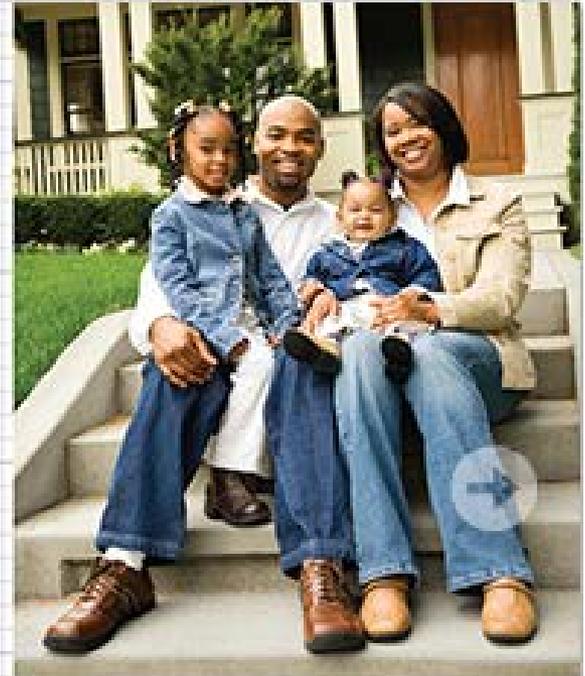


Indiana Institute
for **Working Families**
Research and Public Policy



THE SELF-SUFFICIENCY STANDARD FOR INDIANA 2016

Andrew Bradley

Senior Policy Analyst

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What is the Self-Sufficiency Standard?

- Measures the basic costs needed for a family of a given composition to get by where they live
- In Indiana, covers 472 family types in all 92 counties
- Methodology developed by Dr. Diana Pearce of the University of Washington
- Used in 38 states, often housed by state agencies, universities, non-profits

The 2016 Self-Sufficiency Standard report was made possible through generous support from:



2011 Indiana House Resolution 62

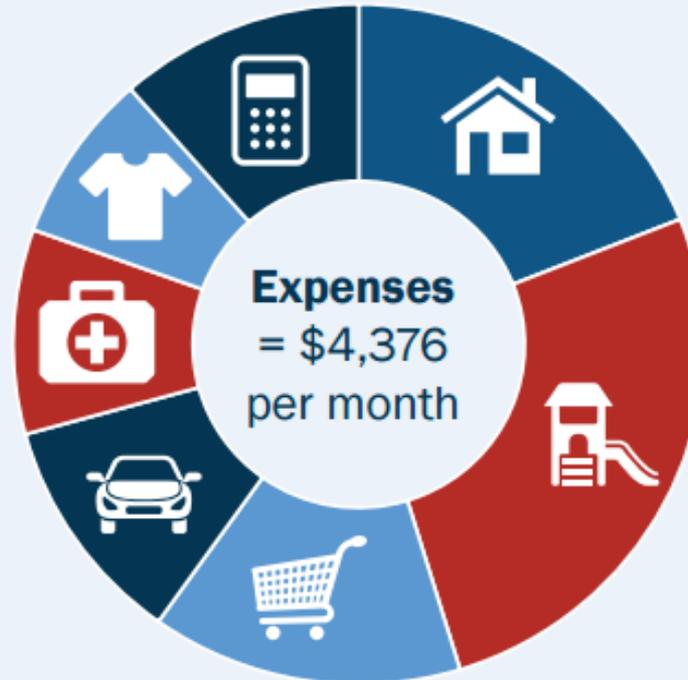
“Urging state agencies to use Self-Sufficiency Standard when counseling”

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives urges state
2 agencies to use the Self-Sufficiency Standard when counseling
3 individuals who seek assistance, education, training, or employment,
4 including:
- 5 (1) during financial planning, in order to help clients evaluate
6 strategies to reach self-sufficient wages;
 - 7 (2) during career counseling, to help participants make choices
8 among various occupations and jobs; and
 - 9 (3) when helping clients set a budget, to demonstrate the real
10 costs of becoming economically independent.

What basic costs add up to 'Self-Sufficiency'?

