

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In *Evicted*, Desmond makes it clear that many factors contribute to eviction. Which of these do you think is the biggest issue in Saint Paul? Which issues do you think could be most easily addressed?
2. Whose story did you relate to most? Why?
3. How do you think your own experiences with housing issues shaped your experience reading *Evicted*?
4. Have you noticed eviction having an impact on your neighborhood?
5. Desmond has suggested that a massive expansion of the housing voucher program could alleviate much of the housing crisis—what do you think of this idea? Discuss some of the potential benefits and drawbacks to Saint Paul residents.
6. The Minnesota Housing Partnership estimates that more than 50% of renting households in Saint Paul are cost-burdened, meaning they pay more than 30% of their monthly gross income on housing. How do we see the effects of cost-burdened housing in *Evicted*? How do you see them?
7. How familiar are you with tenants' rights in Saint Paul?
8. After reading *Evicted*, are you motivated to take action to address housing issues in Saint Paul? If yes, what would that action look like?

HOUSING IN SAINT PAUL BY THE NUMBERS

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE STATE OF HOUSING IN SAINT PAUL >

112,803

There are 112,803 total households in Saint Paul.

+18,000

Total households are forecasted to grow to 131,400 by 2030, **requiring the creation of more than 18,000 new housing units.**

72%

There are 119,625 total housing units in Saint Paul, **72% of which are 50 years or older.** Of those total units, 112,571 are occupied:

49.5% are owner occupied

50.5% are renter occupied

50%

50% of renter households are cost-burdened or severely cost-burdened, **meaning they pay more than 30% of their income for housing.**

\$71 MILLION

The total proposed investment in housing by the City of Saint Paul and other entities over the next three years to address housing affordability and insecurity.

\$12 MILLION

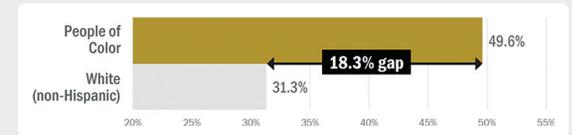
The total proposed investment in the new Saint Paul Housing Trust Fund, including a \$10 million one-time City budget investment, deployed over three years.



SAINT PAUL PER CAPITA INCOME GAP

Per capita income is defined as the average amount of income earned among a group of people in a year. In Saint Paul, white people earn nearly three times as much per capita as people of color. In recent decades, differences in wages between workers have grown in general, further complicating efforts to close income disparities across race and ethnicity.

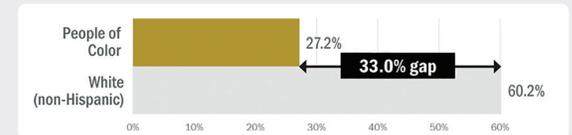
Source: American Community Survey 5 year Estimates, 2011–2015, analyzed.



SAINT PAUL COST-BURDENED HOUSEHOLDS GAP

Cost-burdened households are defined as those that pay more than 30% of their income for housing. While less than a third of white households are cost-burdened, about half of households of color are cost-burdened.

Source: American Community Survey 5 year Estimates, 2009–2013, reported through HUD's Comprehensive Affordable Housing Survey (CHAS) data.



SAINT PAUL HOMEOWNERSHIP GAP

Homeownership is one important way to build individual, family and community wealth. In Saint Paul, the percentage of households of color who own a home is just 27.2%, much lower than the homeownership rate for white households.

Source: American Community Survey 5 year Estimates, 2011–2015, analyzed.

LEARN MORE ABOUT SAINT PAUL'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING STRATEGY >

Scan the QR code with your phone or visit ReadBrave.org to learn more.

