

## KEY FACTS

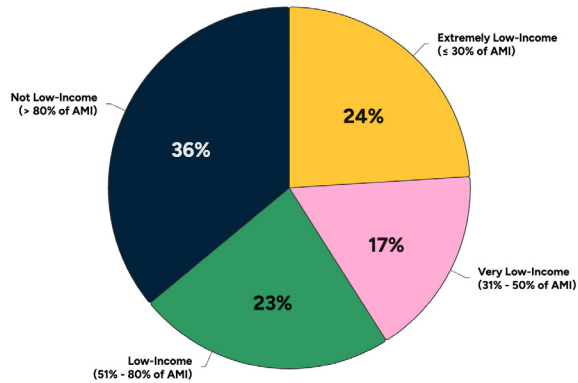
**18,602** or **24%** of renter households have extremely low incomes.

**\$34,961** is 30% of Area Median Income (AMI), or extremely low-income.

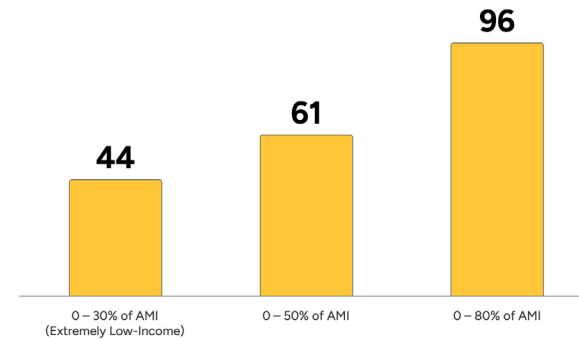
**-10,328** Shortage of rental homes affordable and available for extremely low-income renters.

**\$72,331** Annual household income needed to afford a two-bedroom rental home at HUD's Fair Market Rent.

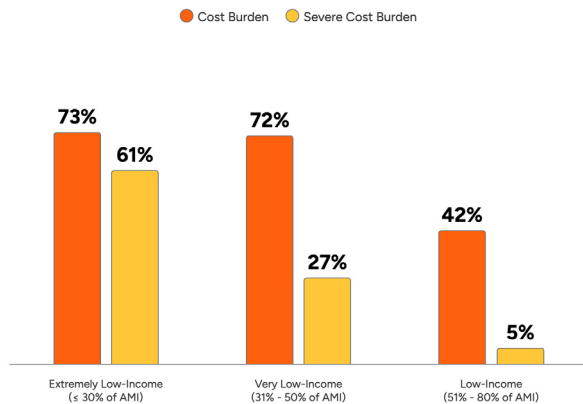
**24% of Renter Households Have Extremely Low-Incomes**



**Only 44 Rental Homes Are Affordable and Available Per 100 Extremely Low-Income Renter Households**



**61% of Extremely Low-income Renter Households Are Severely Cost Burdened**



**Rents Are Out of Reach in ME-01**

**Affordable Rents for People:**

**\$293**  
 Living on Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

**\$874**  
 Earning 30% of Area Median Income

**\$1,457**  
 Earning 50% of Area Median Income

**Fair Market Rent:**

**\$1,423**  
 One Bedroom

**\$1,808**  
 Two Bedroom

**\$1,808** is the average Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom rental home in this district. It is **\$1,423** for a one-bedroom rental home.

**\$874** is the monthly rent a household at 30% of the area median income (AMI) can afford in this district. A household at 50% AMI can afford a monthly rent of **\$1,457**.

**\$6,028** is what a household in this district must earn monthly to afford the average two-bedroom FMR – without paying more than **30%** of their income on housing. This translates to an annual income of **\$72,331**. A household must earn **\$4,743** monthly or **\$56,921** annually to afford a one-bedroom home at FMR.

**\$34.77** is the two-bedroom Housing Wage in this district. It is the hourly wage a worker must earn – assuming a 40-hour work week for 52 weeks per year – to afford a two-bedroom rental home. The one-bedroom Housing Wage is **\$27.37**.

## SOLUTIONS

- Provide significant resources to build and preserve homes affordable to renters with the lowest incomes through investments in public housing and the national Housing Trust Fund.
- Encourage states and local communities to reform zoning and land use regulations that prevent housing from being built and push up housing costs.
- Bridge the gap between incomes and housing costs by expanding rental assistance so that it is universally available to all eligible households or consider other innovative approaches, such as a fully refundable renters' tax credit.
- Prevent evictions and homelessness by creating permanent tools, such as emergency rental assistance, to help stabilize families in crisis.
- Other federal housing resources, including the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, should be reformed to better address the underlying market failure that results in the rental housing shortage for extremely low-income households.