HOUSING AND CHILD CARE TYPICALLY
ACCOUNT FOR ALMOST HALF OF THE BUDGET



Clark County

Housing = \$832

Child Care = \$1,149

Food = \$638

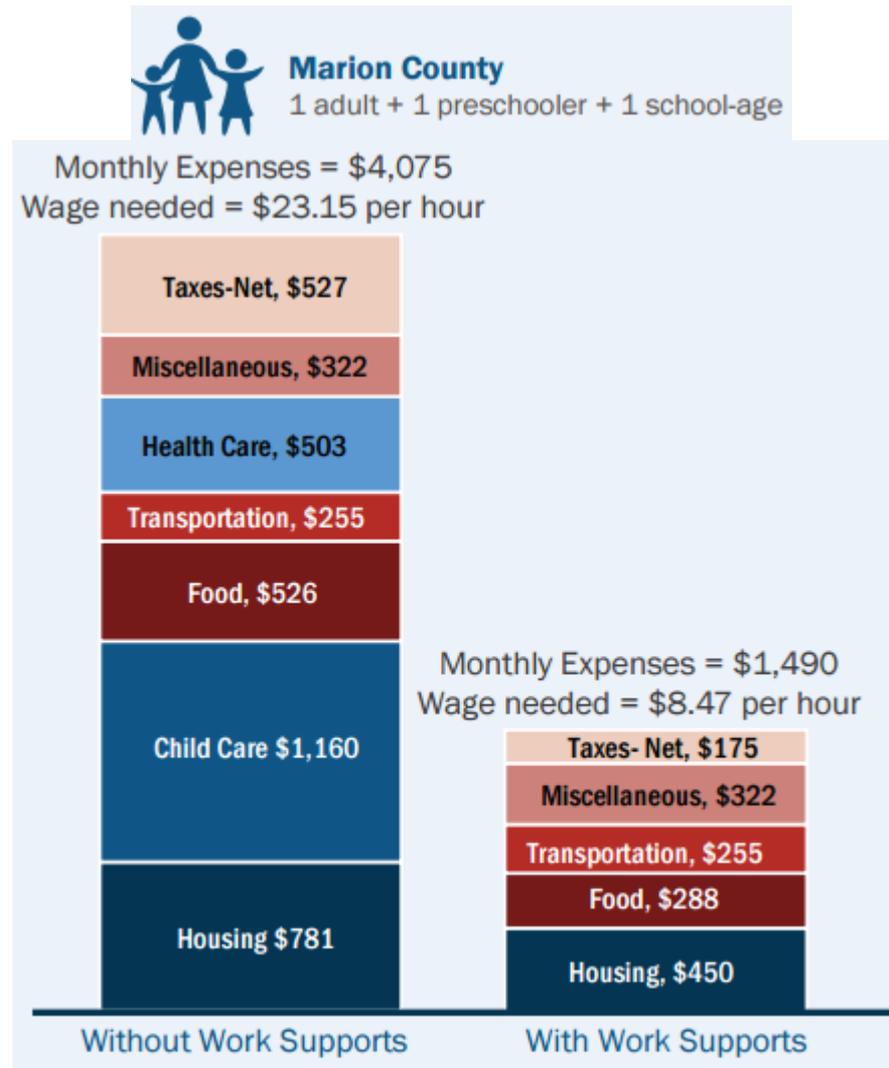
Transportation = \$477

Health Care = \$426

Miscellaneous = \$352

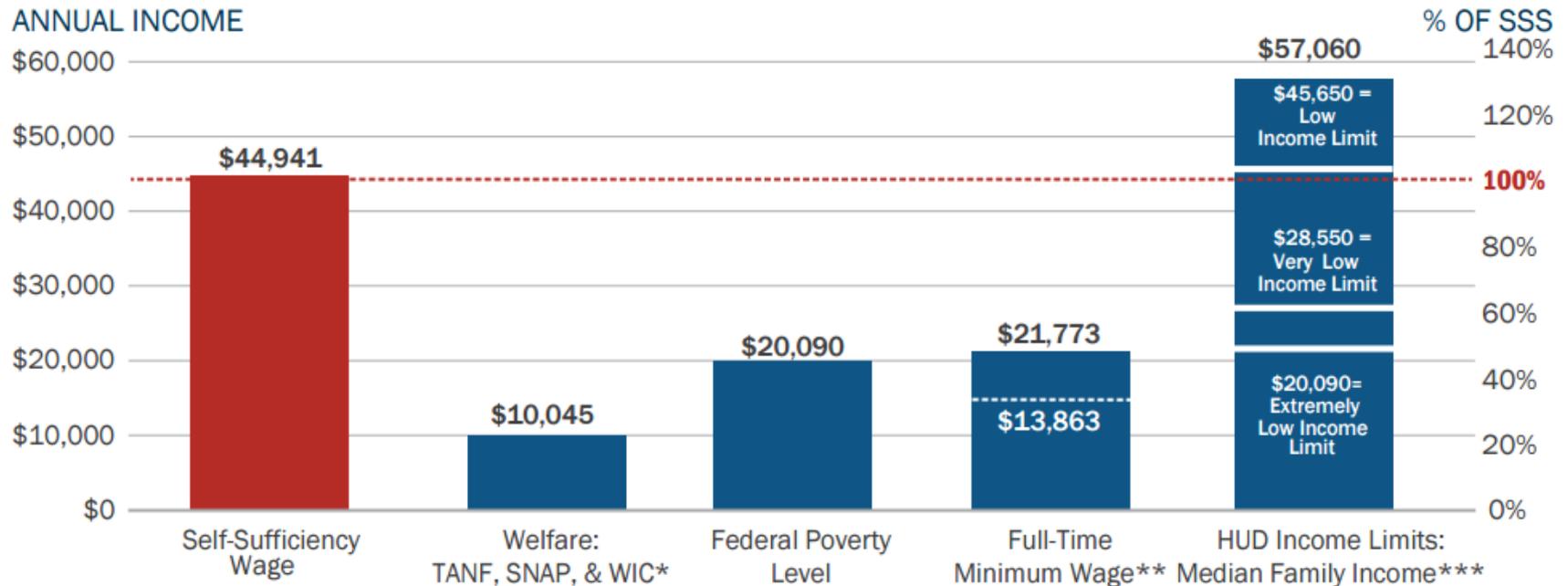
Taxes-Net = \$502

What basic costs add up to 'Self-Sufficiency'?



