

# Parents, save up: Cost of raising a child is more than \$233K

By **MARY CLARE JALONICK**  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Expecting a baby? Congratulations! Better put plenty of money in your savings account.

The Department of Agriculture says the estimated cost of raising a child from birth through age 17 is \$233,610, or as much as almost \$14,000 annually. That's the average for a middle-income couple with two children. It's a bit more expensive in urban parts of the country, and less so in rural areas.

The estimate released Monday is based on 2015 numbers, so a baby born this year is likely to cost even more. It's a 3 percent increase from the prior year, a hike higher than inflation.

Since 1960, USDA has compiled the annual report to inform — and probably terrify — budget-preparing parents. State governments and courts also use the information to write child support and foster care guidelines. The main costs include housing, food, transportation, health care, education, clothing and other miscellaneous expenses.

Up to a third of the total cost is housing, accounting for 26 to 33 percent of the total expense of raising a child. USDA comes up with those numbers by calculating the average cost of an additional bedroom — an approach the department says is probably conservative, because it doesn't account for those families who pay more to live in communities that have better schools or other amenities for children.

## Different regions

The cost of raising a child varies in different regions of the country. Overall, middle-income, married-couple families in the urban Northeast spent the most (\$253,770), followed by those in the urban West (\$235,140) and urban South (\$221,730). Those in the urban Midwest spent less (\$217,020), along with those in rural areas (\$193,020).

USDA estimates the annual housing cost per child in urban areas is \$3,900, while it's \$2,400 in rural areas.

There were also differences depending on income. Lower-income families are

expected to spend around \$174,690 per child from birth through 17; higher-income families will spend a whopping \$372,210.

The average middle-income family earns between \$59,200 and \$107,400 before taxes.

After housing, child care, education and food are the highest costs for families. For a middle-income couple with two children, food costs make up about 18 percent of the cost of raising a child. Child care and education costs make up 16 percent.

Education costs have sharply risen since 1960, when USDA estimated that those expenses were around 2 percent of child-rearing expenses. The report says this growth is likely due to the increased number of women in the workforce, prompting the need for more child care.

The numbers don't even include the annual cost of college, which the government estimates is \$45,370 for a private college and \$20,090 for a public college.

New parents may flinch at the costs of diapers and baby gear, but it's going to get worse. While a child costs around \$12,680 when he or she is between 0 and 2, a teenager between 15 and 17 costs around \$13,900 annually.

USDA says food, transportation, clothing and health care expenses all grow as a child ages. Transportation costs are highest for the oldest children, perhaps because they start driving, and child care and education costs are highest for six and under.

There is some good news for big families. Families with three or more children spend an average of 24 percent less per child. USDA says that's because children often share bedrooms in bigger families, clothing and toys are handed down and food can be purchased in larger and more economical packages. Also, private schools and child care providers may offer sibling discounts.

In contrast, one-child households spend an average of 27 percent more on the single child.

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## WORLD IN BRIEF

Associated Press

### Airport shooting suspect makes initial court appearance

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — The Iraq war veteran held in the fatal shooting of five people inside Fort Lauderdale's airport answered questions in a clear voice today as he was appointed public defenders and told he could face the death penalty.

Esteban Santiago, 26, appeared before U.S. Magistrate Judge Alicia Valle, who ordered him held until his next hearings.

Shackled in a red jumpsuit in the heavily guarded federal courtroom, Santiago answered mostly yes or no to questions, and told the judge he understands the charges, which include committing violence against people at an international airport resulting in death, and two firearms offenses.

She told him the death penalty could apply. "We are telling you the maximum penalty allowed by law so that you understand the seriousness of the charges," the judge said.

He said he had been in the Army, where he made about \$15,000 a year. He mentioned expenses including \$560 in monthly rent, plus phone and other utility bills. He said he owns no property and doesn't have a vehicle. He said he had worked for a security company, Signal 88, in Anchorage, Alaska, until November, making \$2,100 a month, but currently only had \$5 to \$10 in the bank.

