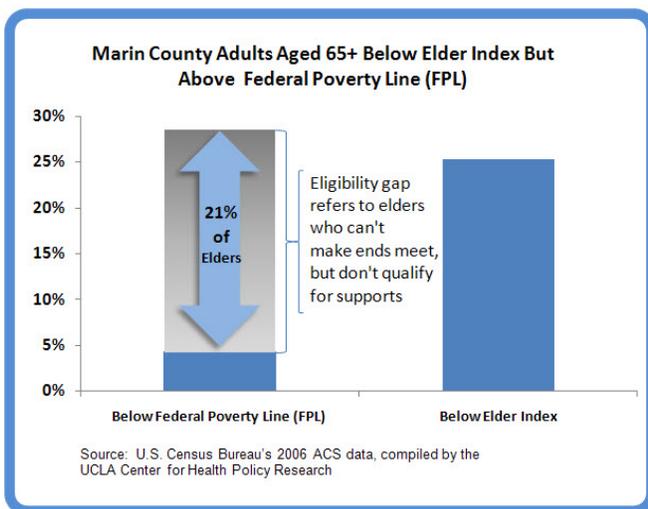


## Elders Who Can't Make Ends Meet in Marin County As Measured by the California Elder Economic Security Standard™ Index

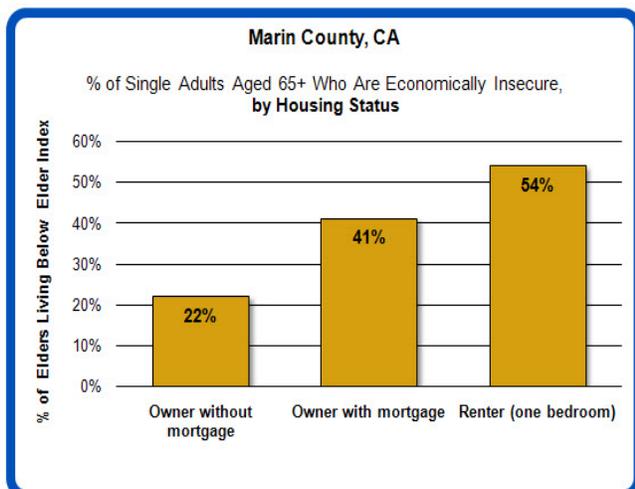
The California Elder Economic Security Standard™ Index (Elder Index) measures how much income is needed for a retired adult age 65 and older to adequately meet his or her basic needs including housing, food, out-of-pocket medical expenses, transportation, and other necessary spending. For an elderly renter living alone in Marin County, the Elder Index is approximately \$29,000/year.



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

- Although Marin is an affluent county, one-quarter of *all* elders do not have enough income to meet their most basic needs, as measured by the Elder Index. **That’s over 9,000 elders struggling to make ends meet in Marin County.**
- In contrast, according to the Federal Poverty Line (FPL), only 4% (2,000) of Marin County elders are considered “poor,” with annual individual incomes below \$10,210.
- But a sizable number of other elders (7,000 or 21%) 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.

### Renters Living Alone Are the Most Economically Vulnerable



- More than half of all elder renters living alone in Marin are trying to survive on incomes below the Elder Index.
- And elders living alone who own their home, but are still paying off a mortgage, aren’t doing much better: 4 out of ten are unable to meet their basic needs.
- In high cost Marin County, almost one quarter of elders who own their homes outright cannot make ends meet.

Source for all graphs: 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).