

Poverty in America Living Wage Calculator

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Living Wage Calculation for Kentucky

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The living wage shown is the hourly rate that an individual must earn to support their family, if they are the sole provider and are working full-time (2080 hours per year). The state minimum wage is the same for all individuals, regardless of how many dependents they may have. The poverty rate is typically quoted as gross annual income. We have converted it to an hourly wage for the sake of comparison. Wages that are less than the living wage are shown in red.

Hourly Wages	1 Adult	1 Adult, 1 Child	1 Adult, 2 Children	1 Adult, 3 Children	2 Adults	2 Adults, 1 Child	2 Adults, 2 Children	2 Adults, 3 Children
Living Wage	\$7.91	\$16.79	\$21.09	\$26.58	\$12.82	\$15.77	\$17.18	\$20.15
Poverty Wage	\$5.21	\$7.00	\$8.80	\$10.60	\$7.00	\$8.80	\$10.60	\$12.40
Minimum Wage	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25

Typical Expenses

These figures show the individual expenses that went into the living wage estimate. Their values vary by family size, composition, and the current location.

Monthly Expenses	1 Adult	1 Adult, 1 Child	1 Adult, 2 Children	1 Adult, 3 Children	2 Adults	2 Adults, 1 Child	2 Adults, 2 Children	2 Adults, 3 Children
Food	\$242	\$357	\$536	\$749	\$444	\$553	\$713	\$904
Child Care	\$0	\$433	\$738	\$1,042	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Medical	\$110	\$333	\$352	\$337	\$232	\$327	\$307	\$316
Housing	\$449	\$620	\$620	\$824	\$509	\$620	\$620	\$824
Transportation	\$318	\$618	\$712	\$764	\$618	\$712	\$764	\$777
Other	\$63	\$149	\$195	\$257	\$113	\$145	\$165	\$191
Required monthly income after taxes	\$1,182	\$2,510	\$3,153	\$3,973	\$1,916	\$2,357	\$2,569	\$3,012
Required annual income after taxes	\$14,184	\$30,120	\$37,836	\$47,676	\$22,992	\$28,284	\$30,828	\$36,144
Annual taxes	\$2,261	\$4,802	\$6,032	\$7,601	\$3,665	\$4,509	\$4,915	\$5,762
Required annual income before taxes	\$16,445	\$34,922	\$43,868	\$55,277	\$26,657	\$32,793	\$35,743	\$41,906

Typical Hourly Wages

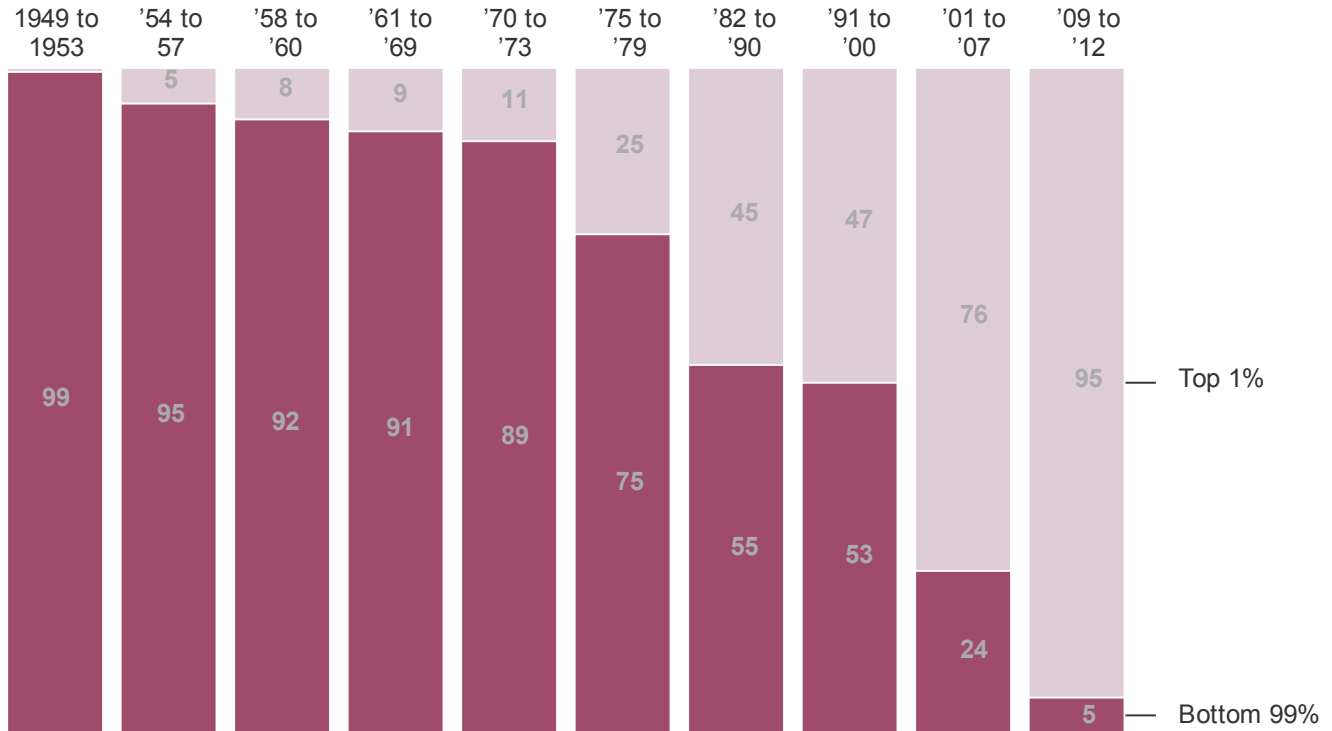
These are the typical hourly rates for various professions in this location. Wages that are below the living wage for one adult supporting one child are marked in red.

