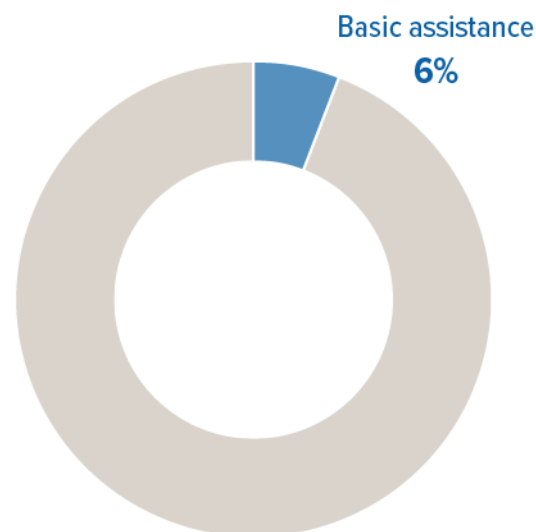


# New Jersey TANF Spending

In 2020, New Jersey spent about \$1.5 billion in federal and state funds under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. It spent 6 percent of these funds on basic assistance, generally as cash assistance to TANF families. In 2020, New Jersey ranked 46th among the states and Washington, D.C. for percent of TANF funds spent on basic assistance.



## Federal and State TANF Spending by Category, 2020

	New Jersey Millions of dollars	New Jersey Share of spending	National Share of U.S. spending
Basic Assistance	\$83	6%	22%
Work Activities	\$74	5%	10%
Work Supports and Supportive Services	\$19	1%	2%
Child Care	\$218	15%	17%
Administration and Systems	\$51	3%	10%
Tax Credits	\$361	24%	9%
Pre-K/Head Start	\$615	41%	9%
Child Welfare	\$0	0%	8%
Other Services	\$70	5%	13%
Total	\$1500	100%	100%

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

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2020
Basic Assistance	\$199	\$159	\$235	\$122	\$83
Work Activities	\$31	\$147	\$84	\$80	\$74
Child Care	\$58	\$70	\$122	\$152	\$218

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

- In 2020, New Jersey was awarded its TANF block grant of \$403 million.
- 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 2020, New Jersey has accumulated \$53 million in unspent TANF block grant funds, equal to 13 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 2020, New Jersey met these requirements and was subject to the 75 percent MOE obligation.

### 2020 TANF Allocation and MOE Obligation for New Jersey

<b>Federal Funds Awarded</b>	\$403 million
------------------------------	---------------

<b>75% MOE Obligation</b>	\$300 million
---------------------------	---------------

### 2020 Federal and MOE TANF Expenditures for New Jersey

<b>Federal Spending</b>	\$390 million
-------------------------	---------------

<b>MOE Spending</b>	\$1.1 billion
---------------------	---------------

The annual federal TANF block grant has been frozen since its creation and lost about 40 percent of its value between 1997 and 2020 due to inflation.

