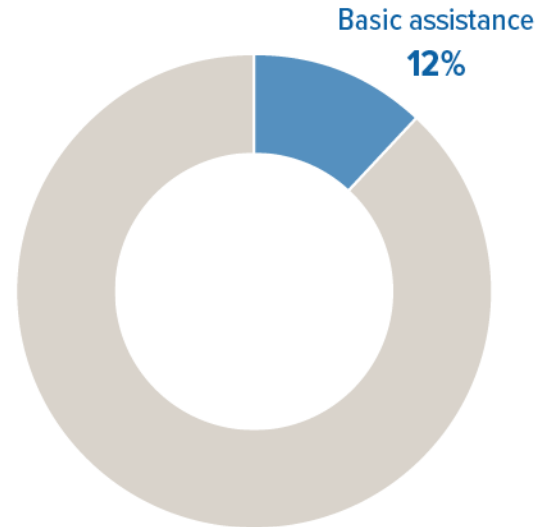


Wisconsin TANF Spending

In 2019, Wisconsin spent about \$578 million in federal and state funds under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. It spent 12 percent of these funds on basic assistance, generally as cash assistance to TANF families. In 2019, Wisconsin ranked 35th among the states and the District of Columbia for percent of TANF funds spent on basic assistance.



Federal and State TANF Spending by Category, 2019

	Wisconsin		National Share of U.S. spending
	Millions of dollars	Share of spending	
Basic Assistance	\$72	12%	21%
Work Activities	\$32	6%	10%
Work Supports and Supportive Services	\$16	3%	3%
Child Care	\$201	35%	16%
Administration and Systems	\$34	6%	10%
Tax Credits	\$70	12%	9%
Pre-K/Head Start	\$0	0%	8%
Child Welfare	\$6	1%	8%
Other Services	\$146	25%	14%
Total	\$578	100%	100%

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

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2019
Basic Assistance	\$81	\$111	\$128	\$84	\$72
Work Activities	\$117	\$39	\$63	\$35	\$32
Child Care	\$231	\$243	\$211	\$179	\$201

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

- In 2019, Wisconsin was awarded its TANF block grant of \$313 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 2019, Wisconsin has accumulated \$187 million in unspent TANF block grant funds, equal to 60 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 2019, Wisconsin met these requirements and was subject to the 75 percent MOE obligation.

2019 TANF Allocation and MOE Obligation for Wisconsin

Federal Funds Awarded	\$313 million
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75% MOE Obligation	\$167 million
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2019 Federal and MOE TANF Expenditures for Wisconsin

Federal Spending	\$302 million
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MOE Spending	\$276 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.

