### Statewide average

- **Highest cost region:**
  - Transportation: $12.44
  - Food: $9.43
  - Rent and utilities: $9.22
  - Child care: $12.44
  - Net resources: $12.44

- **Lowest cost region:**
  - Transportation: $8.60
  - Food: $5.92
  - Rent and utilities: $5.92
  - Child care: $8.60
  - Net resources: $8.60

- **Des Moines MSA:**
  - Transportation: $12.44
  - Food: $9.43
  - Rent and utilities: $9.22
  - Child care: $12.44
  - Net resources: $12.44

### Monthly non-health expenses

- **Child care:**
  - Single Individual: $0
  - Single Parent 1 child: $607
  - Married, No Children Young: $0
  - Two Working Parents: $607
  - Monthly total: $1,576

- **Clothing & household expenses:**
  - Single Individual: $231
  - Single Parent 1 child: $300
  - Married, No Children Young: $307
  - Two Working Parents: $301
  - Monthly total: $1,364

- **Food:**
  - Single Individual: $268
  - Single Parent 1 child: $390
  - Married, No Children Young: $490
  - Two Working Parents: $470
  - Monthly total: $1,551

- **Rent and utilities:**
  - Single Individual: $597
  - Single Parent 1 child: $875
  - Married, No Children Young: $708
  - Two Working Parents: $708
  - Monthly total: $1,915

- **Transportation:**
  - Single Individual: 481
  - Single Parent 1 child: 540
  - Married, No Children Young: 804
  - Two Working Parents: 804
  - Monthly total: $3,632

### Monthly total budget: families with public health insurance or subsidies

- **Family supporting hourly wage:**
  - Single Individual: $13.58
  - Single Parent 1 child: $22.48
  - Married, No Children Young: $24.31
  - Two Working Parents: $11.20
  - Monthly total: $14.29

### Annual before-tax earnings needed

- **Lowerest cost region:**
  - Child care: $12.44
  - Expenses: $12.28
  - Income: $10.08
  - Total: $14.29

### Region Comparisons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Single Individual</th>
<th>Single Parent 1 child</th>
<th>Married, No Children Young</th>
<th>Two Working Parents 1 child</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Des Moines MSA</td>
<td>$1,915</td>
<td>$3,296</td>
<td>$2,952</td>
<td>$4,192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowest cost region</td>
<td>1,645</td>
<td>3,036</td>
<td>2,697</td>
<td>3,935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide average</td>
<td>1,895</td>
<td>3,209</td>
<td>2,966</td>
<td>4,181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest cost region</td>
<td>2,005</td>
<td>3,622</td>
<td>3,193</td>
<td>4,624</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Monthly Cost of Selected Items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Transportation</th>
<th>Child Care</th>
<th>Rent</th>
<th>Health Care (with public ins)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Des Moines MSA</td>
<td>$853</td>
<td>$607</td>
<td>$346</td>
<td>$597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowest cost region</td>
<td>768</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide average</td>
<td>946</td>
<td>576</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest cost region</td>
<td>1,140</td>
<td>664</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>623</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Source:** The Iowa Policy Project, The Cost of Living in Iowa 2018

**Note:** The single individual and the young childless couple are age 25; the older childless couple are age 52. Parents are age 30, 35, or 40, with older parents having older children. When there is 1 child in the family, the age is 2-3. For the married couples with 2 children, one is age 4, the other age 6-11. For the single parent with two children, both are age 6-11. For the married couple with 3 children, 1 is age 6-11, the other 2 age 12-18. **BASP = before and after school program. ESI = employer sponsored insurance.**