



HOUSING CREDIT CONNECT







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HUD Income Limits

Housing Credit Connect 2023

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What Are Income Limits?

The income limit for affordable housing programs is the maximum income a household can earn to qualify or be targeted for assistance. This specific figure is based on a percent of median family income for an area and is adjusted depending on how many persons live in the household (including children).





Statutory Definitions

For Section 8 and Public Housing

Statute: 42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)

- Defines:
 - **Low-income** families whose incomes do not exceed 80 percent of the median income for the area
 - **Very low-income** families whose incomes do not exceed 50 percent of the median family income for the area
 - Extremely low-income very low-income families whose incomes do not exceed the higher of 30 percent of the median family income for the area or the poverty guidelines, which are updated periodically by the Department of Health and Human Services
- Allows for the establishment of income ceilings that are higher or lower based on the Secretary's findings that such variations are necessary because of unusually high or low family incomes





Statutory Definitions

For Low Income Housing Tax Credit Properties

Section 142(d)(2)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code, which is cross referenced in section 42(g)(4) of the IRC, links the income determinations of MTSPs to HUD income limits: "The income of individuals and area median gross income shall be determined by the Secretary in a manner consistent with determinations of lower income families under section 8 of the United State Housing Act of 1937."

IRS Revenue Ruling 89-24: The income limits applicable to qualified residential rental projects and to qualified low income housing projects are required to be made in a manner consistent with determinations of lower income families under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937





Statutory Definitions

For Low Income Housing Tax Credit Properties

Housing and Economic Recovery Act (HERA) Special Limits Section 142(d)(2)(E)(ii) Special rule for certain census changes

In the case of a HUD hold harmless impacted project, the area median gross income with respect to such project for any calendar year after 2008 (hereafter in this clause referred to as the current calendar year) shall be the greater of the amount determined without regard to this clause or the sum of—

- (I) the area median gross income determined under the HUD hold harmless policy with respect to such project for calendar year 2008, plus
- (II) any increase in the area median gross income determined under subparagraph (B) (determined without regard to the HUD hold harmless policy and this subparagraph) with respect to such project for the current calendar year over the area median gross income (as so determined) with respect to such project for calendar year 2008.





- HUD serves over 4 million low-income families through the "big" rental assistance programs Housing Choice Voucher, Public Housing, and Project Based Rental Assistance
- Income limits define eligibility for these programs, as well as for many of HUD's grant programs
- Income limits should define a similar share of households as HUD-eligible year after year
- Nationally, about 40% of households are Low Income; 25% are Very Low Income
- HUD evaluates this through the "CHAS" data
 - https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/cp.html

	Share of Renters			
	Very Low Income (50%	Income	Low Income (80% Inco	me
	Limit)		Limit)	
2010		43.1%	6	3.6%
2015		44.2%	6	4.2%
2019		44.1%	6	4.6%





Program Summary of All HUD	Number of Households	Average Household Income Per Year	Average Household income per year per person	% of local median (Household income)	% Very low income	% Extremely low income
Programs	4,537,614	\$16,019	\$8,052	22	95	77
Public Housing Housing Choice	806,816	\$17,033	\$8,352	24	90	73
Vouchers	2,350,366	\$16,610	\$7,543	21	95	77
Project Based Section 8	1,208,256	\$14,405	\$8,646	21	97	80

2022, <u>Picture of Subsidized Households</u>

Median LIHTC Household Income \$18,200

2019 LIHTC Tenant Data





Many Programs Use Income Limits

- HUD
 - Housing Choice Vouchers, Public Housing, Section 8/202/811 Multifamily Housing, HOME Program, Housing Trust Fund, Community Development Block Grants and CDBG-Disaster Recovery, Section 221 Below Market Interest Rate
- Department of the Treasury
 - Low Income Housing Tax Credit Properties
 - Homeowner Assistance Fund
 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
- Department of Agriculture
 - Rural Housing Service
 - Multifamily Housing Direct Loans

- Department of Transportation
 - Uniform Relocation Act
- Federal Housing Finance Administration
 - Enterprise Housing Goals
- Federal Reserve Bank
 - Community Reinvestment Act
- Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
 - Disposition of Housing to Non-profit and Public Agencies
- Tax Credits in the Inflation Reduction Act
- Many State and Local programs





Difference between HUD assistance and LIHTC

- HUD programs use income limits to determine eligibility. Tenants generally pay 30% of their <u>actual</u> household income towards rent.
- LIHTC properties use income limits to determine eligibility <u>and</u> the maximum possible rent





Calculating Area Median Family Income

Step 1: Calculate estimate of MFI for the fiscal year

Median family income (MFI) data from the American Community Survey (<u>Table B19113</u>) are the basis for HUD's Income Limits. The ACS is an annual socioeconomic and demographic survey conducted by the Census Bureau. The steps for calculating the HUD MFI are:

- A. Determine Base Estimate
 - Use 1-year data check for reliability using (margin of error and sample count); or
 - Use 5-year data (small areas) if there is not a reliable 1-year estimate
 - If there is still not a reliable 5-year estimate, use an average last 3 years of 5-year estimates (only minimally reliable estimates are used or MOEr test see below)
 - If no minimally reliable estimates from the last 3 years, use larger geography
 - Reliability criteria: The margin of error for the estimate must be less than 50% of the estimate itself and the ACS estimate must be based on at least 100 survey cases
- B. Calculate an inflation factor to trend the ACS forward to the current fiscal year
- C. Apply inflation factor to ACS MFI base estimate for the current fiscal year; round to the nearest \$100.





Calculating Area Median Family Income Area Definitions

hud_area_code	hud_area_name	county	County_Name	county_town_name
METRO41860MM5775	Oakland-Fremont, CA HUD Metro FMR Area	001	Alameda County	Alameda County
METRO41860MM5775	Oakland-Fremont, CA HUD Metro FMR Area	013	Contra Costa County	Contra Costa County
METRO41860MM7360	San Francisco, CA HUD Metro FMR Area	041	Marin County	Marin County
METRO41860MM7360	San Francisco, CA HUD Metro FMR Area	075	San Francisco County	San Francisco County
METRO41860MM7360	San Francisco, CA HUD Metro FMR Area	081	San Mateo County	San Mateo County

