



October 13, 2020

## GENERAL NEWS

### Social Security Benefits to Increase by 1.3 Percent in 2021

In a [press release](#) today, the Social Security Administration ([SSA](#)) announced that Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits will increase by 1.3 percent in 2021.

The latest COLA is 1.3 percent for Social Security benefits and SSI payments. Social Security benefits will increase by 1.3 percent beginning with the December 2020 benefits, which are payable in January 2021. Federal SSI payment levels will also increase by 1.3 percent effective for payments made for January 2021. Because the normal SSI payment date is the first of the month and January 1 is a holiday, the SSI payments for January are always made at the end of the previous December.

The COLA is based on the increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-W), as determined by the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, from the third quarter of 2019 through the third quarter of 2020. You can learn more about it [here](#).

### HUD Announces \$1.3 Billion for Florida Disaster Recovery

In a [press release](#) yesterday, HUD announced that it is making more than \$1.3 billion available to Florida for recovery from Hurricane Michael and to assist in large scale disaster mitigation projects. The funding is provided through two separate programs:

- \$633 million under the Community Development Block Grant, Mitigation ([CDBG-MIT](#)) program to allow the state to undertake strategic, high-impact projects to mitigate disaster risks and better protect against future losses
- \$735 million under the Community Development Block Grant, Disaster Recovery ([CDBG-DR](#)) program to address unmet housing and infrastructure needs resulting from the impacts of Hurricane Michael on the Florida Panhandle

Click [here](#) for more information about disaster resources.



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