

Cost of child care in Arizona

Child care is affordable if it costs no more than 7% of a family's income, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. By that standard, only 8.7% of Arizona families can afford infant care.



One infant:

- The annual cost of infant care is \$10,948 – that's \$912 per month.
- Infant care in Arizona costs 3.7% (or \$390) more per year than in-state tuition at a four-year public college.
- In Arizona, one month of infant care costs about as much as the average cost of rent for a one-bedroom in Tucson, which is around \$900.
- A minimum wage worker in Arizona would need to work full time for 23 weeks, or from January to June, just to pay for one year of child care for one infant.



One infant and one child:

- Child care for a 4-year-old in Arizona costs on average of \$8,547 a year, or \$712 monthly.
- Child care for two children – an infant and a 4-year-old – costs \$19,495 a year.
- A typical family in Arizona would have to spend 35.2% of its income on child care for an infant and a 4-year-old.

SOURCE: Economic Policy Institute and the Arizona Daily Star