	,	County_Name	county_town_name
on-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-			
Metro FMR Area	001	District of Columbia	District of Columbia
on-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-			
Metro FMR Area	013	Arlington County	Arlington County
on-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-			
Metro FMR Area	510	Alexandria city	Alexandria city
on-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-			
Metro FMR Area			
County, VA HUD Metro FMR Area	113	Madison County	Madison County
County, WV HUD Metro FMR Area	037	Jefferson County	Jefferson County
ounty, VA HUD Metro FMR Area	187	Warren County	Warren County
County, VA HUD Metro FMR Area	047	Culpeper County	Culpeper County
nock County, VA HUD Metro FMR			
	157	Rappahannock County	Rappahannock County
	on-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA- Metro FMR Area on-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA- Metro FMR Area on-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA- Metro FMR Area County, VA HUD Metro FMR Area County, WV HUD Metro FMR Area ounty, VA HUD Metro FMR Area County, VA HUD Metro FMR Area County, VA HUD Metro FMR Area nock County, VA HUD Metro FMR	Metro FMR Area 001 on-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA- Metro FMR Area 013 on-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA- Metro FMR Area 510 on-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA- Metro FMR Area County, VA HUD Metro FMR Area 113 County, WV HUD Metro FMR Area 037 ounty, VA HUD Metro FMR Area 187 County, VA HUD Metro FMR Area 047 nock County, VA HUD Metro FMR Area	Metro FMR Area 001 District of Columbia On-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA- Metro FMR Area 013 Arlington County On-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA- Metro FMR Area 510 Alexandria city On-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA- Metro FMR Area County, VA HUD Metro FMR Area 113 Madison County Ounty, WV HUD Metro FMR Area 037 Jefferson County Ounty, VA HUD Metro FMR Area 187 Warren County Ounty, VA HUD Metro FMR Area 047 Culpeper County Ounty, VA HUD Metro FMR Area 047 Culpeper County





Calculating the 50% Very Low Income Limit (VLIL)

Step 2: Determine preliminary VLIL for a 4-person household

Calculate 50% of the MFI estimate. Then adjust the figure where necessary for:

- **A. High housing cost** increased if 35% of VLIL would otherwise be less than 85% of the annualized 2-bedroom area Fair Market Rent (FMR);
- **B.** Low housing cost decreased if VLIL exceeds 80% of the US MFI and the FMR is affordable (30% or less of VLIL); decrease to the greater of the two;
- **C. State non-metro median** increased if VLIL less than 50% of the state non-metropolitan median family income level;
- D. Ceilings and Floors increased if VLIL is less than 95% of last year's VLIL and reduced to the greater of 105% of last year's VLIL or twice the change in the national MFI, if that amount would be larger than 5%.





• The very low-income limits (VLIL/50%) are used as the basis for deriving other income limits unless relevant statutory language has no references or relationship to low- and very low-income limits as defined by the U.S. Housing Act of 1937.

• Why?:

- There are currently several legislated income limit standards that are intended to have progressive relationships. (e.g., 30%, extremely low-income limits, 50%, 60%, 80%, 95%, 120%)
- Because the very low-income limit for some areas are subject to adjustments (as explained in prior slides), other limits should be derived from the very low-income limit to avoid discrepancies in relationships across household sizes.





If you want a deep dive into the methodology

https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html



NOTE: Due to the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-289) the data presented in this system may not be applicable to projects financed with Section 42 Low Income Housing Tax Credits

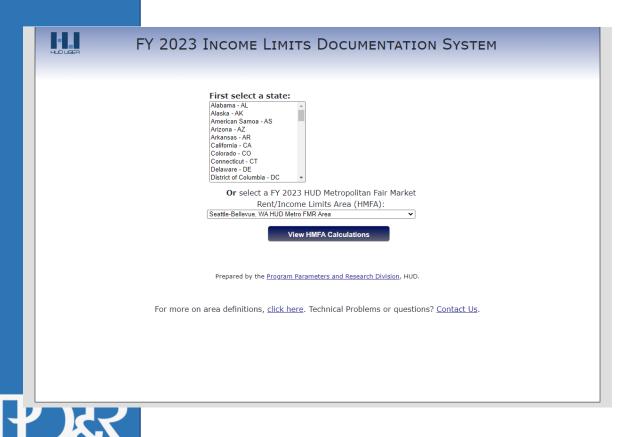
(LIHTC) or section 142 tax exempt private equity bonds. These projects should use the Multifamily Tax Subsidy Project Income Limits available at Multifamily Tax Subsidy Project Income Limits

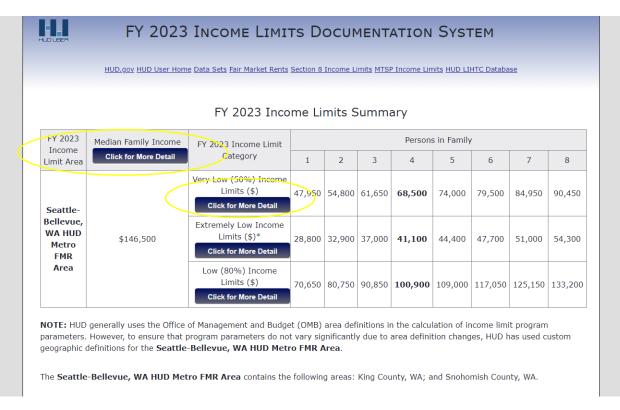
Click Here for FY 2023 IL Documentation





If you want a deep dive into the methodology







If you want a deep dive into the methodology

FY 2023 Very Low-Income (50%) Income Limits Calculation

* The Income Limits explained on this page are not for use with Multifamily Tax Subsidy Projects (IRC section 42 and 142 projects). Users interested in these programs should visit the FY2023 Multifamily Tax Subsidy Project Documentation System.

Estimates of the 4-person Very Low-Income Limit (VLIL) for metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas are developed as follows:

- 1. Calculate Preliminary VLIL: The 4-person Very Low-Income Limit (VLIL) is based on 50% of the median family income estimated for the Seattle-Bellevue, WA HUD Metro FMR Area. For a discussion of the estimated median family income please <u>read here</u>. Once the median family income is estimated and a preliminary 4-person Very Low-Income Limit is calculated (as 50% of median family income) a series of considerations required by statute are made, which are detailed in the next 4 steps.
- High Housing Cost Adjustment: The 4-Person VLIL is increased if it is less than the amount at which 35 percent of it equals 85
 percent of the annualized two-bedroom Section 8 40th percentile FMR (this adjusts income limits upward for areas where rental
 housing costs are unusually high in relation to median income).
- 3. Low Housing Cost Adjustment: If the 4-Person VLIL exceeds 80% of the U.S. median family income, and the two bedroom 40th percentile fair market rent is affordable (less than or equal to 30% of the preliminary VLIL), the VLIL will be reduced to the greater of 80% of U.S. median family income or the amount at which 30 percent of it equals the two-bedroom 40th percentile FMR (this adjusts income limits downward for areas of unusually high median family incomes).
- 4. **State Non-Metro Median Family Income Adjustment**: The 4-Person VLIL is also adjusted if it would otherwise be lower than 50% of the State Non-Metro Median Family Income.
- 5. **Ceilings and Floors**: Since FY 2010, HUD has not allowed income limits to decrease by more than five percent, and not allowed income limits to increase by the greater of five percent or twice the annual change in national median family income.

