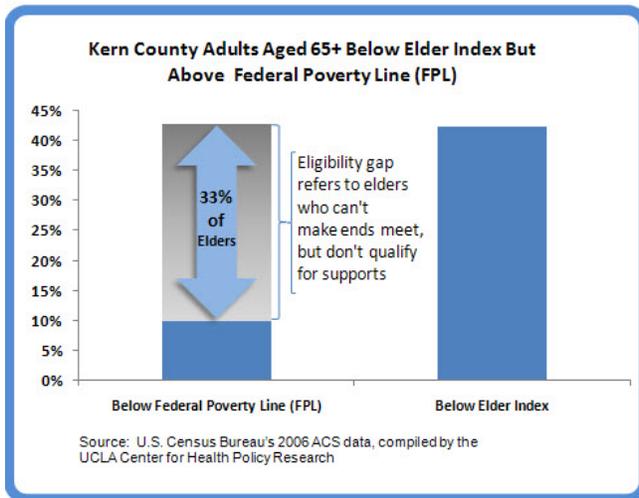


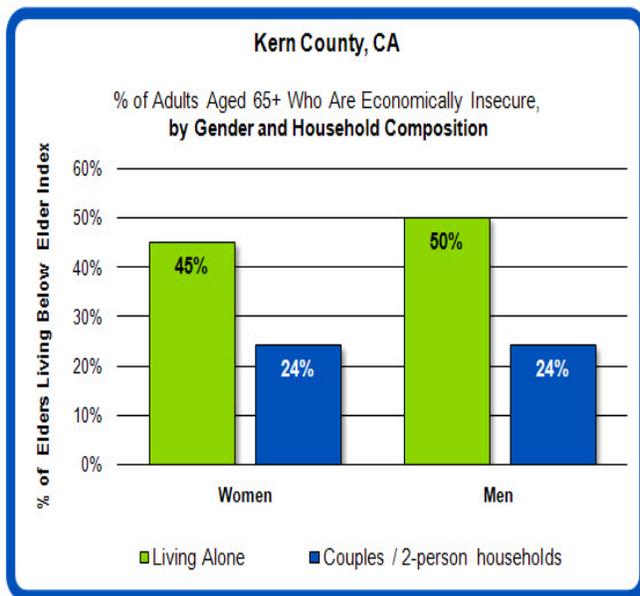
## Elders Who Can't Make Ends Meet in Kern County As Measured by the California Elder Economic Security Standard™ Index

The California Elder Economic Security Standard™ Index (Elder Index) measures how much income is needed for a retired adult age 65 and older to adequately meet his or her basic needs including housing, food, out-of-pocket medical expenses, transportation, and other necessary spending. For an elderly renter living alone in Kern County, the Elder Index is approximately \$19,000/year.



### Not Just “Poor” Elders Who Are Struggling in Kern County

- 43% of *all* elders age 65+ do not have enough income to meet their most basic needs, as measured by the Elder Index. **That's over 28,000 elders struggling to make ends meet.**
- In contrast, according to the Federal Poverty Line (FPL), only 10% (7,000) of Kern County elders are considered “poor,” with annual individual incomes below \$10, 210.
- But a significant number of other elders (22,000 or 33%) fall into the “**eligibility gap**,” with incomes above the FPL but below the Elder Index. These elders don't have enough money to cover their most basic needs, but have too much to qualify for many public programs.

