Do Different Renters Face Different Affordability Challenges?

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This Research Notes explores the various challenges that different renter groups face when it comes to affordability. We examine how renter groups with unique characteristics, such as students, working professionals, married couples and single parents, spanning all ages, incomes and household types, and some of these groups are more vulnerable than others to high housing costs.

We also see much less representation in this table from the youngest and oldest age cohorts. Many older renters are presumably retired, and, therefore, likely to be living off of some combination of social security and other more sustainable income sources. Conversely, the youngest cohort (18-24) is much less likely to have such a consistent income stream, even if they are employed, and more likely to be newly graduated students who may still be paying down student debt.

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