ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

ISSUE BRIEF
January 2026

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Contingency Fund

David Swegle – Director, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, HHS
Alex J. Adams – Assistant Secretary, Administration for Children and Families, HHS

Key Points

- Congress established the TANF Contingency Fund in 1996 to provide temporary, supplemental grants to states facing economic distress.
- States qualify for contingency funds by meeting "needy state" triggers based on either unemployment rates or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) caseload growth relative to fiscal year (FY) 1994 or 1995 baselines.
- Since the 2008 financial crisis, most states have qualified every month, as SNAP caseloads remain permanently above the 1990s benchmarks, regardless of current economic conditions.
- The Fund's maintenance-of-effort (MOE) test, fixed to FY1994 spending levels in nominal dollars, has lost over half its real value due to inflation, lowering the effective standard for eligibility.
- In practice, the Fund has evolved from an emergency reserve to a predictable annual transfer, with nearly 75% of all funds going to a small number of states and New York alone receiving over 40% of all funds since inception despite representing just 6% of the United States population.

Background

When Congress replaced Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) with Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA), it fundamentally changed the structure of federal welfare financing. The move away from an open-ended entitlement toward a fixed block grant reflected a deliberate policy choice to promote state flexibility, budgetary predictability, and a stronger emphasis on work and time-limited assistance. AFDC had allowed federal expenditures to rise automatically as state caseloads grew. TANF, by contrast, established a capped annual allotment to states regardless of economic conditions.

This shift raised an immediate concern: *what would happen during a recession?* Under AFDC, federal expenditures increased with need; under TANF, they would not. Congress worried that a fixed block grant could become unresponsive to downturns, forcing states to cut benefits or reduce eligibility precisely when families were struggling.

To address that risk, Congress created the TANF Contingency Fund, codified at §403(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. §603(b)). The Fund was intended as a stabilizer — a source of *temporary*, supplemental grants to states experiencing heightened economic distress.

In its report accompanying the legislation, the House Budget Committee acknowledged these concerns directly. The committee noted that "some observers have been concerned that, given the bill's fixed funding levels, States may have trouble paying benefits during recessions and other financial emergencies. Thus the committee proposal provides up to $2 billion in new funding for States that experience economic downturns, and includes flexible 'triggers' allowing such States to access this fund whenever unemployment or food stamp recipiency rise significantly."[1]

Congress intended the Fund to serve as a safety valve to help states maintain work-oriented welfare programs during economic downturns. It authorized $2 billion over FY1997–FY2001, to be distributed to states meeting specific "needy state" criteria, defined as either a rise in the unemployment rate or an increase in SNAP caseloads compared to FY1994 or FY1995 baselines. States would also have to maintain their own spending at 100% of their FY1994 levels.

The Contingency Fund's structure reflects a gap between what Congress intended in 1996 and how the program functions today. Designed as a temporary safety net for states during recessions, it has evolved into a standing transfer mechanism that operates largely independent of real economic distress. The graphic below contrasts the Fund's statutory purpose with its actual performance over time.

Chart 1: Intent vs. Outcome

Original Purpose	**Actual Function**
Temporary fiscal relief during economic downturns	*Annual* supplemental funding for a small group of states
Triggered by economic distress	Nearly all states qualify based on the SNAP trigger
Requires states to maintain fiscal effort	Allows gaming through inflation-eroded MOE and broad definitions of countable spending

[1] U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on the Budget, *Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996*, H. Rept. 104-651

Original Purpose	Actual Function
Short-term aid to maintain services	Long-term revenue stream used to offset a state's regular TANF spending while growing TANF reserves

How the Fund Works

Needy State Triggers

Under §403(b)(5) of the *Social Security Act*, a state qualifies as a "needy state" if it meets either of two triggers in any given month. These triggers were designed to be indicators of a state in economic distress:

1. Unemployment Trigger.
    - The state's average seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the most recent three-month period must be at least 6.5%, *and*
    - That rate must equal or exceed 110% of the state's rate in the corresponding three-month period of either of the two preceding calendar years.

2. SNAP Caseload Trigger.
    - The state's average number of SNAP participants over the most recent three-month period must exceed by at least 10% the state's rate in the corresponding three-month period in FY1994 or FY1995.

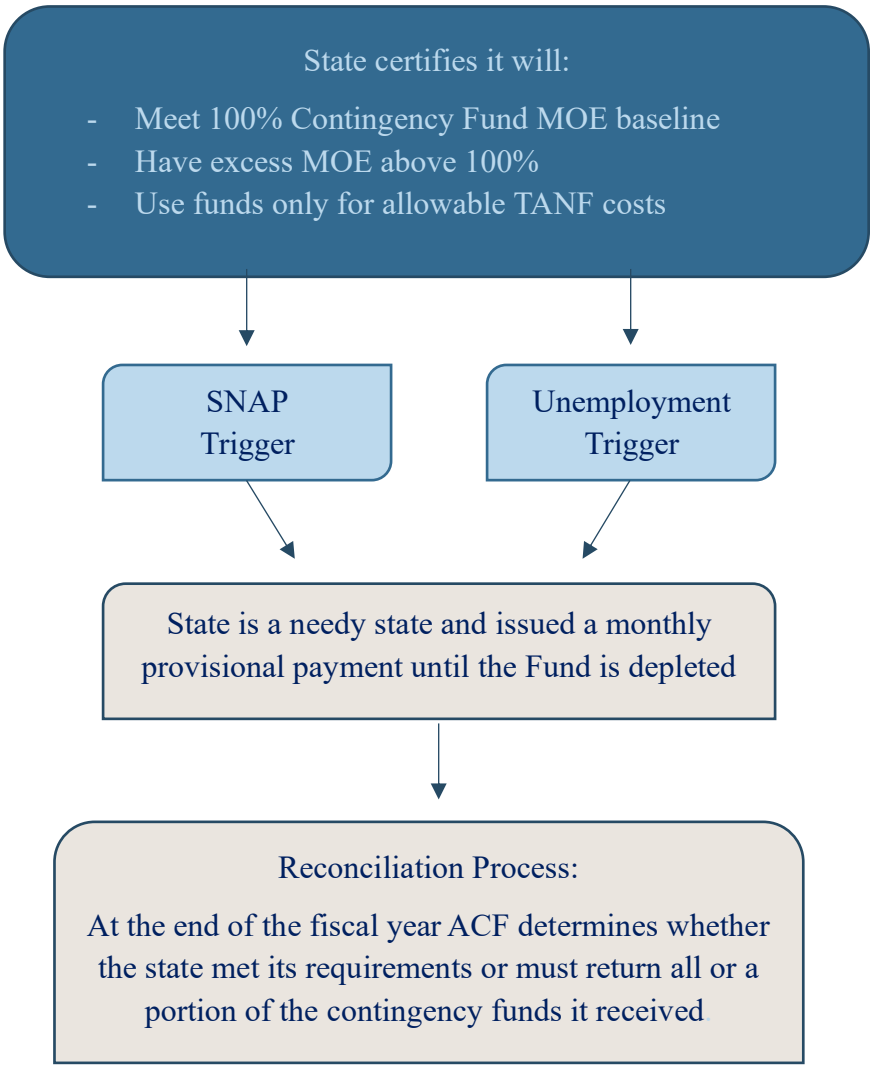
A state that meets either condition is considered a "needy state" and may draw from the Fund.

