

# THE 2019 NEW JERSEY ELDER ECONOMIC SECURITY STANDARD™ INDEX

Center for Social and Demographic Research on Aging  
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University of Massachusetts Boston



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*Division of Aging Services*



**NJ Department of Human Services**

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## THE ELDER ECONOMIC SECURITY STANDARD™ INDEX

The Elder Economic Security Standard™ Index (the Elder Index) is a tool for use by policy makers, older adults, family caregivers, service providers, aging advocates and the public at large. Developed by the Gerontology Institute at the University of Massachusetts Boston and Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW), and currently maintained in partnership with the National Council on Aging (NCOA), the Elder Index is a geographically specific measure of income that older adults require to maintain their independence in the community and meet their daily costs of living, including affordable and appropriate housing and health care. This is the third statewide report produced by the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services. Three previous reports for New Jersey were produced with the support of the New Jersey Foundation for Aging.

The information developed through the Elder Index helps us understand that many older adults who are not poor, as defined by the official poverty level, still do not have enough income to meet their basic needs. The Elder Index helps answer the following questions: How much income—or combination of personal income and public programs—is needed by older adults living on fixed incomes to cover today's rising living costs? What is the impact of public programs, such as Medicare, Medicaid, or housing assistance, on an elder's evolving ability to meet his or her shelter and health needs? How does the need for long-term services and supports affect economic security?

Members of the Gerontology Institute primarily responsible for this report are Jan E. Mutchler and Yang Li. We acknowledge the contributions of Laura Russell in developing the core methodology used in the Elder Index, Ellen Bruce for her leadership and insights on elder economic security, and Judith Conahan for her work developing the long-term care cost component of the Elder Index. We also thank WOW and Gerontology Institute staff members who participated in developing previous state-level reports on the Elder Index upon which the current report is based, including Shawn McMahon, Alison Gottlieb, Jiyoung Lyu and Ping Xu. The authors, of course, are responsible for the contents of this report and accept responsibility for any errors or omissions.

For more information about the Elder Index, see our website  
([https://www.umb.edu/demographyofaging/elder\\_economic\\_security](https://www.umb.edu/demographyofaging/elder_economic_security))  
or contact us at [CSDRA@umb.edu](mailto:CSDRA@umb.edu)

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# The 2018 New Jersey Elder Economic Security Standard™ Index

## Executive Summary

Many New Jersey elders age 65 and over struggle to make ends meet. Living costs are high, especially for housing and health care. In the face of rising expenses, many elders receive at most a modest cost of living adjustment each year; thus, they are spending down retirement savings, and/or face growing debt. At the same time, older people strain to be prepared for the present but face a challenging future if their life circumstances change due to illness, loss of a spouse or partner, and/or growing needs for help with daily tasks.

The 2018 Elder Index for New Jersey was tabulated using a national methodology developed by the University of Massachusetts Boston Gerontology Institute (GI) in collaboration with Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW). The Elder Index measures the living expense costs for older adults in today's economy and helps us answer key questions: What is an adequate income for older adults in New Jersey to "age in place"? How do financial needs vary according to the life circumstances of elders—whether they live alone or with a spouse or partner, rent or own their home? How do living expenses change as health status and life circumstances change? What happens if elders need long-term care to remain at home? In answering these questions, the Elder Index presented in this report may be used to increase public awareness and inform public policies and programs meant to support older adults as they age in their communities.

### A Framework for Measuring Economic Security for Elders

The Elder Economic Security Standard™ Index (Elder Index) is a measure of the cost of basic expenses of elder households (those exclusively including members age 65 or older) to age in place, continuing to live in the community setting of their choice. The Elder Index defines economic security as the financial status where elders have sufficient income (from Social Security, pension, retirement savings, and other sources) to cover basic and necessary living expenses. It demonstrates the interplay between New Jersey elders' living expenses and actual income. The Elder Index also illustrates how elders' living expenses change when their life circumstances change.

This report presents the 2018 Elder Index for New Jersey to benchmark basic living expense costs for elder households. It illustrates how expenses vary both by specific New Jersey geographic areas and by the circumstances of elder households, including household size, homeowner or renter status, health status, and the need for long-term care. The expenses are based on market costs and do not assume any public or private supports.

## Key Findings for New Jersey

### ***1. New Jersey elders cannot meet their basic living expenses whether they live at the Federal Poverty Level or the level of the average Social Security benefit. This is true of elders statewide, whether they rent or own a home.***

- Eight percent of New Jersey's older adults live at or below the federal poverty level.
- Expenses vary widely across types of communities. For example, elder homeowners with no mortgage who live alone in Ocean County need \$24,672 per year to cover basic living expenses. In contrast, elder renters living alone in Bergen County need as much as \$32,628 to cover basic expenses. The statewide average for single older adults is \$29,148 for an owner with no mortgage, \$30,540 for a single renter, and \$43,248 for an owner with a mortgage.
- Elder couples who own a home with no mortgage and live in Ocean County need \$36,528 per year to cover basic living expenses. In contrast, couples who own a home with a mortgage living in Bergen County need as much as \$61,656 to cover basic expenses. The statewide average for an older couple is \$40,872 for owners with no mortgage, \$42,264 for couples who rent, and \$54,972 for owners with a mortgage.

### ***2. Housing costs (mortgage or rent, taxes, utilities and insurance) put a heavy burden on some elder households, representing as much as half of their total expenses.***

- The Elder Index reflects a wide variation in housing costs depending on whether older adults own or rent, and by county. Older homeowners without a mortgage typically have the lowest housing costs, while homeowners still paying a mortgage typically have the highest housing costs.
- The monthly housing costs for elder homeowners without a mortgage range from a low of \$722 per month in Cumberland County to a high of \$1,339 per month in Essex County.
- The monthly housing costs for older adults paying fair market rent for a one-bedroom apartment range from a low of \$867 per month in Cape May County to a high of \$1,316 per month in Bergen County.
- The monthly housing costs for elder homeowners with a mortgage range from a low of \$1,410 per month in Cumberland County to a high of \$2,747 per month in Bergen County.



***3. The Elder Index shows the significance of health care costs for New Jersey elders who must purchase supplemental health and prescription drug coverage in addition to Medicare.***

- The Elder Index includes premium costs of supplemental health and prescription drug coverage to Medicare, which provide critical protection against high medical and prescription drug costs.
- Older adults in New Jersey who are in good health face combined health care costs (insurance premiums plus co-pays, deductibles, fees, and other out-of-pocket expenses) of \$489 per month to have protection against high medical and prescription drug costs.
- Retired couples are unable to purchase supplemental health insurance through a “family plan”; rather, they must each buy coverage as an individual. Thus, combined health care costs are doubled for elder couples, totaling \$978 per month.

***4. Even elders who are currently making ends meet face an uncertain future if their life circumstances change, such as loss of a spouse/partner or a decline in health status.***

- An elder paying market rate rent in New Jersey has expenses reduced by only 28% when a spouse dies, yet his or her income mix of Social Security and/or pension income may decrease substantially.
- Older adults often face a rise in health care expenses when their health declines. While adding supplemental health and prescription drug coverage to Medicare provides protection against unanticipated health care expenses, average out-of-pocket expenses rise from \$489/month for an individual in good health to \$659/month for an individual in poor health.

***5. The need for home and community-based long-term care can more than double an elder's expenses, significantly increasing the income needed to meet basic needs.***

- The need for home and community-based long-term services and supports adds substantially to an elder's expenses. Adding a low level of care for one person adds \$9,348 per year to living costs for an older adult in northern New Jersey. Requiring a medium level of care adds \$24,491 and needing a high level of care adds \$42,839-\$51,887.
- As a comparison, national market surveys report an average annual rate of \$127,750 for nursing facility care (semi-private room) in New Jersey.

## Introduction

This report addresses income adequacy for New Jersey's older adults using the national Elder Economic Security Standard™ Index (Elder Index) methodology. The Elder Index benchmarks basic costs of living for elder households and illustrates how costs of living vary geographically and based on the characteristics of elder households, including household size, housing tenure, and health status. The costs are based on market costs for basic needs of elder households and do not assume any public or private supports.

The Elder Index presented in this report may be used to increase public awareness and inform public policies and programs. The Elder Index offers:

- Information to illustrate the basic expenses that older adults face and how changes in their life circumstances affect their financial security. Common changes include the need for long-term care services, which dramatically increases living expenses, or the death of a spouse, which often greatly reduces income without substantially decreasing living expense costs.
- A framework for analyzing the effects of public policy and policy proposals in such areas as retirement security, health and long-term care, taxes, and housing.
- An educational tool to inform elders about actual and projected living costs to inform their financial, employment, and life decisions.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's population estimates for 2017, 15.8% of New Jersey residents were 65 years or older, and 13.5% were between the ages of 55-64, poised to dramatically increase elders' numbers as the "baby boomers" age.<sup>1</sup> The individual circumstances of New Jersey elders vary from those who are healthy and economically secure, to those who are poor, ill, or living with disability. Elders' situations vary greatly in terms of family support, neighborhood networks, and community and social connections. New Jersey elders also differ according to their housing situation, health status, and need for long-term services and supports. Many of these characteristics change over an elder's lifetime. The Elder Index shows how seniors may be prepared for the present, yet face a precarious future as living expenses rise because of situational changes.

## The Statewide New Jersey Elder Economic Security Standard Index

1. For elders living alone and in good health, the statewide New Jersey Elder Economic Security Standard Index for 2018 is \$29,148 (for homeowners without a mortgage), \$30,540 (for renters) and \$43,248 (for homeowners with a mortgage) (see **Table 1**). This represents the living expense costs (housing, health care, transportation, food and miscellaneous) for elders age 65+ in New Jersey. The Elder Index is much higher than other commonly used income benchmarks.
  - The federal poverty guideline, which is a formula measuring *income inadequacy* that is based solely on food costs, is \$12,140 per year for an individual. This is only 42% of the statewide Elder Index for homeowners with no mortgage, 40% of

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<sup>1</sup> Source: 2017 Population Estimates program of the U.S. Census Bureau. See <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>



the statewide Elder Index for renters, and 28% of the statewide Elder Index for homeowners who have a mortgage.

- The average Social Security benefit for New Jersey elders is \$18,644 per year for an individual retired worker. This represents only 64% of the statewide Elder Index for homeowners with no mortgage, 61% of the statewide Elder Index for renters, or 43% of the statewide Elder Index for homeowners who have a mortgage.

**Table 1**  
**The Statewide Elder Economic Security Standard Index for New Jersey, 2018**

<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>Elder Living Alone</b>			<b>Two-person Elder Household</b>		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
Housing	\$1,072	\$1,188	\$2,247	\$1,072	\$1,188	\$2,247
Food	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
Transportation	\$206	\$206	\$206	\$317	\$317	\$317
Health Care (Good Health)	\$489	\$489	\$489	\$978	\$978	\$978
Miscellaneous	\$405	\$405	\$405	\$568	\$568	\$568
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,429</b>	<b>\$2,545</b>	<b>\$3,604</b>	<b>\$3,406</b>	<b>\$3,522</b>	<b>\$4,581</b>
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$29,148</b>	<b>\$30,540</b>	<b>\$43,248</b>	<b>\$40,872</b>	<b>\$42,264</b>	<b>\$54,972</b>

- For two elders living together and in good health, the statewide New Jersey Elder Economic Security Standard Index is \$40,872 (for homeowners without a mortgage), \$42,264 (for renters), and \$54,972 (for homeowners with a mortgage). This represents the living expense costs (housing, health care, transportation, food and miscellaneous) for households including two elders age 65+ in New Jersey. The Elder Index is much higher than other commonly used income benchmarks.
  - The federal poverty guideline is \$16,460 per year for elder two-person households. This is only 40% of the statewide Elder Index for homeowners with no mortgage, 39% of the statewide Elder Index for renters, and 30% of the statewide Elder Index for homeowners who have a mortgage.
  - The average Social Security benefit for New Jersey couples is estimated to be \$31,073 per year. This represents only 76% of the Elder Index for homeowners with no mortgage, 74% of the Elder Index for renters, and 57% of the statewide Elder Index for homeowners who have a mortgage.

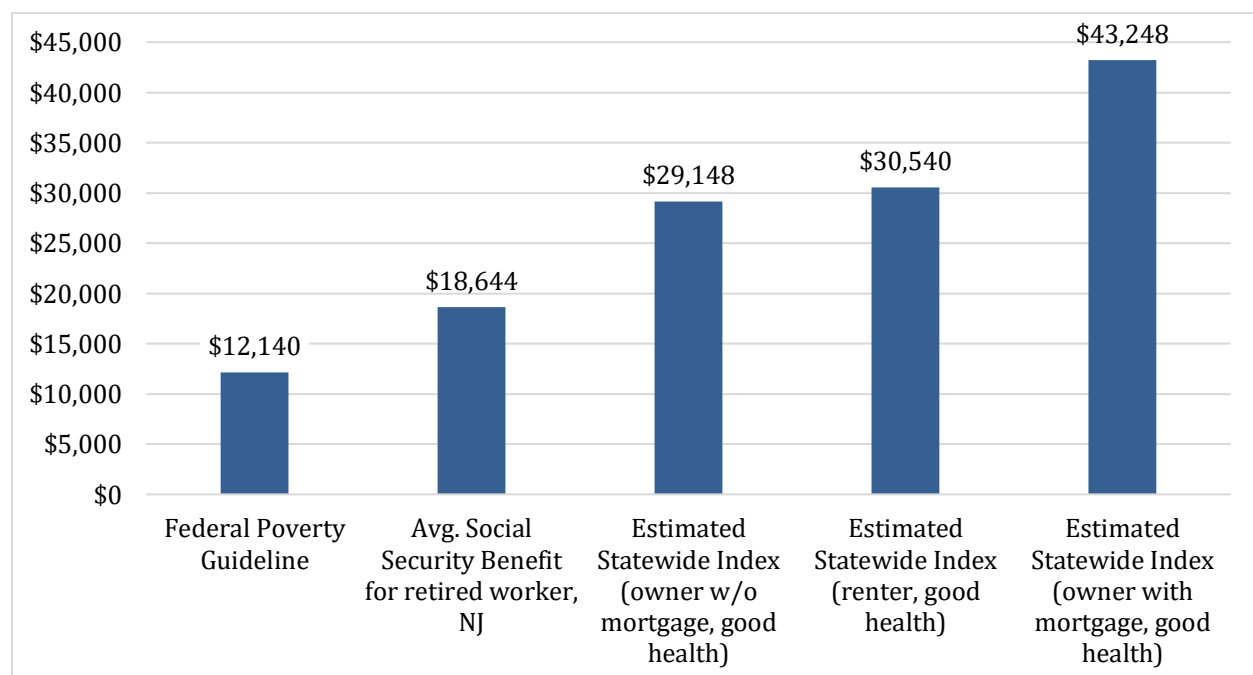
## Comparison to Other Benchmarks of Income

### One-Person Household

**Federal Poverty Guidelines:** As illustrated in **Figure 1**, the average after-tax income required by an elder living alone in New Jersey is 2.4 to 3.6 times as high as the official poverty guideline. In 2018, under the federal poverty guideline a single adult household is “poor” only if he or she has a monthly income of \$1,012 (\$12,140 per year) or less. The federal poverty guideline (not the federal poverty threshold) is used as the basis for most income eligibility guidelines for public support programs.

