Comparing Program Participation of TANF and Non-TANF Families Before and During a Time of Recession

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INTRODUCTION[1]

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) was signed into law in 1996 and fully implemented in 1997. PRWORA, which replaced Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) with Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), dramatically altered the welfare program in this country in several important ways. First, low-income levels no longer guarantee access to welfare benefits. Second, there is now a 60-month limit on the receipt of federal benefits. Third, most adult recipients must now engage in work-related activities to maintain their welfare eligibility. Finally, states now receive a grant of fixed size to fund their welfare programs, and federal funding levels are tied to their success in moving welfare recipients into work. This dramatic overhaul of the welfare system occurred during a time of economic prosperity and was followed by unprecedented caseload declines and increased work participation among TANF recipients.[2]

However, post-2000, caseload decline slowed and work participation rates among TANF recipients fell.[3] Nonetheless, after a series of extensions, the U.S. Congress reauthorized the TANF program in February 2006 with the passage of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005. This legislation placed more pressure on states to move TANF recipients into employment and extended the TANF block grant through 2010 with fixed funding levels.

This report examines whether participation in TANF increased and whether employment decreased as a result of the economic recession. It also compares participation in other assistance programs across families based on welfare and poverty status before and during the economic recession. Finally, this report assesses whether there were different reasons for a reduction or cut in welfare benefits before and after the start of the economic recession.

The data in this report were collected from October 2005 to September 2006 in Waves 6–8 of the 2004 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) and from September 2008 to August 2009 in Waves 1–3 of the 2008 SIPP. The population represented (population universe) is the civilian noninstitutionalized population living in the United States. This longitudinal survey follows the same individuals over time.[4] The SIPP is conducted in waves of 4 months duration, with one-quarter of sample members interviewed in each month of a wave. Sample members are asked about activities during the 4 months prior to the interview, which is known as the "reference period."[5]

[1] Any views expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of the U.S. Census Bureau.

[2] See U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2009. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program (TANF), *Eighth Annual Report to Congress*. Washington, DC.

[3] See Acs, Gregory and Pamela Loprest. 2007. *TANF Caseload Composition and Leavers Synthesis Report*. The Urban Institute: Washington, DC. Also, see The Urban Institute: Washington, DC. *A Decade of Welfare Reform: Facts and Figures—Assessing the New Federalism, 2006*.

[4] The 2004 SIPP Panel followed the same individuals over a period of 48 months from October 2003 to December 2007. The 2008 SIPP Panel is currently scheduled to follow the same individuals over a period of 68 months from May 2008 to March 2014.

[5] For more details on the interview procedures, interview waves, and rotation groups, see Chapter 2 of the SIPP User's Guide at <www.census.gov/sipp/usrguide/ch2_nov20.pdf>.

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Table 1.
Rotation Groups, Waves, and Reference Months for 2004 and 2008 SIPP Panels

2004 SIPP	2005							2006								
	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Rotation 1 . . .	6-1	6-2	6-3	6-4	7-1 (I)	7-2	7-3	7-4	8-1 (I)	8-2	8-3	8-4	(I)			
Rotation 2 . . .		6-1	6-2	6-3	6-4	7-1 (I)	7-2	7-3	7-4	8-1 (I)	8-2	8-3	8-4	(I)		
Rotation 3 . . .			6-1	6-2	6-3	6-4	7-1 (I)	7-2	7-3	7-4	8-1 (I)	8-2	8-3	8-4	(I)	
Rotation 4 . . .				6-1	6-2	6-3	6-4	7-1 (I)	7-2	7-3	7-4	8-1 (I)	8-2	8-3	8-4	(I)
2008 SIPP	2008								2009							
	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Rotation 1 . . .	1-1	1-2	1-3	1-4	2-1 (I)	2-2	2-3	2-4	3-1 (I)	3-2	3-3	3-4	(I)			
Rotation 2 . . .		1-1	1-2	1-3	1-4	2-1 (I)	2-2	2-3	2-4	3-1 (I)	3-2	3-3	3-4	(I)		
Rotation 3 . . .			1-1	1-2	1-3	1-4	2-1 (I)	2-2	2-3	2-4	3-1 (I)	3-2	3-3	3-4	(I)	
Rotation 4 . . .				1-1	1-2	1-3	1-4	2-1 (I)	2-2	2-3	2-4	3-1 (I)	3-2	3-3	3-4	(I)

Note: In the number sequences, the first indicates the wave and the second indicates the reference month. (I) indicates the interview month. The reference period is the four months preceding the interview month.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 and 2008 panels.

This report uses data collected from the core questionnaire in Waves 6–8 of the 2004 SIPP Panel and Waves 1–3 of the 2008 SIPP Panel. The core questionnaire collects labor force, income, and program participation data and is repeated at each interview wave. Additionally, this report makes use of data from the Welfare Reform topical module, which was administered in Wave 8 of the 2004 SIPP Panel and Wave 3 of the 2008 SIPP Panel. The Welfare Reform topical module questionnaire, asked during a single wave in each of the SIPP panels, provides more detailed information on topics such as benefits, assistance that supports seeking work or acquiring training, requirements for receiving benefits, previous receipt of welfare benefits, reasons for a reduction in benefits, and reasons for no longer receiving benefits.[6]

Table 1 shows the interview months and corresponding reference periods for each of the four rotation groups for Waves 6–8 in the 2004 SIPP Panel and for Waves 1–3 of the 2008 SIPP Panel. This report examines respondents' activities across the 12 months prior to their Wave 8 (2004 SIPP) or Wave 3 (2008 SIPP) interview. The 12-month observation period for each rotation group is highlighted in Table 1. While the observation period includes months from 2005 and 2006 (2004 SIPP) or from 2008 and 2009 (2008 SIPP), results are labeled as "2006" and "2009," respectively, corresponding to the year in which the Welfare Reform topical module questionnaire was administered.

In addition to comparing the economic circumstances of families before and after the impact of the economic recession (2006 and 2009, respectively), this report examines differences across several family types based on TANF and poverty status—looking exclusively at families with children under the age of 18. "TANF families" are defined, for this report, as those that received TANF in one or more of the past 12 months. "Poor non-TANF families" are those that did not receive TANF in any of the past 12 months and whose average income-to-poverty ratio over the past 12 months was less than 1.0.[7] "Other non-TANF families" are those that did not receive TANF in any of the past 12 months and whose average income-to-poverty ratio over the past 12 months was greater than or equal to 1.0.

HIGHLIGHTS

The TANF participation rate for families with children increased from 3.8 percent in 2006 to 4.8 percent in 2009.[8] Married-couple families experienced an increase in their overall TANF participation rate from 2006 to 2009.

