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# The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant: Responses to Frequently Asked Questions

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# The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant: Responses to Frequently Asked Questions

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant funds a wide range of benefits and services for low-income families with children. TANF was created in the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-193). This report responds to some frequently asked questions about TANF; it does not describe TANF rules (see, instead, CRS Report RL32748, *The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant: A Primer on TANF Financing and Federal Requirements*, by Gene Falk).

## TANF Funding and Expenditures

TANF provides fixed funding for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, territories (Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands), and American Indian tribes. The basic block grant totals \$16.5 billion per year. States are also required to contribute, from their own funds, under a maintenance-of-effort (MOE) requirement. Both the basic block grant and the required MOE spending are based on expenditures in pre-TANF programs in the early- to mid-1990s.

The basic block grant and required spending under the MOE are not adjusted for changes in circumstances (e.g., inflation, population) over time. Adjusted for inflation, in FY2023, the TANF basic block grant was 47% below what its value was in FY1997. The MOE requirements have also not been adjusted for inflation.

Though TANF is best known for funding basic assistance payments for needy families with children, the block grant and MOE funds are used for a wide variety of benefits and activities. In FY2022, states used a total of \$31.3 billion in federal TANF and state MOE dollars. Of that FY2022 total, expenditures on basic assistance were \$7.2 billion—23.0% of total federal TANF and MOE dollars. Basic assistance is often—but not exclusively—paid as cash on a monthly basis. The remainder of TANF and MOE funds were spent on a wide range of benefits, services, and activities: child care, employment services (for both assistance recipients and others), state refundable tax credits for low-income families, pre-kindergarten and Head Start programs, and services for children who have been, or are at risk of being, abused and neglected.

## The TANF Assistance Caseload

A total of 1.0 million families, composed of 2.8 million recipients, received TANF- or MOE-funded assistance in September 2023. The bulk of the recipients were children—1.9 million in that month.

## Assistance Benefits

TANF assistance benefit amounts are set by states. In July 2022, the maximum monthly benefit for a family of two (single parent and one child) ranged from \$915 in New Hampshire to \$162 in Arkansas. Only New Hampshire (at 60% of the federal poverty level) had a maximum TANF assistance amount for this sized family in excess of 50% of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) poverty guidelines.

## Work Requirements

TANF's main federal work requirement is a performance measure that applies to the states. States determine the work rules that apply to individual recipients. TANF law requires states to engage 50% of all families and 90% of two-parent families with work-eligible individuals in work activities, though these standards can be reduced by "credits." Therefore, the effective standards states face are often less than the 50% or 90% targets, and vary by state. In FY2022, states achieved, on average, an all-family participation rate of 35.6% and a two-parent rate of 44.0%.

In FY2022, all jurisdictions except Oregon met their all-family participation standard. California, Florida, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Wyoming did not meet their two-parent participation standard. Jurisdictions that did not meet their standards are at risk of being penalized through a reduction in their block grants, though they may either enter into a corrective compliance plan or claim good cause to avoid the penalty.

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## Introduction

This report provides responses to frequently asked questions about the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant. It is intended to serve as a quick reference to provide easy access to information and data. **Appendix A** provides additional data on families receiving TANF assistance over time. **Appendix B** presents a series of tables with state-level data on TANF expenditures and families receiving assistance.

This report does not provide information on TANF program rules (for a discussion of TANF rules, see CRS Report RL32748, *The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant: A Primer on TANF Financing and Federal Requirements*, by Gene Falk).

## Funding and Expenditures

### What is TANF's funding status?

P.L. 118-42, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024, extended TANF funding through the end of FY2024 (September 30, 2024).

### How are state TANF programs funded?

TANF programs are funded through a combination of federal and state funds. TANF has two federal grants to states. The bulk of the TANF funding is in a basic block grant to the states, totaling \$16.5 billion for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Indian tribes.<sup>1</sup> There is also a contingency fund available that provides extra federal funds to states that meet certain conditions.

Additionally, states are required to expend a minimum amount of their own funds for TANF and TANF-related activities under what is known as the maintenance of effort (MOE) requirement. States are required to spend a minimum of at least 80% of what they spent in FY1994 on TANF's predecessor programs. The MOE spending requirement is reduced in states that met their work participation standards to 75% of what a state spent in FY1994.

### How much has the value of the TANF basic block grant changed over time?

TANF was created by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA, P.L. 104-193). A TANF basic block grant amount—for both the nation and for each state—was established in the 1996 law. That amount for the 50 states, District of Columbia, territories, and tribes was \$16.6 billion in total. From FY1997 through FY2016, that amount remained the same. The basic block grant was not adjusted for changes that occur over time, such as inflation, the size of the TANF assistance caseload, or changes in the poverty population. During this period, the real (inflation-adjusted) value of the block grant declined by one-third (33.1%). Beginning with FY2017, the state family assistance grant was reduced by 0.33% from its historical levels to finance TANF-related research and technical assistance. The reduced block grant amount is \$16.5 billion.

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<sup>1</sup> American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands do not operate TANF programs. The former is eligible but does not operate programs; the latter is ineligible for TANF funds.

**Table 1** shows the state family assistance grant, in both nominal (actual) and constant 1997 (inflation-adjusted) dollars for each year, FY1997 through FY2023. In inflation-adjusted terms, the FY2023 block grant was 47% below its value in FY1997.

**Table I. TANF Basic Block Grant Funding in Nominal and Constant Dollars**

(dollars in billions)

Fiscal Year	State Family Assistance Grant: 50 States, DC, Tribes, and Territories	State Family Assistance Grant Constant 1997 Dollars	Cumulative Percentage Change Since FY1997, Constant 1997 Dollars
1997	\$16.567	\$16.567	—
1998	16.567	16.306	-1.6%
1999	16.567	15.991	-3.5
2000	16.567	15.498	-6.5
2001	16.567	15.020	-9.3
2002	16.567	14.792	-10.7
2003	16.567	14.456	-12.7
2004	16.567	14.124	-14.7
2005	16.567	13.680	-17.4
2006	16.567	13.190	-20.4
2007	16.567	12.893	-22.2
2008	16.567	12.345	-25.5
2009	16.567	12.382	-25.3
2010	16.567	12.182	-26.5
2011	16.567	11.859	-28.4
2012	16.567	11.585	-30.1
2013	16.567	11.394	-31.2
2014	16.567	11.217	-32.3
2015	16.567	11.179	-32.5
2016	16.567	11.082	-33.1
2017	16.512	10.820	-34.7
2018	16.512	10.564	-36.2
2019	16.512	10.372	-37.4
2020	16.512	10.224	-38.3
2021	16.512	9.893	-40.3
2022	16.512	9.168	-44.7
2023	16.512	8.727	-47.3

**Source:** Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Family Assistance; and the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

**Note:** Constant dollars were computed using the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U).

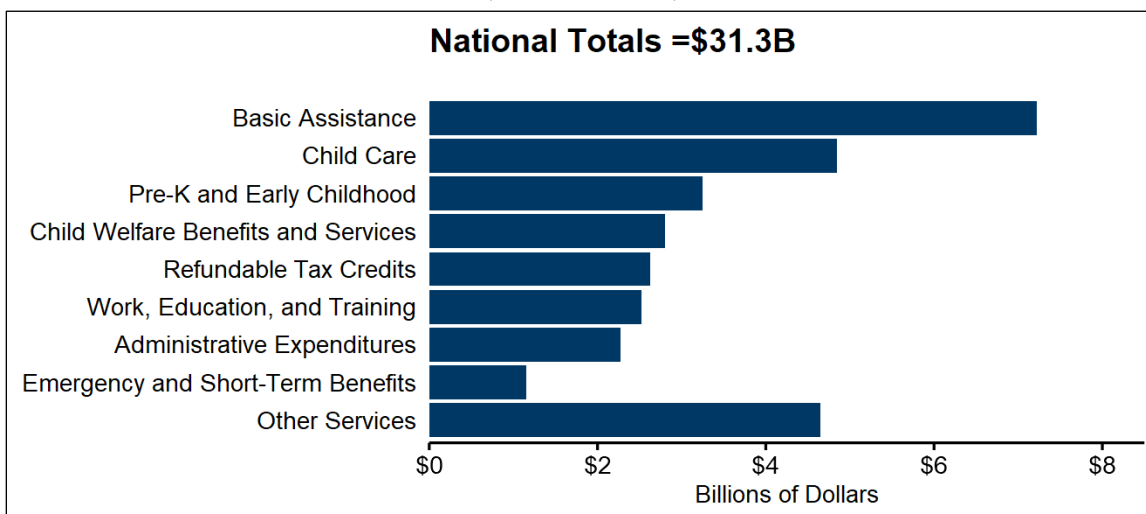
## How have states used TANF funds?