Once qualified, a state's eligibility period lasts for the current month and the following month (a two-month window). The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) issues provisional monthly payments to eligible states, subject to a later reconciliation review to ensure states meet and exceed their MOE requirement (discussed below).

Federal payments are made on a first-come, first-served basis until the annual funding is exhausted. The current funding level, fixed since FY2017, is $608 million per year. Although the statute allows states to request funds in any eligible month, in practice states submit applications before the start of the fiscal year and request the full-year maximum. The payment amount is formula-driven: a state may receive up to 20% of its annual State Family Assistance Grant (SFAG), pro-rated for any month (i.e., one-twelfth of 20% of their annual award). For example, South Carolina's annual SFAG is roughly $100 million. Therefore, South Carolina may receive a maximum of $20 million from the Contingency Fund in a given year and a maximum of $1.66 million each month ($100 million x 20% x 1/12 = $1.66 million). In recent years, because the Contingency Fund is capped annually and states begin applying at the beginning of the fiscal year for the full year, the Fund is normally depleted by April of each year.

The following flowchart translates these statutory triggers into a step-by-step sequence. It illustrates the two qualifying pathways, unemployment or SNAP caseload growth, and shows how states move from initial eligibility to monthly payment status.

Chart 2: "How States Qualify for Contingency Funds" Flowchart.



The 100% MOE Requirement

In addition to meeting a "needy state" trigger, a state must demonstrate that it has maintained 100% of its FY1994 spending level on TANF-related programs, minus any child-care and separate state program (SSP) expenditures, to access the Contingency Fund. This requirement is intended to ensure that contingency funds supplement, rather than replace, state spending. Because the baseline is fixed in nominal 1994 dollars and not indexed for inflation, its real value has steadily eroded, substantially lowering the effective threshold states must meet to qualify.

Table 1 illustrates how the Contingency Fund maintenance-of-effort test operates. For each state, the table shows the fixed 100% Contingency Fund MOE requirement, based on FY1994

spending, alongside the state's actual MOE spending in a given year (shown here as FY2024). The final column reports the difference between those two amounts. This difference, referred to as "excess Contingency Fund MOE," shows how much spending a state has above the baseline. States with larger excess Contingency Fund MOE have greater capacity to retain the Contingency Fund payments they receive, while states with little or no excess Contingency Fund MOE have limited or no ability to retain those payments after reconciliation.

Table 1: State Contingency Fund MOE Baselines (FY1994) Compared with MOE Spending (FY2024)

State	100% MOE FY1994 Baseline[2]	FY2024 MOE[3]	Excess Contingency Fund MOE[4]
Alabama	$45,794,014	$66,340,725	$20,546,711
Alaska	$42,958,996	$9,280,119	$0
Arizona	$105,843,395	$158,627,538	$52,784,143
Arkansas	$26,458,762	$35,257,231	$8,798,469
California	$3,464,892,117	$3,579,270,249	$114,378,132
Colorado	$102,241,173	$368,788,151	$266,546,978
Connecticut	$229,355,622	$200,790,465	$0
Delaware	$24,826,042	$21,872,175	$0
DC	$90,201,740	$231,773,241	$141,571,501
Florida	$461,496,631	$373,333,682	$0
Georgia	$210,250,870	$151,185,876	$0
Hawaii	$91,657,655	$38,846,975	$0
Idaho	$16,188,469	$11,849,561	$0
Illinois	$537,998,095	$163,118,574	$0
Indiana	$139,732,426	$17,879,597	$0
Iowa	$78,467,412	$21,821,134	$0
Kansas	$75,564,952	$68,416,055	$0
Kentucky	$83,039,582	$46,823,014	$0

[2] The 100% MOE baseline is fixed in nominal FY1994 dollars and is adjusted to exclude child care expenditures and state funds provided to Tribal TANF programs

[3] FY2024 MOE spending excludes child care expenditures and all expenditures made in separate state programs (SSPs).

[4] Excess Contingency Fund MOE equals FY2024 MOE minus the adjusted 100% MOE baseline.

