

KEY FACTS

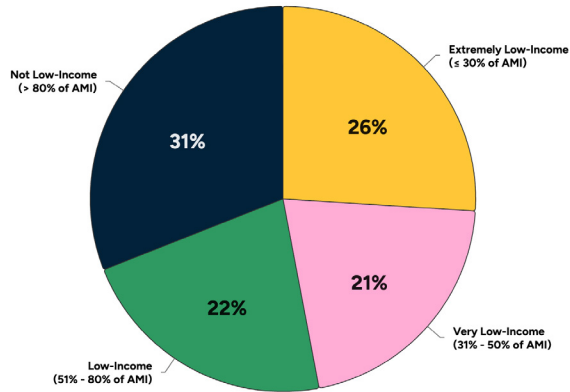
20,293 or **26%** of renter households have extremely low incomes.

\$26,914 is 30% of Area Median Income (AMI), or extremely low-income.

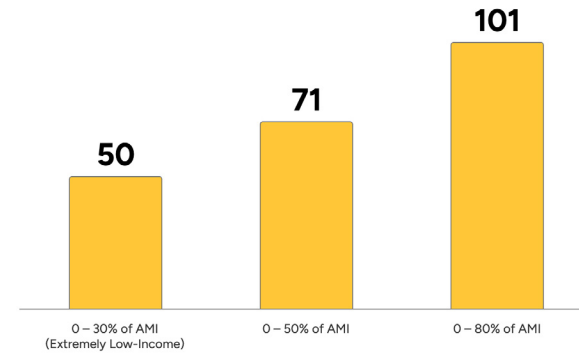
-10,245 Shortage of rental homes affordable and available for extremely low-income renters.

\$48,605 Annual household income needed to afford a two-bedroom rental home at HUD's Fair Market Rent.

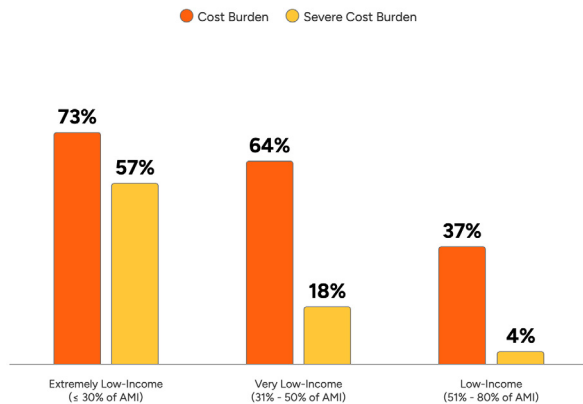
26% of Renter Households Have Extremely Low-Incomes



Only 50 Rental Homes Are Affordable and Available Per 100 Extremely Low-Income Renter Households

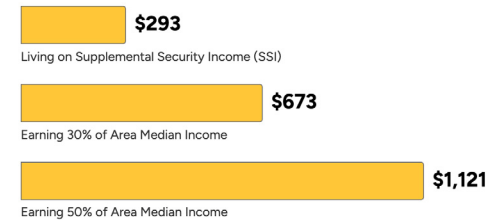


57% of Extremely Low-income Renter Households Are Severely Cost Burdened



Rents Are Out of Reach in ME-02

Affordable Rents for People:



Fair Market Rent:



\$1,215 is the average Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom rental home in this district. It is **\$961** for a one-bedroom rental home.

\$673 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 **\$1,121**.

\$4,050 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 **\$48,605**. A household must earn **\$3,202** monthly or **\$38,422** annually to afford a one-bedroom home at FMR.

\$23.37 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 **\$18.47**.

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.

