

Key National Findings

The key national findings from this latest *Priced Out* study clearly illustrate the housing affordability crisis affecting the nation's non-elderly people with significant disabilities. According to *Priced Out in 2014*:

- The average annual income of a single individual receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments was \$8,995 — equal to only 20.1% of the national median income for a one-person household and about 23% below the 2014 federal poverty level.¹
- The national average rent for a modest one-bedroom rental unit was \$780, equal to 104% of the national average monthly income of a one-person SSI household. This finding confirms that, in 2014, it was virtually impossible for a single adult receiving SSI to obtain decent and safe housing in the community without some type of rental assistance.
- The national average rent for a studio/efficiency unit in 2014 was \$674, equal to 90% of monthly SSI payments. In eight states and in the District of Columbia, areas with the highest housing costs in the nation, the average studio/efficiency rent exceeded 100% of the income of an SSI recipient.
- In 17 states and the District of Columbia, statewide average one-bedroom rents were higher than monthly SSI payments, including: Hawaii (173%), District of Columbia (171%), Maryland (146%), New Jersey (144%), New York (133%), Virginia (126%), Delaware (123%), California (121%), Massachusetts (121%), New Hampshire (113%), Connecticut (113%), Florida (111%), Illinois (111%), Vermont (107%), Colorado (106%), Nevada (105%), Washington (104%), and Rhode Island (103%). [Click here for a full state-by-state comparison.](#)
- In four states — Delaware, Hawaii, New Hampshire, and New Jersey — and the District of Columbia, one-bedroom rents exceeded 100% of SSI in every single housing market area. Over 156,000 people with disabilities receiving SSI lived in these areas in 2014.
- In 162 housing market areas across 33 states, one-bedroom rents exceeded 100% of monthly SSI. Rents for modest rental units in 15 of these areas exceeded 150% of SSI. [Click here for a list of these housing market areas.](#)

¹ The federal poverty level for a one-person household in 2014 was \$11,670.

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- Discretionary SSI supplements funded by 21 states provided additional monthly income to people with disabilities who were living independently in the community and receiving federal SSI.² Even with this additional income, SSI recipients were still unable to afford the rents charged for

modestly priced units across those 21 states. State SSI supplements ranged from a high of \$362 in Alaska to a low of \$5 in Nebraska. Since *Priced Out in 1998* was published, the average SSI supplement amount has **declined** by 7%. [Click here for a list of those states that provided SSI supplements in 2014.](#)

² Many states supplement federal SSI payments with state funding, but only 21 states provide SSI supplements to **all** people with disabilities who are living independently in the community. The typical state-funded SSI supplement is used to support facility-based congregate care, such as adult care homes, group homes, or similar types of residential programs.