

San Luis Obispo County The Real Cost Measure in California 2021



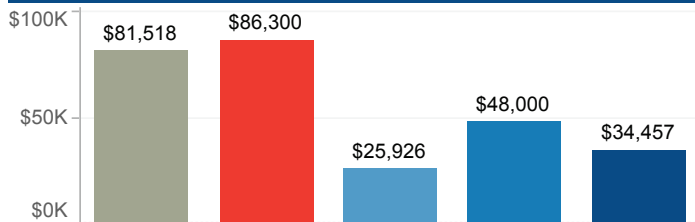
United Ways
of California

The Real Cost Measure (RCM) estimates the amount of income required to meet basic needs (the “Real Cost Budget”) for a given household type in a specific community. The Real Cost Measure builds a bare-bones budget that reflects constrained yet reasonable choices for essential expenses: housing, food, transportation, health care, taxes and child care.

If any results show blank values, that indicates the sample size is too small to illustrate Real Cost Measure results. Per our methodology, estimates with a cell size of greater than 5,000 are assumed to be accurate within +/-1% based on design factor analysis. Cell sizes less than 5,000 are suppressed.

| # of Households below Real Cost Measure | % of Households below Real Cost Measure | % of Households below Real Cost Measure with at least 1 Working Adult |
|---|---|---|
| 22,408 | 26% | 96% |

Annual Income Comparison (based on a household of 2 adults, 1 pre-schooler, 1 school-aged child)



*based on \$12.00 per hour, 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year.

- Median Adjusted HH Income
- RCM Budget
- Median Poverty Threshold
- 2 Minimum Wage Jobs*
- Supplemental Poverty Measure

Household Budgets

| | 1 Adult | 2 Adults | 2 Adults 1 Pre-schooler 1 School-aged |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Housing | \$12,708 | \$14,352 | \$18,504 |
| Food | \$4,128 | \$7,572 | \$11,688 |
| Health Care | \$2,364 | \$4,740 | \$9,480 |
| Child Care | \$0 | \$0 | \$17,448 |
| Transportation | \$5,376 | \$10,740 | \$10,740 |
| Miscellaneous | \$2,460 | \$3,744 | \$6,780 |
| Taxes/Credits | \$4,703 | \$5,907 | \$11,660 |
| FINAL BUDGET | \$31,739 | \$47,055 | \$86,300 |

Households of color struggle disproportionately...

- Across the county, African Americans and Latinos have a disproportionate number of households with incomes below the Standard. In this area, of the 22,408 households below the Real Cost Measure, None are Latino.

Families with children face a larger barrier to economic security...

- None of households with children under six struggle, a rate much greater than that of the rest of the county.
- Single mothers are most likely to struggle. None in the county are below the Real Cost Measure.

Families work, but don't earn enough...

- 96% of households below RCM have at least one working adult.
- 63% of heads of household who work are employed full time and year round.
- A family of four (2 adults, 1 infant, 1 school-aged child) would need to hold more than 2 full time, minimum-wage jobs to achieve economic security.**

High housing costs are a major challenge for struggling households...

- 38% of all households in the county spend more than 30% of their income on housing.

**based on \$12.00 per hour, 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year.

Education # below RCM % below RCM

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-----|
| Less than High School | | |
| High School Diploma or Equivalent | | |
| Some College, Assoc. or Voc. | 9,958 | 34% |
| College degree or higher | 5,385 | 14% |

Ethnicity # below RCM % below RCM

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|-----|
| Latino | | |
| African American | | |
| Asian American/Pacific Islander | | |
| White | 16,501 | 25% |
| Native American/Alaska Native | | |

Household Type # below RCM % below RCM

| | | |
|-------------------|-------|-----|
| Single Mothers | | |
| Seniors | | |
| Married Couples | 7,134 | 21% |
| Informal Families | 8,183 | 40% |

Citizenship/Nativity # below RCM % below RCM

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------|-----|
| Foreign Born, Non-Citizen | | |
| Foreign Born, Naturalized | | |
| Born a US Citizen | 18,855 | 25% |

Support for this county profile is made possible by Wacker Wealth Partners.

Findings drawn from The Real Cost Measure in California 2021, by United Ways of California in partnership with B3 Consults. Data calculated for this geographic profile is from 2019. For detailed methodology, visit <http://unitedwaysca.org/realcost>.