Big Mac Work Time

When comparing two different countries, it is natural to ask which one is more expensive to live in. This is an easy question to ask but is difficult to answer because the two countries have different currencies and not all of the same products are available in each country. The Union Bank of Switzerland solved this problem by comparing the amount of time the average person in a country must work to earn enough to buy a Big Mac. Based on a 2006 survey in 70 cities worldwide, the global average is 35 minutes. See the maps below for the work time required to buy a Big Mac in specific cities.
Big Mac Work Time
North America

- Chicago: 12 min
- Toronoto: 14 min
- New York: 13 min
- Montreal: 17 min
- Los Angeles: 11 min
- Miami: 12 min
- Mexico City: 82 min
Big Mac Work Time
Middle East

- Istanbul: 48 min
- Nicosia: 19 min
- Manama: 24 min
- Dubai: 25 min