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Laurel residents getting the Jitters

Those looking for a bookstore in Laurel have been hard pressed to find one since the closure of Waldenbooks in the Sawmill Square Mall some months ago.

Report: Nearly 1 in 3 Miss. households struggling

AP

JACKSON — A new report says 32 percent of Mississippi households can't afford basic needs such as housing, food, child care, health care, transportation and state and federal taxes.

The report was released Wednesday by Insight Center for Community Economic Development and several other advocacy groups for the poor and working poor.

It calculates how much income different types of families need in different parts of the state to pay for basic living expenses without public or private assistance.

For example, the report says a Bolivar County family with two adults and one infant needs \$30,401 a year to be self-sufficient. Under federal guidelines, the same family would be considered poor if its income fell below \$18,310.

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