

# 5 Years of Progress on the Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Roadmap



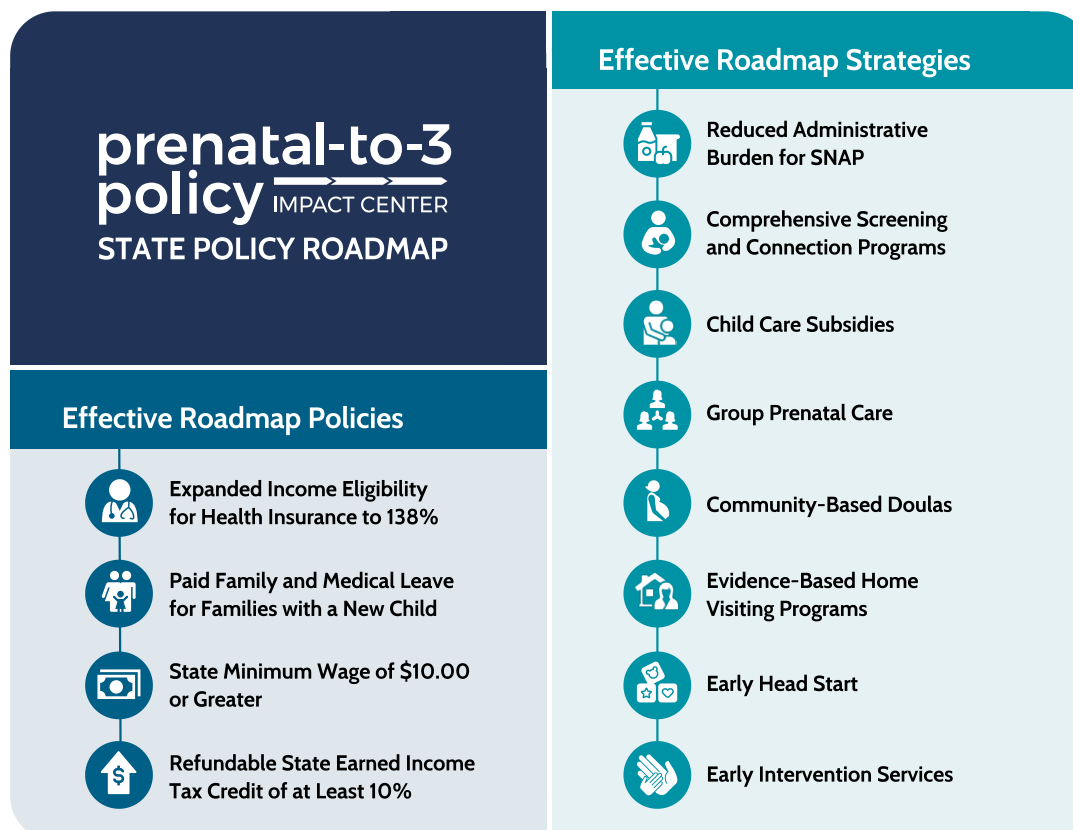
## MASSACHUSETTS

The [Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Roadmap](#) guides state leaders on the most effective investments to ensure all children thrive from the start. Since the 2020 Roadmap, Massachusetts newly implemented a paid family and medical leave program and increased the generosity of both the state minimum wage and the refundable state earned income tax credit. Massachusetts is one of 10 states that has implemented all four effective Roadmap policies.







Massachusetts newly implemented Medicaid coverage for community-based doula services and took steps to increase access to child care subsidies. The state also continued support for comprehensive screening and connection programs, Early Head Start, Early Intervention services, and policies to reduce adminis-

trative burden for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Because of state and federal investments, a parent earning the minimum wage with two children in Massachusetts has approximately \$45,300 in total resources available to them in 2024, up from \$35,200 in 2020.