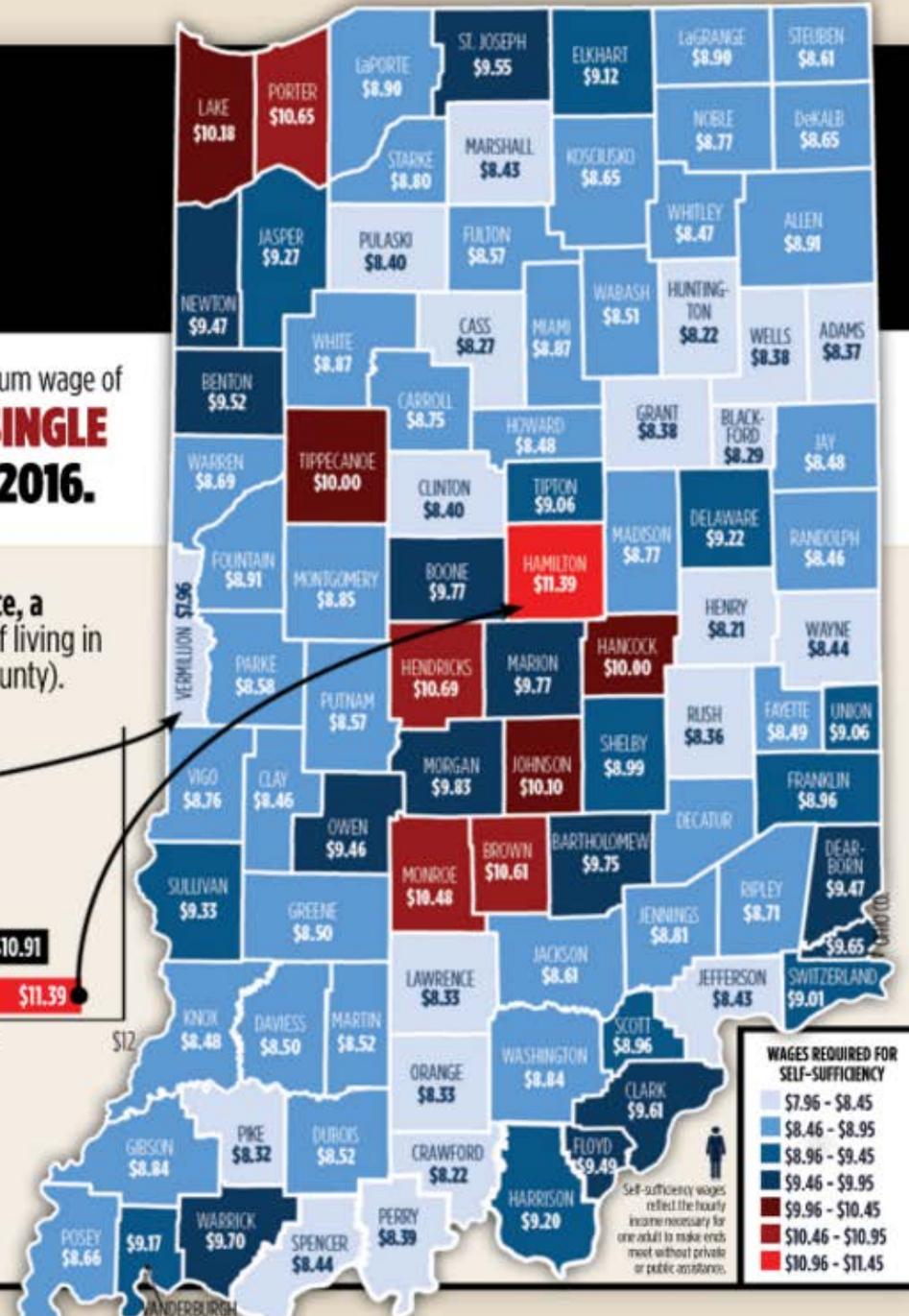
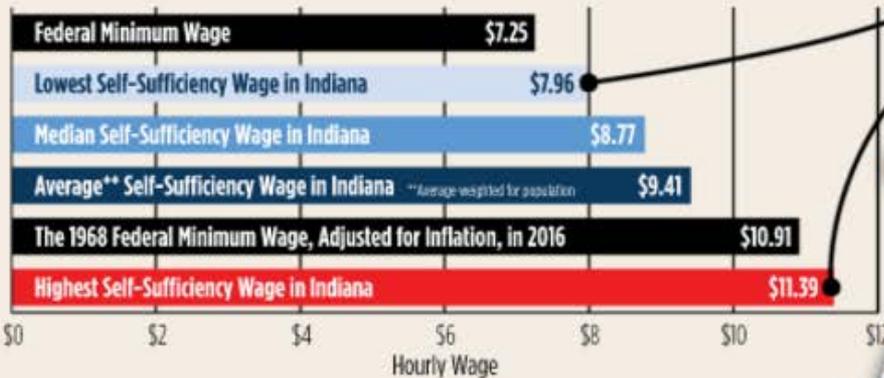
What does it mean to be 'Self-Sufficient' vs. other measures?

FIGURE H. The Self-Sufficiency Standard Compared to Other Benchmarks
One Adult, One Preschooler, and One School-Age Child Vanderburgh County, IN 2016



The Indiana Self-Sufficiency Standard shows that the federal minimum wage of **\$7.25 AN HOUR WILL NOT SUPPORT A SINGLE ADULT IN ANY COUNTY IN INDIANA IN 2016.**

To make ends meet without seeking public or private assistance, a single Hoosier adult must make a minimum of \$7.96 an hour (if living in Vermillion County) or as much as \$11.39 (if living in Hamilton County).



Learn more about why Indiana must raise the minimum wage at: incap.org/IWFF
IWFF.blogspot.com
IndianaSelfSufficiencyStandard.org

* Source: Indiana Institute for Working Families' Self-Sufficiency Standard, hourly wage for one adult. Released 02/2016. www.IndianaSelfSufficiencyStandard.org

FIGURE A. Map of Counties by Level of Hourly Self-Sufficiency Wage One Adult and One Preschooler, IN 2016

The least expensive Indiana counties require between \$13.58 and \$15.62 per hour full time. Light and Medium Blue

The next highest cost group requires between \$15.68 and \$17.35 per hour full time= Dark Blue

