

The Cost of Living in Iowa, 2023 Edition: Basic Family Budgets

Howard County

	Single Individual	Single Parent		Married Couple, No Children		Two Working Parents			Two Parents, One Working	
		1 child	2 children	Young	Older	1 child	2 children	3 children	1 child	2 children
<i>Monthly Expenses</i>										
Rent and utilities	\$ 534	\$ 739	\$ 739	\$ 649	\$ 649	\$ 739	\$ 739	\$ 930	\$ 739	\$ 739
Food	321	470	784	589	565	729	938	1240	729	938
Health Care	252	410	402	576	977	913	797	634	522	513
Child care	0	819	900	0	0	819	1074	450	0	0
Clothing & household expenses	332	432	525	430	430	525	630	731	525	630
Transportation	693	668	764	1408	1408	1427	1427	1448	1215	1215
Monthly total	\$ 2,133	\$ 3,538	\$ 4,114	\$ 3,651	\$ 4,028	\$ 5,152	\$ 5,605	\$ 5,433	\$ 3,731	\$ 4,035
Annual total expenses	\$ 25,595	\$ 42,455	\$ 49,368	\$43,814	\$48,335	\$ 61,822	\$ 67,254	\$ 65,201	\$ 44,769	\$ 48,416
Annual before-tax earnings needed	\$ 30,426	\$ 49,674	\$ 58,928	\$50,784	\$53,507	\$ 71,370	\$ 77,482	\$ 74,064	\$ 53,120	\$ 55,751
Less: Income & payroll taxes	(5,018)	(6,614)	(6,820)	(7,542)	(7,809)	(10,448)	(9,829)	(7,447)	(6,367)	(5,666)
Plus: EITC & other credits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	631	0	829
Net resources	\$ 25,408	\$ 43,060	\$ 52,109	\$43,243	\$45,698	\$ 60,921	\$ 67,652	\$ 67,249	\$ 46,753	\$ 50,914
Family supporting hourly wage	\$ 14.63	\$ 23.88	\$ 28.33	\$ 12.21	\$ 12.86	\$ 17.16	\$ 18.63	\$ 17.80	\$ 25.54	\$ 26.80

County Comparisons

Monthly total expenses

	Single Individual	Single Parent		Married Couple, No Children		Two Working Parents			Two Parents, One Working	
		1 child	2 children	Young	Older	1 child	2 children	3 children	1 child	2 children
Howard County	\$2,133	\$3,538	\$4,114	\$3,651	\$4,028	\$5,152	\$5,605	\$5,433	\$3,731	\$4,035
Rank (1=highest cost)	33	20	28	3	1	12	39	41	15	14
Lowest cost county	\$1,969	\$3,230	\$3,853	\$3,291	\$3,461	\$4,585	\$5,049	\$5,340	\$3,674	\$4,002
Median county	\$2,110	\$3,453	\$4,225	\$3,497	\$3,690	\$4,859	\$5,576	\$5,555	\$3,873	\$4,218
Highest cost county	\$2,288	\$4,163	\$5,136	\$3,618	\$3,808	\$5,477	\$6,281	\$6,028	\$4,031	\$4,369