

# Federal TANF Expenditures and Child Care

## Fiscal Year 2024



O  
V  
E  
R  
V  
I  
E  
W

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program is the second largest source of public funding for child care in the United States. TANF provides grants to states to help design and operate programs that support low-income families, including through increased access to child care and early learning opportunities, which helps parents to enter or return to the workforce.

For decades, federal regulations and guidance have allowed TANF funds to support or expand a broad range of child care and early learning initiatives in states.

## Total TANF Expenditures in FY2024

### FEDERAL

In FY 2024, states were awarded approximately **\$16.8 billion** for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). States can use TANF funds in several ways to support child care and early learning:

1. Transfer TANF funds to the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) (up to 30% of TANF award).
2. "Direct spend" to support state-specific child care efforts (no limit).
3. Support pre-K or kindergarten education, expansion of Head Start, or other school readiness programs (no limit).

Nationally, TANF awards were spent as follows in FY2024.

- ✓ **8.2% (\$1.39 billion)** was transferred to CCDF
- ✓ **9.1% (\$1.5 billion)** was used as a "direct spend" to support specific child care efforts
- ✓ **0.3% (\$43.7 million)** was used to support pre-K, kindergarten, Head Start etc.

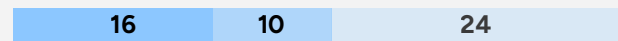
### Allocating TANF to Child Care and Early Learning

(CCDF, "Direct Spend," Pre-K/Head Start)



- **10 states** allocated 30% or more of their TANF funding to child care and early learning.
- **33 states + DC** allocated some funding, but less than 30%.
- **7 states** allocated no TANF funding to these programs.

### Transferring TANF to CCDF



- **16 states** transferred 20% or more of their federal TANF award to CCDF (2 states met the 30% transfer maximum).
- **10 states + DC** transferred some funding, but less than 20%.
- **24 states** transferred no federal TANF funds to CCDF.

### STATE

To receive TANF funds, states must meet a maintenance-of-effort (MOE) requirement using state dollars. States can count expenditures on a broad range of benefits and services for eligible low-income families with children towards their MOE requirement, as long as the expenditures further one of TANF's four statutory purposes. Child care spending may count toward a state's MOE requirement. They do not necessarily need to spend "new" money to meet MOE requirements and can count existing state-funded programs and services.

- ✓ Total state TANF MOE expenditures: **\$20.5 billion**
- ✓ **\$6.9 billion (33.5%)** of these funds were spent on child care and early learning services.
- ✓ Combined federal TANF, state MOE expenditures, transfers: **\$37.5 billion**
- ✓ **\$9.9 billion (27%)** of total funds were spent on child care and early learning services.

STATE	Total Federal Awarded	Transferred to CCDBG	% Total TANF	Direct Spend Child Care	% Total TANF	Pre-Kindergarten/Head Start	% Total TANF	Transferred to CCDBG, State 'Direct Spend' Child Care, and Pre-K/Head Start	% Total TANF
<b>U.S. TOTAL</b>	<b>\$16,820,098,537</b>	<b>\$1,387,090,999</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>\$1,534,847,333</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>\$43,745,919</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>\$2,965,684,251</b>	<b>18%</b>
AL	\$103,608,790	\$18,601,451	18%	\$743,270	1%	\$0	0%	\$19,344,721	19%
AK	\$32,973,844	\$6,594,769	20%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$6,594,769	20%
AR	\$62,991,053	\$0	0%	\$2,382	0%	\$7,730,152	12%	\$7,732,534	12%
AZ	\$224,676,414	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%
CA	\$3,634,115,206	\$0	0%	\$323,728,735	9%	\$0	0%	\$323,728,735	9%
CO	\$151,065,085	\$896,113	1%	\$238,767	0%	\$188,196	0%	\$1,323,076	1%
CT	\$265,907,706	\$26,678,810	10%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$26,678,810	10%
DC	\$102,825,590	\$0	0%	\$14,000,000	14%	\$0	0%	\$14,000,000	14%
DE	\$35,852,994	\$0	0%	\$3,907,059	11%	\$0	0%	\$3,907,059	11%
FL	\$560,484,398	\$110,662,022	20%	\$82,515,627	15%	\$0	0%	\$193,177,649	34%
GA	\$329,650,291	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%
HI	\$98,578,402	\$0	0%	\$4,613,580	5%	\$0	0%	\$4,613,580	5%
IA	\$130,558,068	\$26,205,412	20%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$26,205,412	20%
ID	\$30,307,166	\$7,804,096	26%	\$0	0%	\$148,840	0%	\$7,952,936	26%
IL	\$583,126,272	\$0	0%	\$25,547,117	4%	\$0	0%	\$25,547,117	4%
IN	\$206,116,672	\$61,835,002	30%	\$620,692	0%	\$0	0%	\$62,455,694	30%
KS	\$101,477,697	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%
KY	\$180,689,420	\$0	0%	\$14,045,502	8%	\$0	0%	\$14,045,502	8%
LA	\$163,430,877	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$29,574,015	18%	\$29,574,015	18%
MA	\$510,044,270	\$91,570,224	18%	\$229,971,000	45%	\$0	0%	\$321,541,224	63%
MD	\$254,369,802	\$0	0%	\$4,984,046	2%	\$0	0%	\$4,984,046	2%
ME	\$77,863,090	\$5,932,401	8%	\$7,205,765	9%	\$338,847	0%	\$13,477,014	17%
MI	\$772,794,194	\$8,300,000	1%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$8,300,000	1%
MN	\$259,569,108	\$49,658,000	19%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$49,658,000	19%