The highest cost group requires between \$17.36-\$23.18 per hour full time

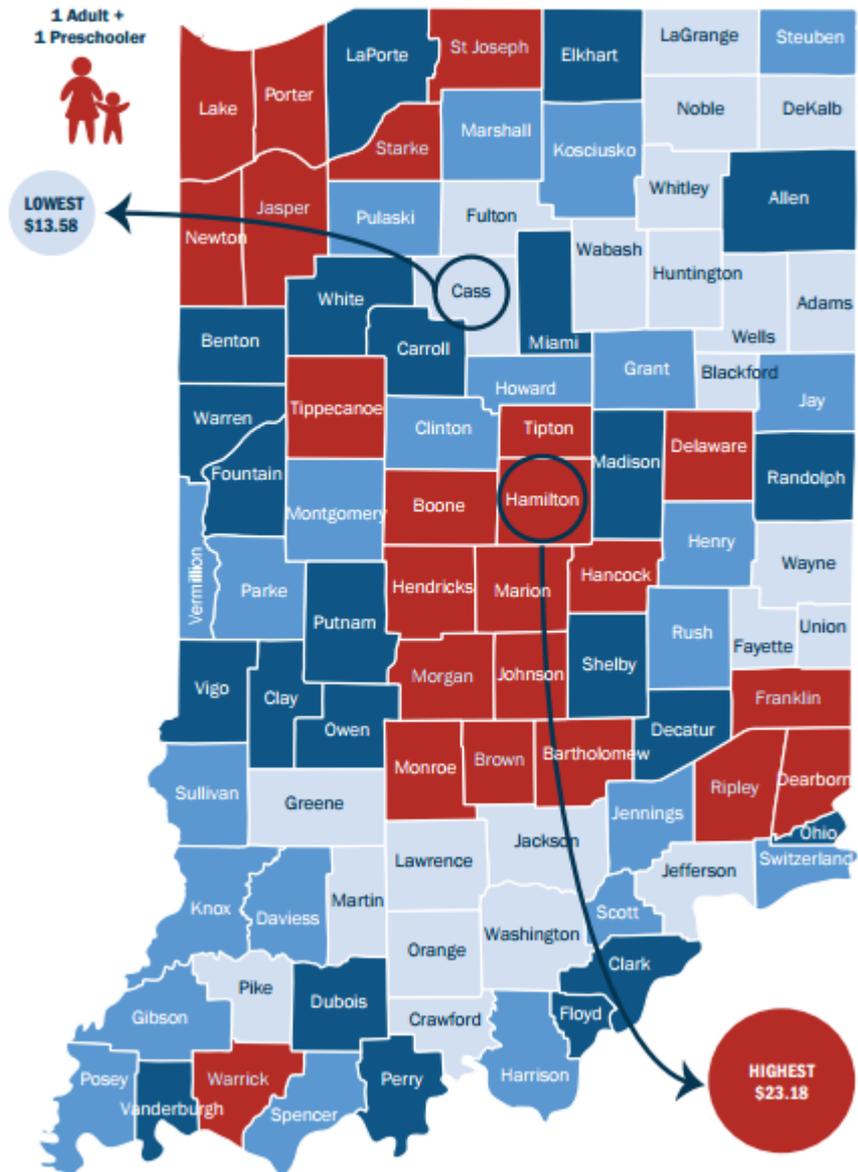
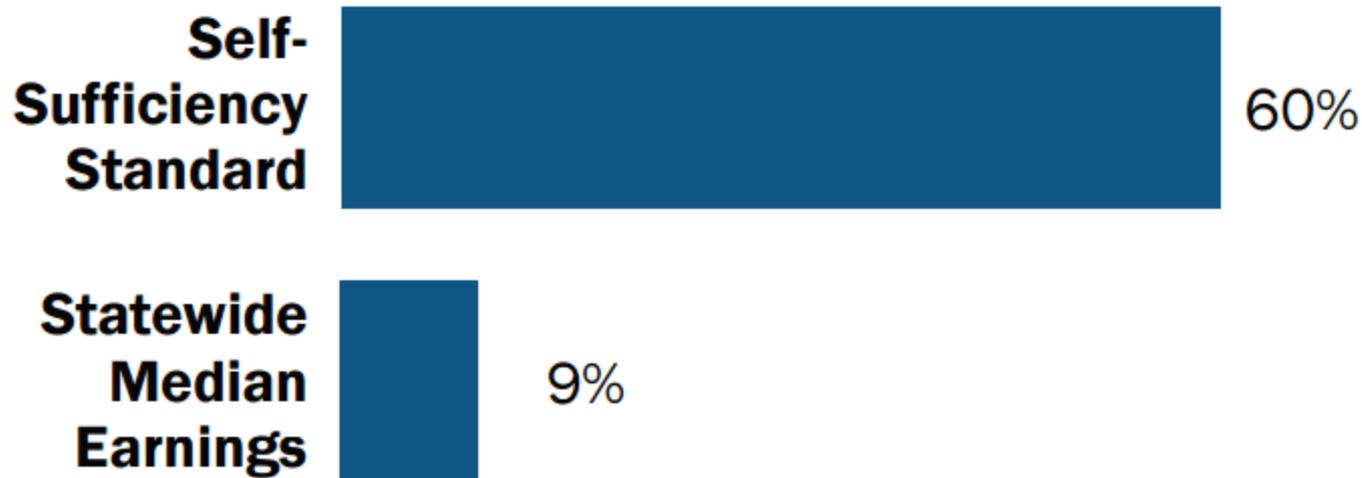


TABLE 3. The Self-Sufficiency Standard as a Percentage of Other Benchmarks of Income, 2016
Two Family Types, All Indiana Counties

COUNTY	Self-Sufficiency Standard for One Adult + One Preschooler + One School-age				Self-Sufficiency Standard for Two Adults + One Preschooler + One School-age			
	Annual Self-Sufficiency Standard	As Percentage of:			Annual Self-Sufficiency Standard	As Percentage of:		
		Federal Poverty Level	Minimum Wage	Median Family Income		Federal Poverty Level	Minimum Wage	Median Family Income
Adams	\$34,896	174%	228%	66%	\$43,079	178%	141%	73%
Allen	\$44,397	221%	290%	80%	\$51,174	211%	167%	83%
Bartholomew	\$48,662	242%	318%	82%	\$55,388	228%	181%	84%
Benton	\$41,467	206%	271%	73%	\$48,863	201%	160%	77%
Blackford	\$37,394	186%	244%	76%	\$45,076	186%	147%	82%
Boone	\$48,545	242%	317%	79%	\$55,297	228%	181%	81%
Brown	\$49,982	249%	326%	82%	\$56,927	235%	186%	84%
Carroll	\$45,361	226%	296%	78%	\$52,482	216%	171%	81%
Cass	\$34,382	171%	225%	70%	\$42,027	173%	137%	77%
Clark	\$43,164	215%	282%	75%	\$49,674	205%	162%	77%
Clay	\$43,238	215%	282%	86%	\$49,241	203%	161%	88%
Clinton	\$36,871	184%	241%	68%	\$44,414	183%	145%	74%
Crawford	\$35,173	175%	230%	71%	\$43,492	179%	142%	79%
Daviess	\$38,952	194%	254%	75%	\$47,240	195%	154%	82%

