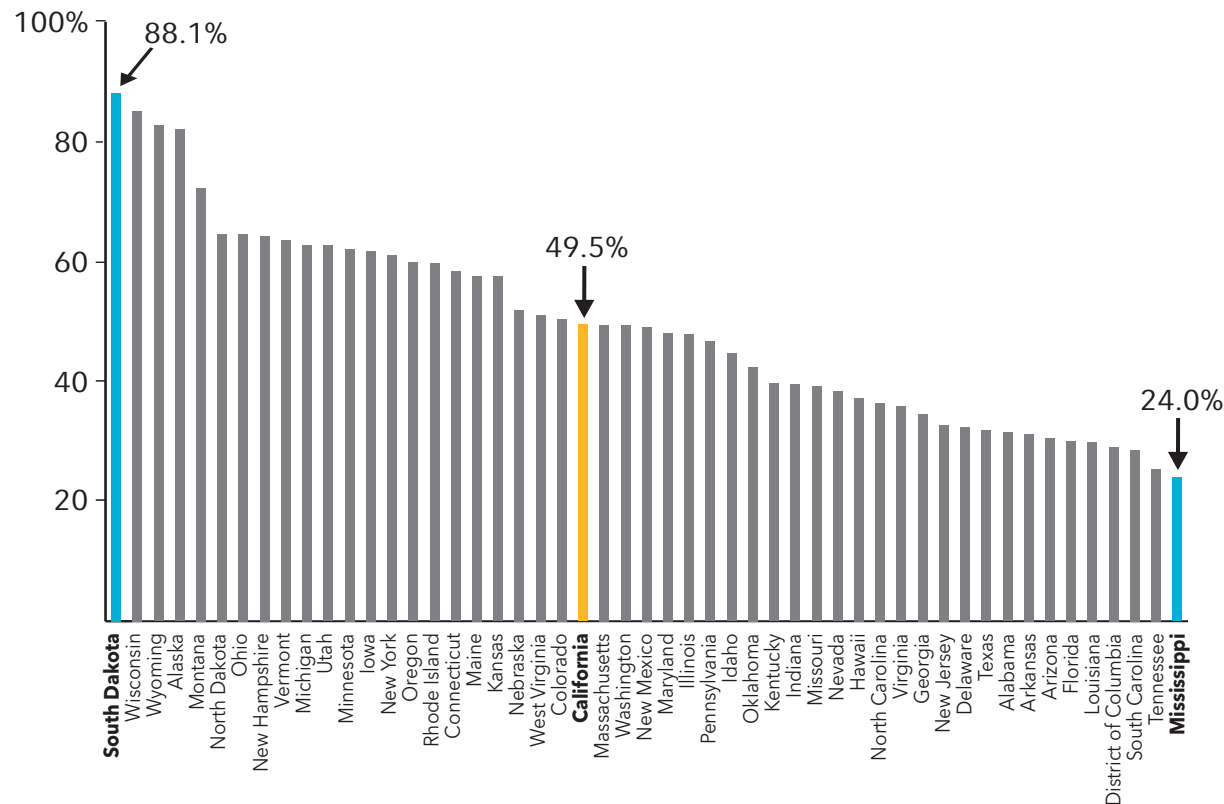




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The CalWORKs Grant Is Lower Than Cash Assistance for Families in 22 States, When Compared to Housing Costs

Maximum Monthly Grant for a Family of Three as a Percentage of the Fair Market Rent, 2014



Note: The Fair Market Rent is for a two-bedroom apartment, as estimated by the National Low Income Housing Coalition.

Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and National Low Income Housing Coalition

- In California, the high cost of housing is often a barrier for families struggling to make ends meet. A single mother with two kids would need to work 2.9 full-time, minimum-wage jobs to afford a two-bedroom apartment at the estimated statewide Fair Market Rent (FMR).

- CalWORKs provides modest cash assistance for families to help with costly budget items like rent, while also helping parents find and keep jobs. Yet in 2014, a mother with two kids could only cover *half* of the FMR with the *entire* maximum monthly CalWORKs grant. After factoring in the cost of housing, the CalWORKs grant is lower than cash assistance in 22 other states.

- Policymakers could help CalWORKs families attain stable housing, a key component of economic security, by increasing CalWORKs grants and boosting investment in the CalWORKs Housing Support Program.