State	100% MOE FY1994 Baseline[2]	FY2024 MOE[3]	Excess Contingency Fund MOE[4]
Louisiana	$70,041,372	$173,410,223	$103,368,851
Maine	$48,441,897	$9,027,359	$0
Maryland	$212,907,283	$558,633,513	$345,726,230
Massachusetts	$440,518,485	$830,467,435	$389,948,950
Michigan	$606,470,040	$1,101,707,955	$495,237,915
Minnesota	$214,701,576	$142,115,724	$0
Mississippi	$27,810,863	$19,962,101	$0
Missouri	$146,584,409	$178,668,347	$32,083,938
Montana	$16,283,195	$13,170,650	$0
Nebraska	$30,875,082	$2,621,384	$0
Nevada	$31,601,234	$36,765,487	$5,164,254
New Hampshire	$38,506,356	$25,923,347	$0
New Jersey	$381,329,402	$394,985,509	$13,656,107
New Mexico	$40,652,923	$238,080,787	$197,427,864
New York	$2,227,698,956	$3,225,547,336	$997,848,380
North Carolina	$172,643,139	$178,972,840	$6,329,701
North Dakota	$11,075,345	$8,051,360	$0
Ohio	$487,533,531	$198,077,998	$0
Oklahoma	$67,357,556	$48,707,272	$0
Oregon	$110,727,552	$157,694,493	$46,966,941
Pennsylvania	$505,165,268	$394,034,725	$0
Rhode Island	$75,588,312	$9,473,799	$0
South Carolina	$45,544,970	$50,177,122	$4,632,152
South Dakota	$10,638,319	$7,737,086	$0
Tennessee	$94,551,660	$97,211,976	$2,660,316
Texas	$283,767,521	$388,046,892	$104,279,371
Utah	$28,839,646	$19,919,954	$0
Vermont	$31,400,210	$22,738,607	$0
Virginia	$153,923,221	$118,965,952	$0

State	100% MOE FY1994 Baseline[2]	FY2024 MOE[3]	Excess Contingency Fund MOE[4]
Washington	$310,376,963	$934,022,812	$623,645,849
West Virginia	$40,766,563	$31,475,052	$0
Wisconsin	$210,835,836	$235,150,992	$24,315,156
Wyoming	$10,597,116	$7,609,034	$0

Payment Structure and Reconciliation

According to ACF Office of Family Assistance program guidance, states may request funds either for all twelve months of the fiscal year or for specific months in which they expect to qualify.[5] In recent years, however, states have not sequenced or staggered monthly requests. Instead, they generally apply before the start of the fiscal year, typically in late August or September, and request the full-year maximum rather than selecting individual months. As a result, ACF issues provisional monthly payments at the statutory maximum of one-twelfth of 20% of a state's SFAG until the annual funding is depleted.

At the end of each fiscal year, ACF conducts an annual reconciliation to determine whether the state met the 100% Contingency Fund MOE requirement and whether it made sufficient excess MOE expenditures to retain the contingency funds received. If the state falls short, ACF will recoup all or part of the provisional payments.

Programmatic Challenges

The TANF Contingency Fund no longer operates as the recession-response mechanism envisioned by Congress in 1996. What was designed as a *temporary* fiscal safeguard has become a *permanent* revenue stream for a small number of states, detached from the economic triggers it was meant to follow and dominated by one state, New York, which has received over 40% of all contingency funds since the program's creation.

Eleven jurisdictions (Colorado, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, and Washington) have collectively received $7.75 billion from the Contingency Fund since its inception. That equates to 73% of all Contingency Fund dollars distributed to the states. This distribution reflects the structural flaws embedded in the Fund's outdated formula. The Contingency Fund's underlying indicators and spending rules have lost their connection to genuine economic hardship. Its structure now rewards permissive MOE accounting flexibility and inflation-driven erosion of MOE baselines rather than measurable distress among low-income families.

---

[5] U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance, *Program Instruction TANF-ACF-PI-2008-04, Federal TANF Contingency Funds* (May 6, 2008), available at https://acf.gov/ofa/policy-guidance/tanf-acf-pi-2008-04-federal-tanf-contingency-funds

The SNAP Trigger Has Become Permanently "On"

The Fund's responsiveness depends on the two triggers discussed above (unemployment rate and SNAP caseloads) but in practice the SNAP trigger has rendered the system automatic and decoupled from genuine economic need.

The baseline for SNAP participation, fixed to FY1994 and FY1995 levels, no longer bears any relationship to contemporary economic conditions. SNAP caseloads today are universally higher due to expanded eligibility rules and population growth. If the state-by-state SNAP trigger thresholds are viewed in aggregate, national SNAP participation would have to fall by about 35%[6] before total caseloads would drop below the "needy state" baseline levels. Some states are even further removed. Oregon is the most extreme example among states that draw from the Fund; its SNAP caseload would have to fall by roughly 62% to lose eligibility under the SNAP trigger.