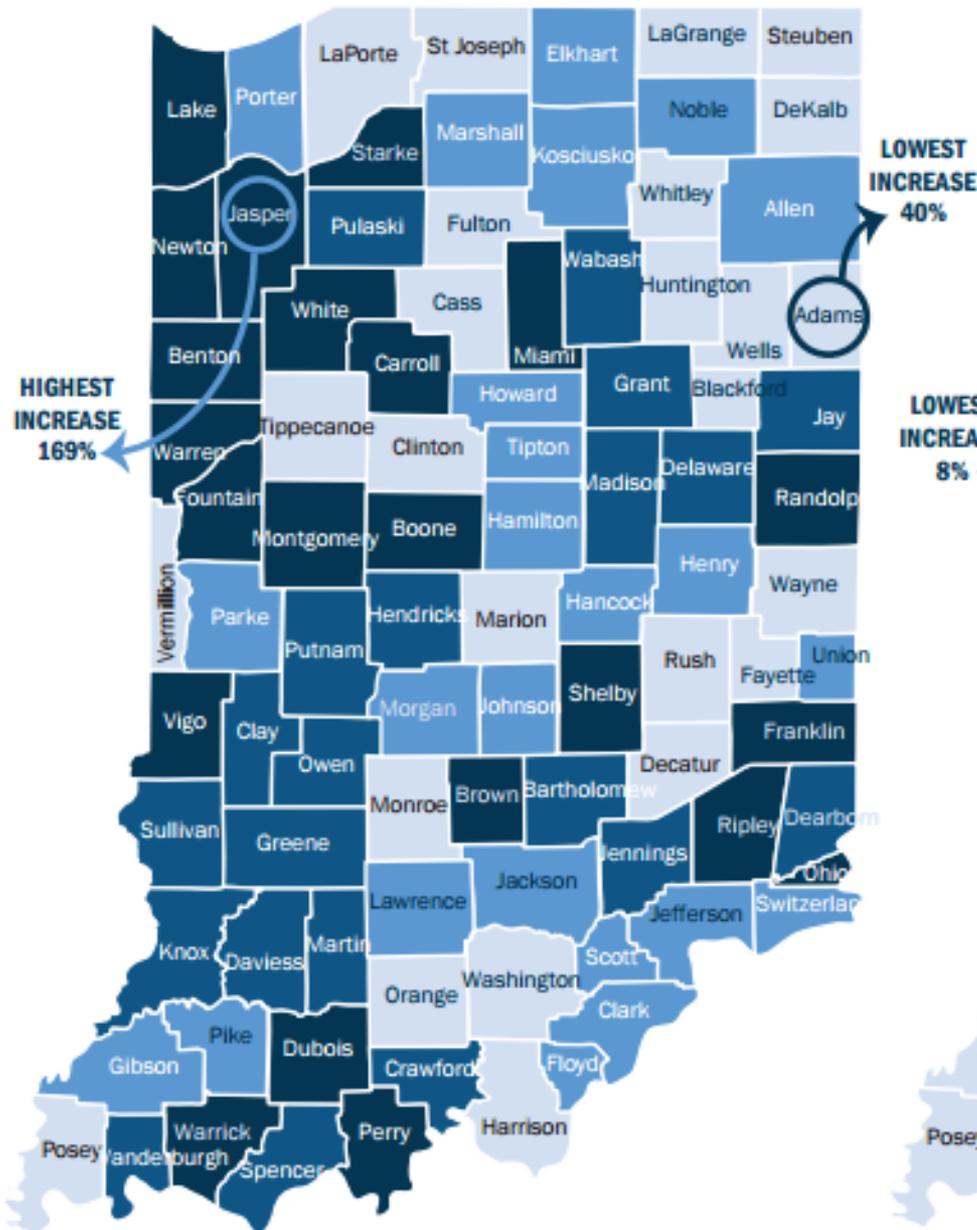
Wages aren't keeping up with basic costs!

FIGURE F. Indiana Median Earnings Lag Behind Increasing Cost of Living, 2005-2016
Statewide Average, IN: One Adult, One Preschooler, and One School-Age Child



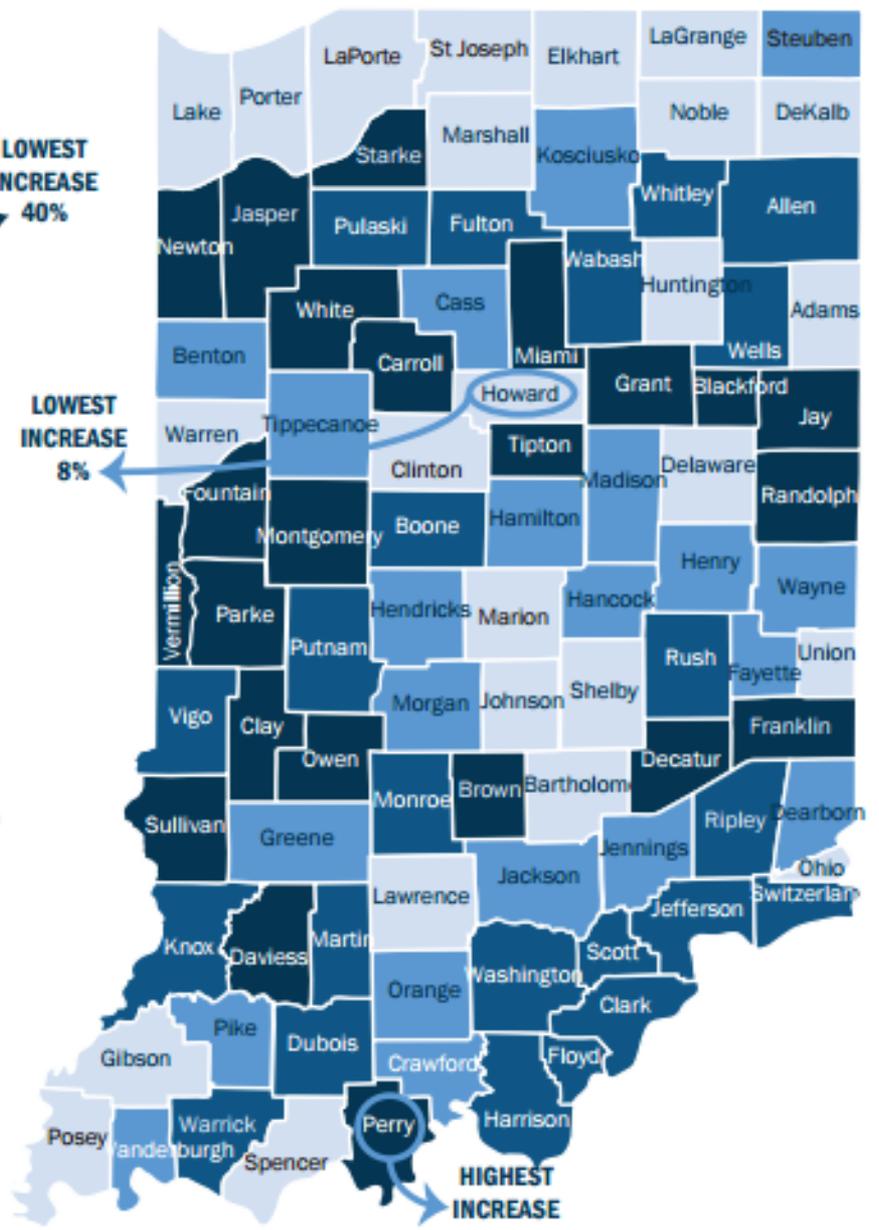
Percent Increase in the Standard, 1999-2016

