



# How many families might be newly reached by child support cooperation requirements in SNAP and subsidized child care, and what are their characteristics?

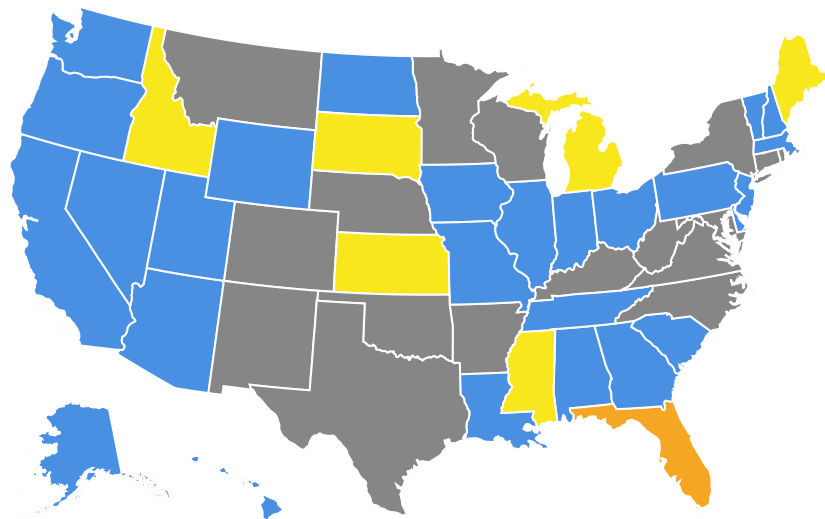
## Child Support Cooperation Policy

Parents are required to cooperate with the child support enforcement program (often referred to as the IV-D program) as a condition of receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Medicaid, and foster care maintenance payments under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act.

States have flexibility to require a person who receives other means-tested programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), subsidized child care and housing subsidies to cooperate with the child support enforcement program.


There is a great deal of variation in which states have cooperation requirements, and how they are administered and enforced.

Recent policy conversations have identified custodial and noncustodial parents that receive SNAP or child care subsidies and do not have formal child support orders, as potential beneficiaries of child support services.



- States with SNAP and child care cooperation requirements.
- States with SNAP cooperation requirements.
- States with child care cooperation requirements.
- States with no child support cooperation requirements.

Source: The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) Child Support and Family Law Legislation Database and the Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) Policies Database



For custodial parents, a formal order is defined as **having a legal or pending legal order or legal arrangement.**

For noncustodial parents, a formal order indicates the noncustodial parent is **required to pay child support under a legal order or legal arrangement.**

## 12.6 million Custodial Parents

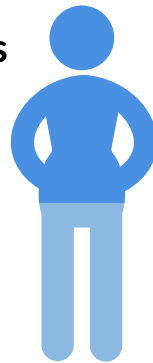
All custodial parents, with or without a formal order



- With a formal order (46.83%)
- Without a formal order (53.17%)

## 11.7 million Noncustodial Parents

All noncustodial parents, with or without a formal order



# 56%

Do not have a formal child support order

- With a formal order (44.44%)
- Without a formal order (55.56%)

# 53%

Do not have a formal child support order

An estimated **1 million** noncustodial parents are institutionalized and not counted in this data.

**Poverty:** Parents without formal child support orders are more likely to be poor than those parents with formal child support orders.



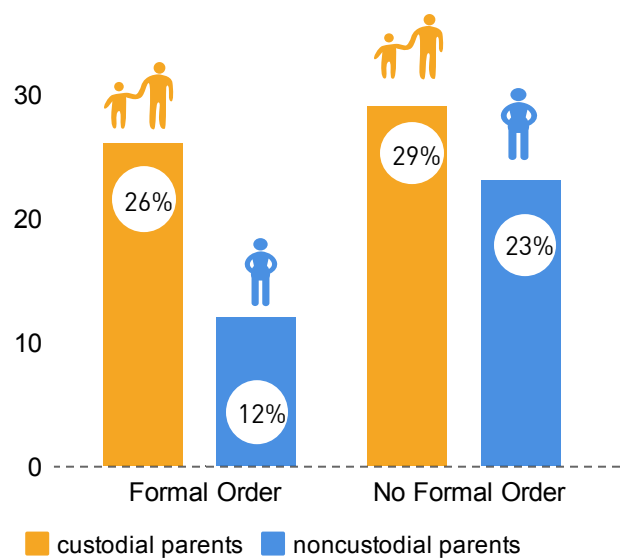
**3.5 million** custodial parents are poor.



