

Policy Brief

Economic Assistance Division



On average **83,332** North Dakotans access public assistance each month.



73,262 people in **34,795** households receive **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**.



4,946 people in **2,960** households receive **Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)**.



12,785 households served last heating season through **Low Income Heating and Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)**.



5,124 people in **1,981** households receive **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)**.

Many federal assistance programs are designed to help individuals and families who earn less than **60% of State median income (SMI)**.

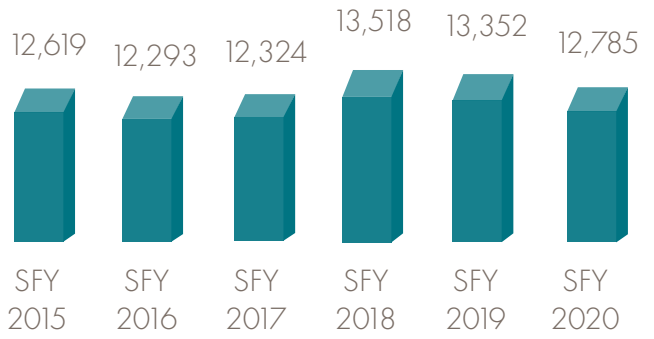
Household Size	Annual Income	Hourly Wage
1	\$31,440	\$15.12
2	\$41,124	\$19.77
3	\$50,796	\$24.42
4	\$60,468	\$29.07
5	\$70,140	\$33.72
6	\$79,824	\$38.38
7	\$81,636	\$39.25
8	\$83,448	\$40.12

Less than \$12 / hr	\$12 - \$20 / hour	\$20 - \$28 / hour	\$28 - \$35 / hour
Waiter/waitress	Pharmacy tech	Carpenter	School counselor
Child care worker	Home health	Loan processor	Rotary drill oper.
Dishwasher	PT assistant	Legal secretary	HR specialist
Bartender	Hair stylist	Correctional officers	Accountant
Cafeteria worker	Retail	Auto service tech	Real Estate Sales
Short order cook	Farmworker	Surgical tech	PR specialist
Cashiers	Restaurant cook	Roofer	Counselor
Clerical assistant	Data entry	Lic. Practical Nurse	Registered Nurse
Personal care aide	EMTs & paramedics	Dental assistant	Computer network specialist
	Carpet installers	Firefighter	Construction supervisor
	Maintenance workers	Surgical assistant	Dental hygienist
	Nursing assistant	Clergy	Architecture occ
	Laborer	Social worker	Speech pathologist
	Substitute teacher	Police	
	Office/accounting clerk	Hotel manager	
	Light truck driver	Roustabout	
	Extraction helper	Heavy truck driver	

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

LIHEAP helps households with home heating costs by paying a portion of their heating bills, and with improving their home's overall energy efficiency.

Average Households served per Heating Season (Oct-May)



SFY 2020

- \$12 million** Support to households
- \$930** Average payment per household per heating season
- 12,785** Households served last heating season

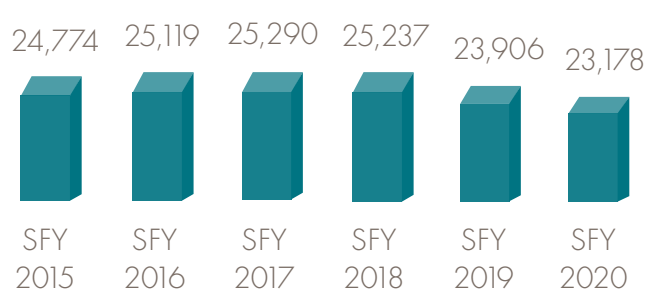
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budget of lower income families so they can purchase healthy food and move towards self-sufficiency

SFY 2020

- \$78 million** Support to households
- \$280** Average payment per household per month
- 48,323** Average number of individuals in served in 23,178 households

Average Households served per month



COVID-19

Pandemic LIHEAP (P-LIHEAP)

- Provided one-time help with the cost of electric utility bills for qualifying households.
- Payments were issued directly to participants' electric utility providers.
- Assistance available to households eligible in 2019-20 heating season.
- Assisted 6,500 households as of 12-31-20.

