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### Binghamton University's Effect on Housing Insecurity in Binghamton

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#### Recommended Citation

Wilner, Lauren, "Binghamton University's Effect on Housing Insecurity in Binghamton" (2023). *Research Days Posters 2023*. 103.

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# Binghamton University's Effect on the Housing Crisis in Binghamton, New York

Lauren Wilner

## Introduction

### Research Question

How does Binghamton University students moving off campus play a role in the housing crisis in Binghamton, NY?

### Background

Safe housing is the foundation of a stable life for adults and children. Housing insecurity makes it hard for people to handle their lives if they are always stressing about affording their current home or trying to look for a new one they can afford. If you are spending most of your money on housing, then it becomes difficult to afford other things like healthcare, food, and other necessities. The influx of Binghamton University students moving into the Binghamton area is what leads to this problem. Landlords make the price of housing expensive because the students can afford it, but the non-students that live in Binghamton cannot afford it and therefore cannot find a place to live or struggle to afford their current housing.

### Hypothesis

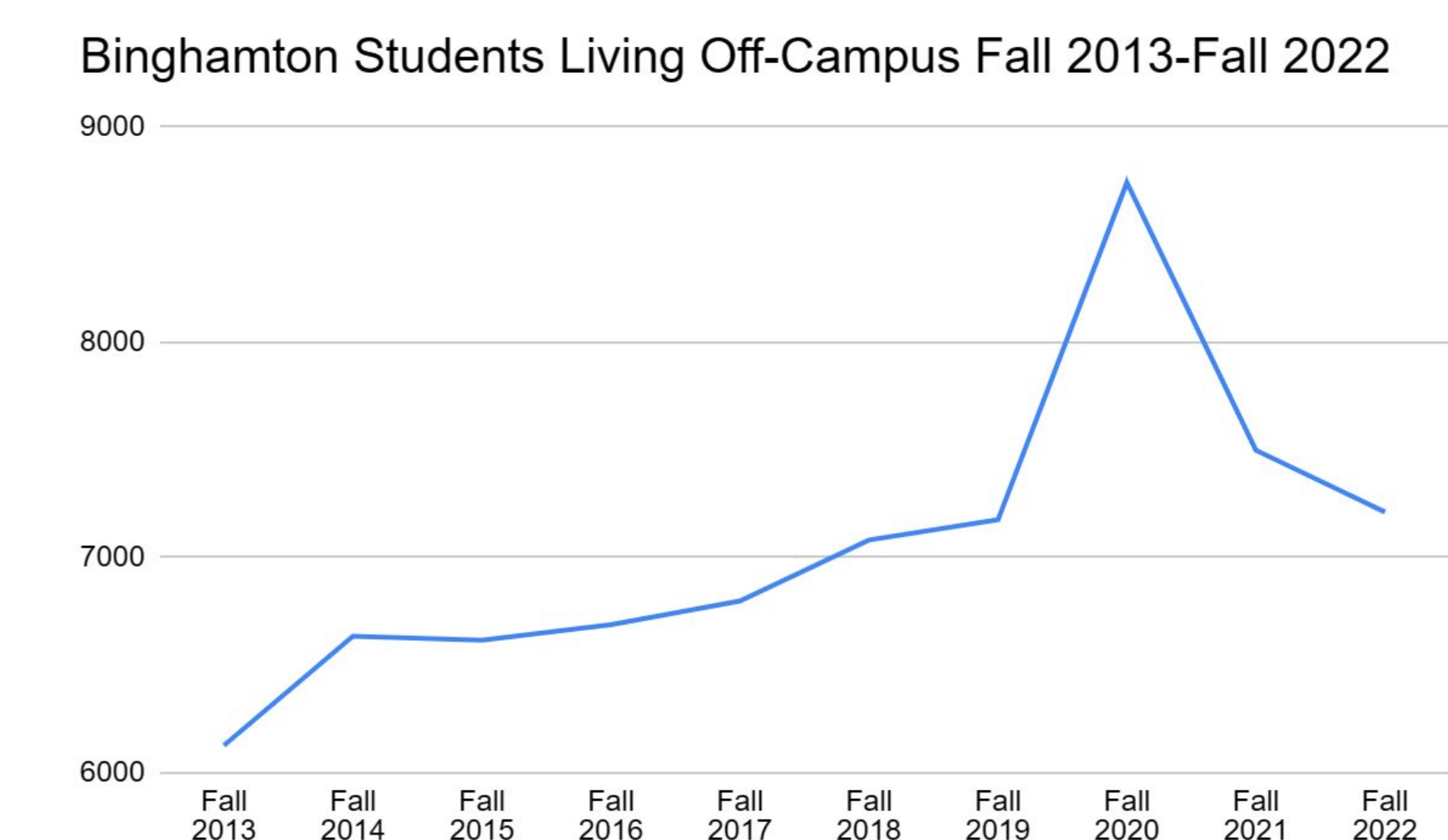
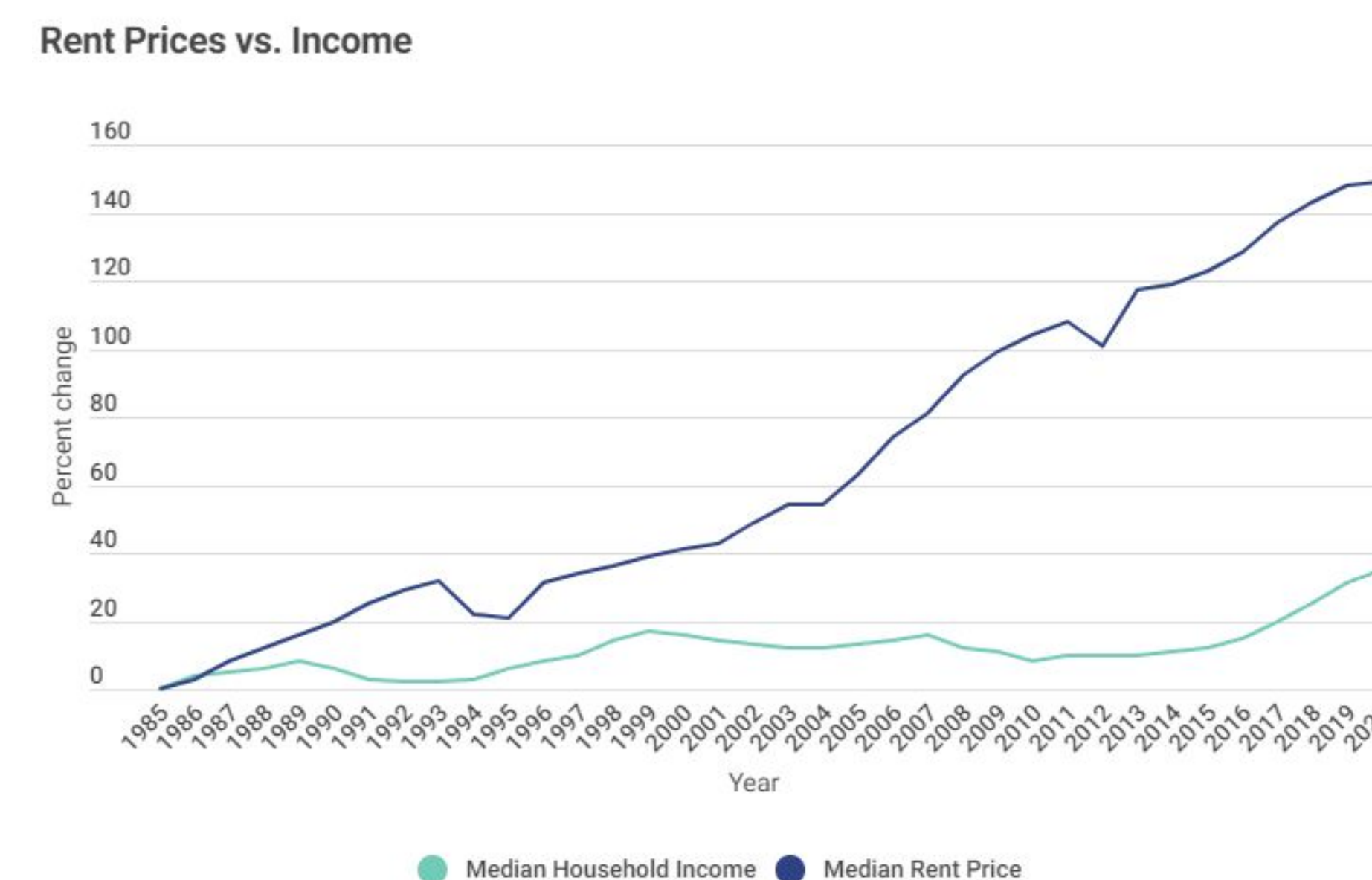
Binghamton University Students moving downtown has directly contributed to the housing crisis in Binghamton because it has increased the housing to a price that a lot of people in Binghamton cannot afford.