In FY2022, states used a total of \$31.3 billion in combined federal TANF and state MOE dollars (this total includes dollars transferred to other block grant programs, but excludes expenditures in tribal TANF programs or those operated in the territories). Basic assistance—ongoing benefits to families to meet basic needs—represented 23.0% (\$7.2 billion) of total FY2022 TANF and MOE dollars.

**Figure 1** categorizes TANF benefits and services and shows the national total spending for them. Spending on child care—both directly and through transfers to the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)—ranked second in spending among the categories, totaling \$4.9 billion in FY2022, 15% of all TANF and MOE dollars for that year. Pre-K and early childhood services ranked third at \$3.2 billion. This was followed, in order, by state refundable tax credits to families with children; work, education, and training; administrative expenditures; and emergency and short-term benefits. The “Other Services” shown in the figure represents a range of additional services (including programs promoting responsible fatherhood and healthy marriage and financial literacy).

There is variation among the states in how they use TANF and MOE dollars. For state-specific information on the use of TANF funds, see **Table B-1** and **Table B-2**.

**Figure 1. Uses of TANF and MOE Funds by Spending Category, FY2022**  
(dollars in billions)



**Source:** Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Family Assistance.

**Notes:** Excludes TANF funds used in the territories and in tribal TANF programs. Excludes spending from the Pandemic Emergency Assistance fund, which is reported separately.

## How much of the TANF grant has gone unspent?

TANF law permits states to “reserve” unused funds without time limit. This permits flexibility in timing of the use of TANF funds, including the ability to “save” funds for unexpected occurrences that might increase costs (such as recessions or natural disasters).

At the end of FY2022 (September 30, 2022), a total of \$9.0 billion of federal TANF funding remained neither transferred nor spent. However, some of these unspent funds represent monies

that states had already committed to spend later. Of this amount, states had made such commitments to spend (i.e., had obligated) a total of approximately \$2.5 billion. At the end of FY2022, states had approximately \$6.5 billion of *unobligated balances*. These funds are available to states to make *new* spending commitments. **Table B-3** shows unspent TANF funds by state.

## The Caseload

### How many families receive TANF- or MOE-funded benefits and services?

This number is not known. Federal TANF reporting requirements focus on families receiving only ongoing assistance. There is no complete reporting on families receiving other TANF benefits and services.

*Assistance* is defined as benefits provided to families to meet ongoing, basic needs.<sup>2</sup> It is most often paid in cash. However, some states use TANF or MOE funds to provide an “earnings supplement” to working parents added to monthly Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) allotments. These earnings supplements are paid separately from the regular TANF cash assistance program. Additionally, TANF MOE dollars are used to fund food assistance for immigrants barred from regular SNAP benefits in certain states. These forms of nutrition aid meet an ongoing need, and thus are considered TANF assistance.

As discussed in a previous section of this report, TANF basic assistance accounts for about 21% of all TANF expenditures. Therefore, the federal reporting requirements that pertain to families receiving assistance are likely to undercount the number of families receiving any TANF-funded benefit or service.

### How many families and individuals currently receive TANF- or MOE-funded assistance?

**Table 2** provides assistance caseload information. A total of approximately 1.0 million families, composed of 2.8 million individual recipients, received TANF- or MOE-funded assistance in September 2023. The bulk of the recipients were children—1.9 million in that month. For state-by-state assistance caseloads, see **Table B-4**.

**Table 2. Families and Recipients of TANF- and MOE-Funded Assistance, September 2023**

Category	Number
Total Families	986,792
Total Recipients	2,751,447
Total Adults	819,232
Total Children	1,932,215

**Source:** Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Data as of February 21, 2024, and subject to revision.

<sup>2</sup> The definition of TANF assistance is not in statute. However, because the statutory language has most TANF requirements triggered by a family receiving *assistance*, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) regulations define *assistance* at 45 C.F.R. §260.31.



## How does the current assistance caseload level compare with historical levels?

**Figure 2** provides a long-term historical perspective on the number of families receiving assistance from TANF or its predecessor program, from July 1959 to September 2023. The shaded areas of the figure represent months when the national economy was in recession. Though the health of the national economy has affected the trend in the cash assistance caseload, the long-term trend in receipt of cash assistance does not follow a classic countercyclical pattern. Such a pattern would have the caseload rise during economic slumps, and then fall again during periods of economic growth. Factors other than the health of the economy (demographic trends, policy changes) also have influenced the caseload trend.

The figure shows two periods of sustained caseload increases: the period from the mid-1960s to the mid-1970s and a second period from 1988 to 1994. The number of families receiving assistance peaked in March 1994 at 5.1 million families. The assistance caseload fell rapidly in the late 1990s, after PRWORA, before leveling off in 2001. In 2004, the caseload began another decline, albeit at a slower pace than in the late 1990s. During the 2007-2009 recession and its aftermath, the caseload began to rise from 1.7 million families in August 2008, peaking in December 2010 at close to 2.0 million families, the number of families receiving assistance declined by almost half (to a little over 1 million families) during the long economic expansion of 2010 through 2019.

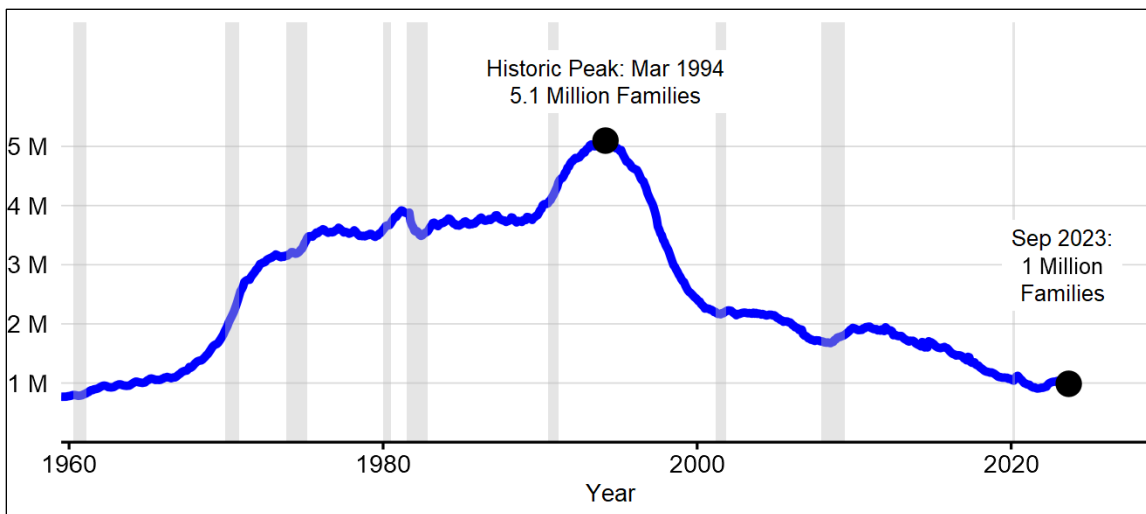
During 2020, a year when the economy was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a brief uptick in the number of families receiving assistance. That response to the pandemic was short-lived.<sup>3</sup> After a brief uptick in the number of families receiving assistance in 2022, by the end of FY2023 (September 2023) the number of families receiving assistance had declined to 1.0 million.

**Table B-5** shows recent trends in the number of cash assistance families by state.

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<sup>3</sup> In 2020 and 2021, Congress enacted expansions to other programs—in particular, unemployment insurance—that might have lessened the need for need-tested cash from TANF. See CRS Report R46687, *Unemployment Insurance (UI) Benefits: Permanent-Law Programs and the COVID-19 Pandemic Response*. For estimates of the impact of the poverty interventions in response to the economic downturn associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, see Laura Wheaton, Linda Giannarelli, and Ilham Dehry, *2021 Poverty Projections: Assessing the Impact of Benefits and Stimulus Measures*, Urban Institute, July 2021.

