### What It Really Takes to Be Self-Sufficient in DeKalb County, Indiana

#### How Much Is Enough? Applying the Self-Sufficiency Standard at a Glance

**The Self-Sufficiency Standard Defined**

The Self-Sufficiency Standard calculates how much income families of various sizes and compositions need in order to make ends meet without public or private assistance.

#### Comparing Self-Sufficiency Wages with Minimum Wage and Poverty

The Self-Sufficiency Standard Wage for this county is **231%** of Minimum Wage.

The Self-Sufficiency Standard Wage for this county is **176%** of the Federal Poverty Line.

#### It Is Impossible to Be Self-Sufficient When an Adult Earns Only Minimum Wage

At the current federal minimum wage of $7.25 an hour, each adult in a family unit would have to work well more than 40 hours per week in order to meet basic needs without public or private assistance.

Compounding the problem, many minimum-wage-paying jobs do not offer full-time hours, requiring workers to balance multiple jobs and their schedules.

**HOURS:MINUTES PER WEEK**
- **92:30**
  - How much time one minimum-wage employee must work in order to earn enough for the entire family to be self-sufficient if the family consists of:
    - 1 ADULT
    - 1 PRESCHOOLER
    - 1 SCHOOL-AGE CHILD

**HOURS:MINUTES PER WEEK**
- **57:18**
  - How much time two minimum-wage employees each must work in order to earn enough for the two adults to be self-sufficient if the family consists of:
    - 2 ADULTS
    - 1 PRESCHOOLER
    - 1 SCHOOL-AGE CHILD

#### Basic Budget Needs for This County

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1 ADULT</th>
<th>1 ADULT 1 PRESCHOOLER 1 SCHOOL-AGE</th>
<th>2 ADULTS 1 PRESCHOOLER 1 SCHOOL-AGE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Child Tax Credit (-)</td>
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<td>($167)</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Self-Sufficiency Wage**

- Hourly (per adult): $8.65
- Monthly: $1,523
- Annual: $18,276

**Annual child care expenses in this county:**

- 1 PRESCHOOLER + 1 SCHOOL-AGE CHILD: **$9,204**

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**FOR MORE** To download the full report and data for all 472 family types, visit [www.indianaselfsufficiencystandard.org](http://www.indianaselfsufficiencystandard.org)