

## Chapter II . Indicators of Dependence

Following the format of last year's first annual report to Congress, this second chapter presents summary data related to twelve indicators of dependence. These indicators differ from other welfare statistics because of their emphasis on welfare *dependence*, rather than simple welfare receipt. As discussed in Chapter I, the Advisory Board on Welfare Indicators suggested consideration of the following proposed definition of dependence:

A family is dependent on welfare if more than 50 percent of its total income in a one-year period comes from AFDC/TANF, Food Stamps and/or SSI, and this welfare income is not associated with work activities. Welfare dependence is the proportion of all families who are dependent on welfare.

The indicators in Chapter II were selected to provide information about dependence, following, to the extent feasible, the definition of dependence proposed by the Advisory Board. Existing data from administrative records and national surveys, however, do not generally distinguish welfare benefits received in conjunction with work from benefits received without work. Thus it was not possible to construct one single indicator of dependence, that is, one indicator that measures both percentage of income from means-tested assistance and presence of work activities. Instead, this chapter includes some indicators that focus on the percentage of recipients' income from means-tested assistance, while other indicators focus on presence of work activities at the same time as welfare receipt. Still other indicators present summary data and characteristics on all recipients, not limited to those with more than 50 percent of total income from welfare programs or those without work activities.

Overall, the twelve indicators of dependency were selected to reflect both the range and depth of dependence. The summary data provide information about:

- the degree to which recipients are dependent on assistance (Indicator 1),
- how long recipients receive welfare or remain dependent (Indicators 3, 5, 6),
- welfare and dependence transitions (Indicators 2 and 11),
- participation in the labor force while receiving assistance (Indicators 4),
- multiple program receipt (Indicator 7),
- events associated with entries and exits from welfare (Indicator 8),
- recipiency and participation rates over time (Indicators 9 and 10), and
- intergenerational dependence (Indicator 12).

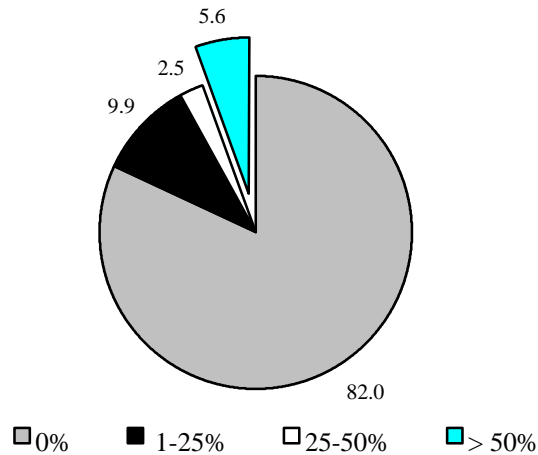
Indicators in this chapter focus on recipients of three major means-tested cash and nutritional assistance programs: Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for elderly and disabled recipients, and the Food Stamp Program. Only limited administrative data are available to report on recipients of the new Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. These are shown in Indicator 9a, which reports AFDC/TANF recipiency rates through 1997. For some indicators, data are presented for the most recent year only; for other indicators, trend data are provided.

## INDICATOR 1. DEGREE OF DEPENDENCE

*This indicator captures the degree of dependence by examining total family income and the percentage of total family income from means-tested assistance programs.*

**Figure IND 1a. Percentage of Total Income from Means-Tested Assistance Programs for the Total Population, 1994**

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Source: Table IND 1a.

- Less than 6 percent of the total population in 1994 received more than half of their total income from AFDC, Food Stamps and SSI.
- Eighty-two percent of the total population received no means-tested assistance in 1994. Table IND 1a reveals a similar pattern for 1993 (82 percent), 1992 (83 percent), 1990 (86 percent) and 1987 (85 percent).
- For all persons who received some assistance, most received 25 percent or less of their total family income from AFDC, Food Stamps and SSI (10 percent of the total population). Table IND 1a shows similar percentages for other years (10 percent in 1993, 9 percent in 1992, 8 percent in 1990, and 8 percent in 1987).
- As shown in Table IND 1a, a larger percentage of non-Hispanic blacks received more than 50 percent of their income from means-tested assistance programs than Hispanics or non-Hispanic whites in all five years presented. However, even in these groups more than 80 percent were not dependent on welfare under the definition used here.

**Table IND 1a. Percentage of Total Income from Means-Tested Assistance Programs  
for the Total Population, Selected Years**

	0%	> 0% and ≤ 25%	> 25% and ≤ 50%	Total > 50%	> 50% and ≤ 75%	Total > 75%
<b>1994</b>						
<b>All Persons</b>	82.0	9.9	2.5	5.6	1.6	4.0
Non-Hispanic White	88.9	7.1	1.4	2.6	0.9	1.7
Non-Hispanic Black	56.8	20.0	6.3	16.8	5.1	11.7
Hispanic	62.9	17.9	6.3	12.9	3.2	9.7
Children Age 0 - 5	67.6	14.6	5.3	12.5	2.8	9.7
Children Age 6 - 10	71.4	12.6	4.0	12.0	3.0	9.0
Children Age 11 - 15	75.1	11.8	3.9	9.3	2.6	6.7
Women Age 16 - 64	82.5	9.7	2.3	5.5	1.7	3.8
Men Age 16 - 64	87.7	8.4	1.4	2.5	0.9	1.6
Adults Age 65 and over	87.7	8.2	2.0	2.2	1.0	1.1
<b>1993</b>						
<b>All Persons</b>	82.2	9.5	2.5	5.9	1.6	4.3
Non-Hispanic White	88.8	7.0	1.4	2.8	0.8	2.0
Non-Hispanic Black	58.6	17.7	6.9	16.7	5.0	11.8
Hispanic	62.9	17.2	5.7	14.2	3.2	11.0
Children Age 0 - 5	68.5	13.9	4.3	13.3	2.9	10.4
Children Age 6 - 10	72.8	11.1	3.9	12.3	2.7	9.7
Children Age 11 - 15	75.9	10.2	3.4	10.5	2.8	7.6
Women Age 16 - 64	82.2	9.5	2.5	5.8	1.7	4.1
Men Age 16 - 64	87.7	8.2	1.4	2.7	0.8	1.9
Adults Age 65 and over	88.1	7.7	2.3	2.0	0.8	1.2
<b>1992</b>						
<b>All Persons</b>	83.1	9.3	2.7	4.9	1.4	3.5
Non-Hispanic White	89.0	6.8	1.8	2.4	0.8	1.6
Non-Hispanic Black	59.0	18.3	6.9	15.9	4.1	11.7
Hispanic	66.7	17.6	5.1	10.5	2.5	8.0
Children Age 0 - 5	71.1	12.1	4.6	12.2	3.0	9.3
Children Age 6 - 10	76.2	10.7	3.6	9.5	2.6	6.9
Children Age 11 - 15	76.8	11.9	3.8	7.5	2.1	5.4
Women Age 16 - 64	83.0	9.2	2.8	5.0	1.3	3.7
Men Age 16 - 64	88.2	8.2	1.6	1.9	0.7	1.3
Adults Age 65 and over	87.4	8.0	2.5	2.0	1.0	1.1

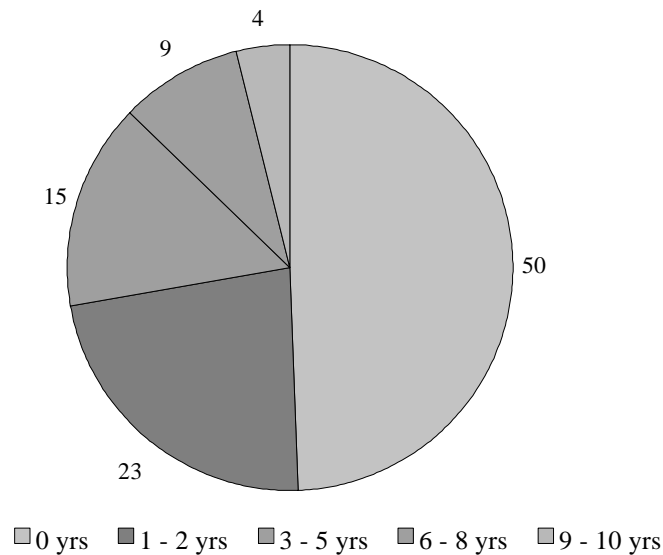
**Table IND 1a. Percentage of Total Income from Means-Tested Assistance Programs for the Total Population, Selected Years (Cont.)**

	> 0% and 0% <= 25%	> 25% and <= 50%	Total > 50%	> 50% and <= 75%	Total > 75%	
<b>1990</b>						
<b>All Persons</b>	85.9	7.9	2.0	4.2	1.2	3.0
Non-Hispanic White	91.1	5.7	1.1	2.1	0.6	1.5
Non-Hispanic Black	63.4	16.0	6.0	14.6	5.2	9.3
Hispanic	70.5	16.8	4.4	8.3	2.1	6.2
Children Age 0 - 5	76.0	11.0	2.8	10.3	2.4	7.9
Children Age 6 - 10	79.8	9.2	2.6	8.5	2.4	6.0
Children Age 11 - 15	81.2	9.6	2.8	6.4	1.8	4.5
Women Age 16 - 64	85.9	7.7	1.8	4.6	1.3	3.2
Men Age 16 - 64	90.5	6.7	1.3	1.5	0.5	1.0
Adults Age 65 and over	87.9	7.4	2.8	1.9	1.0	0.9
<b>1987</b>						
<b>All Persons</b>	85.1	8.2	2.1	4.7	1.3	3.3
Non-Hispanic White	90.7	5.8	1.3	2.2	0.9	1.3
Non-Hispanic Black	59.1	18.7	6.5	15.7	3.9	11.8
Hispanic	71.7	13.6	3.8	10.9	2.2	8.7
Children Age 0 - 5	75.5	10.9	3.7	10.0	2.7	7.3
Children Age 6 - 10	76.8	10.5	2.6	10.1	2.8	7.3
Children Age 11 - 15	80.2	9.2	2.6	8.0	1.6	6.4
Women Age 16 - 64	85.6	7.9	1.9	4.6	1.1	3.5
Men Age 16 - 64	89.9	6.8	1.4	2.0	0.8	1.2
Adults Age 65 and over	86.4	8.6	2.5	2.6	1.4	1.2

Note: Means-tested assistance includes AFDC, SSI and Food Stamps. While only affecting a small number of cases, general assistance income is included within AFDC income. Total > 50% includes all persons with more than 50 percent of their income from these means-tested programs. The 1993 data have been revised based on the 1993 SIPP panel; the 1993 data in earlier reports were drawn from an earlier SIPP panel.

Source: Unpublished data from the SIPP, 1987, 1990, 1992 and 1993 panels.

**Figure IND 1b. Percentage of Recipients with More than 50 Percent of Income from AFDC and Food Stamps by Number of Years**



Source: Table IND 1b.

- For half of all recipients, AFDC and Food Stamps made up 50 percent or less of their total income in all years between 1982 and 1991. As shown in Table IND 1b, this was also true for 55 percent of all recipients between 1972 and 1981.
- The percentage of recipients who received more than 50 percent of their total income from AFDC and Food Stamps for 6 to 10 years during the 1982 to 1991 period is considerably smaller than the corresponding percentage who were dependent for 1 to 5 years (13 percent compared to 38 percent).
- As shown in Table IND 1b, among child recipients, the percentage of black children who were not dependent—that is, were in families who did not receive more than 50 percent of their income from AFDC and Food Stamps in any year increased across the two time periods (from 24 percent to 31 percent). In comparison, the percentage of non-black recipient children who were not dependent decreased substantially across the two time periods (from 50 percent to 37 percent).

