

New Mexico

Fact Sheet: Federal Rental Assistance



Federal rental assistance helps struggling New Mexico seniors, people with disabilities, veterans, and working families keep a roof over their heads and make ends meet.

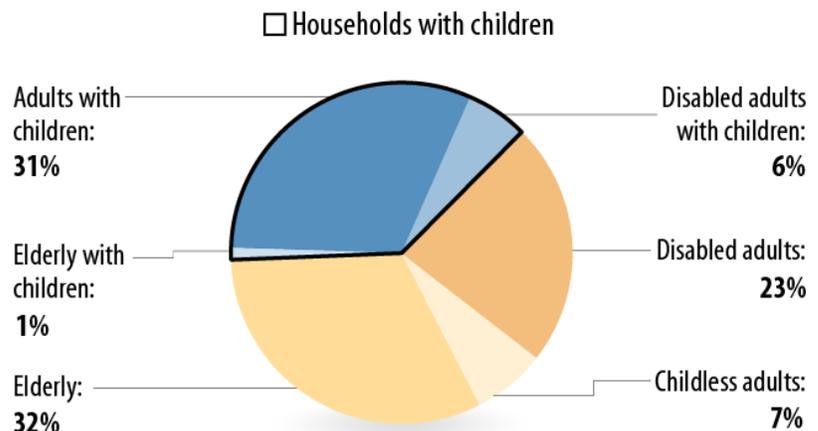
Over 25,000 low-income households in New Mexico use federal rental assistance to rent modest housing at an affordable cost; at least 65 percent have extremely low incomes (30 percent of area median income or less).

Who Does Federal Rental Assistance Help in New Mexico?

Rental assistance supports low-wage working families: in 2014, **63 percent** of non-elderly, non-disabled households receiving HUD rental assistance in New Mexico were working or had worked recently.

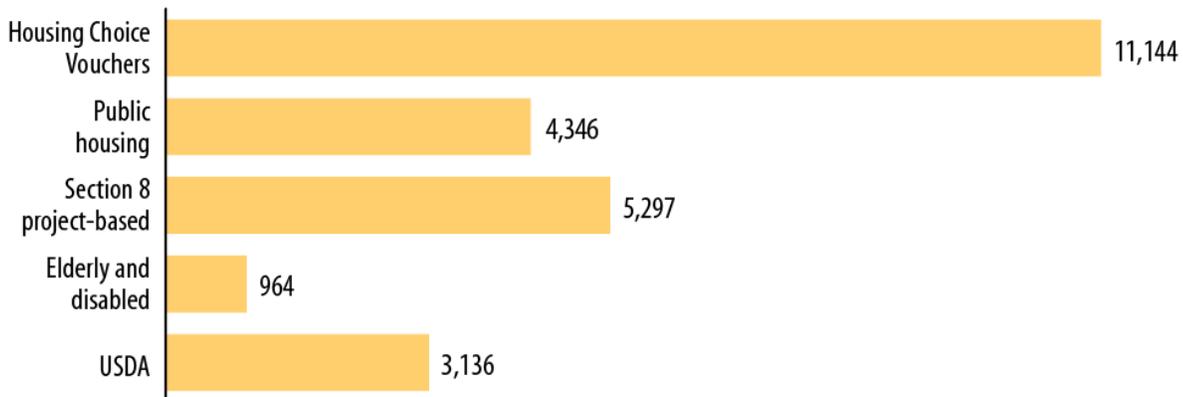
Rental assistance helps families in urban and rural areas. More than **37 percent of New Mexico households** receiving federal rental assistance live in non-metropolitan areas.

Nearly All Households Using Federal Rental Assistance Include Children or People Who Are Elderly or Disabled



What Major Types of Federal Rental Assistance Do New Mexico Families Use?

Number of households assisted



These programs brought **\$149,000,000** in federal rental assistance funding into New Mexico in 2014.

Most New Mexico Renters in Need Receive No Assistance

56,300 low-income households pay more than half their income for rent, 38 percent more than before the recession. Who are these households?

42% Households with children

35% Elderly or disabled households

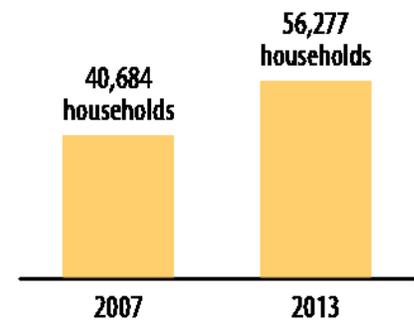
53% Working households

Federal rental assistance programs have not kept pace with growing need

Funds for public housing in New Mexico in 2014 were **\$3,876,000** less than in 2010, and **856** fewer New Mexico households were using housing vouchers as of December 2014 than two years earlier due to sequestration funding cuts.

