, because it is so challenging to find quasi-affordable housing right now, if there were complications with my roommate, my landlord increased my rent, or some other issue arose that would cause me to need to look for housing, I feel trapped by lack of housing options.</p>	<p>I would prefer to live within walking or biking distance to UNH campus with outdoor space for a garden. I wish I could afford to have the option to live in a one-bedroom. I would also like to get a dog, but there is even less pet-friendly affordable housing, so that doesn't feel like an option right now.</p>	<p>this survey. The graduate student community is really struggling right now due the housing crisis. Graduate school can already be an isolating place, but it's difficult on top of that to have so many fellow graduate students living further and further away from campus due to lack of affordable housing, which makes it harder to meet with friends in free time and more dependent on cars for transportation, which are very costly. In particular, international students are particularly hard hit, moving to the area without a car or family support and without a sense of the feasibility of living in this area on a graduate student stipend.</p>
Live, work, own property, kids in the school district	Durham	Own a home			<p>We were lucky to find a house in Durham within our budget, but there are not many that would have fit that criteria. I would love for Durham to have more housing options for working families in different income brackets. Could apartments or second homes on existing properties be a good solution here?</p>
Live here and own property here	Durham	Own condo	<p>we bought when it was much cheaper and could not buy the same place today</p>		

Attend church in Durham. Kids in OR schools.	Madbury	We rent an apartment currently but are looking to buy a house in Durham, Lee or Madbury so we can stay in the ORCSD	It's extremely stressful to try to find a house in this market, especially in our area and in our price range. With young children, I stay at home with the kids and only my husband works so it feels like things are working against us without a double income. Houses are unnecessarily big around here too. We want something in between a 2bd apartment and a 4-5bd house.	To be able to buy an affordable house in the school district (under \$500,000)	
Live and work here.	Durham	Renting a one-bedroom apartment.	It impacts me significantly as it consumes over half of my paycheck, making it difficult to save anything and dependent on bare minimum to get by. I can't afford to even travel to nearby towns over weekends. I also don't own a car (can't afford it with all the related fees including extra parking fees both at work and where I live, insurance etc.), and the lack of public transit and sufficient bike lanes in Durham makes it extremely difficult to do anything and access resources.	Lower rent, no extra parking fees.	Not enough affordable housing in Durham.
Live and own property	Durham	Own home	Majority of income goes to owning home & upkeep, our home is smaller due to this. We are now priced out of our school district and would be unable to buy our current home today. Many of our favorite restaurants and stores have cut back their hours or closed due to not being able to raise their wages/finding staff who can afford housing	This was supposed to be our starter home, now it is our "forever" home.	We are currently short staffed at work and are unable to find staff due to the rental/housing market in the area
Work at UNH	Nottingham	Renting with 3 other roommates	Very lucky with having a rare find that has affordable rent costs, but need to have roommates to make it doable on graduate student salary	Ideally less roommates	

Work here	Somersworth	Live with partner who owns	Struggling financially, would not know what to do if my partner did not buy a house	More affordable, closer to Durham	
I began school at UNH in fall of 1999 lived in (rented) 2001-2003 and have worked in Durham ever since	Dover	Married, no children and renting	Cost and distance to work are a factor, no children so school district isn't a factor	I would buy instead of continuing to rent... economy and housing market, along with pastcredit issues make that difficult at this point	
I own a home in Durham and work in Durham	Durham	I own my home with my husband	We are very lucky that we bought our house when we did. I am not sure we could afford to buy a house in Durham currently.	I wish we had an accessory unit to rent out.	I wish living in Durham had more perks- we should have a discount at the UNH outdoor pool and more access to the college. We do not have any indoor children's activities for cold weather.
Employed in Durham	Stratham	I have a wife and three children between the age of 11-15, we live in one house without any pets at this time.	Housing is expensive in the Seacoast region. We are fortunate to have purchased our home before the housing explosion in 2020 and while interest rates were low.	Our home was built in 2001 and requires constant attention as components reach the end of their service life. We are happy with the home that we currently live in.	If I had not grown up in Stratham and was not involved in several aspects of the community and government, I would be living in Durham.
Work here	dover	house	Expensive	Lower mortgage	quit neighbors
Live here, work here	Durham	Own a home	It has a major impact on me	Mortgage amount and taxes	
Work here	Nottingham	Own single family home	The cost of my house does not have any negative impact at this time. I was able to purchase my home at a time where prices were lower and mortgage rates were low. I would not consider selling and purchasing a new home based on the current cost to purchase a house and high mortgage.	I would change nothing at this time.	

Durham Police	Barrington	Own a house with wife	I bought in 2016 when house prices were low and interest rates were low. Overall we have a good financial situation, but our monthly mortgage payment would be close to double if I bought my house today.	Nothing	no
Work for the town	Durham	Live with parents and siblings, parents rent house	Impacts me because I would like to buy my own residence but cannot afford it. I would like to move out of my parents house but rent for apartments is high and I would not be able to save to buy a house. Impacts my parents as the need to stay in the OR school district but also want to buy a house.	I want to own my own residence	
I work here.	Northwood	I own a house.	I needed to live further away from work in order to be able to afford the house that we wanted/will fit our family. Housing on the Seacoast/Durham/Lee/Barrington was too expensive.	I would like to live closer to work.	The costs of everything associated with owning a house are increasing and the cost-of-living increase does not seem to be matching that at the same rate causing people to move further and further from this area.
Work here	Berwick, ME	Homeowner.	It does not particularly.	Nothing.	No.
Employed as a Police Officer	Portsmouth	Living in a duplex apartment with my wife.	Rent is approximately 1/4 of my yearly income. I am also choosing to live in a more expensive area of the state because I like the downtown area of Portsmouth, as well as it being close to where we work.	Lower cost of rent.	

			<p>I would not be able to own my home in Nottingham let alone Durham if I tried to purchase today. Even renting would be stressful. Nottingham is not known for its abundance of services, which I like (lower taxes); however, I would pay more for an increase in emergency service coverage.</p> <p>On a scale 1-10 (1-No Impact, 5-Average Impact, 10-Large Impact) Economics - 4 (only because I purchased before the current market) Family - 1 Transportation - 1 (no public transportation, but I don't need it). Location - 2 Schools - 1 (I attended Nottingham school and Dover High. Good while I was there. Services - 4</p>		
Police	Nottingham	Own home - Mortgage		Nothing	No
Work here-Police Department	Durham	Own single family home	Housing cost is 45-50% of my take home income. I'm here for the schools.	Tax % for the land in my neighborhood is high for the acreage.	Will most likely have to leave once my kids have graduated from high school