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## San Diego News

### Study: Poverty Level Needs Adjustment In SD

**Study: Federal Poverty Level Inadequate In High-Cost Cities Like San Diego**

POSTED: 12:52 pm PDT October 4, 2011

**SAN DIEGO** -- It costs a family of three nearly \$63,000 to be self-sufficient in San Diego County, about \$10,000 more than three years ago, according to a study released Tuesday by the Insight Center for Community Economic Development.

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The organization tallied the price of housing, food and health care, as well as transportation costs, child care and taxes, for a family with one adult, a school-age child and a preschooler.

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A single adult raising two young children would have to make \$30 an hour to meet expenses.

A single adult living alone needs to make more than \$29,000 per year to cover all of his or her basic expenses, according to the report, the "2011 California Family Economic Self-Sufficiency Standard."

In the last three years, taxes increased 29 percent, health care costs went up 27 percent and child care expenses climbed 22 percent, according to the report.

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"Even three full-time minimum wage jobs doesn't make enough to make ends meet in San Diego County," said Clare Crawford of the Center for Policy Initiatives, a San Diego-based advocacy group.

Crawford said the federal poverty level is inadequate in high-cost cities like San Diego, and that the Insight Center figures give a truer picture of the necessary family income.

More than 1 million San Diegans are living in households earning less than Insight's threshold, she said.

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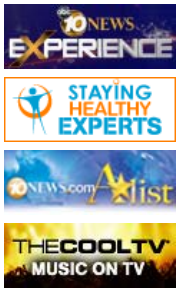
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**shane**

So I read this junk alot of you people are posting. It is sad!!! I am one of those below poverth level people now... I have been a Carpenter my whole life... I have made good money my whole life... But then the economy takes a dive, the Government makes this bailout for Big Business which was supposed to help all of us... So has it helped any of you? It didnt me.. It put me out of business!!! I have to compete with Illegal Aliens that will work for little to nothing under the table... I try to do the right thing pay taxes work as much as I can now.. But there is no relief.. Its kinda funny I went to school got a BS. But I still cant find work... Hmmm what is the problem here. Okay this bailout thing that helped make me bankrupt.. I was sitting doing the numbers with this bailout.. The Government could have given every Adult over 18 that is legal in America roughly \$50,000 dollars and they would have had change left.. I dont know about any of you but 50 grand would stimulate the heck out of our economy. People would have paid off there houses, bought cars, Tv's, food clothing and much more... Oh wait the American people that spend money and make our business boom aren't important. So now look at our economy here in Broke Diego. You got El Cajon with the highest taxes in the country. So for all of you people that think we should move, or not have any kids. SUCK A BIG FAT TOE! Most of us were productive. We still try to be. Oh so you all know as a Carpenter I have lived all over the US.. I am from here.. I always end up back at home.. But I will say this in the Union as a Carpenter I made more in places like Kansas City Mo. Journeyman wage was \$29.00 an hr. here it was \$21.00 but the work bottomed out there too... In closing for all of you that dont have to struggle I am so happy for you that you have a good job! But dont put down those who want to work.. People like me build the places you live and work... Were called blue collar workers and the BLUE COLLARED Workers are what make this country strong. Keep stepping on us and you wont have places to live or work.

Today, 1:45:33 AM – Flag – Like – Reply

Liked by Mombo Steph



**YA THINK?**

There are so many people living in POVERTY in San Diego it is not even funny! In my household, we used to earn approx \$100K/yr, with unemployment etc. I am the only worker after being unemployed for over 2/yr & earn approx \$25K/yr....house is paid off but really it is a stretch....I feel sorry for people with a mortgage/rent, kids, etc. And not to mention the cost of gas sucking \$ out of our wallets...I've lived here all my life & could always make it relatively well, but wow I have never been so broke....but feel blessed @ least I have a job & we are able to pay our bills. Struggling gets tiring...try to uplift by going to the beach, park, mountains, something free to have fun !! It really helps.

Yesterday, 7:57:21 PM – Flag – Like – Reply

Liked by crusader



**freddy**

No, what we need is NO MORE ENTITLEMENTS, not the government trying to find a way to tax us. Poverty has not decreased. Work is life. Work to live. This does not change.

Yesterday, 6:51:34 PM – Flag – Like – Reply

Liked by crusader Guest



**Guest**

No matter how much welfare there is, no matter how many social programs there are poverty isn't decreased. There will always be poverty. The government / taxpayers can't get rid of poverty! People need to stop having kids they can't afford for starters. And if you can't afford to live in a high cost city maybe it's time to move. How much is the government supposed to pay out?

