



## The Self Sufficiency Standard for Mississippi – Forrest 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 Forrest 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 Forrest County.

### Self Sufficiency for Forrest 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	701	820	820	820	820	1068	820	820
Child Care	0	420	836	592	171	1008	836	592
Food	214	324	424	484	560	571	608	664
Transportation	247	253	253	253	253	253	483	483
Health Care	138	383	397	405	434	419	461	469
Miscellaneous	130	220	273	255	224	332	321	303
Taxes	292	459	584	478	356	762	635	543
Earned Income Tax Credit (-)	0	-49	-23	-106	-210	0	0	-64
Child Care Tax Credit (-)	0	-65	-115	-125	-48	-100	-100	-105
Child Tax Credit (-)	0	-83	-167	-167	-167	-250	-167	-167
Making Work Pay Tax Credit (-)	-33	-33	-33	-33	-33	-33	-67	-67
<b>SELF-SUFFICIENCY WAGE</b>								
HOURLY	\$9.59	\$15.05	\$18.46	\$16.23	\$13.41	\$22.89	\$10.88 per adult	\$9.86 per adult
MONTHLY	\$1,688	\$2,648	\$3,249	\$2,857	\$2,361	\$4,029	\$3,830	\$3,472
ANNUAL	\$20,254	\$31,776	\$38,993	\$34,279	\$28,332	\$48,351	\$45,960	\$41,660