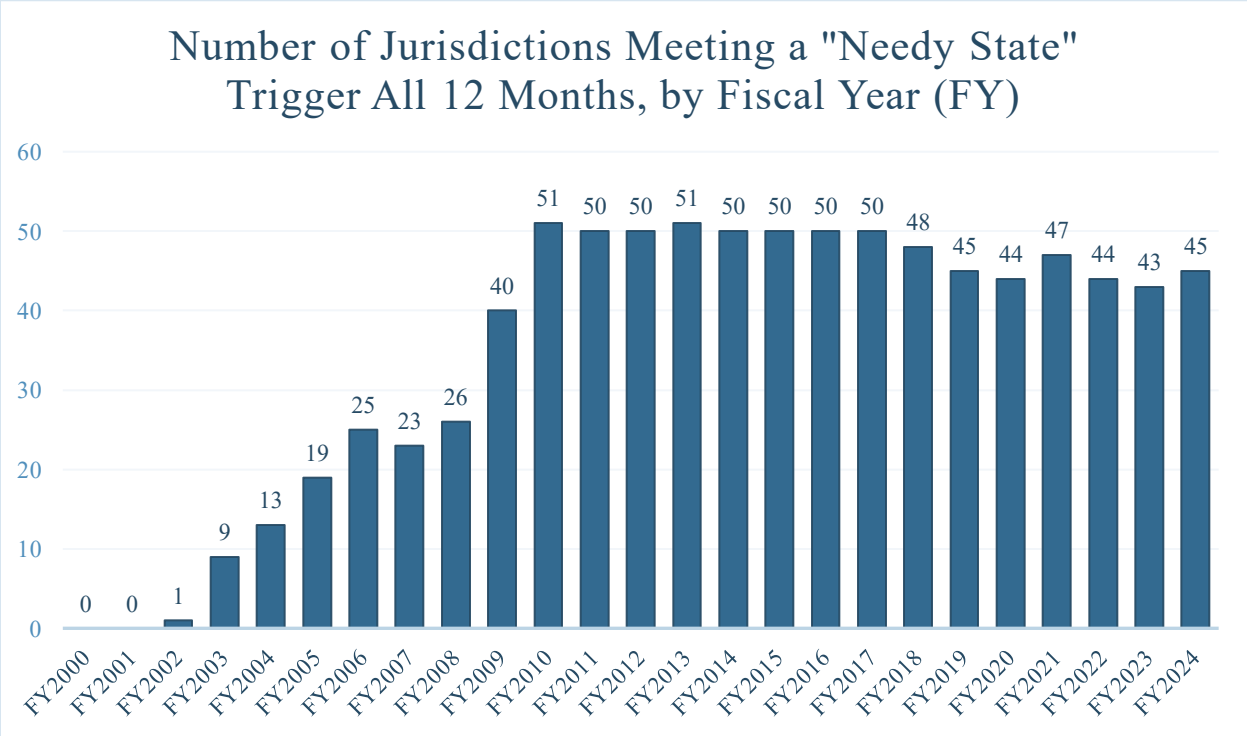
According to the Congressional Research Service (CRS), "most states have qualified for contingency funds on economically needy grounds every year since the [2008] crisis—regardless of the economic circumstance of the year."[7]

Since 2008, nearly every state has qualified for all twelve months of the year. During FY2024, for example, 45 jurisdictions were simultaneously eligible under the SNAP trigger in *every* reported month. This means that even in times of low unemployment and stable conditions, almost all states are technically "needy" under the statute.

The practical result is that the Contingency Fund — intended only to be tapped into during temporary economic downturns — is always on. Its economic trigger has lost value, transforming a funding safety valve into a standing entitlement from the federal government to the states.

[6] Based on the three-month period of June through August 2025
[7] Congressional Research Service, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant: A Primer, August 26, 2025, 7.

Chart 3: Number of Jurisdictions Meeting a "Needy State" Trigger All 12 Months, by Fiscal Year (FY)



A further indication that the Contingency Fund no longer serves as a true recession-response mechanism is Congressional action during the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the economic downturn, Congress did not increase or modify the Contingency Fund, whose annual appropriation has remained fixed at $608 million since FY2017. If lawmakers still viewed the Fund as an operational stabilizer for TANF, the pandemic would have been the moment to deploy it with increased funds. Instead, Congress relied on an array of separate emergency appropriations and temporary relief programs, leaving the Contingency Fund unchanged. That legislative choice underscores how far the Fund has drifted from its original purpose as a responsive recession backstop.

Inflation Has Eroded the 100% MOE Baseline

The requirement that states maintain 100% of their FY1994 MOE spending was intended to guarantee that federal contingency funds would supplement, not replace, state TANF investments.

However, this requirement is fixed in nominal 1994 dollars and has never been adjusted for inflation. Over the thirty years since PRWORA's enactment, inflation has eroded the real value of the FY 1994 MOE baseline by more than half.

The 100% MOE test is thus less demanding in real terms than ever before. States can satisfy it with a much smaller fiscal effort relative to their overall budgets. Rather than maintaining state

investment, the eroded MOE baseline allows states to meet the requirement with diminishing financial commitment.[8]

In combination with the permanently "on" SNAP trigger, this has transformed the fund into a predictable annual financing source, not a temporary responsive mechanism linked to recessions or unemployment spikes.

Third-Party Spending Accounting Inflates Eligibility

Compounding the erosion of MOE is the allowance of third-party spending to count toward a state's MOE total. Under TANF regulations, states may include the value of private expenditures on TANF-related activities—such as services by charitable organizations—toward their MOE requirement.[9]

This practice enables states to increase the amount of reported MOE without increasing actual state government spending. In effect, states can claim compliance with the 100% MOE threshold by identifying outside spending, without contributing additional public funds of their own.

This flexibility was intended to recognize community-based support, but in practice it functions as a fiscal multiplier: states can "boost" their MOE through accounting maneuvers rather than genuine investment.

More broadly, TANF's MOE rules already permit states to count a wide range of state-funded activities that satisfy one of TANF's four broad purposes, including expenditures that would likely have occurred even in the absence of TANF.

The devaluation of the FY1994 baseline and the expansive definition of expenditures that may count toward MOE mean that many states can claim to have maintained their effort, even when total TANF-related spending has fallen in inflation-adjusted terms. This statutory flexibility has thus become a gateway to routine eligibility for the Contingency Fund.

Substantial State TANF Reserves Show the Contingency Fund is Not a Backstop

Another indicator that the Contingency Fund is not a recession-response mechanism is the size of state TANF reserves. Federal TANF block grant dollars do not expire and may be carried over indefinitely, allowing states to accumulate substantial unspent balances over time. At the start of FY2025, states collectively held more than $11.3 billion in unspent TANF funds, including many states that also received Contingency Fund payments in FY2025.

---

[8] This erosion should not be read as an argument for increasing TANF funding to match inflation, but as evidence of a weak eligibility standard that no longer functions as intended. The problem is not insufficient federal support, but that the outdated baseline makes it easier for states to qualify for contingency funds regardless of real economic need.