Occupational Area	Typical Hourly Wage
Management	\$35.65
Business and Financial Operations	\$23.86
Computer and Mathematical	\$28.15
Architecture and Engineering	\$28.58
Life, Physical and social Science	\$22.56
Community and Social Services	\$17.17

Legal	\$26.05
Education, Training and Library	\$21.42
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports and Media	\$16.23
Healthcare Practitioner and Technical	\$24.40
Healthcare Support	\$11.67
Protective Service	\$13.75
Food Preparation and Serving Related	\$8.57
Building and Grounds Cleaning and maintenance	\$9.44
Personal care and Services	\$9.21
Sales and Related	\$10.05
Office and Administrative Support	\$13.33
Farming, Fishing and Forestry	\$10.78
Construction and Extraction	\$17.32
Installation, Maintenance and Repair	\$17.71
Production	\$14.73
Transportation and Material Moving	\$13.47

Most Income Gains in Recent Expansions Went to Top 1 Percent

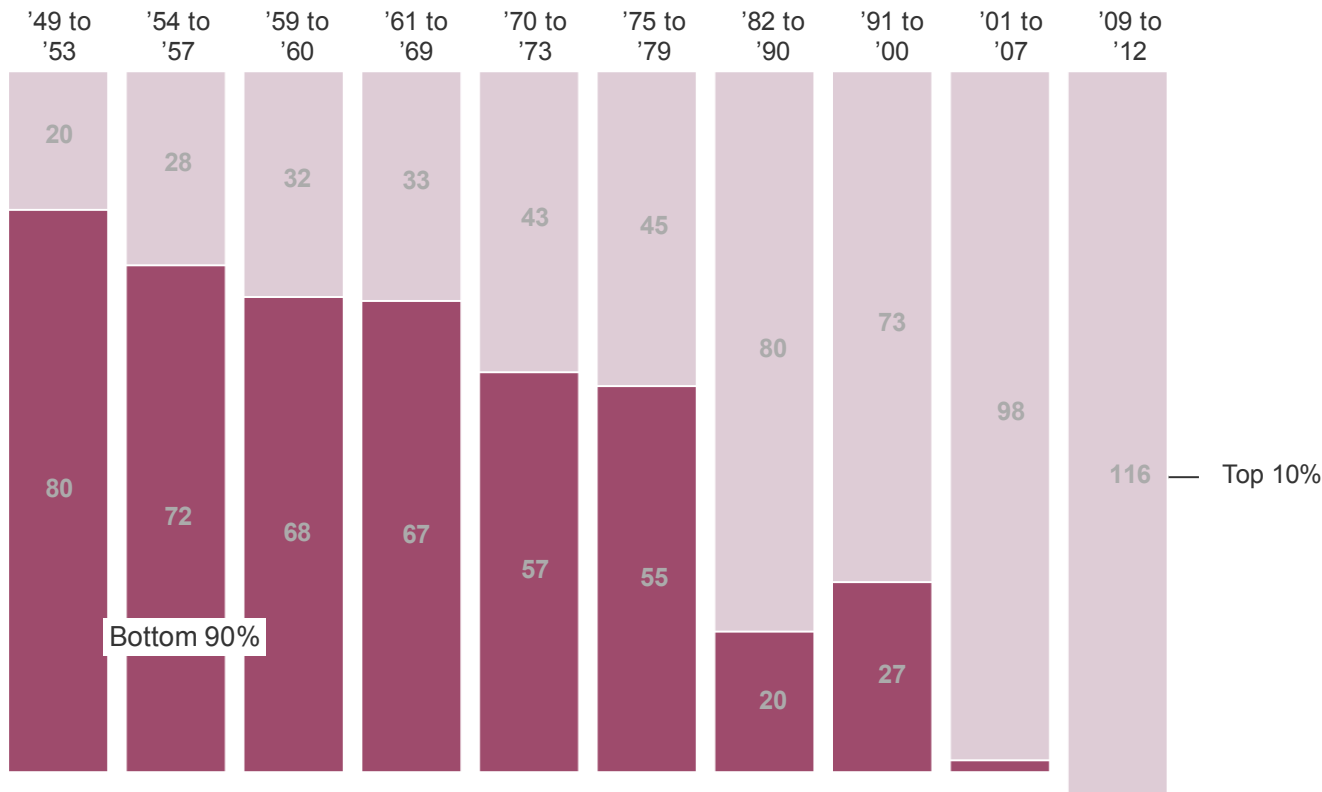
Percentage share of income gains during economic expansions accruing the top 1 percent and bottom 99 percent of earners