**Figure 2. Number of Families Receiving Assistance, July 1959 to September 2023**



**Source:** Congressional Research Service (CRS), with data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**Notes:** Shaded areas indicate periods of economic recession. Since FY2000, data include families receiving assistance in separate state programs, funded with state dollars and accounted for separately but with spending counted toward the TANF maintenance of effort (MOE) requirement.

## TANF Cash Benefits: How Much Does a Family Receive in TANF Cash Per Month?

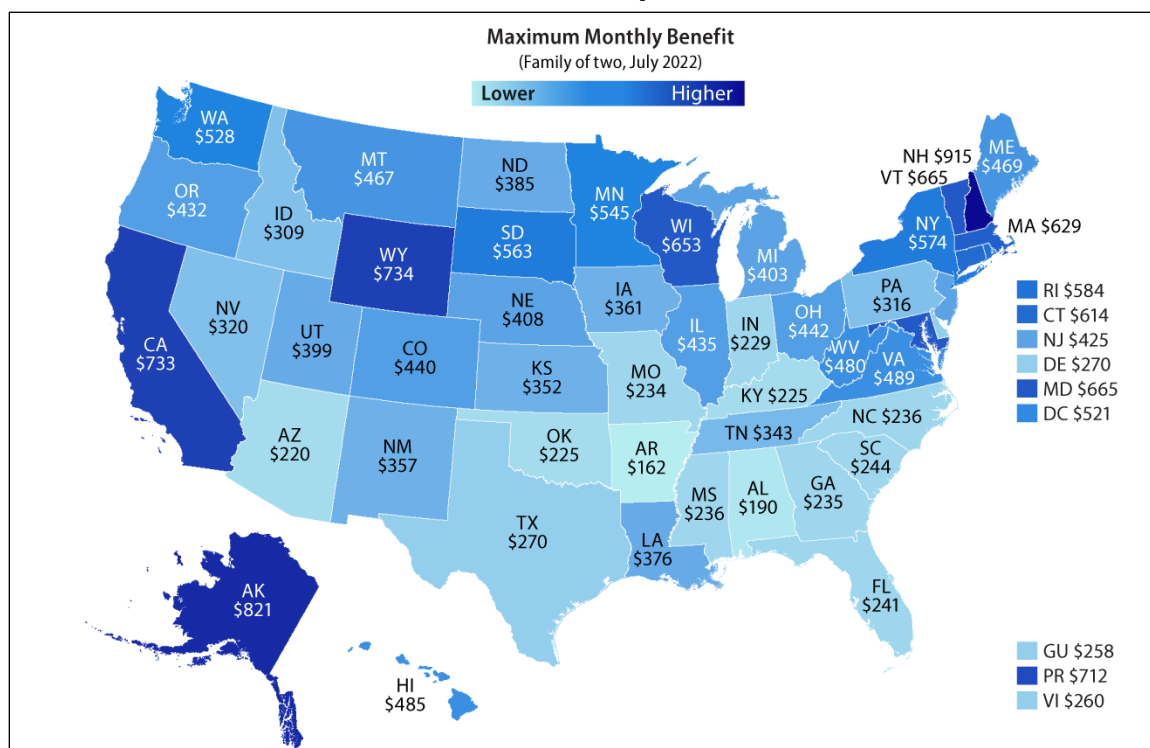
There are *no* federal rules that help determine the amount of TANF cash benefits paid to a family. (There are also no federal rules that require states to use TANF to pay cash benefits, though all states do so.) Benefit amounts are determined solely by the states.

Most states base TANF cash benefit amounts on family size, paying larger cash benefits to larger families on the presumption that they have greater financial needs. The maximum monthly cash benefit is usually paid to a family that receives no other income (e.g., no earned or unearned income) and complies with program rules. Families with income other than TANF often are paid a reduced benefit. Moreover, some families are financially sanctioned for not meeting a program requirement (e.g., a work requirement), and are also paid a lower benefit.

**Figure 3** displays the maximum monthly TANF cash benefit by state for a single parent caring for one child (family of two) in July 2022.<sup>4</sup> For a family of two, the maximum TANF benefit paid in July 2022 varied from \$915 per month in New Hampshire to \$162 per month in Arkansas. The map shows a regional pattern to the maximum monthly benefit paid, with lower benefit amounts in general in the South compared to other regions. Only New Hampshire (at 60% of the federal poverty guidelines) had a maximum TANF cash assistance amount for this sized family in excess of 50% of the HHS poverty guidelines.

<sup>4</sup> States are not required to report to the federal government their cash assistance benefit amounts in either the TANF state plan (under Section 402 of the Social Security Act) or in annual program reports (under Section 411 of the Social Security Act). The benefit amounts shown are from the Welfare Rules Database, maintained by the Urban Institute and funded by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Some states vary their benefit amounts for other family types such as two-parent families or *child-only* cases. States also vary their benefits by other factors such as housing costs and substate geography.

**Figure 3. TANF Cash Assistance Benefits for a Single Mother with One Child, by Jurisdiction, July 2022**



**Source:** Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on data from the Welfare Rules Database, funded by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and maintained by the Urban Institute,

**Table B-6** shows these benefit amounts by jurisdiction in dollars and as a percentage of the HHS poverty guidelines.

## TANF Work Participation Standards

TANF’s main federal work requirement is actually a performance measure that applies to the states, rather than individual recipients. States determine the work rules that apply to individual recipients.

### What is the TANF work participation standard states must meet?

The TANF statute requires states to have 50% of their caseload meet standards of participation in work or activities—that is, a family member must be in specified activities for a minimum number of hours.<sup>5</sup> There is a separate participation standard that applies to the two-parent portion of a state’s caseload, requiring 90% of the state’s two-parent caseload to meet participation standards.

<sup>5</sup> Families without a work-eligible individual are excluded from the participation rate calculation. It excludes families where the parent is a nonrecipient (for example, disabled receiving Supplemental Security Income or an ineligible noncitizen) or the children in the family are being cared for by a nonparent relative (e.g., grandparent, aunt, uncle) who does not receive assistance on his or her behalf.

The statutory work participation standards are reduced by a “caseload reduction credit.” The caseload reduction credit reduces the participation standard one percentage point for each percentage point decline in a state’s caseload. Additionally, under a regulatory provision, a state may get “extra” credit for caseload reduction if it spends more than required under the TANF MOE. Therefore, the effective standards states face are often less than the 50% and 90% targets, and vary by state and by year.

States that do not meet the TANF work participation standard are at *risk* of being penalized through a reduction in their block grant. However, penalties can be forgiven if a state claims, and the Secretary of HHS finds, that it had “reasonable cause” for not meeting the standard. Penalties can also be forgiven for states that enter into “corrective compliance plans,” and subsequently meet the work standard.

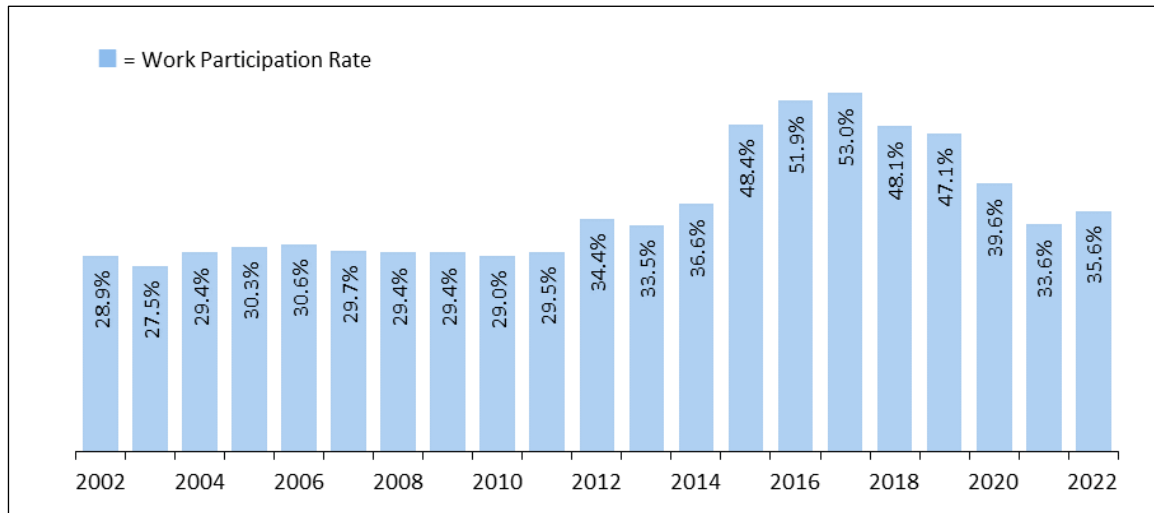
## **What work participation rates have the states achieved?**

HHS computes two work participation rates for each state that are then compared with the effective (after-credit) standard to determine if it has met the TANF work standard. An “all-families” work participation rate is computed and compared with the all-families effective standard (50% minus the state’s caseload reduction credit). HHS also computes a two-parent work participation rate that is compared with the two-parent effective standard (90% minus the state’s caseload reduction credit).

