

# Child Welfare Agency Spending in North Dakota in SFY 2024



Child welfare agencies across the United States are charged with protecting and promoting the welfare of children and youth who are at risk of, or have been victims of, maltreatment. State and local child welfare agencies rely on multiple funding streams to administer programs and services. While many funding sources are available to child welfare agencies, each source has its unique purposes, eligibility requirements, and limitations, creating a complex financing structure that is challenging to understand and administer. Each state's unique funding composition impacts the services available to children and families and the way in which child welfare agencies operate.

This document presents information on child welfare agency expenditures in North Dakota for SFY 2024<sup>1</sup> collected through Child Trends' national survey of child welfare agency expenditures. All dollar amounts have been inflated to 2024 levels.

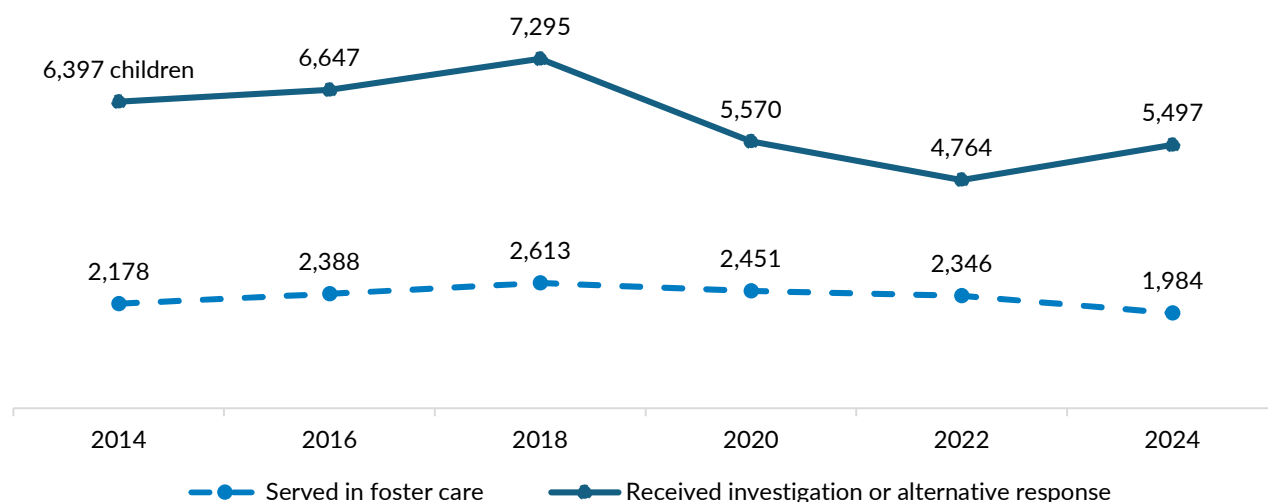
## Other available resources

This document is one of many child welfare financing resources available on the Child Trends website, including a summary of national findings and detailed information on the following funding sources used by child welfare agencies:

- Title IV-E
- Title IV-B
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- Social Services Block Grant
- Medicaid
- Other federal funds
- State and local funds

## Children With Child Welfare Agency Contact

Since SFY 2022, the number of children in North Dakota who received an investigation or alternative response<sup>2</sup> has increased while the number served in foster care<sup>3</sup> has decreased.



# Total Expenditures

|                    | Amount in SFY 2024 | % change since...      |                         |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
|                    |                    | Last survey (SFY 2022) | 10 years ago (SFY 2014) |
| Overall            | \$97,822,775       | N/A                    | N/A                     |
| Federal            | \$27,526,955       | N/A                    | N/A                     |
| State              | \$45,525,062       | N/A                    | 100%                    |
| Local              | \$24,219,155       | N/A                    | 76%                     |
| Other <sup>4</sup> | \$551,603          | N/A                    | N/A                     |