When housing costs consume more than half of household income, low-income families are at greater risk of becoming homeless. The single-night census in 2014 found that 2,746 people in New Mexico were homeless or living in shelters, including 318 veterans and 942 families with children. Another 10,658 school-age children lived in unstable housing, such as doubled up with other families, during the 2012-2013 school year.

More Low Income New Mexico Renters Are Paying Over Half Their Incomes for Housing Than Before the Recession



(CHART 1) Note: “Childless adults” are households headed by a person under age 62 without disabilities and without children under 18 in the home. “Disabled adults” are households headed by a person under age 62 with a disability. “Elderly” households are headed by a person age 62 or older. This chart includes data on the following programs: Housing Choice Vouchers, Public Housing, Section 8 Project-Based Rental Assistance (including Moderate Rehabilitation), Supportive Housing for the Elderly and People with Disabilities (Section 202 and 811), Rent Supplement, Rental Assistance Program, McKinney-Vento Permanent Supportive Housing, Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS, and USDA Section 521 Rural Rental Assistance. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding. Sources: CBPP tabulations of 2014 HUD administrative data, and the USDA’s FY 2014 Multi-Family Fair Housing Occupancy Report.

(CHART 2) Note: Elderly and disabled households receive rental assistance through all of the programs listed. The bar labeled “Elderly and disabled” specifically refers to HUD’s Supportive Housing for the Elderly (Section 202) and Supportive Housing for Disabled Persons (Section 811) programs. The bar labeled “USDA” refers to the USDA’s Rural Rental Assistance Program (Section 521). Sources: CBPP tabulations of 2014 HUD administrative data and the USDA’s Multi-Family Fair Housing Occupancy Report for FY 2014.

(INFOGRAPHIC) Note: All households are low-income and pay 50 percent or more of their monthly income on rent and utilities. “Elderly or disabled households” have a head of household or spouse age 62 or older or contain an adult with a disability. “Households with children” have a child under the age of 18 in the home; this group includes households headed by elderly or disabled persons. Working households are headed by a non-elderly, non-disabled adult and had at least one member who worked in 2013. Source: CBPP tabulations of the 2013 American Community Survey.

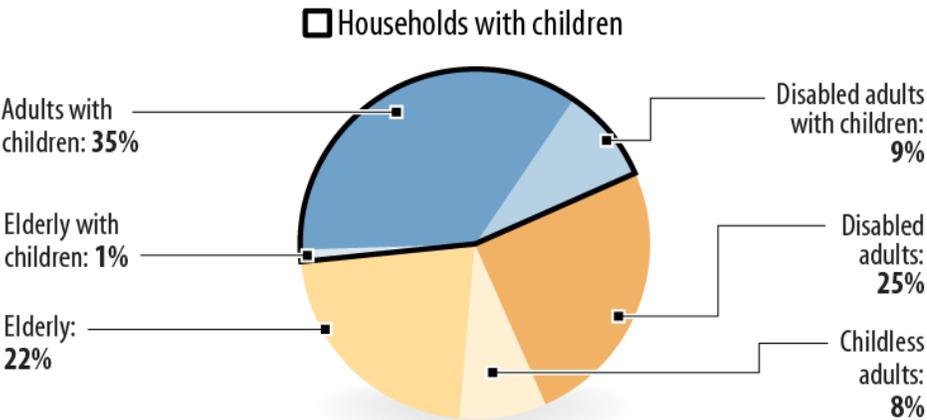
(CHART 3) Note: “Low-income” households are families whose incomes do not exceed 80 percent of the median family income for the area. Area median incomes are based on HUD’s 2013 Section 8 Income Limits. Housing costs include rent and utilities. Source: CBPP tabulations of the 2007 and 2013 American Community Survey.

For more information, please see the accompanying Sources and Methodology document on the CBPP website.

The Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program is the nation's largest rental assistance program. More than 5 million people in 2.1 million low-income households use vouchers.

Who Do Housing Choice Vouchers Help?

Nearly All Households Using Housing Choice Vouchers in New Mexico Include Children or People Who Are Elderly or Disabled



Note: Childless adults are households headed by a person under 62 without disabilities, and without children in the home. Disabled adults are younger than 62.
Source: CBPP tabulation of 2014 HUD administrative data.

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities | cbpp.org

11,600 low-income households used Housing Choice Vouchers

in New Mexico to afford decent, privately owned housing in safer neighborhoods in December 2014.

