



BY SCOTT GRAVES

SSI/SSP Assists Low-Income Seniors and People With Disabilities in Every California House District, but Could Face Federal Cuts

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) provides federally funded cash assistance to help low-income seniors and people with disabilities pay for housing, food, and other necessities. The maximum monthly SSI grant for most recipients in California is currently \$750 per month – about 74% of the federal poverty line for an individual. Also, California funds a State Supplementary Payment (SSP), which provides up to an additional \$160.72 per month for most recipients. Yet, the *combined* maximum SSI/SSP grant for an individual – \$910.72 per month – is still equal to only 90% of the poverty line. SSI/SSP funding is expected to total \$9.6 billion in the current fiscal year (2017-18), with the federal government providing \$7.1 billion and the state, \$2.5 billion. SSI/SSP recipients live in all 53 of California’s congressional districts. For example, in the 23rd District, represented by House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Bakersfield), nearly 27,000 residents rely on SSI/SSP to help make ends meet. In the 12th District, represented by House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-San Francisco), more than 38,000 residents are enrolled in SSI/SSP. Republican proposals to scale back federal support for the safety net could include reductions to SSI. Any such cuts would be a further blow to SSI/SSP recipients who already struggle with California’s high cost of living.

Funding for SSI/SSP Grants Is Estimated to Total \$9.6 Billion in 2017-18

District	Representative	Party	SSI/SSP Recipients (December 2016)*				Recipients’ Share of Population	Rank (Highest to Lowest Percentage)	Estimated SSI/SSP Payments, 2017-18**
			Under Age 18	Ages 18 to 64	Age 65 or Older	Total			
California			108,354	592,467	574,923	1,275,744	3.3%	N/A	\$9,553,050,000
1	LaMalfa, Doug	R	2,067	22,985	6,700	31,752	4.5%	11	\$232,860,000
2	Huffman, Jared	D	1,059	12,328	5,068	18,455	2.6%	35	\$136,250,000
3	Garamendi, John	D	2,000	14,259	6,904	23,163	3.1%	31	\$170,580,000
4	McClintock, Tom	R	855	8,495	3,539	12,889	1.7%	47	\$94,080,000
5	Thompson, Mike	D	1,370	10,348	5,432	17,150	2.3%	37	\$126,410,000
6	Matsui, Doris O.	D	3,806	26,451	14,861	45,118	5.9%	2	\$362,610,000
7	Bera, Ami	D	1,844	12,103	9,231	23,178	3.1%	30	\$184,940,000
8	Cook, Paul	R	3,550	17,514	7,154	28,218	3.9%	14	\$219,350,000
9	McNerney, Jerry	D	2,989	15,661	9,297	27,947	3.7%	20	\$218,270,000
10	Denham, Jeff	R	2,769	14,126	8,910	25,805	3.5%	25	\$196,270,000
11	DeSaulnier, Mark	D	1,854	11,938	7,849	21,641	2.9%	34	\$170,200,000
12	Pelosi, Nancy	D	648	13,852	23,877	38,377	5.1%	6	\$295,410,000
13	Lee, Barbara	D	2,191	16,023	14,348	32,562	4.3%	12	\$262,410,000
14	Speier, Jackie	D	504	4,689	9,259	14,452	1.9%	43	\$98,110,000