40 - 69% 70 - 82% 85% - 98% 100 - 169%



Percent Increase in the Standard, 2009-2016

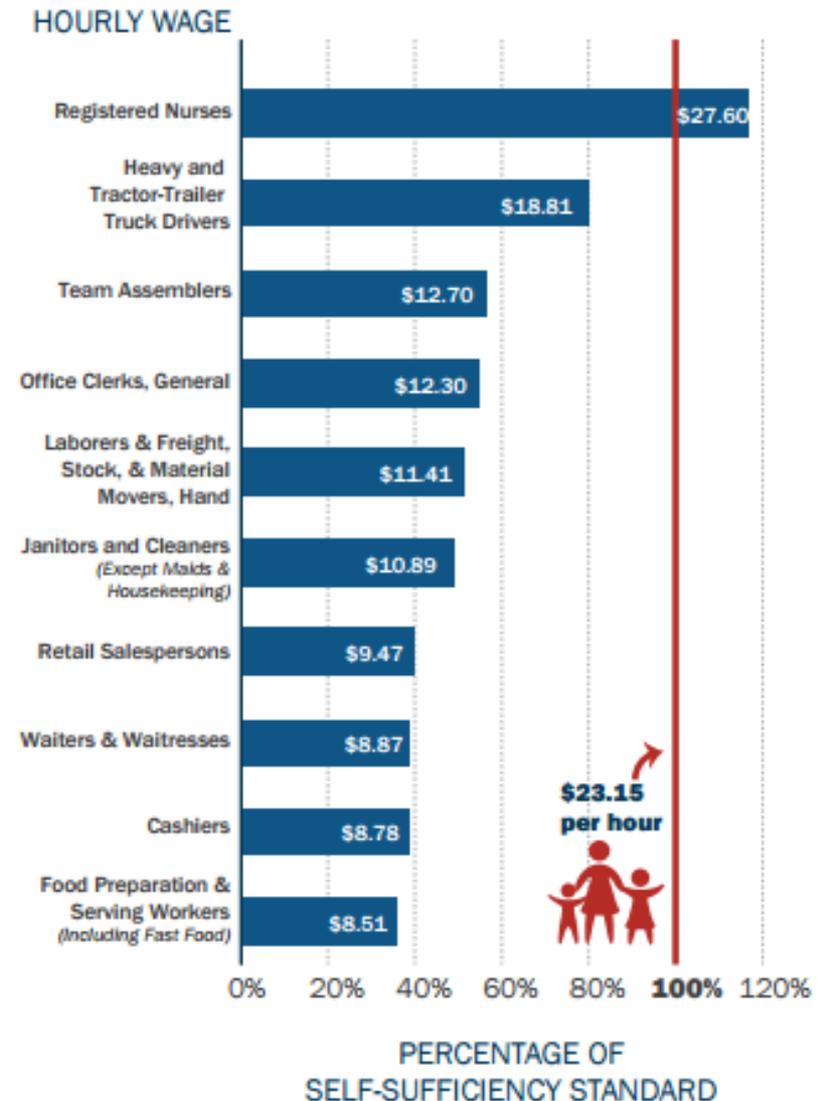
8 - 19% 20 - 26% 27 - 36% 37 - 71%



The most common Indiana occupation is retail salespersons and accounts for 3% of all Indiana workers. With median hourly earnings of \$9.47 per hour (median annual earnings of \$19,709), the most common occupation in Indiana provides workers with earnings that are less than 50% of the Standard for this family type in Marion County. In fact, two adults working full time at this wage would still not be able to earn the minimum needed to support a preschooler and a school-age child in Marion County

Both adults would have to work an additional 16 hours for a total of 56 hours per week at a retail salesperson's average wage just to meet their basic needs,

FIGURE I. Hourly Wages of Indiana's Ten Largest Occupations Compared to the Self-Sufficiency Standard for Marion County, IN 2016
One Adult, One Preschooler, & One School-age Child



Single Parent, One Pre-K, One School-age Child

- Including the value of tax credits, at the minimum wage she would need to work about 82 hours a week to meet the cost of her basic needs.
- If tax credits are excluded from current income (as they are actually received the next year at tax filing), she would need to work 130 hours a week to meet her basic needs.

WHAT IT REALLY TAKES TO BE SELF-SUFFICIENT IN INDIANA

HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH? APPLYING THE SELF-SUFFICIENCY STANDARD AT A GLANCE

BASIC BUDGET NEEDS FOR THIS COUNTY



1 ADULT



1 ADULT
1 PRESCHOOLER
1 SCHOOL-AGE



2 ADULTS
1 PRESCHOOLER
1 SCHOOL-AGE

MONTHLY COSTS

Housing	\$526	\$666	\$666
Child Care	\$0	\$942	\$942
Food	\$230	\$526	\$722
Transportation	\$241	\$248	\$472
Health Care	\$177	\$484	\$544
Miscellaneous	\$117	\$287	\$336
Taxes	\$256	\$608	\$667
Earned Income Tax Credit (-)	\$0	(\$60)	(\$26)
Child Care Tax Credit (-)	\$0	(\$105)	(\$100)
Child Tax Credit (-)	\$0	(\$167)	(\$167)
SELF-SUFFICIENCY WAGE			
Hourly (per adult)	\$9.00	\$20.00	\$12.00
Monthly	\$1,545	\$3,437	\$4,061
Annual	\$18,535	\$41,240	\$48,732