**Note:** N/A indicates a comparison could not be made because comparable data are not available.

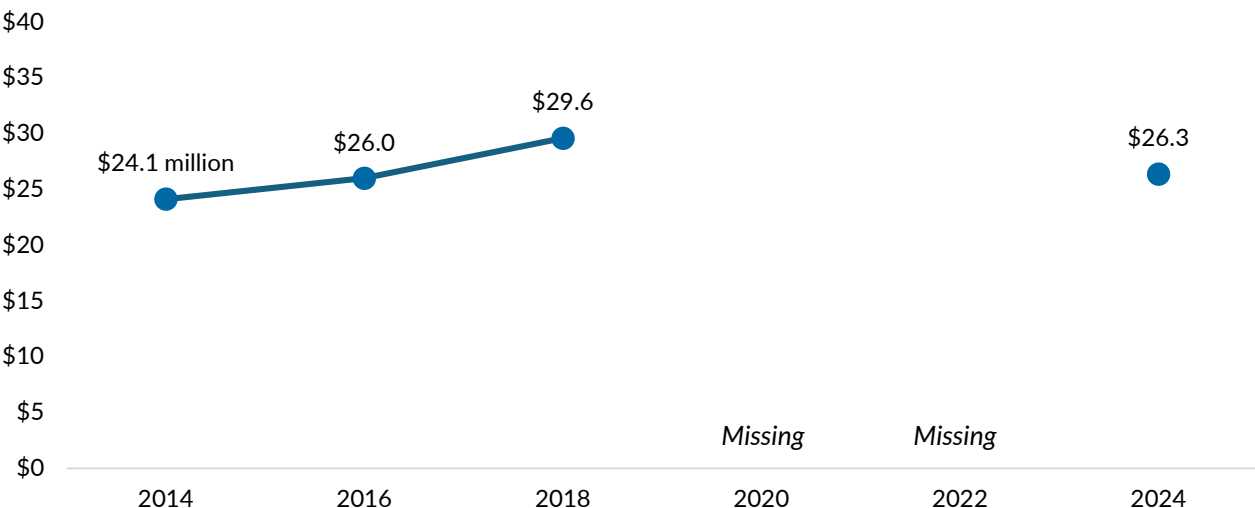
# Federal Expenditures

## Title IV-E

Total in SFY 2024: \$26,329,266

Change from SFY 2022: N/A

Title IV-E of the Social Security Act<sup>5</sup> can be used for foster care, adoption, guardianship, prevention, kinship navigation, and supports for transition-age youth (Chafee and Education and Training Vouchers). North Dakota's Title IV-E Prevention Plan was effective beginning April 1, 2020.<sup>6</sup>



## Title IV-E (cont.)

| Title IV-E                      | 2024         |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Foster Care Program             | \$8,612,560  |
| Adoption Assistance Program     | \$15,709,763 |
| Guardianship Assistance Program | \$919,274    |
| Chafee Program and ETVs         | \$482,173    |
| Waiver                          | N/A          |
| Prevention Program              | \$605,494    |
| Kinship Navigator Program       | \$0          |
| Funding Certainty Grants        | \$0          |

Note: N/A means the program did not exist in that year.

## Title IV-B

Total in SFY 2024: \$1,197,689

Change from SFY 2022: N/A

Title IV-B<sup>7</sup> of the Social Security Act can be used for child welfare services, such as preventing maltreatment, family preservation, family reunification, services for foster and adopted children, and training for child welfare professionals. The funds reported on the survey are only those spent by child welfare agencies.

