

Self-Sufficiency in Central Pennsylvania

The Self-Sufficiency Standard defines the amount of income necessary to meet basic needs (including taxes) without public subsidies and without private/informal assistance.

Hourly Self-Sufficiency Wages*	Annual Self-Sufficiency Wages*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centre County: \$24.13 • Clinton County: \$20.19 • Columbia County: \$21.45 • Lycoming County: \$19.61 • Mifflin County: \$20.12 • Montour County: \$24.14 • Northumberland County: \$20.58 • Snyder County: \$20.88 • Union County: \$21.27 • Central PA WDA: \$21.72 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centre County: \$50,200 • Clinton County: \$42,000 • Columbia County: \$44,600 • Lycoming County: \$40,800 • Mifflin County: \$41,800 • Montour County: \$50,200 • Northumberland County: \$42,800 • Snyder County: \$43,400 • Union County: \$44,200 • Central PA WDA: \$45,200

*Based on a family of one parent and one pre-school aged child

Basic Needs: Housing, Child Care, Food, Transportation, Health Care, Miscellaneous (Clothing, diapers, telephone, etc.), and Taxes and Tax Credits

Annual and hourly wages are based on a 2,080-hour work year

The Self-Sufficiency Standard is a budget-based measure of the real cost of living and an alternative to the official poverty measure. It determines the amount of income required for working families to meet basic needs at a minimally adequate level, taking into account family composition, ages of children, and geographic differences in costs. **The Self-Sufficiency Standard is available for over 700 family types** at the county-level from the Center for Women's Welfare (CWW).

For more information:

- www.cpwdc.org/workforce-trends/labor-market-reports/
- www.selfsufficiencystandard.org (Center for Women's Welfare)
- www.pathwayspa.org (CWW Partner)

Percent differences are based on the regional self-sufficiency wage

Household Income	Jobs	Other Comparisons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Households: 240,300 • Median Household Income: \$52,700 (+16.7%) • 104,600 households have income of less than \$45,000 ○ 43.5% of all households 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Jobs: 284,400 • Average Occupational Wage: \$21.97/hour (+1.1%) • 180,400 jobs pay less than \$21.72 ○ 63.4% of all jobs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2019 Self-Sufficiency: \$21.51 ○ Increase of 1.0% • Consumer Price Index increased by 1.0% (2019-2020*) • PA minimum hourly wage: \$7.25/hour (-66.6%) • 2019 Federal Poverty Threshold: \$17,600 (-61.0%)
<small>--U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey</small>	<small>--EMSI, 2020.4; jobs based on 2019 estimates; wages based on average occupational wages; occupational wages do not include benefits</small>	<small>--Consumer Price Index provided by U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; *2020 data available from January through September ---EMSI, 2020.4; jobs based on 2019 estimates; wages based on average occupational wages; occupational wages do not include benefits -Poverty</small>