



SELF-SUFFICIENCY STANDARD FOR COLORADO 2015

San Juan 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 San Juan County, such as housing, child care and food, is much higher than the government’s official federal poverty level. A San Juan County family with one adult and one preschooler, for example, needs annual income of \$40,246 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 San Juan 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	759	1027	1027	1027	1027	1513	1027	1027
Child Care	0	402	928	731	329	1256	928	731
Food	303	459	603	692	801	816	864	950
Transportation	255	263	263	263	263	263	501	501
Health Care	157	456	466	477	507	488	517	528
Miscellaneous	147	261	329	319	293	434	384	374
Taxes	367	624	779	744	665	1133	838	801
Earned Income Tax Credit (-)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child Care Tax Credit (-)	0	-55	-100	-100	-50	-100	-100	-100
Child Tax Credit (-)	0	-83	-167	-167	-167	-250	-167	-167
SELF-SUFFICIENCY WAGE								
HOURLY	\$11.30	\$19.06	\$23.45	\$22.66	\$20.85	\$31.55	\$13.61 per adult	\$13.19 per adult
MONTHLY	\$1,988	\$3,354	\$4,128	\$3,988	\$3,669	\$5,553	\$4,791	\$4,645
ANNUAL	\$23,857	\$40,246	\$49,534	\$47,855	\$44,025	\$66,637	\$57,496	\$55,734
EMERGENCY SAVINGS (Monthly Contribution)	\$28	\$57	\$97	\$91	\$74	\$154	\$47	\$47