### US had near record heat, costly weather disasters in 2016

WASHINGTON — With steamy nights, sticky days and torrential downpours, last year went down as one of the warmest and wildest weather years on record in the United States.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced today that 2016 was the second hottest year in the U.S. as Alaska warmed dramatically and nighttime temperatures set a record.

The U.S. also notched its second highest number of weather disasters that cost at least \$1 billion in damage: 15 separate ones together caused \$46 billion in damage and 138 deaths.

Later this month, global temperatures will be calculated, giving climate scientists more information as they monitor the planet's warming.

The regular tally of the nation's weather year shows that even on a smaller scale — the U.S. is only 2 percent of the Earth's area — climate change is becoming more noticeable even amid the natural variations that play such a large role in day to day weather.

The average temperature last year in the Lower 48 states was 54.9 degrees (12.7 Celsius), nearly 3 degrees above the 20th Century average of 52 (11.1 Celsius). It's the 20th consecutive year that the United States was warmer than normal.

Only 2012's 55.3 (12.9 Celsius) degrees was warmer in the 122 years of U.S. record keeping.

"It is certainly a data point on a trend that we've seen: a general warming," said Deke Arndt, climate monitoring chief at NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information in Asheville, North Carolina. "All five of the warmest years on record have been since 1998 in the U.S."



Amy Beth Bennett/South Florida Sun-Sentinel

**Esteban Santiago is taken from the Broward County main jail as he is transported to the federal courthouse in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., today. Santiago is accused of fatally shooting several people at a crowded Florida airport baggage claim and faces airport violence and firearms charges that could mean the death penalty if he's convicted.**

### Trump and his Cabinet picks prepare for grilling

NEW YORK — President-elect Donald Trump and his Cabinet picks are preparing to face public questioning over their business conflicts, their approach to Russia and other issues during a crucial week that will include a slew of confirmation hearings and Trump's first news conference in nearly three months.

Trump is less than two weeks away from taking office, but has yet to lay out how he intends to disengage himself from his global business interests.

Questions also remain about whether the president-elect will accept the conclusion of U.S. intelligence officials that Russia meddled in the U.S. election to help him win the White House. Aides say he'll decide how to respond to their efforts after his inauguration.

Trump's incoming chief of staff, Reince Priebus, said Sunday that Trump indeed has accepted that Russia was responsible for the hacking, which targeted the Democratic National Committee and a top aide to former rival Hillary Clinton.

"He's not denying that entities in Russia were behind this particular campaign," Priebus said in an appearance on a Sunday television news show.

Intelligence officials allege that Moscow directed a series of hacks in order to help Trump win the White House in the race against Clinton. Trump has expressed skepticism about Russia's role and declined to say whether he agrees that the meddling was done on his behalf. He's also said improving relations with Russia would be a good thing and that only "stupid" people would disagree.

**THE DAILY ASTORIAN'S CUTEST BABY CONTEST is Back!**

If your baby was born between **January 1st & December 31st, 2016**, you can submit your newborn's picture either via email at:

**CLASSIFIEDS@DAILYASTORIAN.COM**

or drop by one of our offices in Astoria or Seaside and we can scan in the photo for you.

Deadline to enter is **Wednesday, January 25th at 5pm**

Entries will be printed in The Daily Astorian on January 31st.