For FY 2023, the two most recent years of national median family income data are from the American Community Survey (ACS) in 2020 and 2021, at \$84,394 and \$85,806. However, because HUD did not use the ACS 2020 data for FY 2022 or FY 2023 Income Limits as the Census Bureau deemed it "experimental", HUD is retaining the 2019 ACS national median of \$80,944. HUD compares this to the 2021 ACS national median family income of \$85,806. This is a cumulative two-year change of 6.01%, or 2.96% on an annual basis. Two times 2.96% is 5.92%. This exceeds five percent, so the limit on increases in income limits is set at approximately 5.92%. (Note that HUD uses unrounded percentages in its actual calculations). The limit on decreases in income limits remains five

4-Person Very Low-Income Limit Calculation for Seattle-Bellevue, WA HUD Metro FMR Area

1. The estimated FY2023 Median Family Income and preliminary 4-Person VLIL for Seattle-Bellevue, WA HUD Metro FMR Area are as follows:

Area	FY 2023 Estimate of Median Family Income	Preliminary 4-Person Very Low-Income Limit
Seattle-Bellevue, WA HUD Metro FMR Area	\$146,500	\$146,500 * 0.50 = \$ 73,250

2. The High Housing Cost adjustment calculations follow:

2BR 40 th percentile	85% of Annualized 2BR	35% of Preliminary 4P	High Housing Cost	Preliminary 4P
FMR	FMR	VLIL	Adjustment?	VLIL
\$2,455	\$25,041	\$25,638	Is \$25,638 < \$25,041? No	\$73,250

3. The Low Housing Cost adjustment calculations follow:

Annualized 2BR 40 th percentile FMR	Income that can afford annualized 2BR FMR paying 30% for rent	80% of US Median Income	Maximum allowable 4P VLIL	Preliminary 4P VLIL	Low Housing Cost Adjustment?	Preliminary 4P VLIL
\$2,455 * 12 = \$29,460	\$29,460/0.3 = \$98,200	\$76,960	MAX (\$98,200,\$76,960) = \$98,200	\$73,250	Is \$73,250 > \$98,200? No	\$73,250

4. State non-metro Median Family Income Adjustment:

50 Percent of State Non-Metro Median Family Income	State Median Family Income Adjustment?	Preliminary 4P VLIL
\$86,000 * 0.5	Is \$73,250 < \$43,000?	*70.0E0





If you want a deep dive into the methodology

https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/mtsp.html



The Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program is administered by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Pursuant to an IRS revenue ruling, participating properties base their rents on the income limits that HUD is mandated to publish. Participating property owners are not required by HUD or IRS to raise rents based on updated income limit calculations. To the extent that owners increase rents, given the purpose of the LIHTC is to keep units affordable, HUD encourages owners to increase them no more than what is needed to keep pace with rising costs and recognize that to promote housing stability, incremental increases are easier for tenants to absorb than sudden significant increases.

This system provides complete documentation of the development of the FY 2023 Multifamily Tax Subsidy Project (MTSP) Income Limits for any area of the country selected by the user. Official MTSP Income Limits, available in pdf and excel formats at this link, may differ slightly from those calculated in the documentation system, and should be used for ALL official purposes.







2023 Challenges

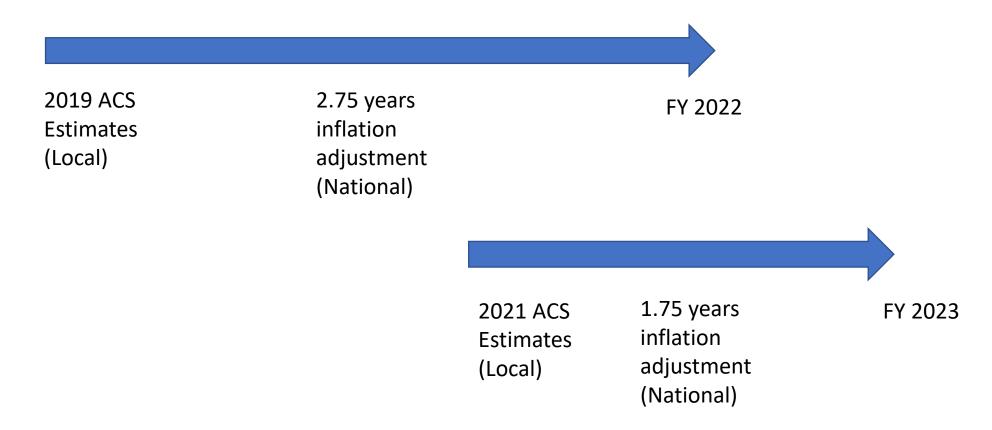
Base Median Family Incomes

- Since FY 2012, there has been a 3-year lag between the ACS estimates and the fiscal year for which the income limits are in effect. So for FY 2023, the ACS 2020 data would normally have been used.
- However, the Census Bureau effectively canceled the ACS 2020 1-year data because of data quality issues.
- While 5-year ACS data are still available for 2020, income estimates from the 5-year data have tended to lag those in 1-year data as income growth has slightly outpaced inflation.
- For FY 2023, HUD "skipped" the ACS 2020 and using ACS 2021 as the source of median family income estimates
- This has the added benefit of reducing the time horizon for the inflation adjustment in parts B and C on slide 8





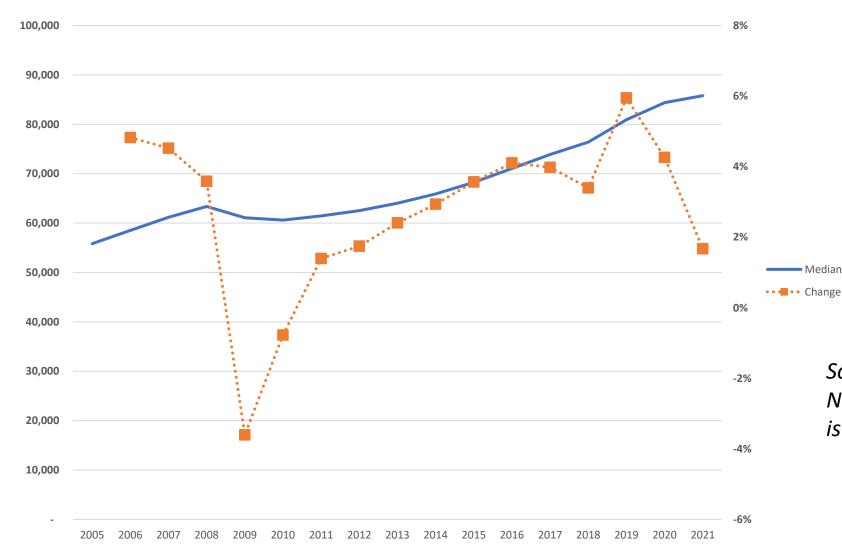
Changing ACS basis reduces length of national inflation adjustment