**Average Social Security Benefit:** The average Social Security benefit in New Jersey in 2018, at \$1,554 per month (\$18,644 per year), is higher than the poverty guideline, but well below the Elder Index for owners without a mortgage, further below the Elder Index for older adults paying market rate rents, and even further below (less than half) the Elder Index for owners who have a mortgage. *While Social Security was never intended to be the sole source of income for elders, in reality it is the only income source for a sizable share of New Jersey elders.*<sup>2</sup>

**Figure 1**  
**The Elder Index Compared to Other Benchmarks, 2018**  
**Elder Index for One-Person Elder Households in New Jersey**



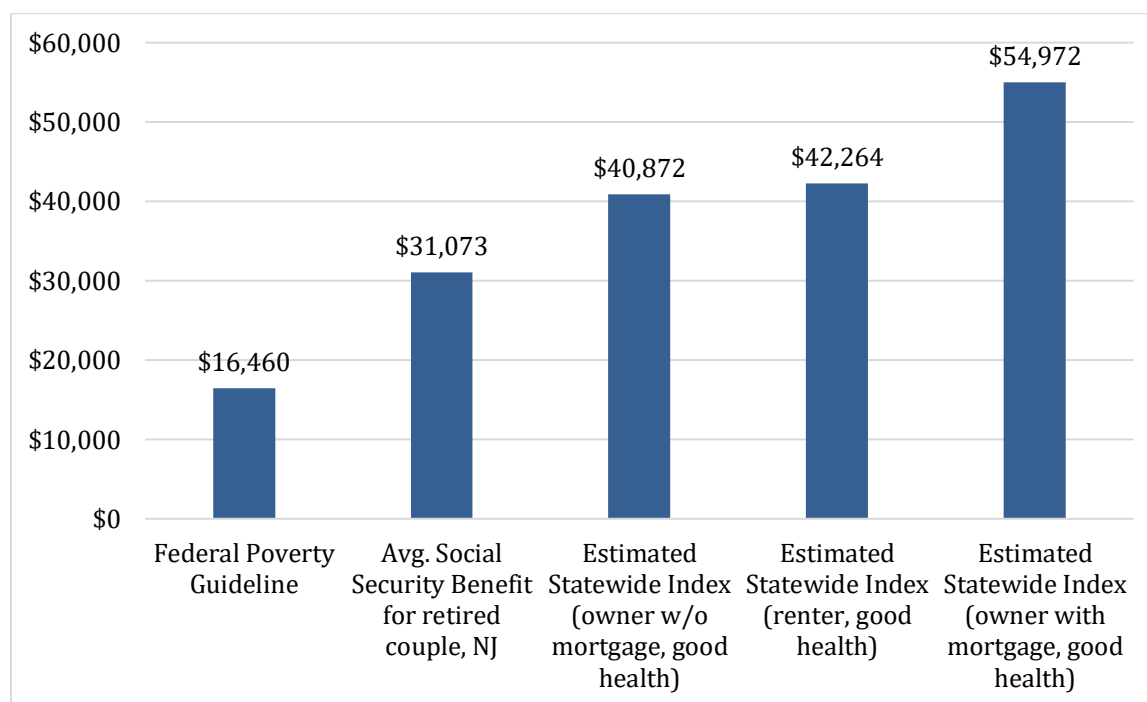
<sup>2</sup> Source: AARP. (2014). Social Security: 2014 New Jersey Quick Facts. Retrieved from [http://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/research/surveys\\_statistics/general/2014/ssqf/Social-Security-2014-New-Jersey-Quick-Facts-AARP-res-gen.pdf](http://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/research/surveys_statistics/general/2014/ssqf/Social-Security-2014-New-Jersey-Quick-Facts-AARP-res-gen.pdf)

## Two-Person Elder Households

**Federal Poverty Guidelines:** As illustrated in **Figure 2**, the average after-tax income required by a two-person elder household in New Jersey is 2.5 to 3.3 times the official poverty guideline. In 2018, under the federal poverty guideline a two-adult household is poor if it has a monthly income of \$1,372 (\$16,460 per year).

**Average Social Security Benefit:** The estimated average Social Security benefit for an elder couple in New Jersey in 2018, at \$2,589 per month (\$31,073 per year), is below the Elder Index for homeowner couples without a mortgage, further below the Elder Index for elder couples renting at market rates, and just 57% of the value of the Elder Index for owners who have a mortgage.

**Figure 2**  
**The Elder Index Compared to Other Benchmarks, 2018**  
**Elder Index for Two-Person Elder Households in New Jersey**

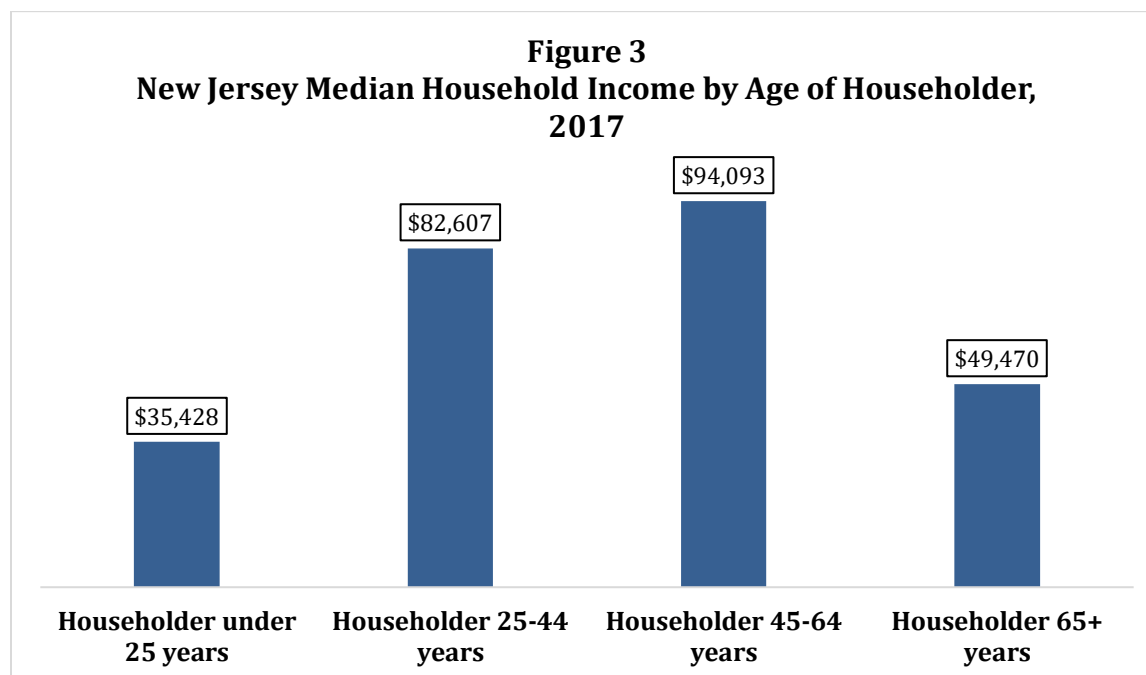


## Income Patterns among New Jersey's Households

Household income levels vary by age and life circumstance. Typically, median income levels rise with age until mid-life and then decline with advancing age, as indicated in **Figure 3**. In New Jersey, median household income for householders 65 years and over<sup>3</sup>, at \$49,470 in

<sup>3</sup> A "householder" is the person in whose name the home is owned or rented. Household income includes the income of the householder plus all other individuals living in the same home.

2017, was just over half the median household income of householders in their “peak earning” years of 45-64, at \$94,093.



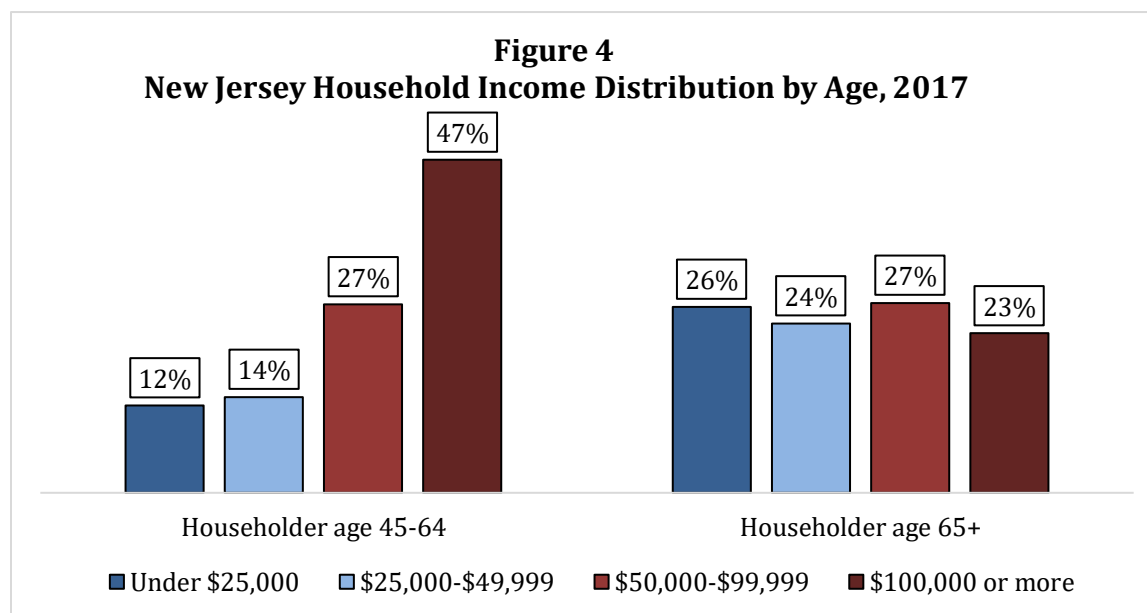
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2013-2017, Table B19049

According to the federal poverty threshold and the most current American Community Survey data, an estimated 8% of New Jersey’s elders were considered “poor” in 2017, and a similar share of New Jersey seniors was just above the poverty threshold. A full 16% were estimated to have incomes at or below 150% of the poverty threshold.<sup>4</sup> Poverty rates for older women are considerably higher than for older men, 10% (women) versus 7% (men). Moreover, poor older households are disproportionately headed by women. In 2017, 64% of older households in New Jersey with incomes below the poverty level were headed by a widowed or non-married woman.<sup>5</sup> Reasons for higher poverty rates among women include lower wages, lower lifetime earnings, and less time in the workforce. Women also have longer life expectancies but more chronic illness, and are more likely than men to experience loss of income when widowed.

This report focuses on the challenges of meeting expenses for low- and moderate-income older adults. **Figure 4** shows that in 2017, 26% of New Jersey households headed by adults aged 65 or older had incomes under \$25,000; half had incomes under \$50,000 (representing the two lower income categories combined). In contrast, only 26% of households headed by an individual age 45-64 had incomes below \$50,000, highlighting substantial income disparities between senior and middle-aged households. Households headed by those 65 and over have substantially lower income due in large part to less employment income; older households also include fewer members on average.

<sup>4</sup> Estimated from Tables B17001 and B17024, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-year estimates.

<sup>5</sup> Estimated using table B17017, 2013 - 2017 American Community Survey 5-year estimates.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2013-2017, Table B19037

## The Federal Poverty Threshold

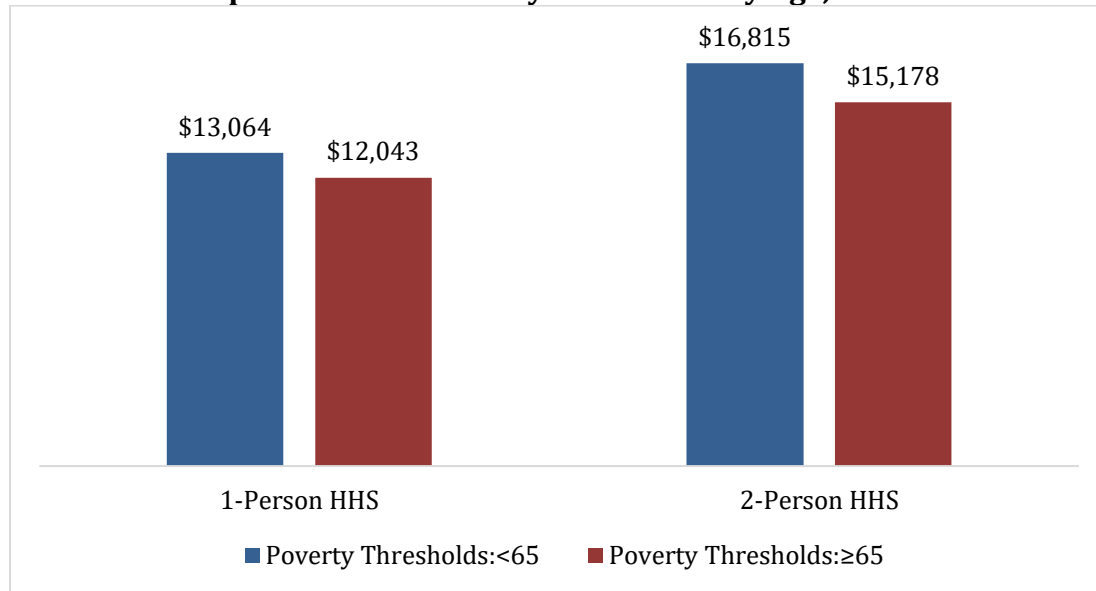
The poverty thresholds are drawn from the original version of the federal poverty measure.<sup>6</sup> The poverty thresholds were first calculated in the 1960's by estimating the cost of food needed to meet the minimum nutritional needs of adults of different ages, and multiplying this by three. This figure was then used as the reference point for the amount of income needed to live at a basic level. This calculation was based on consumption surveys conducted in the late 1950s showing that U.S. families spent about one-third of their incomes on food. Since that time, the thresholds are updated each year by the change in the consumer price index (CPI).