**Figure 4** shows the national average all-families work participation rate for FY2002 through FY2022. For the period FY2002 through FY2011, states achieved an average all-families work participation rate hovering around 30%. Subsequently, the work participation rate increased. In FY2016, it exceeded 50% for the first time since TANF was established. However, the increase in the work participation rate did not come from an increase in the number of recipients in regular TANF assistance programs who were either working or in job preparation activities. This increase stemmed mostly from states creating new “earnings supplement” programs that use TANF funds to aid working parents in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly food stamps) or who have left the regular TANF assistance programs for work.

The national average TANF work participation rate for all families declined from FY2018 through FY2021. In FY2021, a year affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic fallout, the national average all-families rate was 33.6%. In 2022, the national average all-families rate had increased to 35.6%. In FY2022, all jurisdictions except Oregon met their all-families standard.

**Figure 4. National Average TANF Work Participation Rate for All Families, FY2002-FY2022**



**Source:** Congressional Research Service (CRS) based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

In FY2022, 9 jurisdictions (California, Florida, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Wyoming) did not meet the separate, higher two-parent standard. **Table B-7** provides information for each jurisdiction on the TANF work standard, caseload reduction credit, and work participation rate for all families for FY2022. **Table B-8** provides that information for two-parent families. The table shows that 26 jurisdictions did not have two-parent families receiving assistance funded by TANF or MOE funds (denoted with an “NA” in the table).

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has the ability to reduce or waive the penalty on states for failing to meet the TANF work participation standard. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, HHS, under the Trump Administration, said that it would exercise its authority to provide states with relief from the penalty for not meeting participation standards “to the maximum extent possible.”<sup>6</sup> HHS has not revised this statement under the Biden Administration.

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Department of Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance, *Questions and answers about TANF and the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic*, TANF-ACF-Pi-2020-01, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ofa/resource/tanf-acf-pi-2020-01>.

## Appendix A. Supplementary Tables

**Table A-1. Trends in the Cash Assistance Caseload: 1961-2022**

Calendar Year	Families (millions)	Recipients (millions)	Adults (millions)	Children (millions)	TANF Child Recipients	
					As a Percentage of All Children	As a Percentage of All Poor Children
1961	0.873	3.363	0.765	2.598	3.7%	14.3%
1962	0.939	3.704	0.860	2.844	4.0	15.7
1963	0.963	3.945	0.988	2.957	4.1	17.4
1964	1.010	4.195	1.050	3.145	4.3	18.6
1965	1.060	4.422	1.101	3.321	4.5	21.5
1966	1.096	4.546	1.112	3.434	4.7	26.5
1967	1.220	5.014	1.243	3.771	5.2	31.2
1968	1.410	5.702	1.429	4.274	5.9	37.8
1969	1.696	6.689	1.716	4.973	6.9	49.7
1970	2.207	8.462	2.250	6.212	8.6	57.7
1971	2.763	10.242	2.808	7.435	10.4	68.5
1972	3.048	10.944	3.039	7.905	11.1	74.9
1973	3.148	10.949	3.046	7.903	11.2	79.9
1974	3.219	10.847	3.041	7.805	11.2	75.0
1975	3.481	11.319	3.248	8.071	11.8	71.2
1976	3.565	11.284	3.302	7.982	11.8	76.2
1977	3.568	11.015	3.273	7.743	11.6	73.9
1978	3.517	10.551	3.188	7.363	11.2	72.8
1979	3.509	10.312	3.130	7.181	11.0	68.0
1980	3.712	10.774	3.355	7.419	11.5	63.2
1981	3.835	11.079	3.552	7.527	11.7	59.2
1982	3.542	10.358	3.455	6.903	10.8	49.6
1983	3.686	10.761	3.663	7.098	11.1	50.1
1984	3.714	10.831	3.687	7.144	11.2	52.3
1985	3.701	10.855	3.658	7.198	11.3	54.4
1986	3.763	11.038	3.704	7.334	11.5	56.0
1987	3.776	11.027	3.661	7.366	11.5	56.4
1988	3.749	10.915	3.586	7.329	11.4	57.8
1989	3.798	10.992	3.573	7.419	11.5	57.9
1990	4.057	11.695	3.784	7.911	12.1	57.9
1991	4.497	12.930	4.216	8.715	13.2	59.8

Calendar Year	Families (millions)	Recipients (millions)	Adults (millions)	Children (millions)	TANF Child Recipients	
					As a Percentage of All Children	As a Percentage of All Poor Children
1992	4.829	13.773	4.470	9.303	13.9	59.9
1993	5.012	14.205	4.631	9.574	14.1	60.0
1994	5.033	14.161	4.593	9.568	13.9	61.7
1995	4.791	13.418	4.284	9.135	13.1	61.5
1996	4.434	12.321	3.928	8.600	12.3	58.7
1997	3.740	10.376	NA	NA	10.0	50.1
1998	3.050	8.347	NA	NA	8.1	42.9
1999	2.578	6.924	NA	NA	6.7	39.4
2000	2.303	6.143	1.655	4.479	6.1	38.1
2001	2.192	5.717	1.514	4.195	5.7	35.3
2002	2.187	5.609	1.479	4.119	5.6	33.6
2003	2.180	5.490	1.416	4.063	5.5	31.3
2004	2.153	5.342	1.362	3.969	5.4	30.2
2005	2.061	5.028	1.261	3.756	5.1	28.9
2006	1.906	4.582	1.120	3.453	4.6	26.7
2007	1.730	4.075	0.956	3.119	4.2	23.2
2008	1.701	4.005	0.946	3.059	4.1	21.6
2009	1.838	4.371	1.074	3.296	4.4	21.2
2010	1.919	4.598	1.163	3.435	4.6	20.9
2011	1.907	4.557	1.149	3.408	4.6	20.9
2012	1.852	4.402	1.104	3.298	4.4	20.3
2013	1.726	4.042	0.993	3.050	4.1	19.1
2014	1.650	3.957	1.007	2.950	4.0	18.9
2015	1.609	4.126	1.155	2.971	4.0	20.4
2016	1.479	3.780	1.037	2.743	3.7	20.7
2017	1.358	3.516	0.930	2.577	3.5	20.1
2018	1.196	3.150	0.833	2.317	3.2	19.5
2019	1.093	2.866	0.747	2.199	2.9	20.2
2020	1.052	2.757	0.728	2.029	2.8	17.2
2021	0.931	2.450	0.661	1.788	2.5	16.0
2022	0.974	2.652	0.747	1.905	2.7	17.7

**Source:** Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the U.S. Census Bureau.

**Notes:** NA denotes not available. During transition reporting from AFDC to TANF, caseload statistics on adult and child recipients were not collected. For those years, TANF children as a percentage of all children and

percentage of all poor children were estimated by HHS and published in *Welfare Indicators and Risk Factors, Annual Report to Congress*, Table TANF 2, p. A-7. See <https://aspe.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/private/pdf/116161/FINAL%20Fourteenth%20Report%20-%20FINAL%209%2022%2015.pdf>. For 2019, the ratio of TANF recipient children to all children in poverty might be overstated. This is because child poverty might have been underestimated, as responses to the survey used to estimate poverty were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. See Jonathan Rothbaum and Adam Bee, *Coronavirus Infects Surveys, Too: Nonresponse Bias During the Pandemic in the CPS ASEC*, U.S. Census Bureau, SEHSD Working Paper no. 2020-10, September 15, 2020.



