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If Congress Fails to Act, Monthly Child Tax Credit Payments Will Stop, Child Poverty Reductions Will Be Lost

By Kris Cox, Chuck Marr, Arloc Sherman, and Stephanie Hingtgen

The American Rescue Plan, enacted in March 2021, increased the Child Tax Credit for more than 65 million U.S. children — roughly 90 percent of children — and established advance monthly payments. The enhanced tax credit has enabled parents across the country to pay for food, clothing, housing, and other basic necessities and is expected to lower the number of children experiencing poverty by more than 40 percent as compared to child poverty levels in the absence of the expansion. But Congress must pass the Build Back Better bill to maintain this progress. If Congress fails to act, monthly Child Tax Credit payments will not be made on January 15, and many families will struggle to make ends meet. Moreover, failing to pass Build Back Better would take away the entire credit from many children who would no longer qualify at all and would cut the amount of the credit for millions more. (See Appendix Table 1 for state-specific estimates of the number of children benefiting from the expansion.)

The Build Back Better legislation would extend the Rescue Plan's temporary expansions of the Child Tax Credit, which changed the credit parameters in three main ways for 2021. First, it made the full credit available to families with low or no earnings in a given year, often called making the credit "fully refundable." Previously, 27 million children — including roughly half of Black and Latino children and half of children in rural communities — received less than the full credit amount, which higher-income children received, because their parents' income were too low. This change drives most of the significant reduction in child poverty expected from the enhanced Child Tax Credit. Build Back Better would permanently make the credit fully available to children in families with low incomes.

Second, the Rescue Plan increased the maximum credit amount from \$2,000 per child to \$3,600 for a child under age 6 (\$3,000 for a child aged 6-17) for head of household tax filers making less than \$112,500 and married tax filers making less than \$150,000. Third, it allowed families to claim their 17-year-old children for the credit for the first time. Build Back Better would extend these improvements for one year.

The Rescue Plan also authorized the Treasury Department to issue advance payments of one-half of the credit to families on a monthly basis from July to December of this year, rather than solely as

a lump sum next year at tax time. (Families can claim the remaining credit amount when they file their 2021 taxes.) In November, Treasury sent a monthly payment to the families of roughly 61 million children; under Build Back Better, monthly payments would continue for most of these families in 2022, and would be provided monthly for the full year (rather than during only half the year under the Rescue Plan).¹

If the enhanced credit is allowed to expire, Treasury would stop delivering the credit on a monthly basis, which boosts families' incomes throughout the year. Families need to pay the rent each month, and they also need to pay for electricity, food, child care, and transportation throughout the year. When families struggle to keep up with monthly expenses, they often have to take on debt to make ends meet; a monthly benefit eases that strain.

If Build Back Better isn't enacted, the *maximum* credit per child would fall by \$1,000 for schoolage children and \$1,600 for young children. All families now getting the expanded Child Tax Credit would lose out, but the cut would be largest for low-income children.

- A mother with two children, one a toddler and one in elementary school, who works full-time at the federal minimum wage is currently receiving \$6,600 in the Child Tax Credit. Without enactment of Build Back Better, that credit amount would fall by \$4,800, to just \$1,800.
- A middle-income family with two children, one younger and one older, would see their credit cut by \$2,600 a significant loss but less than the loss to the low-income family.

In short, if Build Back Better isn't enacted, the Child Tax Credit would revert to providing the least help to the children who need it most — and some 27 million children would once again get a partial credit or none at all because their families' incomes are too low. (See Appendix Table 2 for state-specific estimates of payments sent in October, the most recent state data available.)

Policymakers should enact Build Back Better legislation expeditiously to extend the Rescue Plan's increase in the credit amount for children through age 17, to continue monthly payments to families in 2022, and to make the full credit permanently available to families with low or no incomes, protecting the most vulnerable children from the higher poverty that would result if the expanded credit is taken away or substantially reduced.

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¹ The Build Back Better legislation authorizes monthly payments of the Child Tax Credit in 2022 for families with incomes below \$112,500 for a head of household and \$150,000 for a married couple; families with incomes above those thresholds would claim their credit the following year when they file their taxes. Under the American Rescue Plan in 2021, all families eligible for the credit were eligible to receive monthly payments. Thus, even if Build Back Better is enacted in 2022, some higher-income families who received monthly payments in 2021 would no longer receive monthly payments and instead would need to claim their credit at tax time. Under both the Rescue Plan and Build Back Better legislation, families can choose to forgo monthly payments and claim the credit when they file a tax return; so, while most eligible children have received monthly payments in 2021, some children's families opted to receive the benefit solely at tax time and thus are not counted among the monthly payments issued by the Treasury Department.