Children living in non-TANF families were less likely to have a parent who worked full-time in all of the past 12 months in 2009 compared

[6] For more information on SIPP survey content, see Chapter 3 of the SIPP User's Guide at <www.census.gov/sipp/usrguide/ch3may4.pdf>.

[7] Income-to-poverty ratio is equal to total family income divided by the poverty threshold for their family size. Values less than 1.0 indicate that the family is in poverty, while values greater than or equal to 1.0 indicate that the family is not in poverty. For details of poverty definition and thresholds, visit U.S. Census Bureau's Poverty Web site at <www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/poverty.html>.

[8] Estimates in this report (which may be shown in text, figures, and tables) are based on responses from a sample of the population and may differ from actual values because of sampling variability or other factors. As a result, apparent differences between the estimates for two or more groups may not be statistically significant. All comparative statements have undergone statistical testing and are significant at the 90 percent confidence level unless otherwise noted.

with 2006. Children living in TANF and non-TANF families were more likely to have an unemployed parent in the past 12 months in 2009 than in 2006.

From 2006 to 2009, participation in programs to help find work and job skills programs increased for TANF and non-TANF families.

Non-TANF families were more likely to receive energy assistance, food stamps/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and clothing assistance in 2009 than in 2006.

About 3 percent of non-TANF families in both the 2004 and 2008 SIPP Panels received TANF at some time between 1997 and the start of their respective panels. When asked about the reason for no longer receiving benefits, about one-third indicated their income was too high, about one-fifth no longer needed the assistance, and about one-eighth had exceeded their time limit.

RESULTS

TANF Participation

TANF participation rates for all families with children by poverty status and family type are presented in Table 2. The percentage of all families that received TANF in one or more of the past 12 months increased from 3.8 percent in 2006 to 4.8 percent in 2009 and the number of recipients increased from about 1.4 million to about 1.7 million during that time.[9] Much of that increase was among families that received TANF in some, but not all, of the past 12 months—as there was no significant change in the percentage or number of all families that received TANF in all of the past 12 months. In 2006, 2.1 percent of all families with children (0.7 million) received TANF in some of the past 12 months, while 3.3 percent did so in 2009 (1.2 million). In 2009, 1.5 percent of all families (about 0.5 million) received TANF in all of the past 12 months.[10]

In 2009, 17.7 percent of poor families received TANF in one or more of the past 12 months, which was not statistically different from the 2006 estimate.[11] However, the number of poor families receiving TANF increased from 0.9 million in 2006 to 1.2 million in 2009.[12] The percentage of poor families that received TANF in all of the past 12 months fell from 8.1 percent in 2006 to 5.7 percent in 2009, while the percentage that received TANF in some of the past 12 months increased from 7.9 percent to 12.0 percent during that time.

Table 2 also shows TANF participation rates by family type in 2006 and 2009.[13] While married-couple families had the lowest rates of TANF participation, their participation rate increased from 1.4 percent in 2006 to 1.9 percent in 2009.[14] The number receiving TANF increased from about 321,000 in 2006 to about 483,000 in 2009.[15] Much of that increase was the result of a growth in the percentage of married-couple families that received TANF in some of the past 12 months. From 2006 and 2009, this percentage increased from 0.8 percent to 1.4 percent. The percentage of married-couple families that received TANF in all of the past 12 months remained statistically unchanged at about 0.5 percent in both years.

Male-maintained families were more likely than married-couple families to receive TANF in the past 12 months; however, there was no change from 2006 to 2009 in the percentage or number that received TANF in any, some, or all of the past 12 months. In 2009, 4.0 percent of male-maintained families (about 107,000) received

[9] The estimate of 3.8 percent is derived from adding the 2.1 percent that received TANF in some months and the 1.7 percent that received it in all months. The estimate of 4.8 is derived from adding the 3.3 that received TANF in some months and the 1.5 percent that received it in all months. The estimate of 1.4 million families is derived by adding the 749,000 families that received TANF in some months and 611,000 families that received it in all months. The estimate of 1.7 million families is derived by adding the 1,212,000 families that received TANF in some months and the 537,000 families that received it in all months. For quarterly estimates of the receipt of TANF benefits in 2009, see <www.census.gov/sipp/tables/quarterly-est/household-char/2009/1-qtr/table2.xls>.

[10] These estimates are not statistically different from the 2006 estimates.

[11] The estimate of 17.7 percent is derived by adding the 12.0 percent that received TANF in some months and the 5.7 percent that received it in all months.

[12] The estimate of 0.9 million families is derived by adding the 451,000 families that received TANF in some months and the 464,000 families that received TANF in all months. The estimate of 1.2 million families is derived by adding the 839,000 families that received TANF in some months and the 401,000 families that received it in all months.

[13] In this report, male-maintained families and female-maintained families are those with no spouse present.

[14] The estimate of 1.4 percent is derived by adding the 0.8 percent that received TANF in some months and the 0.6 percent that received it in all months. The estimate of 1.9 percent is derived by adding the 1.4 percent that received TANF in some months and the 0.5 percent that received it in all months.

[15] The estimate of 321,000 families is derived by adding the 186,000 families that received TANF in some months and the 135,000 families that received it in all months. The estimate of 483,000 families is derived by adding the 361,000 families that received TANF in some months and the 122,000 families that received it in all months.

Table 2.
TANF Receipt in the Past 12 Months for All Families and Poor Families, and by Family Type: 2006 and 2009
(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2006				2009			
	Number	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Number	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)
All families								
No months	34,085	606	96.2	0.4	*35,340	592	*95.3	0.4
Some months	749	97	2.1	0.3	*1,212	118	*3.3	0.3
All months	611	88	1.7	0.2	537	79	1.5	0.2
Poor families								
No months	4,824	244	84.1	1.7	*5,765	256	82.3	1.6
Some months	451	75	7.9	1.3	*839	99	*12.0	1.3
All months	464	76	8.1	1.3	401	68	*5.7	0.9
Married-couple maintained families								
No months	24,369	525	98.7	0.3	24,603	507	*98.1	0.3
Some months	186	48	0.8	0.2	*361	65	*1.4	0.3
All months	135	41	0.6	0.2	122	38	0.5	0.2
Male-maintained families								
No months	2,256	168	96.1	1.4	*2,597	173	96.1	1.3
Some months	56	26	2.4	1.1	81	31	3.0	1.1
All months	36	21	1.5	0.9	26	17	1.0	0.7
Female-maintained families								
No months	7,459	302	88.7	1.2	*8,140	302	87.5	1.2
Some months	508	80	6.0	0.9	*771	94	*8.3	1.0
All months	440	74	5.2	0.9	389	67	4.2	0.7

* Statistically different from the 2006 estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8 and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

TANF in one or more of the past 12 months; 3.0 percent (about 81,000) received TANF in some of the past 12 months; and 1.0 percent (about 26,000) received TANF in all of the past 12 months.[16]

Finally, female-maintained families were the most likely to receive TANF. The number of female-maintained families that received TANF in one or more months increased from about 0.9 million in 2006 to about 1.2 million in 2009.[17] In 2009, 12.5 percent of female-maintained families received TANF in one or more of the past 12 months and 4.2 percent received TANF in all of the past 12 months.[18] The percentage of female-maintained families that received TANF in some of the past 12 months increased from 6.0 percent in 2006 to 8.3 percent in 2009.