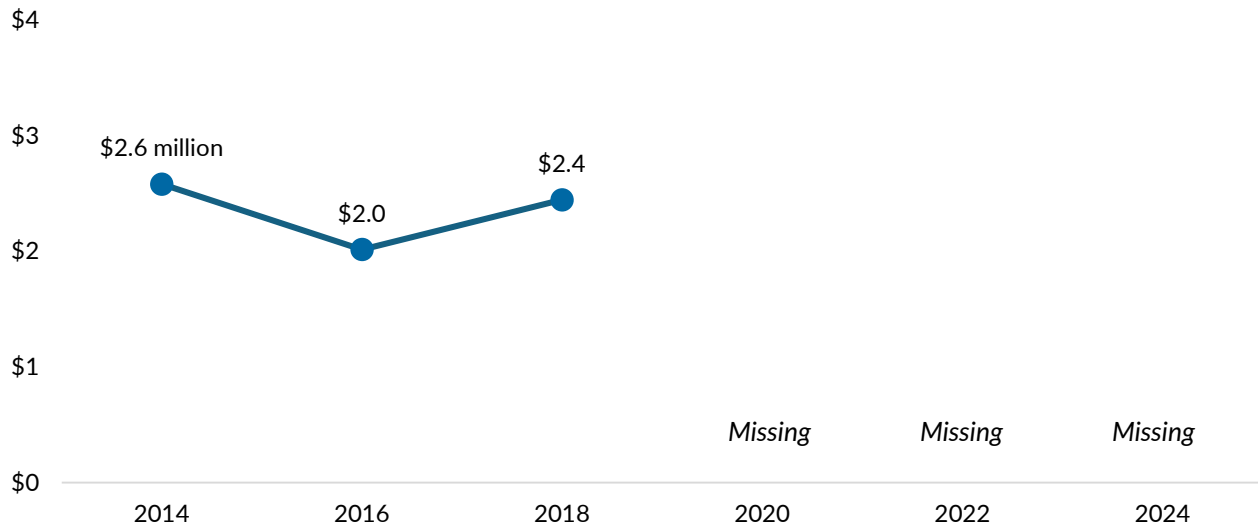
## Medicaid

Total in SFY 2024: Missing

Change from SFY 2022: N/A

Medicaid<sup>8</sup> covers health-related services for millions of low-income individuals. Children eligible for Title IV-E foster care, adoption, or guardianship programs are automatically eligible for Medicaid. Child welfare agencies use Medicaid for treatment portions of child welfare programs, targeted case management, and services for children in treatment or therapeutic foster homes. Note: The amount reported here captures only Medicaid expenditures by child welfare agencies; it does not reflect the state's total Medicaid spending. This means that the Medicaid expenditures reported on this survey do not reflect the total amount of Medicaid funding used to support children involved with the child welfare system. Instead, the expenditures reported on this survey are only those Medicaid dollars that child welfare agencies use directly.

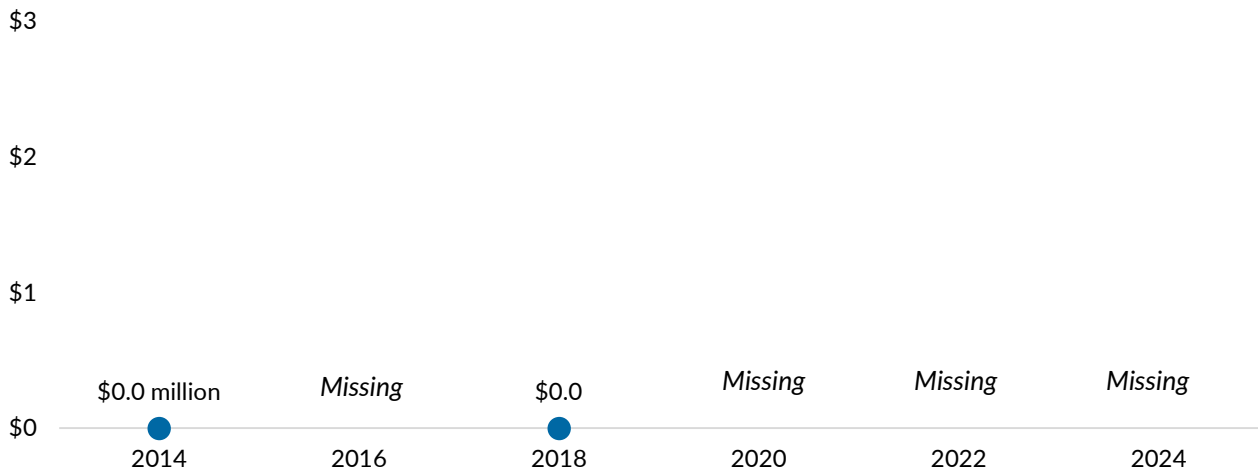
# Medicaid (cont.)