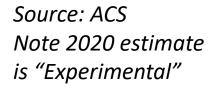




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Trends in Median Family Income



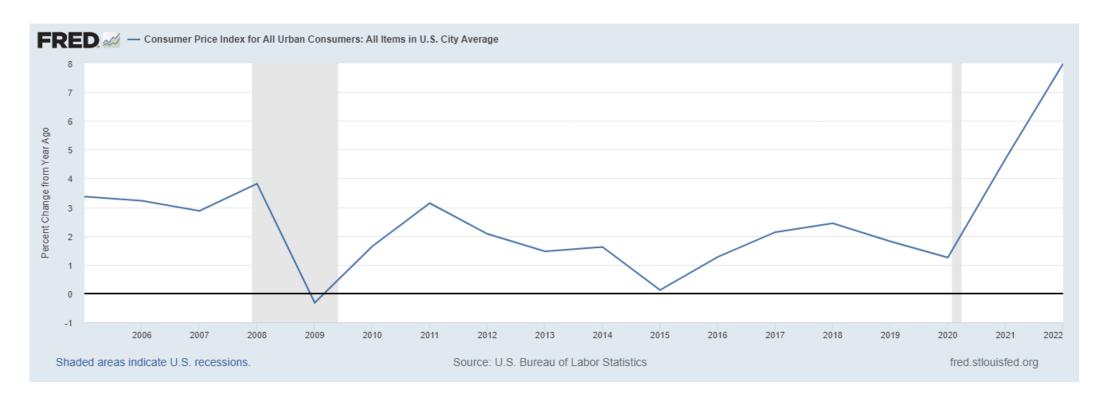


Median Family Income





Trends in Inflation







2023 Challenges

Cap Calculation

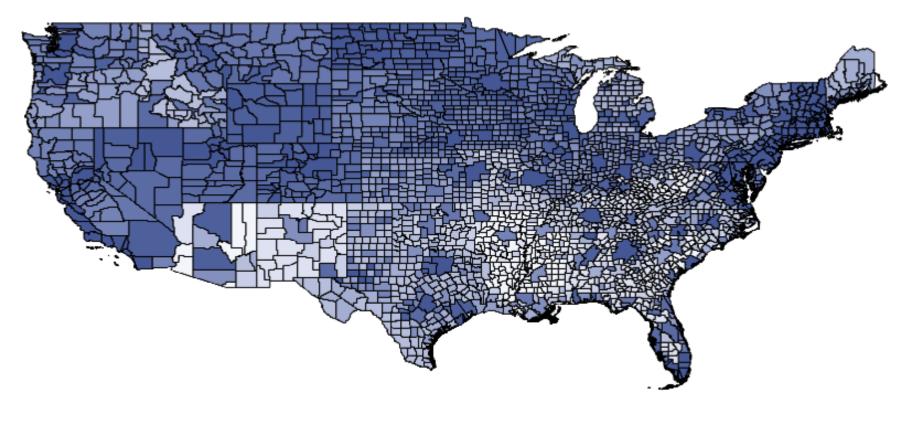
- Since FY 2010, HUD has limited the annual increase and decrease of income limits. Income limits cannot increase by the more than the higher of 5%, or twice the change in national median family income.
- From FY 2010-FY 2014 the national median family income for the cap calculation was partially inflated with CPI, partially inflated with a trend factor based on historical ACS income growth.
- From FY 2015-FY 2021 the national median family income was inflated with forecasted CPI growth.
- In FY 2022, the Congressional Budget Office did not publish a CPI forecast.
- Census did publish an ACS 2020 national median family income estimate. But because HUD is skipping ACS 2020, HUD is using the 2019-2021 change, annualized. So:

	Median Family Income	1-year change	2-year change	Annualized Change	Twice the annualized change
A CC	meome	Change	Change	Change	annuanzea change
ACS					
2021	\$85,806	1.7%	6.01%	2.96%	5.92%
ACS					
2020	\$84,394	4.3%			
ACS					
2019	\$80,944				

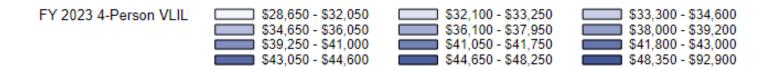




2023 Results

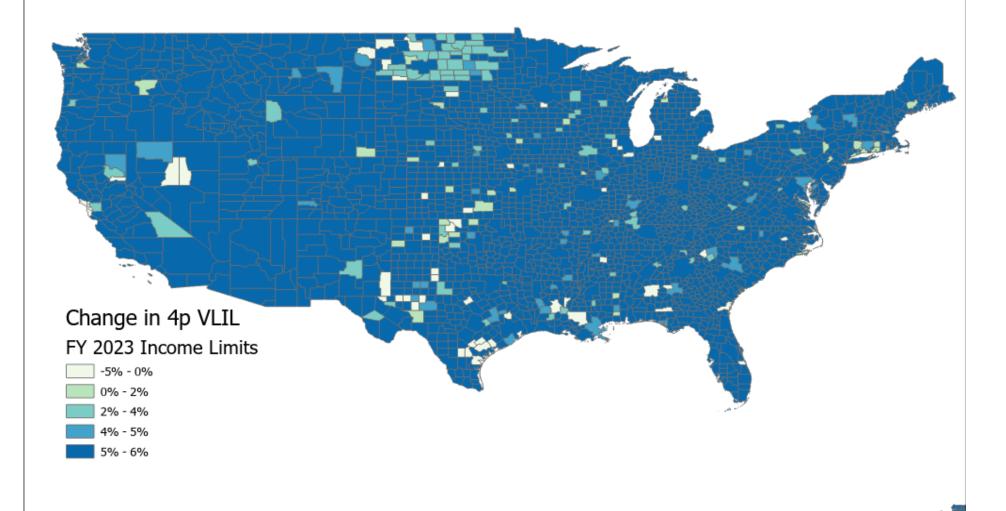






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2023 Results







2023 Results

	Population Weighted Average 4-Person Very Low-Income
Year	Limit Change (percent)
2013	-1.50
2014	-0.60
2015	2.88
2016	0.45
2017	3.22
2018	5.69
2019	4.99
2020	4.16
2021	1.95
2022	9.99
2023	5.52