Housing vouchers help low-wage working families to make ends meet: in 2014, 66 percent of the non-elderly, non-disabled households using vouchers in New Mexico were working or had worked recently.

Sequestration Sharply Cut Housing Choice Voucher Assistance

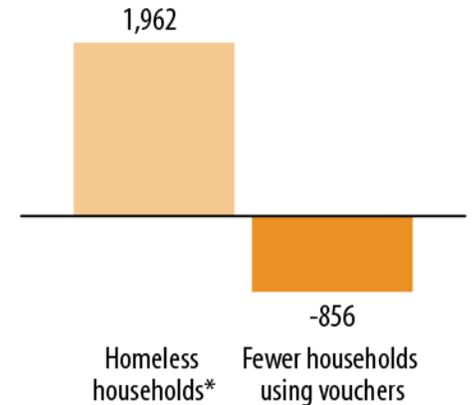
856 fewer households were using Housing Choice Vouchers at the end of 2014

in New Mexico due to the sequestration cuts implemented in March 2013.

13 of the 17 agencies administering housing vouchers in New Mexico reduced the number of households they served as a result of sequestration.

With available funding agencies will only be able to restore in 2015 about one-fifth of the housing vouchers lost due to sequestration. Congress must provide additional funds to restore the remaining vouchers in 2016.

Housing Choice Voucher Cuts Undermined Efforts to Address Homelessness in 2014



*Point in time count in January 2014
Source: Department of Housing and Urban Development
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities | cbpp.org

Housing Costs Strain Family Budgets

56,300 low-income renter households in New Mexico pay more than half their monthly income for housing costs.

This is an increase of **15,593** households, or **38** percent, since 2007, the beginning of the Great Recession.

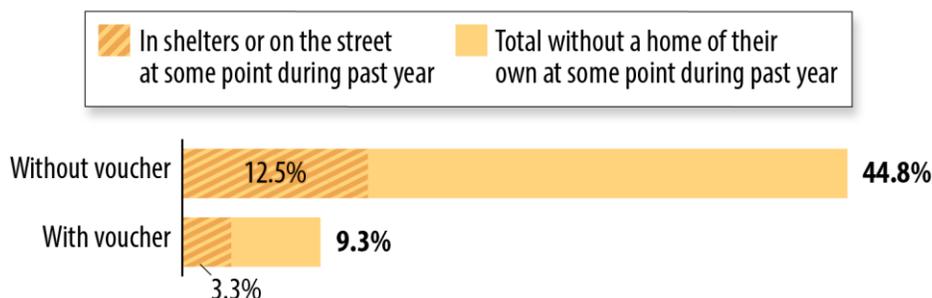
In New Mexico, many households struggle to make ends meet.

- 7% of the labor force was unemployed in 2013.
- 21% of the population lives below the poverty line.
- 30% of children live below the poverty line.
- 13% of households struggle to afford a nutritionally adequate diet.

On a single night in New Mexico in 2014, **2,746** people were homeless, including **750** children and **318** veterans. Another **10,658** school-age children lived in unstable housing, such as doubled up with other families, during the 2012-2013 school year.

Rigorous studies show that Housing Choice Vouchers are very effective at making housing affordable and reducing homelessness and instability.

Housing Choice Vouchers Sharply Reduce Homelessness and Housing Instability Nationwide Among Families With Children



Note: Chart compares housing status of low-income families who were randomly selected to receive a voucher and used it for at least part of the previous year to families in a control group who did not use vouchers.

Source: Michelle Wood, Jennifer Turnham, and Gregory Mills, "Housing Affordability and Family Well-Being: Results from the Housing Voucher Evaluation," Housing Policy Debate, 2008.

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities | cbpp.org

Housing Choice Vouchers Benefit the Community

Private owners in New Mexico received \$64,800,000 in HCV assistance payments in 2014. This helped owners to pay property taxes and prevent blight by maintaining their properties in good condition, in addition to helping low-income families to afford housing.

In addition to improving the lives of vulnerable low-income people, vouchers can produce savings in health care, child welfare, corrections, and other program areas that offset part (in some circumstances all) of the cost of the rental assistance.

For more information on the Housing Choice Voucher program, including New Mexico-specific information, please see:

Sources and methods: <http://www.cbpp.org/research/national-and-state-housing-data-fact-sheets>

Policy Basics on Housing Choice Vouchers: <http://www.cbpp.org/cms/?fa=view&id=279>

Paper on Benefits of Housing Vouchers: <http://www.cbpp.org/cms/index.cfm?fa=view&id=4098>

Local Data on Housing Choice Voucher Cuts Due to Sequestration: <http://www.cbpp.org/research/national-and-state-housing-data-fact-sheets>