# Social Services Block Grant

**Total in SFY 2024:** Missing **Change from SFY 2022:** N/A

The Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)<sup>9</sup> is a flexible source of federal funds that child welfare agencies can use to promote self-sufficiency, prevent or remedy child maltreatment, reduce inappropriate use of institutional care, and more.<sup>10</sup>

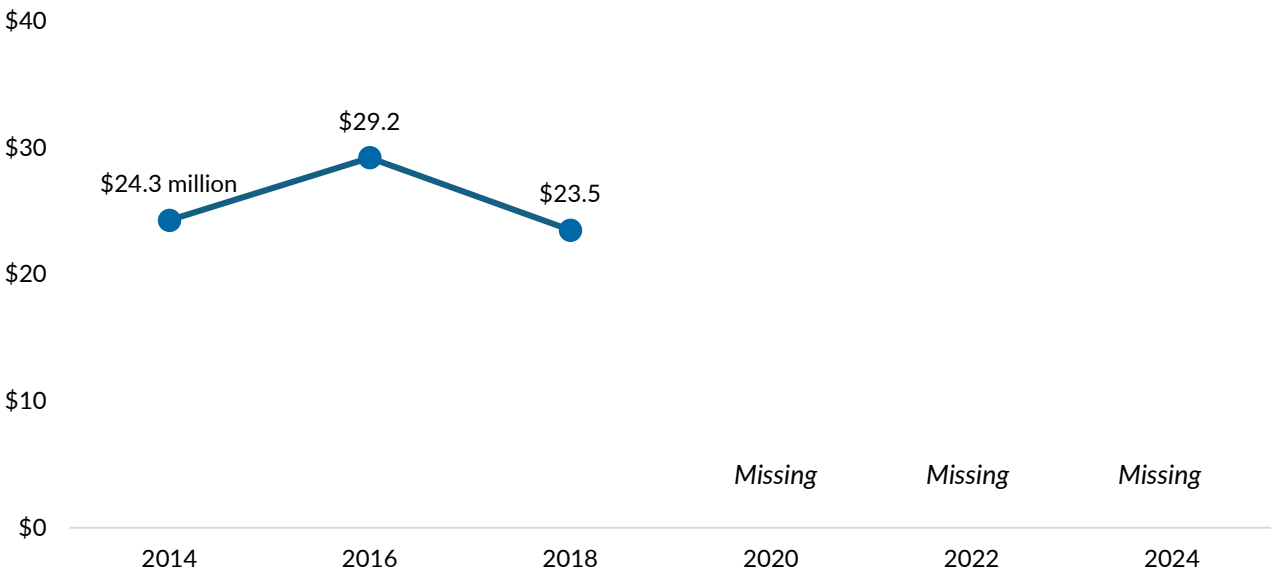


# Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

**Total in SFY 2024:** Missing **Change from SFY 2022:** N/A

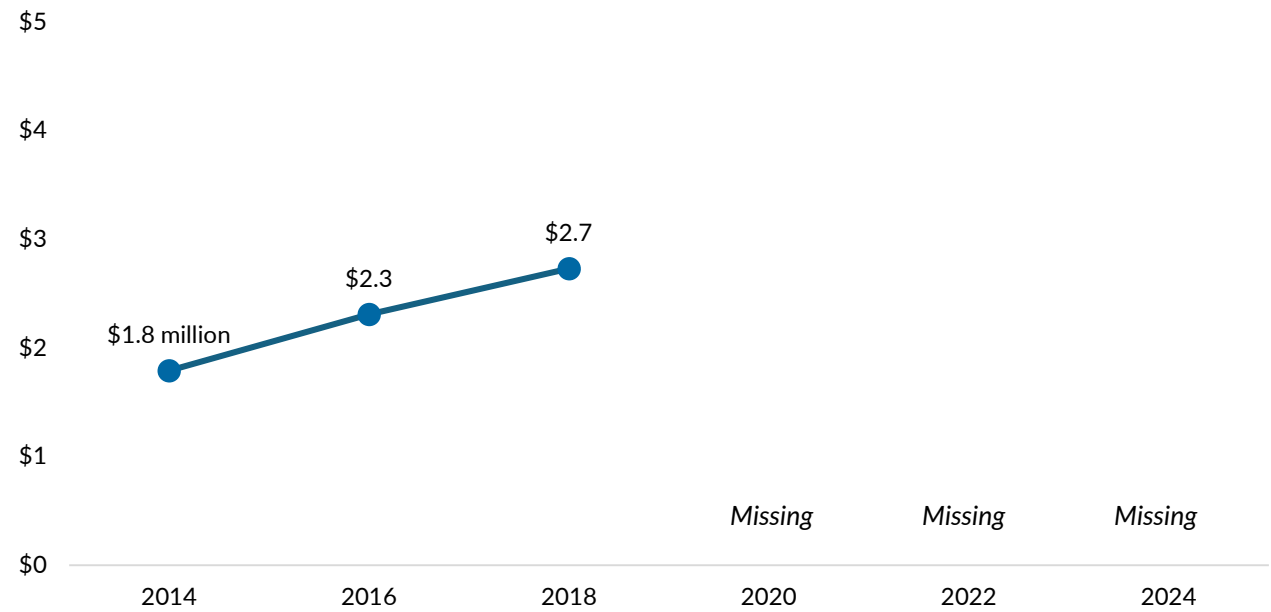
In addition to providing cash assistance to low-income families, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

