

Addressing Funding & Affordability of Early Childhood Education & Care

Presented to the Governor's Task Force on
Governance of Early Care and Learning

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July 17, 2026

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\$50,000 total

Childcare costs more than in-state tuition

\$36,480 total

...and families have less time to prepare.

23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44

Parent's age

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Source: UTEP Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, "Your Cost of Attendance".



El Paso context

MEDIAN ANNUAL INCOME

\$58,859

\$60,000

ADRIAN & REYNA ANNUAL INCOME

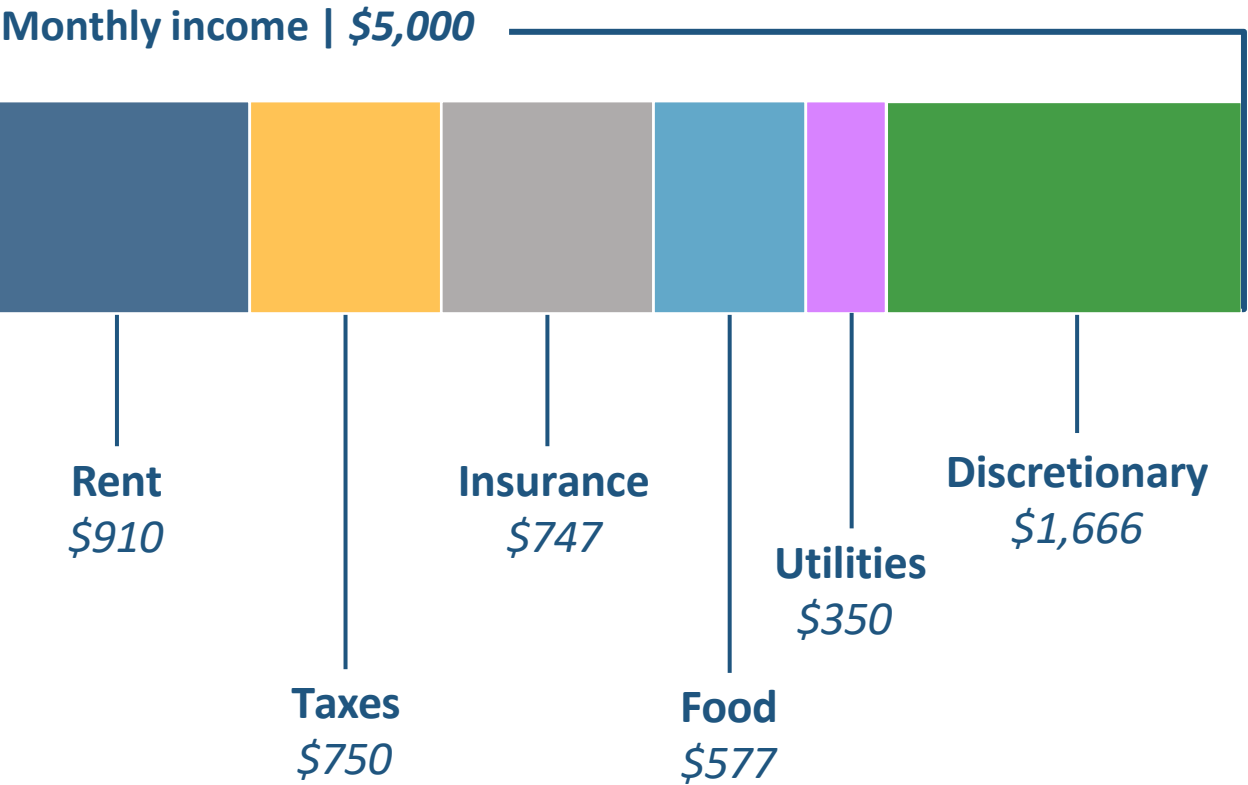
55,000

children under 5

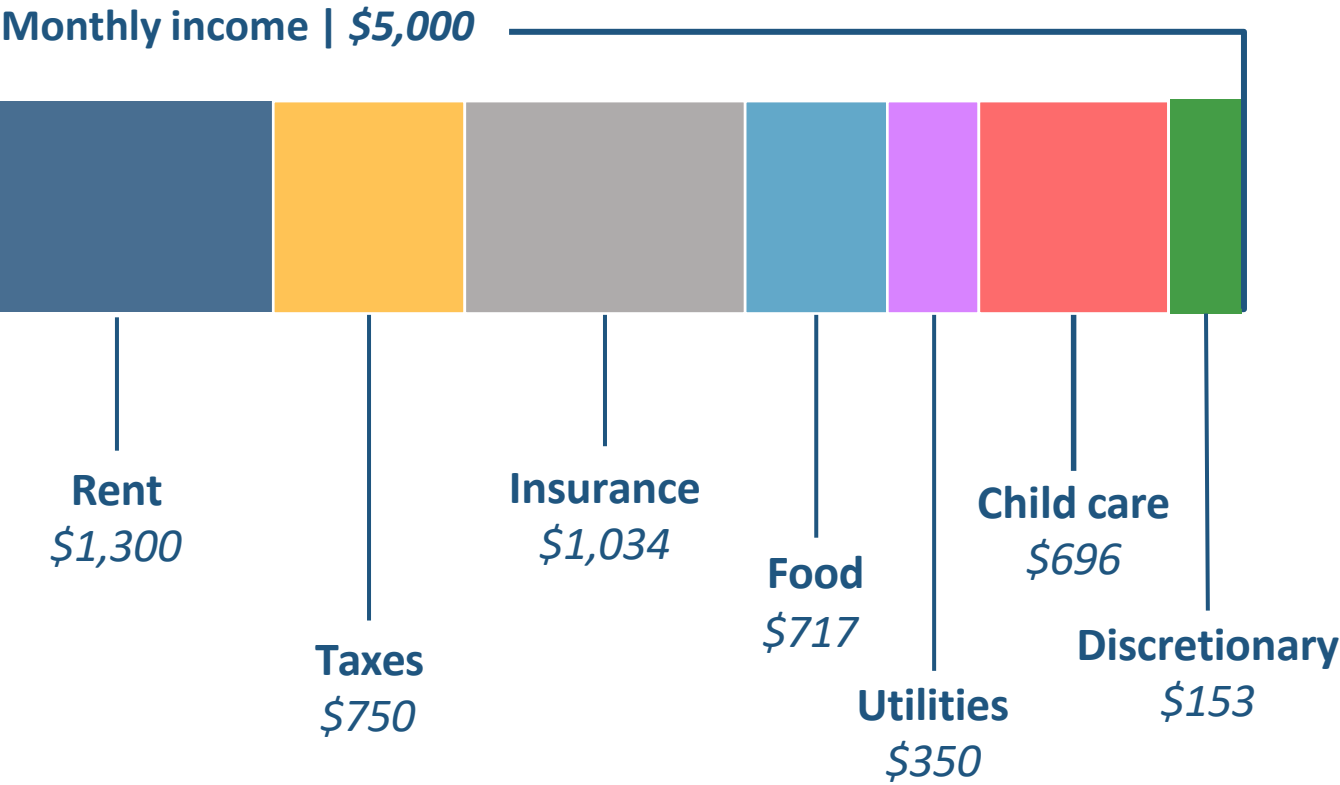
65%

of children under age 6
have all available parents in
the labor force.