## Massachusetts: 5-Year Policy Progress Summary

Policy	2020 to 2024	Progress Summary
 <b>Expanded Income Eligibility for Health Insurance</b>	<b>138%</b> of the FPL → <b>138%</b> of the FPL	Massachusetts expanded Medicaid eligibility under the Affordable Care Act in 2014; thus, childless adults and parents earning up to 138% of the FPL are eligible for Medicaid coverage.
 <b>Paid Family and Medical Leave for Families with a New Child</b>	<b>0</b> weeks ↑ <b>12</b> weeks	Massachusetts fully implemented a paid family and medical leave program in 2021. The program provides up to 12 weeks of paid leave to bond with a new child.
 <b>State Minimum Wage of \$10.00 or Greater</b>	<b>\$12.75</b> per hour ↑ <b>\$15.00</b> per hour	Massachusetts's minimum wage increased \$2.25 per hour between 2020 and 2024, resulting in a \$4,680 increase in annual earnings.
 <b>Refundable State Earned Income Tax Credit of at Least 10% of the Federal Credit</b>	<b>30%</b> of the federal credit ↑ <b>40%</b> of the federal credit	Massachusetts's refundable state EITC increased from 30% to 40% of the federal credit between tax years 2020 and 2024, resulting in an increase of over \$421 in the maximum benefit for a household with one child.
 State met Roadmap threshold prior to October 1, 2020		 State implemented a policy at or above the Roadmap threshold between October 1, 2020 and October 1, 2024



## Massachusetts: 5-Year Strategy Progress Summary

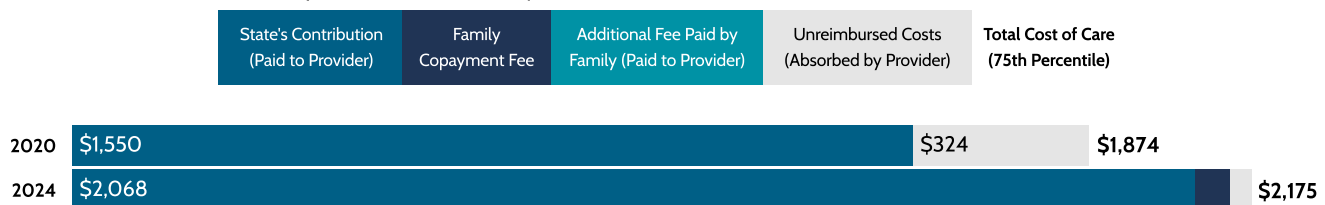


In 2024, Massachusetts began reimbursing for **community-based doula** services under Medicaid up to \$1,700 total.



Massachusetts increased **child care subsidy** reimbursement rates for infants in center-based care by 38% between 2020 and 2024.

In the figure below, the total cost of child care is based on the cost associated with the equal access target (or 75th percentile), which includes the amount the state provides as a subsidy, the family's required copayment contribution, the additional fee, if allowed, and any unreimbursed cost to providers.



Massachusetts continues to implement a key policy lever to **reduce administrative burden for SNAP** - offering online case management services.



Massachusetts continues to use Medicaid funds to support evidence-based **comprehensive screening and connection programs**. Families in the state have access to HealthySteps and an alternative state model, Welcome Family.



Massachusetts continues to allocate state funding to support **Early Head Start**, a key state policy lever to promote access to EHS.



Massachusetts continues to allow at-risk for delay as a qualifier for **Early Intervention (EI) services** and eliminate family fees, two of the key state policy levers to increase access to EI.



Massachusetts took little action to provide additional supports for **group prenatal care** or to use Medicaid funding to support **evidence-based home visiting programs**.

Notes: A teal icon indicates that a state made progress to increase access to an effective strategy since the 2020 Roadmap. A gray icon indicates maintenance of state efforts or little progress.

EXPLORE MASSACHUSETTS'S ROADMAP

[pn3policy.org/pn-3-state-policy-roadmap-5-yrs/MA](https://pn3policy.org/pn-3-state-policy-roadmap-5-yrs/MA)