Despite this historical calculation's reliance on an outdated connection to households' food costs alone, the poverty thresholds continue to be used as the basis to estimate the number of Americans living in poverty each year. In addition, the U.S. Department of Agriculture calculations assume that older adults have lower caloric requirements than younger adults. As a result, the official U.S. poverty thresholds are lower for adults 65 and older than for younger adults. The federal poverty thresholds do not consider age variability in any other costs – e.g., housing, health care, transportation or long-term care. **Figure 5** compares the US poverty thresholds by age for one- and two-person households. The poverty cutoff for elders living alone is \$1,021 per year less than the cutoff for younger adults, and the poverty cutoff for elder two-person households is \$1,637 less than the cutoff for younger couples.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>6</sup> The federal poverty thresholds were developed by Mollie Orshansky of the Social Security Administration in 1963-64 and are updated each year by the U.S. Census Bureau. For more information on the federal poverty measures, see <https://aspe.hhs.gov/history-poverty-thresholds>.

<sup>7</sup> The poverty guidelines are a second version of the federal poverty measure. Issued each year in the Federal Register by the Department of Health and Human Services, they are a simplification of the poverty thresholds for administrative uses,

**Figure 5**  
**Comparison of US Poverty Thresholds by Age, 2018**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/historical-poverty-thresholds.html>

As indicated, the federal poverty measure’s methodology is based on outdated spending patterns and assumes households spend a fixed ratio of one-third of their incomes on food. In addition, it does not allow for different rates of inflation for different living expenses; for example, health care and housing costs have risen much more than food costs. Finally, it does not reflect regional variations in living costs.<sup>8</sup>

### **Defining the Elder Index: A Framework for Economic Security for Elders**

In contrast to the poverty threshold, the Elder Index is a measure of the living expenses for basic needs, for elder households to “age in place” in their homes or the community setting of their choice.

The cost components and methodology for the Elder Economic Security Standard Index were developed by researchers at the University of Massachusetts in collaboration with Wider Opportunities for Women, and with input and guidance from the Advisory Board for the national Elder Economic Security Initiative.<sup>9</sup> The Elder Index methodology is based on the characteristics and spending patterns of elder households, reflecting a realistic measure of *income adequacy* as opposed to the original intent of the federal poverty measure, which was

such as determining eligibility for certain federal programs. The federal poverty guidelines for 2018 are \$12,140 for one-person households and \$16,460 for two-person households, and do not differ by age of householder. They are the same in 48 states and adjusted for living costs only in Alaska and Hawaii.

<sup>8</sup> For discussion of the limitations of the federal poverty measures and information on the Supplemental Poverty Measure developed in recent years by the U.S. Census Bureau, which addresses some of these shortcomings, see Short (2015).

<sup>9</sup> See Russell, Bruce & Conahan (2006) for description of the Elder Index’s early development.



to illustrate *income inadequacy*. Economic security requires that elders have sufficient income (from Social Security, pensions, retirement savings, and other income) to cover living costs. Using the Elder Index we can illustrate the basic costs that elders face, and the interplay between living costs and elders' income adequacy. For more information about features of the Elder Economic Security Standard Index, see Mutchler, Shih, Lyu, Bruce & Gottlieb (2015); see Center for Social and Demographic Research on Aging (2017) for a methodology overview.

## Calculating the Elder Economic Security Standard Index

The Elder Index uses data from public sources that are comparable, geographically specific, easily accessible, and widely accepted. In areas where existing public data sources are not currently available, the Elder Index uses a consistent methodology to derive comparable measures for costs within and across states.

The following represent some of the assumptions that are built into the Elder Index's methodology. The Elder Index:

- measures basic living expenses for seniors living in the community (i.e., not in nursing homes or assisted living facilities);
- measures costs for elder households to live independently (vs. living in intergenerational households);
- measures living expenses for elders ages 65 and over to reflect the age at which Medicare begins;
- includes Medicare because elders qualify for and receive it based on age and without regard to income and assets, making Medicare nearly a universal program;<sup>10</sup> and
- models costs for retired elders, who no longer have work-related expenses such as payroll taxes and commuting to work.

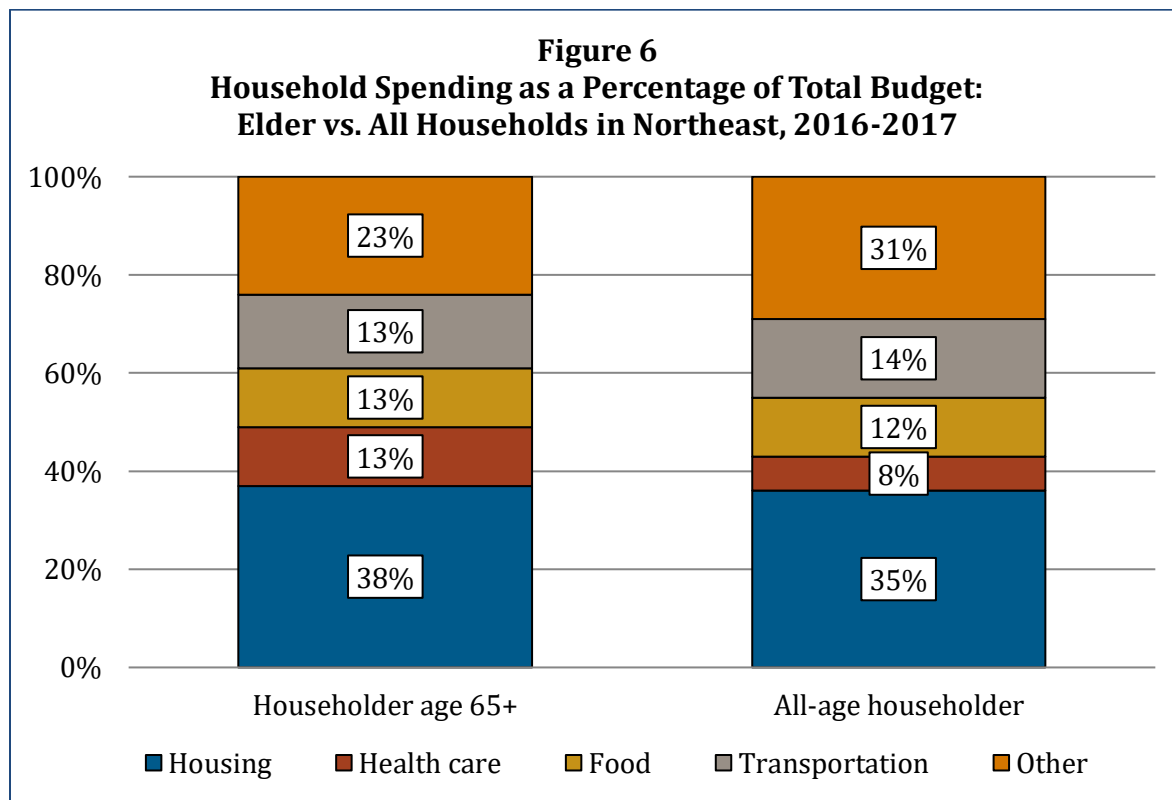
The Elder Index is tabulated separately for elders living alone in one-person households, and for two-person elder households, including just two members, both of whom are age 65 or older. A large majority, but not all, of two-person elder households are married couples.

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<sup>10</sup> Eligibility for Medicare based on age requires that a person is age 65 or older and has accumulated a sufficient amount of covered employment, or have a spouse who has accumulated sufficient employment credit (see <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/eligibility-and-enrollment/origmedicarepartabeligenrol/index.html>). Some individuals, such as recent immigrants, may not qualify for Social Security or Medicare.

## The Big Picture: Elders' Spending Compared to All Households

**Figure 6** compares the spending between elder households and all households, based on data from the Consumer Expenditure Survey. For the Northeast region as a whole, elder households spend about the same percentage of their budgets on housing, food, and transportation as do all households, but substantially more on health care. All other expenditures account for 23% of household spending by the average older household, less than the percentage for all households in the Northeast (30%).



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Expenditure Survey 2016-2017, Tables 3103 and 3850.

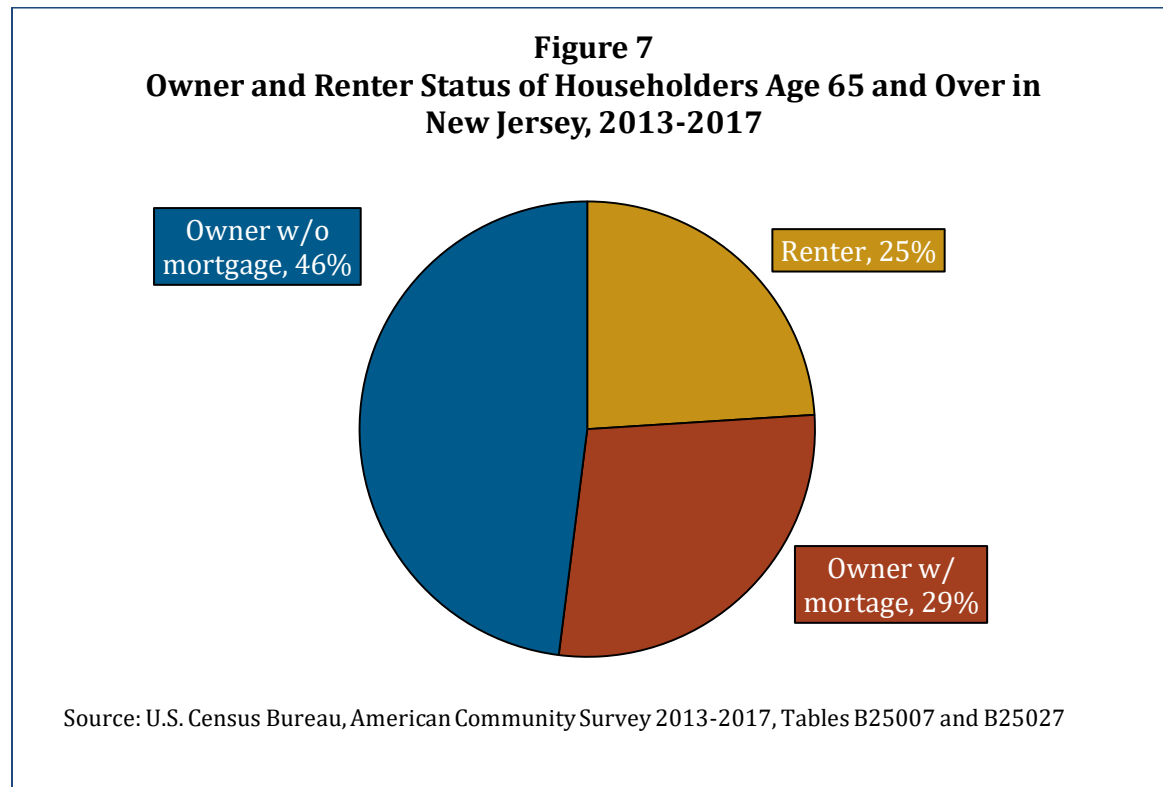
## Introduction to Cost Components of the Elder Index

The basic cost components developed for the Elder Economic Security Standard Index include the following:<sup>11</sup>

**Housing** – includes housing (rent or mortgage payment, if any), and related costs (heat, utilities, insurance, and property taxes) for elder renters and elder owners, based on U.S. Census-reported elder owner housing costs, and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Fair Market Rents. As illustrated in **Figure 7**, 46% of New Jersey seniors

<sup>11</sup> All Elder Index values presented here are in 2018 dollars. The 2018 Elder Index values represent CPI updates to the most current rebased Elder Index from 2015. The next rebasing of the Elder Index is scheduled for 2019.

own their homes without a mortgage, 25% are renters, and 29% are homeowners with a mortgage.



**Food** – represents costs of food prepared at home, based on USDA Low-Cost Food Plan for older adults, using the average of low cost food plan budgets for women and men.<sup>12</sup>

**Health Care** – includes premium costs for comprehensive supplemental coverage to Medicare. Costs include Medicare Part B and either Medicare Advantage, including prescription drug coverage, or Medicare Supplemental Insurance (Medigap) plus Medicare Part D for prescription drug coverage. Calculations also include out-of-pocket costs including co-pays, deductibles, and fees for uncovered expenses. Calculations are based on data from the Medicare Options Compare website.

In calculating New Jersey health care costs, we assume coverage through Medicare Advantage for the two counties with Medicare Advantage enrollment rates of 20% or more. We assume coverage through a Medicare supplemental plan (Medigap) for the remaining counties. Costs are estimated for people in good, poor, and excellent health.

To simplify presentation, the Elder Index is presented for elders in good health, which is the most common health status as self-reported by elders. In New Jersey, the statewide average

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<sup>12</sup> Although food expenses likely vary somewhat across geographic localities in New Jersey, data to adequately reflect this variability are not available.

monthly health care cost for older adults in good health is \$489 (or \$5,868 per year). The estimated out-of-pocket health care expenses for all three levels of health are presented in **Table 2**.

**Table 2**  
**Estimated Out-of-Pocket Health Care Expenses, for Three Levels of Health (Statewide average)**

Per Person:	Excellent Health	Good Health	Poor Health
Cost Per Month	\$451	\$489	\$659
Cost Per Year	\$5,412	\$5,868	\$7,908

Source: Calculated by the authors based on data from the Medicare Options Compare Website and inflated to 2018 dollars.

**Transportation** – uses automobile owner and operating costs from Internal Revenue Service (IRS) mileage reimbursement rates, and elder auto usage patterns estimated from the most recent National Household Travel Survey (NHTS).

**Miscellaneous** – represents all other goods, such as clothing, personal and household needs, and any other expenses not captured elsewhere. Based on an analysis of the detailed elder spending patterns from consumer spending data, the Elder Index estimates miscellaneous expenses at 20% of all other costs (excluding long-term care) in each county for owners without a mortgage.<sup>13</sup> This amount is calculated separately for older individuals and older couples, and applied to each of the three housing scenarios.<sup>14</sup>

Elders' living expenses in each of the above components are summed to determine household budgets for each of the respective scenarios for elder households. This yields the Elder Economic Security Standard Index, the after-tax income required to cover elders' living expenses based on where they live and the characteristics of their households.

Costs of *home and community-based long-term services and supports*, for those who require them to remain in their home, are presented for three service packages along the continuum of care. Because home and community-based long-term services and supports are not needed by all elders, these cost estimates are provided as an add-on component to the basic Elder Index.

Local *property taxes* are included in the housing cost component for homeowners, and New Jersey sales tax (6.625%) is included in the miscellaneous category.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>13</sup> See U.S. BLS Consumer Expenditure Survey (<http://www.bls.gov/cex/>), and Social Security Administration, *Expenditures of the Aged Chartbook*, 2015, for related data.

<sup>14</sup> Note that 20% of all other costs equal 16.67% of total expenses. Miscellaneous expenses include all expenditures other than those specified elsewhere in the Elder Index. Within household size category, miscellaneous expenses are estimated based on the value of all other expenses for homeowners without a mortgage (the largest single segment of the older householder population). This strategy is used because miscellaneous expenses are not likely to vary dramatically across housing types.