## Appendix B. State Tables

**Table B-1. Uses of FY2022 TANF and State MOE Funds by Spending Category**  
(dollars in millions)

State	Basic Assistance	Child Care	Pre-K and Early Childhood Services	Child Welfare Benefits and Services	Refundable Tax Credits	Work, Education and Training	Administrative Expenditures	Emergency and Short-Term Benefits and Services	Other Services	Total TANF Dollars
All jurisdictions	\$7,223.0	\$4,850.6	\$3,246.0	\$2,799.7	\$2,625.3	\$2,525.8	\$2,270.7	\$1,154.4	\$4,647.2	\$31,342.6
Alabama	12.8	24.9	38.0	23.0	0.0	5.2	7.8	50.0	34.9	196.6
Alaska	31.8	12.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.7	7.0	0.3	13.1	73.4
Arizona	35.9	0.0	0.0	279.5	0.0	0.6	17.7	6.3	43.0	383.0
Arkansas	3.3	0.0	37.9	4.4	0.0	18.1	22.8	5.3	24.3	116.0
California	2,877.8	961.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,038.1	715.6	244.7	917.4	6,754.8
Colorado	61.4	15.0	86.0	43.1	70.9	5.9	52.8	5.2	57.7	397.9
Connecticut	24.5	85.3	85.7	75.3	76.2	10.6	46.4	17.2	131.3	552.4
Delaware	7.2	56.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	40.0	4.0	1.7	40.3	149.3
District of Columbia	172.8	22.2	18.2	0.0	18.4	33.4	11.8	14.5	10.4	301.6
Florida	117.0	292.8	0.0	220.6	0.0	44.6	47.7	1.1	73.4	797.2
Georgia	85.1	22.2	0.0	261.8	0.0	5.5	20.2	4.1	62.0	460.9
Hawaii	33.0	28.7	0.2	10.9	0.0	44.1	13.5	9.7	58.9	199.0
Idaho	6.3	9.0	1.5	7.0	0.0	2.7	6.3	9.4	0.9	43.2
Illinois	42.9	552.0	117.5	240.2	86.5	19.5	0.0	1.0	127.3	1,186.9
Indiana	13.7	84.2	0.0	1.1	42.8	1.4	21.7	0.0	104.1	269.0
Iowa	24.3	41.5	0.0	60.2	24.0	8.5	6.6	0.4	21.1	186.6

State	Basic Assistance	Child Care	Pre-K and Early Childhood Services	Child Welfare Benefits and Services	Refundable Tax Credits	Work, Education and Training	Administrative Expenditures	Emergency and Short-Term Benefits and Services	Other Services	Total TANF Dollars
Kansas	10.3	6.7	21.7	32.5	35.0	0.8	9.7	0.0	42.8	159.4
Kentucky	162.6	19.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.7	13.0	0.0	3.1	218.1
Louisiana	20.8	0.0	55.9	35.1	19.4	66.4	19.3	8.5	31.0	256.3
Maine	37.4	6.8	0.5	13.2	23.8	11.3	5.5	16.1	28.2	142.9
Maryland	74.4	5.9	74.9	48.2	284.7	27.8	19.4	52.1	50.0	637.5
Massachusetts	296.8	358.6	0.0	10.4	164.6	151.9	41.4	66.2	88.1	1,178.1
Michigan	99.0	27.8	232.8	75.3	38.1	3.8	57.7	23.9	772.3	1,330.7
Minnesota	109.0	111.3	5.7	0.0	94.4	64.6	47.4	18.0	16.4	466.8
Mississippi	4.3	0.0	0.0	10.6	0.0	24.1	5.5	0.0	15.6	60.1
Missouri	21.6	21.8	0.0	122.0	0.0	71.4	13.9	90.6	49.8	391.1
Montana	8.1	6.8	0.0	1.2	0.0	2.8	3.6	1.8	8.7	33.0
Nebraska	19.2	17.8	0.0	4.0	36.7	8.4	3.3	0.0	10.5	100.0
Nevada	31.1	16.8	0.0	32.1	0.0	1.6	14.7	8.5	16.4	121.1
New Hampshire	26.6	4.6	0.0	6.6	0.0	6.3	6.9	1.1	9.1	61.2
New Jersey	82.2	186.6	640.5	0.0	335.9	58.8	49.9	15.9	72.2	1,441.9
New Mexico	52.3	31.5	29.7	0.7	270.9	10.7	5.5	17.4	25.0	443.8
New York	1,576.5	103.2	894.7	375.6	911.5	123.0	429.5	266.5	350.7	5,031.1
North Carolina	26.1	222.1	71.8	144.2	0.0	2.5	44.3	3.2	40.2	554.4
North Dakota	2.7	1.2	0.0	15.9	0.0	3.7	4.3	0.0	0.8	28.7
Ohio	205.9	418.3	0.9	21.0	0.0	85.3	103.8	57.9	258.3	1,151.3
Oklahoma	11.3	77.3	0.0	12.5	0.0	20.2	6.2	0.4	32.6	160.5

State	Basic Assistance	Child Care	Pre-K and Early Childhood Services	Child Welfare Benefits and Services	Refundable Tax Credits	Work, Education and Training	Administrative Expenditures	Emergency and Short-Term Benefits and Services	Other Services	Total TANF Dollars
Oregon	76.9	28.5	17.7	11.4	3.4	18.5	14.9	24.1	22.3	217.8
Pennsylvania	101.4	428.8	276.4	0.0	0.0	95.6	58.6	9.1	123.3	1,093.1
Rhode Island	20.3	24.0	1.2	19.0	19.5	9.6	6.0	4.7	29.7	134.1
South Carolina	30.7	4.1	27.1	7.1	0.0	20.7	17.9	0.0	55.4	163.0
South Dakota	12.3	0.8	0.0	4.2	0.0	3.1	2.0	3.0	3.1	28.5
Tennessee	68.4	1.7	84.4	32.2	0.0	32.2	28.5	0.0	22.8	270.3
Texas	19.4	0.0	343.6	416.8	0.0	74.8	59.9	24.2	102.3	1,041.1
Utah	13.7	22.2	6.2	2.1	0.0	14.5	7.2	1.8	18.1	85.7
Vermont	13.3	35.3	0.0	8.5	14.6	0.2	6.1	1.6	12.1	91.8
Virginia	98.2	39.9	7.7	61.8	0.2	33.4	49.7	6.4	46.0	343.2
Washington	211.3	224.3	66.0	8.0	0.0	131.5	65.1	30.8	415.5	1,152.3
West Virginia	45.7	21.1	0.0	29.3	0.0	0.3	12.9	1.9	26.0	137.3
Wisconsin	69.8	166.5	0.0	10.9	53.9	35.2	32.9	25.0	127.0	521.1
Wyoming	13.2	1.6	1.5	0.0	0.0	4.0	2.3	2.9	1.8	27.4

**Source:** Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Family Assistance.

**Notes:** Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Excludes TANF funds used in the territories and in tribal TANF programs. Also excludes spending from the Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund.

**Table B-2. Uses of FY2022 TANF and State MOE Funds by Spending Category as a Percent of Total Federal TANF and State MOE Spending**

State	Basic Assistance	Child Care	Pre-K and Early Childhood Services	Child Welfare Benefits and Services	Refundable Tax Credits	Work, Education, and Training	Administrative Expenditures	Emergency and Short-Term Benefits and Services	Other Services	Total TANF Dollars
All jurisdictions	23.0%	15.5%	10.4%	8.9%	8.4%	8.1%	7.2%	3.7%	14.8%	100.0%
Alabama	6.5	12.7	19.4	11.7	0.0	2.7	3.9	25.4	17.8	100.0
Alaska	43.3	16.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.9	9.5	0.5	17.8	100.0
Arizona	9.4	0.0	0.0	73.0	0.0	0.2	4.6	1.6	11.2	100.0
Arkansas	2.8	0.0	32.7	3.8	0.0	15.6	19.6	4.6	20.9	100.0
California	42.6	14.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.4	10.6	3.6	13.6	100.0
Colorado	15.4	3.8	21.6	10.8	17.8	1.5	13.3	1.3	14.5	100.0
Connecticut	4.4	15.4	15.5	13.6	13.8	1.9	8.4	3.1	23.8	100.0
Delaware	4.8	37.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.8	2.7	1.2	27.0	100.0
District of Columbia	57.3	7.3	6.0	0.0	6.1	11.1	3.9	4.8	3.5	100.0
Florida	14.7	36.7	0.0	27.7	0.0	5.6	6.0	0.1	9.2	100.0
Georgia	18.5	4.8	0.0	56.8	0.0	1.2	4.4	0.9	13.5	100.0
Hawaii	16.6	14.4	0.1	5.5	0.0	22.2	6.8	4.9	29.6	100.0
Idaho	14.7	20.8	3.5	16.3	0.0	6.3	14.6	21.7	2.1	100.0
Illinois	3.6	46.5	9.9	20.2	7.3	1.6	0.0	0.1	10.7	100.0
Indiana	5.1	31.3	0.0	0.4	15.9	0.5	8.1	0.0	38.7	100.0
Iowa	13.0	22.3	0.0	32.3	12.8	4.6	3.5	0.2	11.3	100.0
Kansas	6.5	4.2	13.6	20.4	22.0	0.5	6.1	0.0	26.8	100.0
Kentucky	74.6	9.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.0	6.0	0.0	1.4	100.0

