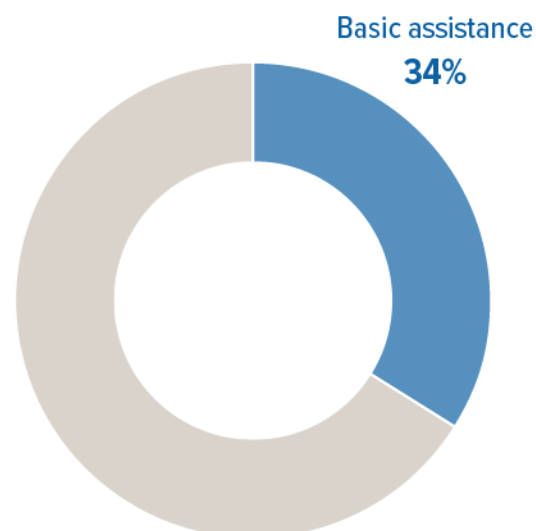


# Tennessee TANF Spending

In 2017, Tennessee spent about **\$183 million** in federal and state funds under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. **It spent 34 percent of these funds on basic assistance**, generally as cash assistance to TANF families. In 2017, Tennessee ranked 8th among the states and the District of Columbia for percent of TANF funds spent on basic assistance.



## Federal and State TANF Spending by Category, 2017

	Tennessee		National Share of U.S. spending
	Millions of dollars	Share of spending	
<b>Basic Assistance</b>	\$62	34%	23%
<b>Work Activities</b>	\$17	9%	11%
<b>Work Supports and Supportive Services</b>	\$1.4	0.8%	3%
<b>Child Care</b>	\$19	10%	16%
<b>Administration and Systems</b>	\$22	12%	11%
<b>Tax Credits</b>	\$0	0%	9%
<b>Pre-K</b>	\$62	34%	8%
<b>Child Welfare</b>	\$0	0%	7%
<b>Other Services</b>	\$0	0%	13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$183</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2017
<b>Basic Assistance</b>	\$123	\$104	\$131	\$71	\$62
<b>Work Activities</b>	\$49	\$37	\$93	\$21	\$17
<b>Child Care</b>	\$111	\$92	\$91	\$19	\$19

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

- In 2017, Tennessee was awarded its TANF block grant of \$191 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 2017, Tennessee has accumulated \$511 million in unspent TANF block grant funds, equal to 268 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 2017, Tennessee met these requirements and was subject to the 75 percent MOE obligation.

### 2017 TANF Allocation and MOE Obligation for Tennessee

<b>Federal Funds Awarded</b>	\$191 million
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<b>75% MOE Obligation</b>	\$83 million
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### 2017 Federal and MOE TANF Expenditures for Tennessee

<b>Federal Spending</b>	\$67 million
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<b>MOE Spending</b>	\$117 million
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The annual federal TANF block grant has been frozen since its creation and lost over one third of its value between 1997 and 2017 due to inflation.

