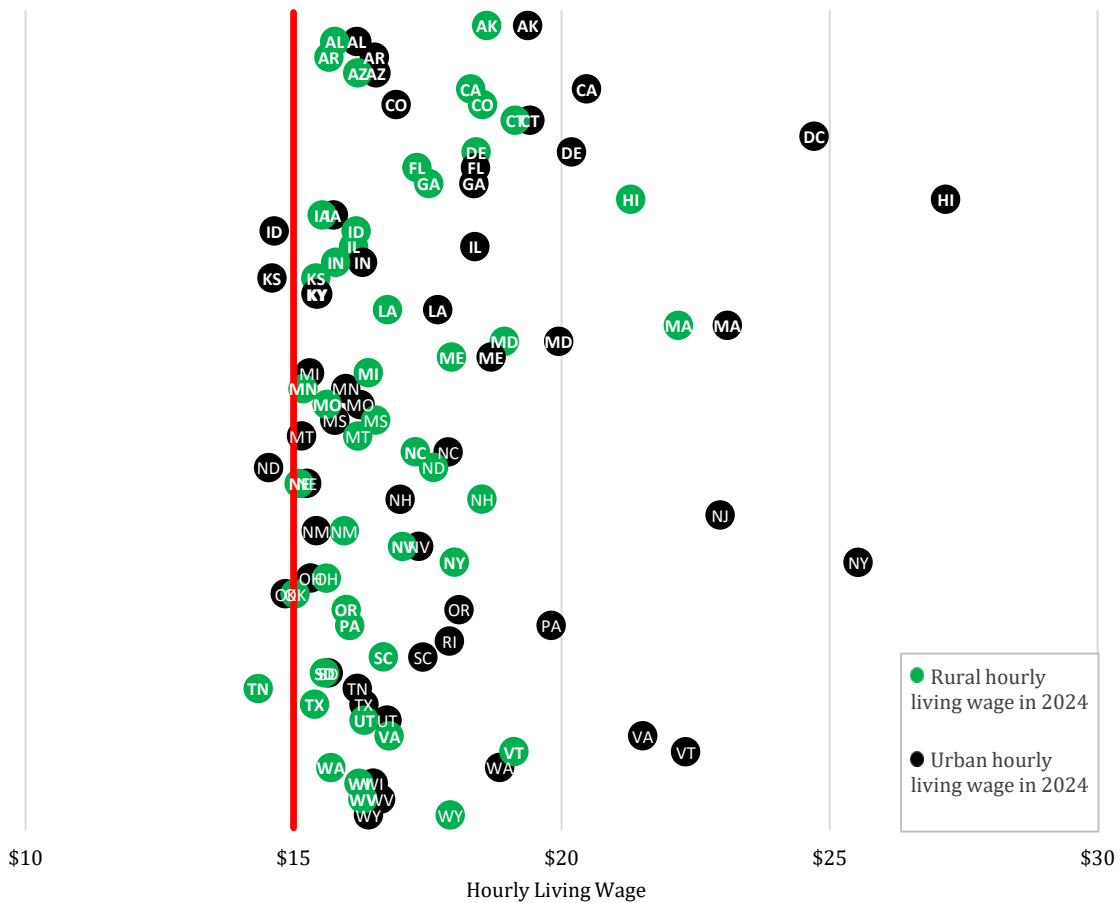


Workers in All 50 States Will Need \$15 an Hour by 2024 to Afford the Basics

Think the \$15 minimum wage is just a New York and California thing? Cost of living data from the Economic Policy Institute shows that in all fifty states—in both rural and urban areas—\$15 an hour is the minimum wage that a single adult working full-time will need by 2024 to cover basic living expenses—including rent, food, transportation, health care, and taxes. And workers in expensive regions, or workers with children, will need even more. The Raise the Wage Act would increase the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour by 2024. To learn more, visit www.nelp.org.

Hourly Living Wage in 2024, Fifty States and the District of Columbia

In the chart below, hourly living wages for rural and urban workers across the fifty states and the District of Columbia are clustered above the \$15 mark (vertical red line).



Hourly living wage figures calculated based on the Economic Policy Institute’s [Family Budget Calculator](http://www.epi.com/family-budget-calculator), applying Congressional Budget Office Consumer Price Index projections to update them to 2024. Urban hourly living wage calculated using cost of living in each state’s largest metropolitan areas. Rural hourly living wage calculated using each state’s average rural cost of living. The District of Columbia, New Jersey, and Rhode Island do not have rural areas.