Looking Ahead to FY 2024

- Ideally, we would return to a publication date closer to early April, subject to data availability from the Census Bureau
 - Preserve two-year time lag, so FY 2024 would be based on ACS 2022 data
- HUD also made significant changes to its Fair Market Rent calculation for FY 2023 and expects to issue a notice for FY 2024 this summer







HOUSING CREDIT CONNECT





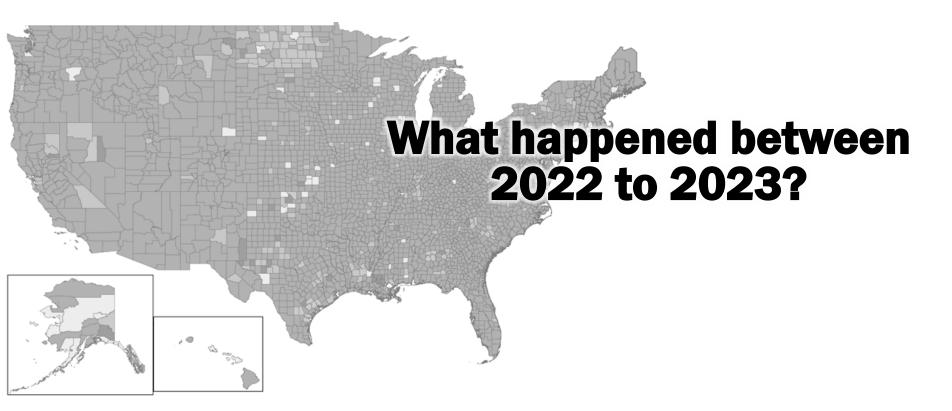


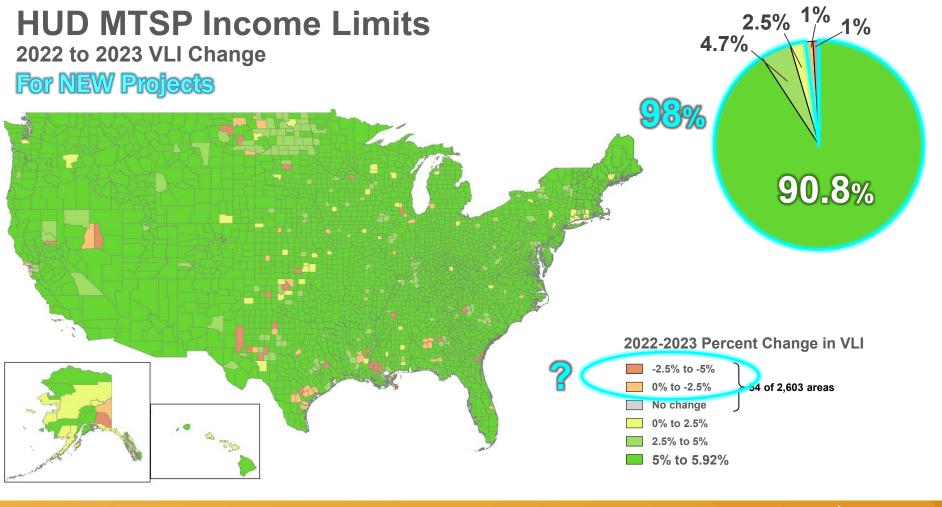
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- ► Thomas.stagg@novoco.com

HUD MTSP Income Limits

2022 to 2023 VLI Change





Three possibilities for income limits:

Increase

- For screening tenants: Implement immediately!
- For rents: It creates a higher rent limit so you <u>CAN</u> increase rents...but should you?