[9] 45 C.F.R. § 263.2(e)

In a system intended to respond to periods of heightened economic need, contingency funding would be expected to supplement state resources only after existing balances had been drawn down. Instead, the statute permits states to qualify for contingency funds regardless of reserve levels. As a result, states with exceptionally large accumulated balances continue to receive additional federal assistance. New York, for example, entered FY2025 with more than $2.6 billion in unspent TANF funds, an amount exceeding its annual TANF block grant, yet still received over $280 million in contingency funding. Other states, including Oregon, New Mexico, Colorado, and Washington, also received Contingency Fund payments in FY2025 despite maintaining sizable TANF reserves. Together, these cases demonstrate that contingency funding is routinely layered on top of existing state reserves rather than triggered by the exhaustion of state resources.

Because contingency funds are available without regard to reserve levels, in many cases these federal dollars simply replace existing TANF block grant funds rather than financing additional services or increased support for families. The Fund therefore enables states to maintain or reallocate their own TANF dollars while relying on additional federal resources to sustain existing commitments, reflecting that states access the Fund not because they lack resources, but because the program's structure makes additional federal dollars readily available.

The table below compares TANF reserves at the start of FY2025 with each state's FY2025 Contingency Fund receipt. This illustrates that the availability of substantial state TANF balances does not constrain or diminish states' reliance on the Fund.

Table 2: State TANF Reserves Compared to FY2025 Contingency Fund Receipts

State	Total State TANF Reserves in FY25[10]	Amount Received from Contingency Fund in FY25	TANF Reserves as a Multiple of Contingency Funds Received
Alabama	$60,654,012	$10,715,114	5.7x
Alaska	$30,342,304	-	-
Arizona	$53,585,851	$25,539,849	2.1x
Arkansas	$32,149,685	-	-
California	$851,216,248	-	-
Colorado	$100,249,782	$15,623,002	6.4x
Connecticut	$8,611,754	-	-
Delaware	$36,497,106	$3,707,880	9.8x

[10] Source: HHS Payment Management System (PMS). TANF state grant reserves reflect cash balances in PMS as of September 30, 2024. These balances may differ from unspent fund amounts reported on the ACF-196R due to timing differences between state expenditures and subsequent drawdowns.

State	Total State TANF Reserves in FY25[10]	Amount Received from Contingency Fund in FY25	TANF Reserves as a Multiple of Contingency Funds Received
DC	$144,204,768	$10,634,120	13.6x
Florida	$141,906,534	-	-
Georgia	$98,773,658	-	-
Hawaii	$478,985,002	-	-
Idaho	$21,266,652	-	-
Illinois	$37,748,906	-	-
Indiana	$238,248,448	-	-
Iowa	$139,970,432	-	-
Kansas	$75,939,728	-	-
Kentucky	$55,439,481	-	-
Louisiana	$21,086,839	-	-
Maine	$53,807,197	-	-
Maryland	$92,137,823	$26,306,672	3.5x
Massachusetts	$83,378,330	$52,748,264	1.6x
Michigan	$224,284,363	-	-
Minnesota	$306,893,738	-	-
Mississippi	$205,260,521	-	-
Missouri	$25,749,234	-	-
Montana	$85,949,477	-	-
Nebraska	$116,436,375	-	-
Nevada	$54,562,426	-	-
New Hampshire	$72,878,005	-	-
New Jersey	$0	-	-
New Mexico	$110,940,015	$14,480,062	7.7x
New York	$2,598,742,579	$280,514,703	9.3x
North Carolina	$48,164,301	$34,705,307	1.4x
North Dakota	$28,764,260	-	-
Ohio	$585,309,224	-	-