Yesterday, 3:27:45 PM – Flag – Like – Reply

Liked by guest Bob Reed crusader FedUp 3 Guests



**guest**

Well your solution is just so simple. Things are not always as easy as you suggest. Let me start off by saying I am blessed to live in a household that makes enough that I can be a stay at home mom. However, I am not insensitive to those less fortunate. Not everybody is out there having children they can not afford. Some people are put in situations that are out of their control. There are many military families stationed out here who really do not have the leway to just up and move. What the government needs to do is be smarter with their funds. Help those who are working hard meet ends instead of paying the way for those who do not even try and work. Stop paying out ridiculous salaries to those who just sit around. There are many solutions but everyone needs to work together if we will ever see any change. Pointing the finger helps doesn't help anyone.

Yesterday, 4:30:16 PM – Flag – Like – Reply

Liked by carlsbadmama Guest



**guest**

"pointing the finger doesn't help anyone"

Yesterday, 4:32:37 PM – Flag – Like – Reply



**tookie bye bye**

Doesn't hurt!

Yesterday, 4:52:44 PM – Flag – Like – Reply



**Guest**

Doesn't hurt you....

Yesterday, 5:56:31 PM – Flag – Like – Reply

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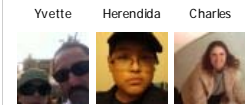
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**guessed**

Your sentiment is nice, but your reasoning isn't sound. I entered the military with two kids. Had to sign a waiver acknowledging it would be a struggle financially just to get accepted. I made it. Not easy, but if you aren't trying to live in a 3000 sq ft home in Eastlake as an E5 it can be done. The greatest problem, first and foremost, is no one lives within their means. I mean, pity the family with teen girls who watch "My sweet 16th" on MTV and have to explain to them "no, darling, daddy can't rent Disneyland for your birthday, and no... Jayzee won't be rapping for you"... It's just gotten ridiculous. But you think the government should do something???? Do you not realize who "the government" is? It's you and I, precious. And frankly, I'm SICK of paying everyone else's way.

Today, 5:01:34 AM – Flag – Like – Reply

Liked by Mombo 2 Guests

**guessed**

Your sentiment is nice, but your reasoning isn't sound. I entered the military with two kids. Had to sign a waiver acknowledging it would be a struggle financially just to get accepted. I made it. Not easy, but if you aren't trying to live in a 3000 sq ft home in Eastlake as an E5 it can be done. The greatest problem, first and foremost, is no one lives within their means. I mean, pity the family with teen girls who watch "My sweet 16th" on MTV and have to explain to them "no, darling, daddy can't rent Disneyland for your birthday, and no... Jayzee won't be rapping for you"... It's just gotten ridiculous. But you think the government should do something???? Do you not realize who "the government" is? It's you and I, precious. And frankly, I'm SICK of paying everyone else's way.

Today, 5:01:53 AM – Flag – Like – Reply

Liked by Guest

**carlsbadmama**

If you get rid of all the low wage workers, as you are suggesting, how will any business survive here? For everyone to be able to afford to live here, they need to be able to make at least double minimum wage full time (for a single person). Considering the research, I just wonder how your "simple" solution would actually work??

Yesterday, 7:18:15 PM – Flag – Like – Reply

**Bigittlejoe**

When I was a kid we were so poor that when the trash people would come out to our house, I would go out running to ask them to leave us two cans full of trash.

Those were NOT fun times.

:(

Yesterday, 2:17:32 PM – Flag – Like – Reply

Liked by NoName99

**kj29**

We are a family of 4. My husband, 2 kids and I, and we don't even make \$30,000 a year. If it weren't for the fact that we rent from my in-laws I don't know where we would be. So ya I think jobs need to pick up.

Yesterday, 2:08:44 PM – Flag – Like – Reply

Liked by NO KIDDING

**Fan**

That sounds like the poor need cheaper housing, like we used to have when we were young. By my calculations, your rent should only be \$350 a month for you to live with the costs we had as a young couple. We still struggled when the car broke, or the roof leaked, but we were buying a house. There was no such thing as insurance, but doctor visits were cheap because they didn't have to hire people to do insurance paper work.

When the housing becomes cheap, more people move here and keep the price up. They don't allow high rises in many places, which also keeps the price up. If we lived here in those circumstances, we would move, but that is difficult to do when you don't have a lot of cash. We were always looking for a better place to move, but never had enough money to spend on a motel for two weeks, and gas to go there. At least now you have the Internet to see if there are jobs, if you can tell the real jobs from the ads just seeing if people are looking.

Relatives in the Midwest who rarely saw houses on their street go up for sale have 7 places listed right now under \$70,000, but there are no jobs in the area. You would have to hunt deer and go fishing to get by and get some warmer clothes for winter.

Yesterday, 3:29:53 PM – Flag – Like – Reply

Liked by guest Guest

**et**

THE HIGHER THE MINIMUM WAGE, THE MORE IS SPEND, NEEDING MORE WORKERS

I DON'T KNOW,,,MAYBE

Yesterday, 1:52:42 PM – Flag – Like – Reply