Source: Pavlina R. Tcherneva calculations based on data from Thomas Piketty and Emmanuel Saez and N.B.E.R.

Inequality Has Increased With Each Expansion in the Postwar Era

Percent share of income growth received by the top 10 percent and bottom 90 percent of earners during expansions



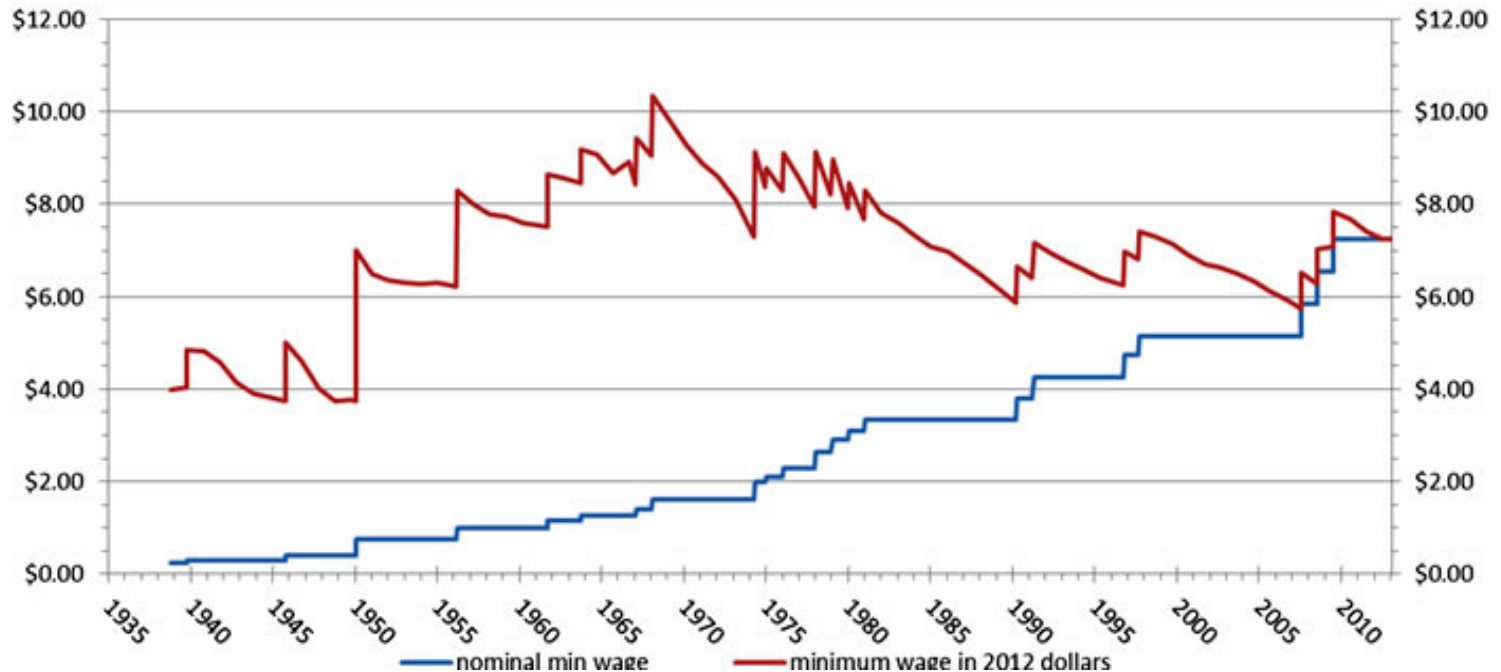
The bottom 90 percent experienced a decline in income from 2009 to 2012, meaning their share of income gains was negative.

