

FAQ: Density Bonus by the NumbersSource: https://www.meyersnave.com/wp-content/uploads/California-Density-Bonus-Law_2021.pdf**Translating Density Bonus % based on various income, demographic or land donation****DENSITY BONUS CHART***

AFFORDABLE UNIT PERCENTAGE**	VERY LOW INCOME DENSITY BONUS	LOW INCOME DENSITY BONUS	MODERATE INCOME DENSITY BONUS***	LAND DONATION DENSITY BONUS	SENIOR****	FOSTER YOUTH/ DISABLED VETS/ HOMELESS	COLLEGE STUDENTS
5%	20%	-	-	-	20%	-	-
6%	22.5%	-	-	-	20%	-	-
7%	25%	-	-	-	20%	-	-
8%	27.5%	-	-	-	20%	-	-
9%	30%	-	-	-	20%	-	-
10%	32.5%	20%	5%	15%	20%	20%	-
11%	35%	21.5%	6%	16%	20%	20%	-
12%	38.75%	23%	7%	17%	20%	20%	-
13%	42.5%	24.5%	8%	18%	20%	20%	-
14%	46.25%	26%	9%	19%	20%	20%	-
15%	50%	27.5%	10%	20%	20%	20%	-
16%	50%	29%	11%	21%	20%	20%	-
17%	50%	30.5%	12%	22%	20%	20%	-
18%	50%	32%	13%	23%	20%	20%	-
19%	50%	33.5%	14%	24%	20%	20%	-
20%	50%	35%	15%	25%	20%	20%	35%
21%	50%	38.75%	16%	26%	20%	20%	35%
22%	50%	42.5%	17%	27%	20%	20%	35%
23%	50%	46.25%	18%	28%	20%	20%	35%
24%	50%	50%	19%	29%	20%	20%	35%
25%	50%	50%	20%	30%	20%	20%	35%
26%	50%	50%	21%	31%	20%	20%	35%
27%	50%	50%	22%	32%	20%	20%	35%
28%	50%	50%	23%	33%	20%	20%	35%
29%	50%	50%	24%	34%	20%	20%	35%
30%	50%	50%	25%	35%	20%	20%	35%
31%	50%	50%	26%	35%	20%	20%	35%
32%	50%	50%	27%	35%	20%	20%	35%
33%	50%	50%	28%	35%	20%	20%	35%
34%	50%	50%	29%	35%	20%	20%	35%
35%	50%	50%	30%	35%	20%	20%	35%
36%	50%	50%	31%	35%	20%	20%	35%
37%	50%	50%	32%	35%	20%	20%	35%
38%	50%	50%	33%	35%	20%	20%	35%
39%	50%	50%	34%	35%	20%	20%	35%
40%	50%	50%	35%	35%	20%	20%	35%
41%	50%	50%	38.75%	35%	20%	20%	35%
42%	50%	50%	42.5%	35%	20%	20%	35%
43%	50%	50%	46.25%	35%	20%	20%	35%
44%	50%	50%	50%	35%	20%	20%	35%
100% *****	80%	80%	80%	35%	20%	20%	35%

*All density bonus calculations resulting in fractions are rounded up to the next whole number.

**Affordable unit percentage is calculated excluding units added by a density bonus.

***Moderate income density bonus applies to for sale units, not to rental units.

****No affordable units are required for senior units.

***** Applies when 100% of the total units (other than manager's units) are restricted to very low, lower and moderate income (maximum 20% moderate).

How # of Affordable Units (by % of the total project) = By-Right Incentives per State Law

REQUIRED INCENTIVES AND CONCESSIONS

In addition to the density bonus, the city or county is also required to provide one or more “incentives” or “concessions” to each project which qualifies for a density bonus (except that market rate senior citizen projects with no affordable units, and land donated for very low income housing, do not appear to be entitled to incentives or concessions). A concession or incentive is defined as:

- A reduction in site development standards or a modification of zoning code or architectural design requirements, such as a reduction in setback or minimum square footage requirements; or
- Approval of mixed use zoning; or
- Other regulatory incentives or concessions which actually result in identifiable and actual cost reductions.

The number of required incentives or concessions is based on the percentage of affordable units in the project:

NO. OF INCENTIVES/ CONCESSIONS	VERY LOW INCOME PERCENTAGE	LOWER INCOME PERCENTAGE	MODERATE INCOME PERCENTAGE
1	5%	10%	10%
2	10%	17%	20%
3	15%	24%	30%
4	100% Low/Very Low/Mod (20% Moderate allowed)	100% Low/Very Low/Mod (20% Moderate allowed)	100% Low/Very Low/Mod (20% Moderate allowed)

Current Parking Minimums Rules per State Law

- **Maximum Parking Requirements.** Upon the developer’s request, the city or county may not require more than the following parking ratios for a density bonus project (inclusive of parking for persons with disabilities):

Studio	1 space
1 Bedroom	1 space
2 Bedroom	1.5 spaces
3 Bedroom	1.5 spaces
4 Bedroom	2.5 spaces

- **Special Parking Requirements.** Lower parking ratios apply to specified projects (although local jurisdictions can require higher parking ratios if supported by a specified parking study):

Rental/for sale projects with at least 11% very low income or 20% lower income units, within 1/2 mile of accessible major transit stop	0.5 spaces per unit
Rental projects 100% affordable to lower income, within 1/2 mile of accessible major transit stop	0 spaces per unit
Rental senior projects 100% affordable to lower income, either with paratransit service or within 1/2-half mile of accessible bus route (operating at least eight times per day)	0 spaces per unit
Rental special needs projects 100% affordable to lower income households, either with paratransit service or within 1/2-half mile of accessible bus route (operating at least eight times per day)	0 spaces per unit
Rental supportive housing developments 100% affordable to lower income households	0 spaces per unit

(1) For housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), the density bonus shall be calculated as follows:

PERCENTAGE LOW-INCOME UNITS	PERCENTAGE DENSITY BONUS
10	20
11	21.5
12	23
13	24.5
14	26
15	27.5
16	29
17	30.5
18	32
19	33.5
20	35
21	38.75
22	42.5
23	46.25
24	50

(2) For housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), the density bonus shall be calculated as follows:

PERCENTAGE VERY LOW-INCOME UNITS	PERCENTAGE DENSITY BONUS
5	20
6	22.5
7	25
8	27.5
9	30
10	32.5
11	35
12	38.75
13	42.5
14	46.25
15	50

(4) For housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (D) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), the density bonus shall be calculated as follows:

PERCENTAGE MODERATE-INCOME UNITS	PERCENTAGE DENSITY BONUS
10	5
11	6
12	7
13	8
14	9
15	10
16	11
17	12
18	13

19	14
20	15
21	16
22	17
23	18
24	19
25	20
26	21

27	22
28	23
29	24
30	25
31	26
32	27
33	28
34	29

35	30
36	31
37	32
38	33
39	34
40	35
41	38.75
42	42.5
43	46.25
44	50

(g) (1) When an applicant for a tentative subdivision map, parcel map, or other residential development approval donates land to a city, county, or city and county in accordance with this subdivision, the applicant shall be entitled to a 15-percent increase above the otherwise maximum allowable residential density for the entire development, as follows:

PERCENTAGE VERY LOW-INCOME	PERCENTAGE DENSITY BONUS
10	15
11	16
12	17
13	18
14	19

15	20
16	21
17	22
18	23
19	24
20	25
21	26
22	27
23	28
24	29
25	30
26	31
27	32
28	33
29	34
30	35