Demographic Characteristics

There were few statistically significant changes in the demographic characteristics of families and family reference persons from 2006 to 2009.[19] Accordingly, Table 3 presents only the estimates for 2009. The age, race, Hispanic origin, nativity, citizenship, and educational attainment of family reference persons are presented, in addition to family type and the number of children under the age of 18 in the family.

TANF family and poor non-TANF family reference persons were more likely to fall into the younger age categories (15 to 24 years and 25 to 34 years) and less likely to fall into the older age categories (35 to 44 years, 45 to 54 years, and 65 years and over) than other non-TANF family reference persons. The reference persons of TANF families were more likely to be 15 to 24 years than the reference persons of poor non-TANF families and less likely to be 35 to 44 years. They were otherwise not significantly different in their age composition.

TANF family reference persons were less likely to be non-Hispanic White

[16] The estimate of 4.0 percent is derived by adding the 3.0 that received TANF in some months and the 1.0 percent that received it in all months. The estimate of 107,000 families is derived by adding the 81,000 families that received TANF in some months and the 26,000 families that received it in all months.

[17] The estimate of 0.9 million families is derived by adding the 508,000 families that received TANF in some months and the 440,000 families that received it in all months. The estimate of 1.2 million families is derived by adding the 771,000 families that received TANF in some months and the 389,000 families that received it in all months.

[18] The estimate of 12.5 percent is derived by adding the 8.3 percent that received TANF in some months and the 4.2 percent that received it in all months. These estimates are not statistically different from the 2006 estimates.

[19] The term family refers to a group of two or more people related by birth, marriage, or adoption who reside together. Every family must include a reference person.

Table 3.
Selected Demographic Characteristics by Family Type: 2009
(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	All families		TANF families		Poor non-TANF families		Other non-TANF families	
	Number or Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Number or Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Number or Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Number or Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)
Family reference person	**37,089**	**604**	**1,749**	**142**	**5,765**	**256**	**29,575**	**549**
Age								
15 to 24 years	6.6	0.4	[a]22.8	3.4	[a,b]17.3	1.7	[a,b,c]3.5	0.4
25 to 34 years	28.3	0.8	[a]38.5	4.0	[a]38.3	2.2	[a,b,c]25.7	0.9
35 to 44 years	39.5	0.9	[a]24.8	3.5	[a,b]30.2	2.1	[a,b,c]42.2	1.0
45 to 54 years	22.1	0.7	[a]11.5	2.6	[a]12.2	1.5	[a,b,c]24.6	0.9
55 to 64 years	3.1	0.3	2.4	1.3	[a]1.8	0.6	[c]3.4	0.4
65 years and over	0.4	0.1	[a]0.1	0.2	[a]0.1	0.2	[b,c]0.5	0.1
Race and Hispanic Origin								
White	78.6	0.7	[a]53.6	4.1	[a,b]70.2	2.1	[a,b,c]81.7	0.8
White, non-Hispanic	60.9	0.9	[a]29.9	3.7	[a,b]42.1	2.2	[a,b,c]66.5	0.9
Black	14.2	0.6	[a]38.8	4.0	[a,b]22.5	1.9	[a,b,c]11.1	0.6
Asian	3.9	0.3	[a]1.3	0.9	[a,b]2.5	0.7	[b,c]4.4	0.4
Other race	3.4	0.3	[a]6.3	2.0	[a]4.8	1.0	[b,c]2.9	0.3
Hispanic, of any race	19.6	0.7	[a]31.8	3.8	[a]31.9	2.1	[a,b,c]16.5	0.7
Nativity and Citizenship								
Native-born	81.9	0.7	82.9	3.1	[a,b]74.1	2.0	[a,c]83.3	0.7
Foreign-born	18.2	0.7	17.1	3.1	[a,b]25.9	2.0	[a,c]16.7	0.7
Citizen	7.5	0.5	[a]3.3	1.4	[b]6.5	1.1	[b,c]7.9	0.5
Non-citizen	10.7	0.5	[a]13.9	2.8	[a,b]19.5	1.8	[a,b,c]8.8	0.6
Educational Attainment								
Less than high school diploma	10.1	0.5	[a]27.6	3.6	[a]23.7	1.9	[a,b,c]6.4	0.5
High school diploma	24.9	0.8	[a]34.6	3.9	[a]36.0	2.2	[a,b,c]22.1	0.8
Some college—no degree	14.5	0.6	13.4	2.8	15.0	1.6	14.5	0.7
College degree	50.5	0.9	[a]24.5	3.5	[a]25.4	2.0	[a,b,c]57.0	1.0
Family Type								
Married couple maintained	67.6	0.8	[a]27.6	3.6	[a,b]40.7	2.2	[a,b,c]75.3	0.9
Male maintained	7.3	0.5	6.1	2.0	[a,b]9.5	1.3	[c]6.9	0.5
Female maintained	25.1	0.8	[a]66.3	3.9	[a,b]49.8	2.2	[a,b,c]17.8	0.8
Number of Children								
1 child	44.6	0.9	41.4	4.0	[a]39.7	2.2	[b,c]45.7	1.0
2 children	35.2	0.8	[a]28.2	3.7	[a]30.7	2.1	[a,b,c]36.5	1.0
3 children	14.4	0.6	[a]18.6	3.2	[a]18.8	1.8	[a,b,c]13.2	0.7
4 or more children	5.8	0.4	[a]11.8	2.6	[a]10.8	1.4	[a,b,c]4.5	0.4

a Statistically different from the "All families" estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

b Statistically different from the "TANF families" estimate at the 90 percent confidence interval level.

c Statistically different from the "Poor non-TANF families" estimate at the 90 percent confidence interval level.

Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

(29.9 percent) than poor non-TANF family reference persons (42.1 percent) and other non-TANF family reference persons (66.5 percent). They were also more likely to be Black (38.8 percent) than poor non-TANF family reference persons (22.5 percent) and other non-TANF family reference persons (11.1 percent) but less likely to be Asian (1.3 percent) than poor non-TANF family reference persons (2.5 percent) and other non-TANF family reference persons (4.4 percent). About 32 percent of TANF and poor non-TANF family reference persons were Hispanic compared with 16.5 percent of other non-TANF family reference persons.

A higher percentage of TANF and other non-TANF family reference persons (about 83 percent) were born in the United States compared with poor non-TANF family reference persons (74.1 percent). About 17 percent of TANF and other non-TANF family reference persons were foreign born compared with 25.9 percent of poor non-TANF family reference persons. In 2009, 3.3 percent of TANF family reference persons, 6.5 percent of poor non-TANF family reference persons, and 7.9 percent of other non-TANF family reference persons

Table 4.
Median Income and Income-to-Poverty Ratio in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009
(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2006		2009	
	Number or median	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Number or median	90 percent C.I. (+/-)
All families	**35,445**	**616**	***37,089**	**604**
Earnings[1]	4,292	78	*3,918	90
Total income[1]	4,588	96	*4,281	90
Income-to-poverty ratio	2.6	0.1	*2.5	0.1
TANF families	**1,360**	**131**	***1,749**	**142**
Earnings[1]	[a]309	147	[a]346	109
TANF income[1]	218	24	*180	17
Total income[1]	[a]1,073	118	[a]1,027	117
Income-to-poverty ratio	[a]0.7	0.1	[a]0.6	0.1
Poor non-TANF families	**4,824**	**244**	***5,765**	**256**
Earnings[1]	[a,b]692	51	[a,b]636	41
Total income[1]	[a]995	38	*, [a]916	52
Income-to-poverty ratio	[a,b]0.6	0.0	[a]0.6	0.0
Other non-TANF families	**29,262**	**568**	**29,575**	**549**
Earnings[1]	[a,b,c]5,178	78	*, [a,b,c]5,037	106
Total income[1]	[a,b,c]5,467	87	[a,b,c]5,390	105
Income-to-poverty ratio	[a,b,c]3.1	0.1	[a,b,c]3.1	0.1

* Statistically different from the 2006 estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

a Statistically different from the "All families" estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

b Statistically different from the "TANF families" estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

c Statistically different from the "Poor non-TANF families" estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

[1] The dollar amounts are inflation adjusted to 2009 dollars. Derived from the average Consumer Price Index (CPI-U), adjustment factors of 1.0985, 1.0642, and 0.9964 were applied to data collected in 2005, 2006, and 2008, respectively, to obtain real earnings in 2009 dollars.

Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

were foreign-born citizens. Poor non-TANF family reference persons were the most likely to be foreign-born non-citizens (19.5 percent), followed by TANF family reference persons (13.9 percent) and other non-TANF family reference persons (8.8 percent).

There were no significant differences in the educational attainment of TANF and poor non-TANF family reference persons. In 2009, 27.6 percent of TANF family reference persons and 23.7 percent of poor non-TANF family reference persons lacked a high school diploma compared with 6.4 percent of other non-TANF family reference persons. TANF and poor non-TANF family reference persons were also more likely than other non-TANF family reference persons to have a high school diploma with no college experience. The reference persons of TANF families (24.5 percent) and poor non-TANF families (25.4 percent) were less likely to have a college degree than the reference persons of other non-TANF families (57.0 percent).

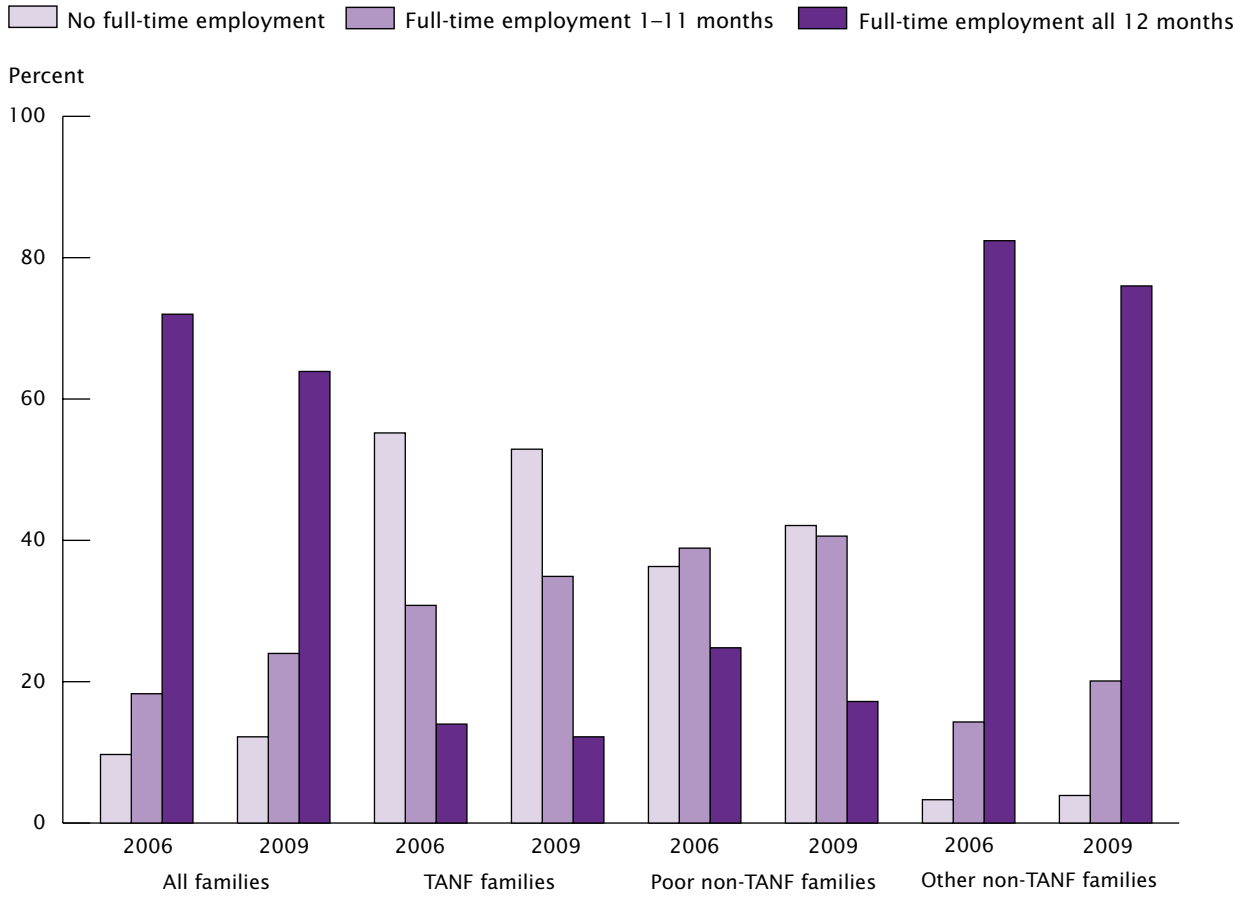
In regards to family type, Table 3 shows that 27.6 percent of TANF families were maintained by married couples compared with 40.7 percent of poor non-TANF families and 75.3 percent of other non-TANF families. In contrast, 66.3 percent of TANF families were maintained by an unmarried woman compared with 49.8 percent of poor non-TANF families and just 17.8 percent of other non-TANF families. Poor non-TANF families (9.5 percent) were more likely than TANF families (6.1 percent) and other non-TANF families (6.9 percent) to be male-maintained.

