2018 Child Support: More Money for Families

**Collections**

- 75% of child support is collected by income withholding from an employee’s paycheck
- 25% other sources
- $32.3 billion in child support collected by state and tribal child support programs in FY2018
- 96% went to families
- 4% reimbursed public assistance dollars

**Case Load**

- 14.7 million children served by the child support program in 2018
- 1 in 5 children in the U.S.
- Child support accounts for about half the average income of low-income parents who receive it, lifting nearly 3/4 million people out of poverty in 2017

**Cost-Effectiveness**

- One of the most cost-effective government programs
- $5.14 collected by the child support program for every $1.00 spent

Source: Office of Child Support Enforcement

* Combined CHIP Enrollment Total Report and Form CMS-64.EC, 2019; Characteristics of SNAP Households, FY 2017; WIC Program Monthly Data-State Level Participation, FY 2018; Annual Statistical Supplement, 2018; TANF: Total Number of Child Recipients, FY 2018; CCDF Preliminary Data Table 1, 2017; SSI Annual Statistical Report, 2017.

† Bureau of Census: Current Population Reports P60-261 (Appendix Table 5) and P60-265 (Appendix Table A-7).