Annual child care expenses in this county
1 PRESCHOOLER + 1 SCHOOL-AGE CHILD

\$11,304

WHAT IT REALLY TAKES TO BE SELF-SUFFICIENT IN LAPORTE COUNTY, INDIANA

HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH? APPLYING THE SELF-SUFFICIENCY STANDARD AT A GLANCE

BASIC BUDGET NEEDS FOR THIS COUNTY



1 ADULT



1 ADULT
1 PRESCHOOLER
1 SCHOOL-AGE



2 ADULTS
1 PRESCHOOLER
1 SCHOOL-AGE

MONTHLY COSTS

Housing	\$560	\$750	\$750
Child Care	\$0	\$1,070	\$1,070
Food	\$218	\$499	\$685
Transportation	\$239	\$268	\$468
Health Care	\$178	\$486	\$546
Miscellaneous	\$120	\$305	\$352
Taxes	\$252	\$685	\$718
Earned Income Tax Credit (-)	\$0	(\$0)	(\$0)
Child Care Tax Credit (-)	\$0	(\$100)	(\$100)
Child Tax Credit (-)	\$0	(\$167)	(\$167)
SELF-SUFFICIENCY WAGE			
Hourly (per adult)	\$8.90	\$21.45	\$12.28
Monthly	\$1,567	\$3,775	\$4,323
Annual	\$18,802	\$45,302	\$51,877



Annual child care expenses in this county
1 PRESCHOOLER + 1 SCHOOL-AGE CHILD

\$12,840

WHAT IT REALLY TAKES TO BE SELF-SUFFICIENT IN MARION COUNTY, INDIANA

HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH? APPLYING THE SELF-SUFFICIENCY STANDARD AT A GLANCE

BASIC BUDGET NEEDS FOR THIS COUNTY



1 ADULT



1 ADULT
1 PRESCHOOLER
1 SCHOOL-AGE



2 ADULTS
1 PRESCHOOLER
1 SCHOOL-AGE

MONTHLY COSTS

Housing	\$628	\$781	\$781
Child Care	\$0	\$1,160	\$1,160
Food	\$230	\$526	\$722
Transportation	\$247	\$255	\$485
Health Care	\$183	\$503	\$563
Miscellaneous	\$129	\$322	\$371
Taxes	\$302	\$794	\$840
Earned Income Tax Credit (-)	\$0	(\$0)	(\$0)
Child Care Tax Credit (-)	\$0	(\$100)	(\$100)
Child Tax Credit (-)	\$0	(\$167)	(\$167)
SELF-SUFFICIENCY WAGE			
Hourly (per adult)	\$9.77	\$23.15	\$13.23
Monthly	\$1,720	\$4,075	\$4,656
Annual	\$20,637	\$48,897	\$55,872



Annual child care expenses in this county
1 PRESCHOOLER + 1 SCHOOL-AGE CHILD

\$13,920

How to use the Self-Sufficiency Calculator:

www.incap.org

www.indianaselfsufficiencystandard.org



CASE MANAGER AREA ▶

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RESOURCES

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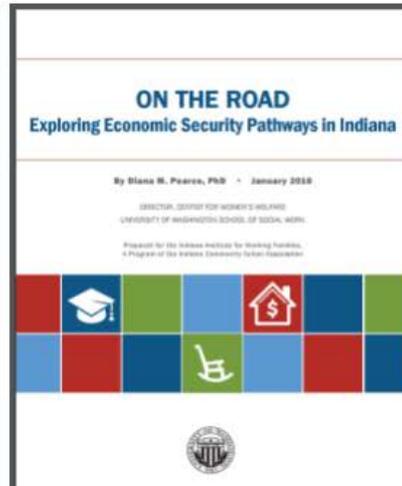
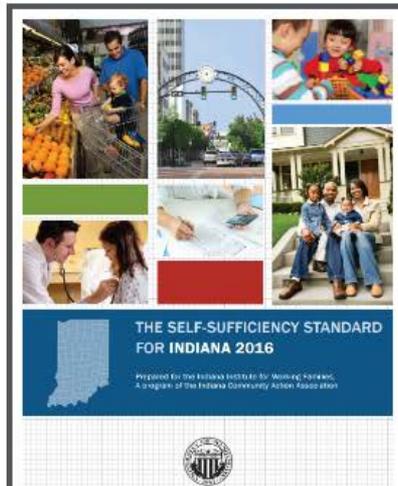
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2016 Indiana Self-Sufficiency Standard Calculator

The Self-Sufficiency Standard measures how much income is needed for a family of a certain composition in a given place to adequately meet their basic needs - without public or private assistance. The Standard makes it possible to determine if families' incomes are enough to meet basic needs.

TRY THE CALCULATOR ▶

A Program of **INCAA**
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ndustri... SBA: Budget Committee Misc ARRA Networker

INDIANA INSTITUTE FOR WORKING FAMILIES

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Indiana Self-Sufficiency Standard Calculator

Enter your profile below to calculate your Self-Sufficiency Standard wage.

The Standard defines children as:

- ✓ Infants as 2 yrs. old and under
- ✓ Preschoolers as 3-5 years old
- ✓ Schoolage as 6-12 years old
- ✓ Teenagers as 13-18 years old

Select Your County

- Select County -

Number of Adults

One Adult Two Adults

Number of Children

Child #1 None Infant Preschool Schoolage Teenager

Child #2 None Infant Preschool Schoolage Teenager

Child #3 None Infant Preschool Schoolage Teenager

CALCULATE

Help Spread the Word!

Let your friends and family know about our project by [becoming a fan on Facebook.](#)

Recent Publications

New Census Data Highlights the Recession's Toll on Indiana and US [Download Publication](#)

1. Read the Instructions
2. Select County
3. Select Number of Adults in the house
4. Select the Number of Children and their ages

Indiana Self-Sufficiency Standard Calculator

Enter your profile below to calculate your Self-Sufficiency Standard wage.

The Standard defines children as:

- ✓ Infants as 2 yrs. old and under
- ✓ Preschoolers as 3-5 years old
- ✓ Schoolage as 6-12 years old
- ✓ Teenagers as 13-18 years old



Below are the figures for LaPorte County based on 1 Adult(s), 1 Preschool, 1 Schoolage.

