

Good Jobs for Texans

Texas kids do best when their families are economically secure

The Texas economy is booming, but prosperity is not shared equitably among Texas families. Due in part to the gender wage gap, female-headed single parent households are twice as likely to live below the poverty line compared to male-headed single parent households. Access to benefits like paid sick leave, child care, and employer-sponsored health insurance varies widely throughout Texas. And too many workers lack the flexibility and resources they need to meet their families' needs. Texas families need access to family-sustaining wages and quality job benefits to build a strong future for their children.

WORKING FAMILIES

Median household income varies widely by family type, with single mother-headed households having the fewest resources.

The gender wage gap perpetuates this disparity; of full-time workers in Texas:

**THE MEDIAN INCOME FOR
A WOMAN IS ONLY 81%
OF A MAN'S MEDIAN
INCOME.**

GOOD JOBS

Working parents need sufficient wages and benefits to meet their family's needs. Texas families would benefit from policies that:

- **Increase wages.** In Texas, too many full-time workers aren't compensated enough to meet their family's needs.
- **Provide paid sick leave.** Parents without paid sick days at work are twice as likely to send their child to school sick and are less able to address their own health needs.
- **Improve access to child care.** Job quality improvements like predictable hours, flexibility in scheduling, and on-site child care can make child care easier for working parents.

SOLUTIONS



- Local voters and elected officials should be allowed to **raise standards for working families** and protect the health and well-being of their local community.
- Local leaders understand the needs of their constituents. State lawmakers should resist interfering in local affairs and instead protect access to **local paid sick days** and other **job quality standards** for Texas workers.

[Learn more at CPPP.org](http://CPPP.org)

Good Jobs – Questions for Candidates & Elected Officials

#TXVotes4Kids

1. A family's economic security can determine a child's access to educational opportunities, healthy food, stable housing, and health care.

 **What will you do to ensure all families have access to opportunities that can increase their economic security?**

2. Single mothers in Texas are twice as likely to live in poverty as single fathers.

 **What strategies do you support to close the gender wage gap?**

3. In 2017, the median incomes for Black and Hispanic households with children were less than half the median household incomes for White and Asian households with children.

 **How should Texas leaders address these inequities?**

4. 1.6 million Texas children live below the poverty line.

 **What strategies do you support to address child poverty and ensure it doesn't persist through future generations?**

5. The average cost of child care for an infant in Texas is \$9,000 a year.

 **What will you do to promote affordable child care options for working parents?**

6. Parents of young children in Texas balance family and work responsibilities.

 **How can the Texas business community be incentivized to support working parents?**

7. Paid sick days help limit the spread of illness in the workplace and promote the health and wellbeing of employees. Parents who have paid sick days are also less likely to send a sick child to school.

 **What strategies do you support to expand access to paid sick days?**