



2014 LIVING INCOME STANDARD

Mecklenburg County

The Budget & Tax Center's Living Income Standard (LIS) is a market-based measure of what it takes for a family to make ends meet. For too many families in North Carolina, rising costs and the growth of low-wage jobs has made it difficult to support their most basic needs. The LIS can provide support for measuring the quality of job creation and support local efforts to understand that for families to make ends meet, their wages must match the costs of basic household goods.

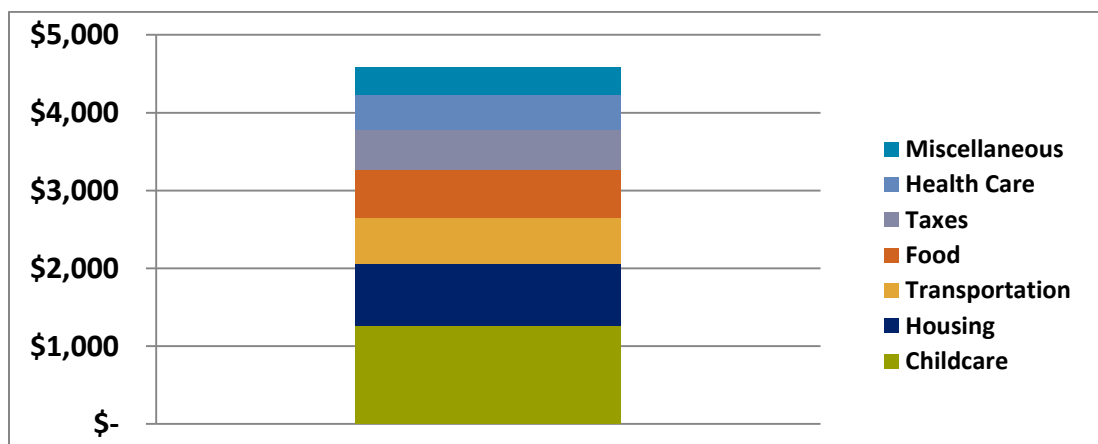
Family Type	Hourly LIS	Annual LIS
1 Adult, 1 Child	\$17.16	\$35,699
1 Adult, 2 Children	\$23.40	\$48,680
2 Adult, 2 Children	\$26.38	\$54,872
2 Adult, 3 Children	\$33.38	\$69,426

The Living Income Standard is

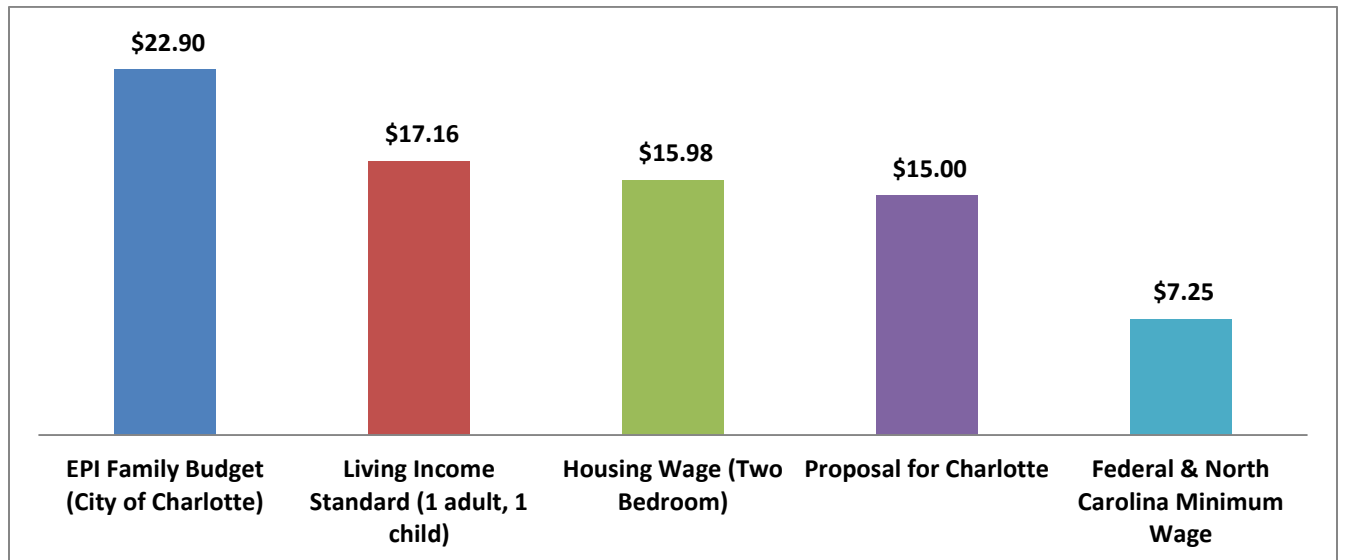
230 percent

of the Federal Poverty Level for Two-Person Family

Living Income Standard by a Family's Most Basic Needs



A wage floor of \$15 is closer to what it costs to make ends meet in Charlotte, NC.



Raising the pay of City of Charlotte workers boosts the economy.

- The City of Charlotte has a wage floor that is 71 percent of the Living Income Standard.
- The average pay of workers in local government in the Charlotte Metro Area has been flat since 2009.
- By setting a wage standard that reflects what it actually costs to make ends meet, local governments can provide workers with greater capacity to engage with the broader economy as well as increase the supply of economy-boosting jobs.
- Such a move can ensure Charlotte can compete for the best talent and reduce the costs of turnover and increase longevity.
- Such a move would position to compete with major metropolitan areas in the country, like New York and Los Angeles.
- Such a move signals to private employers that the City recognizes the value of workers as consumers who support demand for their goods and services.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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