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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 FY2022, the TANF basic block grant was 45% 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 FY2021, states used a total of \$30.3 billion in federal TANF and state MOE dollars. Of that FY2021 total, expenditures on basic assistance were \$6.9 billion—22.6% 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 2022. The bulk of the recipients were children—2.0 million in that month.

Assistance Benefits

TANF assistance benefit amounts are set by states. In July 2020, the maximum monthly benefit for a family of two (single parent and one child) ranged from \$862 in New Hampshire to \$146 in Mississippi. 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 poverty-level income.

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 FY2021, states achieved, on average, an all-family participation rate of 33.6% and a two-parent rate of 37.9%.

In FY2021, Florida, Maryland, and Oregon did not meet their all-family participation standard. California, Florida, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, 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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Gene Falk

Specialist in Social Policy

Patrick A. Landers

Analyst in Social Policy

For a copy of the full report, please call 7-5700 or visit www.crs.gov.

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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?

The Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (P.L. 118-15) extended TANF funding through November 17, 2023.

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.¹ 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—both nationally 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.

¹ 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 FY2022. In inflation-adjusted terms, the FY2022 block grant was 45% below its value in FY1997.

Table 1. 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

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).

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

How have states used TANF funds?

In FY2021, states used a total of \$30.3 billion in combined federal TANF and state MOE dollars (this total includes dollars transferred to other block grant program, but excludes expenditures in tribal TANF programs or those operated in the territories). Basic assistance—ongoing benefits to families to meet basic needs—represented 22.6% (\$6.9 billion) of total FY2021 TANF and MOE dollars.

TANF is a major contributor of child care funding. In FY2021, \$4.9 billion (16.2% of all TANF and MOE funds) were either expended on child care directly within TANF or transferred to the child care block grant (the Child Care and Development Fund, or CCDF). TANF and MOE funds also help fund state pre-kindergarten (pre-K) programs, with FY2021 expenditures for pre-K programs totaling \$2.9 billion.

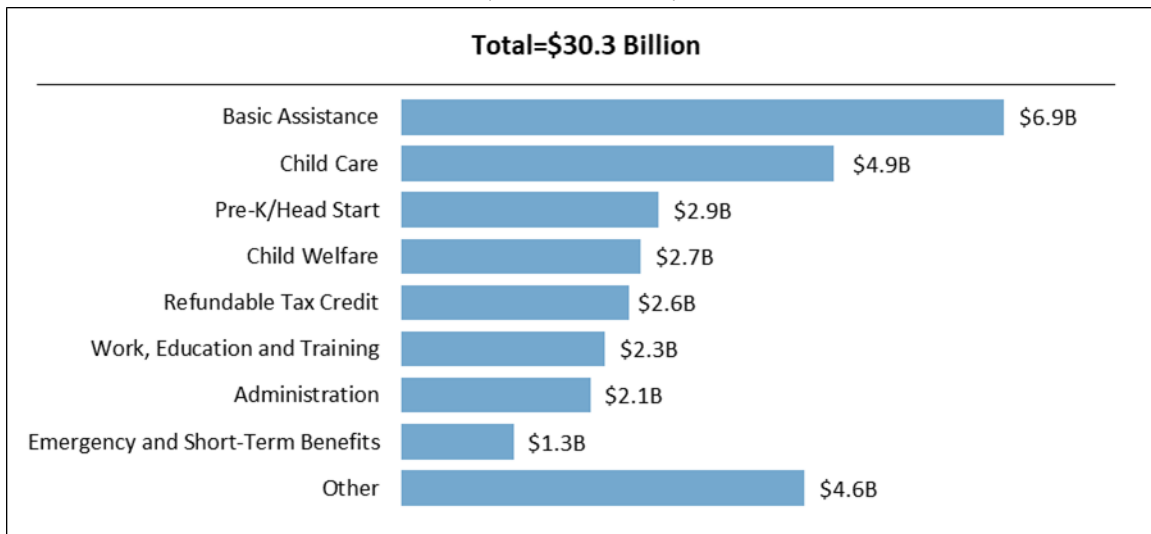
TANF is also a major contributor to the child welfare system, which provides foster care, adoption assistance, and services to families with children who have experienced, or are at risk of experiencing, child abuse or neglect, spending about \$2.7 billion on such activities.

TANF also helps low-wage parents by helping to finance state refundable tax credits, such as state add-ons to the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) or state refundable child credits. TANF and MOE expenditures on refundable tax credits in FY2021 totaled \$2.6 billion, or 8.5% of total TANF and MOE spending.

TANF work-related activities (including education and training) were the fifth-largest TANF and MOE spending category at \$2.3 billion, or 7.6% of total TANF and MOE funds. TANF and MOE funds are also used for short-term and emergency benefits and a wide range of other social services.

Figure 1 shows the uses of federal TANF grants to states and state MOE funds in FY2021. Note that the data in this figure exclude spending from the Pandemic Emergency Fund, a temporary \$1 billion fund enacted in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA, P.L. 117-2) to help meet needs arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. States, tribes, and territories could use Pandemic Emergency Fund dollars only on “non-recurring short-term benefits.”

Figure 1. Uses of Federal TANF and MOE Funds by Spending Category, FY2021
(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.

For state-specific information on the use of TANF funds, see **Table B-1** and **Table B-2**.

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 FY2021 (September 30, 2021), a total of \$8.0 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—that is, had obligated—a total of approximately \$1.9 billion. At the end of FY2021, states had approximately \$6.2 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.² 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 people 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 recipients, received TANF- or MOE-funded assistance in September 2022. The bulk of the recipients were children—2.0 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 2022

Total Families	1,019,898
Total Recipients	2,820,773
Total Child Recipients	2,015,874
Total Adult Recipients	804,899

Source: Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Data as of December 27, 2022, and subject to revision.

