

The Face of Senior Citizens

Stanislaus County 2021

The report “The Challenges of California’s Aging Population” states: California is home to a rapidly growing diverse aging and persons with disabilities population, many of whom are expected to have serious service needs in the years to come because of rising rates of poverty, food insecurity, and inadequate housing.

- California is the state with the highest percentage of seniors living in poverty.
- 40% of seniors do not have income to meet basic needs.
- 16.3% of Californians over age 60 are food insecure.
- More than 1 in 5 low-income Californians over age 65 cannot afford to put food on the table.

The Stanislaus County Area Plan Update for 2021/2022, based on estimates from the California Department of Finance and the California Department of Aging, shows the Stanislaus County population at 547,899.

The 60+ Senior Population	104,865	19.1% of County population
MediCal Eligible Seniors (low income)	25,329	24.15% of Seniors
Minority Seniors	39,953	38.10% of Seniors ¹

Social Security Benefits make up 80% of income for more than half of California seniors. The mean Social Security benefit in 2019 was \$19,567/year, or \$1,631/month in Stanislaus County.²

Nearly 45% of the 65 + population are economically insecure as measured by the Elder Economic Security Index (Elder Index). Included in the Elder Index estimates are the local costs of housing (rent or own), transportation, food, health care and miscellaneous needs.

Stanislaus County resident living alone, rents, in good health:

- \$2,272/month or \$27,504/year.

Stanislaus County couple, rents, in good health:

- \$3,153/month or \$37,836/year.

The Elder Index gives additional estimates for persons who are not in good health, own a home with a mortgage and without a mortgage.³

¹ www.aging.ca.gov/data

² www.data.census.gov Measuring America’s People, Places and Economy

³ www.aging.ca.gov/MasterPlanforAging

For persons 60+ in the County:

- 11.4% receive < 100% of the Federal Poverty Level-\$1,073/month for a single person, \$1,452 for a 2-person household.
- 9.4% receive 100-149% of the FPL-\$1,599 for one person, \$2,163 for a couple.
- 11.1% receive Supplementary Security Income at \$10,063/year or \$839/month.

Caregiving

- Stanislaus County IHSS Caseload > 7,500
- Stanislaus County IHSS Providers > 6,000
- Stanislaus County average number of new applications monthly:
 - 2019 – 264
 - 2020 – 214
 - 2021 – 216 (Jan – Apr)
- Statewide program growth is 3% annually

Housing

According to the Master Plan for Aging released in January 2021, the number of subsidized housing units in Stanislaus County was 80.3 per 10,000.⁴

Stanislaus County Senior Apartments-29 with 11 only accepting the HUD Section 8 “Choice Voucher”, 18 accept 30% of resident’s income or tiered system considering income and assets based on median income for the area. Currently 2-3 year wait for affordable housing.

With over 21,000 seniors receiving less than \$19,188 per year, the average rent of \$1,155/month is impossible. Increasing numbers of older adults forced out of their homes due to many factors are experiencing homelessness.

Senior Information Line Housing List Inquiries:

2018-351 calls-29/month

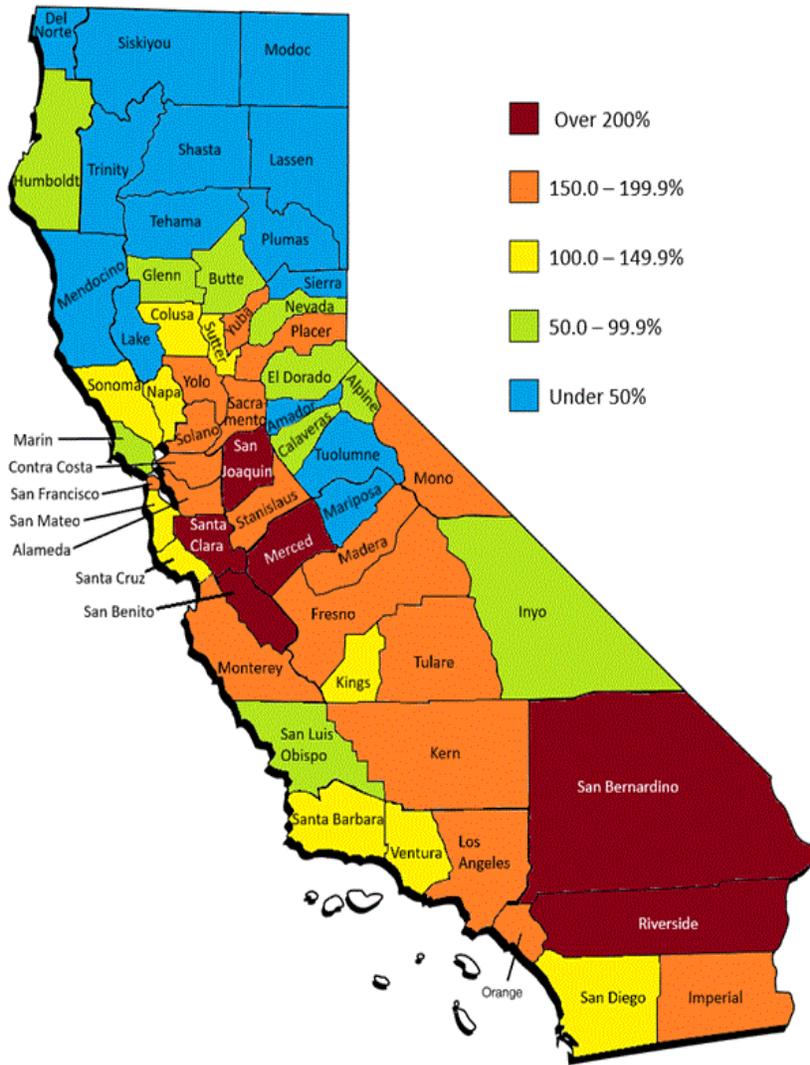
2019-432 calls-36/month

2020-468 calls-39/month

Jan 2021-May 2021-223 calls-45/mon

*Note: Some data identifies “senior” as 60+ and some as 65+.

⁴ www.aging.ca.gov/MasterPlanforAging



Estimated Increase of 60+ Population Stanislaus County-156% by 2060
 2010 60+ Population-77,543
 2030 Estimated 60+ Population – 142,096-83% Increase⁵

⁵ California State Plan on Aging, 2017-2021