There was no significant difference in the number of children in TANF and poor non-TANF families. Both TANF and poor non-TANF families were less likely than other non-TANF families to have one or two children and more likely to have three or four or more children.

Income and Poverty

Monthly earnings, total income, income-to-poverty ratios, in addition to TANF income for TANF-recipient families, are averaged across the 12 months prior to the

Figure 1.
Full-time Employment in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009



Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

interview month for TANF families, poor non-TANF, and other non-TANF families in 2006 and 2009.[20] The median values are presented in Table 4.[21]

There was no change in the median monthly earnings income, median monthly total income, or median income-to-poverty ratio of TANF families from 2006 to 2009. In 2009, the median monthly earnings of TANF families was $346, median monthly total income was $1,027, and the median income-to-poverty ratio was 0.6. However, the median monthly TANF benefit amount decreased from $218 in 2006 to $180 in 2009.

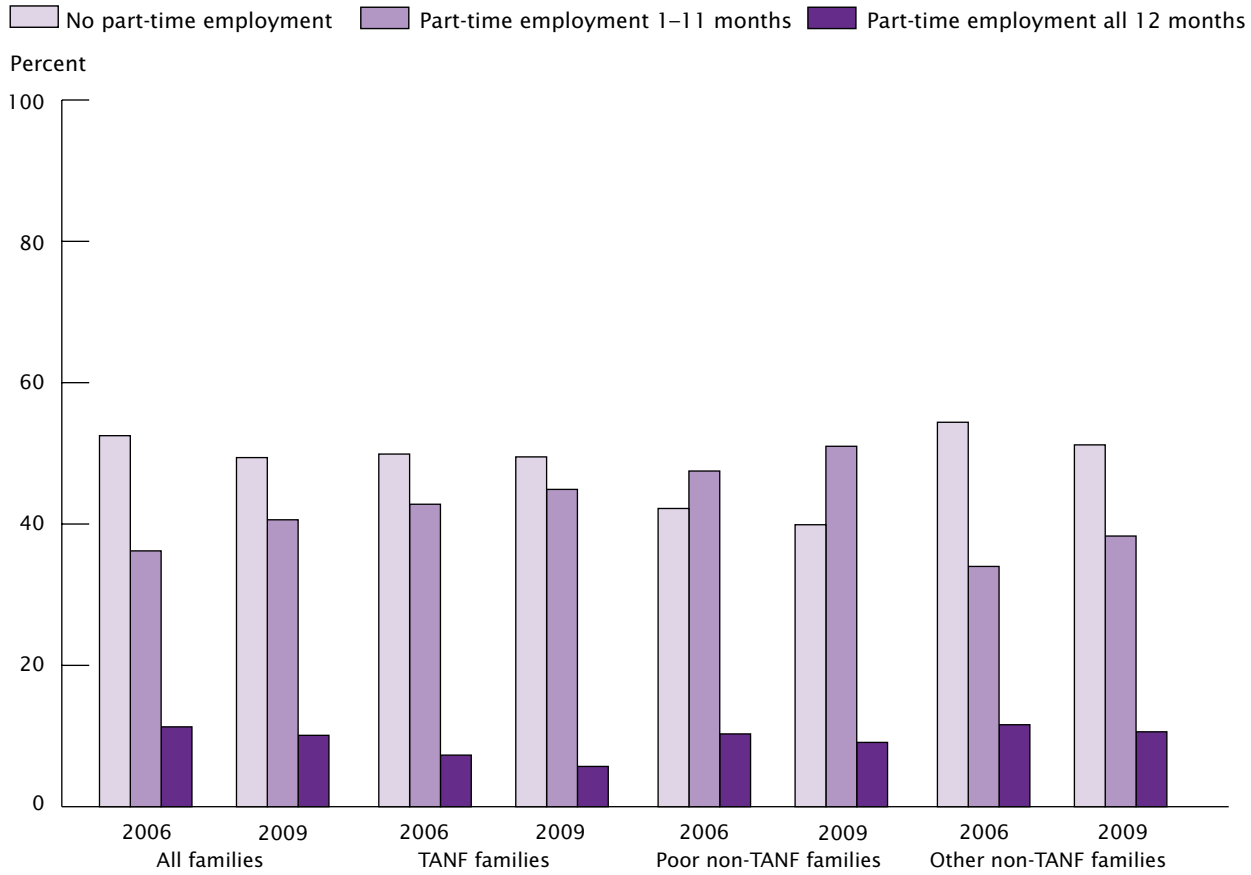
The median monthly earnings of poor non-TANF families was higher than that of TANF families, with no significant change from 2006 to 2009. In 2009, median monthly earning income for poor non-TANF families was $636—compared to $346 for TANF families. There was no significant difference in median monthly total income amounts for TANF and poor non-TANF families. Median monthly total income for poor non-TANF families was $916 in 2009—down from $995 in 2006. The median income-to-poverty ratio for poor non-TANF families was 0.6 in 2009. This value is not statistically different from the 2006 estimate or the 2009 estimate for TANF families.

Median monthly earnings and total income for other non-TANF families far exceeded those of TANF and poor non-TANF families. In 2009, median monthly earnings income

[20] For the income measures, the dollar amounts are inflation adjusted to 2009 dollars.

[21] The median is the point that divides the distribution into halves, one half above the median and the other below the median.

Figure 2.
Part-time Employment in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009



Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

was $5,037—down from $5,178 in 2006—and median total income was $5,390. The median income-to-poverty ratio for other non-TANF families was 3.1 in 2006 and 2009.