**Table IND 1b. Percentage of Recipients with More than 50 Percent of Income from AFDC and Food Stamps by Number of Years**

All Recipients: 1982 - 1991			
Cumulative Years	All Recipients	Black	Non-Black
0 Years	50	43	54
1 - 2 Years	23	21	25
3 - 5 Years	15	17	14
6 - 8 Years	9	12	6
9 - 10 Years	4	7	2
	100%	100%	100%

Children 0 - 5 in 1982: 1982 - 1991			
Cumulative Years	All Child Recipients	Black	Non-Black
0 Years	34	31	37
1 - 2 Years	28	19	35
3 - 5 Years	16	18	15
6 - 8 Years	13	19	9
9 - 10 Years	8	14	4
	100%	100%	100%

All Recipients: 1972 - 1981			
Cumulative Years	All Recipients	Black	Non-Black
0 Years	55	44	62
1 - 2 Years	22	22	22
3 - 5 Years	14	19	11
6 - 8 Years	5	9	3
9 - 10 Years	4	7	2
	100%	100%	100%

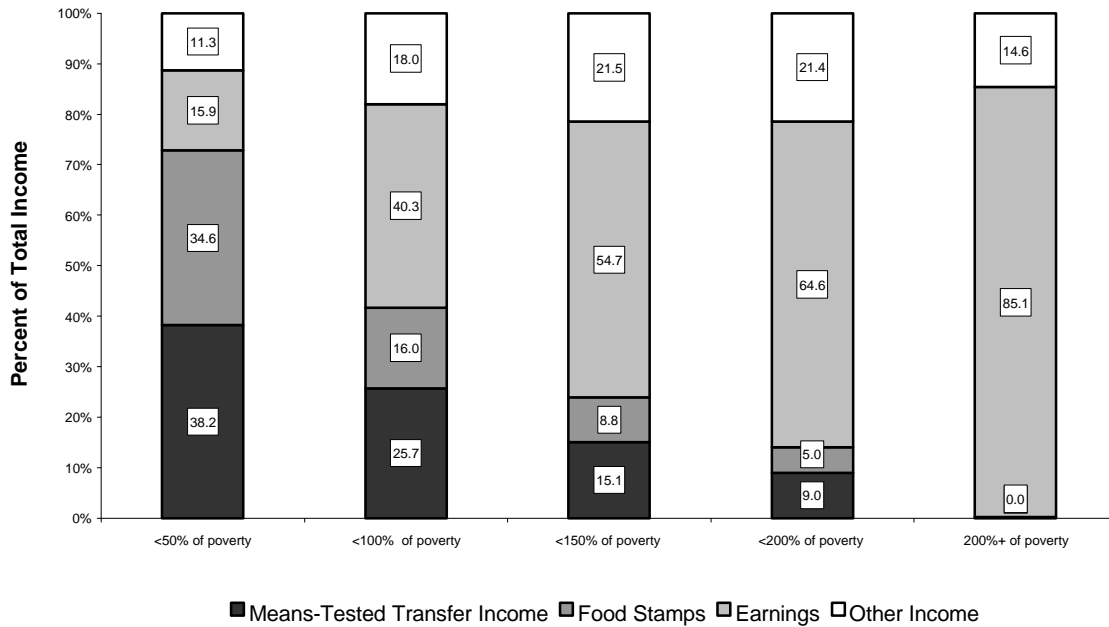
  

Children 0 - 5 in 1972: 1972 - 1981			
Cumulative Years	All Child Recipients	Black	Non-Black
0 Years	39	24	50
1 - 2 Years	25	27	23
3 - 5 Years	21	27	17
6 - 8 Years	6	9	4
9 - 10 Years	9	12	6
	100%	100%	100%

Note: Recipients are defined as individuals receiving at least \$1 of AFDC or Food Stamps in the first year (1982 or 1972). Child recipients are defined by age in the first year.

Source: Unpublished data from the PSID, 1972 - 1991.

**Figure IND 1c. Percentage of Total Income from Various Sources by Poverty Status, 1994**



Source: Unpublished data from the SIPP, 1993 panel.

- Not surprisingly, poorer families received a larger percentage of their income from transfer programs and Food Stamps while wealthier families received a larger percentage of their income from earnings.
- Poor individuals (those in families with incomes below 100 percent of poverty) received 42 percent of their total family income from means-tested assistance programs (transfer income and Food Stamps). In contrast, the percentage of total family income from means-tested assistance programs is much lower for those who are at least 200 percent above the poverty line (less than one percent).
- Those living in deep poverty (total family income less than 50 percent of the poverty line) relied heavily on transfer income from AFDC and SSI (38 percent of total family income) as well as Food Stamps (35 percent of total family income).
- The composition of income for all poor persons (less than 100 percent of poverty) is significantly different than the composition for those living in deep poverty (less than 50 percent of poverty). For example, the percentage of income from earnings for all poor individuals is more than twice the percent for those in deep poverty (40 percent compared to 16 percent). Those in deep poverty also rely much more heavily on income from transfer programs and Food Stamps compared to the full poverty population.

**Table IND 1c. Percentage of Total Income from Various Sources  
by Poverty Status, 1994**

	<50% of poverty	<100% of poverty	<150% of poverty	<200% of poverty	200%+ of poverty
<b>All Persons</b>					
Means-Tested					
Transfer Income	38.2	25.7	15.1	9.0	0.2
Food Stamps	34.6	16.0	8.8	5.0	0.0
Earnings	15.9	40.3	54.7	64.6	85.1
Other Income	11.3	18.0	21.5	21.4	14.6
Average Income	\$ 6,946	\$ 10,708	\$ 13,377	\$ 16,740	\$ 57,249
<b>Racial Categories</b>					
Non-Hispanic White					
Means-Tested					
Transfer Income	28.0	20.0	10.5	5.5	0.2
Food Stamps	30.3	13.2	6.4	3.1	0.0
Earnings	24.2	42.9	55.0	64.8	84.3
Other Income	17.8	21.1	24.6	23.7	15.1
Average Income	\$ 5,296	\$ 9,589	\$ 12,609	\$ 16,448	\$ 58,188
Non-Hispanic Black					
Means-Tested					
Transfer Income	44.1	31.5	21.8	15.4	0.6
Food Stamps	40.5	20.2	12.7	8.8	0.2
Earnings	8.3	31.0	47.3	58.8	88.4
Other Income	6.5	17.5	18.1	16.8	10.4
Average Income	\$ 7,571	\$ 10,773	\$ 13,470	\$ 16,427	\$ 46,819
Hispanic					
Means-Tested					
Transfer Income	41.0	25.4	15.7	11.2	0.5
Food Stamps	34.0	16.6	9.8	6.5	0.1
Earnings	15.3	46.6	62.0	70.0	89.9
Other Income	6.2	14.7	16.2	15.6	10.4
Average Income	\$ 8,709	\$ 12,666	\$ 15,114	\$ 17,918	\$ 48,917
<b>Age Categories</b>					
Children Age 0 - 5					
Means-Tested					
Transfer Income	44.4	28.6	17.9	11.8	0.2
Food Stamps	37.1	19.6	12.1	7.7	0.1
Earnings	11.2	40.8	58.8	70.0	93.4
Other Income	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Average Income	\$ 7,825	\$ 11,813	\$ 14,763	\$ 18,236	\$ 59,336



**Table IND 1c. Percentage of Total Income from Various Sources  
by Poverty Status, 1994 (Cont.)**

	<50% of poverty	<100% of poverty	<150% of poverty	<200% of poverty	200%+ of poverty
<b>Children Age 6 - 10</b>					
Means-Tested					
Transfer Income	39.9	28.2	18.0	11.4	0.2
Food Stamps	36.9	18.3	11.1	6.8	0.0
Earnings	14.7	40.9	58.1	70.0	93.0
Other Income	6.5	10.1	10.5	9.8	5.9
Average Income	\$ 8,675	\$ 12,802	\$ 15,688	\$ 19,408	\$ 63,068
<b>Children Age 11 - 15</b>					
Means-Tested Transfer					
Income	37.2	27.7	16.7	9.7	0.2
Food Stamps	35.8	17.9	10.5	6.0	0.0
Earnings	16.9	39.9	56.7	68.9	92.4
Other Income	8.5	12.6	12.8	11.5	6.5
Average Income	\$ 8,628	\$ 12,822	\$ 15,718	\$ 19,780	\$ 65,892
<b>Women Age 16 - 64</b>					
Means-Tested Transfer					
Income	36.9	26.6	15.5	9.2	0.2
Food Stamps	33.6	15.5	8.5	4.8	0.0
Earnings	17.2	40.6	57.4	68.4	87.8
Other Income	18.6	20.2	21.8	19.7	10.9
Average Income	\$ 6,126	\$ 9,808	\$ 12,636	\$ 16,045	\$ 57,632
<b>Men Age 16 - 64</b>					
Means-Tested Transfer					
Income	23.5	18.7	10.7	6.0	0.2
Food Stamps	25.8	11.6	5.8	3.0	0.0
Earnings	27.1	50.3	63.1	72.7	89.1
Other Income	18.5	17.6	18.6	17.1	11.2
Average Income	\$ 4,837	\$ 10,173	\$ 13,488	\$ 17,335	\$ 58,751
<b>Adults Age 65 and over</b>					
Means-Tested Transfer					
Income	18.1	16.4	9.9	5.8	0.4
Food Stamps	16.2	4.1	1.9	1.0	0.0
Earnings	9.1	2.2	5.1	7.8	24.8
Other Income	25.4	26.4	26.4	25.1	17.3
Average Income	\$ 2,970	\$ 6,400	\$ 8,877	\$ 11,199	\$ 39,791

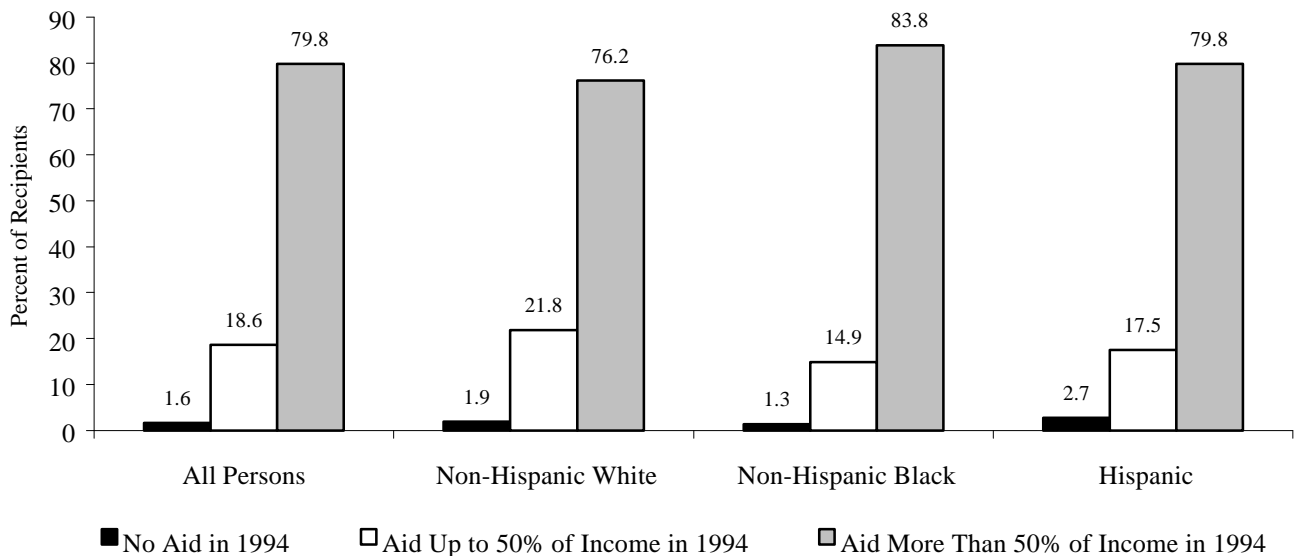
Note: Transfer income is defined as AFDC and SSI. While only affecting a small number of cases, general assistance income is included in AFDC income. Other income is non-means-tested, non-earnings income such as child support, alimony, pensions, Social Security benefits, interest and dividends. Poverty status categories are not mutually exclusive.

Source: Unpublished data from the SIPP, 1993 panel.

## INDICATOR 2. DEPENDENCE TRANSITIONS

Whereas other indicators (Indicator 1a) illustrate the depth of dependence in a single year, this indicator reflects changes in the level of dependence over two years.

