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### **Fox Cities LIFE Study Finds Highest Number of People Housed in Emergency Shelters in Six Years**

According to new, most recently available data from the Fox Cities LIFE Study, the number of individuals served in emergency shelters in the Fox Valley in 2018 was higher than any of the previous six years (2012-2017).

Oshkosh shelters polled include Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services, Father Carr's Place 2B and the Day by Day Warming Shelter. Fox Cities shelters polled are Harbor House Domestic Abuse Programs, Pillars Adult Shelter, and Pillars Adult and Family shelters.

New data released also shows about twice as many low-income households in the Fox Cities area as there are affordable rental units. The Fox Cities has less of a rental affordability issue than Wisconsin or the U.S. overall. Winnebago County shows that 43% of the county's renters are paying more than 30% of their income on housing, but the county has lower rental rates in comparison to Outagamie and Calumet counties.

These data points are a portion of the newly updated 31 data points within the study's categories of [basic needs](#), [economy](#), and [safety](#). Interactive charts and trend information are now available on the [Fox Cities LIFE Study website](#), with a summary of the new 31 data points on the "[What's New](#)" page. Data sources are: Oshkosh and Fox Cities area shelters; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy; KIDS COUNT Data Center; Child Care Resource & Referral, Inc.; Wisconsin Department of Children and Families.

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**About the LIFE Study:**

The Leading Indicators for Excellence (LIFE) Study provides a data-focused overview of the quality of life in the Fox Cities area. The LIFE Study began in 2001 and gives community members, nonprofits and others a look at how our community is doing. It provides insights, trends and data to gauge the quality of life in health and human services issues right here in the Fox Cities. The data presented should be a catalyst for community conversation about how we all can bring about important change and improve the quality of life and help put effort to the greatest needs in our community. The study also is benchmarked against select counties, Wisconsin and the nation, with trending information.

The official research partner for the LIFE Study is The Polis Center of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI). They specialize in working with their partners to define, measure, and actively improve community health, well-being, and resiliency. They were responsible for data collection, evaluation, and visualizing the data for this website.

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