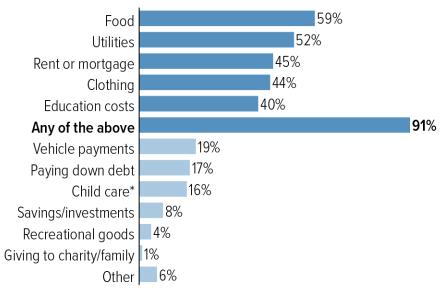
End of Monthly Payments Could Cause Rise in Hardship Among Lower-Income Families

The vast majority of families with incomes under \$35,000 spent some or all of their new monthly payments on basic necessities — housing, food, clothing, and utilities — and education, recent data show.² (See Figure 1 and Appendix Table 3, which includes state-specific estimates.) A sizeable share of U.S. households with incomes above \$35,000 also spent the credit on necessities, but a smaller share did so than lower-income families, who face more difficulties affording the basics.

FIGURE 1

Families With Low Incomes Spend Expanded Child Tax Credit on Most Basic Needs, Education

Percent of households with incomes below \$35,000 who spent their credit payments on:



^{*}Percent of households with child(ren) under age 5.

Note: Education costs include school books and supplies, school tuition, tutoring services, after-school programs, and transportation for school. Household income is in 2020. Figures are for households who reported receiving a Child Tax Credit payment in the last 30 days in data collected July 21–September 27, 2021.

Source: CBPP analysis of U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey public use files for survey weeks 34-38.

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Data on how families are spending their Child Tax Credit are consistent with evidence from Canada, where parents — particularly those with low incomes — spend their child allowances on essentials and education expenses. If monthly payments are taken away from U.S. families beginning

² Claire Zippel, "9 in 10 Families with Low Incomes Are Using Child Tax Credits to Pay for Necessities, Education," CBPP, October 21, 2021, https://www.cbpp.org/blog/9-in-10-families-with-low-incomes-are-using-child-tax-credits-to-pay-for-necessities-education.

in January, the families of tens of millions of children may struggle to make ends meet and food and housing hardship may rise.

To see what taking away the Child Tax Credit expansion could mean to individual families, consider these examples:

- A single mother with a toddler and a daughter in second grade, who works as a home health aide helping an elderly person meet their basic needs, earns \$12,500 working part-time around her kids' schedule. Prior to the Rescue Plan, this family received a Child Tax Credit of \$750 per child per year, but now they get \$550 per *month* a total \$3,600 for the toddler and \$3,000 for the second grader in 2021. If Congress fails to act, this family will not receive its expected \$550 payment in January and their income would take a significant hit when the Rescue Plan expansions expire a loss of \$5,100 per year.
- One spouse in a married couple earns \$20,000 as a short-order cook and the other cares for their 3-year-old son and 7-year-old daughter. With the credit expansion they received the full Child Tax Credit of \$3,600 for their son and \$3,000 for their daughter in 2021, or \$550 per month. If the current credit expansions expire, this family would receive a total credit of \$2,625 a loss of roughly \$3,975 per year.
- A single mother with a 4-year-old daughter and 8-year-old son, and who is out of work due to a health condition, will receive the full Child Tax Credit of \$3,600 for her daughter and \$3,000 for her son to help with the children's expenses in 2021. If the current provision making the credit fully available in 2021 expires, this family would receive no Child Tax Credit at all in 2022 losing their monthly payment of \$550 and adding to their financial insecurity. The Build Back Better legislation proposes that this family be permanently eligible for the maximum credit amount the same amount that families with higher incomes receive even if that maximum credit amount drops back to \$2,000 per child after 2022.

Middle-income families would also see a large cut in their Child Tax Credit if the Rescue Plan expansion expires, though they would lose *less* than many low-income families. For instance, a married couple with 8-year-old twin daughters and a combined income of \$125,000, where one spouse makes \$75,000 as a dental hygienist and the other makes \$50,000 as a property manager, will receive an expanded Child Tax Credit of \$6,000 in 2021, or \$500 per month. If the current credit expansions expire, this family would receive a total credit of \$4,000 — a loss of \$2,000 per year.

Progress in Reducing Poverty for Children at Risk Without Extension of Credit Expansions

The Child Tax Credit expansions have been projected to reduce annual child poverty by more than 40 percent as compared to child poverty in the absence of the expansions. This historic reduction is driven by the provision making the credit fully refundable.³ If the expansions end in

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³ Chuck Marr *et al.*, "Congress Should Adopt American Families Plan's Permanent Expansions of Child Tax Credit and EITC, Make Additional Provisions Permanent," CBPP, May 24, 2021, https://www.cbpp.org/research/federal-tax/congress-should-adopt-american-families-plans-permanent-expansions-of-child. Chuck Marr, Kris Cox, and Arloc Sherman, "Recovery Package Should Permanently Include Families With Low Incomes in Full Child Tax Credit," CBPP, September 7, 2021, https://www.cbpp.org/research/federal-tax/recovery-package-should-permanently-include-families-with-low-incomes-in-full.

