



The Self Sufficiency Standard for Mississippi – Lee 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 Lee 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 Lee County.

Self Sufficiency for Lee 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	508	586	586	586	586	800	586	586
Child Care	0	340	683	488	149	832	683	488
Food	205	310	407	463	536	547	582	637
Transportation	241	248	248	248	248	248	471	471
Health Care	134	369	382	391	420	404	447	455
Miscellaneous	109	185	231	218	194	283	277	264
Taxes	209	289	362	316	236	504	430	382
Earned Income Tax Credit (-)	0	-155	-198	-242	-323	-103	-164	-210
Child Care Tax Credit (-)	0	-68	-81	-60	-22	-115	-83	-61
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	\$7.80	\$11.29	\$13.75	\$12.54	\$10.36	\$17.71	\$8.51 per adult	\$7.89 per adult
MONTHLY	\$1,373	\$1,987	\$2,420	\$2,207	\$1,824	\$3,116	\$2,996	\$2,778
ANNUAL	\$16,474	\$23,842	\$29,040	\$26,488	\$21,888	\$37,397	\$35,952	\$33,331