COVID-19

Pandemic EBT (P-EBT)

- Issued SNAP benefits to children eligible for free or reduced-price school meals who did not receive those meals due to school closure.
- Delivered info to families in partnership with DPI.
- Approximately 36,750 children received \$9.5 million in SNAP benefits due to COVID school closure March-May 2020.

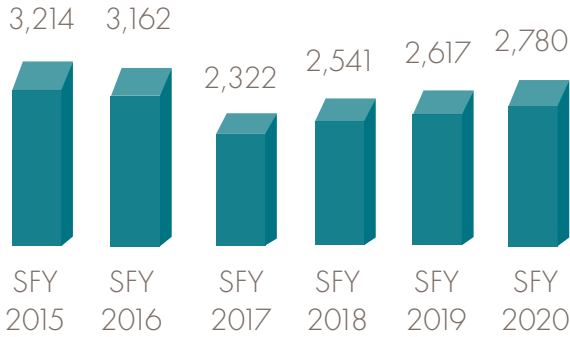
SNAP Emergency Assistance

- Provides the maximum SNAP benefit to all SNAP eligible household starting in March 2020.
- An average of 15,000 households receive \$2.6 million in additional benefits per month.
- Optional program benefit is authorized each month by USDA FNS.

Child Care Assistance Program

CCAP helps pay a portion of the cost of childcare for working families or families in training or education programs.

Average number of children served per month



Parents in workforce

73% of the 44,237 North Dakota households who have children younger than age 5 likely have at least some need for child care as all available parents are in the workforce

1 in 10 eligible children

26,000 ND children age 13 or younger live in households where parent earnings are less than 200% of the federal poverty level. 2,780 children (11% of potentially eligible) are currently served by CCAP in our state.

7% receive CCAP

1,500+ approved child care providers are licensed to serve 40,769 children each year. In 2020, an average of 2,780 of those licensed slots served children who received assistance

SFY 2020

- \$15.6 million** Support to families
- \$466** Average payment per child per month
- 2,780** Average number of children served per month

COVID-19

COVID-19 Childcare Assistance

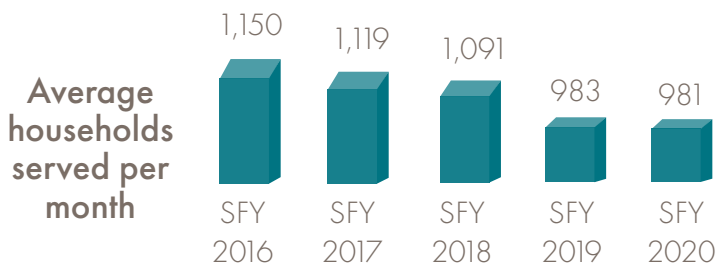
- Allowed for more than 40 absence hours per month due to illness, quarantine and provider closures.
- Allowed families to maintain eligibility as they were seeking employment (both at application and re-review).
- Extended payment request deadlines and aligned with Child Care Emergency Operating Grant (CEOG).

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

TANF provides assistance to needy families with children who are deprived of parental support or care. Which means that a parent is absent due to divorce, separation, death or one or both parents are aged or disabled.

SFY 2020

- 81%** Of beneficiaries are children
- \$297** Average benefit per family per month
- 945** Average number of families served per month
- 52%** Of ND TANF cases are child only cases (children in the care of a non-legally responsible caretaker)



TANF Funded Programs

Alternatives to Abortion

Reimbursements to organizations that deliver alternative services and education to the public.

Crossroads

Case management and support service payments to qualified teen parents who are pursuing an education.

Kinship Care

Alternative to foster care for children living with a relative and in the care, custody and control of a Human Service Zone, Division of Juvenile Services, or a tribal agency within ND.

Parental Responsibility Initiative for the Development of Employment (PRIDE)

Case management and support service payments to address nonpayment of child support by noncustodial parents.