2021, this historic progress would be reversed, driving child poverty up substantially. An estimated 9.9 million children are at risk of slipping back below the poverty line or deeper into poverty if the expansion is not extended. (See Appendix Table 1 for state-specific estimates of the number of children benefiting from the expansion.) These include 3.8 million Latino, 2.9 million white, 2.1 million Black, 426,000 Asian, and 280,000 American Indian or Alaska Native (AIAN) children. 5

This year's credit expansions are taking important steps to reduce racial disparities in income rooted in this nation's long history of racism and discrimination, which has created large gaps in both opportunities and outcomes in education, employment, health, and housing.⁶

If the credit's expansions are taken away, poverty rates among Black, Latino, and AIAN children would be an estimated 8 to 9 percentage points higher than what they would have been with the expansions still in place — 22 percent rather than 13 percent for Black children, 21 percent rather than 12 percent for Latino children, and 18 percent rather than 10 percent for AIAN children.⁷ Poverty among white and Asian children would also rise, but by less. (See Figure 2.)

Progress in narrowing differences in child poverty rates by race and ethnicity would also be reversed. Without the expansion, the differences in child poverty rates between Latino and white children would grow by 70 percent, between Black and white children by 78 percent, and between AIAN and white children by 86 percent, we estimate.

CBPP analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau's March 2019 Current Population Survey (for national total) allocated by race or ethnicity based on CBPP analysis of American Community Survey (ACS) data for 2016-2018, using 2021 tax parameters and incomes adjusted for inflation to 2021 dollars. These calculations use the Supplemental Poverty Measure, which counts more forms of income than the "official" poverty measure (among other differences).

⁴ Estimates of poverty reduction in this paper are in comparison with what poverty would otherwise be in the same year, without the expansions enacted in the American Rescue Plan, which Build Back Better would extend, in place. How poverty changes from one year to another will depend on many influences such as the economy and changes in other programs. Calculations assume an economy and population similar to 2018. <u>Income includes tax refunds for the current tax year that will be received early the following year.</u>

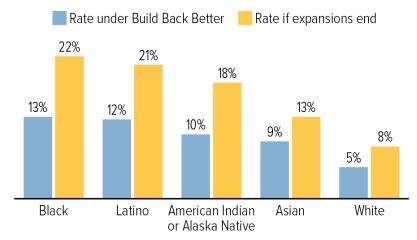
⁵ Figures in this report for children identified as Latino (short for Latino, Hispanic, or Spanish origin) may be of any race. Children identified as Asian, Black, or white refer to children of that race alone and not Latino. Children identified as American Indian or Alaska Native refer to those identified as AIAN alone or in combination with other races and ethnicities, as AIAN figures are particularly sensitive to how the racial category is defined. (A total of 1.6 million children are identified as AIAN alone or in combination, regardless of Latino ethnicity. If we apply the non-overlapping categories this report uses for other groups, only 555,000 children are considered AIAN alone, not Latino; 112,000 of these children are at risk of slipping back below the poverty line or deeper into poverty if the Child Tax Credit expansions end.)

⁶ Danilo Trisi and Matt Saenz, "Economic Security Programs Reduce Overall Poverty, Racial and Ethnic Inequities," CBPP, January 28, 2021, https://www.cbpp.org/research/poverty-and-inequality/economic-security-programs-reduce-overall-poverty-racial-and-ethnic.

⁷ Danilo Trisi *et al.*, "House Build Back Better Legislation Advances Racial Equity," CBPP, September 27, 2021, https://www.cbpp.org/research/poverty-and-inequality/house-build-back-better-legislation-advances-racial-equity.

Letting Child Credit Expansion Expire Would Mean Higher Child Poverty for All Racial/Ethnic Groups and Wider Disparities

Percent of children in poverty



Note: All estimates reflect a pre-pandemic economy, using tax year 2021 tax rules and incomes adjusted for inflation to 2021 dollars. American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) children may be AIAN alone or in combination with other races and ethnicities. Latino (short for Latino, Hispanic, or Spanish origin) may be of any race. Other racial/ethnic groups refer to children of that race alone and not Latino. Bar heights reflect unrounded values.

Source: CBPP analysis of the Census Bureau's March 2019 Current Population Survey (for national total) allocated by race or ethnicity based on CBPP analysis of American Community Survey data for 2016-2018.

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Children in Puerto Rico and other U.S. Territories — Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands — would also suffer if the credit expansions are taken away. Child poverty is much higher in the territories, making the credit expansions sorely needed.⁸

Poverty and the hardships that come with it — unstable housing, frequent moves, inadequate nutrition, and high levels of family stress — can take a heavy toll on children and are associated with lower levels of educational attainment, poorer health in adulthood, lower earnings, and higher likelihood of being arrested, a 2019 National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine report on reducing child poverty found. "[T]he weight of the causal evidence indicates that income poverty itself causes negative child outcomes, especially when it begins in early childhood and/or persists throughout a large share of a child's life," the report concluded.⁹

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⁸ Children in most territories have long been eligible for a credit equivalent to the Child Tax Credit from their own tax authorities, but it's unclear whether families received an equivalent amount that comparable families received in the states. Only families with three or more children in Puerto Rico and American Samoa were eligible to claim the refundable portion of the credit — the Additional Child Tax Credit — prior to the Rescue Plan, but now these families permanently qualify for the full Additional Child Tax Credit regardless of the number of children they have.