**Figure IND 2. Dependency Status in 1994 of Persons who Received More Than 50 Percent of Income from Assistance in 1993**



Source: Unpublished data from the SIPP, 1993 panel.

- Four-fifths of all recipients who received more than 50 percent of their total income from means-tested assistance programs in 1993 also received more than 50 percent of their total income from these same programs in 1994 (80 percent).
- Of recipients who received more than 50 percent of their total income from AFDC, Food Stamps and SSI in 1993, a larger percentage of non-Hispanic whites became “less dependent” in 1994 (received 50 percent or less of their total income from means-tested assistance programs) compared to Hispanics and non-Hispanic blacks, although the ratios were similar across all categories.
- While only a small percentage of all recipients who received more than 50 percent of their total income from means-tested assistance programs in 1993 received no aid in 1994, the corresponding percentage for Hispanics in 1994 (3 percent) is somewhat larger than the percentages for the other groups.

- As shown in Table IND 2, a slightly larger percentage of women who received more than half of their total income from means-tested assistance programs in 1993 remained “dependent” in 1994 compared to the same percentage for men (79 percent compared to 76 percent).

**Table IND. 2. Dependency Status in 1994 of Persons Who Received More Than 50 Percent of Income from Means-Tested Assistance in 1993**

MORE THAN 50% TRANSFER INCOME IN 1993	Total (thousands)	Percentage of Persons Receiving		
		No Aid in 1994	Up to 50% Aid in 1994	More than 50% Aid in 1994
All persons	14810	1.6	18.6	79.8
<b>Racial Categories</b>				
Non-Hispanic White	5157	1.9	21.8	76.2
Non-Hispanic Black	4851	1.3	14.9	83.8
Hispanic origin	3623	2.7	17.5	79.8
<b>Age Categories</b>				
Children Age 0–5	3639	1.3	18.1	80.6
Children Age 6–10	2275	2.5	14.5	83.0
Children Age 11–15	1800	1.1	22.2	76.7
Men 16–64	1937	1.3	22.7	76.0
Women 16–64	4588	2.0	19.0	79.0
Adults 65 years and over	571	0.0	9.1	90.7

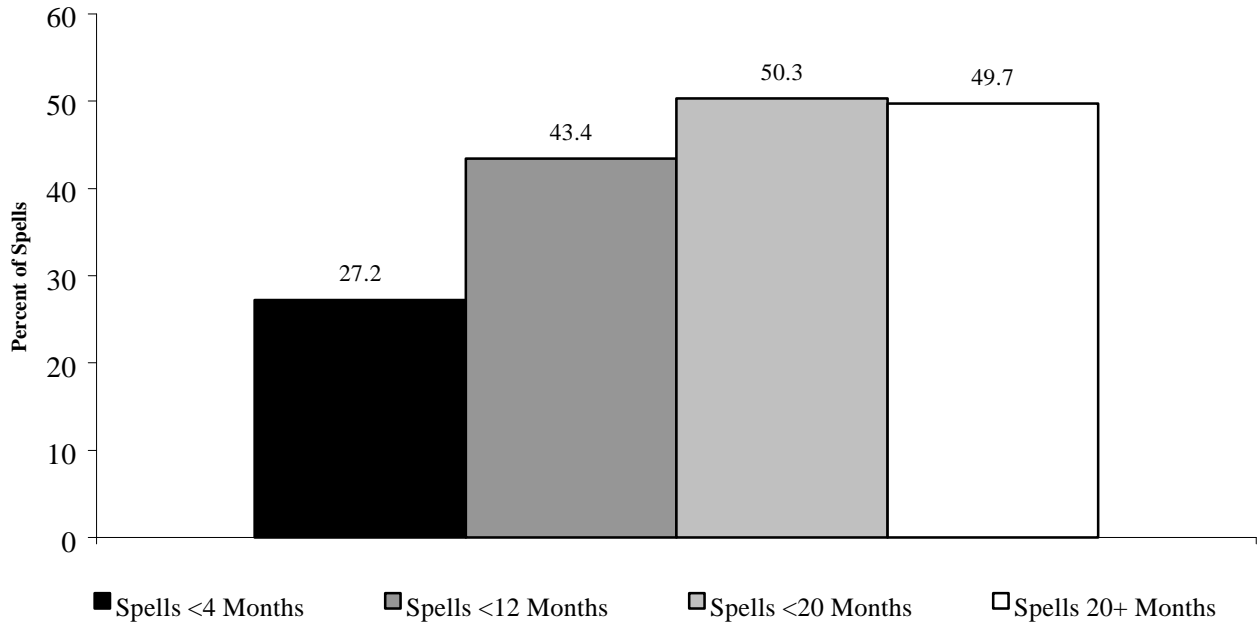
Note: Means-tested assistance is defined as AFDC, Food Stamps, and SSI. While only affecting a small number of cases, general assistance income is included within AFDC income.

Source: Unpublished data from the SIPP, 1993 panel.

### INDICATOR 3. DEPENDENCE SPELL DURATION

*In contrast to the indicator on duration of spells of means-tested assistance (Indicator 5), this indicator of dependence spell duration combines information on spells of receipt of means-tested assistance and paid employment.*

**Figure IND 3. Duration of AFDC Spells of Individuals in Families Where No One Is in the Labor Force**



Source: Table IND 3.

- Forty-three percent of AFDC spells for individuals in families with no one in the labor force ended within a year.
- Over one-quarter (27 percent) of AFDC spells for individuals in families where no one participated in the labor force were less than four months long.
- As shown in Table IND 3, a smaller percentage of AFDC spells to children in families with no labor force participants ended in less than four months compared to their adult counterparts (25 percent compared to 31 percent).

**Table IND 3. Percentage of AFDC Spells for Individuals with No Family Member in the Labor Force by Length of Spell**

	Percent of Spells			
	Spells <4 months	Spells <12 months	Spells <20 months	Spells 20+ months
<b>All persons</b>	27.2	43.4	50.3	49.7
<b>Racial Categories</b>				
Non-Hispanic White	30.2	40.7	43.0	57.0
Non-Hispanic Black	17.4	45.6	NA	NA
Hispanic	33.2	NA	NA	NA
<b>Age</b>				
Children 0-15	24.7	41.9	49.1	50.9
Adults Age 16-64	30.6	45.8	51.9	48.1

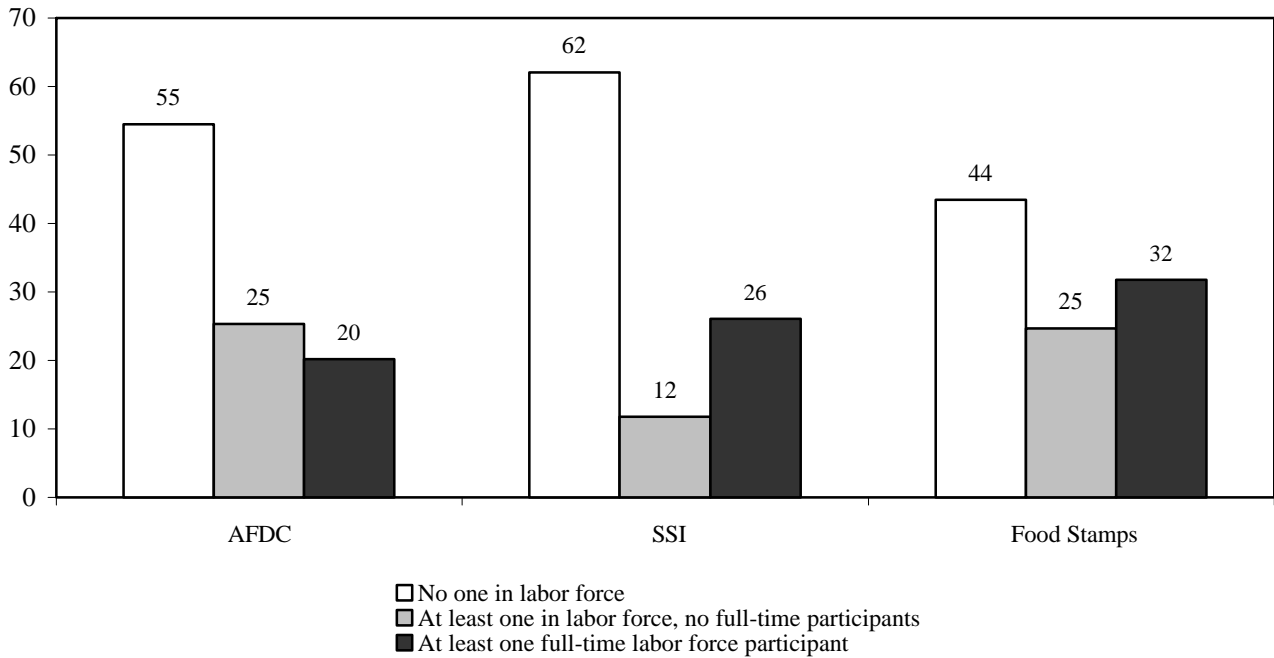
Note: Spell length categories are not mutually exclusive. Spells separated by only 1 month are not considered separate spells. Due to the length of the observation period, actual spell lengths for spells that lasted more than 20 months cannot be observed. AFDC spells are defined as those spells starting during the 1993 SIPP panel. For certain racial categories, data are not available (NA) because of insufficient sample size.

Source: Unpublished data from the SIPP, 1993 panel.

## INDICATOR 4. RECEIPT OF MEANS-TESTED ASSISTANCE AND LABOR FORCE ATTACHMENT

*This indicator illustrates one aspect of the range of dependence by combining information on receipt of means-tested assistance and hours of employment.*

**Figure IND 4a. Percentage of Recipients in Families with Labor Force Participants, 1994**



Source: Unpublished data from the SIPP, 1993 panel.

- In 1994, 46 percent of individuals who received AFDC, 38 percent of individuals who received SSI, and 57 percent of individuals who received Food Stamps were in families with at least one person in the labor force.
- A larger percentage of individuals who received Food Stamps, compared to AFDC and SSI, were in families with at least one family member who participated in the labor force full-time.
- As shown in Table IND 4a, among AFDC recipients, a larger percentage of children under age 6 were in families with at least one full-time labor force participant compared to children age 6 to 15.
- As further shown in Table IND 4a, similar percentages of non-Hispanic white and non-Hispanic black AFDC recipients were in families with at least one full-time labor force participant (22 percent for both groups).

