

respondents' estimate of how much the property (house and lot, mobile home and lot, or condominium unit) would sell for if it were for sale.

The 2000 Census provides additional information related to housing costs that are not represented in the following table.

- ♦ The median monthly owner cost for a mortgaged housing unit in Burnett County was \$749. The State of Wisconsin median was reported at \$1,024.
- ♦ Approximately 18% of owner-occupied households in Burnett County paid 30% or more of their 1999 household income in monthly owner costs. Just over 30% of renter-occupied households pay more than 30% of their income on housing. It is not unusual for renting households to spend a higher percentage of their income on housing since renters, in general, earn less than homeowners. According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, paying more than 30% of total household income for housing is considered unaffordable.
- ♦ For those in the county who rent, the majority, nearly 45%, paid between \$300 and \$499 for rent. For the State of Wisconsin as a whole, the majority, 39.7%, paid between \$500 and \$749.
- ♦ The median gross rent paid within Burnett County was \$398. The median for the State of Wisconsin was \$540.

Affordable Housing Defined

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), affordable housing is paying no more than 30% of total household income for housing related costs. For renters, this includes utilities that are paid by the tenant.

Based on the median annual household income for Burnett County (\$34,218), the average monthly affordable housing cost based on the HUD standard is \$855.45 in Burnett County.