



LONG ISLAND
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



INCOME AND JOBS ON LONG ISLAND 2015

There are many individuals and families on Long Island who struggle to afford housing. America's first suburb has gone from being one of the most affordable places to settle and raise a family to one of the least. Individuals from across many different occupations face unaffordable housing costs: many occupations garner incomes that are significantly less than the \$30.44 per hour wages necessary to afford a typical two bedroom apartment; many other jobs offer salaries that are less than Long Island's median household income of \$89,000. Using data from the New York State Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey this document provides a snapshot of jobs and wages on Long Island and demonstrates how these wages translate into housing affordability. For example, home health aides on average make \$23,380 per year or roughly \$11.24 per hour. This is only 26% of the income necessary to afford a typical two bedroom apartment on Long Island. In order to spend no more than 30% of their income on housing—the standard threshold for affordability—an individual employed as a home health aide must spend no more than \$585 per month on housing costs.

Percent of Long Island Median Household Income	Occupation	Median Annual Income	Average Hourly Wage*	Percent of Long Island Median Household Income	Affordable Monthly Housing Costs**
0% to 30%	Waiters and Waitresses	\$20,170	\$9.70	23%	\$504
	Home Health Aides	\$23,380	\$11.24	26%	\$585
	Retail Salespersons	\$23,470	\$11.28	26%	\$587
	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	\$26,430	\$12.71	30%	\$661
30% to 50%	Teacher Assistants	\$27,470	\$13.21	31%	\$687
	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	\$28,890	\$13.89	32%	\$722
	Nursing Assistants	\$36,400	\$17.50	41%	\$910
	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	\$43,550	\$20.94	49%	\$1,089
50% to 80%	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	\$45,800	\$22.02	51%	\$1,145
	Community and Social Services Occupations	\$52,240	\$25.12	59%	\$1,306
	Carpenters	\$54,810	\$26.35	62%	\$1,370
	Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants	\$69,040	\$33.19	78%	\$1,726
80% to 100%	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	\$74,240	\$35.69	83%	\$1,856
	Architecture and Engineering Occupations	\$76,580	\$36.82	86%	\$1,915
	Accountants and Auditors	\$80,970	\$38.93	91%	\$2,024
	Registered Nurses	\$83,900	\$40.34	94%	\$2,098

*Assumes 40 hour work week and 52 week year

**Based on standard threshold of housing affordability of 30% of income

INCOME AND JOBS ON LONG ISLAND 2015

Occupation	Median Annual Income	Percent of Long Island Median Household Income	Average Hourly Wage*	Percent of Long Island's Housing Wage	Affordable Monthly Housing Costs**	Number of Jobs as Share of Total Jobs on Long Island
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	\$19,420	22%	\$9.34	31%	\$486	0.7%
Dishwashers	\$19,640	22%	\$9.44	31%	\$491	0.1%
Cashiers	\$20,290	23%	\$9.75	32%	\$507	0.8%
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	\$21,140	24%	\$10.16	33%	\$529	2.7%
Packers and Packagers, Hand	\$21,950	25%	\$10.55	35%	\$549	0.1%
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	\$22,890	26%	\$11.00	36%	\$572	0.6%
Food Preparation Workers	\$24,140	27%	\$11.61	38%	\$604	0.2%
Personal Care and Service Occupations	\$25,340	28%	\$12.18	40%	\$634	1.4%
Personal Care Aides	\$25,720	29%	\$12.37	41%	\$643	0.5%
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	\$26,690	30%	\$12.83	42%	\$667	0.4%
Receptionists and Information Clerks	\$29,860	34%	\$14.36	47%	\$747	0.5%
Sales and Related Occupations	\$29,930	34%	\$14.39	47%	\$748	3.8%
Office Clerks, General	\$30,050	34%	\$14.45	47%	\$751	0.8%
Production Occupations	\$32,160	36%	\$15.46	51%	\$804	1.4%
Healthcare Support Occupations	\$33,500	38%	\$16.11	53%	\$838	1.2%
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	\$35,070	39%	\$16.86	55%	\$877	1.8%
Customer Service Representatives	\$38,050	43%	\$18.29	60%	\$951	0.6%
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	\$38,070	43%	\$18.30	60%	\$952	6.5%
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	\$38,480	43%	\$18.50	61%	\$962	0.9%
Protective Service Occupations	\$39,160	44%	\$18.83	62%	\$979	0.8%
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	\$44,700	50%	\$21.49	71%	\$1,118	0.3%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	\$48,680	55%	\$23.40	77%	\$1,217	1.1%
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	\$49,740	56%	\$23.91	79%	\$1,244	0.3%
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$53,300	60%	\$25.63	84%	\$1,333	0.2%
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$56,100	63%	\$26.97	89%	\$1,403	0.2%
Education, Training, and Library Occupations	\$59,410	67%	\$28.56	94%	\$1,485	2.7%
Construction and Extraction Occupations	\$59,550	67%	\$28.63	94%	\$1,489	1.5%
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	\$60,080	68%	\$28.88	95%	\$1,502	0.5%
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	\$61,600	69%	\$29.62	97%	\$1,540	0.3%
Sales Representatives, Services, All Other	\$66,910	75%	\$32.17	106%	\$1,673	0.2%
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	\$71,930	81%	\$34.58	114%	\$1,798	1.4%
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	\$72,020	81%	\$34.63	114%	\$1,801	0.4%
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	\$78,550	88%	\$37.76	124%	\$1,964	0.6%
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	\$79,460	89%	\$38.20	125%	\$1,987	2.1%
First-Line Supervisors of Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers	\$79,580	89%	\$38.26	126%	\$1,990	0.1%
Legal Occupations	\$82,290	92%	\$39.56	130%	\$2,057	0.3%
Supervisors of Construction and Extraction Workers	\$84,240	95%	\$40.50	133%	\$2,106	0.1%
Software Developers, Applications	\$85,030	96%	\$40.88	134%	\$2,126	0.1%
Computer Systems Analysts	\$86,770	97%	\$41.72	137%	\$2,169	0.1%

*Assumes 40 hour work week and 52 week year

**Based on standard threshold of housing affordability of 30% of income

Sources: Occupations and Wages: New York State Department of Labor. 2015. *Occupational Employment Statistics Survey*.
Housing Wage: National Low Income Housing Coalition. 2015. *2-Bedroom Housing Wage. Out of Reach: New York*.
Median Household Income: American Community Survey. 2013. 1 Year Estimates.