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# TV LISTINGS

Evening listings  
MONDAY

| MONDAY EVENING                                       |       |  |   |  |                   |  |   |                                      |   |  |  | JANUARY 9                              |                    |
|--|-------|--|---|--|-------------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--------------------|
| A - Charter Astoria/Seaside - L - Charter Long Beach |       |  |   |  |                   |  |   |                                      |   |  |  |  |                    |
| A  | L     | 6 PM   | 6:30  | 7 PM   | 7:30              | 8 PM   | 8:30  | 9 PM                                 | 9:30  | 10 PM  | 10:30                                  | 11 PM                                  | 11:30              |
| 2  | KATU  | (2) KATU News at 6   |   | Jeopardy!  | Wheel of Fortune  | The Bachelor (N)   |   |                                      |   | Big Fan (P) (N)  | Big Fan (N)                            | KATU News at 11                        | (35) Jimmy Kimmel  |
| 3  | KOMO  | (4) KOMO 4 News  |   | Wheel of Fortune   | Jeopardy!         | The Bachelor (N)   |   |                                      |   | Big Fan (P) (N)  | Big Fan (N)                            | KOMO 4 News                            | (35) Jimmy Kimmel  |
| 4  | KING  | (5) NBC Nightly News   | KING 5 News   | KING 5 News  | Evening           | The New Celebrity Apprentice "Fire Up That Chopper" (N)                    |   |                                      |   | The Wall "Mike and Shana"  |  | KING 5 News                            | (35) Tonight Show  |
| 5  | KOIN  | (6) KOIN 6 News at 6   | CBS Evening News  | Extra  | Ent. Tonight      | Big Bang Theory Kevin Can Wait   | Man With a Plan                             | Odd Couple (N)                       |   | Scorpion "White Out"   |  | KOIN 6 News @ 11                       | (35) S. Colbert    |
| 6  | KIRO  | (7) KIRO 7 News  | CBS Evening News  | The Insider  | Ent. Tonight      | Big Bang Theory Kevin Can Wait   | Man With a Plan                             | Odd Couple (N)                       |   | Scorpion "White Out"   |  | KIRO News                              | (35) S. Colbert    |
| 7  | KGW   | (8) KGW News at 6:00 p.m.  |   | Live at Seven  | Inside Edition    | The New Celebrity Apprentice "Fire Up That Chopper" (N)                    |   |                                      |   | The Wall "Mike and Shana"  |  | KGW News at 11                         | (35) Tonight Show  |
| 8  | KRCW  | (9) Last Man Standing  | Last Man Standing   | Modern Family  | Modern Family     | Supergirl  | Jane the Virgin                             |                                      |   | KGW News at 10   | Two and a Half                         | Two and a Half                         | Met Your Mother    |
| 9  | KOPB  | (10) This Old House  | Business (N)  | PBS NewsHour   |                   | Antique "Fort Worth (Hour Two)" (N)  | An Oregon Experience "Linus Pauling"        |                                      |   | Antique "Birmingham (Hour Three)"  |  | Independent Lens (N)                   |                    |
| 10   | KPTV  | (12) 6 O'Clock News  |   | Family Feud  | Family Feud       | Showtime at the Apollo Steve Harvey celebrates his return to the Apollo.   |   |                                      |   | 10 O'Clock News  |  | 11 O'Clock News                        | 2 Broke Girls      |
| 11   | KPDJ  | (13) Mike & Molly  | Mike & Molly  | Big Bang Theory  | Big Bang Theory   | FOX 12's 8 O'Clock News on PDX-TV  | FOX 12's 9 O'Clock News on PDX-TV           |                                      |   | Family Guy   | Family Guy                             | American Dad                           | Cleveland Show     |
| 12   | KCPQ  | (13) Modern Family   | Modern Family   | Big Bang Theory  | Big Bang Theory   | Showtime at the Apollo Steve Harvey celebrates his return to the Apollo.   |   |                                      |   | Q13 News at 10   |  | Q13 News                               | The Simpsons       |
| 13   | TBS   | (20) Family Guy  | Family Guy  | Family Guy   | Family Guy        | Family Guy   | American Dad                                | Family Guy                           |   | Family Guy   | Full Frontal                           | Conan (N)                              |                    |
