

## Questions and Discussions

A. How is "a living wage" defined?

It is the earnings a full time worker is required to cover costs of a family's basic needs.

B. How many family types does the Living Wage Calculator support? Which one or two family types do you foresee for your own family fitting into in the future?

It has twelve family types. If everything goes right I am hoping to fit into 2 adults (1 working) and 3 kids, likely going to be 2 adults (both working) 3 kids.

C. What are eight *basic needs* used to compute the cost of living for the living wage?

Childcare, food, Healthcare, Housing, Internet+mobile, transportation, civic engagement, other necessities

D. The data sources for *basic needs* do not have consistent data (publication) dates. How do the makers of Living Wage Calculator account for this?

If I understand correctly it also draws from large metropolitan areas to have more data options.

E. What components other than the eight *basic needs* are factored into the cost of living for a household?

Taxes including payroll and income.

F. Think back to when you were in high school. Can you think of any example expense your family may have had in the "Civic engagement" category of *basic needs*?

Yeah me and my siblings did a few sports growing up and doing them was definitely not free.

G. Which items are covered under the "Other necessities" category of *basic needs*?

Housekeeping supplies, clothes, I am guessing hygiene products .

H. What assumption regarding the income contributions ratio does that the Living Wage Calculator make for families that have multiple earners?

It basically assumes that both contributors are earning the same amount and calculates for that.

- I. How is an hourly living wage calculated?
  - 1. Calculate annual family budget less taxes
  - 2. Identify additional cost of income and payroll taxes
  - 3. Dividing by the number of working adults
  - 4. Generating an hourly living wage
- J. What's new to the Living Wage Calculator this year?

There were changes in the underlying data sets due to underpredictions in costs for larger families.