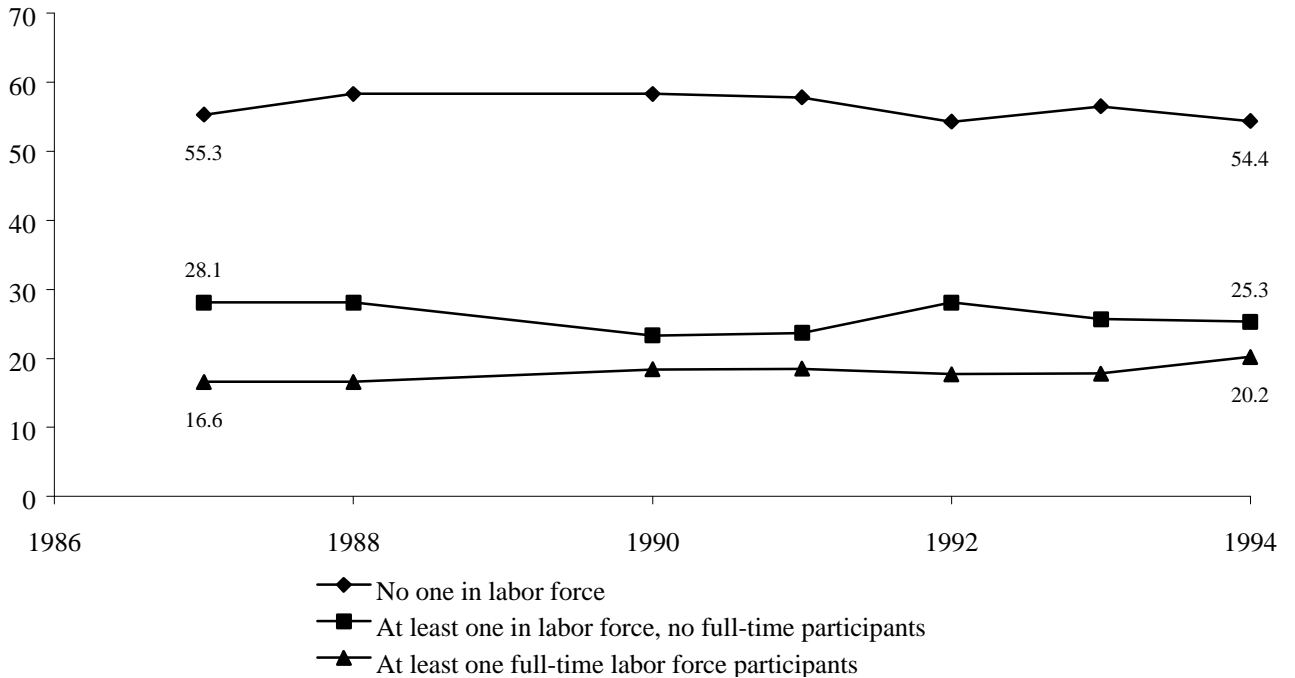
**Table IND 4a. Percentage of Recipients in Families with Labor Force Participants, 1994**

		No One in LF	At least 1 in LF No One FT	At least 1 FT Labor Force Participant
<b>AFDC</b>	All Recipients	54.5	25.3	20.2
	Non-Hispanic White	51.2	26.3	22.4
	Non-Hispanic Black	53.2	24.8	22.1
	Hispanic	62.5	20.7	16.8
	Children Age 0 to 5	57.1	21.6	21.4
	Children Age 6 to 10	59.3	23.8	16.9
	Children Age 11 to 15	57.8	26.5	15.7
	Women 16 to 64	52.5	25.7	21.8
	Men 16 to 64	32.0	40.9	27.1
	Adults 65 years and over	68.7	29.4	1.9
<b>SSI</b>	All Recipients	62.1	11.8	26.1
	Non-Hispanic White	60.7	12.1	27.2
	Non-Hispanic Black	66.7	12.0	21.3
	Hispanic	61.5	11.3	27.1
	Children Age 0 to 5	NA	NA	NA
	Children Age 6 to 10	NA	NA	NA
	Children Age 11 to 15	58.9	0.0	41.1
	Women 16 to 64	56.7	14.9	28.4
	Men 16 to 64	56.9	13.2	29.9
	Adults 65 years and over	73.1	6.8	20.1
<b>FOOD STAMPS</b>	All Recipients	43.5	24.7	31.8
	Non-Hispanic White	40.6	25.6	33.8
	Non-Hispanic Black	47.3	23.8	28.9
	Hispanic	44.2	22.3	33.6
	Children Age 0 to 5	43.0	22.1	34.9
	Children Age 6 to 10	44.6	24.2	31.2
	Children Age 11 to 15	42.3	27.2	30.5
	Women 16 to 64	31.0	30.4	38.6
	Men 16 to 64	43.4	26.0	30.6
	Adults Age 65 and over	81.9	6.6	11.5

Note: Full-time labor force participants are defined as those who usually work 35 or more hours per week. Data on receipt of SSI for young children is not available.

Source: Unpublished data from the SIPP, 1993 panel.

**Figure IND 4b. Percentage of AFDC Recipients in Families with Labor Force Participants, Selected Years**



Source: Unpublished data from the SIPP, 1987, 1990, 1992, and 1993 panels.

- As shown in Figure IND 4b, the percentage of all AFDC recipients living in families with at least one full-time labor force participant increased from 17 percent in 1987 to 20 percent in 1994.
- In all years shown above, more than half of all AFDC recipients lived in families where no one participated in the labor force.
- As shown in Table IND 4b, while 28 percent of AFDC recipients in 1992 lived in families with at least one labor force participant but no full-time participants, this percent decreased to 25 in 1994.



**Table IND 4b. Percentage of AFDC Recipients in Families with Labor Force Participants, Selected Years**

	No one In LF	At least 1 in LF No one FT	At least 1 FT Participant
1994	54.5	25.3	20.2
1993	56.5	25.7	17.8
1992	54.2	28.1	17.7
1991	57.8	23.7	18.5
1990	58.3	23.3	18.4
1988	58.3	28.1	16.6
1987	55.3	28.1	16.6

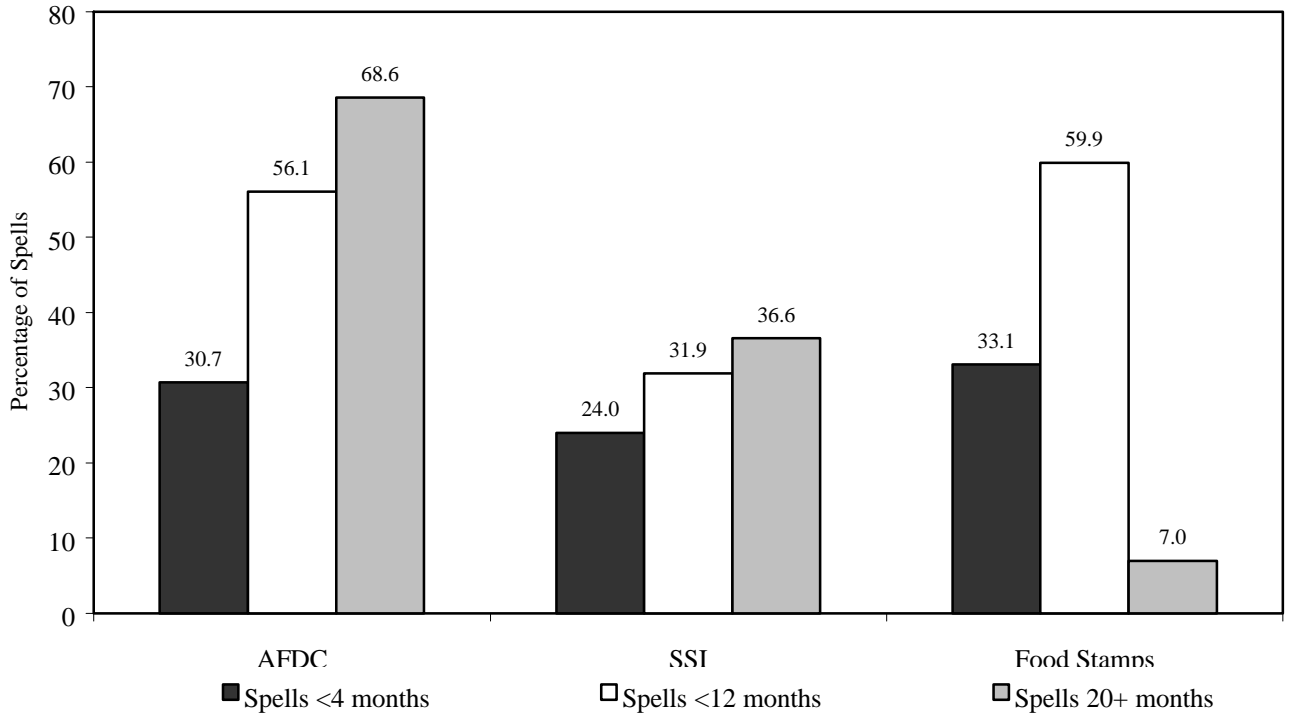
Note: Full-time labor force participants are defined as those who usually work 35 or more hours per week.

Source: Unpublished data from the SIPP, 1987, 1990, 1992, and 1993 panels.

## INDICATOR 5. PROGRAM SPELL DURATION

*One critical aspect of dependence is how long individuals receive means-tested assistance. This indicator provides information on the length of individual spells.*

**Figure IND 5. Spells of Program Participation, 1993 SIPP Panel**



Source: Table IND 5.

- Short spells lasting less than 4 months accounted for 31 percent of AFDC spells, 24 percent of SSI spells, and 33 percent of Food Stamp spells.
- Over one-half of all AFDC and Food Stamp spells lasted less than one year (56 percent and 60 percent, respectively). In contrast, only 32 percent of SSI spells ended within one year. The percentage of SSI spells that lasted 20 or more months is twice the percentage of AFDC and Food Stamp spells that lasted this long.
- As shown in Table IND 5, for AFDC spells, a larger percentage of short spells (lasting less than 4 months) and a smaller percentage of long spells (lasting 20 or more months) occurred among non-Hispanic whites compared to non-Hispanic blacks and Hispanics.
- As further shown in Table IND 5, a larger percentage of AFDC and Food Stamp spells among adults age 16 to 64 ended within 4 months compared to spells among children age 0 to 15.

**Table IND 5. Percentage of AFDC, Food Stamp and SSI Spells for Individuals Entering Programs During the 1993 SIPP Panel by Length of Spell**

	Percentage of Spells			
	Spells <4 months	Spells <12 months	Spells <20 months	Spells 20+ months
<b>AFDC</b>				
Recipients	30.7	56.1	68.6	31.4
<i>Racial Categories</i>				
Non-Hispanic White	35.6	62.2	72.3	27.7
Non-Hispanic Black	24.6	52.3	66.7	33.3
Hispanic origin	30.8	52.5	63.4	36.6
<i>Age Categories</i>				
Children Age 0 to 15	28.1	53.6	65.6	34.4
Adults 16 to 64 years	33.5	59.0	72.2	27.8
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME</b>				
Recipients	24.0	31.9	36.6	63.4
<i>Racial Categories</i>				
Non-Hispanic White	27.2	34.6	40.8	59.2
Non-Hispanic Black	20.5	26.2	30.0	70.0
Hispanic origin	20.0	32.2	NA	NA
<i>Age Categories</i>				
Adults 16 to 64 years	26.8	34.6	39.7	60.3
<b>FOOD STAMPS</b>				
Recipients	33.1	59.9	70.0	30.0
<i>Racial Categories</i>				
Non-Hispanic White	34.3	62.1	71.5	28.5
Non-Hispanic Black	28.4	53.4	64.9	35.1
Hispanic origin	35.4	64.0	71.1	28.9
<i>Age Categories</i>				
Children Age 0 to 15	29.8	56.5	67.0	33.0
Adults 16 to 64 years	35.9	63.0	72.8	27.2

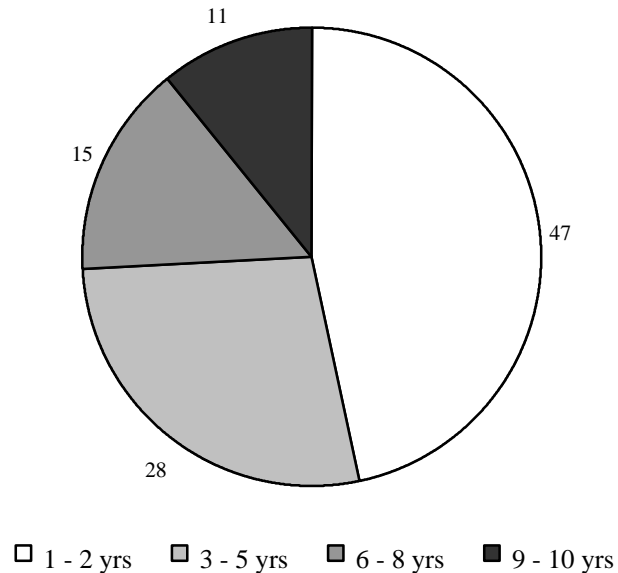
Note: Spell length categories are not mutually exclusive. Spells separated by only 1 month are not considered separate spells. Due to the length of the observation period, actual spell lengths for spells that lasted more than 20 months cannot be observed. For certain age and racial categories, data are not available (NA) because of insufficient sample size. Data on SSI reciprocity for children are not available.

Source: Unpublished data from the SIPP, 1993 Panel.

## INDICATOR 6. LONG-TERM RECEIPT

*Lifetime welfare receipt often occurs in more than one episode. Indicators that measure the duration of receipt over a lifetime further reflect the depth of dependence.*

**Figure IND 6. Percentage of AFDC Recipients with Long-Term Receipt, 1982 – 1991**



Source: Table IND 6.