| 14   | KZJZ  | (22) Two and a Half  | Two and a Half  | Last Man Standing  | Last Man Standing | Modern Family  | Modern Family                               | Q13 News at 9                        |   | Big Bang Theory  | Big Bang Theory                        | Friends                                | Friends Pt. 1 of 2 |
| 15   | ESPN  | (29) (5:15) NCAA Football  | CFP National Championship Game Site: Raymond James Stadium (L)                                    |  |                   | (45) Post-game   | SportsCenter                                |                                      |   | SportsCenter   | The day's news in the world of sports. |  |                    |
| 16   | ESPN2 | (30) (5:15) NCAA Football  | CFP National Championship Game Site: Raymond James Stadium (L)                                    |  |                   | (45) Football Final  | Reviews of the current day's match-ups. (L) |                                      |   | Jalen & Jacoby   | E:60 Pictures                          | SC Top Plays of the Year               |                    |
| 17   | NICK  | (31) Henry Danger  | Henry Danger  | Paradise Run (N)   | The Thundermans   | The Thundermans  | Game Shakers                                | Full House                           | Full House                                      | Full House   | Full House                             | Friends                                | Friends            |
| 18   | DISN  | (32) Girl Meets World  | Bizaardvark   | K.C. Undercover  | Good Luck Charlie | Stuck in Middle  | Good Luck Charlie                           | Liv and Maddie                       | Liv and Maddie                                  | Bunk'd   | Bunk'd                                 | Jessie                                 | Jessie             |
| 19   | FAM   | (34) (5:00) *** Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban ('04) Daniel Radcliffe. |   | Shadow "A Door Into the Dark" (N)  |                   | Beyond "Ties That Bind" (N)  |   | Shadowhunters                        |   | Shadowhunters  |  | The 700 Club                           |                    |
| 20   | FMC   | (35) Movie   | (55) Think Like a Man Too ('14, Com) Terrence Jenkins, Adam Brody, Regina Hall. (45) FXM Presents | *** Dragonball Evolution ('09) Justin Chatwin.   |                   | (45) FXM Presents  | The Hot Chick ('02, Com) Rob Schneider.     |                                      |   | (45) FXM Presents  |  | Little Women: Atlanta "Party Foul"     |                    |
| 21   | ROOF  | (36) House of Darkness (2016, Thriller) Wright, Mykayla Sohn, Sara Fletcher.     |   | *** Orphan (2009, Horror) Peter Sarsgaard, Isabelle Fuhrman, Vera Farmiga.   |                   |  |   |                                      |   |  |  |  |                    |
| 22   | LIFE  | (5:00) NCAA Basketball Stanford at UCLA  | Mariners Mondays "Extra, Extra" (N)   |  |                   |  |   |                                      |   | UFC UFC 178  |  |  |                    |
| 23   | FST   | (39) UFC Main Event "St-Pierre vs. Condit"                                       | UFC Unleashed "Mendes vs. McGregor"   |  |                   | Fox Sports Live  | TMZ Sports (N)                              | Speak for Yourself                   |   | Skip and Shannon: Undisputed Opinions on the biggest sports topics of the day. |  |  |                    |
| 24   | SPK   | (43) Cops  | Cops  | Cops   | Cops              | Cops   | Cops  | Cops                                 | Cops  | Cops   | Cops                                   | Cops                                   | Cops               |
| 25   | COM   | (44) (20) Futurama   | (55) Futurama "T: The Terrestrial"  | (25) Futurama  |                   | South Park   | South Park                                  | South Park                           | South Park                                      | South Park   | South Park                             | The Daily Show (N) @midnight (N)       |                    |
| 26   | HIST  | (45) America: The Story of the U.S.  |   | America: The Story of the U.S.   |                   | American Pickers   |   | American Pickers                     |   | American Pickers   |  | (05) American Pickers                  |                    |
| 27   | A&E   | (46) The First 48  |   | The First 48   |                   | The First 48   |   | The First 48                         |   | The First 48   |  | (05) Live PD: Rap Sheet                |                    |
| 28   | TLC   | (47) Say Yes-Dress "Surprise, Surprise!"   |   | To Be Announced  |                   | To Be Announced  |   | To Be Announced                      |   | To Be Announced  |  | To Be Announced                        |                    |