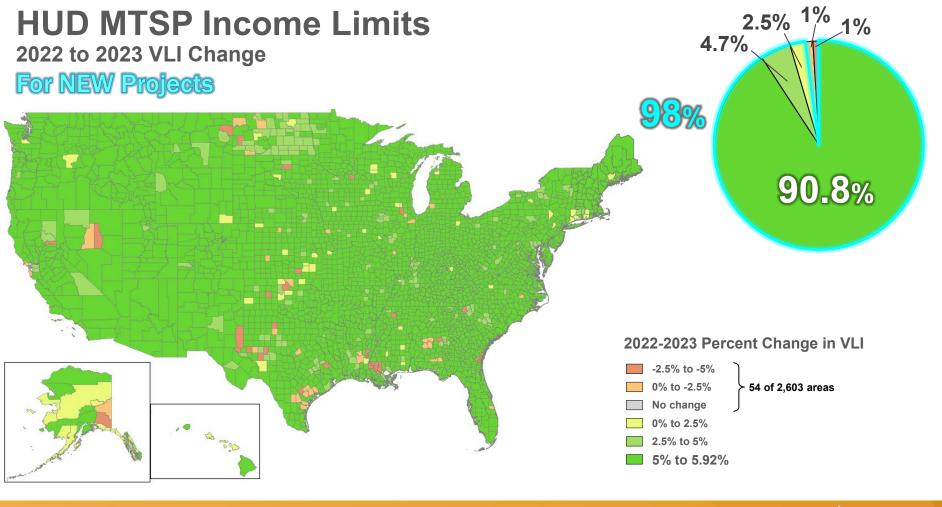
No Change

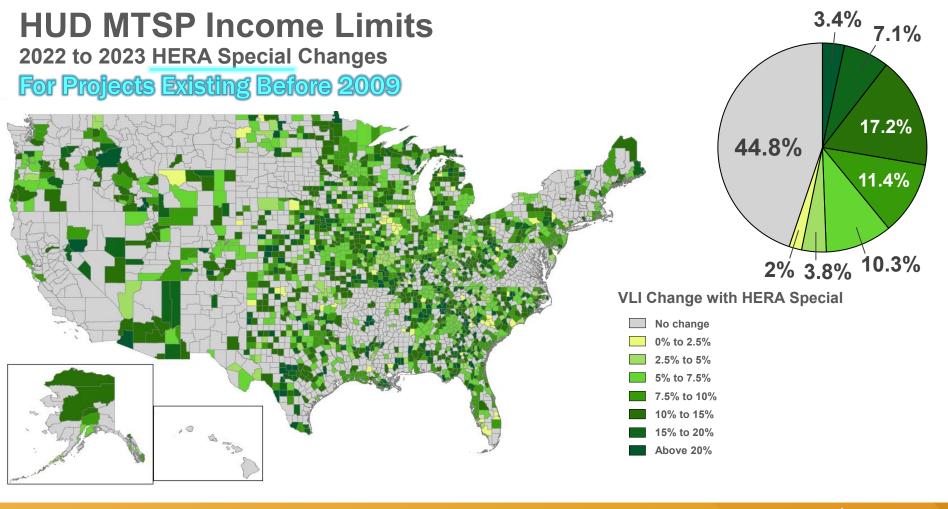
Carry on as before

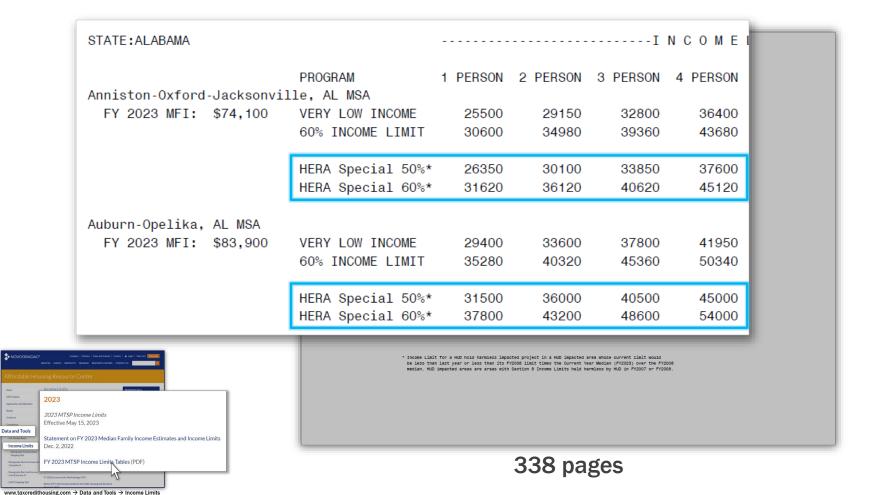
Decrease

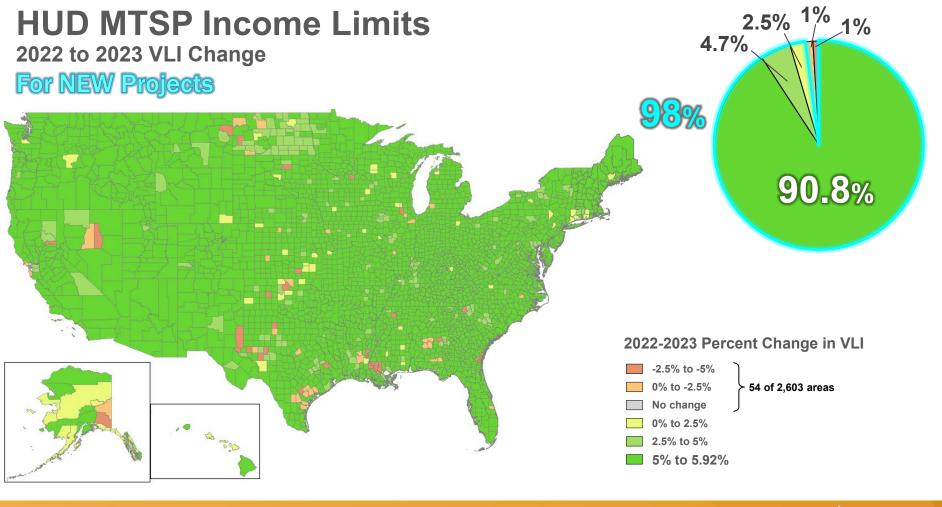
- For existing projects: same as no change...except if you have layered financing you may not be held harmless for limits under those other sources of financing 🕾
- For new projects: have to use new, lower limits for screening tenants and for rent limits*

^{*}We'll discuss gross rent floor in a moment







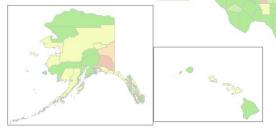


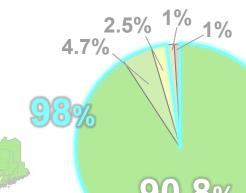
2022 to 2023 VLI Change

For NEW Projects



MTSP limits begin with AMI calculations...

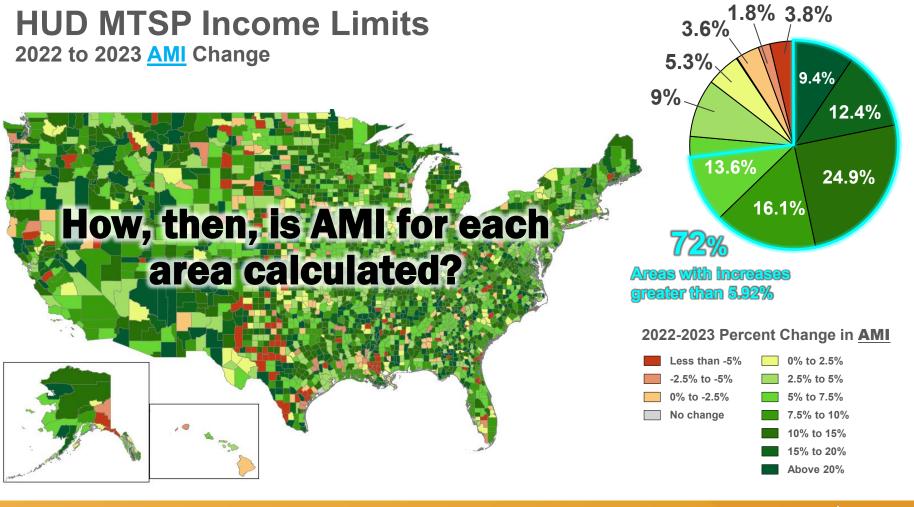




90.8%

2022-2023 Percent Change in VLI





Historical ACS Data is Used

Local			National		
	ACS		V		
	Data	X	CPI Factor		HUD AMI
	2017	X	(2020 CPI/2017 CPI)	=	2020 AMI
	2018	X	(2021 CPI/2018 CPI)	=	2021 AMI
	2019	X	(2022 CPI/2019 CPI)	=	2022 AMI
	2020	X	(2023 CPI/ 2020 C PI)	=	2023 AMI
	<i>2021</i>		<i>2021</i>		

