



SELF-SUFFICIENCY STANDARD FOR COLORADO 2015

Moffat County families need income more than two and a half times the federal poverty level to make ends meet

The income families need to pay basic expenses in Moffat County, such as housing, child care and food, is much higher than the government’s official federal poverty level. A Moffat County family with one adult and one preschooler, for example, needs annual income of \$39,932 to make ends meet, more than two times the federal benchmark.

Closing the wage gap between current wages and the Self-Sufficiency Standard requires both reducing costs and raising incomes. Most individuals cannot achieve self-sufficiency through stopgap measures or in a single step, but require transitional work supports, the removal of barriers and guidance to help meet monthly expenses as families work toward self-sufficiency over time. Key to raising incomes is access to education, training, and jobs that provide real potential for skill and career advancement over the long term. Public policies that value the goal of making work pay are necessary to ensure access to jobs with self-sufficient wages.

The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Colorado 2015 defines the income realistically needed to support a family, without public or private assistance. The full 2015 report is online at <http://bit.ly/1e3yIs7>.

The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Moffat County, CO 2015

MONTHLY COSTS	Adult	Adult + Preschooler	Adult + Infant Preschooler	Adult + Preschooler School-age	Adult + School-age Teenager	Adult + Infant + Preschooler + School-age	2 Adults + Infant + Preschooler	2 Adults + Preschooler School-age
Housing	584	743	743	743	743	1095	743	743
Child Care	0	719	1511	1104	385	1897	1511	1104
Food	273	415	544	625	723	737	780	858
Transportation	259	267	267	267	267	267	508	508
Health Care	157	456	466	477	507	488	517	528
Miscellaneous	127	260	353	322	263	448	406	374
Taxes	274	606	865	736	460	1171	923	778
Earned Income Tax Credit (-)	0	0	0	0	-140	0	0	0
Child Care Tax Credit (-)	0	-55	-100	-100	-60	-100	-100	-100
Child Tax Credit (-)	0	-83	-167	-167	-167	-250	-167	-167
SELF-SUFFICIENCY WAGE								
HOURLY	\$9.51	\$18.91	\$25.47	\$22.77	\$16.94	\$32.69	\$14.55	\$13.14
MONTHLY	\$1,674	\$3,328	\$4,483	\$4,008	\$2,982	\$5,753	\$5,122	\$4,627
ANNUAL	\$20,090	\$39,932	\$53,801	\$48,095	\$35,778	\$69,035	\$61,465	\$55,520
EMERGENCY SAVINGS (Monthly Contribution)	\$25	\$57	\$104	\$92	\$74	\$163	\$48	\$47