2024 CALIFORNIA HOUSING PROFILE

Across California, there is a shortage of rental homes affordable and available to extremely low income households (ELI), whose incomes are at or below the poverty guideline or 30% of their area median income (AMI). Many of these households are severely cost burdened, spending more than half of their income on housing. Severely cost burdened poor households are more likely than other renters to sacrifice other necessities like healthy food and healthcare to pay the rent, and to experience unstable housing situations like evictions.

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Key Facts

1,282,835 or 21% Renter Households with extremely low incomes

Note: Mutually exclusive categories applied in the following order: senior, disabled, in labor force, enrolled in school, single adult caregiver of a child under 7 or of a household member with a disability, and other. Nationally, 13% of extremely low-income renter households are single adult caregivers, 53% of whom usually work more than 20 hours per week. Source: 2022 ACS PUMS.

Affordable and Available Homes Per 100 Renter Households

Extremely low-income (0 - 30% of AMI): 24
50% of AMI or less: 35
80% of AMI or less: 68
100% of AMI or less: 85

Source: NLIHC tabulations of 2022 ACS PUMS

Housing Cost Burden by Income Group

- Extremely Low Income (0 - 30% of AMI): 88.5% Cost Burdened, 77.3% Severely Cost Burdened
- Very Low Income (31% - 50% of AMI): 84.7% Cost Burdened, 50.3% Severely Cost Burdened
- Low Income (51% - 80% of AMI): 64.9% Cost Burdened, 18.7% Severely Cost Burdened
- Middle Income (81% - 100% of AMI): 39.4% Cost Burdened, 5.5% Severely Cost Burdened

Source: NLIHC tabulations of 2022 ACS PUMS

Note: Renter households spending more than 30% of their income on housing costs and utilities are cost burdened; those spending more than half of their income are severely cost burdened. Source: NLIHC tabulations of 2022 ACS PUMS

Note: *Or poverty guideline, if higher.