Regional Talent Pipelines:
Collaborating with Industry to Build Opportunities in Texas
THE SHRINKING MIDDLE
Job Polarization in the United States

Employment Shares by Occupation Skill Level
January 1979 - September 2016

- **High-Skill Occupations**: 25% in 1979, 39% in 2016
- **Traditional Middle-Skill Occupations**: 61% in 1979, 43% in 2016
- **Low-Skill Occupations**: 13% in 1979, 18% in 2016

SOURCE: The original chart is from “The Vanishing Middle: Job Polarization and Workers’ Response to the Decline in Middle-Skill Jobs,” by Didem Tuzemen and Jonathan Willis, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, 2013. The original chart has been updated to begin in 1979 and end in September 2016. Data were provided by Didem Tuzeman.
The Shrinking Middle Class in Texas is Part of a National Trend

Percent Change in Share of Jobs by Wage Quartile, 1979-2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wages</th>
<th>U.S. Minus Texas</th>
<th>Texas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lowest Wage</td>
<td>-9.2%</td>
<td>-10.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under $11.20</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower-Middle Wage</td>
<td>-10.7%</td>
<td>-10.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$11.20 to $17.60</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper-Middle Wage</td>
<td>-11.0%</td>
<td>-10.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$17.61 to $27.60</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest Wage</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over $27.60</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTES: Calculations include workers over age 15 with positive wages and exclude the self-employed. Quartiles based on the Texas and US wage distributions from the 1980 decennial census, which refers to 1979 wages. Wage ranges provided are for Texas only.

OPPORTUNITY OCCUPATIONS
Jobs That Pay Median Wage and Do Not Require a Bachelor’s Degree Are in Every Local Economy

NOTE: Opportunity occupations are those that pay at least a median wage for that region and require less than a bachelor’s degree.

## Texas Family Budgets

What it takes to get by . . . and get ahead

**Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington**

**2 Adults (1 worker)**

+ More options: insurance & savings

**2 Children**

### Monthly Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic Expenses</th>
<th>$3171</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Taxes</td>
<td>$29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savings</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total**

$3,200

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**Metro Area Analysis**

Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington

### Median Monthly Wages for Metro Area

Based on the area’s median hourly wage

$3,780

### Wage-to-Expenses Gap

$580

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### Family Needs to Earn (per worker)

$18/hr

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### Metro Median Hourly Wage

$22/hr

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FAMILYBUDGETS.ORG
Texas Family Budgets

How much income is enough for a working family to cover basic necessities? And what does it take for families to move from just getting by to getting ahead? The Texas Family Budgets helps answer those questions for 27 Texas metro areas.

• How much does health insurance cost when families get it through their employer vs. buying it themselves?
• How hard is it for families to save for a rainy day or for their kids’ college?
• How does the gender pay gap affect family budgets?

Features & Best Uses

The Texas Family Budgets website is not intended to be a family financial planning tool. Rather, it is designed to help policy makers and other leaders understand how their decisions impact Texas families' financial security. You can use the Texas Family Budgets:

• To explore the tough choices lower-income families would have to make if they couldn't cover their expenses.
• To consider the impact of policies such as health insurance or child care subsidies on expenses.
• As a benchmark for program planning and evaluation for family financial security programs.