## **District of Columbia**

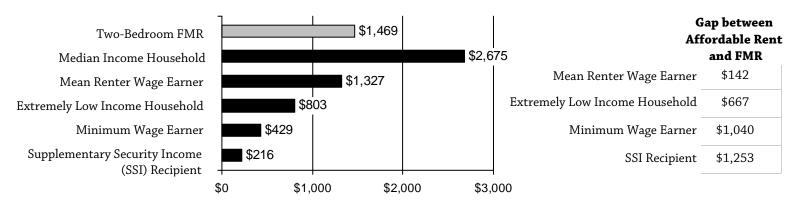
In the District of Columbia, the Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom apartment is \$1,469. In order to afford this level of rent and utilities – without paying more than 30% of income on housing – a household must earn \$4,897 monthly or \$58,760 annually. Assuming a 40-hour work week, 52 weeks per year, this level of income translates into a Housing Wage of:

\$28.25

In the District of Columbia, a minimum wage worker earns an hourly wage of \$8.25. In order to afford the FMR for a two-bedroom apartment, a minimum wage earner must work 137 hours per week, 52 weeks per year. Or a household must include 3.4 minimum wage earners working 40 hours per week year-round in order to make the two-bedroom FMR affordable.

In the District of Columbia, the estimated mean (average) wage for a renter is \$25.52. In order to afford the FMR for a two-bedroom apartment at this wage, a renter must work 44 hours per week, 52 weeks per year. Or, working 40 hours per week year-round, a household must include 1.1 workers earning the mean renter wage in order to make the two-bedroom FMR affordable.

## Monthly Rent Affordable to Selected Income Levels Compared with Two-Bedroom FMR



| District of Columbia FY14 HOUSI                         | HOUSING COSTS   |             |  | AREA MEDIAN INCOME (AMI)  |                            |  |                            | RENTER HOUSEHOLDS                                 |                                    |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|-------------|--|---|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
|   | Hourly wage<br>needed to 1<br>afford 2 BR<br>FMR <sup>2</sup> | 2 BR<br>FMR | Annual<br>income needed<br>to afford<br>2 BR FMR | Full-time jobs<br>at minimum<br>wage needed to<br>afford 2 BR FMR | Annual<br>AMI <sup>3</sup> | Monthly<br>rent <sub>4</sub><br>affordable<br>at AMI | 30%<br>of AMI <sup>5</sup> | Monthly<br>rent<br>affordable<br>at 30%<br>of AMI | Renter<br>Housholds<br>(2008-2012) | % of total<br>households<br>(2008-2012) | Estimated<br>hourly mean<br>renter wage<br>(2014) | Monthly<br>rent<br>affordable<br>at mean<br>renter wage | Full-time jobs<br>at mean renter<br>wage needed to<br>afford 2 BR FMR |
| District of Columbia                                    | \$28.25   | \$1,469     | \$58,760   | 3.4   | \$107,000                  | \$2,675  | \$32,100                   | \$803   | 150,339                            | 58%                                     | \$25.52   | \$1,327   | 1.1   |
| Metropolitan Areas Washington-Arlington-Alexandria HMFA | \$28.25   | \$1,469     | \$58,760   | 3.4   | \$107,000                  | \$2,675  | \$32,100                   | \$803   | 150,339                            | 58%                                     | \$25.52   | \$1,327   | 1.1   |
| <u>Counties</u><br>District of Columbia                 | \$28.25   | \$1,469     | \$58,760   | 3.4   | \$107,000                  | \$2,675  | \$32,100                   | \$803   | 150,339                            | 58%                                     | \$25.52   | \$1,327   | 1.1   |

<sup>1:</sup> BR = Bedroom
2: FMR = Fiscal Year 2014 Fair Market Rent (HUD, 2013).
3: AMI = Fiscal Year 2014 Area Median Income (HUD, 2013).
4: "Affordable" rents represent the generally accepted standard of spending not more than 30% of gross income on rent and utilities.
5: The federal standard for extremely low income households. Does not include HUD-specific adjustments.