Texas Women's Foundation

In partnership with:

EVERY TEXAN



Digital Toolkit

CLOSING THE GAPS

to Economic Opportunity for Texas Women

Texas Women's Foundation is pleased to present ***Closing the Gaps to Economic Opportunity for Texas Women.***

Based on research conducted by Every Texan, the report introduces the Texas Women's Economic Opportunity Index, which scores 252 Texas counties on conditions shaping women's economic lives.

Use and share this toolkit to help shape the policies and practices that affect women and girls across Texas.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

About Texas Women's Foundation

Texas Women's Foundation is a catalyst for positive change across the state, with a focused vision on building Strong Women Better Texas and a strong and vibrant Texas for *all*. A community-supported organization, Texas Women's Foundation invests in removing the barriers to women's economic security, stability, and success through research and advocacy, grantmaking and education.

Research is at the core of everything we do at Texas Women's Foundation. Our latest biennial report, *"Closing the Gaps to Economic Opportunity for Texas Women,"* builds on 10 years of data reported in The Economic Issues for Women in Texas Report, published 2014-2024, and informs the Foundation's grantmaking, advocacy efforts and educational investments, with a dual focus on workforce development and leadership.

Since 1985, with support from our donors and partners, Texas Women's Foundation has invested more than $115 million in Texas women, their families, and their futures. To learn more about our work and to support our mission, visit www.txwf.org.

OUR MISSION

Texas Women's Foundation invests in removing the barriers to women's economic security, stability, and success through targeted research and advocacy, intentional grantmaking and leadership programs.

ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

About Our Research Partner

EVERY TEXAN

Advancing equity through research, policy, and advocacy.

Every Texan believes that social justice requires public policy. Since its founding in 1985, Every Texan has leveraged public policy to expand opportunity and equity for Texans of all backgrounds. Every Texan is an independent nonprofit organization that researches, analyzes, and advocates for public policies to achieve equitable access to quality health care, food security, education, and good jobs. Our bold, research-driven legislative priorities dare Texas leaders to make Texas the best state for hard-working people and their families.

EXPLORE THEIR WORK

Learn more about the organization at everytexan.org.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Key Findings

1

Where a woman lives matters

We measured economic opportunity for women in every Texas county — looking at work, health, childcare, and education together. The results are starkly uneven: opportunity clusters in the suburban metros and thins out across West Texas and the southern border.

2

Childcare is the biggest barrier women face

Across Texas, childcare is where women's opportunities most often fall short. And it's failing them: full-time infant care eats up nearly a quarter of a working woman's income, and 1 in 6 young children with working parents lives in a "childcare desert" with too few spots to go around.

3

The gender wage gap is real and it's not closing

A Texas woman working full-time earns just 81 cents for every dollar a man earns, and that gap is wider for women of color. Over a career, that adds up to hundreds of thousands of dollars she never sees.

4

Most Texas counties lack adequate maternity care

In most Texas counties, women struggle to get the maternity care they need — 63% are maternity care deserts or offer only limited access. Where a woman lives can decide whether she gets care during pregnancy.

5

Women outpace men in degrees, but not in management leadership

35% of women have at least a bachelor's degree (compared with 33% of men), and 45% of working women hold professional occupations (compared with 37% of men). Yet only 22% of women in those roles hold management positions, compared with 34% of men.

6

Women-owned businesses tend to make less

Women own 44% of Texas businesses that have no employees but bring in only 26% of their revenue.

READY-TO-USE CONTENT

Social Media Toolkit

Ready-to-use messages for your channels.

WAGE GAP

A Texas woman working full-time earns just 81 cents for every dollar a man earns. Our new Texas Women's Economic Opportunity Index maps the widest gaps, county by county.

Learn more from @texaswomensfdn at www.txwf.org/research

WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES

Texas women own nearly half of the state's non-employer businesses, but bring in only 26% of the revenue those businesses generate. Women lack access, not ambition.

Learn more from @texaswomensfdn, county by county, at www.txwf.org/research

MATERNITY CARE

Most Texas counties don't offer adequate maternity care: 63% are maternity care deserts or have low access.

Learn where your county ranks in the Texas Women's Economic Opportunity Index at www.txwf.org/research

COUNTY OPPORTUNITY

Where a woman lives is one of the strongest predictors of her economic opportunity. We scored 252 counties to show where women thrive, and where they are held back.

