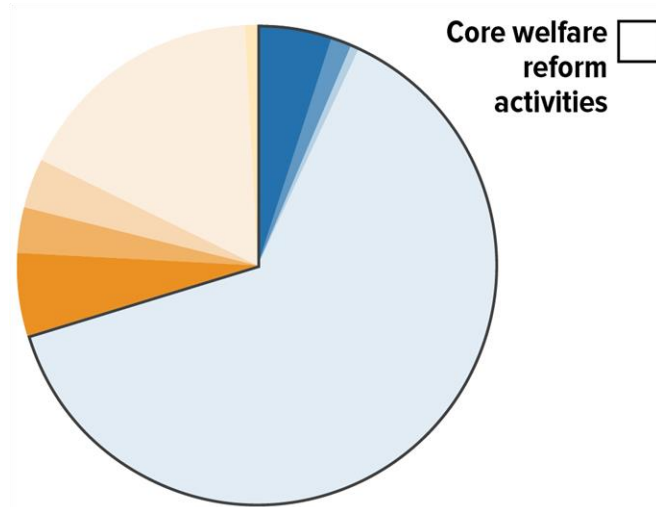


Illinois TANF Spending

In 2015, Illinois spent about **\$1.38 billion in federal and state funds** under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. **It spent 70 percent of these funds on core welfare reform activities**, which include basic assistance, work activities and supports, and child care. Illinois spent a greater share on child care than any other state but spent little on basic assistance and work activities.



Federal and State TANF Spending by Category, 2015

	Illinois (millions of dollars)	Illinois (share of spending)	National (share of U.S. spending)
Core			
Basic Assistance	\$68	5%	25%
Work Activities	\$21	2%	7%
Work Supports and Supportive Services	\$10	1%	3%
Child Care	\$868	63%	17%
Non-core			
Administration and Systems	\$76	6%	10%
Tax Credits	\$43	3%	8%
Pre-K	\$46	3%	6%
Child Welfare	\$233	17%	7%
Other Services	\$10	1%	18%

Share of Illinois' Federal and State TANF Spending on Core Welfare Reform Activities

	2001	2015
Basic assistance	18%	5%
Work activities	9%	2%
Child care	33%	63%

TANF Provides a Safety Net for Few Poor Families

In 2015, for every 100 poor families with children in Illinois, only 18 received TANF cash assistance, down from 33 in 2001. During this time, Illinois slashed its investments in basic assistance and work activities.



Federal TANF Allocations and State Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Requirements

- The annual federal TANF block grant has been frozen since its creation and lost about a third of its value between 1997 and 2015 due to inflation.
- Since unspent block grant funds can be carried over to future years, a state may spend more or less than its federal block grant allocation in any given year. In 2015, Illinois spent \$599 million in federal TANF funds.
- Every year each state must also spend, from its own funds, at least 80 percent of its historical spending on poor families with children. (In some cases this “MOE” requirement can be reduced to 75 percent.) In 2015, Illinois claimed \$775 million in MOE spending.

Annual TANF Allocations and MOE Obligations for Illinois

TANF block grant amount	\$585 million
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80% MOE obligation	\$459 million
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75% MOE obligation	\$430 million
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Source: The spending data are CBPP analysis of US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) TANF financial data. The 2001 TANF families are HHS' TANF caseload data; the 2015 TANF families are from state agency TANF caseload data collected by CBPP. The CBPP analysis of families in poverty and deep poverty uses data from Census' Current Population Survey. The individual years CBPP uses to describe caseloads, poverty and deep poverty trends represent two-year averages; for example, '2015' represents the average for '2014-2015'.