State	Basic Assistance	Child Care	Pre-K and Early Childhood Services	Child Welfare Benefits and Services	Refundable Tax Credits	Work, Education, and Training	Administrative Expenditures	Emergency and Short-Term Benefits and Services	Other Services	Total TANF Dollars
Louisiana	8.1	0.0	21.8	13.7	7.6	25.9	7.5	3.3	12.1	100.0
Maine	26.2	4.8	0.4	9.2	16.7	7.9	3.8	11.3	19.8	100.0
Maryland	11.7	0.9	11.7	7.6	44.7	4.4	3.0	8.2	7.8	100.0
Massachusetts	25.2	30.4	0.0	0.9	14.0	12.9	3.5	5.6	7.5	100.0
Michigan	7.4	2.1	17.5	5.7	2.9	0.3	4.3	1.8	58.0	100.0
Minnesota	23.4	23.8	1.2	0.0	20.2	13.8	10.2	3.9	3.5	100.0
Mississippi	7.2	0.0	0.0	17.7	0.0	40.1	9.1	0.0	25.9	100.0
Missouri	5.5	5.6	0.0	31.2	0.0	18.3	3.6	23.2	12.7	100.0
Montana	24.6	20.6	0.0	3.7	0.0	8.6	11.0	5.3	26.2	100.0
Nebraska	19.2	17.8	0.0	4.0	36.7	8.3	3.3	0.0	10.5	100.0
Nevada	25.7	13.9	0.0	26.5	0.0	1.3	12.1	7.0	13.6	100.0
New Hampshire	43.4	7.5	0.0	10.9	0.0	10.4	11.2	1.8	14.9	100.0
New Jersey	5.7	12.9	44.4	0.0	23.3	4.1	3.5	1.1	5.0	100.0
New Mexico	11.8	7.1	6.7	0.2	61.1	2.4	1.2	3.9	5.6	100.0
New York	31.3	2.1	17.8	7.5	18.1	2.4	8.5	5.3	7.0	100.0
North Carolina	4.7	40.1	13.0	26.0	0.0	0.4	8.0	0.6	7.2	100.0
North Dakota	9.4	4.2	0.0	55.5	0.0	13.1	15.0	0.1	2.8	100.0
Ohio	17.9	36.3	0.1	1.8	0.0	7.4	9.0	5.0	22.4	100.0
Oklahoma	7.1	48.2	0.0	7.8	0.0	12.6	3.9	0.2	20.3	100.0
Oregon	35.3	13.1	8.1	5.2	1.6	8.5	6.9	11.1	10.2	100.0
Pennsylvania	9.3	39.2	25.3	0.0	0.0	8.7	5.4	0.8	11.3	100.0

State	Basic Assistance	Child Care	Pre-K and Early Childhood Services	Child Welfare Benefits and Services	Refundable Tax Credits	Work, Education, and Training	Administrative Expenditures	Emergency and Short-Term Benefits and Services	Other Services	Total TANF Dollars
Rhode Island	15.2	17.9	0.9	14.2	14.5	7.1	4.5	3.5	22.1	100.0
South Carolina	18.8	2.5	16.6	4.4	0.0	12.7	11.0	0.0	34.0	100.0
South Dakota	43.0	2.8	0.0	14.7	0.0	10.8	7.1	10.4	11.0	100.0
Tennessee	25.3	0.6	31.2	11.9	0.0	11.9	10.5	0.0	8.4	100.0
Texas	1.9	0.0	33.0	40.0	0.0	7.2	5.8	2.3	9.8	100.0
Utah	16.0	25.9	7.2	2.5	0.0	17.0	8.3	2.1	21.1	100.0
Vermont	14.5	38.5	0.0	9.3	15.9	0.2	6.7	1.7	13.2	100.0
Virginia	28.6	11.6	2.2	18.0	0.1	9.7	14.5	1.9	13.4	100.0
Washington	18.3	19.5	5.7	0.7	0.0	11.4	5.6	2.7	36.1	100.0
West Virginia	33.3	15.4	0.0	21.3	0.0	0.2	9.4	1.4	19.0	100.0
Wisconsin	13.4	31.9	0.0	2.1	10.3	6.8	6.3	4.8	24.4	100.0
Wyoming	48.3	5.7	5.6	0.0	0.0	14.5	8.5	10.8	6.6	100.0

**Source:** Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Family Assistance.

**Notes:** Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Excludes TANF funds used in the territories and in tribal TANF programs. Also excludes spending from the Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund.

**Table B-3. Unspent TANF Funds at the End of FY2022**

(dollars in millions; as of September 30, 2022)

State	Obligated but Unspent	Unobligated Balance
All jurisdictions	\$2,501.9	\$6,452.8
Alabama	0.0	122.7
Alaska	25.3	0.5
Arizona	0.0	60.4
Arkansas	36.7	65.9
California	755.2	0.0
Colorado	0.0	107.9
Connecticut	0.0	0.0
Delaware	0.0	20.2
District of Columbia	3.5	31.6
Florida	0.0	221.9
Georgia	40.8	160.0
Hawaii	19.3	402.3
Idaho	0.0	10.9
Illinois	0.0	0.0
Indiana	16.3	114.0
Iowa	0.0	45.5
Kansas	3.2	64.6
Kentucky	0.0	107.9
Louisiana	63.3	0.0
Maine	13.2	89.1
Maryland	0.0	54.4
Massachusetts	0.0	0.0
Michigan	0.0	124.4
Minnesota	203.1	50.9
Mississippi	0.0	146.0
Missouri	0.0	0.0
Montana	0.0	60.8
Nebraska	6.3	119.8
Nevada	0.0	45.4
New Hampshire	0.0	61.8
New Jersey	146.6	0.0
New Mexico	63.8	0.0
New York	142.2	1,117.6
North Carolina	55.4	0.0

State	Obligated but Unspent	Unobligated Balance
North Dakota	0.0	12.9
Ohio	646.6	0.0
Oklahoma	74.3	294.2
Oregon	0.0	181.1
Pennsylvania	180.6	776.0
Rhode Island	0.0	82.4
South Carolina	0.0	10.1
South Dakota	0.0	24.5
Tennessee	0.0	808.2
Texas	0.0	237.4
Utah	0.0	91.1
Vermont	0.0	0.0
Virginia	6.3	56.2
Washington	0.0	60.0
West Virginia	0.0	117.2
Wisconsin	0.0	268.8
Wyoming	0.0	26.1

**Source:** Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Family Assistance.

**Note:** Excludes TANF funds used in the territories.

**Table B-4. Number of Families, Recipients, Adults, and Children Receiving TANF Assistance by Jurisdiction, September 2023**

State	Families	Total Recipients	Adults	Children
Alabama	5,556	12,965	2,292	10,673
Alaska	1,056	2,946	871	2,075
Arizona	5,173	10,609	1,907	8,702
Arkansas	887	2,155	530	1,625
California	362,158	1,215,272	380,423	834,849
Colorado	12,578	30,830	8,418	22,412
Connecticut	5,125	12,159	3,404	8,755
Delaware	2,834	8,031	3,220	4,811
District of Columbia	4,222	11,199	2,817	8,382
Florida	35,095	72,184	26,698	45,486
Georgia	4,594	8,037	233	7,804