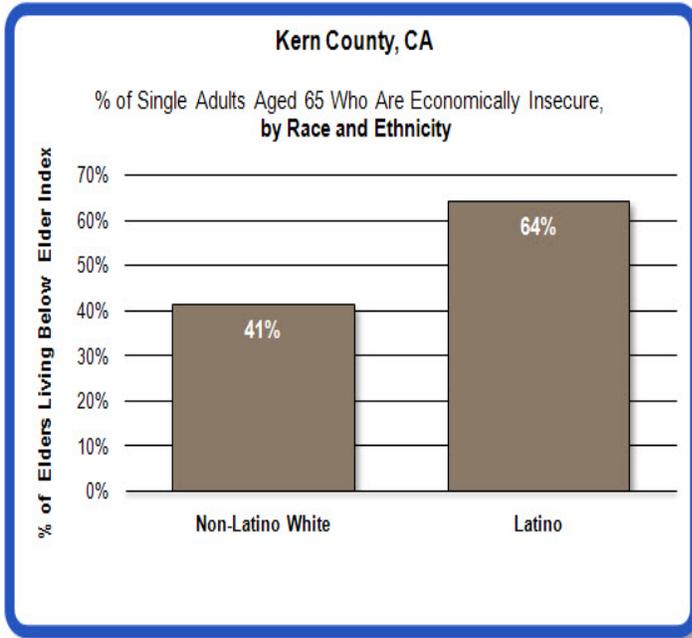


### Elders Living Alone Are Economically Vulnerable

- Kern is the only county in our analysis where men living alone are more economically vulnerable than women.
- Half of all male elders have incomes below the Elder Index and struggle to make ends meet.
- And the women elders living alone aren't doing much better: 4 out of 10 have incomes below the Elder Index.

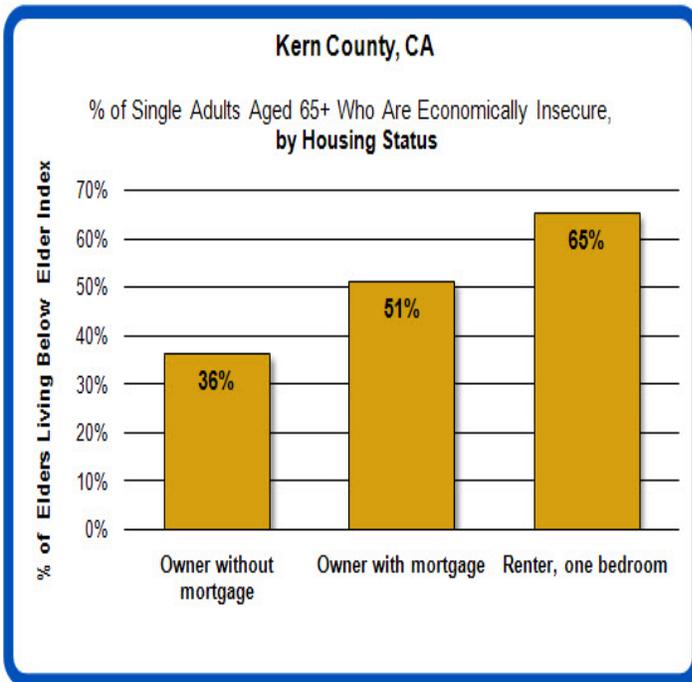
(more)

# Elders Who Can't Make Ends Meet in Kern County As Measured by the California Elder Economic Security Standard™ Index



## Latino Elders Struggling

- While 4 out of 10 non-Latino White elders don't have enough income to make ends meet in Kern County, Latino elders suffer higher rates of economic insecurity. More than 6 out of 10 who are living alone are struggling make ends meet, with incomes below the Elder Index.



## Renters Living Alone Are the Most Economically Vulnerable

- 6 out of 10 elder renters living alone in Kern County are trying to survive on incomes below the Elder Index.
- Slightly more than half of elders living alone who own their home, but are still paying off a mortgage are unable to meet their basic needs.
- Even elders who own their homes outright are struggling in Kern County. More than one-third cannot make ends meet.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau's 2006 ACS data, compiled by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. To view the numerical data behind these graphs and access a statewide comparison, [click here](#).

For more information, see *Half A Million Older Californians Living Alone Unable to Make Ends Meet* by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and the Insight Center for Community Economic Development at [http://www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/elder\\_index09feb.html](http://www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/elder_index09feb.html).