

by Rentec Direct

Impact of COVID-19 On Rent Payments and Rent Payment Methods | September 2020

Rental payment data from September 2020 reveals that renters across the U.S. continue to struggle to pay rent during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As income loss and unemployment due to the pandemic continue to affect millions of Americans, many renters are struggling with cost-of-living expenses - the largest of which is typically rental payments. Fortunately, legislation has been put in place to try and protect renters from losing their homes throughout the rest of the year. Unfortunately, a decrease in rent payments received is likely to cause a snowball effect for landlords and the greater rental industry.

Rentec Direct's data has shown a consistent downward trend in the number of rent payments received nationwide by property managers and landlords, and the month of September has seen the biggest change with a 35% drop in total rent payments received. We began tracking data in March 2020, prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and will continue to share important information surrounding rent payments, payment methods and other rental behaviors as the pandemic continues to affect the world.

About the study

We pulled aggregated anonymous data from the Rentec Direct property management software platform, representing 620,000 rental properties nationwide.

Property managers and landlords received fewer rent payments in September 2020.

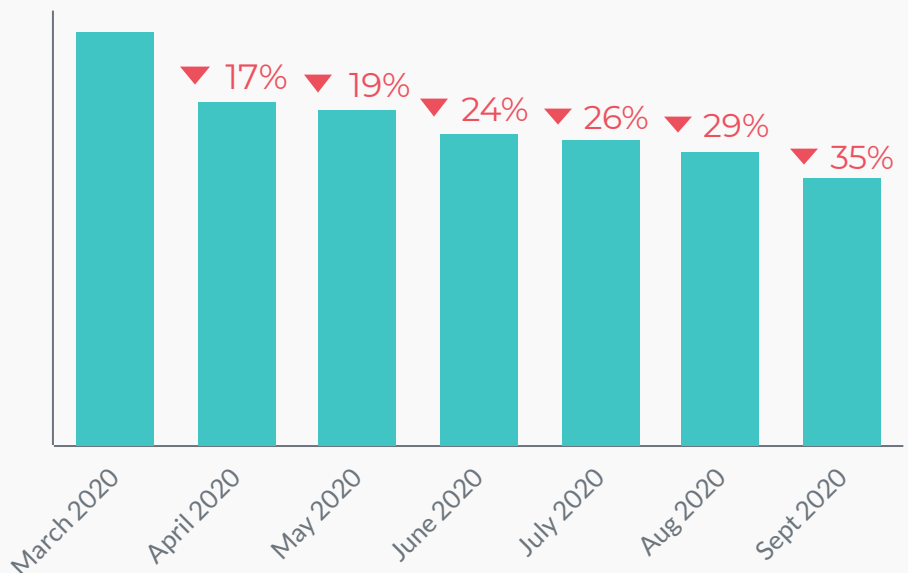
Rent Payments
Received

▼ 35%

March vs. Sept. 2020
Percent change

As of September 10th, rent payments received nationwide by property managers and landlords are 35% lower than rent received for the same period in March, prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in the US.

Rent Payments Received



Percent change compared to March 2020

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Renters are more likely to pay rent online.

Online Rent Payments Received

▲ 1.0%

March 2020 vs. Sept. 2020
Percent change

Of tenants who pay rent electronically, nationwide rent payments in September 2020 are 1.0% higher than online payments received for the same period in March 2020.

When compared to the 35% decrease in total rent received for September 2020, online rent payment options dramatically increase the likelihood of paying rent.

Interest in online rent collection options for landlords and property managers has increased.

Interest in Online Payments

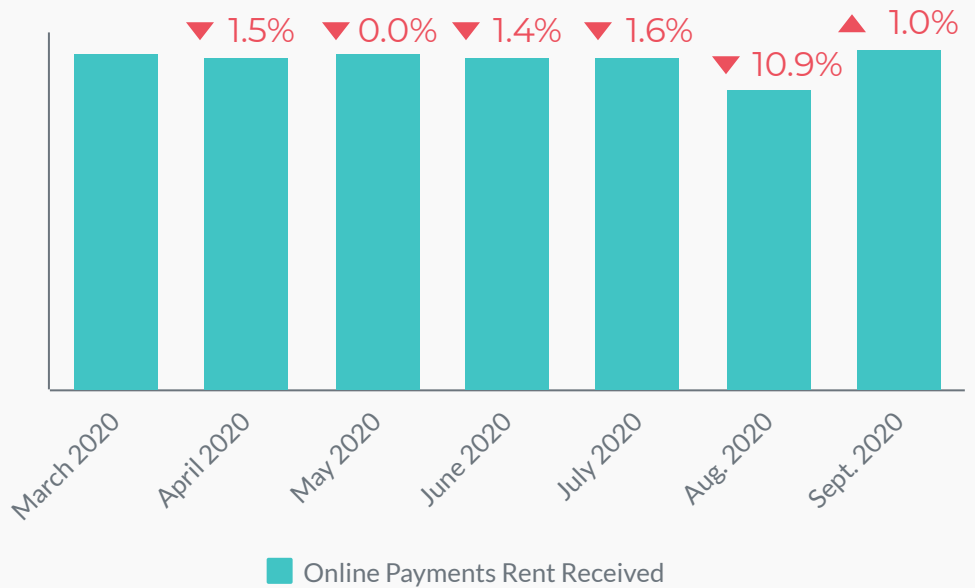
▲ 26%

Feb. 2020 vs. Aug. 2020
Percent growth

On average, approximately 124 property managers submit applications to turn on online payments each month.

In Aug. 2020, the number of applications increased by 26% compared to the monthly average prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Online Rent Payments Received



Interest in Online Rent Payments

