



## Diaper Need and Its Impact

**What is Diaper Need?** Diaper need is the inability to provide a sufficient supply of diapers to keep a baby clean, dry, and healthy.

A study of families who received diapers from July 2021 through April 2022 from diaper banks in Texas examined the impact of diaper need. The study found that when families receive diapers, **more families are able to work or attend school, healthcare spending is reduced, and children are healthier.**

### Texas: Who's at Risk of Diaper Need \*

Total Population Under Age 3	<b>1,115,445</b>	WIC Recipients that are Infants	<b>25%</b>
Infants and Toddlers living at <100% FPL	<b>21%</b>	SNAP Recipients Under Age 5	<b>19%</b>
Infants and Toddlers living at <200% FPL	<b>42%</b>	Families on TANF with a Child Under Age 3	<b>26%</b>
TANF Monthly Benefit Family of 3	<b>\$312</b>	Births Cover by Medicaid	<b>50%</b>
Monthly Diaper Cost as % of TANF	<b>26%</b>	Minimum Hourly Wage in Texas	<b>\$7.25</b>

\* Sources: US Census, USDA, HHS, DOL, Kaiser Family Foundation

### Households Using Diaper Banks



- **520** diaper bank recipients surveyed in Texas.
- **82%** of families receiving diapers have received diapers for one year or less.
- **70%** of families anticipated they would need future support for one year or less.
- **69%** reported income less than \$25,000.
- **96%** reported income less than \$50,000.
- Of families surveyed, **73%** of children were insured by Medicaid and **23%** of children were uninsured.

### Impact on Employment



- **89%** of families receiving diapers in Texas are working and still are unable to afford an adequate supply of diapers.
- **8%** of adults are working two or more jobs and still struggling to afford diapers.
- **13%** of households had an adult enrolled in a school or job training program. As educational attainment rises, wages increase and unemployment rates fall.

### Impact on Healthcare & Illness



Families reported that after receiving diapers from a diaper bank in Texas, their children experienced:

- **fewer** cases of diaper rash and severe diaper rash.
- **fewer** cases of urinary tract infections.
- **fewer** visits to their pediatrician, urgent care, emergency room, and hospital admissions for diaper-related illnesses.

### Impact on Childcare



- **94%** of childcare providers required families to provide diapers.
- **68%** of families using childcare rely on childcare so an adult in their household can go to work.
- **90%** of children enrolled attend 3+ days per week.
- **3 in 10** families use childcare to allow an adult to attend school or a job training program.

Source: National Diaper Bank Network-funded research conducted in partnership with 65 U.S. diaper banks. For more information visit [nationaldiaperbanknetwork.org/EIS](http://nationaldiaperbanknetwork.org/EIS).