

The Cost of Living in Iowa 2022 | Policy agenda notes

- ¹ David Cooper, Zane Mokhiber, and Ben Zipperer, "Raising the federal minimum wage to \$15 by 2025 would lift the pay of 32 million workers," Economic Policy Institute, March 9, 2021. Accessed at <https://www.epi.org/publication/raising-the-federal-minimum-wage-to-15-by-2025-would-lift-the-pay-of-32-million-workers/>
- ² See how Iowa's minimum and subminimum wage compares with neighboring states here: Economic Policy Institute, Minimum Wage Tracker. Accessed at https://www.epi.org/minimum-wage-tracker/#/min_wage/iowa
- ³ Here are two resources that outline possible federal approaches to increasing early childhood workforce pay. First, National Women's Law Center, "What Build Back Better's Child Care Plan Will Mean for Families and Early Educators," October 2021. Accessed at <https://nwl.org/what-build-back-better-child-care-plan-will-mean-for-families-and-early-educators/>. Second, Amanda Guarino, "FAQ on the Child Care and Preschool Provisions in the Build Back Better Act," First Five Years Fund, December 15, 2021. Accessed at <https://www.ffyf.org/faq-on-the-child-care-and-preschool-provisions-in-the-build-back-better-act/>
- ⁴ Common Good Iowa, "Raise CCA reimbursement rates for all registered and licensed providers to the federal standard, 75th percentile of current market rate," 2020. Accessed at https://www.commongoodiowa.org/media/documents/2020_version_CCA_reimbursement_FINA_D1725C54F8D3C.pdf
- ⁵ Jennifer Sullivan, Jennifer Wagner, Anna Bailey and Judith Solomon, "New House Build Back Better Legislation Would Make Long-Lasting Medicaid Improvements," Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, November 3, 2021. Accessed at <https://www.cbpp.org/research/health/new-house-build-back-better-legislation-would-make-long-lasting-medicaid>
- ⁶ See David Cooper and Teresa Kroeger, "Employers steal billions from workers' paychecks each year. Economic Policy Institute, May 2017. Accessed at <https://www.epi.org/publication/employers-steal-billions-from-workers-paychecks-each-year/>. See also National Employment Law Project, "Independent Contractor Misclassification Imposes Huge Costs on Workers and Federal and State Treasuries," October 2020. Accessed at <https://www.nelp.org/publication/independent-contractor-misclassification-imposes-huge-costs-workers-federal-state-treasuries-update-october-2020/>
- ⁷ Celine McNicholas, Margaret Poydock, and Lynn Rhinehart, "Why workers need the Protecting the Right to Organize Act," Economic Policy Institute, February 2021. Accessed at <https://www.epi.org/publication/why-workers-need-the-pro-act-fact-sheet/>
- ⁸ Malkie Wall, David Madland and Karla Walter, "Prevailing Wages: Frequently Asked Questions," Center for American Progress, December 2020. Accessed at <https://www.americanprogress.org/article/prevailing-wages-frequently-asked-questions/>
- ⁹ Chuck Marr, Kris Cox and Arloc Sherman, "Build Back Better's Child Tax Credit Changes Would Protect Millions from Poverty — Permanently Expanded EITC Extended for Adults Without Children," November 11, 2021. Accessed at <https://www.cbpp.org/research/federal-tax/build-back-better-child-tax-credit-changes-would-protect-millions-from>
- ¹⁰ Full-time care for a preschooler in a child care center averaged about \$10,000 a year in Iowa in 2021 (<https://www.epi.org/child-care-costs-in-the-united-states/#/IA> or <https://iowaccrr.org/resources/files/Data/FY21/FY21%201%20State%20of%20Iowa.pdf>). The federal credit is at most 35% of the first \$3,000 of expense per child and the Iowa credit is at most 75% of the federal (the percentages decline with income). So the maximum Iowa credit would be \$790. This calculation is based on 2020 tax law; the federal credit was vastly expanded for 2021 only.
- ¹¹ Read about all four of these state credits as part of equity-focused tax agenda here: Common Good Iowa, "Iowa tax proposals would worsen existing racial inequities," February 2022. Accessed at https://www.commongoodiowa.org/media/documents/220209_Fact_sheet__Tax_cuts_worsen__7AC7BC63B6420.pdf
- ¹² Cynthia Cox, Robin Rudowitz, Juliette Cubanski, Karen Pollitz, MaryBeth Musumeci, Usha Ranji, Michelle Long, Meredith Freed, and Tricia Neuman, "Potential Costs and Impact of Health Provisions in the Build Back Better Act," Kaiser Family Foundation, Nov 23, 2021. Accessed at <https://www.kff.org/health-costs/issue-brief/potential-costs-and-impact-of-health-provisions-in-the-build-back-better-act/>
- ¹³ Common Good Iowa, "HF 2438 would take health insurance away from Iowa children and families," March 8, 2022. Accessed at https://www.commongoodiowa.org/media/documents/220308_Fact_sheet__Eligibility_veri_9459F936F05E2.pdf
- ¹⁴ Tricia Brooks, "Secretary Becerra Extends the PHE: What Does This Mean for Medicaid and the Continuous Enrollment Provision?" Georgetown Center for Children and Families, January 14, 2022. Accessed at <https://ccf.georgetown.edu/2022/01/14/secretary-becerra-extends-the-phe-what-does-this-mean-for-medicare-and-the-continuous-enrollment-provision/>
- ¹⁵ Maggie Clark and Ema Barger, "More States Make Progress on Extending Postpartum Medicaid Coverage," Georgetown Center for Children and Families, March 9, 2022. Accessed at <https://ccf.georgetown.edu/2022/03/09/more-states-make-progress-on-extending-postpartum-medicare-coverage/>

