

Federal Spending By Welfare Program For Fiscal Years 2018 and 2017 In Billions

		FY	FY
Program	Description	2017	2018
Negative Income Tax	EITC and child credit pays cash to families who pay no income tax	79	76
SNAP	Debit cards are distributed to the poor to buy food	70	73
Housing Assistance	Various programs to support low-income housing and development	50	49
SSI	Cash is paid to low-income disabled, blind or senior citizens	56	53
Pell Grants	Financial aid for college tuition, room and board	28	28
TANF	Cash is paid to families as a transition from welfare to work	16	16
Child Nutrition	School lunch, breakfast and after school snacks for school children	22	24
Head Start	Preschool program	10	12
Job Training	Employment services and job training for adults, youth and seniors	6	6
WIC	High protein food for pregnant women and young children	6	6
Child Care	Child care and after school programs	6	6
LIHEAP	Support for utility payments - heating and cooling	2	2
Lifeline	Phone subsidy per household	3	3
	Total of the 13 programs	354	354
Medicaid	Health care for low-income individuals and families	375	400
	Total welfare costs	729	754

Welfare spending was assembled from usgovernmentspending.com as documented on each separate [welfare program page](#). All numbers are updated periodically as reported by usgovernmentspending.com. Retrieved February 17, 2019. [Available here](#).