Source: Pavlina R. Tcherneva calculations based on data from Thomas Piketty and Emmanuel Saez and N.B.E.R.

The real minimum wage falls as inflation rises, representing less purchasing power for minimum wage earnings

Minimum wage from 1938 to 2012

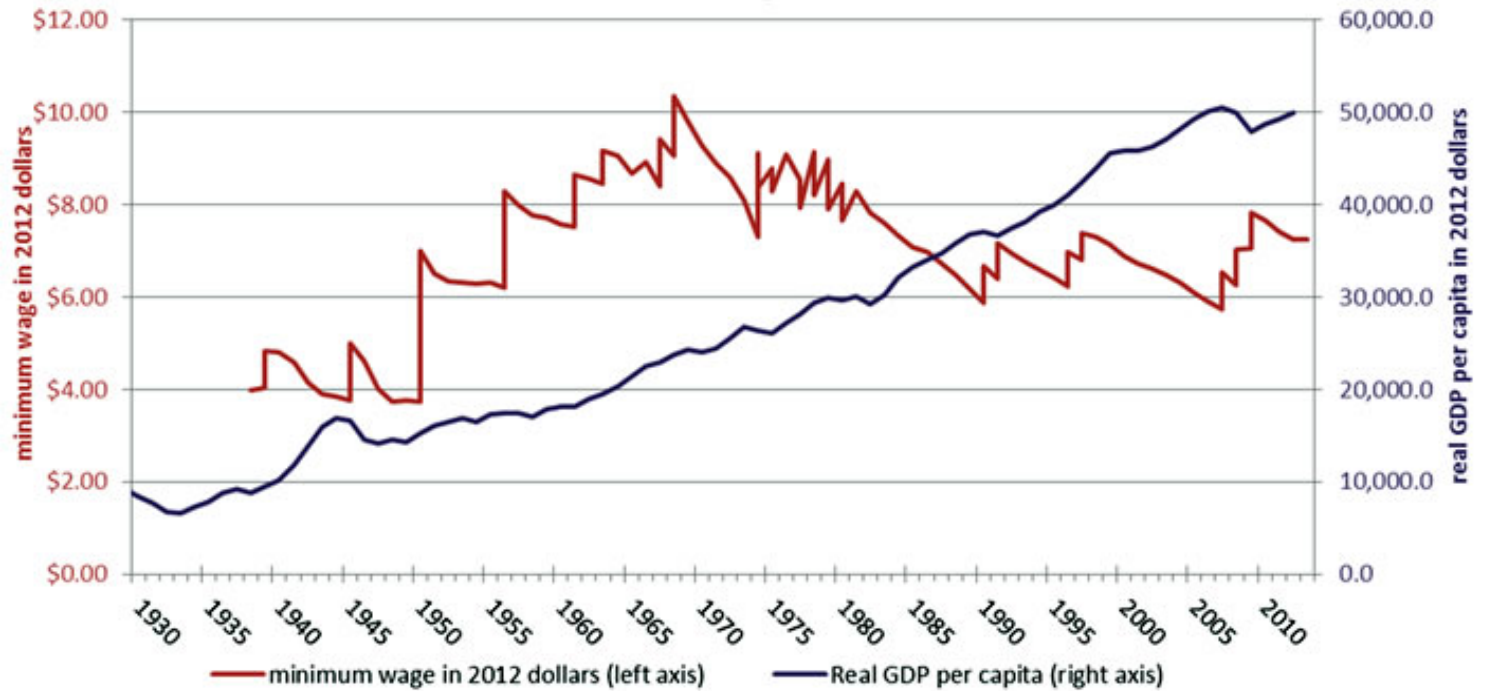
in nominal dollars and inflation-adjusted 2012 dollars



[View the minimum wage from 1938 to 2012 data](#)

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Wage & Hour Division, www.dol.gov/whd/minwage/chart.htm

¹Inflation adjusted using CPI-W, annual averages 1938 to 2012, bls.gov/cpi



[View the real GDP per capita compared to real minimum wage, 1930 to 2012 data](#)

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, www.bea.gov

Mid-year population estimates from U.S. Census Bureau, www.census.gov

¹In 2012 dollars, Chained GDP Deflator

²In 2012 dollars CPI-W, annual averages 1928 to 2012, bls.gov/cpi