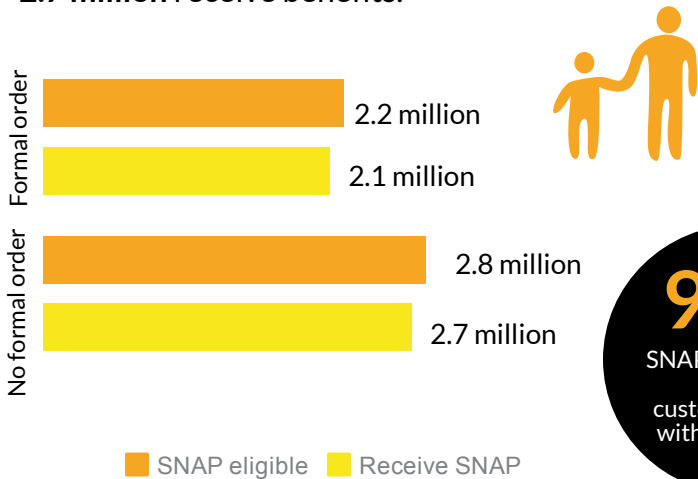
**2.1 million** noncustodial parents are poor.

Child support represents **over half of the income** of the poor families that receive it.

Percent Poor



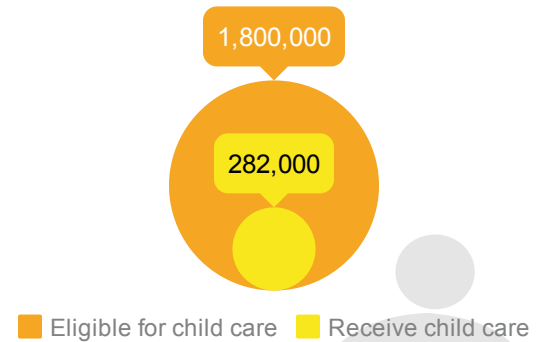
**SNAP: 2.8 million** custodial parents without a formal order are eligible. Of these individuals, **2.7 million** receive benefits.



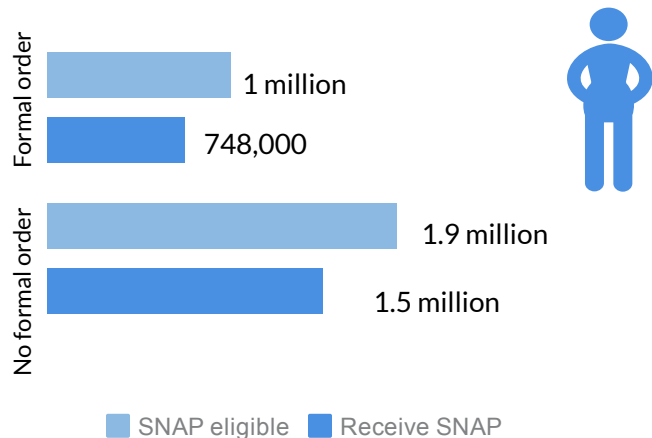
**96%**  
SNAP take-up rate among custodial parents without a formal order

**Subsidized child care: One quarter** of custodial parents without formal child support orders are eligible for child care subsidies and **4%** receive them.

**Custodial parents with formal orders**



**SNAP: 1.9 million** noncustodial parents without a formal order are eligible. Of these individuals, **1.5 million** receive benefits.



**Custodial parents without formal orders**