⁹ National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, "A Roadmap to Reducing Child Poverty," 2019, https://www.nap.edu/catalog/25246/a-roadmap-to-reducing-child-poverty.

Extending the expanded credit and making the Child Tax Credit fully available on a permanent basis to families with low incomes would improve children's lives in the near and long term and benefit society overall in important ways. Additional income is linked to better outcomes for children in families with low income, including better educational performance and attainment, higher earnings in adulthood, and better health, which can yield benefits for children and their communities over the course of their lives, studies show. ¹⁰ Additional income provides greater stability for families, with a corresponding reduction in stress for parents and children.

¹⁰ Arloc Sherman *et al.*, "Recovery Proposals Adopt Proven Approaches to Reducing Poverty, Increasing Social Mobility," CBPP, August 5, 2021, https://www.cbpp.org/research/poverty-and-inequality/recovery-proposals-adopt-proven-approaches-to-reducing-poverty.

Appendix

APPENDIX TABLE 1

Estimated Number of Children Who Would Lose Out If Child Tax Credit Expansion Not Extended in Build Back Better Legislation, by State

Relative to the expanded Child Tax Credit

Total U.S. 65,560,000 89% 9,894,000 Alabama 1,020,000 93% 162,000 Alaska 166,000 89% 21,000 Arizona 1,507,000 92% 238,000 Arkansas 661,000 93% 94,000 California 7,844,000 86% 1,690,000 Colorado 1,106,000 87% 132,000 Connecticut 604,000 81% 80,000 Delaware 181,000 89% 24,000 District of Columbia 93,000 75% 25,000 Florida 3,833,000 91% 700,000 Georgia 2,269,000 90% 353,000 Hawai'i 277,000 91% 44,000 Idaho 410,000 93% 37,000 Illinois 2,536,000 87% 338,000 Indiana 1,452,000 92% 175,000 Iowa 668,000 91% 49,000 Kansas 651,000 </th <th>State</th> <th>Children under 18 who would lose out if expansion not extended</th> <th>Share of children under 18 who would lose out if expansion not extended</th> <th>Children under 18 at risk of slipping back below the poverty line or deeper into poverty if expansion not extended</th>	State	Children under 18 who would lose out if expansion not extended	Share of children under 18 who would lose out if expansion not extended	Children under 18 at risk of slipping back below the poverty line or deeper into poverty if expansion not extended
Alaska 166,000 89% 21,000 Arizona 1,507,000 92% 238,000 Arkansas 661,000 93% 94,000 California 7,844,000 86% 1,690,000 Colorado 1,106,000 87% 132,000 Connecticut 604,000 81% 80,000 Delaware 181,000 89% 24,000 District of Columbia 93,000 75% 25,000 Florida 3,833,000 91% 700,000 Georgia 2,269,000 90% 353,000 Hawai'i 277,000 91% 44,000 Idaho 410,000 93% 37,000 Illinois 2,536,000 87% 338,000 Indiana 1,452,000 92% 175,000 Iowa 668,000 91% 49,000 Kansas 651,000 92% 143,000 Louislana 1,027,000 92% 143,000 Louislana 1,027,000 <th>Total U.S.</th> <th>65,560,000</th> <th>89%</th> <th>9,894,000</th>	Total U.S.	65,560,000	89%	9,894,000
Arizona 1,507,000 92% 238,000 Arkansas 661,000 93% 94,000 California 7,844,000 86% 1,690,000 Colorado 1,106,000 87% 132,000 Connecticut 604,000 81% 80,000 Delaware 181,000 89% 24,000 District of Columbia 93,000 75% 25,000 Florida 3,833,000 91% 700,000 Georgia 2,269,000 90% 353,000 Hawai'i 277,000 91% 44,000 Idaho 410,000 93% 37,000 Illinois 2,536,000 87% 338,000 Indiana 1,452,000 92% 175,000 Iowa 668,000 91% 49,000 Kansas 651,000 92% 58,000 Kentucky 929,000 92% 187,000 Maine 229,000 92% 187,000 Maryland 1,120,000	Alabama	1,020,000	93%	162,000
Arkansas 661,000 93% 94,000 California 7,844,000 86% 1,690,000 Colorado 1,106,000 87% 132,000 Connecticut 604,000 81% 80,000 Delaware 181,000 89% 24,000 District of Columbia 93,000 75% 25,000 Florida 3,833,000 91% 700,000 Georgia 2,269,000 90% 353,000 Hawai'i 277,000 91% 44,000 Idaho 410,000 93% 37,000 Illinois 2,536,000 87% 338,000 Indiana 1,452,000 92% 175,000 Iowa 668,000 91% 49,000 Kansas 651,000 92% 58,000 Kentucky 929,000 92% 143,000 Louisiana 1,027,000 92% 187,000 Maryland 1,120,000 83% 159,000 Massachusetts 1,099,	Alaska	166,000	89%	21,000
