

Indicators of Welfare Dependence

Annual Report to Congress
2004



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Contributors to this report include Gil Crouse, Sarah Douglas, Susan Hauan, Julia Isaacs, and Kendall Swenson of the Office of Human Services Policy under the direction of Don Winstead, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Services Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation.

For on-line versions of this report (and previous annual reports)
see the Office of Human Services Policy's web page:
<http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/index.htm>.

A limited number of copies of this year's report also are available from:

Office of Human Services Policy
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Hubert H. Humphrey Building, Room 404E
200 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Fax: 202-690-6562

Table of Contents

	Executive Summary	xiii
I.	Introduction and Overview	I-1
	Organization of Report	I-1
	Measuring Welfare Dependence	I-3
	Measuring Economic Well-Being	I-5
	Data Sources	I-8
II.	Indicators of Dependence	II-1
	Indicator 1. Degree of Dependence	II-4
	Indicator 2. Receipt of Means-Tested Assistance and Labor Force Attachment	II-9
	Indicator 3. Rates of Receipt of Means-Tested Assistance	II-12
	Indicator 4. Rates of Participation in Means-Tested Assistance Programs	II-18
	Indicator 5. Multiple Program Receipt	II-22
	Indicator 6. Dependence Transitions	II-24
	Indicator 7. Dependence Spell Duration	II-26
	Indicator 8. Program Spell Duration	II-28
	Indicator 9. Long-Term Receipt	II-31
III.	Predictors and Risk Factors Associated with Welfare Receipt	III-1
	<i>Economic Security Risk Factors</i>	
	ECON 1. Poverty Rates	III-4
	ECON 2. Deep Poverty Rates	III-6
	ECON 3. Experimental Poverty Measures	III-8
	ECON 4. Poverty Rates with Various Means-Tested Benefits Included	III-10
	ECON 5. Poverty Spells	III-12
	ECON 6. Child Support	III-14
	ECON 7. Food Insecurity	III-16
	ECON 8. Lack of Health Insurance	III-18
	<i>Employment and Work-Related Risk Factors</i>	
	WORK 1. Labor Force Attachment	III-20
	WORK 2. Employment Among the Low-Skilled	III-22
	WORK 3. Earnings of Low-Skilled Workers	III-24
	WORK 4. Educational Attainment	III-26
	WORK 5. High School Dropout Rates	III-28

WORK 6. Adult Alcohol and Substance Abuse	III-30
WORK 7. Adult and Child Disability	III-32

Non-Marital Birth Risk Factors

BIRTH 1. Births to Unmarried Women	III-34
BIRTH 2. Births to Unmarried Teens	III-36
BIRTH 3. Unmarried Teen Birth Rates within Age Groups	III-38
BIRTH 4. Never-Married Family Status	III-40

Appendices

A. Program Data	A-1
Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	A-1
Food Stamp Program	A-26
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	A-39
B. Alternative Definition of Dependence Based on Income from TANF and Food Stamps	B-1
C. Additional Non-Marital Birth Data	C-1
D. Technical Notes	D-1

List of Figures

Chapter I

- SUM 1. Recipiency and Dependency Rates: 1996-2002
- SUM 2. Percentage of Total Population in Poverty with Various Means-Tested Benefits Added to Total Cash Income: 1979-2002
- SUM 3. Recipiency and Dependency Rates from Two Data Sources: 1987-2001

Chapter II

- IND 1a. Percentage of Total Income from Means-Tested Assistance Programs: 2001
- IND 1b. Percentage of Total Annual Income from Various Sources, by Poverty Status: 2001
- IND 2. Percentage of Recipients in Families with Labor Force Participants in that Month, by Program: 2001
- IND 3a. Percentage of the Total Population Receiving AFDC/TANF, by Age: 1970-2002
- IND 3b. Percentage of the Total Population Receiving Food Stamps, by Age: 1975-2002
- IND 3c. Percentage of the Total Population Receiving SSI, by Age: 1974-2002
- IND 4a. Participation Rates in the AFDC/TANF, Food Stamp and SSI Programs: Selected Years
- IND 5. Percentage of Population Receiving Assistance from Multiple Programs (TANF, Food Stamps, SSI), Among Those Receiving Assistance: 2001
- IND 6. Dependency Status in 1999 of Persons Who Received More than 50 Percent of Income from Means-Tested Assistance in 1998, by Race/Ethnicity
- IND 7. Percentage of AFDC/TANF Spells of Individuals in Families with No Labor Force Participants for Individuals Entering Programs During the 1993 and 1996 SIPP Panels, by Length of Spell
- IND 8. Percentage of AFDC/TANF, Food Stamp, and SSI Spells for Individuals Entering Programs During the 1996 SIPP Panel, by Length of Spell