- Between 1982 and 1991, almost half of all recipients received AFDC in only one or two years (47 percent) and only about one-fifth of all recipients received AFDC for 9 to 10 years (11 percent). Table IND 6 shows that this was also true between 1972 and 1981 (49 percent and 11 percent respectively).
- As shown in Table IND 6, compared to non-black recipients, a smaller percentage of black recipients received AFDC for only 1 to 2 years while a larger percentage received AFDC for 9 to 10 years in both ten-year time periods.
- As further shown in Table IND 6, a smaller percentage of child recipients experienced short-term receipt and a larger percentage experienced longer-term receipt in both time periods relative to the percentages for all recipients.

**Table IND 6. Percentage of AFDC Recipients with Long-Term Receipt**

All Recipients 1982 - 1991			
Cumulative Years	All Recipients	Black	Non-Black
1 - 2 Years	47	37	53
3 - 5 Years	28	27	28
6 - 8 Years	15	19	12
9 - 10 Years	11	17	6

Children 0 - 5 in 1982: 1982-1991			
Cumulative Years	All Child Recipients	Black Children	Non-Black Children
1 - 2 Years	34	28	39
3 - 5 Years	29	28	30
6 - 8 Years	17	16	19
9 - 10 Years	20	29	13

All Recipients 1972 - 1981			
Cumulative Years	All Recipients	Black	Non-Black
1 - 2 Years	49	32	59
3 - 5 Years	28	34	25
6 - 8 Years	13	19	9
9 - 10 Years	11	15	8

Children 0 - 5 in 1972: 1972-1981			
Cumulative Years	All Child Recipients	Black Children	Non-Black Children
1 - 2 Years	37	24	46
3 - 5 Years	29	31	27
6 - 8 Years	15	23	10
9 - 10 Years	19	23	17

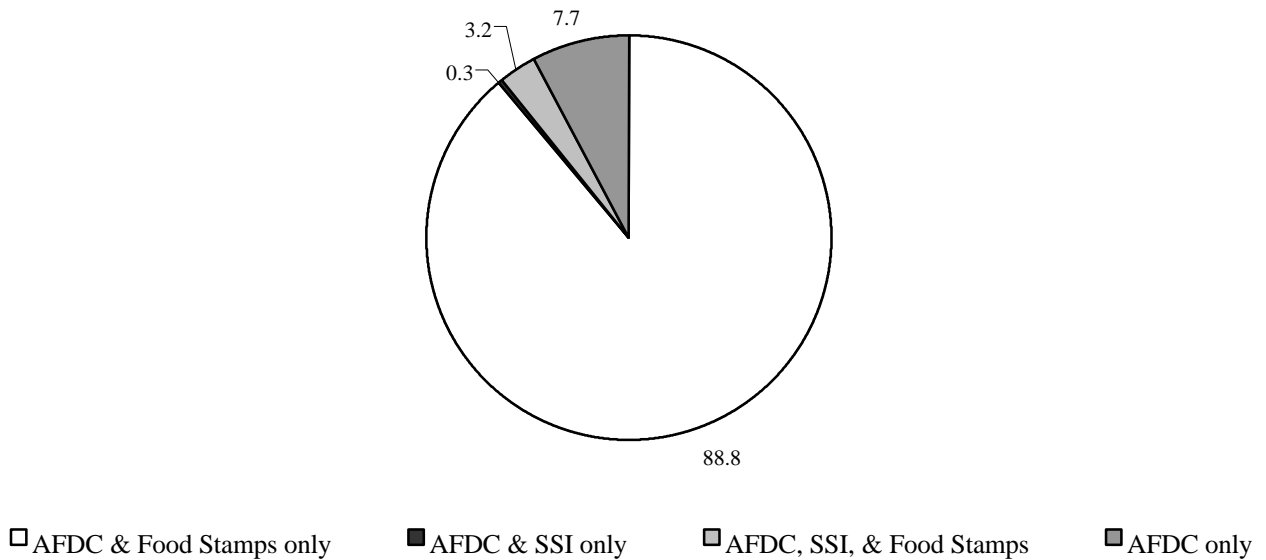
Note: Recipients are defined as individuals receiving at least \$1 of AFDC or Food Stamps in the past year (1982 or 1972). Child recipients are defined by age in the first year.

Source: Unpublished data from the PSID, 1972 - 1991.

## INDICATOR 7. MULTIPLE PROGRAM RECEIPT

*Data on multiple program receipt illustrates the nature of means-tested assistance “packages” and one aspect of the depth of dependence.*

**Figure IND 7. Percentage of Individuals in AFDC Families Receiving Other Assistance, 1994**



Source: Table IND 7.

- The vast majority of the AFDC population receives AFDC benefits in combination with Food Stamps, SSI, or both Food Stamps and SSI. Only about 8 percent received AFDC benefits without other means-tested assistance in 1994, as shown in Figure IND 7.
- The most common pattern of multiple program receipt in 1994, found among 89 percent of the AFDC population, was to receive both AFDC and Food Stamps. An additional 3 percent received AFDC, Food Stamps, and SSI. Finally, less than one-half percent received AFDC and SSI, but not Food Stamps. (Note that individuals may not receive both AFDC and SSI; however, a SSI recipient may be in a family where other members receive AFDC benefits.)
- Over time, the proportion of AFDC recipients also receiving Food Stamps has been constant varying only between 88 and 90 percent.

**Table IND 7. Percentage of Individuals in AFDC Families Receiving Assistance from Other Programs**

	<b>AFDC and Food Stamps Only</b>					<b>AFDC and SSI Only</b>				
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
<b>All Recipients</b>	88.4	88.6	89.6	89.9	88.8	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.3
<b>Racial Categories</b>										
Non-Hispanic White	86.8	87.9	88.2	88.2	86.3	0.3	0.5	1.4	0.2	0.3
Non-Hispanic Black	88.3	87.0	90.1	90.6	89.8	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.4
Hispanic	91.0	92.3	90.1	91.4	89.1	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.3
<b>Age Categories</b>										
Children Age 0-5	90.7	89.7	92.3	93.1	93.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Children Age 6-10	91.5	93.4	92.5	94.3	92.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Children Age 11-15	92.0	92.1	94.5	93.2	92.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Women Age 16-64	84.9	85.0	85.8	84.5	82.4	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.7
Men Age 16-64	85.1	84.6	83.4	86.4	84.9	0.4	1.1	1.1	0.2	0.3
	<b>AFDC, SSI and Food Stamps</b>					<b>AFDC Only</b>				
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
<b>All Recipients</b>	1.7	1.9	2.4	2.9	3.2	9.5	9.1	7.6	7.0	7.7
<b>Racial Categories</b>										
Non-Hispanic White	1.9	1.7	2.6	3.4	3.7	11.0	9.9	7.8	8.3	9.7
Non-Hispanic Black	1.7	2.4	2.7	2.8	3.2	9.6	10.1	6.5	6.2	6.7
Hispanic	1.3	1.6	1.5	2.2	2.8	7.6	6.0	8.0	6.4	7.7
<b>Age Categories</b>										
Children Age 0-5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.3	10.3	7.7	6.9	6.3
Children Age 6-10	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.5	6.6	7.5	5.7	7.6
Children Age 11-15	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2	8.0	7.7	5.3	6.7	7.7
Women Age 16-64	4.1	4.6	5.8	7.8	8.9	10.3	9.6	7.6	7.2	8.0
Men Age 16-64	4.4	5.2	4.7	3.8	3.4	10.1	9.1	10.8	9.6	11.3

Note: Categories are mutually exclusive. Individuals may not receive both AFDC and SSI; however, an SSI recipient may be in a family where other members receive AFDC benefits.

Source: Unpublished data from the SIPP, 1990, 1992, 1993 panels.

## INDICATOR 8. EVENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE BEGINNING AND ENDING OF RECEIPT OF MEANS-TESTED ASSISTANCE

*The circumstances that are associated with beginnings or endings of receipt of assistance reveal an important aspect of dependence that provides critical guidance for policy makers.*

**Table IND 8a. Percentage of First AFDC Spell Beginnings Associated with Specific Events**

	Spell Began 1973 - 1979	Spell Began 1980 - 1985	Spell Began 1986 - 1991
First birth to an unmarried, non-cohabiting mother	27.9	20.9	22.2
First birth to a married and/or cohabiting mother	13.3	17.4	11.3
Second (or higher order) birth	19.9	18.2	15.2
Divorce/separation	19.7	28.1	17.3
Mother's work hours decreased by more than 500 hours per year	26.3	18.8	26.2
Other adults' work hours decreased by more than 500 hours, but no change in family structure	34.8	27.9	21.6
Other adults' work hours decreased by more than 500 hours, and a change in family structure	4.7	7.9	11.4
Householder acquired work limitation	18.1	15.6	23.5
Other transfer income dropped by \$1,000 or more (in 1996\$)	4.5	6.5	4.1
Changed state of residence	4.5	10.6	5.4

Note: Events are defined to be neither mutually exclusive nor exhaustive. Work limitation is defined as a self-reported physical or nervous condition that limits the type of work or the amount of work the respondent can do.

Source: Unpublished data from the PSID, 1968 – 1992.

- Between 1986 and 1991, the most common events associated with the beginnings of a first AFDC episode were work-related: a decrease in mother's work hours (26 percent), a decrease in work hours of another adult (22 percent), and the acquisition of a work limitation (24 percent). In addition, over one-fifth (22 percent) of first spells were associated with a first birth to an unmarried, non-cohabiting mother.
- Between 1973 and 1979, first births to an unmarried, non-cohabiting mother were associated



with 28 percent of first AFDC episodes. In contrast, such births were associated with 21 percent of first spells beginning between 1980 and 1985, and 22 percent beginning between 1986 and 1991.

- The percentage of first AFDC spell beginnings associated with a householder acquiring a work limitation was higher for spells that began between 1986 and 1991 (24 percent) than for spells that began between 1973 and 1979 (16 percent) or 1980 to 1985 (18 percent).

**Table IND 8b. Percentage of First AFDC Spell Endings Associated with Specific Events**

	Spell Ended 1973 - 1979	Spell Ended 1980 - 1985	Spell Ended 1986 - 1991
Mother married or acquired cohabitor	16.1	17.1	21.7
Children under 18 no longer present	4.4	4.1	4.8
Mother's work hours increased by more than 500 hours per year	15.4	25.0	27.1
Other adults' work hours increased by more than 500 hours, but no change in family structure	21.8	16.8	16.7
Other adults' work hours increased by more than 500 hours, and a change in family structure	6.5	10.3	5.8
Householder no longer reports work limitation	13.0	19.2	15.8
Other transfer income increased by \$1,000 or more (in 1996\$)	5.0	5.5	5.8
Changed state of residence	5.9	11.0	5.9

Note: Events are defined to be neither mutually exclusive nor exhaustive. Work limitation is defined as a self-reported physical or nervous condition that limits the type of work or the amount of work the respondent can do.