California 7,844,000 86% 1,690,000 Colorado 1,106,000 87% 132,000 Connecticut 604,000 81% 80,000 Delaware 181,000 89% 24,000 District of Columbia 93,000 75% 25,000 Florida 3,833,000 91% 700,000 Georgia 2,269,000 90% 353,000 Hawai'i 277,000 91% 44,000 Idaho 410,000 93% 37,000 Illinois 2,536,000 87% 338,000 Indiana 1,452,000 92% 175,000 Iowa 668,000 91% 49,000 Kansas 651,000 92% 58,000 Kentucky 929,000 92% 187,000 Louisiana 1,027,000 92% 187,000 Maine 229,000 90% 21,000 Massachusetts 1,099,000 80% 161,000 Michigan 1,968,000	Arizona	1,507,000	92%	238,000
Colorado 1,106,000 87% 132,000 Connecticut 604,000 81% 80,000 Delaware 181,000 89% 24,000 District of Columbia 93,000 75% 25,000 Florida 3,833,000 91% 700,000 Georgia 2,269,000 90% 353,000 Hawai'i 277,000 91% 44,000 Idaho 410,000 93% 37,000 Illinois 2,536,000 87% 338,000 Indiana 1,452,000 92% 175,000 Iowa 668,000 91% 49,000 Kansas 651,000 92% 58,000 Kentucky 929,000 92% 143,000 Louisiana 1,027,000 92% 187,000 Maryland 1,120,000 83% 159,000 Massachusetts 1,099,000 80% 161,000 Michigan 1,968,000 90% 249,000 Minnesota 1,122,	Arkansas	661,000	93%	94,000
Connecticut 604,000 81% 80,000 Delaware 181,000 89% 24,000 District of Columbia 93,000 75% 25,000 Florida 3,833,000 91% 700,000 Georgia 2,269,000 90% 353,000 Hawai'i 277,000 91% 44,000 Idaho 410,000 93% 37,000 Illinois 2,536,000 87% 338,000 Indiana 1,452,000 92% 175,000 Iowa 668,000 91% 49,000 Kansas 651,000 92% 58,000 Kentucky 929,000 92% 143,000 Louisiana 1,027,000 92% 187,000 Maine 229,000 90% 21,000 Maryland 1,120,000 83% 159,000 Massachusetts 1,099,000 80% 161,000 Michigan 1,968,000 90% 249,000 Mississippi 677,000 <th>California</th> <th>7,844,000</th> <th>86%</th> <th>1,690,000</th>	California	7,844,000	86%	1,690,000
Delaware 181,000 89% 24,000 District of Columbia 93,000 75% 25,000 Florida 3,833,000 91% 700,000 Georgia 2,269,000 90% 353,000 Hawai'i 277,000 91% 44,000 Idaho 410,000 93% 37,000 Illinois 2,536,000 87% 338,000 Indiana 1,452,000 92% 175,000 Iowa 668,000 91% 49,000 Kansas 651,000 92% 58,000 Kentucky 929,000 92% 143,000 Louisiana 1,027,000 92% 187,000 Maine 229,000 90% 21,000 Maryland 1,120,000 83% 159,000 Massachusetts 1,099,000 80% 161,000 Michigan 1,968,000 90% 249,000 Minnesota 1,122,000 87% 85,000 Mississisppi 677,000 </th <th>Colorado</th> <th>1,106,000</th> <th>87%</th> <th>132,000</th>	Colorado	1,106,000	87%	132,000
District of Columbia 93,000 75% 25,000 Florida 3,833,000 91% 700,000 Georgia 2,269,000 90% 353,000 Hawai'i 277,000 91% 44,000 Idaho 410,000 93% 37,000 Illinois 2,536,000 87% 338,000 Indiana 1,452,000 92% 175,000 Iowa 668,000 91% 49,000 Kansas 651,000 92% 58,000 Kentucky 929,000 92% 143,000 Louisiana 1,027,000 92% 187,000 Maine 229,000 90% 21,000 Maryland 1,120,000 83% 159,000 Massachusetts 1,099,000 80% 161,000 Michigan 1,968,000 90% 249,000 Minnesota 1,122,000 87% 85,000 Mississippi 677,000 94% 115,000 Missouri 1,260,000	Connecticut	604,000	81%	80,000
Florida 3,833,000 91% 700,000 Georgia 2,269,000 90% 353,000 Hawai'i 277,000 91% 44,000 Idaho 410,000 93% 37,000 Illinois 2,536,000 87% 338,000 Indiana 1,452,000 92% 175,000 Iowa 668,000 91% 49,000 Kansas 651,000 92% 58,000 Kentucky 929,000 92% 143,000 Louisiana 1,027,000 92% 187,000 Maine 229,000 90% 21,000 Maryland 1,120,000 83% 159,000 Massachusetts 1,099,000 80% 161,000 Michigan 1,968,000 90% 249,000 Minnesota 1,122,000 87% 85,000 Mississippi 677,000 94% 115,000 Missouri 1,260,000 91% 153,000	Delaware	181,000	89%	24,000