- ¹⁶ The Hunt Institute, "Child Care and Prekindergarten in the Build Back Better Act: A Guide for Policymakers." December 2021. Accessed at <https://hunt-institute.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Hunt-Institute-Build-Back-Better-Guide-for-Policymakers-12.12.21.pdf>
- ¹⁷ Common Good Iowa, "Policy Priority: Increase the Child Care Assistance family eligibility level to at least 185% of the federal poverty level for all families," February 2021. Accessed at https://www.commongoodiowa.org/media/documents/CCA_eligibility_fact_sheet_with_d_FC99A3E9DD562.pdf
- ¹⁸ Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), "Community Eligibility," N.D. Accessed at <https://frac.org/community-eligibility>
- ¹⁹ Dottie Rosenbaum, "SNAP's 'Broad-Based Categorical Eligibility' Supports Working Families and Those Saving for the Future," Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Updated July 30, 2019. Accessed at <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/snaps-broad-based-categorical-eligibility-supports-working-families-and>
- ²⁰ Zoë Neuberger, "Nutrition Provisions in New House Build Back Better Legislation Could Substantially Reduce Children's Food Hardship," Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, November 5, 2021. Accessed at <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/nutrition-provisions-in-new-house-build-back-better-legislation-could>
- ²¹ Feeding America, "Our Lawmakers Must Invest in TEFAP," N.D. Accessed at <https://www.feedingamerica.org/take-action/advocate/federal-hunger-relief-programs/the-emergency-food-assistance-program>
- ²² Iowa Healthiest State Initiative, "Double Up Food Bucks," N.D. Accessed at <http://www.iowahealthieststate.com/resources/communities/double-up-food-bucks/>
- ²³ Sonya Acosta, "Investing in Housing Vouchers Critical to Protecting Children from Hardship, Building More Equitable Future," Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, November 16, 2021. Accessed at <https://www.cbpp.org/research/housing/investing-in-housing-vouchers-critical-to-protecting-children-from-hardship>
- ²⁴ Spiros Protopsaltis and Sharon Parrott, "Pell Grants — a Key Tool for Expanding College Access and Economic Opportunity — Need Strengthening, Not Cuts," Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, July 2017. Accessed at <https://www.cbpp.org/research/federal-budget/pell-grants-a-key-tool-for-expanding-college-access-and-economic>
- ²⁵ Mike Owen, "When will Iowa stop eroding its foundation in education?" Blog post, Common Good Iowa, February 2021. Accessed at: <https://www.commongoodiowa.org/blog/2021/02/19/when-will-iowa-stop-eroding-its-foundation-in-education>