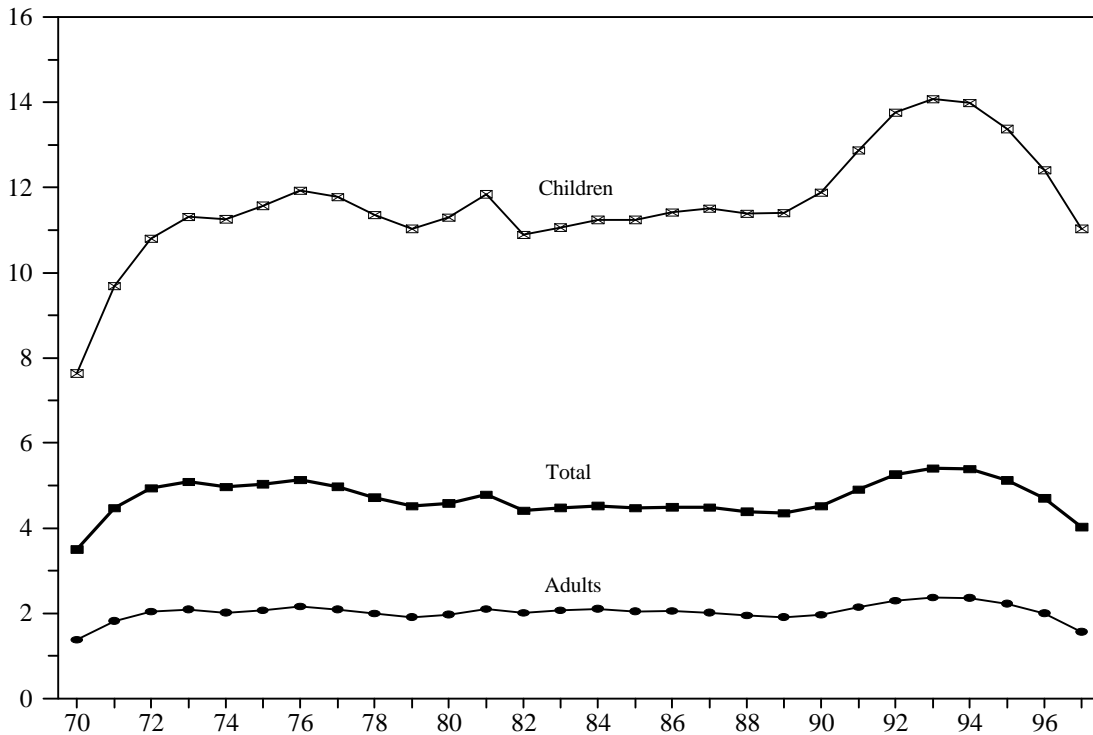
Source: Unpublished data from the PSID, 1968 - 1992.

- During the 1986 to 1991 time period, over one-fourth (27 percent) of first AFDC spell endings were associated with increases in mother's work hours. The corresponding percentage was slightly smaller for spells ending in the 1980 to 1985 period (25 percent) and much smaller for spells ending between 1973 and 1979 (15 percent).
- In the 1973 - 1979 period, a greater percentage of spell endings was associated with an increase in work hours for other adults (22 percent) as compared to mothers (15 percent). In the more recent time period (1986 - 1991), a greater percentage of spell endings was associated with an increase in mother's work hours (27 percent) compared to other adults (17 percent).

## **INDICATOR 9. PERCENT OF THE POPULATION RECEIVING MEANS-TESTED ASSISTANCE**

The rate of receipt reflects an important aspect of dependence by measuring the extent to which various population subgroups rely on the major means-tested programs.

**Figure IND 9a. AFDC Recipients as a Percent of the Population**



Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance and U.S. Bureau of the Census, Release PPL-91, United States Population Estimates, by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin, 1990 to 1997, (Available online at <http://www.census.gov>).

- In all years between 1970 and 1997, the percentage of all children who received AFDC is much larger than that for adults.
- Participation for children under age 18 increased substantially between 1970 and 1976. While remaining relatively stable through most of the 1980s, the trend again increased dramatically from 1990 to 1994 before declining to its current level.
- Table IND 9a shows that between 1994 and 1997 the percentage of all children who received AFDC decreased more than three percentage points (from 14.0 percent to 10.8 percent).

**Table IND 9a. AFDC/TANF Recipients as a Percent of the Population, Selected Years <sup>1</sup>**

	1970	1975	1980	1985	1988	1990	1994	1996	1997 <sup>4</sup>
AFDC/TANF Recipients (millions) <sup>2</sup>									
Total Recipients	7.2	10.9	10.4	10.6	10.7	11.3	14.0	12.5	10.8
Adult Recipients	1.9	3.1	3.2	3.6	3.5	3.6	4.6	3.9	3.1
Child Recipients <sup>3</sup>	5.3	7.8	7.2	7.0	7.2	7.6	9.5	8.6	7.7
AFDC/TANF Reciprocity Rates (percent)									
Total	3.5	5.0	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.5	5.4	4.7	4.0
Adults	1.4	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.4	2.0	1.6
Children	7.6	11.6	11.3	11.2	11.4	11.9	13.9	12.4	11.0

<sup>1</sup> The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 repealed the AFDC Program as of July 1, 1997 and replaced it with the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Program.

<sup>2</sup> Does not include the territories.

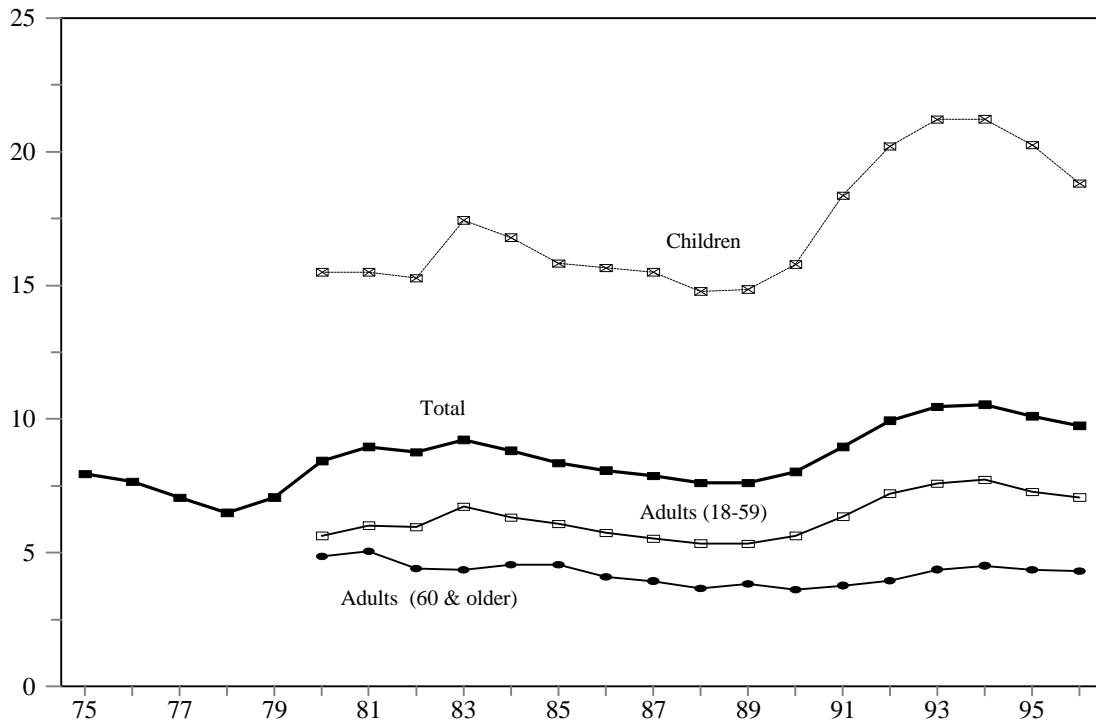
<sup>3</sup> Includes a small number of dependents 18 and older who are students.

<sup>4</sup> Average number of adults and children based on the first three quarter of 1997 only; data on number of adults and children under TANF not currently available.

Note: Only selected years of data presented in Figure IND 9a are included in the table.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance and U.S. Bureau of the Census, release PPL-91, United States Population Estimates, by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin, 1990 to 1997, (available online at <http://www.census.gov>).

**Figure IND 9b. Food Stamp Recipients as a Percent of the Population**



Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis and Evaluation, *Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, Summer 1996*, and earlier reports and U.S. Bureau of the Census, release PPL-91, United States Population Estimates, by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin, 1990 to 1997, (Available online at <http://www.census.gov>).

- In all years between 1980 and 1996, the percentage of all children who received Food Stamps is much larger than that for all adults.
- Similar trends existed for each age group: children under 18, adults age 18-59 and adults 60 and older. The percentages for each group declined between 1984 and 1988, each peaked in 1994 and declined thereafter.

**Table IND 9b. Food Stamps Recipients as a Percent of the Population, Selected Years**

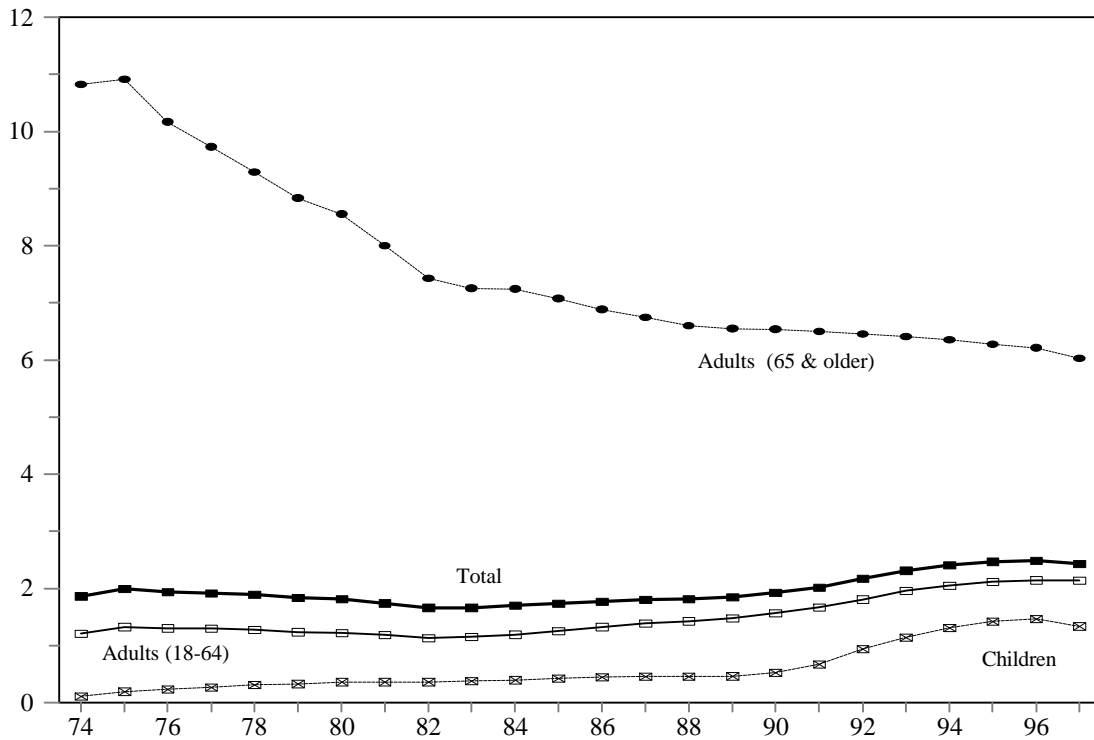
	1975	1980	1985	1988	1990	1992	1994	1996
Food Stamp Recipients (millions) <sup>1</sup>								
Total (all ages)	17.1	19.2	19.8	18.6	20.0	25.4	27.4	25.5
Adults (60 and over)	NA	1.7	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.7	2.0	1.9
Adults (18 to 59)	NA	7.2	8.3	7.5	8.1	10.5	11.5	10.8
Children	NA	9.9	9.9	9.4	10.1	13.3	14.4	13.0
Food Stamp Reciprocity Rates (percent)								
Total (all ages)	7.9	8.4	8.3	7.6	8.0	9.9	10.5	9.6
Adults (60 and over)	NA	4.9	4.5	3.7	3.6	4.0	4.5	4.3
Adults (18-59)	NA	5.6	6.1	5.3	5.6	7.2	7.7	7.1
Children	NA	15.5	15.8	14.8	15.8	20.2	21.2	18.8

<sup>1</sup> Does not include the territories.

Note: Only selected years of data presented in Figure IND 9b are included in the table.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis and Evaluation, *Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, Summer 1996*, and earlier reports and U.S. Bureau of the Census, release PPL-91, United States Population Estimates, by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin, 1990 to 1997, (Available online at <http://www.census.gov>.)

**Figure IND 9c. SSI Recipients as a Percent of the Population**



Note: Recipients are reported as of December in each year.

Source: Social Security Administration, Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics (data available online at [http://www.ssa.gov/statistics/ores\\_home.html](http://www.ssa.gov/statistics/ores_home.html)) and U.S. Bureau of the Census, Release PPL-91, United States Population Estimates, by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin, 1990 to 1997, (Available online at <http://www.census.gov>).