STATE	Total Federal Awarded	Transferred to CCDBG	% Total TANF	Direct Spend Child Care	% Total TANF	Pre-Kindergarten / Head Start	% Total TANF	Transferred to CCDBG, State 'Direct Spend' Child Care, and Pre-K/Head Start	% Total TANF
MO	\$216,335,469	\$0	0%	\$2,701,250	1%	\$0	0%	\$2,701,250	1%
MS	\$86,295,031	\$25,888,509	30%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$25,888,509	30%
MT	\$37,888,854	\$8,700,000	23%	\$340,106	1%	\$0	0%	\$9,040,106	24%
NC	\$334,560,478	\$21,773,001	7%	\$156,905,894	47%	\$0	0%	\$178,678,895	53%
ND	\$26,312,690	\$0	0%	\$139,905	1%	\$0	0%	\$139,905	1%
NE	\$56,627,234	\$14,409,787	25%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$14,409,787	25%
NH	\$38,394,141	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%
NJ	\$402,701,508	\$91,042,000	23%	\$12,000,000	3%	\$0	0%	\$103,042,000	26%
NM	\$124,246,405	\$31,527,500	25%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$31,527,500	25%
NV	\$43,762,394	\$12,500,000	29%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$12,500,000	29%
NY	\$2,712,409,895	\$496,340,000	18%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$496,340,000	18%
OH	\$724,288,381	\$0	0%	\$231,505,224	32%	\$643,435	0%	\$232,148,659	32%
OK	\$138,007,998	\$27,601,599	20%	\$115,513,376	84%	\$0	0%	\$143,114,975	104%
OR	\$184,913,354	\$0	0%	\$50,960	0%	\$0	0%	\$50,960	0%
PA	\$717,124,957	\$45,025,500	6%	\$43,563,039	6%	\$0	0%	\$88,588,539	12%
RI	\$93,842,484	\$0	0%	\$22,189,551	24%	\$2,325,231	2%	\$24,514,782	26%
SC	\$110,995,256	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%
SD	\$21,207,402	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%
TN	\$190,885,720	\$0	0%	\$1,439	0%	\$0	0%	\$1,439	0%
TX	\$539,895,657	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%
UT	\$75,355,939	\$15,071,188	20%	\$2,776,122	4%	\$0	0%	\$17,847,310	24%
VA	\$157,762,831	\$2,659,033	2%	\$352,698	0%	\$1,249,491	1%	\$4,261,222	3%
VT	\$47,196,916	\$9,224,076	20%	\$14,830	0%	\$0	0%	\$9,238,906	20%
WA	\$424,923,772	\$108,021,311	25%	\$51,427,703	12%	\$0	0%	\$159,449,014	38%
WI	\$312,845,980	\$62,569,196	20%	\$140,681,302	45%	\$0	0%	\$203,250,498	65%
WV	\$109,812,728	\$0	0%	\$42,373,595	39%	\$0	0%	\$42,373,595	39%
WY	\$18,428,651	\$0	0%	\$186,796	1%	\$1,547,712	8%	\$1,734,508	9%

Source: Administration for Children & Families, TANF Financial Data FY 2023. Learn more at [www.ffyf.org](http://www.ffyf.org).

For More Information: Amanda Guarino at [aguarino@ffyf.org](mailto:aguarino@ffyf.org).