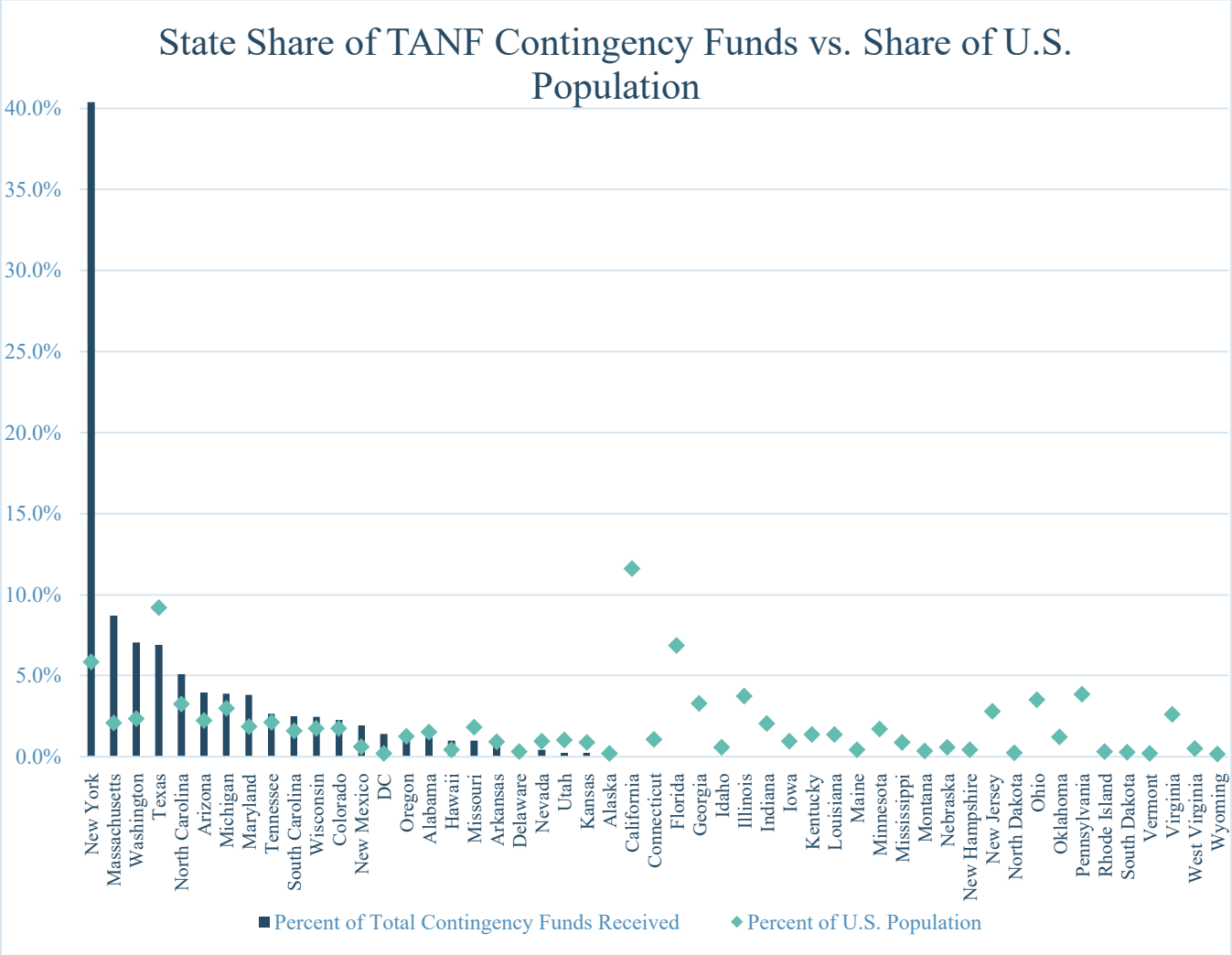
State	Total State TANF Reserves in FY25[10]	Amount Received from Contingency Fund in FY25	TANF Reserves as a Multiple of Contingency Funds Received
Oklahoma	$264,040,530	-	-
Oregon	$176,560,153	$19,282,290	9.2x
Pennsylvania	$1,780,307,220	-	-
Rhode Island	$157,602,788	-	-
South Carolina	$31,520,335	$11,479,016	2.7x
South Dakota	$24,281,151	-	-
Tennessee	$681,860,585	-	-
Texas	$184,709,492	$55,835,465	3.3x
Utah	$134,650,411	-	-
Vermont	$412,313	-	-
Virginia	$18,132,771	-	-
Washington	$72,491,249	$46,428,256	1.6x
West Virginia	$133,103,886	-	-
Wisconsin	$333,023,849	-	-
Wyoming	$28,241,995	-	-
Total	**$11,341,073,788**	**$608,000,000**	**18.7x**

New York's Disproportionate Share

One way to assess whether the Contingency Fund functions as intended is to compare each state's share of the U.S. population with its share of total contingency payments. If funds were distributed roughly in proportion to population, large states would receive more support than small states, but no single state would dominate the program.

As shown below in Chart 4, New York's share of contingency funding far exceeds what its population share would predict. While New York is home to roughly 6% of the U.S. population, it has received approximately 40% of all TANF Contingency Fund payments since the program's creation. No other participating state exhibits a comparable divergence between population share and funding share.

Chart 4: State Share of TANF Contingency Funds vs. Share of U.S. Population



Since the Contingency Fund's creation, New York has received over $4 billion. This concentration is not the result of episodic economic distress. Rather, it reflects New York's continuous qualification as a "needy state" and its consistent ability to draw the maximum available funding year after year.

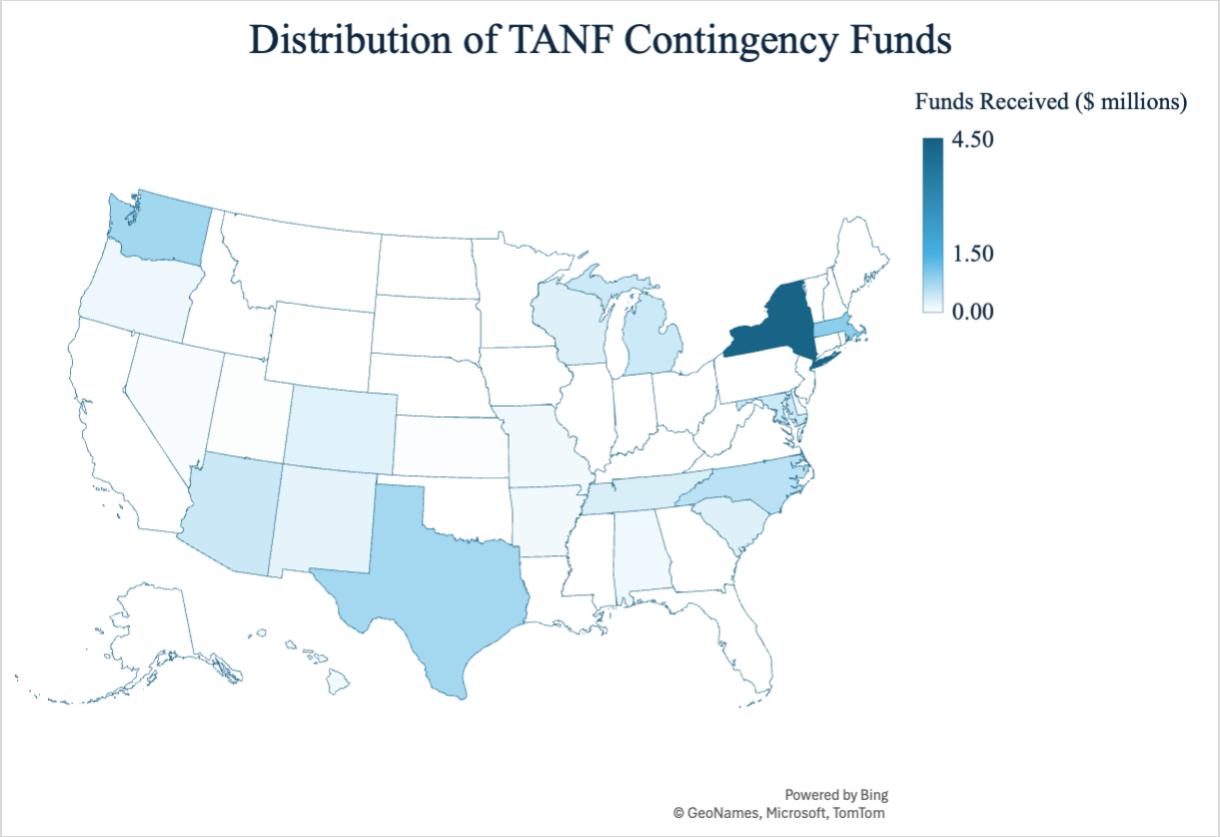
Analysis of ACF's data shows that New York has qualified as a "needy state" *every* month since December 2008, including throughout the post-recession period when the state's unemployment rate had fallen to relatively low levels. It consistently meets the SNAP trigger in all twelve months of each fiscal year and has the administrative and fiscal capacity to certify MOE compliance year after year.