| 29   | DISC  | (48) Fast N' Loud  |   | Fast N' Loud "This Is So Farfegnugen"  |                   | Fast N' Loud "Germany Meet America"  |   | Fast N' Loud                         |   | Fast N' Loud: Demolition Theater (N)   |  | Fast N' Loud "Mustang Mania"           |                    |
| 30   | NGEO  | (49) Life Below Zero "Red Flag"  |   | Life Below Zero "Predator Control"   |                   | Life Below Zero "Divide and Conquer"                                       |   | Life Below Zero "Under the Gun"      |   | Life Below Zero "Lost in the Wild"   |  | StarTalk "Search for Aliens" (N)       |                    |
| 31   | TNT   | (50) *** Red Eye (2005, Thriller) Cillian Murphy, Brian Cox, Rachel McAdams.     |   | The Family (2013, Comedy) Michelle Pfeiffer, Dianna Agron, Robert De Niro.   |                   | *** Saving Private Ryan (1998, War) Matt Damon, Edward Burns, Tom Hanks.   |   |                                      |   | *** The Lincoln Lawyer ('11) Matthew McConaughey.                              |  |  |                    |
| 32   | USA   | (52) Modern Family   | Modern Family   | Modern Family  | Modern Family     | WWE Monday Night Raw   |   |                                      |   |  |  | (05) Little Fockers ('10) Ben Stiller. |                    |
| 33   | FOOD  | (53) Kids Baking "Dessert Imposters 2.0"   |   | Kids Baking "Spring Break Cakes"   |                   | Kids Baking "I Lava Volcano" (N)   | Texas Cake H (N)                            | Texas Cake H (N)                     | Diners, Drive-Ins                               | Diners, Drive-Ins  | Diners, Drive-Ins                      | Ginormous Food ("Diners, Drive-Ins     |                    |
| 34   | HGTV  | (54) Love It or List It "Functioning for Four"                                   |   | Love It or List It   |                   | House Hunters (N)  | House Hunters (N)                           | Love/List "Pool House Problems" (N)  | House Hunters (N)                               | House Hunters (N)  | House Hunters (N)                      | TinyHouseHunters                       | TinyHouseHunters   |
| 35   | FX    | (56) Ride Along (2014, Action/Comedy) Kevin Hart, John Leguizamo, Ice Cube.      |   | *** The Heat (2013, Comedy) Melissa McCarthy, Michael McDonald, Sandra Bullock.  |                   |  |   |                                      |   | *** The Heat ('13, Com) Melissa McCarthy, Sandra Bullock.                      |  |  |                    |
| 36   | CNN   | (57) CNN Special   | The Kelly File With Megyn Kelly   | Hannity  |                   | Anderson Cooper 360  | CNN Special                                 | CNN Tonight With Don Lemon           |   | CNN Tonight With Don Lemon   |  | Anderson Cooper 360                    |                    |
| 37   | CNCB  | (61) Shark Tank  |   | American Greed: Scam   |                   | The O'Reilly Factor  | The Kelly File With Megyn Kelly             | Hannity                              |   | On the Record  |  |  |                    |
| 38   | BRVA  | (63) Vanderpump Rules "No Show"  |   | Vanderpump R. "The Talk of Montauk"  |                   | American Greed: Scam   | Greed "The Spy Who Scammed Me"              | Greed "The Real Wolf of Wall Street" |   | Paid Program   |  | Paid Program                           |                    |
| 39   | TCM   | (64) (15) *** The Thin Man ('34) William Powell, Maureen O'Sullivan, Myrna Loy.  |   | *** Some Like It Hot ('59, Comedy) Marilyn Monroe, Tony Curtis, Jack Lemmon. (15) *** Breakfast at Tiffany's ('61) George Peppard, Audrey Hepburn. |                   | Timber "Not My First Hat Pass" (N)   | Vanderpump Rules "Summer House Rules" (N)   |                                      |   | WatchWhat (N)  |  | Vanderpump Rules                       |                    |
| 40   | SYFY  | (65) Movie   | *** The Faculty (1998, Sci-Fi) Elijah Wood, Josh Hartnett, Jordana Brewster.                      |  |                   | *** Blade (1998, Action) Stephen Dorff, Kris Kristofferson, Wesley Snipes. |   |                                      |   | Children of the Corn ('09) David Anders.                                       |  |  |                    |
| 41   | RFD   | (62) American Rancher  | Red Steagall  | Horse Master   | Inside Reining    | Craig Cameron  | Rural Eve. News                             | A Williams Christmas                 | The Osmond Brothers and Lennon Sisters perform. |  |  | Product Showcase                       |                    |