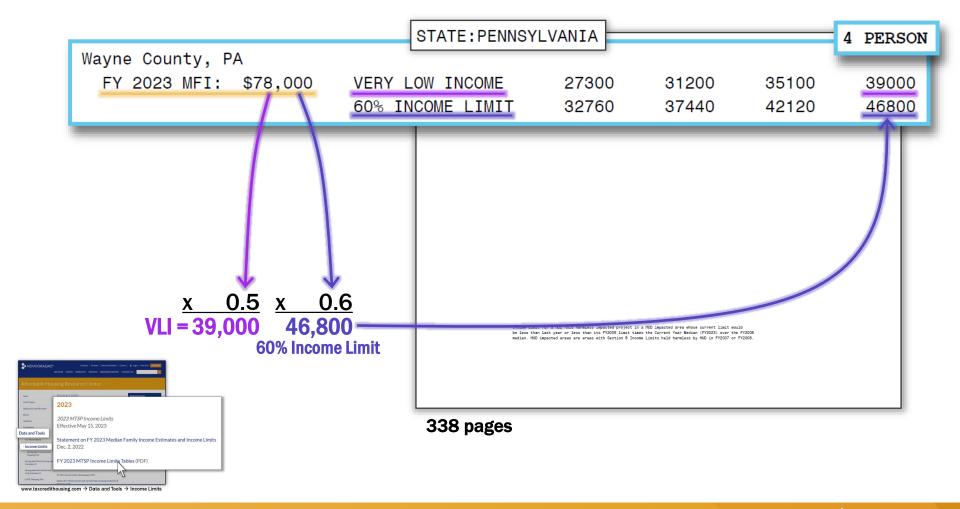
For areas without reliable one-year American Community Survey (ACS) data, HUD will next use the five-year ACS. If that is also unreliable, HUD will follow alternative procedures.

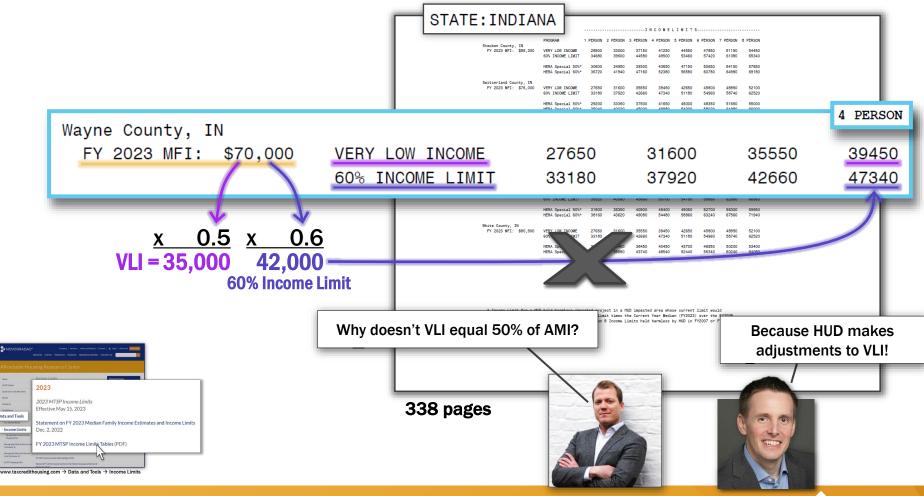
Historical Comparison of ACS to HUD AMI

	ACS			
Year	Data			
2012	62,527		65,000	2,473
2013	64,030	CPI Factor	64,400	370
2014	65,910	CPNFactor	63,900	(2,010)
2015	68,260	CPNFactor	65,800	(2,460)
2016	71,602	CPNFactor	65,700	(5,902)
2017	73,891	CPNFactor	68,000	(5,891)
2018	76,401	CPI Factor	71,900	(4,501)
2019	80,944		75,500	(5,444)
2020	N/A	\rightarrow	78,500	N/A
2021	85,806		79,900	(5,906)

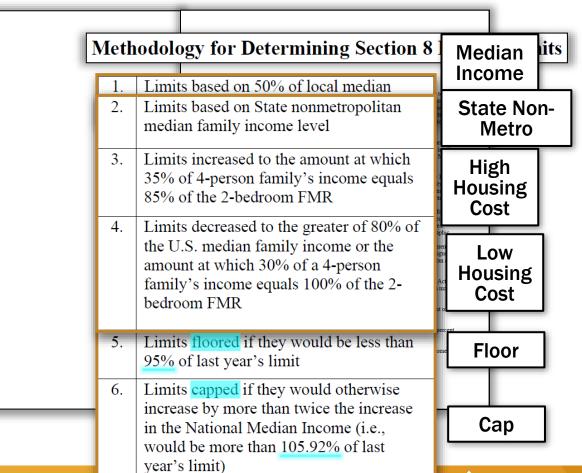
Historical HUD Trend Factors

				Year	HUD Trend	
Historical Comparison of ACS to HUD AMI			2015	1.05244		
Year	ACS Data	HUD AMI	Over/(Under) Estimated	2016	1.02637	
2012	62,527			2017	1.03153	
2013 2014	64,030 65,910			2018	1.06289	
2015	68,260	65,800	(2,460)	2010	1.00209	
2016	71,602	65,700	(5,902)	2019	1.06193	
2017	73,891	68,000	(5,891)		4 00400	
2018	76,401	71,900	(4,501)	2020	1.06193	
2019	80,944	75,500	(5,444)	2021	1.04537	
2020	N/A	78,500	N/A	2021	1.04557	
2021	85,806	79,900	(5,906)	2022	1.11162	
				2023	1.12153	← Only Two Years
				Average tr	end factor 1.06	63