Monthly Costs

\$750	Housing
\$1,070	Child Care
\$499	Food
\$247	Transportation
\$486	Health Care
\$305	Miscellaneous
\$684.70	Taxes
\$0.00	Earned Income Tax Credit (-)
\$-100.00	Child Care Tax Credit (-)
\$-166.67	Child Tax Credit (-)

Self-Sufficiency Wage

\$21.45	Hourly (per adult)
\$3,775	Monthly (per household)
\$45,302	Annual (per household)

Additional Monthly Expenses

\$131.62	Emergency Fund
----------	----------------

 [Download Data to Excel](#)

Career Opportunities in Your Area

- ✓ [Accountants and Auditors](#)
- ✓ [Carpenters](#)

The results represent the average monthly cost for this family type in LaPorte County

A Single Parent, with one Preschool-aged and one School-aged child must earn \$21.45 an hour in order to be Self-Sufficient

In Addition, the results also include a downloadable excel sheet and a list of possible career opportunities that will pay the self-sufficient wage that is necessary.

Downloadable Excel Feature

Indiana Institute
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Research and Public Policy

Indiana Self-Sufficiency Standard Calculator

Family Type: 0 Adult(s), 1 Infant(s), 1 Preschool, 1 Schoolage, 1 Teenage County: LaPorte

	Self-Sufficiency Budget	Current Expenses	New Budget Goal
Housing	\$750		
Childcare	\$1,070		
Food	\$499		
Transportation	\$247		
Healthcare	\$486		
Misc	\$305		
Taxes	\$685		
Emergency Fund	\$132		
Earned Income Tax Credit	\$0		
Childcare Tax Credit	-\$100		
Child Tax Credit	-\$167		
Hourly Wage	\$21.45		
Monthly Wage	\$3,775		
Annual Wage	\$45,302		

The Calculator's "Career and Training" Feature

Self-Sufficiency Wage

\$21.45 **Hourly** (per adult)

\$3,775 **Monthly** (per household)

\$45,302 **Annual** (per household)

Additional Monthly Expenses

\$131.62 **Emergency Fund**

 [Download Data to Excel](#)

Career Opportunities in Your Area

- ✓ [Accountants and Auditors](#)
- ✓ [Carpenters](#)
- ✓ [Civil Engineers](#)
- ✓ [Computer and Information Systems Managers](#)
- ✓ [Computer Systems Analysts](#)
- ✓ [Construction Laborers](#)
- ✓ [Construction Managers](#)
- ✓ [Cost Estimators](#)

1. IMPORTANT: This job list does not reflect CURRENT JOB OPENINGS!
2. All of the jobs listed will pay AT LEAST the "hourly/per adult" wage listed as Self-Sufficient above.
3. Click on jobs that are of interest to learn about the job and training opportunities.

The Calculator's "Career and Training" Feature (cont'd)

Career Opportunity:

Registered Nurses 

Registered nurses (RNs) provide and coordinate patient care, educate patients and the public about various health conditions, and provide advice and emotional support to patients and their family members. (Source: BLS Occupational Outlook Handbook)

In LaPorte County

Hourly Wage: \$30.26 

[How to Become One](#)

Education or Training Available*

- ✓ Nursing
Ivy Tech Community College
Program Length: 45-65 credit hours depending on program selected
Phone Number: 888-IVY-LINE
[Visit Their Website](#)
- ✓ Nursing 
Ivy Tech Community College
Program Length: 45-65 credit hours depending on program selected
Phone Number: 888-IVY-LINE
[Visit Their Website](#)
- ✓ Nursing
University Of Saint Francis Crown Point
Program Length: See program website
Phone Number:
[Visit Their Website](#)

When you click on a career option you will be taken to this screen.

At the top, you will see a description of the job. Near the middle arrow, you will see the average wage that people in this profession earn, in the specified region. As well as the education and training requirements.

At the third arrow, you will see the REGIONAL education and training opportunities offered to complete the necessary credentialing.

Next: Case Managers' Area



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CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Registered Nurses

Registered nurses (RNs) provide and coordinate patient care, educate patients and the public about various health conditions, and provide advice and emotional support to patients and their family members. (Source: BLS Occupational Outlook Handbook)

Icons: Shopping cart, Car, House, People, Medical cross, Plant growing from coins.

In LaPorte County

Hourly Wage: \$30.26

[How to Become One](#)

Education or Training Available*

✓ Nursing

Ivy Tech Community College

Program Length: 45-65 credit hours depending on program selected

Phone Number: 888-IVY-LINE

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THE ROAD TO ECONOMIC SECURITY



The Self-Sufficiency Standard approach to economic security consists of three elements: securing the costs of daily basic needs, creating an emergency savings fund, and choosing the appropriate asset-building Economic Security Pathway(s).

STEP 1: SECURE BASIC NEEDS



STEP 2: CREATE AN EMERGENCY SAVINGS FUND



STEP 3: CHOOSE AN ECONOMIC SECURITY PATHWAY



Postsecondary Education



Improved housing Homeownership



Savings for Retirement

LONG-TERM ECONOMIC SECURITY



Step 2: Emergency Fund (by county)



STEP 2: CREATE AN EMERGENCY SAVINGS FUND

Beyond meeting basic needs the next step towards economic security is saving for emergencies, particularly job loss, the most common reason for income loss. Emergency savings, together with unemployment insurance, enable families to weather economic crises, and are an essential element on the road to achieving economic security.



Step 3: Economic Security Pathways

STEP 3: CHOOSE AN ECONOMIC SECURITY PATHWAY

Once a family has secured income at the Self-Sufficiency Standard level and instituted their emergency savings fund, the road to long-term economic security will be different for each. While there are many different options, depending on family circumstances, this report considers three key pathways that many families can take to move closer to long-term economic security: (1) postsecondary education, (2) improved housing and/or homeownership, and (3) savings for retirement.



**Postsecondary
Education**



**Improved housing
Homeownership**



**Savings for
Retirement**



**LONG-TERM
ECONOMIC
SECURITY**

Questions? Comments?



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