New York's outsized share of Contingency Fund payments reflects a broader structural reality shared by all recipient states in recent years, though at a much larger scale. Participation is constant year after year, driven not by sustained economic distress but by the Fund's technical design: a permanently active trigger, a deflated MOE baseline, and expansive accounting rules.

Importantly, New York's dominant share of the Fund occurs despite the state holding extraordinarily large TANF reserves. At the start of FY2025, New York had $2.6 billion in unspent TANF funds — the largest reserve in the nation by a significant margin. Nevertheless, New York received $280 million in FY2025 contingency funds. That means New York held approximately ten dollars in TANF reserves for every one dollar of Contingency Fund support it drew.

The geographic distribution of this imbalance is visualized in the heatmap below. States shaded most intensely represent those receiving the largest cumulative allocations since the Fund's inception.

Chart 5: Heatmap Distribution of TANF Contingency Funds, by State, 1998-2025



Conclusion

The TANF Contingency Fund was created to provide short-term, targeted relief to states during economic downturns. Today, however, the Fund no longer operates as a true recessionary backstop. Permanently active SNAP triggers, an inflation-eroded MOE baseline, and permissive MOE accounting rules have combined to make eligibility routine rather than exceptional. As a result, contingency funds flow predictably each year to a small group of states, most notably New York, even when many of those states maintain substantial unspent TANF reserves.

Congress is therefore appropriating $608 million annually through a mechanism that is largely disconnected from real-time economic distress. In its current form, the Contingency Fund no longer performs the function for which it was created, raising fundamental questions about the justification for ongoing annual funding.

APPENDIX A-1: TANF Contingency Fund Awards by State and Fiscal Year (FY1998–FY2013)

State	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13
Alabama	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Alaska	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Arizona	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$40,276,718	$40,046,539	$21,561,781	$10,007,064	$17,598,478	$18,564,095
Arkansas	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$11,346,572	$6,111,990	$2,836,644	$4,988,533	$4,961,564
California	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Colorado	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$24,943,727	$5,084,139	$6,802,836	$11,963,500	$11,898,815
Connecticut	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Delaware	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$6,458,196	$6,458,196	$1,206,642	$1,614,549	$0	$2,824,002
DC	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$5,063,723	$4,630,491	$8,143,202	$8,099,175
Florida	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Georgia	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Hawaii	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$11,538,892	$10,655,289	$4,945,239	$8,696,724	$8,649,699
Idaho	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Illinois	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Indiana	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Iowa	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Kansas	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$18,687,361	$0	$5,096,553	$0	$0
Kentucky	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Louisiana	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Maine	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Maryland	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$38,183,005	$8,560,886	$11,454,903	$20,144,650	$20,035,728
Massachusetts	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$91,874,223	$91,874,223	$26,687,303	$22,968,555	$40,392,628	$40,174,215
Michigan	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$155,070,572	$155,070,572	$0	$38,767,644	$68,176,988	$0
Minnesota	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Mississippi	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Missouri	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$19,085,419	$18,982,220
Montana	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Nebraska	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Nevada	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$6,586,128	$0	$2,195,376	$3,860,795	$3,839,924
New Hampshire	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
New Jersey	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
New Mexico	$2,101,719	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$22,115,620	$4,132,058	$5,528,904	$9,757,187	$9,670,585
New York	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$407,155,100	$91,286,911	$122,146,530	$214,807,562	$213,646,044
North Carolina	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$60,447,920	$11,294,026	$15,111,981	$26,576,008	$26,361,944

State	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13
North Dakota	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Ohio	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Oklahoma	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Oregon	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$8,339,931	$14,694,738	$14,476,189
Pennsylvania	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Rhode Island	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
South Carolina	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$19,993,565	$19,993,565	$19,993,565	$19,993,565	$19,993,565	$10,769,813	$4,998,390	$8,790,197	$8,742,665
South Dakota	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Tennessee	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$38,304,759	$38,304,759	$38,304,759	$38,304,759	$38,304,759	$7,156,820	$9,576,189	$16,840,738	$16,749,677
Texas	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$42,756,690	$42,525,493
Utah	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$15,121,895	$2,825,359	$0	$0	$0
Vermont	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Virginia	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Washington	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$76,190,898	$76,149,947	$0	$19,027,248	$33,881,227	$32,472,422
West Virginia	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Wisconsin	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$62,899,871	$0	$15,724,968	$27,655,194	$26,398,979
Wyoming	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
TOTAL	$2,101,719	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$58,298,324	$58,298,324	$58,298,324	$428,168,931	$1,106,923,892	$212,396,740	$311,773,995	$598,810,458	$529,073,435