State	Families	Total Recipients	Adults	Children
Hawaii	3,112	8,649	2,638	6,011
Idaho	1,488	2,055	21	2,034
Illinois	9,882	19,911	2,396	17,515
Indiana	5,256	12,440	3,200	9,240
Iowa	4,782	11,968	2,824	9,144
Kansas	2,945	2,945	1,472	1,473
Kentucky	13,171	29,210	5,891	23,319
Louisiana	4,753	12,243	2,335	9,908
Maine	13,673	46,474	17,577	28,897
Maryland	14,792	46,670	14,067	32,603
Massachusetts	59,409	162,060	48,986	113,074
Michigan	8,395	22,474	4,803	17,671
Minnesota	13,494	31,484	7,847	23,637
Mississippi	1,648	3,033	402	2,631
Missouri	5,526	12,914	2,884	10,030
Montana	1,685	3,856	677	3,179
Nebraska	2,890	6,772	981	5,791
Nevada	5,859	14,951	3,801	11,150
New Hampshire	3,941	9,642	2,451	7,191
New Jersey	9,216	22,384	6,546	15,838
New Mexico	6,768	16,308	3,868	12,440
New York	121,383	314,162	110,499	203,663
North Carolina	7,346	13,163	1,231	11,932
North Dakota	559	1,366	193	1,173
Ohio	40,325	72,020	7,129	64,891
Oklahoma	3,585	7,667	798	6,869
Oregon	41,732	127,997	44,991	83,006
Pennsylvania	25,905	64,619	15,634	48,985
Puerto Rico	2,380	6,601	2,446	4,155
Rhode Island	3,245	8,512	2,553	5,959
South Carolina	5,599	12,845	2,388	10,457
South Dakota	2,431	4,813	334	4,479
Tennessee	10,033	21,563	4,323	17,240
Texas	9,621	18,978	2,453	16,525
Utah	1,995	4,671	1,226	3,445
Vermont	2,009	4,628	1,260	3,368

State	Families	Total Recipients	Adults	Children
Virginia	14,860	34,044	8,177	25,867
Washington	44,127	111,325	40,694	70,631
West Virginia	4,926	9,699	1,621	8,078
Wisconsin	12,073	26,182	4,406	21,776
Wyoming	485	1,201	283	918
Guam	153	364	56	308
Virgin Islands	57	197	57	140
All Jurisdictions	986,792	2,751,447	819,232	1,932,215

**Source:** Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Data as of February 21, 2024, and subject to revision.

**Notes:** TANF cash assistance caseload includes families receiving assistance in state-funded programs counted toward the TANF maintenance of effort (MOE) requirement.

**Table B-5. Number of Needy Families with Children Receiving Assistance by Jurisdiction, September of Selected Years**

State	1994	2019	2022	2023	Percentage Change	
					1994 to 2023	2022 to 2023
Alabama	48,752	7,687	5,821	5,556	-88.6%	-4.6%
Alaska	12,450	2,245	1,319	1,056	-91.5	-19.9
Arizona	72,728	7,010	5,531	5,173	-92.9	-6.5
Arkansas	25,298	2,357	939	887	-96.5	-5.5
California	916,795	367,313	382,764	362,158	-60.5	-5.4
Colorado	40,544	14,226	12,195	12,578	-69.0	3.1
Connecticut	60,336	7,724	4,971	5,125	-91.5	3.1
Delaware	11,408	3,249	2,945	2,834	-75.2	-3.8
District of Columbia	27,320	7,745	6,779	4,222	-84.5	-37.7
Florida	239,702	38,093	30,686	35,095	-85.4	14.4
Georgia	141,596	8,837	5,734	4,594	-96.8	-19.9
Hawaii	21,312	4,029	3,681	3,112	-85.4	-15.5
Idaho	8,635	2,043	1,522	1,488	-82.8	-2.2
Illinois	241,290	10,874	10,058	9,882	-95.9	-1.7
Indiana	72,654	5,164	4,117	5,256	-92.8	27.7
Iowa	39,137	8,922	5,108	4,782	-87.8	-6.4
Kansas	29,524	4,039	2,940	2,945	-90.0	0.2

State	1994	2019	2022	2023	Percentage Change	
					1994 to 2023	2022 to 2023
Kentucky	78,720	16,586	11,359	13,171	-83.3	16.0
Louisiana	84,162	4,726	4,259	4,753	-94.4	11.6
Maine	22,322	14,634	12,735	13,673	-38.7	7.4
Maryland	80,266	16,469	16,773	14,792	-81.6	-11.8
Massachusetts	108,985	50,166	55,310	59,409	-45.5	7.4
Michigan	215,873	10,788	8,751	8,395	-96.1	-4.1
Minnesota	59,987	15,399	13,697	13,494	-77.5	-1.5
Mississippi	55,232	3,083	1,687	1,648	-97.0	-2.3
Missouri	91,875	9,760	6,047	5,526	-94.0	-8.6
Montana	11,416	3,236	1,854	1,685	-85.2	-9.1
Nebraska	15,435	4,364	3,072	2,890	-81.3	-5.9
Nevada	14,620	8,042	6,245	5,859	-59.9	-6.2
New Hampshire	11,398	5,206	3,746	3,941	-65.4	5.2
New Jersey	122,376	8,857	9,539	9,216	-92.5	-3.4
New Mexico	34,535	10,087	9,540	6,768	-80.4	-29.1
New York	461,751	113,971	115,984	121,383	-73.7	4.7
North Carolina	129,258	13,064	11,907	7,346	-94.3	-38.3
North Dakota	5,410	957	596	559	-89.7	-6.2
Ohio	244,099	51,140	41,983	40,325	-83.5	-3.9
Oklahoma	46,572	5,949	3,542	3,585	-92.3	1.2
Oregon	40,504	36,971	38,587	41,732	3.0	8.2
Pennsylvania	212,457	39,746	29,470	25,905	-87.8	-12.1
Puerto Rico	57,337	4,475	3,158	2,380	-95.8	-24.6
Rhode Island	22,776	4,002	3,150	3,245	-85.8	3.0
South Carolina	50,430	7,649	6,233	5,599	-88.9	-10.2
South Dakota	6,601	2,923	2,393	2,431	-63.2	1.6
Tennessee	109,678	19,221	13,852	10,033	-90.9	-27.6
Texas	284,973	22,821	10,879	9,621	-96.6	-11.6
Utah	17,505	3,170	1,924	1,995	-88.6	3.7
Vermont	9,761	2,669	2,085	2,009	-79.4	-3.6
Virginia	74,257	16,649	20,419	14,860	-80.0	-27.2
Washington	101,542	36,023	44,355	44,127	-56.5	-0.5
West Virginia	40,279	6,331	5,257	4,926	-87.8	-6.3
Wisconsin	75,086	15,122	12,156	12,073	-83.9	-0.7
Wyoming	5,351	504	441	485	-90.9	10.0

State	1994	2019	2022	2023	Percentage Change	
					1994 to 2023	2022 to 2023
Guam	2,089	439	343	153	-92.7	-55.4
Virgin Islands	1,146	96	61	57	-95.0	-6.6
All Jurisdictions	5,015,545	1,086,852	1,020,499	986,792	-80.3	-3.3

**Source:** Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**Notes:** TANF cash assistance caseload includes families receiving assistance in state-funded programs counted toward the TANF maintenance of effort (MOE) requirement. The years were selected for the table based on the following: 1994 reflects the number of families receiving assistance in the pre-TANF program of cash assistance (Aid to Families with Dependent Children) and the year the number of families receiving assistance reached its historic peak; 2019 reflects the last year before the COVID-19 pandemic; and 2022 is the year prior to the last year for which data are available (2023).