IND 9. Percentage of AFDC/TANF Recipients, by Years of Receipt Between 1991 and 2000

Chapter III

ECON 1. Percentage of Persons in Poverty, by Age: 1959-2002

ECON 2. Percentage of Total Population Below 50 and 100 Percent of Poverty Level: 1975-2002

ECON 3. Percentage of Persons in Poverty Using Various Experimental Poverty Measures, by Age: 2002

ECON 4. Percentage of Total Population in Poverty with Various Means-Tested Benefits Added to Total Cash Income: 1979-2002

ECON 5. Percentage of Poverty Spells for Individuals Entering Poverty During the 1993 and 1996 SIPP Panels, by Length of Spell

ECON 6. Total, Non-AFDC/TANF, and AFDC/TANF Title IV-D Child Support Collections: 1978-2002

ECON 7. Percentage of Households Classified by Food Security Status: 2002

ECON 8. Percentage of Persons without Health Insurance, by Income: 2002

WORK 1. Percentage of Individuals in Families with Labor Force Participants, by Race/Ethnicity: 2002

WORK 2. Percentage of All Persons Ages 18 to 65 with No More than a High School Education Who Were Employed: 1969-2002

WORK 3. Mean Weekly Wages of Women and Men Working Full-Time, Full-Year with No More than a High School Education, by Race (2002 Dollars): Selected Years

WORK 4. Percentage of Adults Age 25 and Over, by Level of Educational Attainment: 1960-2002

- WORK 5. Percentage of Students Enrolled in Grades 10 to 12 in the Previous Year Who Were Not Enrolled and Had Not Graduated in the Survey Year, by Race/Ethnicity: Selected Years
- WORK 6. Percentage of Adults Who Used Cocaine or Marijuana or Abused Alcohol, by Age: 2002
- WORK 7. Percentage of the Non-Elderly Population Reporting a Disability, by Age and Race/Ethnicity: 2002
- BIRTH 1. Percentage of Births to Unmarried Women, by Age Group: 1940-2002
- BIRTH 2. Percentage of All Births to Unmarried Teens Ages 15 to 19, by Race and Ethnicity: 1940-2002
- BIRTH 3a. Births per 1,000 Unmarried Teens Ages 15 to 17, by Race: 1960-2002
- BIRTH 3b. Births per 1,000 Unmarried Teens Ages 18 and 19, by Race: 1960-2002
- BIRTH 4. Percentage of All Children Living in Families with a Never-Married Female Head, by Race/Ethnicity: 1982-2003

Appendix A

- TANF 1. AFDC/TANF Families Receiving Income Assistance
- TANF 2. Average Monthly AFDC/TANF Benefit per Recipient in Constant Dollars
- FSP 1. Persons Receiving Food Stamps: 1962 – 2002
- SSI 1. SSI Recipients by Age, 1974–2002

List of Tables

Chapter I

SUM 1. Recipiency and Dependency Rates: 1996-2001

Chapter II

IND 1a. Percentage of Total Income from Means-Tested Assistance Programs, by Race/Ethnicity and Age: 2001

IND 1b. Percentage of Total Annual Family Income from Means-Tested Assistance Programs: 1993-2001

IND 1c. Percentage of Total Annual Family Income from Various Sources, by Poverty Status, Race/Ethnicity, and Age: 2001

IND 1d. Percentage of Total Income from Various Sources: Selected Years

IND 2a. Percentage of Recipients in Families with Labor Force Participants, by Program, Race/Ethnicity, and Age: 2001

IND 2b. Percentage of AFDC/TANF Recipients in Families with Labor Force Participants: 1993-2001