Georgia 2,269,000 90% 353,000 Hawai'i 277,000 91% 44,000 Idaho 410,000 93% 37,000 Illinois 2,536,000 87% 338,000 Indiana 1,452,000 92% 175,000 Iowa 668,000 91% 49,000 Kansas 651,000 92% 58,000 Kentucky 929,000 92% 143,000 Louisiana 1,027,000 92% 187,000 Maine 229,000 90% 21,000 Maryland 1,120,000 83% 159,000 Massachusetts 1,099,000 80% 161,000 Michigan 1,968,000 90% 249,000 Minnesota 1,122,000 87% 85,000 Mississippi 677,000 94% 115,000 Missouri 1,260,000 91% 153,000	District of Columbia	93,000	75%	25,000
Hawai'i 277,000 91% 44,000 Idaho 410,000 93% 37,000 Illinois 2,536,000 87% 338,000 Indiana 1,452,000 92% 175,000 Iowa 668,000 91% 49,000 Kansas 651,000 92% 58,000 Kentucky 929,000 92% 143,000 Louisiana 1,027,000 92% 187,000 Maine 229,000 90% 21,000 Maryland 1,120,000 83% 159,000 Michigan 1,968,000 90% 249,000 Minnesota 1,122,000 87% 85,000 Mississippi 677,000 94% 115,000 Missouri 1,260,000 91% 153,000	Florida	3,833,000	91%	700,000
Idaho 410,000 93% 37,000 Illinois 2,536,000 87% 338,000 Indiana 1,452,000 92% 175,000 Iowa 668,000 91% 49,000 Kansas 651,000 92% 58,000 Kentucky 929,000 92% 143,000 Louisiana 1,027,000 92% 187,000 Maine 229,000 90% 21,000 Maryland 1,120,000 83% 159,000 Massachusetts 1,099,000 80% 161,000 Michigan 1,968,000 90% 249,000 Minnesota 1,122,000 87% 85,000 Mississippi 677,000 94% 115,000 Missouri 1,260,000 91% 153,000	Georgia	2,269,000	90%	353,000
Illinois 2,536,000 87% 338,000 Indiana 1,452,000 92% 175,000 Iowa 668,000 91% 49,000 Kansas 651,000 92% 58,000 Kentucky 929,000 92% 143,000 Louisiana 1,027,000 92% 187,000 Maine 229,000 90% 21,000 Maryland 1,120,000 83% 159,000 Massachusetts 1,099,000 80% 161,000 Michigan 1,968,000 90% 249,000 Minnesota 1,122,000 87% 85,000 Mississippi 677,000 94% 115,000 Missouri 1,260,000 91% 153,000	Hawai'i	277,000	91%	44,000
Indiana 1,452,000 92% 175,000 Iowa 668,000 91% 49,000 Kansas 651,000 92% 58,000 Kentucky 929,000 92% 143,000 Louisiana 1,027,000 92% 187,000 Maine 229,000 90% 21,000 Maryland 1,120,000 83% 159,000 Massachusetts 1,099,000 80% 161,000 Michigan 1,968,000 90% 249,000 Minnesota 1,122,000 87% 85,000 Mississippi 677,000 94% 115,000 Missouri 1,260,000 91% 153,000	Idaho	410,000	93%	37,000
Iowa 668,000 91% 49,000 Kansas 651,000 92% 58,000 Kentucky 929,000 92% 143,000 Louisiana 1,027,000 92% 187,000 Maine 229,000 90% 21,000 Maryland 1,120,000 83% 159,000 Massachusetts 1,099,000 80% 161,000 Michigan 1,968,000 90% 249,000 Minnesota 1,122,000 87% 85,000 Mississippi 677,000 94% 115,000 Missouri 1,260,000 91% 153,000	Illinois	2,536,000	87%	338,000
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Louisiana1,027,00092%187,000Maine229,00090%21,000Maryland1,120,00083%159,000Massachusetts1,099,00080%161,000Michigan1,968,00090%249,000Minnesota1,122,00087%85,000Mississisppi677,00094%115,000Missouri1,260,00091%153,000	Kansas	651,000	92%	58,000
Maine229,00090%21,000Maryland1,120,00083%159,000Massachusetts1,099,00080%161,000Michigan1,968,00090%249,000Minnesota1,122,00087%85,000Mississippi677,00094%115,000Missouri1,260,00091%153,000	Kentucky	929,000	92%	143,000
Maryland1,120,00083%159,000Massachusetts1,099,00080%161,000Michigan1,968,00090%249,000Minnesota1,122,00087%85,000Mississisppi677,00094%115,000Missouri1,260,00091%153,000	Louisiana	1,027,000	92%	187,000
Massachusetts 1,099,000 80% 161,000 Michigan 1,968,000 90% 249,000 Minnesota 1,122,000 87% 85,000 Mississippi 677,000 94% 115,000 Missouri 1,260,000 91% 153,000	Maine	229,000	90%	21,000
Michigan 1,968,000 90% 249,000 Minnesota 1,122,000 87% 85,000 Mississippi 677,000 94% 115,000 Missouri 1,260,000 91% 153,000	Maryland	1,120,000	83%	159,000
Minnesota 1,122,000 87% 85,000 Mississippi 677,000 94% 115,000 Missouri 1,260,000 91% 153,000	Massachusetts	1,099,000	80%	161,000
Mississippi 677,000 94% 115,000 Missouri 1,260,000 91% 153,000	Michigan	1,968,000	90%	249,000
Missouri 1,260,000 91% 153,000	Minnesota	1,122,000	87%	85,000
	Mississippi	677,000	94%	115,000
Montana 209,000 91% 21,000	Missouri	1,260,000	91%	153,000
	Montana	209,000	91%	21,000

