
Data Sources and Methodology for the Self-Sufficiency Standard Calculator

Self-Sufficiency Standard Budget and Wages

The methodology for the Self-Sufficiency Standard, developed by Dr. Diana Pearce, is used to calculate how much a family needs to meet their basic needs without private or public subsidies and the resulting budget and self-sufficiency wages are displayed in the calculator for each of Indiana's 92 counties and for 70 family types. This methodology is explained in full in the report, *The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Indiana 2009*, on pages 39-44. The full report can be found online at: www.indianaselfsufficiencystandard.org/resources.php; and www.incap.org/iwfrandP.html.

Career Opportunities and Education and Training Requirements

In order to link the self-sufficiency wages to careers and education and training opportunities in each county, the Institute relied on three main data sources:

- **Hoosier Hot 50 Jobs by Region** - The 2010 Hoosier Hot 50 Jobs are based on an index of eight weighted occupational measures of growth by 2018 and opportunity for Hoosier workers. The 2010 Hoosier Hot 50 Jobs were selected based on Indiana's Occupational Projections and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey, both produced by Indiana's Department of Workforce Development. This data source is compiled for 13 Economic Growth Regions in Indiana and lists the high-wage, high-demand jobs that are projected to grow for each of the regions. This list also has a regionally specific wage for each of the jobs listed. The career opportunities listed for a specific family type were chosen based on the geographic and wage parameters given on the Hoosier Hot 50. This data can be accessed at: <https://netsolutions.dwd.in.gov/hh50/RegionalDownloads.aspx>.
- **Occupational Outlook Handbook** - This handbook is produced by the U.S. Department of Labor. For hundreds of jobs the handbooks gives you job descriptions, the training and education needed for jobs, earnings, expected job prospects, what workers do on the job, and working conditions. In addition, the handbook gives you job search tips and links to information about the job market in each state. The handbook can be accessed at: www.bls.gov/oco/.

- **INTraining Web Site** – This web site is maintained and operated by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. This web site is where the information connecting careers from the Hoosier Hot 50 to specific education and training programs is from. It is available in each Economic Growth Region across Indiana. INTraining presents a broad and diverse selection of occupational training choices to support the employment goals of Indiana's workforce. All training providers and programs are compliant with the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and Indiana state policy. When INTraining did not list a training for a job on the Hoosier Hot 50 for a specific region, the information was gathered from the local Ivy Tech Community College, or State University. This web site can be accessed at: <https://solutions.dwd.in.gov/INTraining/index.htm>

By linking these sources of information and data the Institute is able to link self-sufficiency wages to in-demand careers within a specific region, and then link individuals to local education and training opportunities.

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