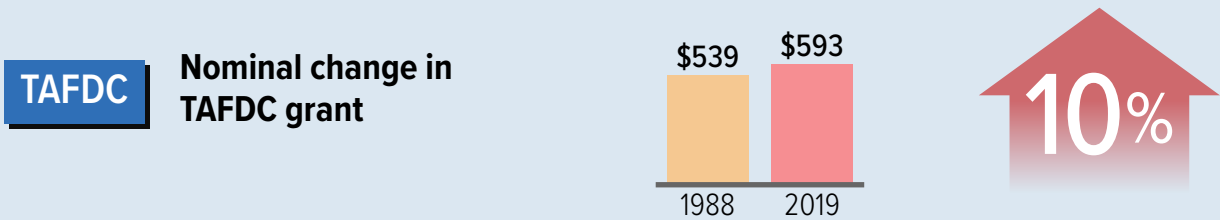


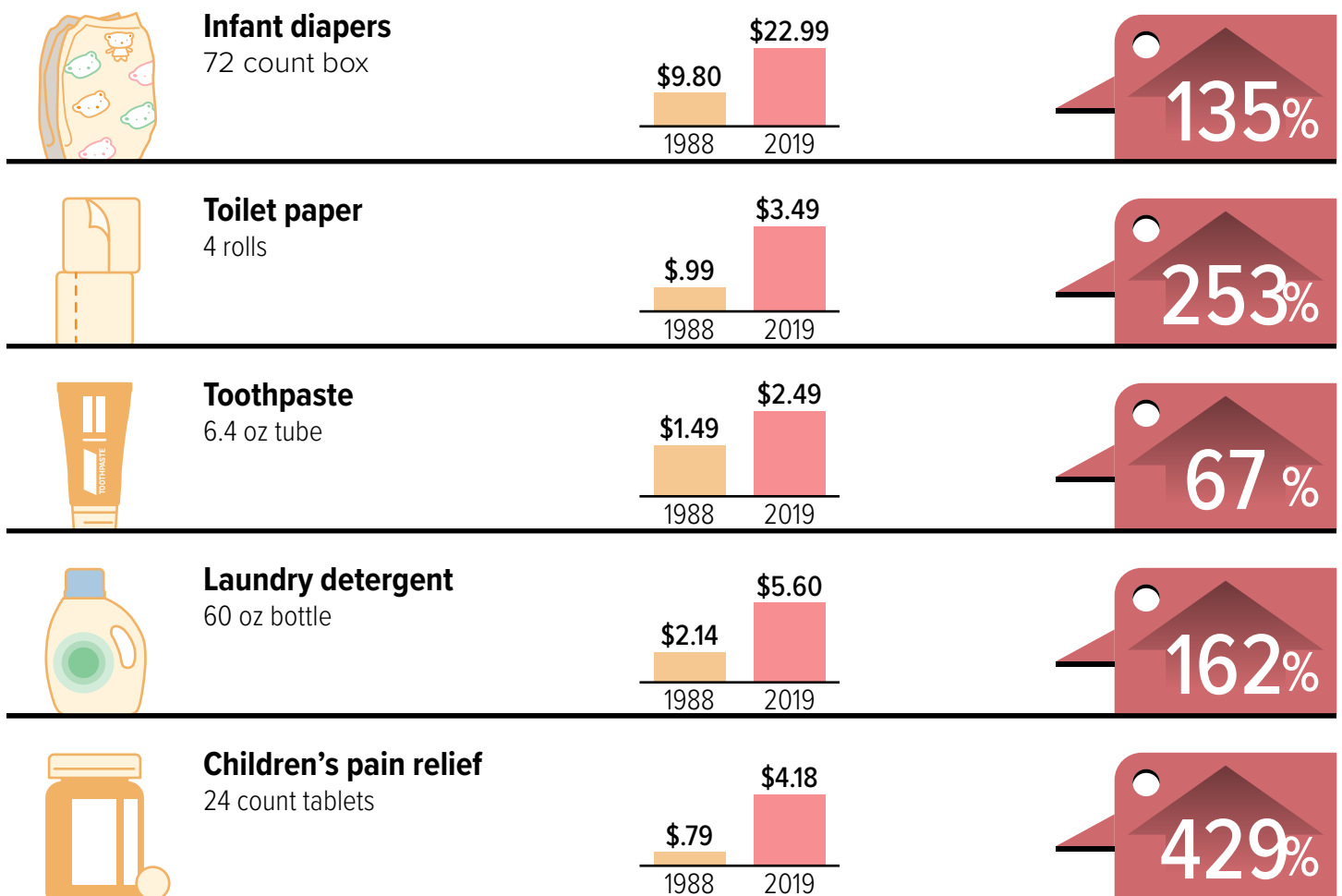


# Massachusetts TAFDC Grant Has not Increased Enough to Meet the Growing Cost of Basic Needs

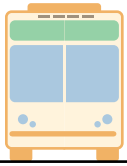
The increase in cost for basic items since 1988 has outpaced the increase in cash assistance to families in poverty



## How has the cost of personal care and household items changed since 1988?

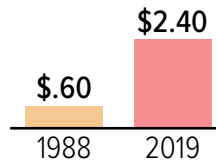


## And here's a look at transportation costs...



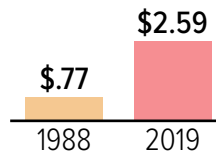
### Public transit (MBTA)

Single MBTA transit ride



### Regular gasoline

One gallon



Two bills, S. 36 and H.102, would increase grants to the level of deep poverty (\$889 a month for a family of three).

For more information contact:

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Sources: Infant diapers, Boston Globe Display Ad (Feb. 4, 1988), [bedbathandbeyond](https://bedbathandbeyond.com) (July 30, 2019); Toilet paper, Boston Globe Display Ad (Dec. 25, 1988); [walgreens.com](https://walgreens.com) (July 30, 2019); Toothpaste, Boston Globe Display Ad (Nov. 27, 1988); Laundry detergent, Boston Globe Display Ad (Dec. 25, 1988), [officesupply.com](https://officesupply.com) (July 30, 2019); Children's pain relief, Boston Globe Display Ad (Dec. 11, 1988); [schoolhealth.com](https://schoolhealth.com) (July 30, 2019); Public transit, [thecrimson.com](https://thecrimson.com) (March 2, 1989), [mbta.com](https://mbta.com) (July 30, 2019); Gasoline, [eia.gov](https://eia.gov) (1988, average Jan. – Sept. 2019).