

## Basic Economic Security Tables

### Workers with Benefits

2 worker(s), 1 preschooler(s), 1 schoolage

	Wisconsin Crawford County	Wisconsin Statewide Average	Wisconsin Dane County	Minnesota Statewide Average
Housing	\$518	\$665	\$924	\$757
Utilities	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Food	\$776	\$776	\$776	\$776
Transportation	\$971	\$931	\$938	\$1,037
Child Care	\$1,228	\$1,228	\$1,228	\$1,646
Personal & Household Items	\$483	\$537	\$634	\$561
Health Care	\$590	\$590	\$590	\$603
Emergency Savings	\$223	\$232	\$260	\$251
Retirement Savings	\$72	\$52	\$59	\$65
Taxes	\$1,129	\$1,199	\$1,343	\$1,544
Tax Credits	-\$176	-\$176	-\$178	-\$177
Monthly Total (per Worker)	\$2,907	\$3,017	\$3,287	\$3,532
Annual Total	\$69,768	\$72,408	\$78,888	\$84,756
Hourly Wage (per Worker)	\$16.52	\$17.14	\$18.68	\$20.07
<b>Additional Asset Building Savings</b>				
Children's Higher Education	\$175	\$175	\$175	\$242
Homeownership	\$97	\$152	\$249	\$182

## Workers without Benefits

2 worker(s), 1 preschooler(s), 1 schoolage

	Wisconsin Crawford County	Wisconsin Statewide Average	Wisconsin Dane County	Minnesota Statewide Average
Housing	\$518	\$665	\$924	\$757
Utilities	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Food	\$776	\$776	\$776	\$776
Transportation	\$971	\$931	\$938	\$1,037
Child Care	\$1,228	\$1,228	\$1,228	\$1,646
Personal & Household Items	\$483	\$537	\$634	\$561
Health Care	\$715	\$776	\$846	\$895
Emergency Savings	\$231	\$244	\$294	\$270
Retirement Savings	\$119	\$87	\$98	\$108
Taxes	\$1,162	\$1,270	\$1,499	\$1,717
Tax Credits	-\$176	-\$176	-\$178	-\$177
Monthly Total (per Worker)	\$3,014	\$3,169	\$3,530	\$3,795
Annual Total	\$72,324	\$76,056	\$84,708	\$91,080
Hourly Wage (per Worker)	\$17.13	\$18.01	\$20.06	\$21.56
<b>Additional Asset Building Savings</b>				
Children's Higher Education	\$175	\$175	\$175	\$242
Homeownership	\$97	\$152	\$249	\$182

The BEST Index measures the income a working adult requires to meet his or her basic needs.

Each BEST Index component is a conservative estimate of need; the BEST does not include any “extras” such as vacations, entertainment, electronics, gifts or meals out. As a result, those living below an economically secure income may be forced to go without, make difficult choices among basic needs or forgo economic security by not fully developing savings.

The BEST also includes basic savings that promote long-term and intergenerational economic security. BEST budgets include monthly emergency savings, which protects families from unforeseen expenses, and retirement savings, which helps workers achieve Elder Index economic security incomes in retirement. Two optional savings types—savings for children’s higher education and homeownership—are presented as additions to the core BEST budget.

All budget components are calculated using publicly available data, obtained from government and industry sources and market rate studies. For detailed information on expense components, including data sources and assumptions used in specific calculations, see the BEST Index expenses and savings definitions. Additional information can be found in The Basic Economic Security Tables: United States Methodology and Supplemental Data, available at [www.wowonline.org](http://www.wowonline.org).

Compare Your Budget to the BEST

Compare your monthly expenses to the BEST budget for your area to see how your expenses (or planned expenses) compare to the BEST.