<sup>15</sup> State of New Jersey, Department of the Treasury (<https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/pdf/pubs/sales/su4.pdf>)

A significant portion of Social Security income is exempt from federal *income tax* when elders' combined incomes are under certain limits. Income tax treatment and rates vary by source of income; elders typically rely on a combination of Social Security, pension, and savings. Because most of the Elder Index household basic budgets are near the no-tax limits<sup>16</sup>, and because tax rates vary by income source, calculations do not include income taxes in the basic model.

## **The 2018 Elder Economic Security Standard Index for New Jersey**

The four components—housing, food, health care, and transportation, plus miscellaneous expenses—are added together to calculate the Elder Index for New Jersey counties. These costs vary according to household size (living alone or living with another adult age 65 or older) and housing tenure (whether the person is renting a home, owns a home and is still paying a mortgage, or owns a home outright). Information is also presented on the budget impact of health status.

### **A Note on Geographic Areas**

Data are tabulated for each of the 21 counties in New Jersey. The Elder Index is also tabulated for Newark City, for Jersey City, for the Camden metropolitan division (which includes Burlington, Camden and Gloucester counties), and for the Jersey Shore region (including Atlantic, Cape May, Middlesex, Monmouth, and Ocean counties). **Tables 3, 4, and 5** on the following pages illustrate the Elder Index for selected elder household scenarios in three counties: Mercer County, Essex County, and Ocean County.

The Elder Index values for all New Jersey counties plus the areas specified above are presented in **Appendix B**.

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<sup>16</sup> For a single elder, Social Security benefits will not be taxable unless modified adjusted gross income, plus one-half of Social Security benefits, exceeds \$25,000. For a couple, the no-tax limit is \$32,000 (<https://www.irs.gov/uac/newsroom/are-your-social-security-benefits-taxable>)

**Table 3**  
**The Elder Economic Security Standard™ Index for Mercer County, 2018**  
**Expenses for Selected Household Types**

	<b>Elder Living Alone</b>			<b>Two-person Elder Household</b>		
<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
Housing	\$1,002	\$1,134	\$2,121	\$1,002	\$1,134	\$2,121
Food	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
Transportation	\$246	\$246	\$246	\$381	\$381	\$381
Health Care (Good Health)	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
Miscellaneous	\$401	\$401	\$401	\$571	\$571	\$571
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,407</b>	<b>\$2,539</b>	<b>\$3,526</b>	<b>\$3,427</b>	<b>\$3,559</b>	<b>\$4,546</b>
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$28,884</b>	<b>\$30,468</b>	<b>\$42,312</b>	<b>\$41,124</b>	<b>\$42,708</b>	<b>\$54,552</b>
<b>Comparative Income Benchmarks</b>						
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$12,140	\$12,140	\$16,460	\$16,460	\$16,460
<b>Average Social Security Benefit for Mercer County, 2018</b>	\$19,177	\$19,177	\$19,177	\$31,962	\$31,962	\$31,962
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline as a Percent of Index</b>	42%	40%	29%	40%	39%	30%
<b>Average Social Security Benefit as a Percent of Index</b>	66%	63%	45%	78%	75%	59%
<i>Elders in Mercer County with incomes at the federal poverty level, or even if living on the average Social Security benefit in 2018, cannot afford living expenses without public or private supports for housing and health care.</i>						

**Impact of Change in Health Status on Estimated Health Care Expenses**  
**(change from estimated expenses for good health)**

<b>Per Person:</b>	<b>Poor Health Increase of:</b>	<b>Excellent Health Decrease of:</b>
<b>Change in Cost Per Month</b>	\$163	-\$29
<b>Change in Cost Per Year</b>	\$1,956	-\$348



## ***Summary of Findings for Mercer County***

### ***1. Elders in Mercer County at the poverty level or with the average Social Security benefit cannot make ends meet.***

- The average Social Security benefit provides an elder living alone in Mercer County only 45%-66% of the amount needed to cover basic expenses.
- In Mercer County, elders living alone on an income equivalent to the federal poverty guideline can cover only 29%-42% of their basic living expenses.
- The average Social Security benefit provides an elder couple living in Mercer County only 59%-78% of the amount needed to cover basic expenses.
- In Mercer County, two elders living on an income equivalent to the federal poverty guideline can cover only 30%-40% of their basic living expenses.

### ***2. Elders living alone in Mercer County need \$28,884-\$42,312 to cover their basic annual living costs.***

- Elders living alone in Mercer County who own their home without a mortgage need \$28,884 a year to cover their basic living expenses.
- If elders rent an apartment in Mercer County, their basic living expenses increase to \$30,468.
- Elders still paying a mortgage face housing costs more than double those for homeowners without a mortgage, increasing annual living expenses to \$42,312.
- Elders with lower incomes need rent subsidies and/or elder affordable housing units, as well as assistance to cover supplemental health plan costs.

### ***3. Elder couples in Mercer County need \$41,124-\$54,552 to cover their basic annual living costs.***

- Elder couples in Mercer County who own their home without a mortgage need \$41,124 a year to cover their basic living expenses.
- If elder couples rent an apartment in Mercer County, their basic living expenses increase to \$42,708.
- Elder couples still paying a mortgage face housing costs more than double those for homeowners without a mortgage, increasing annual living expenses to \$54,552.
- Elder couples with lower incomes need rent subsidies and/or affordable housing units, as well as assistance to cover supplemental health plan costs.

### ***4. Some elders who are currently making ends meet face a precarious future if their life circumstances change, such as losing a spouse/partner or experiencing a decline in health status.***

- A member of an elder couple paying market rate rent in Mercer County has expenses reduced by only 29% when a spouse or partner dies, from \$42,708 to \$30,468, yet his or her income may decrease substantially based on the mix of Social Security and/or pension income.
- Elders in good health in Mercer County face health care costs of \$501 per month – more than they spend on food. A decline in health status results in a \$163 monthly increase in health care costs, adding \$1,956 annually to the elder's expenses.

**Table 4**  
**The Elder Economic Security Standard™ Index for Essex County, 2018**  
**Expenses for Selected Household Types**

	<b>Elder Living Alone</b>			<b>Two-person Elder Household</b>		
<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
Housing	\$1,339	\$1,155	\$2,700	\$1,339	\$1,155	\$2,700
Food	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
Transportation	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
Health Care (Good Health)	\$408	\$408	\$408	\$816	\$816	\$816
Miscellaneous	\$441	\$441	\$441	\$587	\$587	\$587
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,645</b>	<b>\$2,461</b>	<b>\$4,006</b>	<b>\$3,522</b>	<b>\$3,338</b>	<b>\$4,883</b>
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$31,740</b>	<b>\$29,532</b>	<b>\$48,072</b>	<b>\$42,264</b>	<b>\$40,056</b>	<b>\$58,596</b>
<b>Comparative Income Benchmarks</b>						
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$12,140	\$12,140	\$16,460	\$16,460	\$16,460
<b>Average Social Security Benefit for Essex County, 2018</b>	\$17,984	\$17,984	\$17,984	\$29,974	\$29,974	\$29,974
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline as a Percent of Index</b>	38%	41%	25%	39%	41%	28%
<b>Average Social Security Benefit as a Percent of Index</b>	57%	61%	37%	71%	75%	51%
<i>Elders in Essex County, with incomes at the federal poverty level, or even if living on the average Social Security benefit in 2018, cannot afford basic living expenses without public or private supports for housing and health care.</i>						

**Impact of Change in Health Status on Estimated Health Care Expenses (change from estimated expenses for good health)**

<b>Per Person:</b>	<b>Poor Health Increase of:</b>	<b>Excellent Health Decrease of:</b>
<b>Change in Cost Per Month</b>	\$225	-\$101
<b>Change in Cost Per Year</b>	\$2,700	-\$1,212

## ***Summary of Findings for Essex County***

### ***1. Elders in Essex County at the poverty level or with the average Social Security benefit cannot make ends meet.***

- The average Social Security benefit provides an elder living alone in Essex County only 37%-61% of the amount needed to cover basic expenses.
- In Essex County, elders living alone on an income equivalent to the federal poverty guideline can cover only 25%-41% of their basic living expenses.
- The average Social Security benefit in Essex County provides an elder couple only 51%-75% of the amount needed to cover basic expenses.
- In Essex County, two elders living on an income equivalent to the federal poverty guideline can cover only 28%-41% of their basic living expenses.

### ***2. Elders living alone in Essex County need \$29,532-\$48,072 to cover their basic annual living costs.***

- Elders living alone in Essex County who own their home without a mortgage need \$31,740 a year to cover their basic living expenses.
- If elders rent an apartment in Essex County, their basic living expenses are slightly less, at \$29,532.
- Elders still paying a mortgage face housing costs that double those for homeowners without a mortgage, increasing annual living expenses to \$48,072.
- Elders with lower incomes need rent subsidies and/or elder affordable housing units, as well as assistance to cover supplemental health plan costs.

### ***3. Elder couples in Essex County need \$40,056-\$58,596 to cover their basic annual living costs.***

- Elder couples in Essex County who own their home without a mortgage need \$42,264 a year to cover their basic living expenses.
- If elder couples rent an apartment in Essex County, their basic living expenses are slightly less, at \$40,056.
- Elder couples still paying a mortgage face housing costs that double those for homeowners without a mortgage, increasing annual living expenses to \$58,596.
- Elder couples with lower incomes need rent subsidies and/or affordable housing units, as well as assistance to cover supplemental health plan costs.

### ***4. Some elders who are currently making ends meet face a precarious future if their life circumstances change, such as losing a spouse/partner or experiencing a decline in health status.***

- A member of an elder couple paying market rate rent in Essex County has expenses reduced by only 26% when a spouse or partner dies, from \$40,056 to \$29,532, yet his or her income may decrease substantially based on the mix of Social Security and/or pension income.
- Elders in Essex County face health care costs of \$408 per month – more than they spend on food. A decline in health status results in a \$225 monthly increase in health care costs, adding \$2,700 annually to the elder's expenses.

**Table 5**  
**The Elder Economic Security Standard™ Index for Ocean County, 2018**  
**Expenses for Selected Household Types**

	<b>Elder Living Alone</b>			<b>Two-person Elder Household</b>		
<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
Housing	\$755	\$1,229	\$1,630	\$755	\$1,229	\$1,630
Food	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
Transportation	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
Health Care (Good Health)	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
Miscellaneous	\$343	\$343	\$343	\$507	\$507	\$507
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,056</b>	<b>\$2,530</b>	<b>\$2,931</b>	<b>\$3,044</b>	<b>\$3,518</b>	<b>\$3,919</b>
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$24,672</b>	<b>\$30,360</b>	<b>\$35,172</b>	<b>\$36,528</b>	<b>\$42,216</b>	<b>\$47,028</b>
<b>Comparative Income Benchmarks</b>						
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$12,140	\$12,140	\$16,460	\$16,460	\$16,460
<b>Average Social Security Benefit for Ocean County, 2018</b>	\$18,546	\$18,546	\$18,546	\$30,910	\$30,910	\$30,910
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline as a Percent of Index</b>	49%	40%	35%	45%	39%	35%
<b>Average Social Security Benefit as a Percent of Index</b>	75%	61%	53%	85%	73%	66%
<i>Elders in Ocean County with incomes at the federal poverty level, or even if living on the average Social Security benefit in 2018, cannot afford living expenses without public or private supports for housing and health care.</i>						

**Impact of Change in Health Status on Estimated Health Care Expenses (change from estimated expenses for Good Health)**

<b>Per Person:</b>	<b>Poor Health Increase of:</b>	<b>Excellent Health Decrease of:</b>
<b>Change in Cost Per Month</b>	\$163	-\$29
<b>Change in Cost Per Year</b>	\$1,956	-\$348

## ***Summary of Findings for Ocean County***

### ***1. Elders in Ocean County at the poverty level or with the average Social Security benefit cannot make ends meet.***

- The average Social Security benefit provides an elder living alone in Ocean County only 53%-75% of the amount needed to cover basic expenses.
- In Ocean County, elders living alone on an income equivalent to the federal poverty guideline can cover only 35%-49% of their basic living expenses.
- The average Social Security benefit provides an elder couple living in Ocean County only 66%-85% of the amount needed to cover basic expenses.
- In Ocean County, two elders living on an income equivalent to the federal poverty guideline can cover only 35%-45% of their basic living expenses.

### ***2. Elders living alone in Ocean County need \$24,672-\$35,172 to cover their basic annual living costs.***

- Elders living alone in Ocean County who own their home without a mortgage need \$24,672 a year to cover their basic living expenses.
- If elders rent an apartment in Ocean County, their basic living expenses increase to \$30,360.
- Elders still paying a mortgage face housing costs more than double those for homeowners without a mortgage, increasing annual living expenses to \$35,172.
- Elders with lower incomes need rent subsidies and/or elder affordable housing units, as well as assistance to cover supplemental health plan costs.

### ***3. Elder couples in Ocean County need \$36,528-\$47,028 to cover their basic annual living costs.***

- Elder couples in Ocean County who own their home without a mortgage need \$36,528 a year to cover their basic living expenses.
- If elder couples rent an apartment in Ocean County, their basic living expenses increase to \$42,216.
- Elder couples still paying a mortgage face housing costs more than double those for homeowners without a mortgage, increasing annual living expenses to \$47,028.
- Elder couples with lower incomes need rent subsidies and/or affordable housing units, as well as assistance to cover supplemental health plan costs.

### ***4. Some elders who are currently making ends meet face a precarious future if their life circumstances change, such as losing a spouse/partner or experiencing a decline in health status.***

- A member of an elder couple paying market rate rent in Ocean County has expenses reduced by only 28% when a spouse or partner dies, from \$42,216 to \$30,360, yet his or her income may decrease substantially based on the mix of Social Security and/or pension income.
- Elders in Ocean County face health care costs of \$501 per month – more than they spend on food and transportation combined. A decline in health status results in a \$163 monthly increase in health care costs, adding \$1,956 annually to the elder's expenses.

## The Impact of Home and Community-Based Long-Term Services and Supports

Home and community-based long-term services and supports occur along a continuum ranging from a few hours of care per week to 24/7, year-round care. Not all elders require long-term support, and the Elder Index shows it as an add-on component to the basic Elder Economic Security Standard™ Index. However, an estimated 70% of seniors will need long-term services at some point in their later years; 16% will incur as much as \$100,000 in long-term care expenses and 5% will incur at least \$250,000 in expenses over their lifetime (Doty & Shipley, 2012).

Using national long-term care utilization data, the Elder Index constructed three packages of home- and community-based long-term services: “low,” “medium,” and “high.” The selected packages are representative of a possible continuum. The packages assume that the care is formal, paid care, since the Elder Index measures the costs of goods and services needed by elders in the marketplace. The high package has two variations, one with Adult Day Health Services (ADHS) and one with all services provided at home.

