

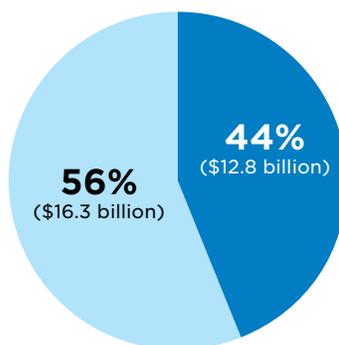
Child Welfare Financing 101

Child welfare funding is a tiny sliver of total federal spending.

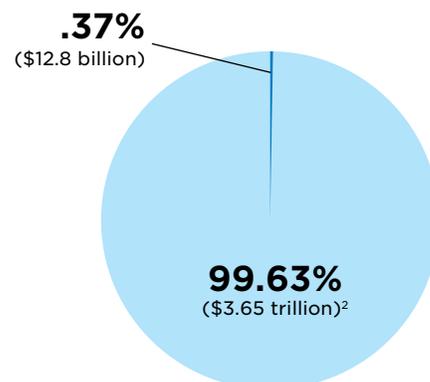


Child welfare agencies received referrals for suspected child abuse or neglect of approximately **6.6 million children¹** between October 2013 and September 2014.

Child welfare agencies spent \$29.1 billion in 2014, **44 percent (\$12.8 billion)** of which was federal funding.

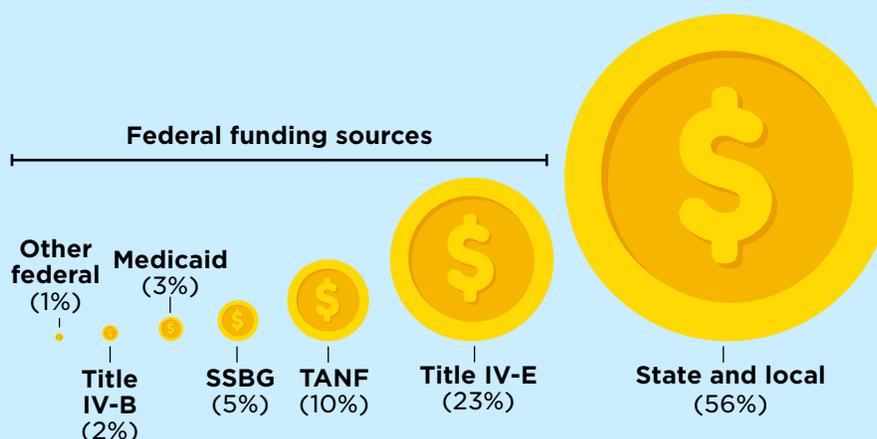


Child welfare expenditures account for **0.37 percent** of federal spending.



State and local sources fund the majority of child welfare activities.

Sources of child welfare funding in SFY 2014



Note: Each state reported data based on its state fiscal year 2014—for most states, this was July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.. Of the 50 states plus Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia, only six (AL, DC, MI, NY, TX, and WY) reported a different SFY calendar.

¹ U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2016). *Child maltreatment 2014*. Available at: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2014.pdf>.

² Executive Office of the President of the United States, Office of Management and Budget. (2016). Fiscal Year 2016 Historical Tables: Budget of the U.S. Government (page 30). Available at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BUDGET-2016-TAB/pdf/BUDGET-2016-TAB.pdf#page=30>

A variety of federal funding sources support child welfare activities.³

Title IV-E of the Social Security Act can be used for foster care, adoption, guardianship, transition supports for eligible children, and child welfare workforce training.

The Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) is a source of flexible funding to promote self-sufficiency, prevent or remedy child maltreatment, reduce inappropriate use of institutional care, and more.

Title IV-B of the Social Security Act can be used for the prevention of maltreatment, family preservation, family reunification, services for foster and adopted children, training for child welfare professionals, and adoption promotion activities.

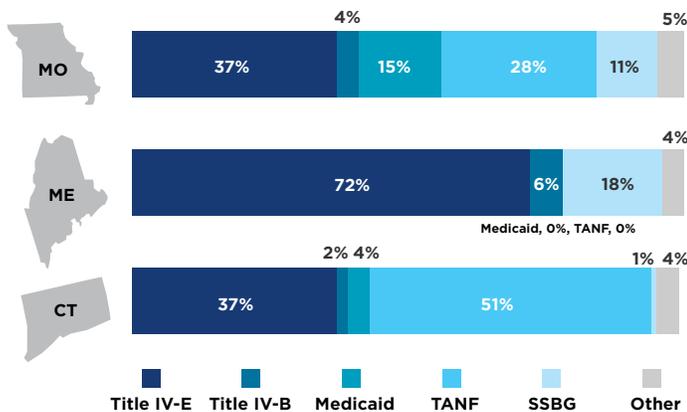
Medicaid covers health-related services for millions of low-income individuals.⁴

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is a source of flexible funding for supporting child welfare activities.

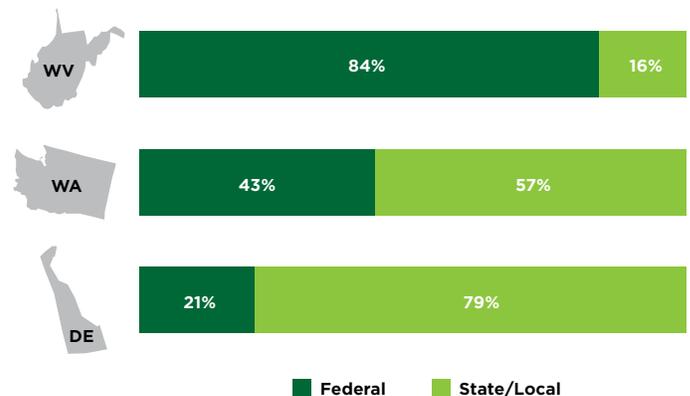
States may use other **federal funding streams** to fund child welfare activities, such as the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, the Adoption Opportunities Program, Supplemental Security Income, and more.

Child welfare agencies use different combinations of funding sources.

How states use federal funding sources varies widely by state. For example:



The proportion of funding from federal versus state sources also varies widely:



Information on child welfare expenditures is from Child Trends' [Child Welfare Financing Survey SFY 2014](#).

Want to know more? See Child Trends' website for additional resources about child welfare expenditures in SFY 2014: <https://www.childtrends.org/research/research-by-topic/child-welfare-financing-survey-sfy-2014/>.

This product was created with support from and in partnership with Casey Family Programs.

³ Title IV-E and IV-B funding sources are specific to child welfare. On the other hand, TANF, SSBG, and Medicaid can be used for purposes outside of child welfare.

⁴ The Medicaid dollars reported are only those that pass through the child welfare agency.