

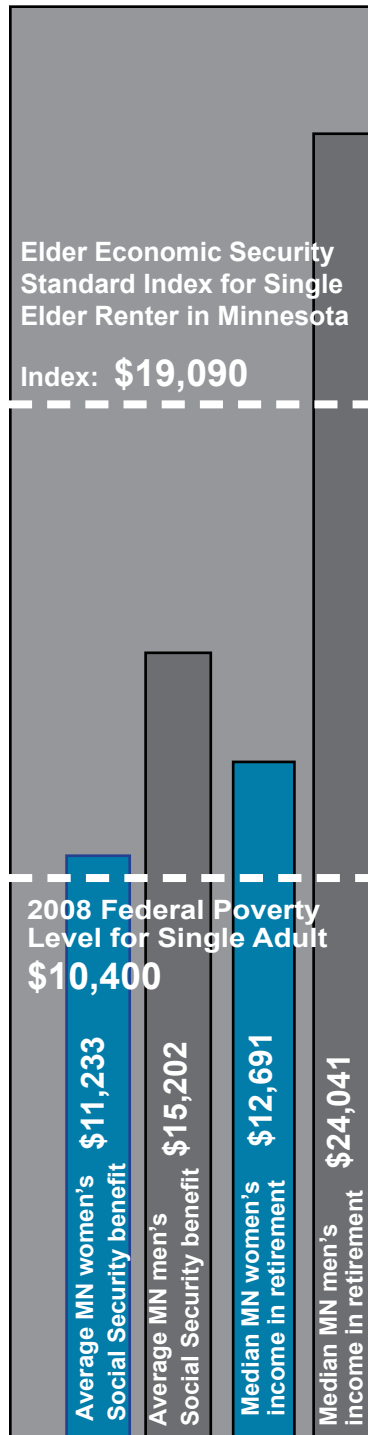
The Elder Index

Elder Economic Security Initiative (MinnEESI) & ElderNomics Minnesota

The MinnEESI project of 2009-2010 produced **the Elder Index and the Elder Index Policy Brief**. These data and publications are available to everyone, and provide a great foundation for the One Away campaign and other initiatives. The goal is to promote economic security for older adults and for those who will reach “retirement age” in the years to come.

ELDER INDEX DATA

- ✓ The Elder Index shows the true statewide cost of living for retired elders (housing, out-of-pocket health, food, and transportation costs) is \$19,090 - but the “average Minnesota woman” has income well below that.
- ✓ The Elder Index has cost of living data for every county, for singles, couples, homeowners, and renters.
- ✓ Note the significant gaps between cost of living and median income - especially for women and people of color.
- ✓ Download the information for your county from the DHS Aging Services website - “Demographics.”



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- ★ Send your email address to receive the *ElderNomics Update* e-newsletter & report on your own work.
- ★ Ask your organization to endorse the Elder Index as a measure of income adequacy & join the EESI network.
- ★ Download the *MinnEESI Policy Brief* with recommendations such as defending the Renter's Credit - www.wowonline.org, Elder Economic Security Initiative, Minnesota page.
- ★ Engage Minnesotans from grassroots on up in advocating for themselves and others.
- ★ Promote positive messages about aging and older people, in your community and everywhere.
- ★ Share this information with local, state, and national elected officials and ask for action on these issues.
- ★ Tell your own story of economic struggle at the National Council On Aging website, www.oneaway.org.
- ★ Visit the Minnesota page at OneAway.org to stay in touch and view future videos.
- ★ Ask Congress to support appropriate reauthorization of the Older Americans Act.

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