(TANF)<sup>11</sup> can also be used to support a variety of child welfare activities. TANF allows states to be flexible in using funding to support children involved in the child welfare system.



## Other Federal Funds<sup>12</sup>

|                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Total in SFY 2024: Missing | Change from SFY 2022: N/A |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|



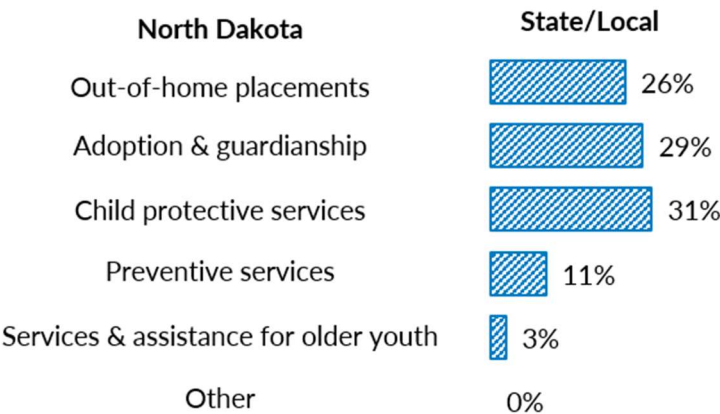
# State and Local Expenditures

State and local funds<sup>13</sup> are used to meet non-federal cost-sharing requirements (“match”) for some federal sources, to meet a maintenance of effort requirement for a federal program, and to pay for costs that federal funds do not cover.



# Use of Funds

Just over a quarter of North Dakota's state/local expenditures are used for out-of-home placements.<sup>14</sup>



**Acknowledgement:** We thank the Annie E. Casey Foundation and Casey Family Programs for their support and expert consultation throughout the project. We acknowledge that the findings and conclusions presented in this resource are those of the authors alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of these organizations.

**Main Report:** Rosinsky, K., Haas, M., & Ibarra, A. (2026). Child Welfare Financing SFY 2024: A survey of federal, state, and local expenditures. Child Trends. DOI: 10.56417/9614y2432r.

JULY 2026

# Endnotes

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<sup>1</sup> Each state reported data based on its SFY 2024, which for North Dakota was July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2026). *Child Maltreatment 2024*. Available at: <https://acf.gov/cb/report/child-maltreatment-2024>

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2024). *Child Maltreatment 2022*. Available at: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/data-research/child-maltreatment>

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2022). *Child Maltreatment 2020*. Available at: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/data-research/child-maltreatment>

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2020). *Child Maltreatment 2018*. Available at: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/data-research/child-maltreatment>

<sup>3</sup> "Served in foster care" refers to the "estimated count of all children who were in the public foster care system during the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY). This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year."

