

## Other States Have Realized the Importance of Raising the Welfare Grant

States that have raised the welfare grant	1996	2003
California	\$596	\$704, \$786*
Illinois	\$377	\$396
Louisiana	\$190	\$240
Maine	\$418	\$485
Maryland	\$373	\$473
Massachusetts	\$565, \$579*	\$618, \$633*
Mississippi	\$120	\$170
Montana	\$425	\$507
New Hampshire	\$550	\$625
North Dakota	\$431	\$477
Ohio	\$341	\$373
South Carolina	\$200	\$205
South Dakota	\$430	\$483
Texas	\$188	\$213
Utah	\$426	\$474
Vermont	\$597	\$639
Virginia	\$291	\$320
West Virginia	\$253	\$453
Wisconsin**		

### New York's Maximum Monthly Benefit has been \$557 since 1990

\* When two numbers appear, that state has made a benefit distinction between recipients that are non-exempt and exempt (those numbers appear respectively) from work requirements

\*\* Wisconsin's "W-2 Transition," "Community Service Jobs," "Trial Jobs/Unsubsidized," and "Employment" categories all receive different benefit amounts

### Surrounding State's Maximum Monthly Benefit for a Family of Three with No Income (as of 2003)

Connecticut \$543  
Massachusetts \$633 (exempt), \$618 (non-exempt)  
New Hampshire \$625  
New Jersey \$424  
Ohio \$373  
Pennsylvania \$403  
Vermont \$639

Source: The Urban Institute, Welfare Rules Databook  
[http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411183\\_WRD\\_2003.pdf](http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411183_WRD_2003.pdf)