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 2022. 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

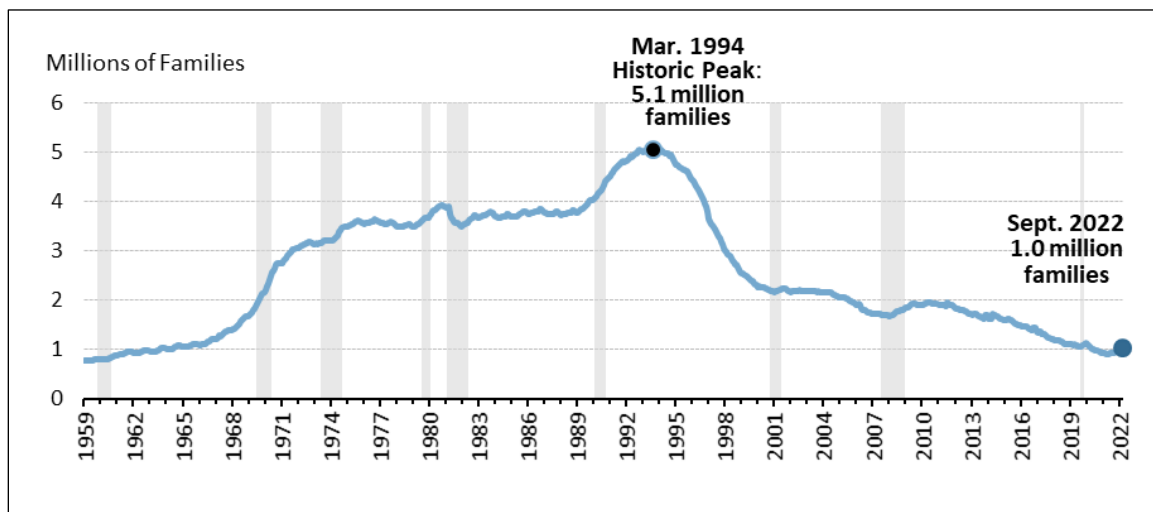
² The definition of TANF assistance is not in statute. However, because the statutory language has most TANF requirements triggered by a family receiving “assistance,” the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) regulations define assistance at 45 C.F.R. Section 260.31.

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.³ The number of families receiving assistance declined until late 2021, but has recently been rising.

The number of families receiving assistance increased by 113,000 nationwide from September 2021 to September 2022. From September 2021 to September 2022, 24 jurisdictions had increases in the number of families receiving assistance, while 30 jurisdictions had decreases. The increase in families receiving assistance is concentrated in a small number of larger-population states (California, Massachusetts, and New York). **Table B-5** shows recent trends in the number of cash assistance families by state.

Figure 2. Number of Families Receiving Assistance, July 1959 to September 2022



Source: Congressional Research Service (CRS), with data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Data as of December 27, 2022, and subject to revision.

³ 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.

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

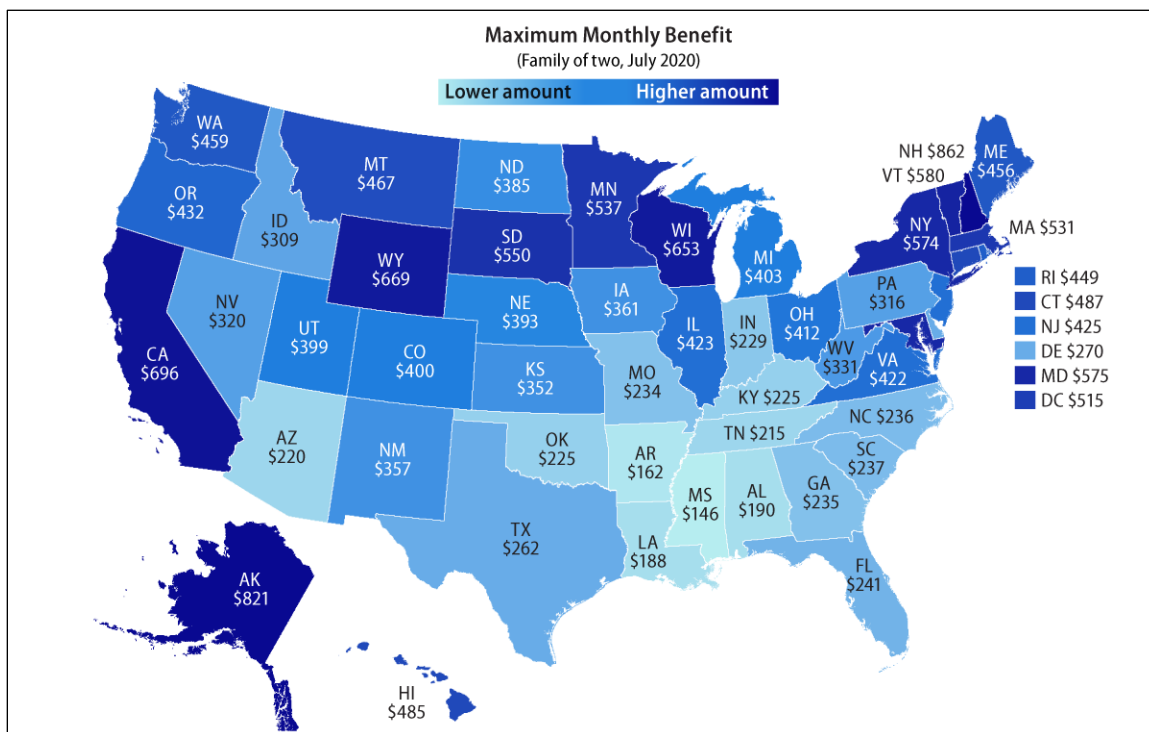
There are *no* federal rules that help determine the amount of TANF cash benefits paid to a family. (There are also no federal rules that require states to use TANF to pay cash benefits, though all states do so.) Benefit amounts are determined solely by the states.

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 shows the maximum monthly TANF cash benefit by state for a single parent caring for one child (family of two) in July 2020.⁴ For a family of two, the maximum TANF benefit paid in July 2020 varied from \$146 per month in Mississippi to \$862 per month in New Hampshire. 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 poverty-level income.

⁴ 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 Maximum Monthly Benefit Amounts for a Single-Parent Family with One Child, 50 States and the District of Columbia, July 2020



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. The Welfare Rules Database has information for the 50 states and District of Columbia. It does not have information on TANF assistance programs in Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands or tribal TANF programs.

Table B-6 shows these benefit amounts by state in dollars and as a percentage of the federal poverty level (FPL).

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.⁵ 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.

⁵ 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.

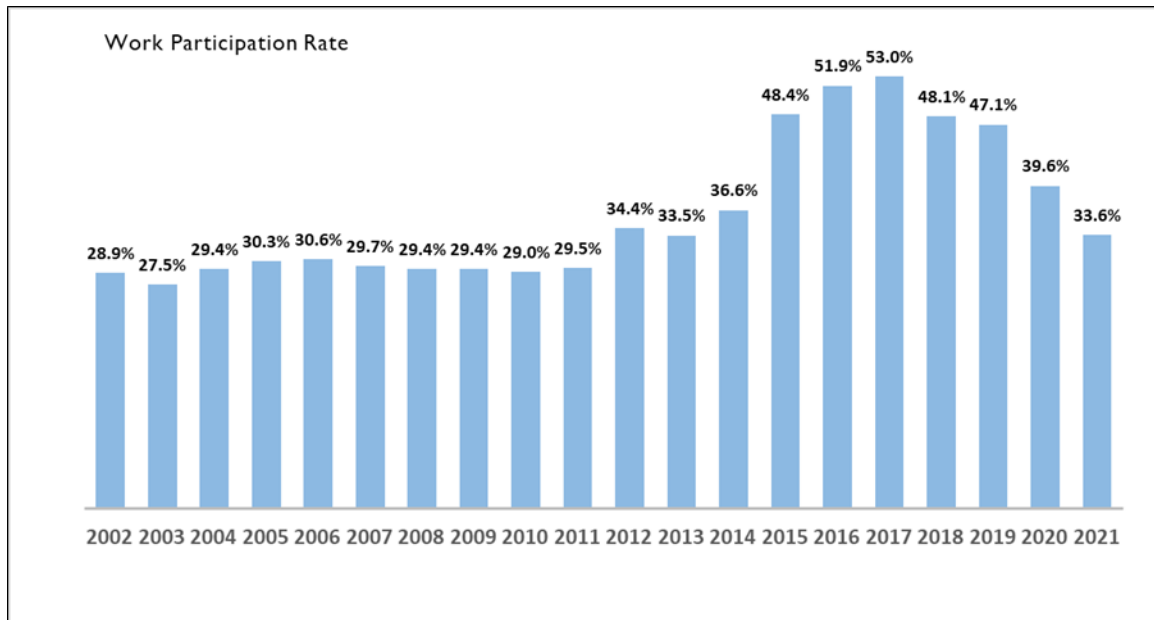
What work participation rates have the states achieved?

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 FY2021. For the period FY2002 through FY2011, states achieved an average all-families work participation rate hovering around 30%. Then, work participation rate increased. In FY2016, it exceeded 50% for the first time since TANF was established. However, it is important to note that the increase in the work participation rate did not come from an increase in the number of recipients in regular TANF assistance programs who are 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 in FY2018 through FY2021. In FY2020 and FY2021, years affected by COVID-19 and its economic fallout, the national average all-families rate was 33.6%. In FY2020, all states met their all-families TANF work participation standards despite this decline. However, in FY2021, Florida, Maryland, and Oregon did not meet their “all families” work participation standard.

Figure 4. National Average TANF Work Participation Rate for All Families, FY2002-FY2021



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

In FY2021, ten jurisdictions (California, Florida, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, 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 FY2021. **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. 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.”⁶ HHS has not revised this statement under the Biden Administration.

⁶ 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: 1961-2021

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

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. Use of FY2021 TANF and MOE Funds by Category
(dollars in millions)

State	Basic Assistance	Child Care	Pre-K Head-Start	Child Welfare	Refundable Tax Credits	Work Education and Training	Administration	Emergency and Short-Term Benefits	Other	Totals
Alabama	\$14.408	\$22.106	\$31.327	\$44.142	\$0.000	\$6.520	\$10.955	\$40.860	\$34.685	\$205.003
Alaska	38.742	12.147	0.000	0.000	0.000	10.890	6.524	0.318	11.711	80.331
Arizona	38.245	0.000	0.000	227.877	0.000	0.545	16.444	7.033	47.904	338.049
Arkansas	3.554	5.250	29.998	3.711	0.000	11.028	13.107	4.377	17.122	88.145
California	2,279.025	989.279	0.148	0.002	0.000	894.773	604.394	386.003	948.366	6,101.990
Colorado	57.199	13.946	85.909	58.450	79.530	6.050	57.673	3.832	61.740	424.328
Connecticut	26.847	54.791	68.593	72.973	52.700	10.179	37.444	14.534	137.849	475.909
Delaware	5.636	30.228	0.000	0.000	0.000	13.126	3.081	1.314	44.634	98.018
District of Columbia	200.126	53.056	0.000	0.000	21.476	32.943	13.756	96.951	10.951	429.260
Florida	168.261	306.439	0.000	258.744	0.000	42.024	52.455	2.038	65.812	895.773
Georgia	94.950	0.000	0.000	265.337	0.000	6.618	18.223	4.678	61.420	451.225
Hawaii	49.215	7.406	0.000	7.032	0.000	36.510	19.975	11.720	76.431	208.289
Idaho	6.910	8.980	1.477	1.727	0.000	2.506	5.069	13.834	0.334	40.838
Illinois	45.137	535.329	113.153	229.756	103.349	17.842	0.000	0.919	104.027	1,149.513
Indiana	19.941	91.865	0.000	2.161	19.082	1.494	22.685	0.346	130.046	287.620
Iowa	27.115	45.422	0.000	54.292	22.486	5.736	6.999	0.183	20.420	182.652
Kansas	9.941	6.673	15.997	35.340	38.294	0.813	10.360	0.000	44.118	161.535

State	Basic Assistance	Child Care	Pre-K Head-Start	Child Welfare	Refundable Tax Credits	Work Education and Training	Administration	Emergency and Short-Term Benefits	Other	Totals
Kentucky	164.292	19.299	0.000	0.000	0.000	21.021	12.522	0.000	3.383	220.516
Louisiana	12.362	0.000	56.043	33.290	17.421	47.759	17.802	8.408	30.192	223.276
Maine	39.638	21.470	0.533	10.880	15.821	14.098	3.940	6.064	26.272	138.717
Maryland	170.394	5.442	58.021	30.070	202.029	27.898	23.550	37.056	48.229	602.689
Massachusetts	213.480	334.376	0.000	11.374	174.413	166.427	32.466	91.807	78.756	1,103.098
Michigan	103.219	26.423	157.550	73.918	30.914	3.314	55.456	21.443	772.126	1,244.361
Minnesota	123.948	124.236	5.700	0.000	109.977	58.388	45.379	14.045	25.247	506.919
Mississippi	3.531	1.715	0.000	15.210	0.000	19.532	6.779	0.000	10.569	57.336
Missouri	20.803	23.306	0.000	120.352	0.000	70.706	6.621	83.549	47.934	373.271
Montana	12.656	6.774	0.000	1.813	0.000	2.601	5.554	1.034	7.809	38.241
Nebraska	20.948	7.157	0.000	6.351	29.122	9.795	3.100	0.167	2.660	79.301
Nevada	36.031	10.087	0.000	30.990	0.000	0.523	8.544	7.920	21.327	115.422
New Hampshire	29.215	4.582	0.000	3.257	0.000	5.730	9.623	1.796	14.827	69.030
New Jersey	81.789	148.714	608.583	0.000	396.587	60.559	53.955	15.939	69.315	1,435.440
New Mexico	50.212	42.868	55.013	0.724	135.270	13.938	5.926	8.957	16.446	329.354
New York	1,633.424	375.680	818.713	361.021	1,026.718	140.863	438.496	194.668	314.213	5,303.796
North Carolina	30.908	217.901	76.713	150.227	0.000	4.610	45.942	3.841	47.833	577.974
North Dakota	4.553	0.000	0.000	15.452	0.000	3.575	5.279	0.022	1.819	30.699
Ohio	219.054	420.171	0.574	18.438	0.000	84.446	102.226	67.749	240.531	1,153.188
Oklahoma	21.070	43.340	0.000	8.787	0.000	14.979	8.065	0.514	28.941	125.697
Oregon	67.058	20.439	14.129	3.914	3.381	18.780	12.086	10.673	22.573	173.033

State	Basic Assistance	Child Care	Pre-K Head-Start	Child Welfare	Refundable Tax Credits	Work Education and Training	Administration	Emergency and Short-Term Benefits	Other	Totals
Pennsylvania	105.679	373.782	221.517	0.000	0.000	101.555	55.402	5.484	99.923	963.342
Rhode Island	15.203	26.400	1.190	19.668	16.084	9.340	6.761	9.697	27.779	132.123
South Carolina	29.027	4.085	25.976	3.902	0.000	7.102	18.605	0.000	67.642	156.339
South Dakota	11.854	0.803	0.000	4.067	0.000	3.208	2.003	4.189	3.107	29.231
Tennessee	110.039	7.622	83.443	14.690	0.049	19.987	30.478	0.000	4.243	270.549
Texas	35.040	0.000	325.879	383.887	0.000	78.075	82.961	1.481	51.322	958.645
Utah	16.062	22.200	1.878	0.960	0.000	16.386	7.604	1.543	16.794	83.428
Vermont	11.321	30.079	0.000	7.263	17.684	0.312	5.107	0.475	13.068	85.308
Virginia	78.325	23.348	5.981	57.771	0.186	34.706	48.320	6.875	59.357	314.868
Washington	157.890	173.437	63.678	35.422	0.000	119.464	45.277	46.811	438.749	1,080.728
West Virginia	46.486	21.096	0.000	26.214	0.000	0.315	13.841	1.552	26.007	135.511
Wisconsin	82.274	187.509	0.000	9.258	69.700	30.876	28.134	26.105	128.300	562.157
Wyoming	13.736	1.554	1.606	0.000	0.000	4.275	2.635	3.539	2.548	29.892
Totals	6,856.770	4,908.814	2,929.319	2,720.713	2,582.272	2,314.738	2,149.582	1,272.343	4,587.410	30,321.961

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 FY2021 TANF and MOE Funds by Category as a Percentage of Total Federal TANF and State MOE Spending

State	Basic Assistance	Child Care	Pre-K Head Start	Child Welfare	Refundable Tax Credits	Work Education and Training	Administration	Emergency and Short-Term Benefits	Other	Totals
Alabama	7.0%	10.8%	15.3%	21.5%	0.0%	3.2%	5.3%	19.9%	16.9%	100.0%
Alaska	48.2	15.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.6	8.1	0.4	14.6	100.0
Arizona	11.3	0.0	0.0	67.4	0.0	0.2	4.9	2.1	14.2	100.0
Arkansas	4.0	6.0	34.0	4.2	0.0	12.5	14.9	5.0	19.4	100.0
California	37.3	16.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.7	9.9	6.3	15.5	100.0
Colorado	13.5	3.3	20.2	13.8	18.7	1.4	13.6	0.9	14.5	100.0
Connecticut	5.6	11.5	14.4	15.3	11.1	2.1	7.9	3.1	29.0	100.0
Delaware	5.7	30.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.4	3.1	1.3	45.5	100.0
District of Columbia	46.6	12.4	0.0	0.0	5.0	7.7	3.2	22.6	2.6	100.0
Florida	18.8	34.2	0.0	28.9	0.0	4.7	5.9	0.2	7.3	100.0
Georgia	21.0	0.0	0.0	58.8	0.0	1.5	4.0	1.0	13.6	100.0
Hawaii	23.6	3.6	0.0	3.4	0.0	17.5	9.6	5.6	36.7	100.0
Idaho	16.9	22.0	3.6	4.2	0.0	6.1	12.4	33.9	0.8	100.0
Illinois	3.9	46.6	9.8	20.0	9.0	1.6	0.0	0.1	9.0	100.0
Indiana	6.9	31.9	0.0	0.8	6.6	0.5	7.9	0.1	45.2	100.0
Iowa	14.8	24.9	0.0	29.7	12.3	3.1	3.8	0.1	11.2	100.0
Kansas	6.2	4.1	9.9	21.9	23.7	0.5	6.4	0.0	27.3	100.0
Kentucky	74.5	8.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.5	5.7	0.0	1.5	100.0
Louisiana	5.5	0.0	25.1	14.9	7.8	21.4	8.0	3.8	13.5	100.0

State	Basic Assistance	Child Care	Pre-K Head Start	Child Welfare	Refundable Tax Credits	Work Education and Training	Administration	Emergency and Short-Term Benefits	Other	Totals
Maine	28.6	15.5	0.4	7.8	11.4	10.2	2.8	4.4	18.9	100.0
Maryland	28.3	0.9	9.6	5.0	33.5	4.6	3.9	6.1	8.0	100.0
Massachusetts	19.4	30.3	0.0	1.0	15.8	15.1	2.9	8.3	7.1	100.0
Michigan	8.3	2.1	12.7	5.9	2.5	0.3	4.5	1.7	62.0	100.0
Minnesota	24.5	24.5	1.1	0.0	21.7	11.5	9.0	2.8	5.0	100.0
Mississippi	6.2	3.0	0.0	26.5	0.0	34.1	11.8	0.0	18.4	100.0
Missouri	5.6	6.2	0.0	32.2	0.0	18.9	1.8	22.4	12.8	100.0
Montana	33.1	17.7	0.0	4.7	0.0	6.8	14.5	2.7	20.4	100.0
Nebraska	26.4	9.0	0.0	8.0	36.7	12.4	3.9	0.2	3.4	100.0
Nevada	31.2	8.7	0.0	26.8	0.0	0.5	7.4	6.9	18.5	100.0
New Hampshire	42.3	6.6	0.0	4.7	0.0	8.3	13.9	2.6	21.5	100.0
New Jersey	5.7	10.4	42.4	0.0	27.6	4.2	3.8	1.1	4.8	100.0
New Mexico	15.2	13.0	16.7	0.2	41.1	4.2	1.8	2.7	5.0	100.0
New York	30.8	7.1	15.4	6.8	19.4	2.7	8.3	3.7	5.9	100.0
North Carolina	5.3	37.7	13.3	26.0	0.0	0.8	7.9	0.7	8.3	100.0
North Dakota	14.8	0.0	0.0	50.3	0.0	11.6	17.2	0.1	5.9	100.0
Ohio	19.0	36.4	0.0	1.6	0.0	7.3	8.9	5.9	20.9	100.0
Oklahoma	16.8	34.5	0.0	7.0	0.0	11.9	6.4	0.4	23.0	100.0
Oregon	38.8	11.8	8.2	2.3	2.0	10.9	7.0	6.2	13.0	100.0
Pennsylvania	11.0	38.8	23.0	0.0	0.0	10.5	5.8	0.6	10.4	100.0
Rhode Island	11.5	20.0	0.9	14.9	12.2	7.1	5.1	7.3	21.0	100.0

State	Basic Assistance	Child Care	Pre-K Head Start	Child Welfare	Refund-able Tax Credits	Work Education and Training	Administration	Emergency and Short-Term Benefits	Other	Totals
South Carolina	18.6	2.6	16.6	2.5	0.0	4.5	11.9	0.0	43.3	100.0
South Dakota	40.6	2.7	0.0	13.9	0.0	11.0	6.9	14.3	10.6	100.0
Tennessee	40.7	2.8	30.8	5.4	0.0	7.4	11.3	0.0	1.6	100.0
Texas	3.7	0.0	34.0	40.0	0.0	8.1	8.7	0.2	5.4	100.0
Utah	19.3	26.6	2.3	1.2	0.0	19.6	9.1	1.8	20.1	100.0
Vermont	13.3	35.3	0.0	8.5	20.7	0.4	6.0	0.6	15.3	100.0
Virginia	24.9	7.4	1.9	18.3	0.1	11.0	15.3	2.2	18.9	100.0
Washington	14.6	16.0	5.9	3.3	0.0	11.1	4.2	4.3	40.6	100.0
West Virginia	34.3	15.6	0.0	19.3	0.0	0.2	10.2	1.1	19.2	100.0
Wisconsin	14.6	33.4	0.0	1.6	12.4	5.5	5.0	4.6	22.8	100.0
Wyoming	46.0	5.2	5.4	0.0	0.0	14.3	8.8	11.8	8.5	100.0
Percentage of Total	22.6	16.2	9.7	9.0	8.5	7.6	7.1	4.2	15.1	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: 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 FY2021
(September 30, 2021, dollars in millions)

State	Unliquidated Obligations	Unobligated Balance
Alabama	\$10.000	\$103.338
Alaska	22.434	0.000
Arizona	0.000	52.910
Arkansas	30.757	81.927
California	544.053	0.000
Colorado	0.000	100.116
Connecticut	0.000	0.000
Delaware	3.038	41.844
District of Columbia	0.000	15.151
Florida	0.000	100.689
Georgia	39.196	119.452
Hawaii	26.939	378.498
Idaho	0.000	10.763
Illinois	0.000	0.000
Indiana	10.799	54.338
Iowa	0.000	27.199
Kansas	3.870	58.384
Kentucky	0.000	71.791
Louisiana	0.000	71.546
Maine	35.681	56.365
Maryland	0.000	15.827
Massachusetts	0.000	0.000
Michigan	0.000	115.981
Minnesota	0.000	141.295
Mississippi	0.000	97.906
Missouri	0.000	0.000
Montana	0.000	41.651
Nebraska	65.682	55.541
Nevada	0.646	38.839
New Hampshire	0.000	52.564
New Jersey	141.402	0.000
New Mexico	48.103	7.139
New York	39.745	1,216.600

State	Unliquidated Obligations	Unobligated Balance
North Carolina	44.146	0.046
North Dakota	0.000	6.183
Ohio	608.572	10.393
Oklahoma	0.000	333.671
Oregon	0.000	135.508
Pennsylvania	128.096	669.260
Rhode Island	0.000	51.701
South Carolina	0.000	8.379
South Dakota	0.000	23.311
Tennessee	0.000	798.337
Texas	0.000	363.598
Utah	0.000	76.594
Vermont	0.000	0.000
Virginia	7.808	104.563
Washington	43.648	98.034
West Virginia	0.000	110.193
Wisconsin	0.000	213.669
Wyoming	0.000	25.430
Totals	1,854.618	6,156.520

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. Also excludes spending from the Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund.

Table B-4. Number of Families, Recipients, Children, and Adults Receiving TANF Assistance by Jurisdiction, September 2022

State	Families	Recipients	Children	Adults
Alabama	5,821	13,422	11,070	2,352
Alaska	1,319	3,511	2,476	1,035
Arizona	5,531	11,095	9,331	1,764
Arkansas	939	2,131	1,711	420
California	382,605	1,288,339	891,993	396,346
Colorado	12,195	29,805	21,801	8,004
Connecticut	4,971	11,074	8,127	2,947
Delaware	2,945	8,297	4,947	3,350

State	Families	Recipients	Children	Adults
District of Columbia	6,779	21,125	15,852	5,273
Florida	30,686	55,035	40,046	14,989
Georgia	5,734	10,608	9,936	672
Guam	343	934	689	245
Hawaii	3,681	10,608	7,248	3,360
Idaho	1,522	2,118	2,079	39
Illinois	10,058	20,273	17,871	2,402
Indiana	4,117	8,663	7,469	1,194
Iowa	5,108	12,394	9,593	2,801
Kansas	2,940	2,940	1,540	1,400
Kentucky	11,359	23,089	19,739	3,350
Louisiana	4,259	10,743	8,776	1,967
Maine	12,735	43,279	27,155	16,124
Maryland	16,773	45,401	32,688	12,713
Massachusetts	55,310	150,160	105,089	45,071
Michigan	8,751	23,617	18,534	5,083
Minnesota	13,697	32,321	24,402	7,919
Mississippi	1,687	2,315	2,085	230
Missouri	6,047	13,981	10,915	3,066
Montana	1,854	4,216	3,467	749
Nebraska	3,072	7,198	6,232	966
Nevada	6,245	16,270	11,814	4,456
New Hampshire	3,746	8,949	6,748	2,201
New Jersey	9,568	23,846	17,019	6,827
New Mexico	9,540	24,044	17,664	6,380
New York	115,984	298,197	200,273	97,924
North Carolina	11,907	21,868	19,082	2,786
North Dakota	596	1,415	1,253	162
Ohio	41,983	74,653	68,538	6,115
Oklahoma	3,542	7,611	6,835	776
Oregon	38,116	113,153	73,874	39,279
Pennsylvania	29,470	73,730	55,843	17,887
Puerto Rico	3,158	8,687	5,413	3,274
Rhode Island	3,150	8,350	5,937	2,413
South Carolina	6,233	14,308	11,774	2,534
South Dakota	2,393	4,679	4,383	296
Tennessee	13,852	29,286	23,761	5,525

State	Families	Recipients	Children	Adults
Texas	10,879	20,782	18,438	2,344
Utah	1,924	4,338	3,260	1,078
Vermont	2,085	4,714	3,448	1,266
Virgin Islands	61	211	150	61
Virginia	20,419	42,644	31,939	10,705
Washington	44,355	112,885	74,229	38,656
West Virginia	5,257	10,217	8,610	1,607
Wisconsin	12,156	26,201	21,916	4,285
Wyoming	441	1,043	812	231
Totals	1,019,898	2,820,773	2,015,874	804,899

Source: Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Data as of December 27, 2022, 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	2021	2022	Percentage Change	
					1994-2022	2021-2022
Alabama	48,752	7,687	5,678	5,821	-88.1%	2.5%
Alaska	12,450	2,245	1,573	1,319	-89.4	-16.1
Arizona	72,728	7,010	6,113	5,531	-92.4	-9.5
Arkansas	25,298	2,357	1,365	939	-96.3	-31.2
California	916,795	367,313	301,515	382,605	-58.3	26.9
Colorado	40,544	14,226	10,373	12,195	-69.9	17.6
Connecticut	60,336	7,724	4,723	4,971	-91.8	5.3
Delaware	11,408	3,249	2,695	2,945	-74.2	9.3
District of Columbia	27,320	7,745	7,383	6,779	-75.2	-8.2
Florida	239,702	38,093	31,956	30,686	-87.2	-4.0
Georgia	141,596	8,837	7,286	5,734	-96.0	-21.3
Guam	2,089	439	333	343	-83.6	3.0
Hawaii	21,312	4,029	5,553	3,681	-82.7	-33.7
Idaho	8,635	2,043	1,615	1,522	-82.4	-5.8
Illinois	241,290	10,874	9,673	10,058	-95.8	4.0
Indiana	72,654	5,164	6,637	4,117	-94.3	-38.0

State	1994	2019	2021	2022	Percentage Change	
					1994-2022	2021-2022
Iowa	39,137	8,922	5,894	5,108	-86.9	-13.3
Kansas	29,524	4,039	2,845	2,940	-90.0	3.3
Kentucky	78,720	16,586	11,866	11,359	-85.6	-4.3
Louisiana	84,162	4,726	2,667	4,259	-94.9	59.7
Maine	22,322	14,634	11,184	12,735	-42.9	13.9
Maryland	80,266	16,469	20,949	16,773	-79.1	-19.9
Massachusetts	108,985	50,166	41,924	55,310	-49.2	31.9
Michigan	215,873	10,788	7,795	8,751	-95.9	12.3
Minnesota	59,987	15,399	17,511	13,697	-77.2	-21.8
Mississippi	55,232	3,083	1,605	1,687	-96.9	5.1
Missouri	91,875	9,760	6,679	6,047	-93.4	-9.5
Montana	11,416	3,236	1,957	1,854	-83.8	-5.3
Nebraska	15,435	4,364	3,348	3,072	-80.1	-8.2
Nevada	14,620	8,042	5,592	6,245	-57.3	11.7
New Hampshire	11,398	5,206	4,004	3,746	-67.1	-6.4
New Jersey	122,376	8,857	8,083	9,568	-92.2	18.4
New Mexico	34,535	10,087	11,665	9,540	-72.4	-18.2
New York	461,751	113,971	101,625	115,984	-74.9	14.1
North Carolina	129,258	13,064	12,550	11,907	-90.8	-5.1
North Dakota	5,410	957	1,026	596	-89.0	-41.9
Ohio	244,099	51,140	43,396	41,983	-82.8	-3.3
Oklahoma	46,572	5,949	3,972	3,542	-92.4	-10.8
Oregon	40,504	36,971	28,291	38,116	-5.9	34.7
Pennsylvania	212,457	39,746	25,073	29,470	-86.1	17.5
Puerto Rico	57,337	4,475	4,326	3,158	-94.5	-27.0
Rhode Island	22,776	4,002	2,267	3,150	-86.2	39.0
South Carolina	50,430	7,649	6,869	6,233	-87.6	-9.3
South Dakota	6,601	2,923	2,352	2,393	-63.7	1.7
Tennessee	109,678	19,221	13,402	13,852	-87.4	3.4
Texas	284,973	22,821	14,626	10,879	-96.2	-25.6
Utah	17,505	3,170	2,196	1,924	-89.0	-12.4
Vermont	9,761	2,669	1,938	2,085	-78.6	7.6
Virgin Islands	1,146	96	74	61	-94.7	-17.6
Virginia	74,257	16,649	17,922	20,419	-72.5	13.9
Washington	101,542	36,023	35,223	44,355	-56.3	25.9

State	1994	2019	2021	2022	Percentage Change	
					1994-2022	2021-2022
West Virginia	40,279	6,331	5,550	5,257	-86.9	-5.3
Wisconsin	75,086	15,122	13,881	12,156	-83.8	-12.4
Wyoming	5,351	504	450	441	-91.8	-2.0
Totals	5,015,545	1,086,852	907,048	1,019,898	-79.7	12.4

Source: Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Data as of December 27, 2022, 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-6. TANF Cash Assistance Maximum Monthly Benefit Amounts for a Single-Parent Family with One Child, By Jurisdiction, July 2020

Monthly Dollar Amount and as a Percentage of the Federal Poverty Level for 2020

	Maximum Monthly Benefit (\$)	Maximum Monthly Benefit as a Percentage of the Federal Poverty Level
Alabama	\$190	13.2%
Alaska	821	45.7
Arizona	220	15.3
Arkansas	162	11.3
California	696	48.4
Colorado	400	27.8
Connecticut	487	33.9
Delaware	270	18.8
District of Columbia	515	35.8
Florida	241	16.8
Georgia	235	16.4
Hawaii	485	29.3
Idaho	309	21.5
Illinois	423	29.4
Indiana	229	15.9
Iowa	361	25.1
Kansas	352	24.5
Kentucky	225	15.7

	Maximum Monthly Benefit (\$)	Maximum Monthly Benefit as a Percentage of the Federal Poverty Level
Louisiana	188	13.1
Maine	456	31.7
Maryland	575	40.0
Massachusetts	531	37.0
Michigan	403	28.1
Minnesota	537	37.4
Mississippi	146	10.2
Missouri	234	16.3
Montana	467	32.5
Nebraska	393	27.4
Nevada	320	22.3
New Hampshire	862	60.0
New Jersey	425	29.6
New Mexico	357	24.8
New York	574	40.0
North Carolina	236	16.4
North Dakota	385	26.8
Ohio	412	28.7
Oklahoma	225	15.7
Oregon	432	30.1
Pennsylvania	316	22.0
Rhode Island	449	31.3
South Carolina	237	16.5
South Dakota	550	38.3
Tennessee	215	15.0
Texas	262	18.2
Utah	399	27.8
Vermont	580	40.4
Virginia	422	29.4
Washington	459	31.9
West Virginia	331	23.0
Wisconsin	653	45.5
Wyoming	669	46.6
Maximum State	862	60.0

	Maximum Monthly Benefit (\$)	Maximum Monthly Benefit as a Percentage of the Federal Poverty Level
Minimum State	146	10.2
Median State	399	27.8

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 Welfare Rules Database has information for the 50 states and District of Columbia. It does not have information on TANF assistance programs in Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands or tribal TANF programs. Federal poverty level is from HHS at <https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines/prior-hhs-poverty-guidelines-federal-register-references/2020-poverty-guidelines>.

Table B-7. TANF Work Participation Standard and Rate, By Jurisdiction for All Families: FY2021

State	Statutory Standard	Caseload Reduction Credit (percentage points)	Effective (after credit) standard	Work Participation Rate	Met the Standard?
Alabama	50.0%	-50.0	0.0%	36.9%	Yes
Alaska	50.0	-42.0	8.0	30.7	Yes
Arizona	50.0	-50.0	0.0	11.7	Yes
Arkansas	50.0	-50.0	0.0	14.1	Yes
California	50.0	-30.2	19.8	52.1	Yes
Colorado	50.0	-49.2	0.8	44.2	Yes
Connecticut	50.0	-50.0	0.0	3.4	Yes
Delaware	50.0	-50.0	0.0	27.6	Yes
District of Col.	50.0	-39.7	10.3	15.0	Yes
Florida	50.0	-34.5	15.5	3.7	No
Georgia	50.0	-50.0	0.0	4.6	Yes
Guam	50.0	-50.0	0.0	2.9	Yes
Hawaii	50.0	-50.0	0.0	10.9	Yes
Idaho	50.0	0.0	50.0	71.4	Yes
Illinois	50.0	-42.4	7.6	56.0	Yes
Indiana	50.0	-50.0	0.0	12.6	Yes
Iowa	50.0	-50.0	0.0	13.1	Yes
Kansas	50.0	-50.0	0.0	28.7	Yes
Kentucky	50.0	-50.0	0.0	20.6	Yes
Louisiana	50.0	-50.0	0.0	0.5	Yes
Maine	50.0	0.0	50.0	79.7	Yes

State	Statutory Standard	Caseload Reduction Credit (percentage points)	Effective (after credit) standard	Work Participation Rate	Met the Standard?
Maryland	50.0	-35.7	14.3	3.2	No
Massachusetts	50.0	-29.3	20.7	53.8	Yes
Michigan	50.0	-50.0	0.0	25.2	Yes
Minnesota	50.0	-47.3	2.7	14.9	Yes
Mississippi	50.0	-50.0	0.0	41.7	Yes
Missouri	50.0	-50.0	0.0	17.4	Yes
Montana	50.0	-39.1	10.9	36.3	Yes
Nebraska	50.0	-50.0	0.0	9.6	Yes
Nevada	50.0	-45.8	4.2	22.8	Yes
New Hampshire	50.0	0.0	50.0	58.9	Yes
New Jersey	50.0	-50.0	0.0	4.3	Yes
New Mexico	50.0	-50.0	0.0	7.2	Yes
New York	50.0	-50.0	0.0	10.3	Yes
North Carolina	50.0	-48.7	1.3	4.7	Yes
North Dakota	50.0	-50.0	0.0	8.5	Yes
Ohio	50.0	-41.2	8.8	31.9	Yes
Oklahoma	50.0	-50.0	0.0	13.7	Yes
Oregon	50.0	0.0	50.0	34.1	No
Pennsylvania	50.0	-50.0	0.0	11.3	Yes
Puerto Rico	50.0	-50.0	0.0	0.6	Yes
Rhode Island	50.0	-50.0	0.0	6.5	Yes
South Carolina	50.0	-50.0	0.0	9.0	Yes
South Dakota	50.0	0.0	50.0	58.8	Yes
Tennessee	50.0	-50.0	0.0	24.8	Yes
Texas	50.0	-50.0	0.0	3.1	Yes
Utah	50.0	-50.0	0.0	10.5	Yes
Vermont	50.0	-48.9	1.1	35.4	Yes
Virgin Islands	50.0	-50.0	0.0	1.2	Yes
Virginia	50.0	-50.0	0.0	14.5	Yes
Washington	50.0	-50.0	0.0	34.7	Yes
West Virginia	50.0	-50.0	0.0	20.8	Yes
Wisconsin	50.0	-42.5	7.5	36.9	Yes
Wyoming	50.0	0.0	50.0	73.8	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: FY2021

(NA denotes that the jurisdiction did not have two-parent families receiving TANF or MOE-funded assistance)

State	Statutory Standard	Caseload Reduction Credit (percentage points)	Effective (after credit) standard	Work Participation Rate	Met the Standard?
Alabama	90.0	-90.0	0.0	55.7	Yes
Alaska	90.0	-52.1	37.9	40.9	Yes
Arizona	90.0	-75.9	14.1	15.1	Yes
Arkansas	90.0	-76.7	13.3	17.7	Yes
California	90.0	-34.4	55.6	22.8	No
Colorado	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Connecticut	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Delaware	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
District of Col.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Florida	90.0	-46.8	43.2	1.0	No
Georgia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Guam	90.0	-54.7	35.3	0.6	No
Hawaii	90.0	-74.3	15.7	12.4	No
Idaho	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Illinois	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Indiana	90.0	-77.7	12.3	16.6	Yes
Iowa	90.0	-84.7	5.3	10.7	Yes
Kansas	90.0	-67.0	23.0	31.5	Yes
Kentucky	90.0	-62.2	27.8	32.5	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	-29.3	60.7	91.4	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	-70.4	19.6	38.5	Yes
Nebraska	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Nevada	90.0	-45.8	44.2	29.0	No
New Hampshire	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

State	Statutory Standard	Caseload Reduction Credit (percentage points)	Effective (after credit) standard	Work Participation Rate	Met the Standard?
New Jersey	90.0	-83.8	6.2	95.9	Yes
New Mexico	90.0	-66.2	23.8	8.5	No
New York	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
North Carolina	90.0	-48.7	41.3	9.7	No
North Dakota	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ohio	90.0	-83.0	7.0	29.6	Yes
Oklahoma	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Oregon	90.0	0.0	90.0	67.8	No
Pennsylvania	90.0	-90.0	0.0	34.0	Yes
Puerto Rico	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Rhode Island	90.0	-63.7	26.3	6.8	No
South Carolina	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
South Dakota	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tennessee	90.0	-76.7	13.3	24.0	Yes
Texas	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Utah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Vermont	90.0	-58.9	31.1	79.9	Yes
Virgin Islands	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Virginia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Washington	90.0	-52.5	37.5	58.1	Yes
West Virginia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Wisconsin	90.0	-63.1	26.9	39.9	Yes
Wyoming	90.0	0.0	90.0	70.4	No

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

Author Information

Gene Falk
Specialist in Social Policy

Patrick A. Landers
Analyst in Social Policy

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