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2024). *Trends in Foster Care and Adoption: FY 2013 - 2022*. Available at: <https://acf.gov/cb/report/trends-foster-care-adoption>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (nd). *The AFCARS Dashboard*. Available at: [https://tableau-public.acf.gov/views/afcars\\_dashboard\\_main\\_page/mainpage?%3Aembed=y&%3AisGuestRedirectFromVizportal=y](https://tableau-public.acf.gov/views/afcars_dashboard_main_page/mainpage?%3Aembed=y&%3AisGuestRedirectFromVizportal=y)

<sup>4</sup> "Other" includes child benefits and family income used as offsets, third-party in-kind contributions, and private dollars.

<sup>5</sup> For SFY 2024, North Dakota was unable to report expenditures of several federal funding streams (Medicaid, TANF, SSBG, and "other" federal sources), some sub-categories of child benefits and family income, third-party in-kind contributions, and private dollars, so its federal, "other," and total expenditures may be understated. North Dakota was also unable to report Title IV-B expenditures, but we estimated those expenditures based on HHS data.

<sup>6</sup> National Conference of State Legislatures. (2026). *Family First State Plans and Enacted Legislation*. Available at: <https://www.ncsl.org/human-services/family-first-state-plans-and-enacted-legislation>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2024). *Title IV-E Programs Expenditure and Caseload Data 2023*. Available at: <https://acf.gov/cb/report/programs-expenditure-caseload-data-2023>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2025). *Status of Submitted Title IV-E Prevention Program Five-Year Plans*. Available at: <https://acf.gov/cb/data/status-submitted-title-iv-e-prevention-program-five-year-plans>

North Dakota did not participate in the SFY 2020 and 2022 surveys, so Title IV-E expenditure data for those years are missing.

<sup>7</sup> For this survey, states were asked to report their child welfare agency's(ies') total federal Title IV-B expenditures for child welfare services/activities. They were told to exclude any Title IV-B dollars expended by non-profits, courts, or other entities in the state unless the funds flowed through the state/local child welfare agency to the outside entity and were spent on child welfare services/activities. Thus, because some Title IV-B dollars may have gone directly to,

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and been spent by, these outside entities, the total reported here may not represent the state's total Title IV-B expenditures.

North Dakota was unable to report Title IV-B expenditures for SFY 2024, so we estimated expenditures based on HHS data. As a result, a comparison to SFY 2022 is unable to be made.

<sup>8</sup> For the survey, researchers asked states to report only Medicaid funds that covered costs borne by the child welfare agency and/or for which the child welfare agency paid the nonfederal match. It excludes Medicaid-funded costs for the child welfare population borne by any other agencies (e.g., the health department) unless the child welfare agency paid the nonfederal match and so excludes costs associated with healthcare coverage. It should be acknowledged, therefore, that this understates (by a significant, yet indeterminate, amount) the degree to which Medicaid supports children involved with the child welfare system and child welfare activities overall in the United States. Additional Medicaid funds may be used by the state health department to provide healthcare to children involved in child welfare, the majority of whom are eligible for Medicaid.

North Dakota was unable to report Medicaid expenditures for SFY 2024 and did not participate in the SFY 2020 and 2022 surveys, so Medicaid expenditure data for those years are missing.

<sup>9</sup> North Dakota was unable to report SSBG expenditures for SFYs 2016 and 2024, and did not participate in the SFY 2020 and 2022 surveys, so SSBG expenditure data for those years are missing.

<sup>10</sup> These amounts include funds transferred from TANF to SSBG.

<sup>11</sup> North Dakota was unable to report TANF expenditures for SFY 2024 and did not participate in the SFY 2020 and 2022 surveys, so TANF expenditure data for those years are missing.

<sup>12</sup> North Dakota was unable to report other federal expenditures for SFY 2024 and did not participate in the SFY 2020 and 2022 surveys, so other federal expenditure data for those years are missing.

<sup>13</sup> North Dakota was unable to report local expenditures for SFYs 2016 and 2018, and did not participate in the SFY 2020 and 2022 surveys, so state/local expenditure data for those years are missing.

<sup>14</sup> Most states, including North Dakota, were able to provide only approximations for how their funds were spent. Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.