

2011 Living Wage Study Notes

Rent:

\$811.00/month One-Bedroom = \$9,732/year

6.29% increase in cost of housing from 2008

Efficiency: \$789, 2BR: \$950, 3BR: \$1,150, 4BR: \$1,192

Source:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development: Final FY 2011 Fair Market Rent Documentation System

http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/fmr/fmrs/FY2011_code/2011summary.odn

Food:

\$203.60/month = \$2,443.20

Low-cost Official USDA Food Plan: Average of male and female ages 19-50

Monthly cost of food on low-cost plan:

Men 19-50 years: \$217.90

Women 19-50 years: \$189.30

Average of men and women: \$203.60

Source: Official USDA Food Plans: Cost of Food at Home at Four Levels, U.S. Average, December 2010

<http://www.cnpp.usda.gov/USDAFoodCost-Home.htm>

<http://www.cnpp.usda.gov/Publications/FoodPlans/2010/CostofFoodDec10.pdf>

Transportation:

\$179.03/month = \$2,148.36/year

Population of Tompkins County: 100,583

56.9% Drive Alone, 11.9% Carpool, 5.9% Public Transportation, 16.4% Walk, 1.5% Bike, 1% Other, 6.3% work at home

Transportation cost according to BLS = \$1,498 (gasoline/motor oil) + \$1,872 (other, including insurance, maintenance and repairs, vehicle finance charges, licenses) = \$3,370

Cost of annual bus pass on TCAT= \$450

Drive alone: $\$3,370 \times 0.569 = \$1,917.53$

Drive in car pool, divided by 2: $\$3,370/2 (0.119) = \200.52

Public transportation: $\$450 \times 0.059 = \26.55

Bike: $(250)(.015) = \$3.75$

No transportation cost for walk or work at home

Total \$2,148.35/year

Source:

[http://www.tompkins-co.org/itctc/Statistics/Journey-to-Work%20Summary_TompCounty%20\(2010\).pdf](http://www.tompkins-co.org/itctc/Statistics/Journey-to-Work%20Summary_TompCounty%20(2010).pdf)

<http://www.bls.gov/cex/2009/Standard/quintile.pdf>

<http://cctompkins.org/community/way2go/cars>
http://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_pri_gnd_a_epm0_pte_dpgal_a.htm
<http://www.ithacacarshare.org/>

Communication:

\$44.99+\$15 taxes and fees/month = \$719.88/year
Verizon local calling and internet service Upstate New York

Source:
Verizon, www.verizon.com

Healthcare:

\$103.16 + \$69.92 = \$173.08/month = \$2,076.96 year
Health Insurance: \$103.16/month = \$1,237.96 Annual average premium for Employee (while premiums have increased, some staff have HSAs at reduced premiums)
Out of pocket expenses:
Consumer Expenditure Survey 2009:
Medical services: \$446
Drugs: \$326
Medical supplies: \$67
Total: \$839/12 = \$69.92/month

Sources: Alternatives Federal Credit Union
Bureau of Labor Statistics 2007 Consumer Expenditure Survey: Table – Region of Residence:
<http://www.bls.gov/cex/2009/Standard/cusize.pdf>

Recreation:

\$101.62/month = \$1,219.44/year
Activities important to employee work-life balance
Based on previous studies, a minimum of \$100/month is required. Increased by inflation 1.62%

Savings:

\$60.78/month = \$729.36/year
Adjusted from 2008 by inflation rate over the last two years of 1.62%

NET (SUBTOTAL) BEFORE TAX = \$20,394.72/YEAR

Miscellaneous:

\$110.46/month = \$1,325.50/ year
Housekeeping Supplies = \$345
Average Apparel cost for men and women 16 and over = \$290.50
Footwear = \$177
Other apparel products and services \$168

Personal care and services = \$345

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

<http://www.bls.gov/cex/2009/Standard/cusize.pdf>