- In all years between 1974 and 1996, the percentage of adults 65 and older who received SSI is much larger than that for all other age groups.
- Trends are similar for all persons under age 64 generally increasing between 1974 and 1996. For those 65 and older, the trend moves in the opposite direction decreasing dramatically from nearly 11 percent in 1974 to 6 percent in 1996.

**Table IND 9c. SSI Recipients as a Percent of the Population, Selected Years**

	Dec '75	Dec '80	Dec '85	Dec '88	Dec '90	Dec '92	Dec '94	Dec '96	Dec '97
<b>SSI Recipients (millions)</b>									
Total (all ages)	4.3	4.1	4.1	4.5	4.8	5.6	6.3	6.6	6.5
Adults (65 and over)	2.5	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Adults (18 to 64)	1.7	1.7	1.8	2.2	2.4	2.8	3.3	3.5	3.5
Children <sup>2</sup>	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.9	1.0	0.9
<b>SSI Recipiency Rates (percent)</b>									
Total (all ages)	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.4
Adults (65 and over)	10.9	8.6	7.1	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.2	6.0
Adults (18-64)	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.8	2.1	2.1	2.1
Children	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.9	1.3	1.5	1.3

<sup>1</sup>December population figures used as the denominators are obtained by averaging the Census' July 1 population estimate for the current and the following year.

<sup>2</sup>Children includes some recipients 18 and older who are students..

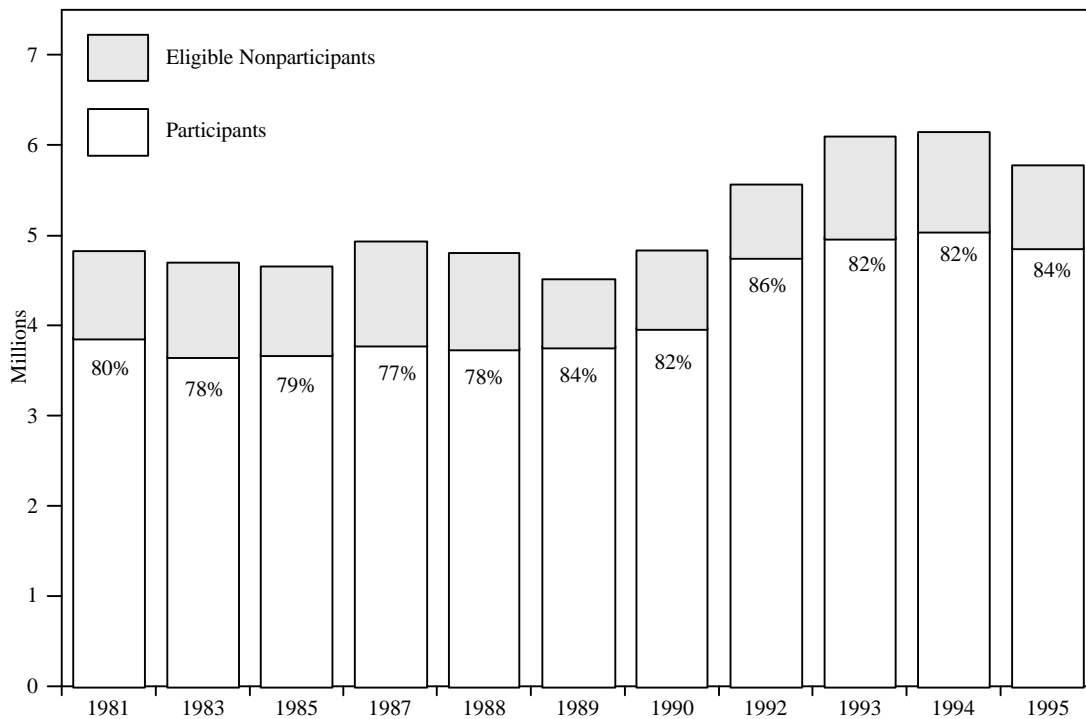
Note: Only selected years of data presented in Figure IND 9c are included in the table.

Source: Social Security Administration, Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics (data available online at [http://www.ssa.gov/statistics/ores\\_home.html](http://www.ssa.gov/statistics/ores_home.html)) and U.S. Bureau of the Census, release PPL-91, United States Population Estimates, by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin, 1990 to 1997, (Available online at <http://www.census.gov>).

**INDICATOR 10. RATES OF PARTICIPATION IN MEANS-TESTED ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

*Not all eligible households participate in means-tested programs. This indicator reflects “take up rates” – the number of families that actually participate in the program as a percent of those who are eligible.*

**Figure IND 10a. AFDC Caseload versus Number of Eligible Families: Number of Cases & Percentage of Total Eligibles**



Source: Participation rates estimated by the Urban Institute using TRIM model simulations. Caseload based on data from DHHS, Administration for Children and Families.

- The percentage of all eligible families who participated in AFDC has varied between 77 percent and 86 percent according to estimates for selected years between 1981 and 1995. Estimates of the total eligible population varied from 4.5 million to over 6 million families over the same time period.

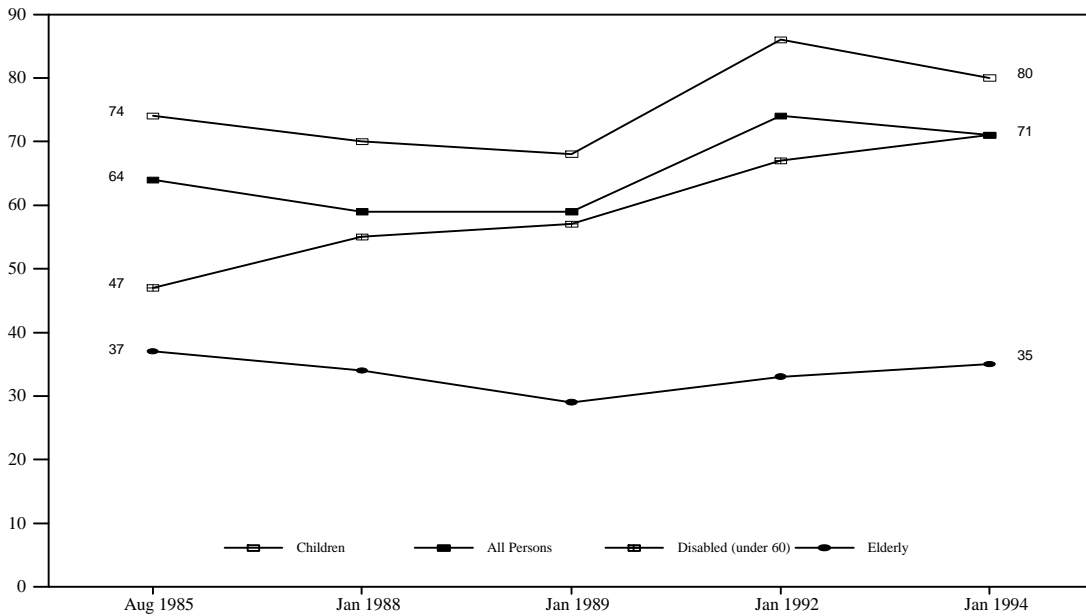


**Table IND 10a. AFDC Caseload as a Percentage of Eligible Families**

	1981	1983	1985	1987	1989	1990	1992	1994	1995
Average Monthly									
Eligibles	4,827	4,700	4,655	4,933	4,512	4,834	5,565	6,143	5,775
Average Caseload	3,871	3,651	3,692	3,784	3,771	3,974	4,768	5,046	4,869
Participation rate	80	78	79	77	84	82	86	82	84

Source: Participation rates estimated by the Urban Institute using TRIM model simulations. Caseload based on data from DHHS, Administration for Children and Families.

**Figure IND 10b. Food Stamp Households as a Percentage of Eligible Households**



Source: Table IND 10b.

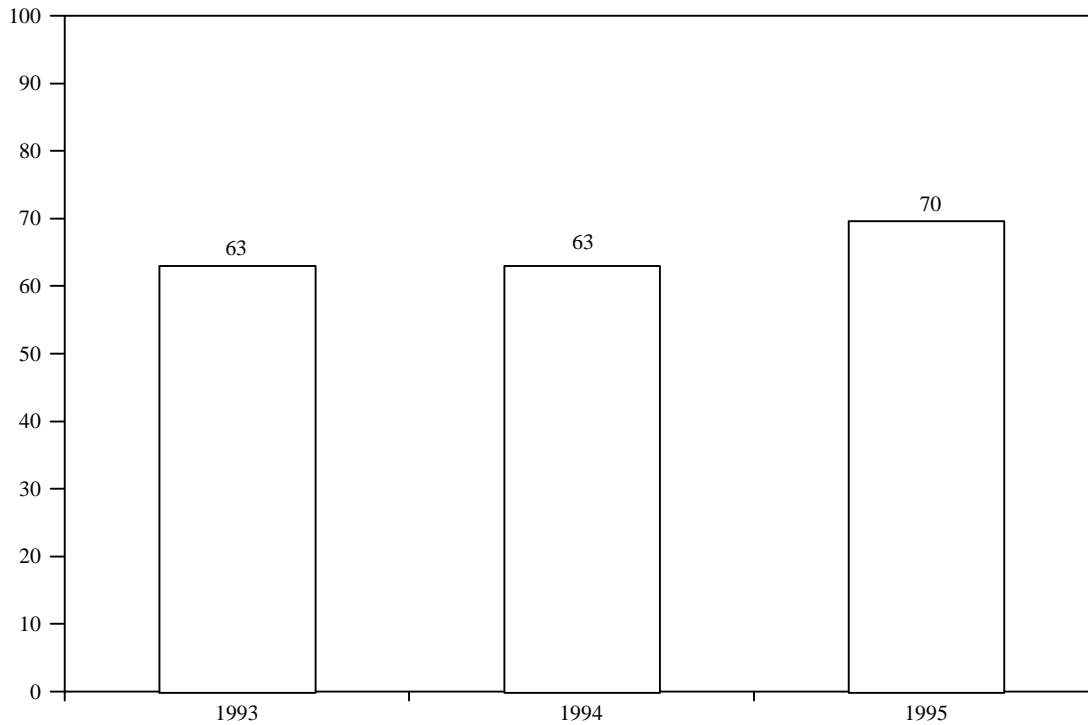
- In all years, larger percentages of children in eligible households received Food Stamps compared to other age groups, and smaller percentages of the elderly in eligible households received Food Stamps compared to other adults and children.
- For disabled persons under age 60, the percentage in eligible households who received Food Stamps increased substantially between 1985 and 1994, from 47 percent in 1985 to 71 percent in 1994.

**Table IND 10b. Food Stamp Households as a Percentage of Eligible Households**

	Persons	Households	Elderly	Children	Disabled	
					Under 60	Adults 18-59
August 1985	64	59	37	74	47	65
January 1988	59	56	34	70	55	66
January 1989	59	56	29	68	57	60
January 1992	74	69	33	86	67	77
January 1994	71	69	35	80	71	73

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, *Trends in Food Stamp Program Participation Rates*, various years.

**Figure IND 10c. SSI Adult Recipients as a Percentage of Eligible Adults**



Source: Table IND 10c.

- For all adults, the percentage of those eligible that received SSI remained constant between 1993 and 1994 (63 percent) and increased substantially in 1995 (from 63 percent to 70 percent).
- For all adults in 1995, a larger percentage of eligible disabled adults in one-person units participated in the SSI program (74 percent) compared to both eligible aged adults in one-person units (65 percent) and adults in married-couple units (52 percent).