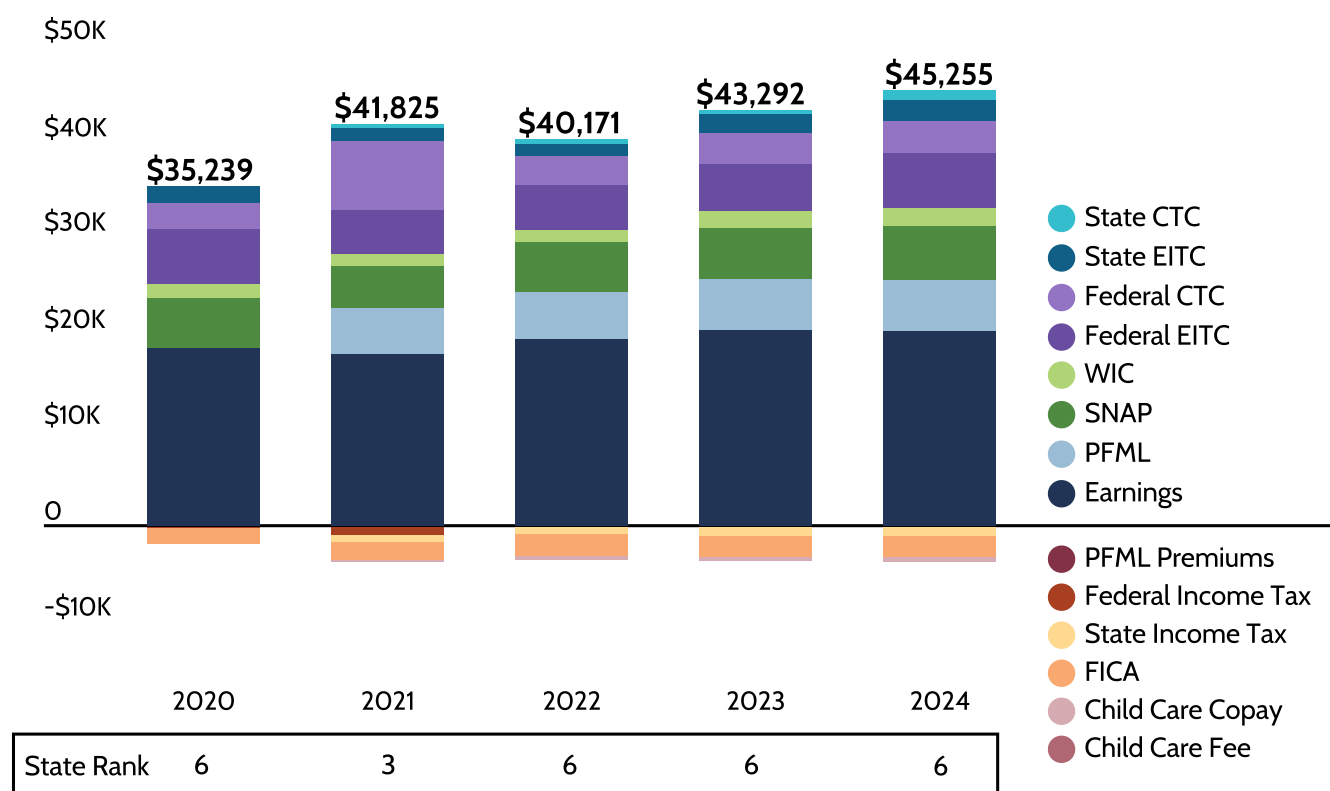
State policy choices do not operate in isolation from one another. Instead, they interact with each other and federal policies to create a system of support for children and families that varies significantly state-by-state. Our Policy Impact Calculator demonstrates this variation and illustrates the impact of policy choices on family resources over time.

In Massachusetts, a parent earning the minimum wage with two children has \$45,255 in total resources available to them in 2024, up from \$35,239 in 2020.

- Change in total resources due to state policies: + \$8,942
- Change in total resources due to federal policies: + \$1,074

## Massachusetts's Policy Choices Impact Family Resources

Family resources, accounting for minimum wage, paid family & medical leave, child care expenses, federal & state benefits



To the extent possible, data reflect state policies as of October 1st & that tax year. All earnings, benefits (both federal and state), and child care costs are based on a family of three comprised of a single parent working a full-time, minimum wage job for 9 months with 12 weeks of maternity leave. The family includes two children (an infant and a toddler) in full-time, center-based child care. For detailed source notes and additional information see our [Policy Impact Calculator](#) and [Methods and Sources](#).

**LEARN MORE ABOUT THE  
POLICY IMPACT CALCULATOR**

[pn3policy.org/policy-impact-calculator-5yrs](https://pn3policy.org/policy-impact-calculator-5yrs)



**WE'RE HERE TO HELP.** Contact us to inquire about our state services at [pn3center@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:pn3center@vanderbilt.edu) or submit a request for our services at [pn3policy.org/state-services](https://pn3policy.org/state-services).