



Due to State Cuts, SSI/SSP Grants Lose Ground to Housing Costs

Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP) grants are a critical source of basic income for 1.3 million low-income seniors and people with disabilities in California. Grants are funded with both federal (SSI) and state (SSP) dollars. In order to help close budget shortfalls during the Great Recession, state policymakers made deep reductions to the SSP portion of the grant – cuts that remain in place today and would continue under Governor Brown’s proposed 2015-16 budget. Due to these state cuts, SSI/SSP grants have lost ground to housing costs, which have risen throughout much of California in recent years. For example, in every county, the “Fair Market Rent”(FMR) for a studio apartment exceeds 50% of the maximum SSI/SSP grant for an individual.¹ People are at greater risk of becoming homeless when housing costs account for more than half of household income.

Studio Apartment Rent Exceeds One-Half of the SSI/SSP Grant in All 58 Counties and Is Higher Than the Entire Grant in 15 Counties

County	Maximum SSI/SSP Grant for an Individual Effective January 1, 2015	Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a Studio Apartment*	Amount of Grant Remaining After Paying Studio Rent	Studio FMR as a Percentage of Grant	Rank by FMR (Highest to Lowest)
Alameda	\$889	\$1,039	-\$150	116.8%	8
Alpine	\$889	\$595	\$294	66.9%	41
Amador	\$889	\$587	\$302	66.0%	42
Butte	\$889	\$527	\$362	59.3%	51
Calaveras	\$889	\$642	\$247	72.2%	34
Colusa	\$889	\$569	\$320	64.0%	47
Contra Costa	\$889	\$1,039	-\$150	116.8%	8
Del Norte	\$889	\$613	\$276	68.9%	38
El Dorado	\$889	\$676	\$213	76.0%	28
Fresno	\$889	\$649	\$240	73.0%	31
Glenn	\$889	\$570	\$319	64.1%	46
Humboldt	\$889	\$630	\$259	70.8%	36
Imperial	\$889	\$476	\$413	53.5%	56
Inyo	\$889	\$728	\$161	81.9%	26
Kern	\$889	\$631	\$258	70.9%	35
Kings	\$889	\$504	\$385	56.7%	54
Lake	\$889	\$626	\$263	70.4%	37
Lassen	\$889	\$646	\$243	72.6%	33
Los Angeles	\$889	\$913	-\$24	102.7%	13

County	Maximum SSI/SSP Grant for an Individual Effective January 1, 2015	Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a Studio Apartment*	Amount of Grant Remaining After Paying Studio Rent	Studio FMR as a Percentage of Grant	Rank by FMR (Highest to Lowest)
Madera	\$889	\$647	\$242	72.7%	32
Marin	\$889	\$1,256	-\$367	141.2%	1
Mariposa	\$889	\$611	\$278	68.7%	39
Mendocino	\$889	\$811	\$78	91.2%	19
Merced	\$889	\$498	\$391	56.0%	55
Modoc	\$889	\$468	\$421	52.6%	57
Mono	\$889	\$842	\$47	94.7%	18
Monterey	\$889	\$879	\$10	98.8%	16
Napa	\$889	\$902	-\$13	101.4%	14
Nevada	\$889	\$1,016	-\$127	114.2%	10
Orange	\$889	\$1,117	-\$228	125.6%	5
Placer	\$889	\$676	\$213	76.0%	28
Plumas	\$889	\$512	\$377	57.6%	53
Riverside	\$889	\$788	\$101	88.6%	20
Sacramento	\$889	\$676	\$213	76.0%	28
San Benito	\$889	\$761	\$128	85.6%	23
San Bernardino	\$889	\$788	\$101	88.6%	20
San Diego	\$889	\$964	-\$75	108.4%	12
San Francisco	\$889	\$1,256	-\$367	141.2%	1
San Joaquin	\$889	\$605	\$284	68.0%	40
San Luis Obispo	\$889	\$877	\$12	98.6%	17
San Mateo	\$889	\$1,256	-\$367	141.2%	1
Santa Barbara	\$889	\$1,060	-\$171	119.2%	7
Santa Clara	\$889	\$1,213	-\$324	136.4%	4
Santa Cruz	\$889	\$1,073	-\$184	120.6%	6
Shasta	\$889	\$702	\$187	78.9%	27
Sierra	\$889	\$757	\$132	85.1%	24
Siskiyou	\$889	\$522	\$367	58.7%	52
Solano	\$889	\$765	\$124	86.0%	22
Sonoma	\$889	\$898	-\$9	101.0%	15
Stanislaus	\$889	\$583	\$306	65.5%	43
Sutter	\$889	\$551	\$338	62.0%	48
Tehama	\$889	\$467	\$422	52.5%	58
Trinity	\$889	\$551	\$338	62.0%	48
Tulare	\$889	\$577	\$312	64.9%	45
Tuolumne	\$889	\$580	\$309	65.2%	44
Ventura	\$889	\$969	-\$80	108.9%	11
Yolo	\$889	\$757	\$132	85.1%	24
Yuba	\$889	\$551	\$338	62.0%	48

* The FMR is for federal fiscal year 2015, which ends on September 30, 2015.

Source: Department of Social Services and US Department of Housing and Urban Development

¹ FMRs are determined by the federal government and generally estimate the dollar amount below which 40% of standard-quality rental housing units are rented.