Annual Cost of Living and Hourly Living Wage in Rural and Urban Areas Across the U.S., 2024

State	Metropolitan Area	Urban		Rural		
		Annual Cost of Living in 2024	Hourly Living Wage in 2024	Rural Area	Annual Cost of Living in 2024	Hourly Living Wage in 2024
AK	Anchorage	\$40,290	\$19.37	Rural average	\$38,699	\$18.61
AL	Birmingham	\$33,649	\$16.18	Rural average	\$32,796	\$15.77
AR	Little Rock	\$34,333	\$16.51	Rural average	\$32,569	\$15.66
AZ	Phoenix	\$34,397	\$16.54	Rural average	\$33,686	\$16.20
CA	Los Angeles	\$42,572	\$20.47	Rural average	\$38,074	\$18.30
CO	Denver	\$35,181	\$16.91	Rural average	\$38,533	\$18.53
CT	Hartford	\$40,368	\$19.41	Rural average	\$39,797	\$19.13
DC	Washington	\$51,400	\$24.71	Rural average	N/A	N/A
DE	Wilmington	\$41,989	\$20.19	Rural average	\$38,287	\$18.41
FL	Miami	\$38,262	\$18.40	Rural average	\$35,985	\$17.30
GA	Atlanta	\$38,200	\$18.37	Rural average	\$36,443	\$17.52
HI	Honolulu	\$56,511	\$27.17	Rural average	\$44,284	\$21.29
IA	Des Moines	\$32,741	\$15.74	Rural average	\$32,312	\$15.53
ID	Boise	\$30,456	\$14.64	Rural average	\$33,628	\$16.17
IL	Chicago	\$38,237	\$18.38	Rural average	\$33,524	\$16.12
IN	Indianapolis	\$33,873	\$16.28	Rural average	\$32,834	\$15.79
KS	Wichita	\$30,357	\$14.59	Rural average	\$32,069	\$15.42
KY	Louisville	\$32,070	\$15.42	Rural average	\$32,141	\$15.45
LA	New Orleans	\$36,796	\$17.69	Rural average	\$34,850	\$16.75
MA	Boston	\$48,030	\$23.09	Rural average	\$46,137	\$22.18
MD	Baltimore	\$41,484	\$19.94	Rural average	\$39,381	\$18.93
ME	Portland	\$38,865	\$18.69	Rural average	\$37,335	\$17.95
MI	Detroit	\$31,817	\$15.30	Rural average	\$34,107	\$16.40
MN	Minneapolis-St. Paul	\$33,222	\$15.97	Rural average	\$31,572	\$15.18
MO	St. Louis	\$33,782	\$16.24	Rural average	\$32,502	\$15.63
MS	Jackson	\$32,799	\$15.77	Rural average	\$34,390	\$16.53
MT	Billings	\$31,513	\$15.15	Rural average	\$33,688	\$16.20
NC	Charlotte	\$37,201	\$17.89	Rural average	\$35,924	\$17.27
ND	Fargo	\$30,234	\$14.54	Rural average	\$36,619	\$17.61
NE	Omaha	\$31,714	\$15.25	Rural average	\$31,421	\$15.11
NH	Manchester	\$35,342	\$16.99	Rural average	\$38,511	\$18.51
NJ	Newark	\$47,755	\$22.96	Rural average	N/A	N/A
NM	Albuquerque	\$32,078	\$15.42	Rural average	\$33,171	\$15.95
NV	Las Vegas	\$36,056	\$17.33	Rural average	\$35,431	\$17.03
NY	New York	\$53,107	\$25.53	Rural average	\$37,444	\$18.00
OH	Cleveland	\$31,858	\$15.32	Rural average	\$32,471	\$15.61
OK	Oklahoma City	\$30,879	\$14.85	Rural average	\$31,262	\$15.03
OR	Portland	\$37,626	\$18.09	Rural average	\$33,242	\$15.98
PA	Philadelphia	\$41,204	\$19.81	Rural average	\$33,384	\$16.05
RI	Providence	\$37,247	\$17.91	Rural average	N/A	N/A
SC	Columbia	\$36,215	\$17.41	Rural average	\$34,685	\$16.68
SD	Sioux Falls	\$32,555	\$15.65	Rural average	\$32,405	\$15.58
TN	Nashville	\$33,678	\$16.19	Rural average	\$29,830	\$14.34
TX	Houston	\$33,929	\$16.31	Rural average	\$32,015	\$15.39
UT	Salt Lake City	\$34,833	\$16.75	Rural average	\$33,945	\$16.32
VA	Virginia Beach	\$44,751	\$21.51	Rural average	\$34,914	\$16.79
VT	Burlington	\$46,420	\$22.32	Rural average	\$39,752	\$19.11
WA	Seattle	\$39,200	\$18.85	Rural average	\$32,646	\$15.70
WI	Milwaukee	\$34,291	\$16.49	Rural average	\$33,736	\$16.22
WV	Charleston	\$34,573	\$16.62	Rural average	\$33,893	\$16.29
WY	Cheyenne	\$34,102	\$16.40	Rural average	\$37,285	\$17.93

Annual cost of living and hourly living wage figures calculated based on the Economic Policy Institute's [Family Budget Calculator](#), applying Congressional Budget Office Consumer Price Index projections to update them to 2024. The District of Columbia, New Jersey, and Rhode Island do not have rural areas.