**Table B-6. TANF Cash Assistance Maximum Monthly Benefit Amounts for a Single-Parent Family with One Child, By Jurisdiction, July 2022**

Monthly Benefit as a Percentage of the HHS Poverty Guidelines for a Family of Two

Jurisdiction	Maximum Benefit Family Size of Two	Percentage of the HHS Poverty Guidelines for 2022
Alabama	\$190	12.5%
Alaska	821	43.0
Arizona	220	14.4
Arkansas	162	10.6
California	733	48.0
Colorado	440	28.8
Connecticut	614	40.2
Delaware	270	17.7
District of Columbia	521	34.1
Florida	241	15.8
Georgia	235	15.4
Guam	258	16.9
Hawaii	485	27.6
Idaho	309	20.2
Illinois	435	28.5
Indiana	229	15.0
Iowa	361	23.7
Kansas	352	23.1

Jurisdiction	Maximum Benefit Family Size of Two	Percentage of the HHS Poverty Guidelines for 2022
Kentucky	225	14.7
Louisiana	376	24.6
Maine	469	30.7
Maryland	665	43.6
Massachusetts	629	41.2
Michigan	403	26.4
Minnesota	545	35.7
Mississippi	236	15.5
Missouri	234	15.3
Montana	467	30.6
Nebraska	408	26.7
Nevada	320	21.0
New Hampshire	915	60.0
New Jersey	425	27.9
New Mexico	357	23.4
New York	574	37.6
North Carolina	236	15.5
North Dakota	385	25.2
Ohio	442	29.0
Oklahoma	225	14.7
Oregon	432	28.3
Pennsylvania	316	20.7
Puerto Rico	712	46.7
Rhode Island	584	38.3
South Carolina	244	16.0
South Dakota	563	36.9
Tennessee	343	22.5
Texas	270	17.7
Utah	399	26.1
Vermont	665	43.6
Virgin Islands	260	17.0
Virginia	489	32.0
Washington	528	34.6
West Virginia	480	31.5

Jurisdiction	Maximum Benefit Family Size of Two	Percentage of the HHS Poverty Guidelines for 2022
Wisconsin	653	42.8
Wyoming	734	48.1

**Source:** Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on data from the Welfare Rules Database, funded by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and maintained at the Urban Institute. The HHS poverty guidelines for 2022 can be found at <https://aspe.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/4b515876c4674466423975826ac57583/Guidelines-2022.pdf>.

**Table B-7. TANF Work Participation Standard and Rate, By Jurisdiction for All Families: FY2022**

State	Statutory Standard	Caseload Reduction Credit (percentage points)	Effective After Credit Standard	Work Participation Rate	Met Standard?
Alabama	50.0%	50.0	0.0%	44.9%	Yes
Alaska	50.0	50.0	0.0	31.1	Yes
Arizona	50.0	50.0	0.0	12.9	Yes
Arkansas	50.0	50.0	0.0	14.6	Yes
California	50.0	40.8	9.2	47.6	Yes
Colorado	50.0	50.0	0.0	43.1	Yes
Connecticut	50.0	50.0	0.0	3.7	Yes
Delaware	50.0	50.0	0.0	17.8	Yes
District of Columbia	50.0	39.3	10.7	20.5	Yes
Florida	50.0	37.7	12.3	12.4	Yes
Georgia	50.0	50.0	0.0	7.0	Yes
Guam	50.0	50.0	0.0	1.9	Yes
Hawaii	50.0	50.0	0.0	13.2	Yes
Idaho	50.0	0.0	50.0	64.2	Yes
Illinois	50.0	33.8	16.2	48.4	Yes
Indiana	50.0	50.0	0.0	14.0	Yes
Iowa	50.0	50.0	0.0	17.3	Yes
Kansas	50.0	50.0	0.0	30.2	Yes
Kentucky	50.0	50.0	0.0	20.1	Yes
Louisiana	50.0	50.0	0.0	4.7	Yes
Maine	50.0	0.0	50.0	78.0	Yes
Maryland	50.0	38.2	11.8	12.0	Yes
Massachusetts	50.0	36.4	13.6	50.4	Yes

State	Statutory Standard	Caseload Reduction Credit (percentage points)	Effective After Credit Standard	Work Participation Rate	Met Standard?
Michigan	50.0	50.0	0.0	44.7	Yes
Minnesota	50.0	39.9	10.1	20.4	Yes
Mississippi	50.0	50.0	0.0	43.3	Yes
Missouri	50.0	50.0	0.0	17.5	Yes
Montana	50.0	50.0	0.0	34.4	Yes
Nebraska	50.0	50.0	0.0	10.3	Yes
Nevada	50.0	50.0	0.0	23.5	Yes
New Hampshire	50.0	0.0	50.0	61.7	Yes
New Jersey	50.0	50.0	0.0	5.5	Yes
New Mexico	50.0	50.0	0.0	7.5	Yes
New York	50.0	50.0	0.0	11.5	Yes
North Carolina	50.0	49.1	0.9	5.4	Yes
North Dakota	50.0	50.0	0.0	40.6	Yes
Ohio	50.0	45.2	4.8	35.5	Yes
Oklahoma	50.0	50.0	0.0	15.5	Yes
Oregon	50.0	0.0	50.0	47.6	No
Pennsylvania	50.0	50.0	0.0	17.9	Yes
Puerto Rico	50.0	50.0	0.0	6.8	Yes
Rhode Island	50.0	50.0	0.0	7.6	Yes
South Carolina	50.0	50.0	0.0	6.4	Yes
South Dakota	50.0	0.0	50.0	54.5	Yes
Tennessee	50.0	50.0	0.0	32.5	Yes
Texas	50.0	50.0	0.0	16.1	Yes
Utah	50.0	50.0	0.0	11.8	Yes
Vermont	50.0	47.1	2.9	32.6	Yes
Virgin Islands	50.0	50.0	0.0	2.5	Yes
Virginia	50.0	50.0	0.0	13.5	Yes
Washington	50.0	50.0	0.0	33.9	Yes
West Virginia	50.0	50.0	0.0	23.8	Yes
Wisconsin	50.0	37.7	12.3	57.0	Yes
Wyoming	50.0	0.0	50.0	74.5	Yes

**Source:** Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**Table B-8. TANF Work Participation Standard and Rate, By Jurisdiction, for Two-Parent Families: FY2022**

State	Statutory Standard	Caseload Reduction Credit (percentage points)	Effective After Credit Standard	Work Participation Rate	Met Standard?
Alabama	90.0%	90.0	0.0%	40.1%	Yes
Alaska	90.0	61.6	28.4	38.7	Yes
Arizona	90.0	79.1	10.9	20.0	Yes
Arkansas	90.0	83.6	6.4	32.2	Yes
California	90.0	49.4	40.6	24.0	No
Colorado	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Connecticut	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Delaware	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
District of Columbia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Florida	90.0	37.7	52.3	10.5	No
Georgia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Guam	90.0	61.2	28.8	0.4	No
Hawaii	90.0	57.8	32.2	18.4	No
Idaho	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Illinois	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Indiana	90.0	80.8	9.2	9.7	Yes
Iowa	90.0	85.6	4.4	12.0	Yes
Kansas	90.0	72.8	17.2	32.8	Yes
Kentucky	90.0	76.3	13.7	25.1	Yes
Louisiana	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Maine	90.0	0.0	90.0	91.6	Yes
Maryland	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Massachusetts	90.0	36.4	53.6	94.8	Yes
Michigan	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Minnesota	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mississippi	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Missouri	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Montana	90.0	83.2	6.8	36.3	Yes
Nebraska	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Nevada	90.0	59.5	30.5	29.5	No
New Hampshire	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
New Jersey	90.0	86.5	3.5	93.7	Yes



State	Statutory Standard	Caseload Reduction Credit (percentage points)	Effective After Credit Standard	Work Participation Rate	Met Standard?
New Mexico	90.0	72.8	17.2	17.8	Yes
New York	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
North Carolina	90.0	49.1	40.9	13.2	No
North Dakota	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ohio	90.0	85.7	4.3	31.5	Yes
Oklahoma	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Oregon	90.0	0.0	90.0	88.3	No
Pennsylvania	90.0	90.0	0.0	32.9	Yes
Puerto Rico	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Rhode Island	90.0	74.8	15.2	8.9	No
South Carolina	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
South Dakota	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tennessee	90.0	79.9	10.1	37.7	Yes
Texas	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Utah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Vermont	90.0	55.1	34.9	44.1	Yes
Virgin Islands	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Virginia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Washington	90.0	55.0	35.0	55.7	Yes
West Virginia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Wisconsin	90.0	55.7	34.3	51.0	Yes
Wyoming	90.0	0.0	90.0	74.5	No

**Source:** Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**Note:** NA denotes that the jurisdiction did not have two-parent families receiving TANF or MOE funded assistance.

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