In 2019, the 2-bedroom Minnesota housing wage is $19.74. Full-time workers need to earn $19.74 an hour in order to afford rent on a modest 2-bedroom apartment without spending more than 30 percent of their income.

Minnesota has the highest housing wage in the region.

When families pay too much for rent, they’re forced to sacrifice to make ends meet – cutting back at the grocery store or delaying a trip to the doctor. Households in every corner of Minnesota are spending thousands of dollars more than they can afford each year just to pay the rent for a modest apartment.

Minimum wage earners must work close to two full time jobs in order to afford rent

- **63** hrs for 1-bedroom
- **80** hrs for 2-bedroom

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**The highest housing wage in the state is located in the counties within the greater Minneapolis / St. Paul metro area, at $22.13 per hour – or $46,040 annually – to afford a modest two-bedroom apartment.**

- **Nicollet County** has experienced the steepest increase in two-bedroom housing wage in the last 10 years, rising from **$12.48 to $17.77**, a 20 percent jump.

- **Chisago and Ramsey Counties** currently have the largest gap in the state between renter median income and rent for a two-bedroom apartment, adding up an annual shortage of **$2,916 to $3,552**.

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Download the full Out of Reach Minnesota 2019 report at [http://www.mhponline.org/publications/out-of-reach](http://www.mhponline.org/publications/out-of-reach). Questions about the report? Contact MHP’s Director of Communications and Research at andy.birkey@mhponline.org or 651-925-5544.

Out of Reach Minnesota 2019 is based on the annual report produced by the National Low Income Housing Coalition.