### Measuring Costs of Home and Community-Based Long-Term Services and Supports

The services and supports packages modeled here include hourly in-home services (homemakers/personal care aides and home health aides), care management, supplies, and a personal emergency response system. At the high level of care, there is also an option in which one-half of the care is provided through Adult Day Health Services. The long-term services package options are illustrated in **Table 6**. For example, a “low” level of service use assumes 6 hours of care per week, all of which are in the form of homemaker services. A modest amount of care management is assumed, and fees for a personal emergency response system are also included. In contrast, a “high” in-home service package assumes 36 hours per week of support, half of which are in the form of homemaker services and half in the form of home health assistance. A higher level of care management is assumed, and funds for health care supplies (e.g., incontinence supplies) are included as well as fees for a personal emergency response system. **Table 7** presents private pay rates for each element of the long-term services package.



**Table 6**  
**New Jersey Elder Economic Security Standard Index**  
**Home and Community-Based Long-Term Supports Package**  
**Long-Term Services and Supports at 6, 16, and 36 Hours/Week**

<b>Level of Need for Long-Term Care</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>High w/Adult Day Health*</b>	<b>High without Adult Day Health</b>
<b>Hours Per Week</b>	<b>6 hours</b>	<b>16 hours</b>	<b>36 hours</b>	<b>36 hours</b>
Total care hours per month	26	69	156	156
Distribution of Care Hours:				
Homemaker	100%	100%	33%	50%
Home Health Aide	Not used	Not used	17%	50%
Adult Day health (3 days/week)	Not used	Not used	50%	Not used
Case Management	Routine	More	Intensive	Intensive
Supplies	None	Yes	Yes	Yes
Personal emergency response system	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**Table 7**  
**New Jersey Elder Economic Security Standard Index**  
**Long-Term Services and Supports Private Pay Rates, 2018**

	<b>Northern New Jersey<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Atlantic County</b>	<b>Cape May County</b>	<b>Mercer County</b>	<b>Cumberland County</b>	<b>New Jersey statewide</b>
Homemaker/Personal care (per hour)	\$24	\$23	\$21	\$24	\$20	\$24
Home Health Aide (per hour)	\$25	\$24	\$21	\$24	\$23	\$24
Adult Day Health (daily rate)	\$90	\$93	\$97	\$85	\$96	\$90
Case Management (per hour)	\$125	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Supplies (per month)*	\$97	\$97	\$97	\$97	\$97	\$97
Personal Emergency Response System (per month)**	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$30

**Sources:**

Homemaker, Home Health Aide, & Adult Day Care pay rates from Genworth Financial 2018 Cost of Care Survey  
Care management rates based on web searches.

Supplies is incontinence supplies—4.5 briefs/day, online purchase at \$51 for package of 72.

PERS is medical alert system—Philips Lifeline, priced online

<sup>1</sup> The Northern New Jersey area includes the following counties: Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, and Union. These values are also used for Newark City and Jersey City calculations.

## The Impact of Home and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs on the Elder Economic Security Standard Index

**Table 8** illustrates the annual cost of home and community-based long-term services and supports for elders in New Jersey based on private pay rates. Each component in the service package uses the rate per hour (as shown in Table 7) and number of hours (Table 6) to determine the annual cost of obtaining supports to enable elders to remain in their homes when they require ongoing, long term services and support. The cost of home and community-based long-term services and supports can add substantially to the costs of all other items in the Elder Index, creating a severe financial crisis for elders' budgets. Long-term service needs can vary considerably over time and tend to increase with age.

**Table 8**  
**Home and Community-Based Long-Term Services and Supports Costs**  
**for the Elder Economic Security Standard Index, 2018**  
**At Private Pay Rates in New Jersey**

<b>Level of Need for Long-Term Care</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>High w/Adult Day Health*</b>	<b>High without Adult Day Health</b>
Hours Per Week	6 hours	16 hours	36 hours	36 hours
<b>Northern New Jersey<sup>1</sup></b>	\$9,348	\$24,491	\$42,839	\$51,887
<b>Atlantic County</b>	\$8,814	\$23,267	\$41,471	\$48,881
<b>Cape May County</b>	\$8,190	\$21,603	\$40,145	\$44,903
<b>Mercer County</b>	\$9,048	\$23,891	\$40,847	\$50,051
<b>Cumberland County</b>	\$7,800	\$20,563	\$39,677	\$45,137
<b>New Jersey (statewide)</b>	\$9,048	\$23,891	\$41,627	\$50,051

\* 3 days at 6 hours/day = 18 hours/week in Adult Day Health Services Program (= 1/2 total hours)

Source: Authors' calculations from applying private rates for NJ to the long-term care services package at three levels.

<sup>1</sup> The Northern New Jersey area includes the following counties: Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, and Union. These values are also used for Newark City and Jersey City calculations.

The need for long-term services and supports markedly raises costs, multiplying the Elder Index. In New Jersey, the "low" home and community-based long-term services package adds \$9,348 per year to living expenses for seniors living in the 12-county Northern New Jersey area. The "medium" home and community-based long-term services package adds \$24,491 per year to living expenses. The "high" home and community-based long-term services package with Adult Day Health Services adds \$42,839 per year to living expenses. The high home and community-based long-term services package with all in-home care adds \$51,887 per year to living expenses. Estimated costs of home and community-based long-term services and supports are slightly lower outside the Northern New Jersey area.

To illustrate the overall impact of purchasing home and community-based long-term services and supports, **Table 9** outlines the financial implications at different levels of need and for selected elder household scenarios in Mercer County. **Figure 8** illustrates the impact of adding these costs for an elder renter in Mercer County. The impact of long-term care costs on estimated living costs in each county is included in **Appendix B**. Note that the Elder Index values in **Table 9** and **Figure 8** have been adjusted to reflect an elder in poor health, given that only individuals with poor health are likely to need long-term care.

### **Overview of Impact of Home and Community-Based Long-Term Care Findings for Mercer County**

The need for home and community-based long-term care can more than double an elder's expenses, substantially increasing the income required to meet basic needs:

- For the Mercer County elder household scenarios described in this report, the Elder Index ranges from \$30,840 to \$58,464 (without purchasing home and community-based long-term services, but assuming poor health for the elder person or for one member of the elder couple).
- Adding home and community-based long-term supports adds substantially to living expense costs—\$9,048 for “low” levels of care, \$23,891 “medium” levels of care, and \$40,847-\$50,051 for “high” levels of care.
- Home and community-based long-term supports are preferred by elders to nursing facility care, which is considerably more expensive. National market surveys report an average annual cost of \$127,750 for nursing facility care (semi-private room) in New Jersey.<sup>17</sup>

When elders become frail and are in poor health, they may need community-based long-term services to remain at home. Using the example of an elder renter living alone in Mercer County, **Figure 8** illustrates the dramatic increase in annual expenses experienced when low (6 hours/week), medium (16 hours/week), or high (36 hours/week) levels of home and community-based long-term services are required. For example, compared to the elder renter in poor health who purchases no long-term services (with estimated annual expenses of \$32,424), annual expenses are two and a half times higher if high levels of home-based care are required (\$82,475).

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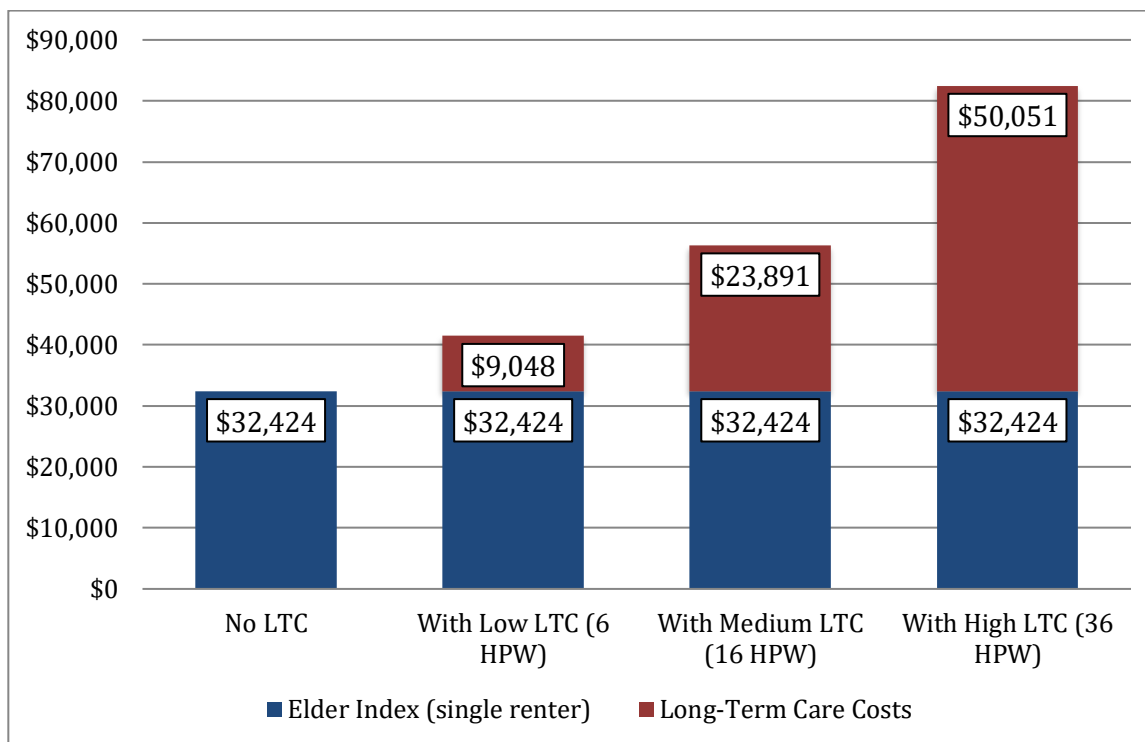
<sup>17</sup> <https://www.genworth.com/about-us/industry-expertise/cost-of-care.html>

**Table 9**  
**The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Mercer County, 2018**  
**Addition of Home and Community-Based Long-Term Services and**  
**Supports Costs\***

	<b>Elder Living Alone</b>			<b>Two-Person Elder Household</b>		
Expenses	Owner w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner with Mortgage	Owner w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner with Mortgage
<b>Index Per Year (assuming poor health)</b>	<b>\$30,840</b>	<b>\$32,424</b>	<b>\$44,268</b>	<b>\$43,080</b>	<b>\$44,664</b>	<b>\$56,508</b>
<b>Add Impact of Changes in Long-Term Care status:</b>						
Low Long-Term Need: 6 hrs/wk						
Cost Per Year	\$9,048	\$9,048	\$9,048	\$9,048	\$9,048	\$9,048
Index Per Year	<b>\$39,888</b>	<b>\$41,472</b>	<b>\$53,316</b>	<b>\$52,128</b>	<b>\$53,712</b>	<b>\$65,556</b>
Medium Long-Term Need: 16 hrs/wk						
Cost Per Year	\$23,891	\$23,891	\$23,891	\$23,891	\$23,891	\$23,891
Index Per Year	<b>\$54,731</b>	<b>\$56,315</b>	<b>\$68,159</b>	<b>\$66,971</b>	<b>\$68,555</b>	<b>\$80,399</b>
High Long-Term Need with Adult Day Health: 36 hrs/wk						
Cost Per Year	\$40,847	\$40,847	\$40,847	\$40,847	\$40,847	\$40,847
Index Per Year	<b>\$71,687</b>	<b>\$73,271</b>	<b>\$85,115</b>	<b>\$83,927</b>	<b>\$85,511</b>	<b>\$97,355</b>
High Long-Term Need all in-home Support: 36 hrs/wk						
Cost Per Year	\$50,051	\$50,051	\$50,051	\$50,051	\$50,051	\$50,051
<b>Index Per Year</b>	<b>\$80,891</b>	<b>\$82,475</b>	<b>\$94,319</b>	<b>\$93,131</b>	<b>\$94,715</b>	<b>\$106,559</b>

\*Elders needing home and community-based long-term services and supports are presumed to be in poor health. LTSS costs are added to the standard for elder person in poor health, and elder couple, one in poor and one in good health.

**FIGURE 8**  
**Adding Home and Community-Based Long-Term Services and Supports Costs**  
**to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Mercer County, 2018**  
*Example of a Single Renter*



## The Increased Cost of Getting by in New Jersey

**Table 10** presents a comparison between the statewide Elder Index values for 2016 and those for 2018. For both household size categories, and for all housing situations, the cost of getting by, as reflected by the Elder Index values, increased in New Jersey during this time period. Estimated expenses increased around 5% over this two-year period, with increases somewhat higher among owners with a mortgage.

Between 2016 and 2018, housing expenses accounted for the largest share of the overall increase in value of the Elder Index for New Jersey. Based on statewide averages, the monthly housing cost increased from \$1,012 to \$1,072 for owners without a mortgage, from \$1,122 to \$1,188 for renters, and from \$2,122 to \$2,247 for owners with a mortgage, while other costs increased on a more modest basis. Statewide, among New Jersey residents in good health, rising housing expenses accounted for half to two-thirds of the increase in Elder Index values among singles, and for one-third to half of the total increase in the Elder Index among couples. In each New Jersey county, increases in housing expenses make up the largest share of the total increase in the Elder Index values. Tables comparing the Elder Index for 2016 and 2018 are included for each county in Appendix B.

**Table 10**  
**Elder Index Comparison for New Jersey: 2016 vs. 2018**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner w/o mortgage	Renter, one bedroom	Owner w/ mortgage	Owner w/o mortgage	Renter, one bedroom	Owner w/ mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$27,696	\$29,016	\$41,016	\$38,952	\$40,272	\$52,272
<b>2018</b>	\$29,148	\$30,540	\$43,248	\$40,872	\$42,264	\$54,972
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,452	\$1,524	\$2,232	\$1,920	\$1,992	\$2,700
<b>Percentage Change 2016 to 2018</b>	5.2%	5.3%	5.4%	4.9%	5.0%	5.2%

## Conclusion

The Elder Index, with its modeled scenarios for older adults living in different circumstances, shows the difficulties low- and moderate-income elders confront in meeting their living expenses. In every county in the state, elders who live at the federal poverty level, or are totally dependent on the average Social Security payment in 2018, need housing and health care supports to make ends meet. Expenses for long-term services and supports, for those who need them to stay at home, add substantially to an elder's budget.

The Elder Economic Security Standard Index is a tool to help guide public, private, and personal decisions that can directly shape the well-being of today's and tomorrow's older adults. Additionally, it provides information for decisions that aging Baby Boomers will need to make for themselves and for the older family members for whom they often care. The information contained in the Elder Index may be used to develop and advocate for strategies that promote economic security to meet the goals of independence, choice and dignity for older adults.



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## Appendix A: Data Sources

<i>Data Type</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Assumptions</i>
<b>Housing</b>	<p>Rent: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Fair Market Rents – for 2013, 2014 and 2015. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.huduser.org">http://www.huduser.org</a></p> <p>Owner Costs: U.S. Census: American Community Survey 2011-2013 for Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMS data). Data retrieved from: <a href="http://factfinder.census.gov">http://factfinder.census.gov</a></p> <p>Rent and Owner costs adjusted to 2018 by CPI-U for housing. <a href="http://www.bls.gov/cpi/">http://www.bls.gov/cpi/</a></p>	<p>Fair Market Rents (FMRs) for 1-bedroom units by HUD statistical area (county or county group).</p> <p>Median selected monthly owner costs (SMOC) for owners 65+ with, and without a mortgage.</p> <p>SMOC includes property taxes, insurance, heat &amp; utilities, condo fees, &amp; mortgage payment (if any)</p>
<b>Food</b>	<p>U.S. Department of Agriculture, Low-Cost Food Plan, average of 2013, 2014, 2015: <a href="http://www.cnpp.usda.gov/USDAFoodPlansCostofFood.htm">http://www.cnpp.usda.gov/USDAFoodPlansCostofFood.htm</a></p> <p>Food cost adjusted to 2018 by CPI-U for food. <a href="http://www.bls.gov/cpi/">http://www.bls.gov/cpi/</a></p>	<p>Low Cost Food Plan costs for older men and women are averaged to determine food costs for elders. Per USDA, food costs for single adults are increased by 20% to reflect lesser economies of scale.</p>
<b>Total Health Care Costs (premiums and out-of-pocket cost)</b>	<p>Using CMS Medicare Advantage enrollment rates, it is determined whether a county meets the criterion for calculating expenses based on Medicare Advantage (our methodology requires at least 20% Medicare Advantage takeup in the county); counties that do not meet this criterion have health care expenses estimated assuming Medigap coverage. All calculations assume prescription drug coverage.</p> <p><a href="https://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan/questions/home.aspx">https://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan/questions/home.aspx</a>  <a href="http://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan/questions/search-by-plan-name-or-plan-id.aspx">http://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan/questions/search-by-plan-name-or-plan-id.aspx</a>  <a href="https://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan/questions/home.aspx">https://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan/questions/home.aspx</a></p> <p>Health care costs estimated based on 2015 data and adjusted to 2018 dollars by the CPI-U for health care</p>	<p>Estimated costs including the premiums for Medicare Part B, for a supplemental insurance plan, prescription drug coverage and out of pocket expenses. Calculated by the Gerontology Institute.</p>
<b>Transportation</b>	<p>Private Automobile Cost: National Household Travel Survey (NHTS) <a href="http://nhts.ornl.gov/">http://nhts.ornl.gov/</a></p> <p>Per Mile Cost: U.S. Internal Revenue Service <a href="https://www.irs.gov/Tax-Professionals/Standard-Mileage-Rates">https://www.irs.gov/Tax-Professionals/Standard-Mileage-Rates</a></p> <p>Transportation costs estimated based on 2015 data and adjusted to 2018 dollars by the CPI-U for transportation</p>	<p>Estimated annual mileage driven by retired singles and couples in NJ by IRS standard mileage reimbursement rate for operating and owner costs.</p>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<p>Miscellaneous expenses are estimated at 20% of costs of other basic expenditure categories: housing, food, health care, and transportation, which is equal to 16.67% of total expenses. Includes all other essentials: clothing, shoes, paper products, cleaning products, household items, personal hygiene items, and telephone.</p>	<p>The Elder Index calculates miscellaneous expenses for owners without a mortgage, and applies that amount to each of the housing types.</p>
<b>Long-Term Services and Supports</b>	<p>Private rates for homemaker, home health aide, case management and Adult Day Health Services from Genworth Financial (2018). <i>2018 Cost of Care Survey</i>. Available online: <a href="https://www.genworth.com/about-us/industry-expertise/cost-of-care.html">https://www.genworth.com/about-us/industry-expertise/cost-of-care.html</a></p>	<p>Authors' calculations using area costs for three prototypical levels of long-term care services packages.</p>

## Appendix B: Elder Economic Security Standard Index for New Jersey Counties and Selected Other Areas, 2018

**Table B-1: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Atlantic County, 2018**  
*Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types*

Monthly Expenses	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Housing</b>	\$886	\$1,037	\$1,872	\$886	\$1,037	\$1,872
<b>Food</b>	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
<b>Transportation</b>	\$246	\$246	\$246	\$381	\$381	\$381
<b>Health Care (Good Health)</b>	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$378	\$378	\$378	\$548	\$548	\$548
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	\$2,268	\$2,419	\$3,254	\$3,288	\$3,439	\$4,274
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	\$27,216	\$29,028	\$39,048	\$39,456	\$41,268	\$51,288

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$16,460
<b>SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017</b>	\$9,195	\$13,540
<b>Average County Social Security Benefit 2018</b>	\$17,479	\$29,131

**Table B-1:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Atlantic County, 2018 (cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$8,814	\$36,030	\$37,842	\$47,862	\$48,270	\$50,082	\$60,102
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$23,267	\$50,483	\$52,295	\$62,315	\$62,723	\$64,535	\$74,555
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$41,471	\$68,687	\$70,499	\$80,519	\$80,927	\$82,739	\$92,759
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$48,881	\$76,097	\$77,909	\$87,929	\$88,337	\$90,149	\$100,169

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

**Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$25,860	\$27,564	\$37,032	\$37,596	\$39,300	\$48,768
<b>2018</b>	\$27,216	\$29,028	\$39,048	\$39,456	\$41,268	\$51,288
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,356	\$1,464	\$2,016	\$1,860	\$1,968	\$2,520

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Atlantic County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,356 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,520 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-2: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Bergen County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Monthly Expenses	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Housing</b>	\$1,265	\$1,316	\$2,747	\$1,265	\$1,316	\$2,747
<b>Food</b>	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
<b>Transportation</b>	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
<b>Health Care (Good Health)</b>	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$445	\$445	\$445	\$609	\$609	\$609
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	\$2,668	\$2,719	\$4,150	\$3,656	\$3,707	\$5,138
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	\$32,016	\$32,628	\$49,800	\$43,872	\$44,484	\$61,656

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$16,460
<b>SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017</b>	\$9,195	\$13,540
<b>Average County Social Security Benefit 2018</b>	\$19,474	\$32,456

**Table B-2:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Bergen County, 2018 (cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	<b>LTC Cost Per Year</b>	<b>Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care</b>					
		<b>Elder Living Alone</b>			<b>Two-person Elder Household</b>		
<b>Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)</b>		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,348	\$41,364	\$41,976	\$59,148	\$53,220	\$53,832	\$71,004
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$24,491	\$56,507	\$57,119	\$74,291	\$68,363	\$68,975	\$86,147
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$42,839	\$74,855	\$75,467	\$92,639	\$86,711	\$87,323	\$104,495
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$51,887	\$83,903	\$84,515	\$101,687	\$95,759	\$96,371	\$113,543

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

#### **Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018**

	<b>Elder Living Alone</b>			<b>Two-person Elder Household</b>		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$30,396	\$30,984	\$47,196	\$41,784	\$42,372	\$58,584
<b>2018</b>	\$32,016	\$32,628	\$49,800	\$43,872	\$44,484	\$61,656
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,620	\$1,644	\$2,604	\$2,088	\$2,112	\$3,072

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Bergen County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,620 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$3,072 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-3: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Burlington County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Monthly Expenses	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
Housing	\$914	\$1,045	\$1,791	\$914	\$1,045	\$1,791
Food	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
Transportation	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
Health Care (Good Health)	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
Miscellaneous	\$374	\$374	\$374	\$539	\$539	\$539
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	\$2,246	\$2,377	\$3,123	\$3,235	\$3,366	\$4,112
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	\$26,952	\$28,524	\$37,476	\$38,820	\$40,392	\$49,344

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)	\$12,140	\$16,460
SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017	\$9,195	\$13,540
Average County Social Security Benefit 2018	\$19,067	\$31,778



**Table B-3:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Burlington County, 2018 (Cont.)

Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
Low(6 hrs)	\$9,048	\$36,000	\$37,572	\$46,524	\$47,868	\$49,440	\$58,392
Medium (16 hrs)	\$23,891	\$50,843	\$52,415	\$61,367	\$62,711	\$64,283	\$73,235
High w/ADC (36 hrs)	\$41,627	\$68,579	\$70,151	\$79,103	\$80,447	\$82,019	\$90,971
High w/o ADC (36 hrs)	\$50,051	\$77,003	\$78,575	\$87,527	\$88,871	\$90,443	\$99,395

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

#### Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
2016	\$25,632	\$27,120	\$35,568	\$37,020	\$38,508	\$46,956
2018	\$26,952	\$28,524	\$37,476	\$38,820	\$40,392	\$49,344
Change 2016 to 2018	\$1,320	\$1,404	\$1,908	\$1,800	\$1,884	\$2,388

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Burlington County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,320 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,388 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-4: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Camden County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

Monthly Expenses	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Housing</b>	\$954	\$1,045	\$1,899	\$954	\$1,045	\$1,899
<b>Food</b>	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
<b>Transportation</b>	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
<b>Health Care (Good Health)</b>	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$382	\$382	\$382	\$547	\$547	\$547
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	\$2,294	\$2,385	\$3,239	\$3,283	\$3,374	\$4,228
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	\$27,528	\$28,620	\$38,868	\$39,396	\$40,488	\$50,736

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$16,460
<b>SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017</b>	\$9,195	\$13,540
<b>Average County Social Security Benefit 2018</b>	\$18,090	\$30,151

**Table B-4:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Camden County, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,048	\$36,576	\$37,668	\$47,916	\$48,444	\$49,536	\$59,784
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$23,891	\$51,419	\$52,511	\$62,759	\$63,287	\$64,379	\$74,627
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$41,627	\$69,155	\$70,247	\$80,495	\$81,023	\$82,115	\$92,363
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$50,051	\$77,579	\$78,671	\$88,919	\$89,447	\$90,539	\$100,787

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

**Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$26,184	\$27,216	\$36,888	\$37,572	\$38,604	\$48,276
<b>2018</b>	\$27,528	\$28,620	\$38,868	\$39,396	\$40,488	\$50,736
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,344	\$1,404	\$1,980	\$1,824	\$1,884	\$2,460

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Camden County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,344 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,460 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-5: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Cape May County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Monthly Expenses	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
Housing	\$799	\$867	\$1,996	\$799	\$867	\$1,996
Food	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
Transportation	\$240	\$240	\$240	\$372	\$372	\$372
Health Care (Good Health)	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
Miscellaneous	\$359	\$359	\$359	\$529	\$529	\$529
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,156</b>	<b>\$2,224</b>	<b>\$3,353</b>	<b>\$3,173</b>	<b>\$3,241</b>	<b>\$4,370</b>
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$25,872</b>	<b>\$26,688</b>	<b>\$40,236</b>	<b>\$38,076</b>	<b>\$38,892</b>	<b>\$52,440</b>

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)	\$12,140	\$16,460
SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017	\$9,195	\$13,540
Average County Social Security Benefit 2018	\$18,074	\$30,123

**Table B-5:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Cape May County, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$8,190	\$34,062	\$34,878	\$48,426	\$46,266	\$47,082	\$60,630
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$21,603	\$47,475	\$48,291	\$61,839	\$59,679	\$60,495	\$74,043
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$40,145	\$66,017	\$66,833	\$80,381	\$78,221	\$79,037	\$92,585
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$44,903	\$70,775	\$71,591	\$85,139	\$82,979	\$83,795	\$97,343

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

**Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018**

	Elder Living Alone		Two-person Elder Household			
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$24,600	\$25,380	\$38,172	\$36,288	\$37,068	\$49,860
<b>2018</b>	\$25,872	\$26,688	\$40,236	\$38,076	\$38,892	\$52,440
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,272	\$1,308	\$2,064	\$1,788	\$1,824	\$2,580

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Cape May County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,272 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,580 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-6: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Cumberland County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Monthly Expenses	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
Housing	\$722	\$984	\$1,410	\$722	\$984	\$1,410
Food	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
Transportation	\$240	\$240	\$240	\$372	\$372	\$372
Health Care (Good Health)	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
Miscellaneous	\$344	\$344	\$344	\$513	\$513	\$513
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,064</b>	<b>\$2,326</b>	<b>\$2,752</b>	<b>\$3,080</b>	<b>\$3,342</b>	<b>\$3,768</b>
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$24,768</b>	<b>\$27,912</b>	<b>\$33,024</b>	<b>\$36,960</b>	<b>\$40,104</b>	<b>\$45,216</b>

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)	\$12,140	\$16,460
SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017	\$9,195	\$13,540
Average County Social Security Benefit 2018	\$17,343	\$28,905

**Table B-6:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Cumberland County, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$7,800	\$32,568	\$35,712	\$40,824	\$44,760	\$47,904	\$53,016
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$20,563	\$45,331	\$48,475	\$53,587	\$57,523	\$60,667	\$65,779
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$39,677	\$64,445	\$67,589	\$72,701	\$76,637	\$79,781	\$84,893
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$45,137	\$69,905	\$73,049	\$78,161	\$82,097	\$85,241	\$90,353

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

**Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$23,556	\$26,520	\$31,344	\$35,256	\$38,220	\$43,044
<b>2018</b>	\$24,768	\$27,912	\$33,024	\$36,960	\$40,104	\$45,216
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,212	\$1,392	\$1,680	\$1,704	\$1,884	\$2,172

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Cumberland County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,212 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,172 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.



**Table B-7: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Essex County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Monthly Expenses	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
Housing	\$1,339	\$1,155	\$2,700	\$1,339	\$1,155	\$2,700
Food	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
Transportation	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
Health Care (Good Health)	\$408	\$408	\$408	\$816	\$816	\$816
Miscellaneous	\$441	\$441	\$441	\$587	\$587	\$587
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,645</b>	<b>\$2,461</b>	<b>\$4,006</b>	<b>\$3,522</b>	<b>\$3,338</b>	<b>\$4,883</b>
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$31,740</b>	<b>\$29,532</b>	<b>\$48,072</b>	<b>\$42,264</b>	<b>\$40,056</b>	<b>\$58,596</b>

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)	\$12,140	\$16,460
SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017	\$9,195	\$13,540
Average County Social Security Benefit 2018	\$17,984	\$29,974

**Table B-7:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Essex County, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,348	\$41,088	\$38,880	\$57,420	\$51,612	\$49,404	\$67,944
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$24,491	\$56,231	\$54,023	\$72,563	\$66,755	\$64,547	\$83,087
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$42,839	\$74,579	\$72,371	\$90,911	\$85,103	\$82,895	\$101,435
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$51,887	\$83,627	\$81,419	\$99,959	\$94,151	\$91,943	\$110,483

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$225 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$2,700 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

**Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$30,144	\$28,068	\$45,564	\$40,260	\$38,184	\$55,680
<b>2018</b>	\$31,740	\$29,532	\$48,072	\$42,264	\$40,056	\$58,596
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,596	\$1,464	\$2,508	\$2,004	\$1,872	\$2,916

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Essex County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,464 for single renters, and by \$2,916 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-8: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Gloucester County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

Monthly Expenses	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Housing</b>	\$877	\$1,045	\$1,692	\$877	\$1,045	\$1,692
<b>Food</b>	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
<b>Transportation</b>	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
<b>Health Care (Good Health)</b>	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$367	\$367	\$367	\$532	\$532	\$532
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	\$2,202	\$2,370	\$3,017	\$3,191	\$3,359	\$4,006
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	\$26,424	\$28,440	\$36,204	\$38,292	\$40,308	\$48,072

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$16,460
<b>SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017</b>	\$9,195	\$13,540
<b>Average County Social Security Benefit 2018</b>	\$18,495	\$30,826

**Table B-8:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Gloucester County, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,048	\$35,472	\$37,488	\$45,252	\$47,340	\$49,356	\$57,120
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$23,891	\$50,315	\$52,331	\$60,095	\$62,183	\$64,199	\$71,963
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$41,627	\$68,051	\$70,067	\$77,831	\$79,919	\$81,935	\$89,699
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$50,051	\$76,475	\$78,491	\$86,255	\$88,343	\$90,359	\$98,123

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

**Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$25,128	\$27,036	\$34,368	\$36,516	\$38,424	\$45,756
<b>2018</b>	\$26,424	\$28,440	\$36,204	\$38,292	\$40,308	\$48,072
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,296	\$1,404	\$1,836	\$1,776	\$1,884	\$2,316

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Gloucester County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,296 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,316 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-9: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Hudson County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

Monthly Expenses	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Housing</b>	\$1,176	\$1,224	\$2,619	\$1,176	\$1,224	\$2,619
<b>Food</b>	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
<b>Transportation</b>	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
<b>Health Care (Good Health)</b>	\$408	\$408	\$408	\$816	\$816	\$816
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$408	\$408	\$408	\$554	\$554	\$554
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	\$2,449	\$2,497	\$3,892	\$3,326	\$3,374	\$4,769
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	\$29,388	\$29,964	\$46,704	\$39,912	\$40,488	\$57,228

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$16,460
<b>SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017</b>	\$9,195	\$13,540
<b>Average County Social Security Benefit 2018</b>	\$15,321	\$25,534

**Table B-9:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Hudson County, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,348	\$38,736	\$39,312	\$56,052	\$49,260	\$49,836	\$66,576
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$24,491	\$53,879	\$54,455	\$71,195	\$64,403	\$64,979	\$81,719
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$42,839	\$72,227	\$72,803	\$89,543	\$82,751	\$83,327	\$100,067
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$51,887	\$81,275	\$81,851	\$98,591	\$91,799	\$92,375	\$109,115

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$223 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$2,676 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

**Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$27,924	\$28,476	\$44,280	\$38,040	\$38,592	\$54,396
<b>2018</b>	\$29,388	\$29,964	\$46,704	\$39,912	\$40,488	\$57,228
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,464	\$1,488	\$2,424	\$1,872	\$1,896	\$2,832

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Hudson County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,464 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,832 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-10: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Hunterdon County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

Monthly Expenses	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Housing</b>	\$1,122	\$1,311	\$2,401	\$1,122	\$1,311	\$2,401
<b>Food</b>	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
<b>Transportation</b>	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
<b>Health Care (Good Health)</b>	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$416	\$416	\$416	\$581	\$581	\$581
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	\$2,496	\$2,685	\$3,775	\$3,485	\$3,674	\$4,764
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	\$29,952	\$32,220	\$45,300	\$41,820	\$44,088	\$57,168

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$16,460
<b>SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017</b>	\$9,195	\$13,540
<b>Average County Social Security Benefit 2018</b>	\$20,748	\$34,580



**Table B-10:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Hunterdon County, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,348	\$39,300	\$41,568	\$54,648	\$51,168	\$53,436	\$66,516
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$24,491	\$54,443	\$56,711	\$69,791	\$66,311	\$68,579	\$81,659
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$42,839	\$72,791	\$75,059	\$88,139	\$84,659	\$86,927	\$100,007
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$51,887	\$81,839	\$84,107	\$97,187	\$93,707	\$95,975	\$109,055

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

#### Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$28,452	\$30,600	\$42,948	\$39,840	\$41,988	\$54,336
<b>2018</b>	\$29,952	\$32,220	\$45,300	\$41,820	\$44,088	\$57,168
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,500	\$1,620	\$2,352	\$1,980	\$2,100	\$2,832

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Hunterdon County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,500 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,832 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-11: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Mercer County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

Monthly Expenses	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Housing</b>	\$1,002	\$1,134	\$2,121	\$1,002	\$1,134	\$2,121
<b>Food</b>	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
<b>Transportation</b>	\$246	\$246	\$246	\$381	\$381	\$381
<b>Health Care (Good Health)</b>	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$401	\$401	\$401	\$571	\$571	\$571
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	\$2,407	\$2,539	\$3,526	\$3,427	\$3,559	\$4,546
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	\$28,884	\$30,468	\$42,312	\$41,124	\$42,708	\$54,552

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$16,460
<b>SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017</b>	\$9,195	\$13,540
<b>Average County Social Security Benefit 2018</b>	\$19,177	\$31,962

**Table B-11:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Mercer County, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,048	\$37,932	\$39,516	\$51,360	\$50,172	\$51,756	\$63,600
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$23,891	\$52,775	\$54,359	\$66,203	\$65,015	\$66,599	\$78,443
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$40,847	\$69,731	\$71,315	\$83,159	\$81,971	\$83,555	\$95,399
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$50,051	\$78,935	\$80,519	\$92,363	\$91,175	\$92,759	\$104,603

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

**Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$27,432	\$28,932	\$40,116	\$39,168	\$40,668	\$51,852
<b>2018</b>	\$28,884	\$30,468	\$42,312	\$41,124	\$42,708	\$54,552
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,452	\$1,536	\$2,196	\$1,956	\$2,040	\$2,700

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Mercer County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,452 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,700 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-12: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Middlesex County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

Monthly Expenses	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Housing</b>	\$1,038	\$1,311	\$2,211	\$1,038	\$1,311	\$2,211
<b>Food</b>	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
<b>Transportation</b>	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
<b>Health Care (Good Health)</b>	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$399	\$399	\$399	\$564	\$564	\$564
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	\$2,395	\$2,668	\$3,568	\$3,384	\$3,657	\$4,557
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	\$28,740	\$32,016	\$42,816	\$40,608	\$43,884	\$54,684

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$16,460
<b>SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017</b>	\$9,195	\$13,540
<b>Average County Social Security Benefit 2018</b>	\$18,732	\$31,220

**Table B-12:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Middlesex County, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,348	\$38,088	\$41,364	\$52,164	\$49,956	\$53,232	\$64,032
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$24,491	\$53,231	\$56,507	\$67,307	\$65,099	\$68,375	\$79,175
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$42,839	\$71,579	\$74,855	\$85,655	\$83,447	\$86,723	\$97,523
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$51,887	\$80,627	\$83,903	\$94,703	\$92,495	\$95,771	\$106,571

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

#### Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$27,312	\$30,408	\$40,608	\$38,712	\$41,808	\$52,008
<b>2018</b>	\$28,740	\$32,016	\$42,816	\$40,608	\$43,884	\$54,684
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,428	\$1,608	\$2,208	\$1,896	\$2,076	\$2,676

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Middlesex County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,428 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,676 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-13: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Monmouth County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

Monthly Expenses	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Housing</b>	\$1,096	\$1,229	\$2,239	\$1,096	\$1,229	\$2,239
<b>Food</b>	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
<b>Transportation</b>	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
<b>Health Care (Good Health)</b>	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$411	\$411	\$411	\$576	\$576	\$576
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	\$2,465	\$2,598	\$3,608	\$3,454	\$3,587	\$4,597
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	\$29,580	\$31,176	\$43,296	\$41,448	\$43,044	\$55,164

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$16,460
<b>SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017</b>	\$9,195	\$13,540
<b>Average County Social Security Benefit 2018</b>	\$19,551	\$32,585

**Table B-13:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Monmouth County, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,348	\$38,928	\$40,524	\$52,644	\$50,796	\$52,392	\$64,512
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$24,491	\$54,071	\$55,667	\$67,787	\$65,939	\$67,535	\$79,655
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$42,839	\$72,419	\$74,015	\$86,135	\$84,287	\$85,883	\$98,003
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$51,887	\$81,467	\$83,063	\$95,183	\$93,335	\$94,931	\$107,051

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

**Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$28,104	\$29,604	\$41,052	\$39,504	\$41,004	\$52,452
<b>2018</b>	\$29,580	\$31,176	\$43,296	\$41,448	\$43,044	\$55,164
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,476	\$1,572	\$2,244	\$1,944	\$2,040	\$2,712

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Monmouth County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,476 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,712 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.



**Table B-14: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Morris County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Monthly Expenses	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
Housing	\$1,183	\$1,155	\$2,532	\$1,183	\$1,155	\$2,532
Food	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
Transportation	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
Health Care (Good Health)	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
Miscellaneous	\$428	\$428	\$428	\$593	\$593	\$593
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,569</b>	<b>\$2,541</b>	<b>\$3,918</b>	<b>\$3,558</b>	<b>\$3,530</b>	<b>\$4,907</b>
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$30,828</b>	<b>\$30,492</b>	<b>\$47,016</b>	<b>\$42,696</b>	<b>\$42,360</b>	<b>\$58,884</b>

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)	\$12,140	\$16,460
SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017	\$9,195	\$13,540
Average County Social Security Benefit 2018	\$20,294	\$33,823

**Table B-14:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Morris County, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
<b>Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)</b>		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,348	\$40,176	\$39,840	\$56,364	\$52,044	\$51,708	\$68,232
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$24,491	\$55,319	\$54,983	\$71,507	\$67,187	\$66,851	\$83,375
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$42,839	\$73,667	\$73,331	\$89,855	\$85,535	\$85,199	\$101,723
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$51,887	\$82,715	\$82,379	\$98,903	\$94,583	\$94,247	\$110,771

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

#### Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$29,292	\$28,980	\$44,580	\$40,680	\$40,368	\$55,968
<b>2018</b>	\$30,828	\$30,492	\$47,016	\$42,696	\$42,360	\$58,884
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,536	\$1,512	\$2,436	\$2,016	\$1,992	\$2,916

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Morris County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,512 for single renters, and by \$2,916 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-15: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Ocean County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Monthly Expenses	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
Housing	\$755	\$1,229	\$1,630	\$755	\$1,229	\$1,630
Food	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
Transportation	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
Health Care (Good Health)	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
Miscellaneous	\$343	\$343	\$343	\$507	\$507	\$507
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,056</b>	<b>\$2,530</b>	<b>\$2,931</b>	<b>\$3,044</b>	<b>\$3,518</b>	<b>\$3,919</b>
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$24,672</b>	<b>\$30,360</b>	<b>\$35,172</b>	<b>\$36,528</b>	<b>\$42,216</b>	<b>\$47,028</b>

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)	\$12,140	\$16,460
SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017	\$9,195	\$13,540
Average County Social Security Benefit 2018	\$18,546	\$30,910

**Table B-15:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Ocean County, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,348	\$34,020	\$39,708	\$44,520	\$45,876	\$51,564	\$56,376
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$24,491	\$49,163	\$54,851	\$59,663	\$61,019	\$66,707	\$71,519
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$42,839	\$67,511	\$73,199	\$78,011	\$79,367	\$85,055	\$89,867
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$51,887	\$76,559	\$82,247	\$87,059	\$88,415	\$94,103	\$98,915

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

**Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$23,472	\$28,836	\$33,384	\$34,860	\$40,224	\$44,772
<b>2018</b>	\$24,672	\$30,360	\$35,172	\$36,528	\$42,216	\$47,028
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,200	\$1,524	\$1,788	\$1,668	\$1,992	\$2,256

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Ocean County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,200 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,256 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-16: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Passaic County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

Monthly Expenses	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Housing</b>	\$1,238	\$1,316	\$2,570	\$1,238	\$1,316	\$2,570
<b>Food</b>	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
<b>Transportation</b>	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
<b>Health Care (Good Health)</b>	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$439	\$439	\$439	\$604	\$604	\$604
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	\$2,635	\$2,713	\$3,967	\$3,624	\$3,702	\$4,956
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	\$31,620	\$32,556	\$47,604	\$43,488	\$44,424	\$59,472

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$16,460
<b>SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017</b>	\$9,195	\$13,540
<b>Average County Social Security Benefit 2018</b>	\$17,485	\$29,142

**Table B-16:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Passaic County, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
<b>Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)</b>		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,348	\$40,968	\$41,904	\$56,952	\$52,836	\$53,772	\$68,820
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$24,491	\$56,111	\$57,047	\$72,095	\$67,979	\$68,915	\$83,963
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$42,839	\$74,459	\$75,395	\$90,443	\$86,327	\$87,263	\$102,311
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$51,887	\$83,507	\$84,443	\$99,491	\$95,375	\$96,311	\$111,359

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

#### Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$30,036	\$30,924	\$45,132	\$41,424	\$42,312	\$56,520
<b>2018</b>	\$31,620	\$32,556	\$47,604	\$43,488	\$44,424	\$59,472
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,584	\$1,632	\$2,472	\$2,064	\$2,112	\$2,952

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Passaic County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,584 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,952 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-17: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Salem County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Monthly Expenses	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
Housing	\$813	\$1,045	\$1,583	\$813	\$1,045	\$1,583
Food	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
Transportation	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
Health Care (Good Health)	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
Miscellaneous	\$354	\$354	\$354	\$519	\$519	\$519
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,125</b>	<b>\$2,357</b>	<b>\$2,895</b>	<b>\$3,114</b>	<b>\$3,346</b>	<b>\$3,884</b>
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$25,500</b>	<b>\$28,284</b>	<b>\$34,740</b>	<b>\$37,368</b>	<b>\$40,152</b>	<b>\$46,608</b>

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)	\$12,140	\$16,460
SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017	\$9,195	\$13,540
Average County Social Security Benefit 2018	\$18,226	\$30,377

**Table B-17:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Salem County, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	<b>LTC Cost Per Year</b>	<b>Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care</b>					
		<b>Elder Living Alone</b>			<b>Two-person Elder Household</b>		
<b>Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)</b>		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,048	\$34,548	\$37,332	\$43,788	\$46,416	\$49,200	\$55,656
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$23,891	\$49,391	\$52,175	\$58,631	\$61,259	\$64,043	\$70,499
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$41,627	\$67,127	\$69,911	\$76,367	\$78,995	\$81,779	\$88,235
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$50,051	\$75,551	\$78,335	\$84,791	\$87,419	\$90,203	\$96,659

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

#### **Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018**

	<b>Elder Living Alone</b>			<b>Two-person Elder Household</b>		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$24,264	\$26,892	\$32,988	\$35,652	\$38,280	\$44,376
<b>2018</b>	\$25,500	\$28,284	\$34,740	\$37,368	\$40,152	\$46,608
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,236	\$1,392	\$1,752	\$1,716	\$1,872	\$2,232

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Salem County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,236 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,232 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.