IND 3a. Number and Percentage of the Total Population Receiving AFDC/TANF, by Age: 1970-2002

IND 3b. Number and Percentage of the Total Population Receiving Food Stamps, by Age: 1975-2002

IND 3c. Number and Percentage of the Total Population Receiving SSI, by Age: 1975-2002

IND 4a. Number and Percentage of Eligible Families Participating in AFDC/TANF: Selected Years

IND 4b. Number and Percentage of Eligible Households Participating in the Food Stamp Program: Selected Years

IND 4c. Percentage of Eligible Adult Units Participating in the SSI Program, by Type: 1993-2001

IND 5a. Percentage of Population Receiving Assistance from Multiple Programs (TANF,

Food Stamps, SSI), by Race/Ethnicity and Age: 2001

- IND 5b. Percentage of Population Receiving Assistance from Multiple Programs (AFDC/TANF, Food Stamps, SSI): 1993-2001
- IND 6a. Dependency Status in 1999 of Persons Who Received More than 50 Percent of Income from Means-Tested Assistance in 1998, by Race/Ethnicity and Age
- IND 6b. Dependency Status of All Persons Who Received More than 50 Percent of Income from Means-Tested Assistance in Previous Year
- IND 7a. Percentage of AFDC/TANF Spells of Individuals in Families with No Labor Force Participants for Individuals Entering Programs During the 1996 SIPP Panel, by Length of Spell, Race/Ethnicity, and Age
- IND 7b. Percentage of AFDC/TANF Spells of Individuals in Families with No Labor Force Participants for Individuals Entering Programs During the 1993 and 1996 SIPP Panels
- IND 8a. Percentage of AFDC/TANF, Food Stamp and SSI Spells for Individuals Entering Programs During the 1996 SIPP Panel, by Length of Spell, Race/Ethnicity, and Age
- IND 8b. Percentage of AFDC/TANF, Food Stamp and SSI Spells for Individuals Entering Programs During the 1992, 1993, and 1996 SIPP Panels
- IND 9. Percentage of AFDC/TANF Recipients Across Three Ten-Year Time Periods by Years of Receipt, Race, and Age

Chapter III

- ECON 1a. Percentage of Persons in Poverty, by Race/Ethnicity and Age: Selected Years
- ECON 2. Number and Percentage of Total Population Below 50, 75, 100, and 125 Percent of Poverty Level: Selected Years
- ECON 3a. Percentage of Persons in Poverty Using Various Experimental Poverty Measures, by Race/Ethnicity and Age: 2002
- ECON 3b. Percentage of Persons in Poverty Using Various Experimental Poverty Measures: 1999-2002
- ECON 4. Percentage of Total Population in Poverty with Various Means-Tested Benefits Added to Total Cash Income: Selected Years
- ECON 5a. Percentage of Poverty Spells for Individuals Entering Poverty During the 1996 SIPP Panel, by Length of Spell, Race/Ethnicity, and Age
- ECON 5b. Percentage of Poverty Spells for Individuals Entering Poverty During the 1993 and 1996 SIPP Panels, by Length of Spell and Year
- ECON 6. Total, Non-AFDC/TANF, and AFDC/TANF Title IV-D Child Support Collections: 1978-2002
- ECON 7a. Percentage of Households Classified by Food Security Status and Selected Characteristics: 2002
- ECON 7b. Percentage of Households Classified by Food Security Status: 1998-2002
- ECON 8. Percentage of Persons without Health Insurance, by Income and Selected Characteristics: 2002
- WORK 1a. Percentage of Individuals in Families with Labor Force Participants, by Race/Ethnicity and Age: 2002
- WORK 1b. Percentage of Individuals in Families with Labor Force Participants: 1990-2002
- WORK 2. Percentage of All Persons Ages 18 to 65 with No More than a High School Education Who Were Employed: 1969-2002