### Methods

- Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles
- Residential Life Statistics
- Interviews
  - ◆ Stakeholders of Broome County
  - ◆ North of Main Community Center
  - ◆ Binghamton University Tenant's Union

## Results

Rent Price Increases Have Exceeded Income Increases by 325% Since 1985



“With that growth they were not able to build as many dorms on campus to support that growing population but they were increasing enrollment so that leads to a lot of people investing in student housing and converting single family homes to student rentals”  
- Nate Hotch Kiss

“There is this student housing situation where it makes housing not accessible to people because of the hike in the rent because some landlords are catering to students only or they’re making the cost of rent higher than what people can actually afford in Binghamton’s economy”  
- Brandy Brown

“It is very predatory in that landlords will try to exploit a tenant’s lack of knowledge and while living in these places student will experience some of the same things locals do like poor conditions ”  
- J.P. Dillion

## Conclusion

### My Answer

Binghamton University growing student population has a direct effect on the housing crisis in Binghamton, New York. The city of Binghamton is too small for both the locals and the increasing amount of student to live in it.

### Landlords

Landlords rather sell to students so they drive the prices of housing up and even go as far to kick out residents with little to no warning. Even though students moving downtown is what is contributing to the housing insecurity the real problem is the landlords. After they sell to the students they trick them into giving them more money than they should. The students also live in poor living conditions because the landlords refuse to fix things around the house or apartments.

### The Solution

Students and locals need to be educated about the housing crisis and landlords and how to find affordable housing which is what the Stakeholders of Broome County are doing and the Binghamton University Tenants Union. Then action needs to be demanded of the government of Binghamton to pass laws to fix the problems and Binghamton University to spend money to try to help fix the problem. This is not a problem that should just be accepted anymore

Annotated Bibliography:

