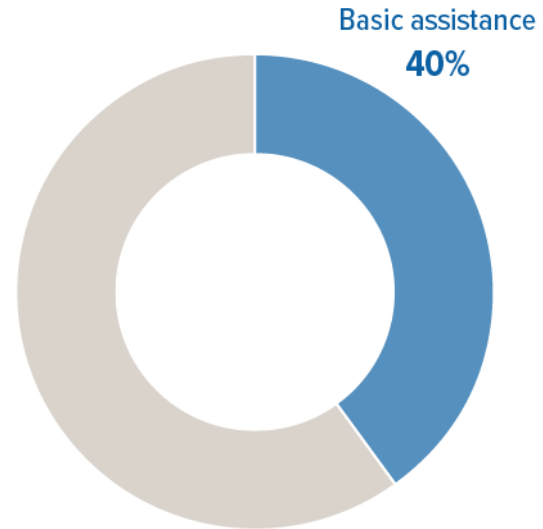


DC TANF Spending

In 2018, DC spent about \$290 million in federal and state funds under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. It spent 40 percent of these funds on basic assistance, generally as cash assistance to TANF families.



Federal and State TANF Spending by Category, 2018

	Millions of dollars	DC Share of spending	National Share of U.S. spending
Basic Assistance	\$114	40%	21%
Work Activities	\$30	10%	11%
Work Supports and Supportive Services	\$1	0.5%	3%
Child Care	\$59	20%	17%
Administration and Systems	\$11	4%	10%
Tax Credits	\$0	0%	9%
Pre-K	\$0	0%	8%
Child Welfare	\$0	0%	8%
Other Services	\$74	25%	13%
Total	\$290	100%	100%

Federal and State TANF Spending on Select Activities (millions of dollars)

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2018
Basic Assistance	\$67	\$62	\$67	\$100	\$114
Work Activities	\$23	\$21	\$23	\$38	\$30
Child Care	\$62	\$81	\$67	\$60	\$59

Federal TANF Allocation and State Maintenance-of-Effort (MOE) Amounts

- In 2018, DC was awarded its TANF block grant of \$92 million and an additional \$10 million in contingency funds.
- Since unspent block grant funds can be carried over to future years, a state may spend more or less than its annual block grant allocation in any given year. As of 2018, DC has accumulated \$49 million in unspent TANF block grant funds, equal to 53 percent of its block grant.
- Every year each state must also spend, from its own funds, at least 80 percent of its historical spending on poor families with children. (A state may spend more than its minimum.) This “MOE” requirement can be reduced to 75 percent if a state meets specific work participation rate requirements. In 2018, DC met these requirements and was subject to the 75 percent MOE obligation.

2018 TANF Allocation and MOE Obligation for DC

Federal Funds Awarded	\$103 million
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75% MOE Obligation	\$70 million
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2018 Federal and MOE TANF Expenditures for DC

Federal Spending	\$87 million
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MOE Spending	\$202 million
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The annual federal TANF block grant has been frozen since its creation and lost about 40 percent of its value between 1997 and 2018 due to inflation.

