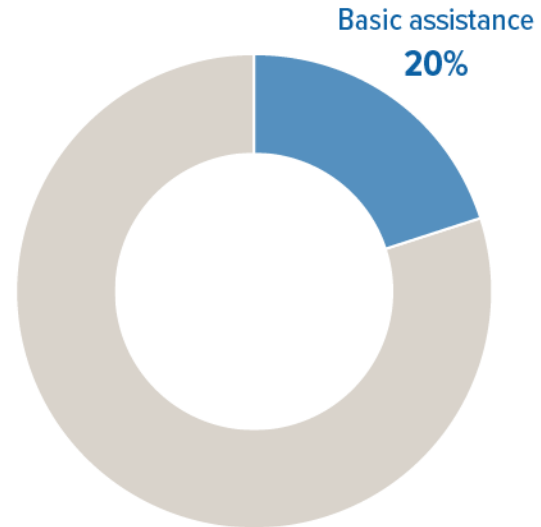


Massachusetts TANF Spending

In 2019, Massachusetts spent about **\$1.1 billion** in federal and state funds under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. **It spent 20 percent of these funds on basic assistance**, generally as cash assistance to TANF families.



Federal and State TANF Spending by Category, 2019

	Massachusetts		National Share of U.S. spending
	Millions of dollars	Share of spending	
Basic Assistance	\$220	20%	21%
Work Activities	\$177	16%	10%
Work Supports and Supportive Services	\$21	2%	3%
Child Care	\$335	30%	16%
Administration and Systems	\$38	3%	10%
Tax Credits	\$171	15%	9%
Pre-K/Head Start	\$0	0%	8%
Child Welfare	\$5	0.4%	8%
Other Services	\$161	14%	14%
Total	\$1100	100%	100%

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

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2019
Basic Assistance	\$286	\$320	\$337	\$231	\$220
Work Activities	\$33	\$22	\$13	\$169	\$177
Child Care	\$299	\$286	\$314	\$335	\$335

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

- In 2019, Massachusetts was awarded its TANF block grant of \$458 million and an additional \$53 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 2019, Massachusetts has not accumulated any unspent TANF block grant 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. (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 2019, Massachusetts met these requirements and was subject to the 75 percent MOE obligation.

2019 TANF Allocation and MOE Obligation for Massachusetts

Federal Funds Awarded	\$511 million
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75% MOE Obligation	\$359 million
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2019 Federal and MOE TANF Expenditures for Massachusetts

Federal Spending	\$511 million
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MOE Spending	\$618 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 2019 due to inflation.