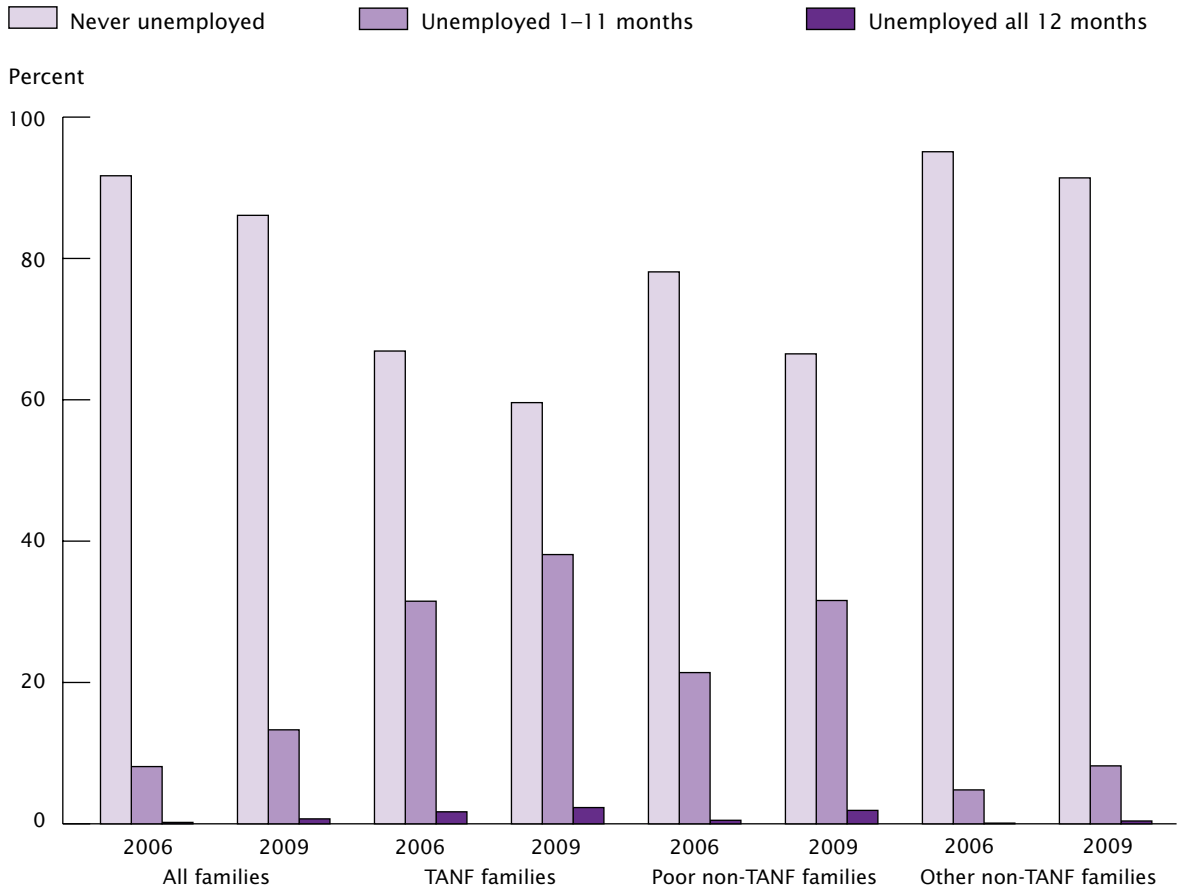
Labor Force Participation

Figure 1 shows the percentage of families by full-time employment status over the past 12 months. In 2009, 52.9 percent of TANF families had no parent that worked full-time in any of the past 12 months.[22] The percentage of poor non-TANF families with no parent that worked full-time in the past 12 months increased from 36.3 percent in 2006 to 42.1 percent in 2009. Other non-TANF families were significantly less likely than TANF and poor non-TANF families to have no parent with full-time employment in the past 12 months. However, the percentage falling into this category increased from 3.3 percent in 2006 to 3.9 percent in 2009.

Conversely, in 2009, 12.2 percent of TANF families and 17.2 percent of poor non-TANF families had a parent with full-time employment in all of the past 12 months—compared with 76.0 percent of other non-TANF families. Poor non-TANF and other non-TANF families became less likely to have a parent with full-time employment in all of the past 12 months from 2006 (24.8 percent and 82.4 percent, respectively) to 2009 (17.2 percent and 76.0 percent, respectively). The percentage of other non-TANF families with a parent with full-time employment in some of the past 12 months increased from 14.3 percent in 2006 to 20.1 percent in 2009.

[22] This estimate is not statistically different from the 2006 estimate.

Figure 3.
Unemployment in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009



Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

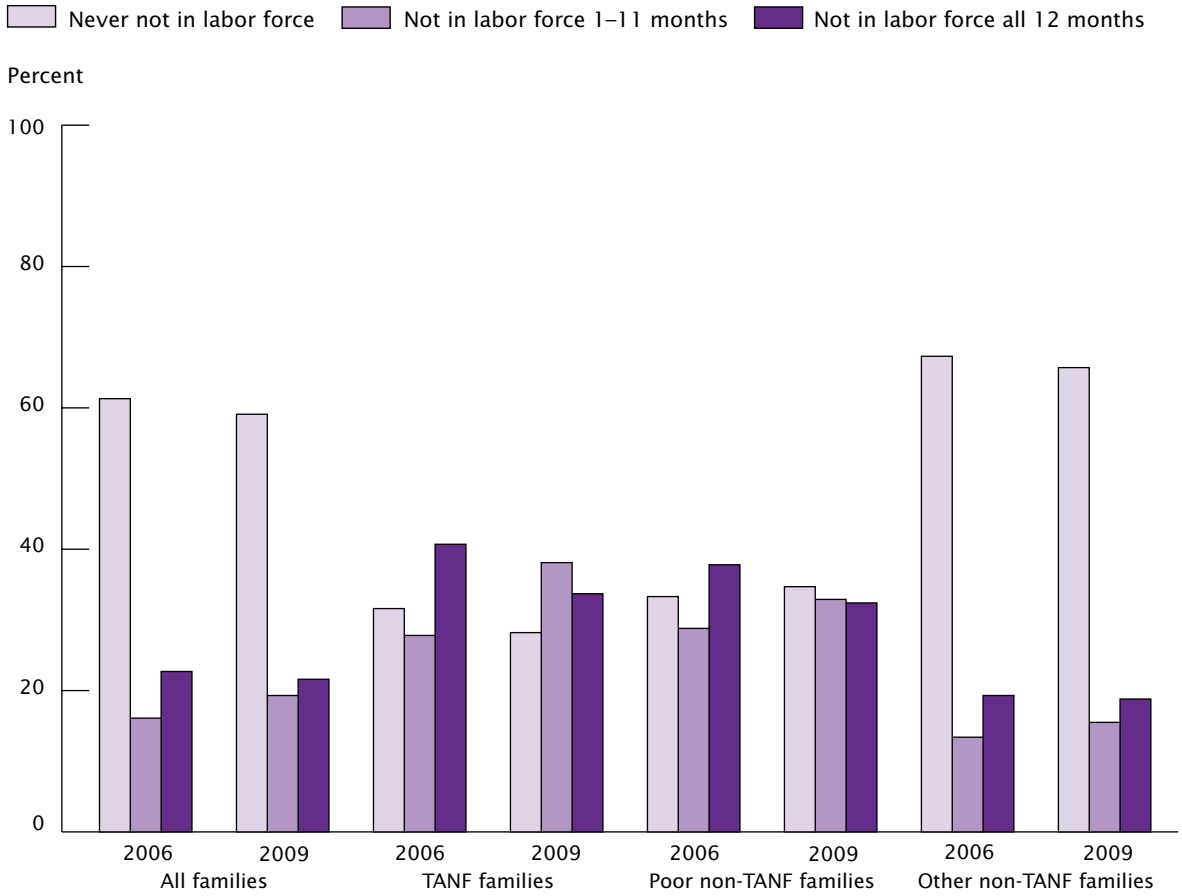
The percentage of families by part-time employment status is shown in Figure 2. About one-half of TANF families and other non-TANF families and about one-third of poor non-TANF families had no parent with part-time employment in the past 12 months. TANF families (44.9 percent) were less likely than poor non-TANF families (51.0 percent) to have part-time employment in some of the past 12 months in 2009 but more likely than other non-TANF families (38.3 percent) to do so. The percentage of TANF families with part-time employment in all of the past 12 months in 2009 (5.7 percent) was less than that of poor non-TANF families (9.1 percent) and other non-TANF families (10.6 percent).

Figure 3 shows families by unemployment status.[23] From 2006 to 2009, the percentage of families with no unemployment in the past 12 months fell from 66.9 percent to 59.6 percent for TANF families, from 78.1 percent to 66.5 percent for poor non-TANF families, and from 95.1 percent to 91.4 percent for other non-TANF families. The percentage of TANF families with a parent unemployed in some of the past 12 months increased from 31.5 percent in 2006 to 38.1 percent in 2009. In 2009, 2.3 percent of TANF families had a parent who was unemployed in all of the past 12 months.[24] For poor non-TANF families, the percentage with a parent unemployed in some of the past 12 months increased from 21.4 percent in 2006 to 31.6 percent in 2009, and the percentage with a parent unemployed in all of the past 12 months increased from

[23] People who are jobless and on layoff from a job or looking for a job are unemployed.

[24] This estimate is not statistically different from the 2006 estimate.

Figure 4.
Not in the Labor Force in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009



Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

0.5 percent to 1.9 percent during that time. In 2006, 4.8 percent of other non-TANF families had a parent unemployed in some of the past 12 months and 0.1 percent had a parent unemployed in all of the past 12 months. By 2009, 8.2 percent of other non-TANF families had a parent unemployed in some of the past 12 months and 0.4 percent had a parent unemployed in all of the past 12 months.

Figure 4 shows that in 2009 about one-quarter of TANF families, about one-third of poor non-TANF families, and about two-thirds of other non-TANF families had no parent who spent time out of the labor force in one or more of the past 12 months.[25] The percentage of families with an adult who spent some of the past 12 months out of the labor force increased from 27.8 percent in 2006 to 38.1 percent in 2009 for TANF families, from 28.8 percent to 32.9 percent for poor non-TANF families, and from 13.4 percent to 15.5 percent for other non-TANF families. From 2006 to 2009, the percentage of TANF families with a parent who spent all of the past 12 months out of the labor force decreased from 40.7 percent to 33.7 percent, while that of poor non-TANF families decreased from 37.8 percent to 32.4 percent. In 2009, 18.8 percent of other non-TANF families had a parent who spent all of the past 12 months out of the labor force.[26]

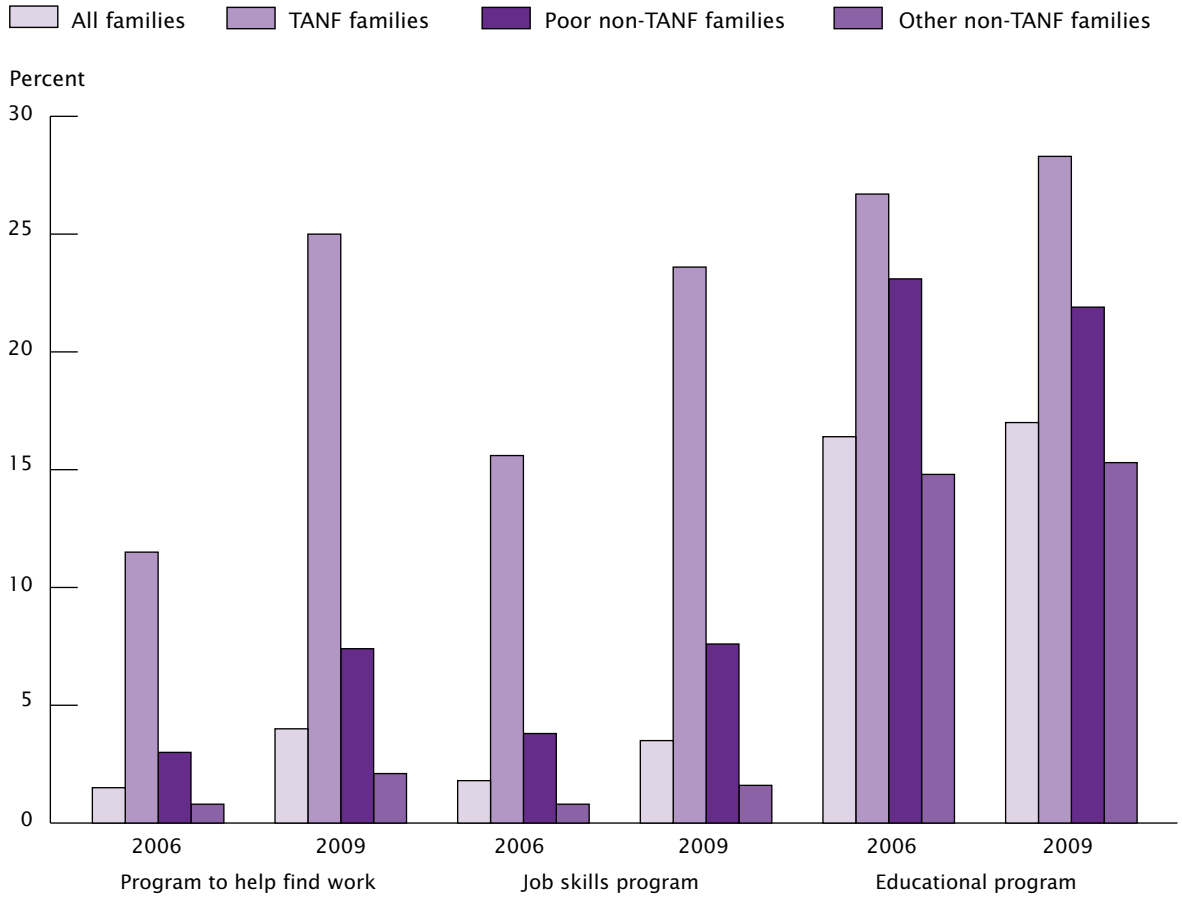
Participation in Training and Education Programs

