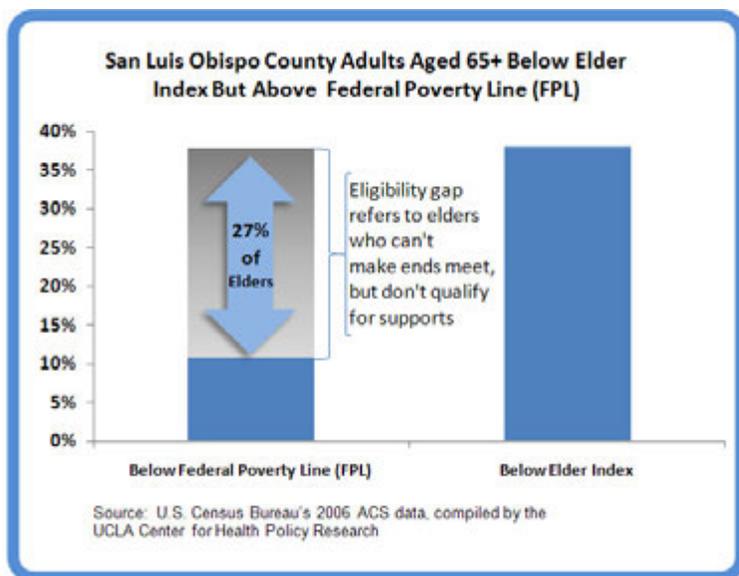


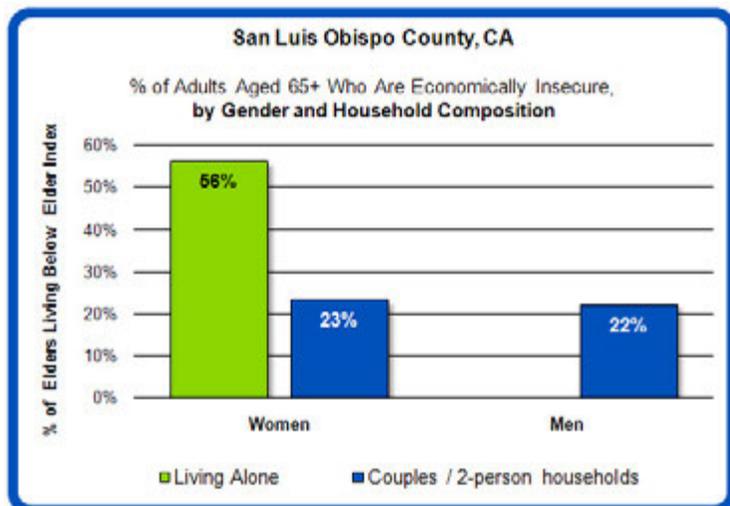
Elders Who Can't Make Ends Meet in San Luis Obispo County As Measured by the California Elder Economic Security Standard™ Index

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 San Luis Obispo County, the Elder Index is approximately \$27,000/year.



Not Just “Poor” Elders who are Struggling

- 38% of *all* elders age 65+ do not have enough income to meet their most basic needs, as measured by the Elder Index. **That's more than 13,000 elders struggling to make ends meet in San Luis Obispo County.**
- In contrast, according to the Federal Poverty Line (FPL), only 11% (4,000) of elders in San Luis Obispo County are considered “poor,” with annual individual incomes below \$10,210.
- But a large number of other elders (9,000 or 27%) 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.



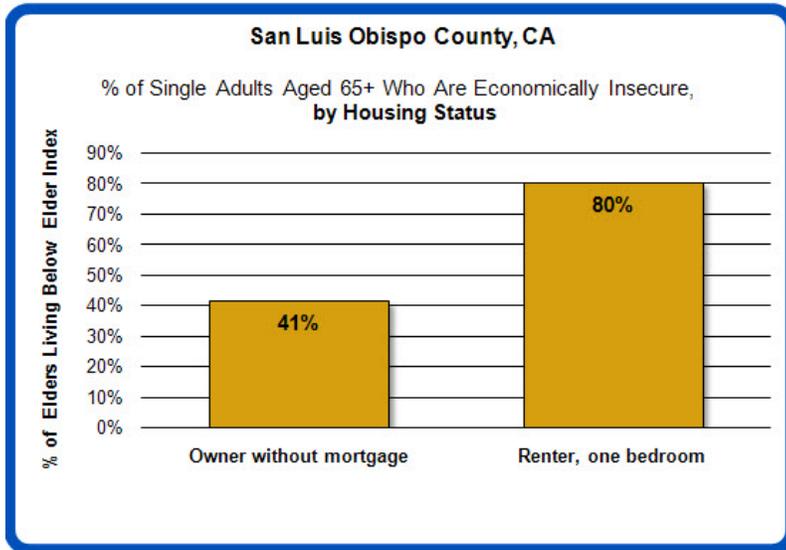
Women Living Alone Most Economically Vulnerable

- Historically, women have earned less than men. Today they still earn, nationally, an average of 78 cents for every dollar a man earns. It's no wonder that women living alone are particularly vulnerable.
- Without the support from a partner's income, and in the face of increasing costs and fixed incomes, **over half of elder women living alone in San Luis Obispo County cannot make ends meet.**

Number of male elders who live alone and have incomes below the Elder Index is less than 1,000, and therefore too small to calculate reliable estimates.

(more)

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



The number of elder homeowners with mortgages who live alone and have incomes below the Elder Index is less than 1,000, and is therefore too small to calculate reliable estimates.

Renters Living Alone Are the Most Economically Vulnerable

- **A staggering 8 out of 10 elder renters living alone** in San Luis Obispo County are trying to survive on incomes below the Elder Index.
- 4 out of 10 elders who own their own home, even those who have paid off their mortgage, are unable to meet their basic needs.

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.