



The Self Sufficiency Standard for Mississippi – Covington County

The Self Sufficiency Standard of Mississippi is a measure of how much a family of a certain structure in a geographic area needs to earn to meet their needs without public or private assistance. The Self Sufficiency Standard varies by family size, composition, children’s age, and geographic location.

How much is enough in Covington County?

The Self Sufficiency Standard includes the following expenses: housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, miscellaneous expenses and taxes. The Self Sufficiency Standard also subtracts tax credits from the other expenses to calculate the given wages. The Standard is a conservative measure that does not include items such as debt repayment, eating out or savings of any kind. It represents a minimum adequate wage needed to live without any assistance. The table below illustrates the Self Sufficiency Standard for eight different family types in Covington County.

Self Sufficiency for Covington County – Selected Family Types

MONTHLY COSTS	Adult	Adult + Preschooler	Adult + Infant Preschooler	Adult + Preschooler Schoolage	Adult + Schoolage Teenager	Adult + Infant Preschooler Schoolage	2 Adults+ Infant Preschooler	2 Adults + Preschooler Schoolage
Housing	446	536	536	536	536	672	536	536
Child Care	0	340	683	488	149	832	683	488
Food	215	325	426	486	563	573	611	668
Transportation	251	258	258	258	258	258	492	492
Health Care	138	383	397	405	434	419	461	469
Miscellaneous	105	184	230	217	194	275	278	265
Taxes	198	288	362	317	239	460	438	392
Earned Income Tax Credit (-)	0	-157	-199	-243	-322	-136	-158	-203
Child Care Tax Credit (-)	0	-67	-80	-60	-22	-108	-86	-64
Child Tax Credit (-)	0	-83	-167	-167	-167	-250	-167	-167
Making Work Pay Tax Credit (-)	-33	-33	-33	-33	-33	-33	-67	-67
SELF-SUFFICIENCY WAGE								
HOURLY	\$7.50	\$11.21	\$13.71	\$12.53	\$10.39	\$16.83	\$8.59 per adult	\$7.98 per adult
MONTHLY	\$1,320	\$1,973	\$2,413	\$2,206	\$1,829	\$2,963	\$3,022	\$2,810
ANNUAL	\$15,840	\$23,679	\$28,959	\$26,467	\$21,943	\$35,555	\$36,270	\$33,717