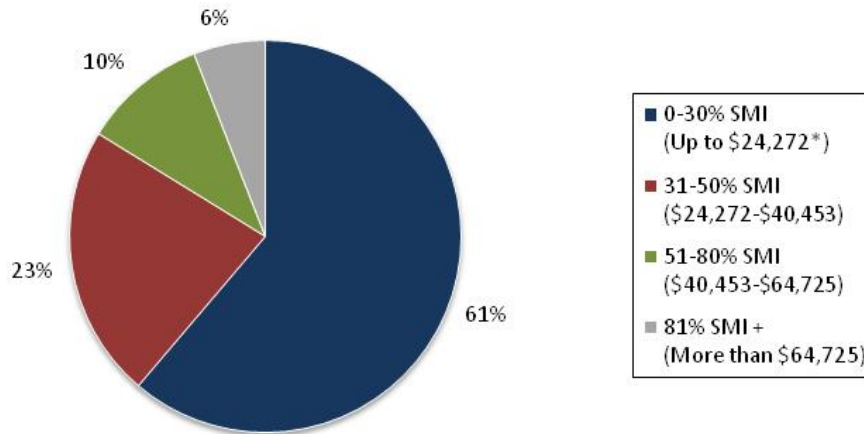


Severely Cost Burdened Renter Households

More than 21,000 renter households pay more than half their income for rent

Income of Renter Households Paying More than Half of Income for Rent



Source: US Census, 2006 American Community Survey PUMS.

Note that the U.S. Census Bureau does not have cost burden data for approximately 4,800 (or 4.2% of) of renter households. Analysis does not include one-person student households.

*Income figures are 2006 Seattle Median Income for two-person households, shown in 2008 dollars (see Note 1 at the end of the Housing Market section for more information). The dollar figures are included to show context only.

- **Roughly 18% of Seattle renter households pay more than half their income for rent.** The number of Seattle renter households paying more than half of their income for rent is estimated at 21,400 (not including one-person student households).
- **Severe cost burden is mostly borne by extremely low income households.** The chart above shows the income levels of those who pay more than half their income for rent, demonstrating that the most severe housing cost burden is shouldered by extremely low-income households. Those with incomes between 0 and 30% of the Seattle median income make up more than 60% of the renter households in Seattle with a severe cost burden.
- **About 9% of Seattle renter households pay more than three-quarters of their income for rent.** The number of Seattle renter households paying more than three-quarters of their income for rent is estimated at roughly 10,600 (not including one-person student households). About eight in ten of these very severely cost burdened renter households have incomes between 0 and 30% of the Seattle median income.
- **Percent of specific household types that pay over ½ their income for rent**
 - Over 25% of senior-headed renter households
 - Over 35% of African American and Native American-headed households
 - Over 30% of female single-parent households and over 20% of single-person households