Estimated Number of Children Who Would Lose Out If Child Tax Credit Expansion Not Extended in Build Back Better Legislation, by State

Relative to the expanded Child Tax Credit

State	Children under 18 who would lose out if expansion not extended	Share of children under 18 who would lose out if expansion not extended	Children under 18 at risk of slipping back below the poverty line or deeper into poverty if expansion not extended
Nebraska	434,000	91%	36,000
Nevada	634,000	92%	86,000
New Hampshire	221,000	85%	20,000
New Jersey	1,599,000	81%	257,000
New Mexico	454,000	93%	71,000
New York	3,554,000	86%	681,000
North Carolina	2,085,000	90%	306,000
North Dakota	157,000	91%	10,000
Ohio	2,367,000	91%	277,000
Oklahoma	894,000	93%	114,000
Oregon	778,000	89%	92,000
Pennsylvania	2,363,000	89%	310,000
Rhode Island	185,000	89%	23,000
South Carolina	1,025,000	93%	151,000
South Dakota	196,000	91%	19,000
Tennessee	1,393,000	92%	211,000
Texas	6,686,000	91%	1,078,000
Utah	859,000	92%	69,000
Vermont	104,000	89%	8,000
Virginia	1,586,000	85%	249,000
Washington	1,433,000	87%	159,000
West Virginia	346,000	93%	50,000
Wisconsin	1,158,000	90%	93,000
Wyoming	128,000	93%	11,000

Notes: Estimates reflect a pre-pandemic economy, using tax year 2021 tax rules and incomes adjusted for inflation to 2021 dollars. The Total U.S. row comprises the 50 states and the District of Columbia; it does not include U.S. Territories.

Source: CBPP analysis of the March 2019 Current Population Survey (for national total) allocated by state based on CBPP analysis of American Community Survey (ACS) data for 2016-2018. Poverty calculations also use U.S. Census Bureau Supplemental Poverty Measure research files for the ACS.

Monthly Child Tax Credit Payments Disbursed by Treasury in October 2021, by State

Most* would continue receiving monthly payments under Build Back Better

State	Number of Children	Number of Payments to Families
Total	61,117,000	36,001,000
Alabama	930,000	560,000
Alaska	155,000	83,000
Arizona	1,388,000	794,000
Arkansas	599,000	348,000
California	7,090,000	4,271,000
Colorado	1,028,000	600,000
Connecticut	581,000	360,000
Delaware	176,000	106,000
District of Columbia	93,000	60,000
Florida	3,647,000	2,283,000
Georgia	2,108,000	1,265,000
Hawai'i	256,000	150,000
Idaho	402,000	208,000
Illinois	2,303,000	1,360,000
Indiana	1,329,000	757,000
Iowa	621,000	343,000
Kansas	584,000	321,000
Kentucky	858,000	503,000
Louisiana	887,000	541,000
Maine	214,000	130,000
Maryland	1,123,000	683,000
Massachusetts	1,071,000	665,000
Michigan	1,775,000	1,021,000
Minnesota	1,096,000	602,000
Mississippi	594,000	365,000
Missouri	1,157,000	660,000
Montana	199,000	110,000
Nebraska	411,000	223,000
Nevada	594,000	352,000
New Hampshire	216,000	132,000
New Jersey	1,617,000	984,000
New Mexico	395,000	232,000

Monthly Child Tax Credit Payments Disbursed by Treasury in October 2021, by State