**Table IND 10c. SSI Adult Recipients by Type as a Percentage of Eligible Group**

	1993	1994	1995
All adults	63	63	70
One-person units– aged	NA	NA	65
One-person units– disabled	NA	NA	74
Married-couple units	NA	NA	52

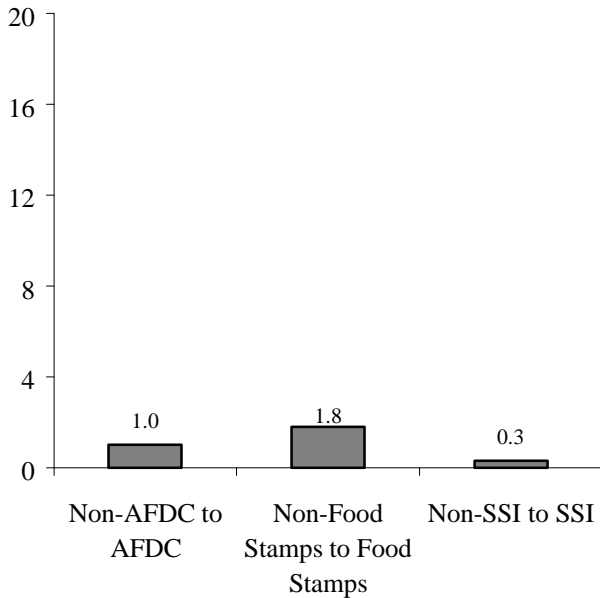
Note: The figure for married-couple units is based on very small sample sizes—married couple units were only about 5 percent of the adults units in the average month of 1995.

Source: Participation rate estimated by the Urban Institute using the TRIM model.

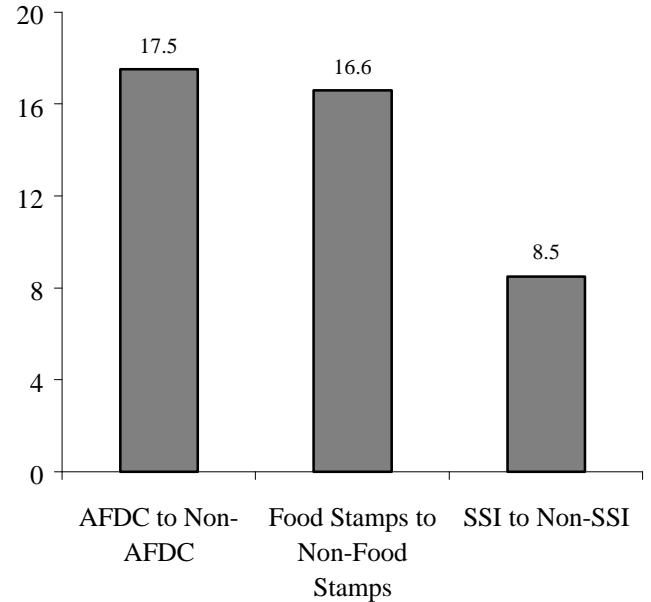
## INDICATOR 11. MEANS-TESTED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TRANSITION RATES

*This indicator shows how many people have moved onto means-tested assistance programs and how many recipients have moved off means-tested assistance programs.*

**Figure IND 11a. Percentage of Non-Recipients Moving on to Assistance from 1993 to 1994**



**Figure IND 11b. Percentage of Recipients Moving off Assistance from 1993 to 1994**



Source: Unpublished data from the SIPP, 1993 panel.

- As shown in Figure IND 11a, only a small percentage of individuals who did not receive AFDC in 1993 began receiving AFDC benefits in 1994 (1 percent). In comparison, the percentage of non-recipients who began receiving Food Stamps in 1994 was slightly higher (2 percent) and the percentage of non-recipients who began receiving SSI in 1994 was lower (less than 1 percent).
- As shown in Figure IND 11b, 18 percent of AFDC recipients in 1993 moved off AFDC in 1994. Similarly, 17 percent of Food Stamp recipients in 1993 were no longer receiving Food Stamp benefits in 1994. In contrast, only 9 percent of individuals who received SSI in 1993 left the SSI program in 1994.
- Non-Hispanic whites are somewhat less likely to move from non-assistance to assistance than non-Hispanic blacks and Hispanics, as shown in Table IND 11. For example, while only 1 percent of non-Hispanic white individuals who did not receive AFDC in 1993 began receiving AFDC benefits in 1994, the corresponding percentages for non-Hispanic blacks and Hispanics were somewhat higher (3 percent).

- As shown in Table IND 11, a much higher percentage of Hispanic AFDC recipients in 1993 exited AFDC in 1994 (25 percent) compared to both non-Hispanic whites and non-Hispanic blacks (17 percent and 12 percent, respectively).
- As further shown in Table IND 11, men are much more likely to move off AFDC and Food Stamps than are women. For example, while 18 percent of women who received AFDC in 1993 were no longer receiving AFDC benefits in 1994, 33 percent of men who received AFDC in 1993 left the AFDC program in 1994.

**Table IND 11. Means-Tested Assistance Program Transition Rates, 1993 to 1994**

<b><u>Number and Percentage of Non-Recipients Moving onto Assistance</u></b>						
	Non-AFDC to AFDC		Non-FS to FS		Non-SSI to SSI	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
<b>All Persons</b>	2215	1.0	3878	1.8	702	0.3
<b>Racial Categories</b>						
Non-Hispanic White	1159	0.6	2041	1.2	397	0.2
Non-Hispanic Black	503	3.0	922	4.7	155	0.6
Hispanic	437	2.7	734	4.3	114	0.5
<b>Age Categories</b>						
Children Age 0 - 5	403	2.4	573	3.9	0	0
Children Age 6 - 10	313	1.9	518	3.6	0	0
Children Age 11 - 15	348	2.1	361	2.4	0	0
Women Age 16 - 64	780	1.0	1299	1.8	415	0.5
Men Age 16 - 64	343	0.4	982	1.3	264	0.3
Adults Age 65 and over	28	0.1	145	0.6	23	0.1
<b><u>Number and Percentage of Recipients Moving off Assistance</u></b>						
	AFDC to Non-AFDC		FS to Non-FS		SSI to Non-SSI	
	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent	Number (thousands)	Percent
<b>All Persons</b>	2799	17.5	5184	16.6	453	8.5
<b>Racial Categories</b>						
Non-Hispanic White	1493	16.6	2999	21.5	232	8.8
Non-Hispanic Black	641	11.9	1012	11.4	162	10.7
Hispanic	583	25.0	1070	15.4	35	4.3
<b>Age Categories</b>						
Children Age 0 - 5	610	15.3	818	13.7	0	0
Children Age 6 - 10	408	14.0	602	13.2	0	0
Children Age 11 - 15	308	14.3	464	12.6	0	0
Women Age 16 - 64	992	18.3	1796	17.6	288	12.2
Men Age 16 - 64	470	32.5	1418	26.2	118	9.3
Adults Age 65 and over	11	24.1	87	6.1	47	2.8

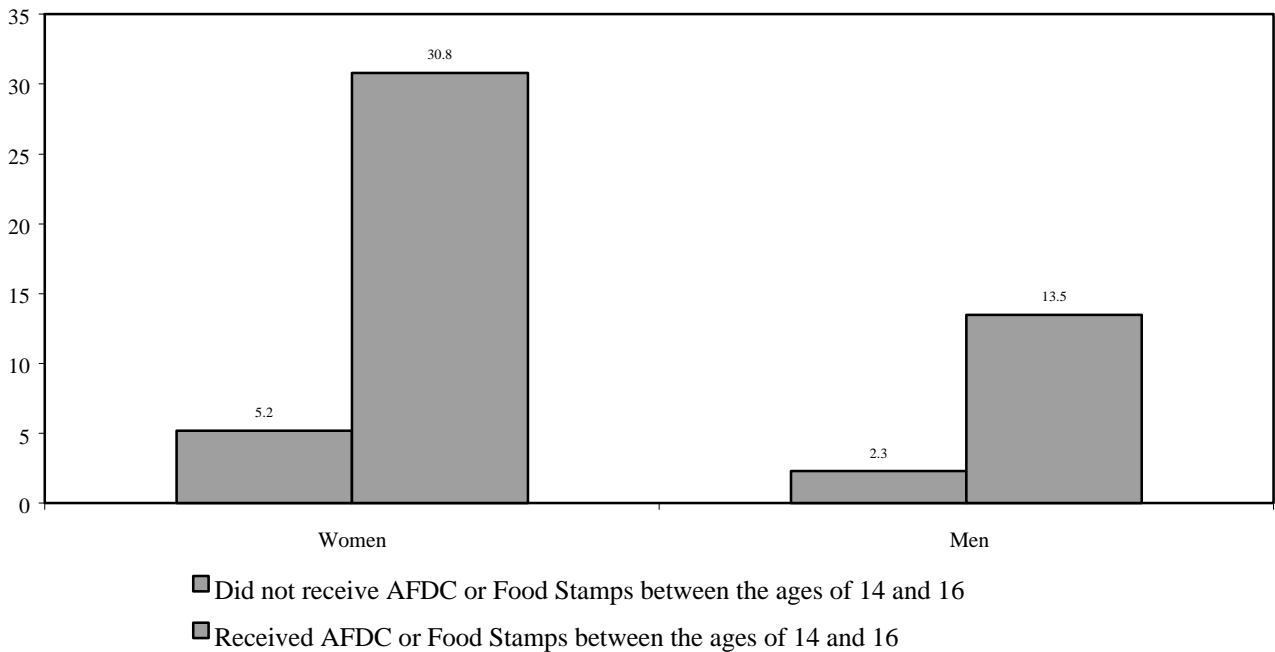
Note: Receipt is measured by at least one month of receipt in a given year and non-receipt is measured as no months of receipt in a given year.

Source: Unpublished data from the SIPP, 1993 panel

## INDICATOR 12. INTERGENERATIONAL DEPENDENCE

*Another key aspect of dependence is the extent to which parental receipt of means-tested assistance is associated with receipt by their children when the children become adults.*

**Figure IND 12. Percentage of Youth Recipients (14 to 16) and Youth Non-Recipients (14 to 16) who Received Three Years of Benefits as Adults (25 to 27)**



Source: Table IND 12.

- Individuals who receive AFDC or Food Stamps as children are more likely to receive benefits as adults, as shown in Figure IND 12. Almost one-third (31 percent) of women who received AFDC or Food Stamps in childhood between the ages of 14 and 16 also received AFDC or Food Stamps at ages 25, 26 and 27. In comparison, only 5 percent of women who did not receive AFDC or Food Stamps as youths received three years of benefits as adults.
- The same relationship exists among men, although they have lower rates of receipt of means-tested assistance. As shown in Table IND 12, 14 percent of men who received AFDC or Food Stamps between the ages of 14 and 15 also received three years of benefits in adulthood and a much lower percentage – 2 percent – of men who did not receive AFDC or Food Stamps as youths received benefits at age 25, 26, and 27.
- As shown in Table IND 12, 61 percent of women and 32 percent of men who received AFDC or Food Stamps between the ages of 14 and 16 also received AFDC or Food

Stamp benefits in at least one year as adults between the ages of 25 and 27. These percentages are much larger than those for men and women who received benefits as children between the ages of 14 and 16 and received benefits as adults in all three years from age 25 to 27 (31 percent for women and 14 percent for men).

**Table IND 12. Association of Benefit Receipt as Youth (14 to 16) with Benefit Receipt as Adults (25 to 27)**

	Females born 1960 - 1964	Males born 1960 - 1964
Percent <u>who did not receive</u> AFDC or Food Stamps between the ages of 14 and 16 who received AFDC or Food Stamps <u>in all 3 years</u> from age 25 to 27.	5.2	2.3
Percent <u>who received</u> AFDC or Food Stamps for all 3 years between the ages of 14 and 16 who also received AFDC or Food Stamps <u>in all 3 years</u> from age 25 to 27.	30.8	13.5
Percent <u>who did not receive</u> AFDC or Food Stamps between the ages of 14 and 16 who received AFDC or Food Stamps <u>in at least 1 year</u> from age 25 to 27.	10.0	8.5
Percent <u>who received</u> AFDC or Food Stamps for all 3 years between the ages of 14 and 16 who received AFDC or Food Stamps <u>in at least 1 year</u> from age 25 to 27.	61.3	31.8

Note: Receipt of AFDC or Food Stamps in a year refers to any amount at any point during the year.  
Source: Unpublished data from the PSID, 1974 - 1992.