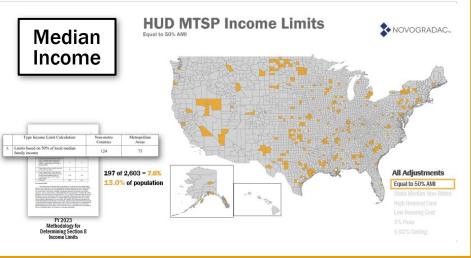


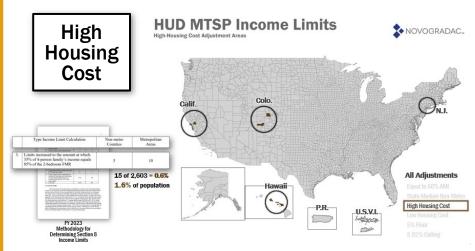


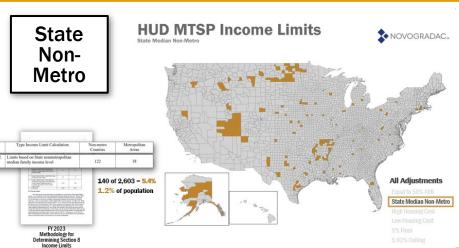
Data and Tools

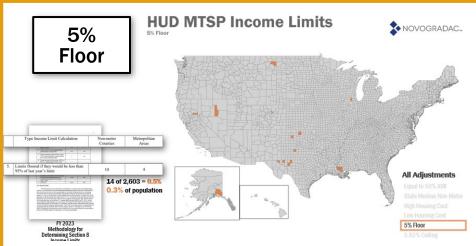






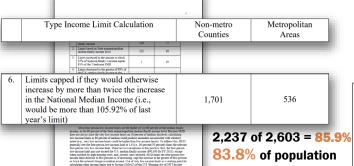




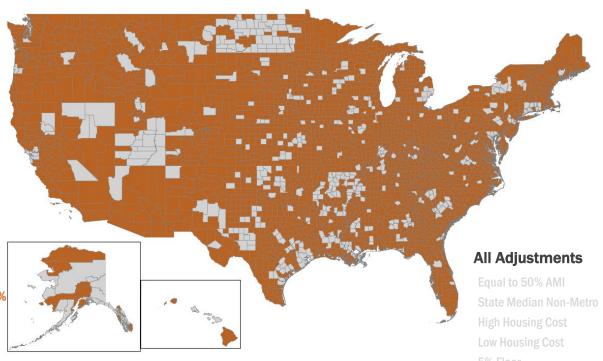


5.92% Cap





FY 2023 Methodology for Determining Section 8 Income Limits



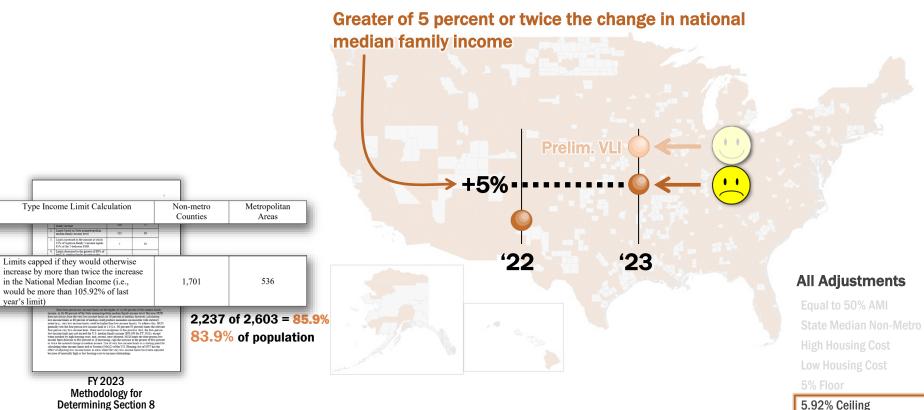
5.92% Ceiling

5.92% Cap

year's limit)

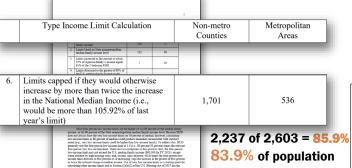
Income Limits



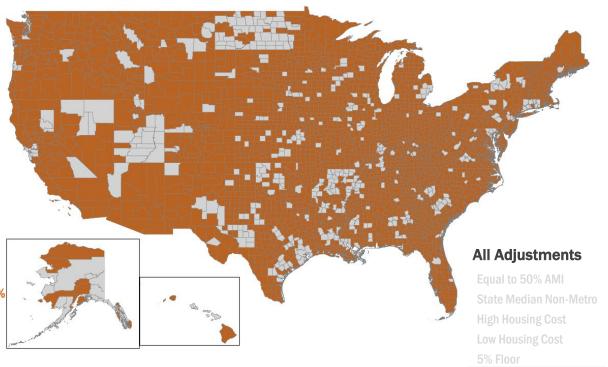


5.92% Cap





FY 2023 Methodology for Determining Section 8 Income Limits



5.92% Ceiling

Calculation of CAP

Old Method (used from 2010 to 2021):

ACS from 3 years prior x CPI Factor = HUD-Published National Median Income

2018 ACS x CPI Factor = 2021 HUD-Published NMI \$79,900

2019 ACS x CPI Factor = 2022 HUD-Published NMI \$90,00

Change 12.64%

Greater of 2x change or 5% 2 x Change

Historical ACS Data is Used

rocal			National		
	ACS Data	X CPI Factor		=	HUD AMI
	2017	Χ	(2020 CPI/2017 CPI)	=	2020 AMI
	2018	Χ	(2021 CPI/2018 CPI)	=	2021 AMI
	2019	Χ	(2022 CPI/2019 CPI)	=	2022 AMI
	2020	Χ	(2023 CPI/ 2020 C PI)	=	2023 AMI
	2021		2021		

For areas without reliable one-year American Community Survey (ACS) data, HUD will next use the five-year ACS. If that is also unreliable, HUD will follow alternative procedures.

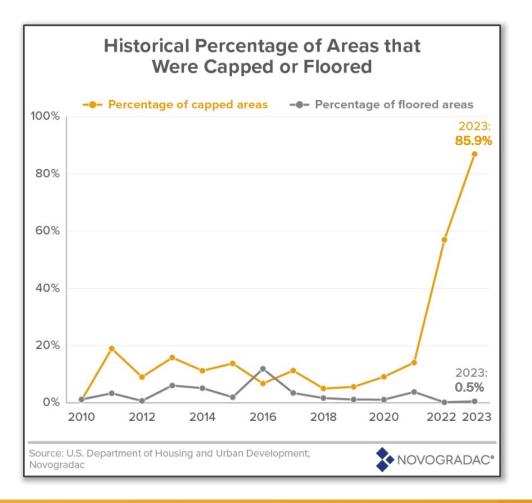
© NOVOGRADAC.

Calculation of CAP

Old Method (used from 2010 to 2021):

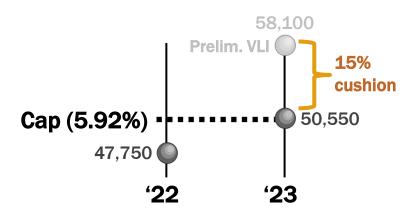
```
ACS from 3 years prior x CPI Factor = HUD-Published National Median Income 2018 ACS x CPI Factor = 2021 HUD-Published NMI $79,900 2019 ACS x CPI Factor = 2022 HUD-Published NMI $90,000 Change 12.64% \frac{x}{2}
```

New Method (used from 2022 forward):

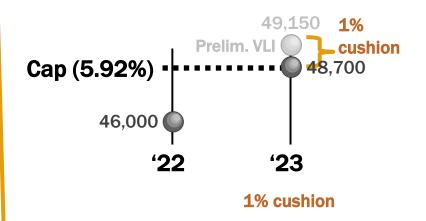


If I'm capped this year, can I expect an increase next year? Depends on the size on the cap

Durham-Chapel Hill, NC HMFA



West Palm Beach-Boca Raton, FL HMFA



2024 Outlook

- What ACS will HUD use?
 - 2021 vs. 2022
 - In 2011-2012, HUD used the same ACS two years in a row
 - If using 2022, will release be delayed again?
- Trend factor
- Cap