- WORK 3. Mean Weekly Wages of Women and Men Working Full-Time, Full-Year with No More than a High School Education, by Race (2002 Dollars): Selected Years
- WORK 4. Percentage of Adults Age 25 and Over, by Level of Educational Attainment: Selected Years
- WORK 5. Percentage of Students Enrolled in Grades 10 to 12 in the Previous Year Who Were Not Enrolled and Had Not Graduated in the Survey Year, by Race/Ethnicity: Selected Years
- WORK 6. Percentage of Adults Who Used Cocaine or Marijuana or Abused Alcohol, by Age: 1999-2002
- WORK 7. Percentage of the Non-Elderly Population Reporting a Disability, by Race/Ethnicity and Age: 2002
- BIRTH 1. Percentage of Births to Unmarried Women, by Age Group: Selected Years
- BIRTH 2. Percentage of All Births to Unmarried Teens Ages 15 to 19, by Race and Ethnicity: Selected Years
- BIRTH 3. Births per 1,000 Unmarried Teen Women Within Age Groups, by Race: 1950-2002
- BIRTH 4. Number and Percentage of All Children Living in Families with a Never-Married Female Head, by Race/Ethnicity: Selected Years

Appendix A

- TANF 1. Trends in AFDC/TANF Caseloads, 1962–2002
- TANF 2. Number of AFDC/TANF Recipients, and Recipients as a Percentage of Various Population Groups, 1970–2002
- TANF 3. TANF and Separate State Program (SSP) Families and Recipients, 2000-2002
- TANF 4. Total AFDC/TANF Expenditures on Cash Benefits and Administration, 1970-2002
- TANF 5. Federal and State TANF Program and Other Related Spending, Fiscal Years 1997 to 2002
- TANF 6. Trends in AFDC/TANF Average Monthly Payments, 1962-2002
- TANF 7. Characteristics of AFDC/TANF Families, Selected Years 1969-2002

- TANF 8. AFDC/TANF Benefits by State, Selected Fiscal Years 1978–2002
- TANF 9. Comparison of Federal Funding for AFDC and Related Programs and 2002 Family Assistance Grants Awarded Under PRWORA
- TANF 10. AFDC/TANF Caseload by State, October 1989 to March 2003 Peak
- TANF 11. Average Monthly AFDC/TANF Recipients by State, Selected Fiscal Years
- TANF 12. AFDC/TANF Recipency Rates for Total Population by State, Selected Fiscal Years
- TANF 13. Average Number of AFDC/TANF Child Recipients by State, Selected Fiscal Years
- TANF 14. AFDC/TANF Recipency Rates for Children by State, Selected Fiscal Years 1965–2002
- TANF 15. TANF and Separate State Program (SSP) Families and Recipients, 2002
- TANF 16. Recipients with Earnings in Current and Following Quarters, Fiscal Year 2001
- TANF 17. Patterns of TANF Receipt, Fiscal Year 2001
- FSP 1. Trends in Food Stamp Caseloads, Selected Years 1962–2002
- FSP 2. Trends in Food Stamp Expenditures, Selected Years 1975–2002
- FSP 3. Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, 1980–2002
- FSP 4. Value of Food Stamps Issued by State, Selected Fiscal Years 1975–2002
- FSP 5. Average Number of Food Stamp Recipients by State, Selected Fiscal Years
- FSP 6. Food Stamp Recipency Rates by State, Selected Fiscal Years
- SSI 1. Number of Persons Receiving Federally Administered SSI Payments, 1974–2002
- SSI 2. SSI Recipency Rates, 1974–2002
- SSI 3. Total, Federal, and State SSI Benefit and Administration, 1974–2002
- SSI 4. Average Monthly SSI Benefit Payments, 1974–2002

- SSI 5. Number of Persons Receiving SSI Payments by Type of Payment, 1974-2002
- SSI 6. Characteristics of SSI Recipients, by Age, Sex, Earnings/Income, and Citizenship, Selected Years 1980-2002
- SSI 7. Total SSI Payments, Federal SSI Payments and State Supplementary Payments, Calendar Year 2002
- SSI 8. SSI Reciprocity Rates by State and Program Type for 1979 and 2002
- SSI 9. SSI Reciprocity Rates by State, Selected Fiscal Years 1975–2002

Appendix B

- B-1. Percentage of the Total Population with More than 50 Percent of Income from Various Means-Tested Assistance Programs, by Race and Age: 2001

Appendix C

- C-1. Percentage of Births to Unmarried Women Within Age Groups, by Race: 1940-2001