Find your county in the Texas Women's Economic Opportunity Index at www.txwf.org/research

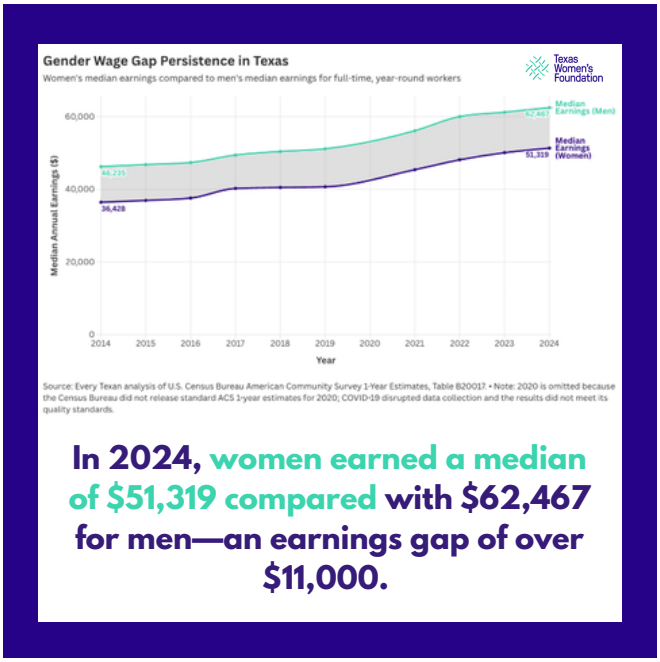
CHILDCARE

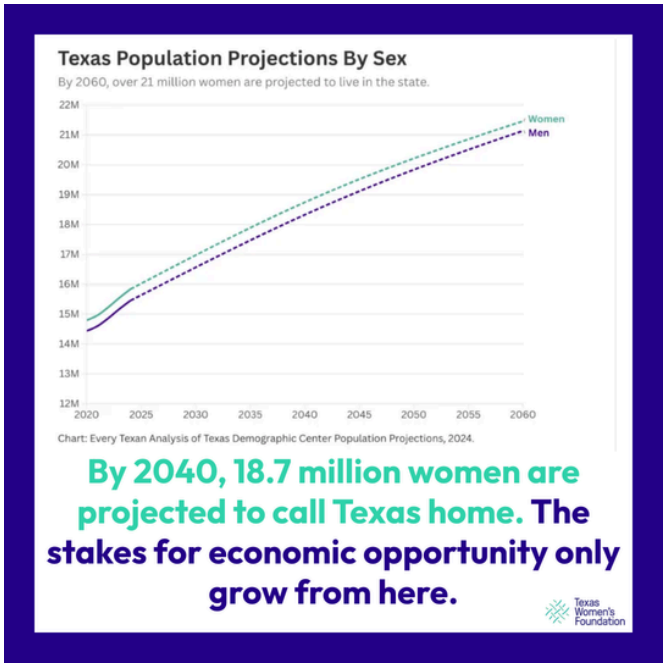
Childcare is a major factor affecting women's economic opportunity. Infant care costs a typical working mother nearly one-quarter of her earnings, and access remains uneven across Texas.

Explore the Texas Women's Economic Opportunity Index at www.txwf.org/research

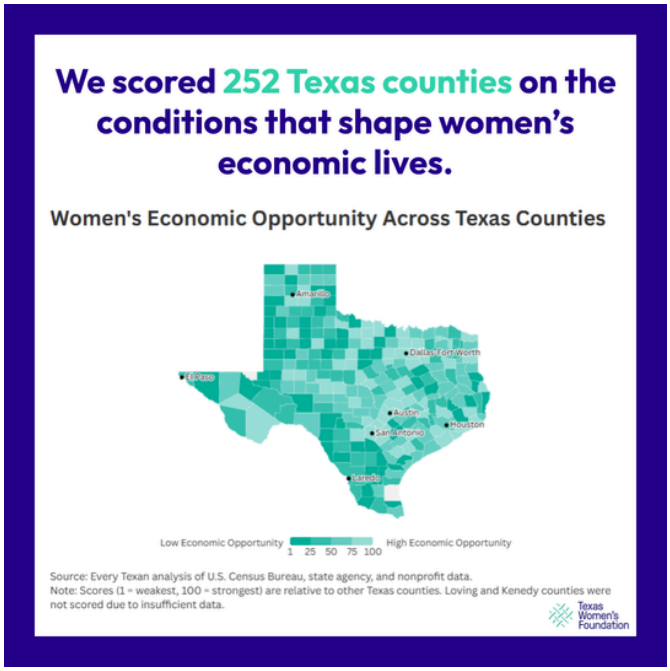
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KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING

Connect With Us

Stay informed, get involved, and help advance economic opportunity for Texas women.

1

FULL REPORT

Read the full study and methodology.

www.txwf.org/research

2

TEXAS WOMEN'S FOUNDATION

Learn about the Foundation's mission, programs, and grantmaking.

www.txwf.org

3

WOMEN'S ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY INDEX

Explore county-level data and findings.

www.txwf.org/research

4

EVERY TEXAN

Explore our research partner's work.

everytexan.org

FOLLOW, SHARE, AMPLIFY

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