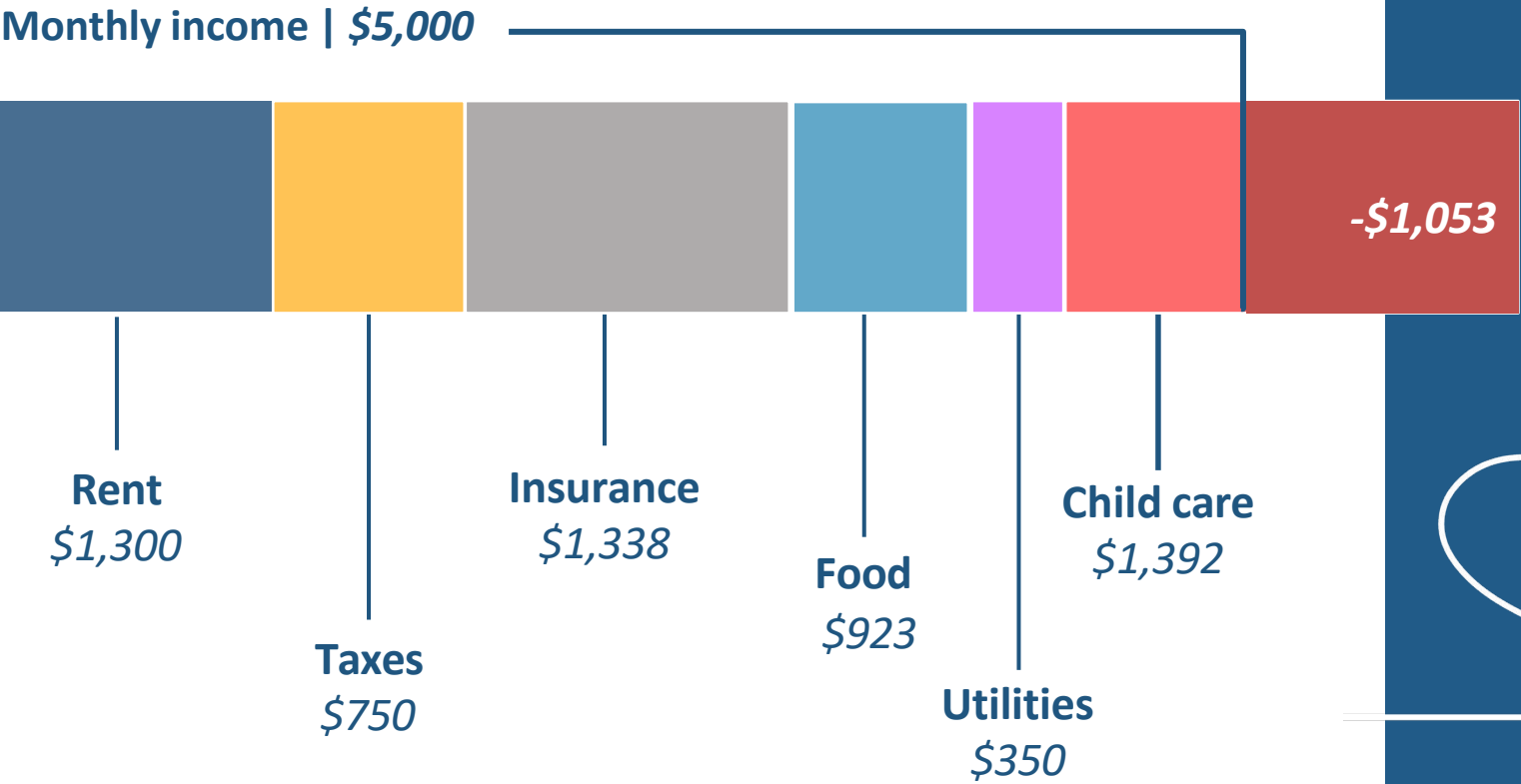
ADRIAN & REYNA



ADRIAN & REYNA



ADRIAN & REYNA





The people caring for our youngest Texans are caught in an impossible position. Providers are paying staff at the upper end of what they can afford — just to keep tuition within reach for families. **Even then, many families still can't afford it.**

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Early Childhood Teachers

Daycare and Preschool Teacher

El Paso, TX 79912 (Northwest area)

From \$11 an hour

Full-time +1 Up to 40 hours per week

\$11

Team Member

1211 - Dave's Hot Chicken East

El Paso, TX 79928

\$16 - \$18 an hour - Full-time

\$18

Cashier



The hourly wage

\$14.00 to \$26.00

\$20



Governance Matters Because Time Matters

52 hrs / month

average time providers spend on compliance activities across TWC, HHSC, DFPS, and TEA

+10 hrs / month

additional compliance burden for TRS-participating providers, on top of the 52-hour average

0.05–0.25 FTE

of staff time effectively dedicated to regulatory compliance instead of children

Share of providers who say multi-agency requirements interfere with their ability to focus on quality care.

44%

All providers



81%

Large programs
(150+ children)

No Single Stakeholder Can Solve This Alone



Families

Cannot absorb
more cost



Providers

Cannot
operate on
thinner margins



The State

Cannot carry
this alone



Philanthropy

Can fund pilots,
but not sustain a
system



Business

Can contribute
subsidies, but
not sustain a
system

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We have a **unique opportunity** to address the root causes of the challenges families & providers face:

- align systems
- reduce unnecessary administrative burden
- improve transparency and data sharing
- create structures that support regional solutions alongside statewide goals

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