**Table B-18: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Somerset County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

Monthly Expenses	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Housing</b>	\$1,206	\$1,311	\$2,503	\$1,206	\$1,311	\$2,503
<b>Food</b>	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
<b>Transportation</b>	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
<b>Health Care (Good Health)</b>	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$433	\$433	\$433	\$598	\$598	\$598
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	\$2,597	\$2,702	\$3,894	\$3,586	\$3,691	\$4,883
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	\$31,164	\$32,424	\$46,728	\$43,032	\$44,292	\$58,596

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$16,460
<b>SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017</b>	\$9,195	\$13,540
<b>Average County Social Security Benefit 2018</b>	\$20,352	\$33,919

**Table B-18:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Somerset County, 2018 (Cont.)

Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
Low(6 hrs)	\$9,348	\$40,512	\$41,772	\$56,076	\$52,380	\$53,640	\$67,944
Medium (16 hrs)	\$24,491	\$55,655	\$56,915	\$71,219	\$67,523	\$68,783	\$83,087
High w/ADC (36 hrs)	\$42,839	\$74,003	\$75,263	\$89,567	\$85,871	\$87,131	\$101,435
High w/o ADC (36 hrs)	\$51,887	\$83,051	\$84,311	\$98,615	\$94,919	\$96,179	\$110,483

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

#### Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
2016	\$29,604	\$30,792	\$44,292	\$40,992	\$42,180	\$55,680
2018	\$31,164	\$32,424	\$46,728	\$43,032	\$44,292	\$58,596
Change 2016 to 2018	\$1,560	\$1,632	\$2,436	\$2,040	\$2,112	\$2,916

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Somerset County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,560 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,916 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-19: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Sussex County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Monthly Expenses	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
Housing	\$1,023	\$1,155	\$2,162	\$1,023	\$1,155	\$2,162
Food	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
Transportation	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
Health Care (Good Health)	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
Miscellaneous	\$396	\$396	\$396	\$561	\$561	\$561
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,377</b>	<b>\$2,509</b>	<b>\$3,516</b>	<b>\$3,366</b>	<b>\$3,498</b>	<b>\$4,505</b>
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$28,524</b>	<b>\$30,108</b>	<b>\$42,192</b>	<b>\$40,392</b>	<b>\$41,976</b>	<b>\$54,060</b>

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)	\$12,140	\$16,460
SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017	\$9,195	\$13,540
Average County Social Security Benefit 2018	\$19,241	\$32,069

**Table B-19:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Sussex County, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,348	\$37,872	\$39,456	\$51,540	\$49,740	\$51,324	\$63,408
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$24,491	\$53,015	\$54,599	\$66,683	\$64,883	\$66,467	\$78,551
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$42,839	\$71,363	\$72,947	\$85,031	\$83,231	\$84,815	\$96,899
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$51,887	\$80,411	\$81,995	\$94,079	\$92,279	\$93,863	\$105,947

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

**Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$27,120	\$28,620	\$40,020	\$38,508	\$40,008	\$51,408
<b>2018</b>	\$28,524	\$30,108	\$42,192	\$40,392	\$41,976	\$54,060
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,404	\$1,488	\$2,172	\$1,884	\$1,968	\$2,652

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Sussex County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,404 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,652 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-20: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Union County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

Monthly Expenses	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Housing</b>	\$1,227	\$1,155	\$2,432	\$1,227	\$1,155	\$2,432
<b>Food</b>	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
<b>Transportation</b>	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
<b>Health Care (Good Health)</b>	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$437	\$437	\$437	\$602	\$602	\$602
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	\$2,622	\$2,550	\$3,827	\$3,611	\$3,539	\$4,816
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	\$31,464	\$30,600	\$45,924	\$43,332	\$42,468	\$57,792

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$16,460
<b>SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017</b>	\$9,195	\$13,540
<b>Average County Social Security Benefit 2018</b>	\$18,288	\$30,480

**Table B-20:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Union County, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,348	\$40,812	\$39,948	\$55,272	\$52,680	\$51,816	\$67,140
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$24,491	\$55,955	\$55,091	\$70,415	\$67,823	\$66,959	\$82,283
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$42,839	\$74,303	\$73,439	\$88,763	\$86,171	\$85,307	\$100,631
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$51,887	\$83,351	\$82,487	\$97,811	\$95,219	\$94,355	\$109,679

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

**Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$29,892	\$29,076	\$43,536	\$41,280	\$40,464	\$54,924
<b>2018</b>	\$31,464	\$30,600	\$45,924	\$43,332	\$42,468	\$57,792
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,572	\$1,524	\$2,388	\$2,052	\$2,004	\$2,868

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Union County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,524 for single renters, and by \$2,868 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-21: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Warren County, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Monthly Expenses	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
Housing	\$973	\$1,021	\$2,397	\$973	\$1,021	\$2,397
Food	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
Transportation	\$240	\$240	\$240	\$371	\$371	\$371
Health Care (Good Health)	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
Miscellaneous	\$394	\$394	\$394	\$563	\$563	\$563
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,365</b>	<b>\$2,413</b>	<b>\$3,789</b>	<b>\$3,380</b>	<b>\$3,428</b>	<b>\$4,804</b>
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$28,380</b>	<b>\$28,956</b>	<b>\$45,468</b>	<b>\$40,560</b>	<b>\$41,136</b>	<b>\$57,648</b>

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)	\$12,140	\$16,460
SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017	\$9,195	\$13,540
Average County Social Security Benefit 2018	\$18,755	\$31,259

**Table B-21:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Warren County, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,048	\$37,428	\$38,004	\$54,516	\$49,608	\$50,184	\$66,696
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$23,891	\$52,271	\$52,847	\$69,359	\$64,451	\$65,027	\$81,539
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$41,627	\$70,007	\$70,583	\$87,095	\$82,187	\$82,763	\$99,275
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$50,051	\$78,431	\$79,007	\$95,519	\$90,611	\$91,187	\$107,699

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

**Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$26,976	\$27,516	\$43,104	\$38,652	\$39,192	\$54,780
<b>2018</b>	\$28,380	\$28,956	\$45,468	\$40,560	\$41,136	\$57,648
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,404	\$1,440	\$2,364	\$1,908	\$1,944	\$2,868

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Warren County increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,404 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,868 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.



**Table B-22: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Newark City, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Monthly Expenses	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
Housing	\$1,061	\$1,157	\$2,351	\$1,061	\$1,157	\$2,351
Food	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
Transportation	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
Health Care (Good Health)	\$408	\$408	\$408	\$816	\$816	\$816
Miscellaneous	\$385	\$385	\$385	\$531	\$531	\$531
Total Monthly (Index) Expenses	\$2,311	\$2,407	\$3,601	\$3,188	\$3,284	\$4,478
Total Annual (Index) Expenses	\$27,732	\$28,884	\$43,212	\$38,256	\$39,408	\$53,736

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)	\$12,140	\$16,460
SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017	\$9,195	\$13,540

**Table B-22:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Newark City, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,348	\$37,080	\$38,232	\$52,560	\$47,604	\$48,756	\$63,084
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$24,491	\$52,223	\$53,375	\$67,703	\$62,747	\$63,899	\$78,227
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$42,839	\$70,571	\$71,723	\$86,051	\$81,095	\$82,247	\$96,575
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$51,887	\$79,619	\$80,771	\$95,099	\$90,143	\$91,295	\$105,623

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$225 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$2,700 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

#### Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$26,364	\$27,444	\$40,980	\$36,492	\$37,572	\$51,108
<b>2018</b>	\$27,732	\$28,884	\$43,212	\$38,256	\$39,408	\$53,736
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,368	\$1,440	\$2,232	\$1,764	\$1,836	\$2,628

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Newark City increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,368 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,628 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-23: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Jersey City, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

Monthly Expenses	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Housing</b>	\$1,299	\$1,224	\$2,693	\$1,299	\$1,224	\$2,693
<b>Food</b>	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
<b>Transportation</b>	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
<b>Health Care (Good Health)</b>	\$408	\$408	\$408	\$816	\$816	\$816
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$433	\$433	\$433	\$579	\$579	\$579
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	\$2,597	\$2,522	\$3,991	\$3,474	\$3,399	\$4,868
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	\$31,164	\$30,264	\$47,892	\$41,688	\$40,788	\$58,416

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$16,460
<b>SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017</b>	\$9,195	\$13,540

**Table B-23:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Jersey City, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,348	\$40,512	\$39,612	\$57,240	\$51,036	\$50,136	\$67,764
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$24,491	\$55,655	\$54,755	\$72,383	\$66,179	\$65,279	\$82,907
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$42,839	\$74,003	\$73,103	\$90,731	\$84,527	\$83,627	\$101,255
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$51,887	\$83,051	\$82,151	\$99,779	\$93,575	\$92,675	\$110,303

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$223 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$2,676 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

#### Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$29,328	\$28,476	\$45,120	\$39,444	\$38,592	\$55,236
<b>2018</b>	\$31,164	\$30,264	\$47,892	\$41,688	\$40,788	\$58,416
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,836	\$1,788	\$2,772	\$2,244	\$2,196	\$3,180

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for Jersey City increased by about 6% in 2018, increasing by \$1,788 for single renters, and by \$3,180 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-24: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Camden Metro Division\*, 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

Monthly Expenses	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
Housing	\$921	\$1,045	\$1,811	\$921	\$1,045	\$1,811
Food	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
Transportation	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$309	\$309	\$309
Health Care (Good Health)	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
Miscellaneous	\$376	\$376	\$376	\$541	\$541	\$541
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,255</b>	<b>\$2,379</b>	<b>\$3,145</b>	<b>\$3,244</b>	<b>\$3,368</b>	<b>\$4,134</b>
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	<b>\$27,060</b>	<b>\$28,548</b>	<b>\$37,740</b>	<b>\$38,928</b>	<b>\$40,416</b>	<b>\$49,608</b>

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$16,460
<b>SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017</b>	\$9,195	\$13,540

\*Includes Burlington, Camden, and Gloucester Counties

**Table B-24:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Camden Metro Division, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,162	\$36,222	\$37,710	\$46,902	\$48,090	\$49,578	\$58,770
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$24,118	\$51,178	\$52,666	\$61,858	\$63,046	\$64,534	\$73,726
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$42,086	\$69,146	\$70,634	\$79,826	\$81,014	\$82,502	\$91,694
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$50,746	\$77,806	\$79,294	\$88,486	\$89,674	\$91,162	\$100,354

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

**Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018**

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$25,728	\$27,132	\$35,808	\$37,128	\$38,532	\$47,208
<b>2018</b>	\$27,060	\$28,548	\$37,740	\$38,928	\$40,416	\$49,608
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,332	\$1,416	\$1,932	\$1,800	\$1,884	\$2,400

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for the Camden Metro Area increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,332 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,400 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.

**Table B-25: The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for New Jersey Shore,\* 2018**  
**Monthly Expenses for Selected Household Types**

Monthly Expenses	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Housing</b>	\$935	\$1,211	\$1,990	\$935	\$1,211	\$1,990
<b>Food</b>	\$257	\$257	\$257	\$471	\$471	\$471
<b>Transportation</b>	\$207	\$207	\$207	\$320	\$320	\$320
<b>Health Care (Good Health)</b>	\$501	\$501	\$501	\$1,002	\$1,002	\$1,002
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$380	\$380	\$380	\$546	\$546	\$546
<b>Total Monthly (Index) Expenses</b>	\$2,280	\$2,556	\$3,335	\$3,274	\$3,550	\$4,329
<b>Total Annual (Index) Expenses</b>	\$27,360	\$30,672	\$40,020	\$39,288	\$42,600	\$51,948

Comparative Income Benchmarks	Elder Living Alone	Two-person Elder Household
<b>Federal Poverty Guideline (2018 DHHS)</b>	\$12,140	\$16,460
<b>SSI Payment Maximum - NJ 2017</b>	\$9,195	\$13,540

\*Includes Atlantic, Cape May, Middlesex, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties

**Table B-25:** The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for New Jersey Shore, 2018 (Cont.)

<b>Adding Home- and Community-Based Long-Term Care Costs to the Elder Economic Security Standard Index</b> (Annual Expenses)							
	LTC Cost Per Year	Elder Economic Security Standard Index plus Cost of Long-Term Care					
		Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
Need for Long-Term Care (hours/week)		Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>Low(6 hrs)</b>	\$9,226	\$36,586	\$39,898	\$49,246	\$48,514	\$51,826	\$61,174
<b>Medium (16 hrs)</b>	\$24,200	\$51,560	\$54,872	\$64,220	\$63,488	\$66,800	\$76,148
<b>High w/ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$42,543	\$69,903	\$73,215	\$82,563	\$81,831	\$85,143	\$94,491
<b>High w/o ADC (36 hrs)</b>	\$51,177	\$78,537	\$81,849	\$91,197	\$90,465	\$93,777	\$103,125

To reflect the difference between an elder in good health (depicted in table) and in poor health (and therefore being at higher risk of needing LTSS), \$163 should be added to the monthly totals for out-of-pocket medical costs resulting in an annual increase in costs of \$1,956 (for an elder person). For information on data sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A: Data Sources.

#### Elder Index Comparison: 2016 vs 2018

	Elder Living Alone			Two-person Elder Household		
	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage	Owner, w/o Mortgage	Renter	Owner, with Mortgage
<b>2016</b>	\$25,992	\$29,136	\$37,932	\$37,428	\$40,572	\$49,368
<b>2018</b>	\$27,360	\$30,672	\$40,020	\$39,288	\$42,600	\$51,948
<b>Change 2016 to 2018</b>	\$1,368	\$1,536	\$2,088	\$1,860	\$2,028	\$2,580

Compared to 2016, the Elder Index for the New Jersey Shore region increased by about 5% in 2018, increasing by \$1,368 for single owners without a mortgage, and by \$2,580 for couple owners with a mortgage. Most of the increase is a result of the increasing cost of housing.