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			Under Age 18	Ages 18 to 64	Age 65 or Older	Total			
15	Swalwell, Eric	D	978	6,354	8,016	15,348	2.0%	40	\$116,090,000
16	Costa, Jim	D	4,438	20,213	13,714	38,365	5.3%	4	\$293,050,000
17	Khanna, Ro	D	548	4,076	10,116	14,740	1.9%	45	\$108,770,000
18	Eshoo, Anna G.	D	508	3,747	6,555	10,810	1.5%	50	\$80,000,000
19	Lofgren, Zoe	D	1,463	9,219	14,949	25,631	3.4%	26	\$194,700,000
20	Panetta, Jimmy	D	1,494	7,814	5,513	14,821	2.0%	41	\$98,970,000
21	Valadao, David	R	3,345	12,306	10,578	26,229	3.6%	22	\$181,530,000
22	Nunes, Devin	R	3,395	13,609	9,476	26,480	3.5%	24	\$197,440,000
23	McCarthy, Kevin	R	2,913	16,579	7,332	26,824	3.7%	17	\$207,510,000
24	Carbajal, Salud	D	1,062	7,974	4,514	13,550	1.8%	46	\$93,880,000
25	Knight, Steve	R	3,028	12,696	7,213	22,937	3.1%	29	\$181,900,000
26	Brownley, Julia	D	1,511	7,051	5,891	14,453	2.0%	42	\$96,040,000
27	Chu, Judy	D	977	7,628	20,581	29,186	4.0%	13	\$215,100,000
28	Schiff, Adam	D	972	12,506	30,840	44,318	6.2%	1	\$363,090,000
29	Cárdenas, Tony	D	2,687	11,900	18,251	32,838	4.5%	10	\$246,440,000
30	Sherman, Brad	D	998	6,837	13,970	21,805	2.9%	33	\$164,670,000
31	Aguilar, Pete	D	3,302	15,211	9,435	27,948	3.8%	16	\$209,110,000
32	Napolitano, Grace	D	2,505	9,735	14,867	27,107	3.8%	15	\$194,160,000
33	Lieu, Ted	D	346	3,701	6,804	10,851	1.5%	49	\$80,630,000
34	Gomez, Jimmy	D	3,235	14,554	25,434	43,223	5.7%	3	\$320,330,000
35	Torres, Norma	D	2,721	9,904	9,832	22,457	3.0%	32	\$161,520,000
36	Ruiz, Raul	D	2,669	12,797	8,599	24,065	3.2%	28	\$168,670,000
37	Bass, Karen	D	3,255	18,095	15,005	36,355	5.0%	7	\$287,140,000
38	Sánchez, Linda	D	2,081	10,318	13,414	25,813	3.6%	21	\$183,000,000
39	Royce, Ed	R	1,074	5,103	10,084	16,261	2.2%	38	\$113,710,000
40	Roybal-Allard, Lucille	D	3,954	9,870	12,205	26,029	3.6%	23	\$182,440,000
41	Takano, Mark	D	2,959	12,889	8,963	24,811	3.3%	27	\$182,670,000
42	Calvert, Ken	R	1,227	5,888	5,360	12,475	1.6%	48	\$90,410,000
43	Waters, Maxine	D	3,066	13,101	10,460	26,627	3.7%	18	\$203,630,000
44	Barragán, Nanette	D	4,893	17,461	13,184	35,538	4.9%	8	\$272,810,000
45	Walters, Mimi	R	590	2,946	6,290	9,826	1.3%	52	\$71,280,000
46	Correa, J. Louis	D	2,990	8,978	15,071	27,039	3.7%	19	\$193,060,000
47	Lowenthal, Alan	D	2,139	13,000	18,440	33,579	4.7%	9	\$258,560,000
48	Rohrabacher, Dana	R	652	3,481	6,255	10,388	1.4%	51	\$76,900,000
49	Issa, Darrell	R	729	4,272	3,430	8,431	1.1%	53	\$59,170,000
50	Hunter, Duncan D.	R	1,161	8,348	5,924	15,433	2.1%	39	\$113,030,000
51	Vargas, Juan	D	3,145	15,708	19,570	38,423	5.1%	5	\$264,860,000
52	Peters, Scott	D	462	6,230	7,609	14,301	1.9%	44	\$110,760,000
53	Davis, Susan	D	1,376	9,596	8,750	19,722	2.6%	36	\$148,260,000

* December 2016 is the most recent month for which data are available.

** The statewide figure is a Department of Social Services estimate. District estimates are based on each district's share of SSI/SSP payments in December 2016. Figures are rounded to the nearest 10,000. District estimates do not sum to total due to rounding.

Source: Budget Center analysis of data from the Department of Social Services, US Census Bureau, and US Social Security Administration