Most* would continue receiving monthly payments under Build Back Better

State	Number of Children	Number of Payments to Families
New York	3,309,000	2,011,000
North Carolina	1,960,000	1,183,000
North Dakota	153,000	83,000
Ohio	2,159,000	1,251,000
Oklahoma	812,000	457,000
Oregon	719,000	419,000
Pennsylvania	2,211,000	1,304,000
Rhode Island	173,000	109,000
South Carolina	963,000	577,000
South Dakota	183,000	97,000
Tennessee	1,291,000	762,000
Texas	6,258,000	3,598,000
Utah	804,000	392,000
Vermont	98,000	60,000
Virginia	1,575,000	937,000
Washington	1,381,000	797,000
West Virginia	304,000	180,000
Wisconsin	1,060,000	601,000
Wyoming	115,000	63,000
Other Areas	90,000	48,000

^{*} The Build Back Better legislation authorizes monthly payments of the Child Tax Credit in 2022 for families with incomes below \$112,500 for a head of household and \$150,000 for a married couple; families with incomes above those thresholds would claim their credit the following year when they file their taxes. Under the American Rescue Plan in 2021, all families eligible for the credit were eligible to receive monthly payments. Thus, even if Build Back Better is enacted in 2022, some higher-income families who received monthly payments in 2021 would no longer receive monthly payments and instead would need to claim their credit at tax time. Under both the Rescue Plan and Build Back Better legislation, families can choose to forgo monthly payments and claim the credit when they file a tax return; so, while most eligible children have received monthly payments in 2021, some children's families opted to receive the benefit solely at tax time and thus are not counted among the monthly payments issued by the Treasury Department. The families of some of the children newly eligible for the full Child Tax Credit are not required to file taxes and may miss out on claiming the credit without aggressive and sustained outreach.

Notes: The numbers shown reflect advance Child Tax Credit payments disbursed to eligible recipients based on taxpayer account information and do not account for reversed or undeliverable advance Child Tax Credit payments. "Other Areas" includes residents of U.S. Territories, U.S. citizens abroad, and returns filed from Army Post Office and Fleet Post Office addresses by members of the armed forces stationed overseas. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: Office of Tax Analysis tabulations of Internal Revenue Service data, "Advance CTC Payments Disbursed October 2021 by State," October 14, 2021, https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/131/Advance-CTC-Payments-Disbursed-October-2021-by-State-10142021.xlsx.

Nationwide, Most Low-Income Households Are Using Monthly Child Tax Credit Payments to Pay for Basic Needs, Education

Share of households with incomes below \$35,000 who used their Child Tax Credit payment for:

State	Basic Needs (Food, Clothing, Rent, Mortgage, Utilities)	Basic Needs and/or Education Costs
Total U.S.	88%	91%
Alabama	91%	95%
Alaska	91%	93%
Arizona	90%	92%
Arkansas	95%	96%
California	87%	89%
Colorado	84%	86%
Connecticut	93%	93%
Delaware	96%	96%
District of Columbia	96%	97%
Florida	88%	90%
Georgia	96%	96%
Hawai'i	83%	84%
Idaho	85%	88%
Illinois	83%	86%
Indiana	79%	81%
Iowa	88%	90%
Kansas	90%	91%
Kentucky	91%	91%
Louisiana	91%	93%
Maine	86%	88%
Maryland	90%	93%
Massachusetts	93%	94%
Michigan	91%	94%
Minnesota	85%	86%
Mississippi	90%	94%
Missouri	90%	90%
Montana	82%	86%
Nebraska	84%	87%
Nevada	87%	90%
New Hampshire	75%	75%
New Jersey	87%	89%
New Mexico	89%	92%
New York	86%	86%
North Carolina	87%	93%
North Dakota	91%	93%
Ohio	87%	90%

APPENDIX TABLE 3

Nationwide, Most Low-Income Households Are Using Monthly Child Tax Credit Payments to Pay for Basic Needs, Education

Share of households with incomes below \$35,000 who used their Child Tax Credit payment for:

State	Basic Needs (Food, Clothing, Rent, Mortgage, Utilities)	Basic Needs and/or Education Costs
Oklahoma	91%	92%
Oregon	87%	89%
Pennsylvania	89%	93%
Rhode Island	87%	89%
South Carolina	91%	93%
South Dakota	89%	89%
Tennessee	89%	91%
Texas	87%	93%
Utah	82%	85%
Vermont	81%	83%
Virginia	86%	88%
Washington	87%	89%
West Virginia	90%	91%
Wisconsin	91%	92%
Wyoming	92%	94%

Note: Education costs include school books and supplies, school tuition, tutoring services, after-school programs, and transportation for school. Household income is for 2020. Figures are for households who reported receiving a Child Tax Credit payment in the last 30 days in data collected July 21–September 27, 2021. Modest differences between states may reflect sampling error.

Source: CBPP analysis of U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey public use files for survey weeks 34-38.