APPENDIX A-2: TANF Contingency Fund Awards by State and Fiscal Year (FY2014–FY2025)[11]

State	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	Total	%	Total Years
Alabama	$9,266,210	$10,395,468	$9,164,380	$9,876,594	$10,352,104	$10,778,992	$11,079,760	$11,079,761	$11,079,761	$10,944,955	$10,601,523	$10,715,114	$125,334,623	1.2%	12
Alaska	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Arizona	$21,078,509	$22,296,076	$19,655,642	$21,183,201	$22,194,881	$23,110,129	$23,754,975	$23,754,975	$23,754,975	$26,087,683	$25,269,101	$25,539,849	$425,734,672	4.0%	18
Arkansas	$5,633,583	$6,320,132	$5,571,669	$6,004,678	$6,293,768	$6,553,305	$6,736,163	$6,736,162	$6,736,162	$6,654,210	$6,445,413	$0	$99,930,548	0.9%	16
California	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Colorado	$13,510,450	$15,156,941	$13,361,970	$14,400,411	$15,093,712	$15,716,131	$16,154,660	$16,154,660	$16,154,660	$15,958,118	$15,457,382	$15,623,002	$243,435,114	2.3%	17
Connecticut	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Delaware	$3,206,499	$3,597,271	$3,171,259	$3,417,717	$3,582,263	$3,729,985	$3,834,064	$3,834,063	$3,834,063	$3,787,415	$3,668,573	$3,707,880	$61,932,638	0.6%	17
DC	$9,196,167	$10,316,883	$9,095,102	$9,801,938	$10,273,848	$10,697,512	$10,996,005	$10,996,004	$10,996,004	$10,862,223	$10,521,387	$10,634,120	$150,323,784	1.4%	16
Florida	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Georgia	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Hawaii	$9,821,258	$11,018,159	$9,713,323	$10,468,204	$10,972,194	$11,424,654	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$107,903,635	1.0%	11
Idaho	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Illinois	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Indiana	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Iowa	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Kansas	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$23,783,914	0.2%	2
Kentucky	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Louisiana	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Maine	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Maryland	$22,749,468	$25,521,904	$22,499,451	$24,248,021	$25,415,437	$26,463,490	$27,201,905	$27,201,905	$27,201,905	$26,870,954	$26,027,794	$26,306,672	$406,088,078	3.8%	17
Massachusetts	$45,615,611	$51,174,715	$45,114,298	$48,620,404	$50,961,233	$53,062,710	$54,543,333	$54,543,333	$54,543,333	$53,879,722	$52,189,079	$52,748,264	$930,967,182	8.7%	18
Michigan	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$417,085,776	3.9%	4
Minnesota	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Mississippi	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Missouri	$21,553,267	$24,179,930	$0	$0	$24,079,058	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$107,879,894	1.0%	5
Montana	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Nebraska	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Nevada	$4,360,023	$4,870,798	$4,312,106	$4,647,226	$4,870,939	$5,071,802	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$44,615,117	0.4%	10
New Hampshire	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
New Jersey	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0

[11] The appendix tables are presented in two parts, with each section displaying only a subset of years. The final three columns on pages 18-19 show cumulative TANF Contingency Fund receipts over FY1998–FY2025, share of total awards, and total cumulative years of receipt.

State	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	Total	%	Total Years
New Mexico	$10,980,418	$12,318,585	$10,859,744	$11,678,096	$12,234,544	$12,739,060	$13,094,519	$13,094,518	$13,094,518	$14,790,661	$14,326,558	$14,480,062	$206,997,356	1.9%	18
New York	$242,583,331	$272,146,589	$239,917,352	$258,562,787	$271,011,277	$282,186,921	$290,060,846	$290,060,848	$290,060,848	$286,531,784	$277,540,964	$280,514,703	$4,330,220,397	40.4%	17
North Carolina	$29,932,538	$33,580,363	$29,603,580	$31,904,255	$33,439,988	$34,818,946	$35,790,508	$35,790,508	$35,790,508	$35,449,741	$34,337,396	$34,705,307	$544,935,517	5.1%	17
North Dakota	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Ohio	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Oklahoma	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Oregon	$16,436,917	$18,581,648	$16,381,097	$17,654,171	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$19,077,878	$19,282,290	$144,924,860	1.4%	9
Pennsylvania	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Rhode Island	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
South Carolina	$9,926,816	$11,136,582	$9,817,722	$10,580,716	$11,090,125	$11,547,446	$11,869,657	$11,869,657	$11,869,657	$11,725,242	$11,357,326	$11,479,016	$267,538,852	2.5%	21
South Dakota	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Tennessee	$19,018,337	$21,336,072	$18,809,327	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$301,010,955	2.8%	12
Texas	$48,285,359	$54,169,822	$47,754,705	$51,466,013	$53,943,842	$56,168,314	$57,735,591	$57,735,591	$57,735,591	$57,033,143	$55,243,552	$55,835,465	$738,389,172	6.9%	14
Utah	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$17,947,254	0.2%	2
Vermont	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Virginia	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Washington	$36,870,650	$42,393,350	$37,369,915	$40,262,428	$42,190,787	$43,930,603	$45,148,014	$45,148,015	$45,148,015	$47,424,150	$45,936,070	$46,428,256	$755,971,995	7.1%	17
West Virginia	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
Wisconsin	$29,974,589	$34,968,544	$30,827,358	$33,223,140	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$261,672,643	2.4%	8
Wyoming	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	0
TOTAL	$610,000,000	$685,479,832	$583,000,000	$608,000,000	$608,000,000	$608,000,000	$608,000,000	$608,000,000	$608,000,000	$608,000,000	$608,000,000	$608,000,000	$10,714,623,974		