Figure 5 shows whether a parent participated in training or education programs in the past 12 months. Programs to help find work teach skills such as resume writing, job

[25] People who are jobless and not on layoff from a job or looking for work are not in the labor force.

[26] This estimate is not statistically different from the 2006 estimate.

Figure 5.
Participation in Training and Education Programs in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009



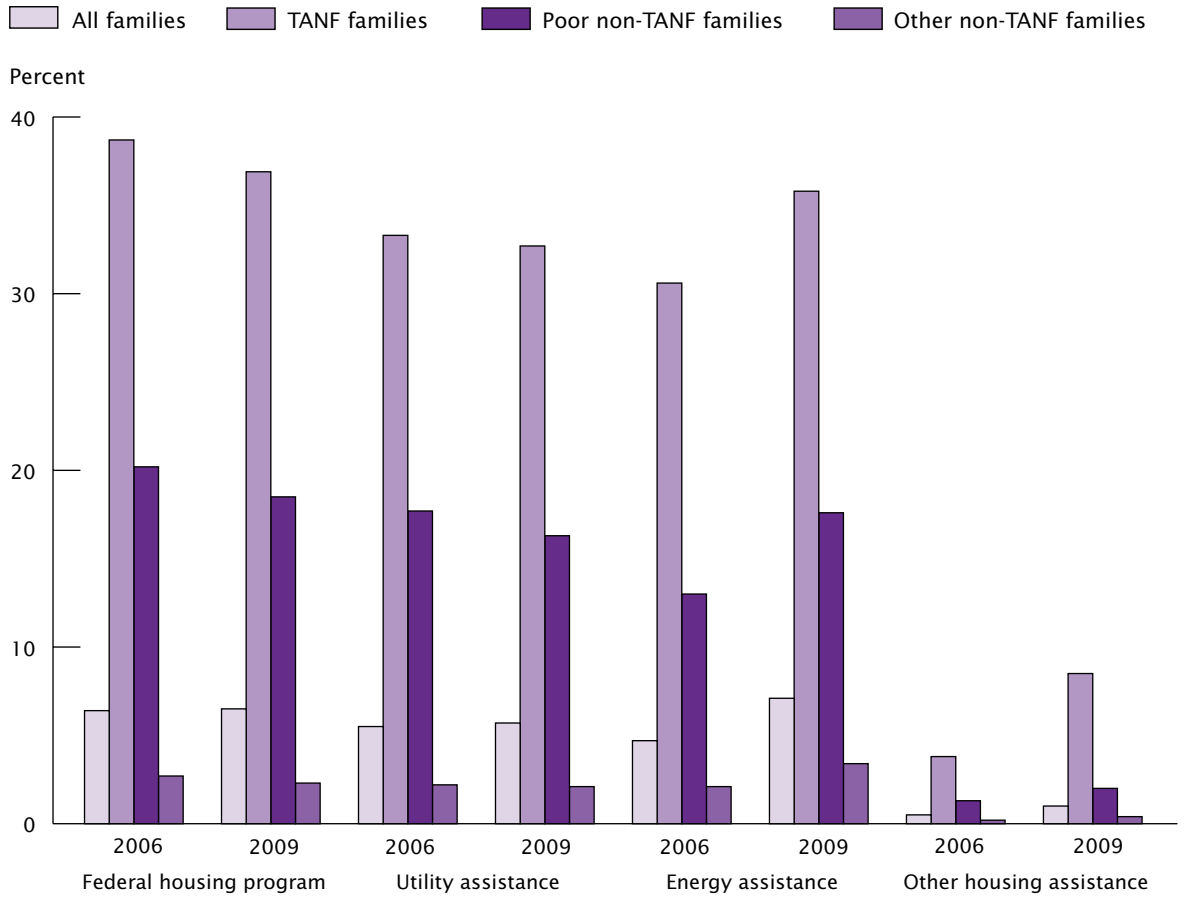
Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

interviewing, self-esteem building, or how to dress for work. They might also include participation in a job search program or job club, use of a job resource center, access to job listings, and referrals to jobs. TANF families were the most likely to be engaged in programs to help find work, and their participation rate increased from 11.5 percent in 2006 to 25.0 percent in 2009. Participation rates for poor non-TANF and other non-TANF families increased from 3.0 percent and 0.8 percent, respectively, in 2006 to 7.4 percent and 2.1 percent, respectively, in 2009.

Job skills programs provide assistance with computer training, clerical skills, machinery training, and other job specific training, in addition to work experience programs such as community service jobs. Figure 5 shows that participation in these types of programs also increased for all family types. TANF families were also the most likely to participate in job skills programs, with 15.6 percent of TANF families attending in 2006 and 23.6 percent in 2009. For poor non-TANF families, participation in job skills programs increased from 3.8 percent in 2006 to 7.6 percent in 2009, while the rate for other non-TANF families increased from 0.8 percent to 1.6 percent during that time.

Educational programs assist participants with basic reading and literacy skills, GED attainment, college degree or certificate attainment, and English as a second language. There were no significant increases in participation in educational programs from 2006 to 2009. In 2009, 28.3 percent of TANF families, 21.9 percent of poor non-TANF families, and 15.3 percent of other non-TANF families had a parent who attended

Figure 6.
Participation in Housing Assistance Programs in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009



Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

an educational program in the past 12 months.

Housing Assistance Programs

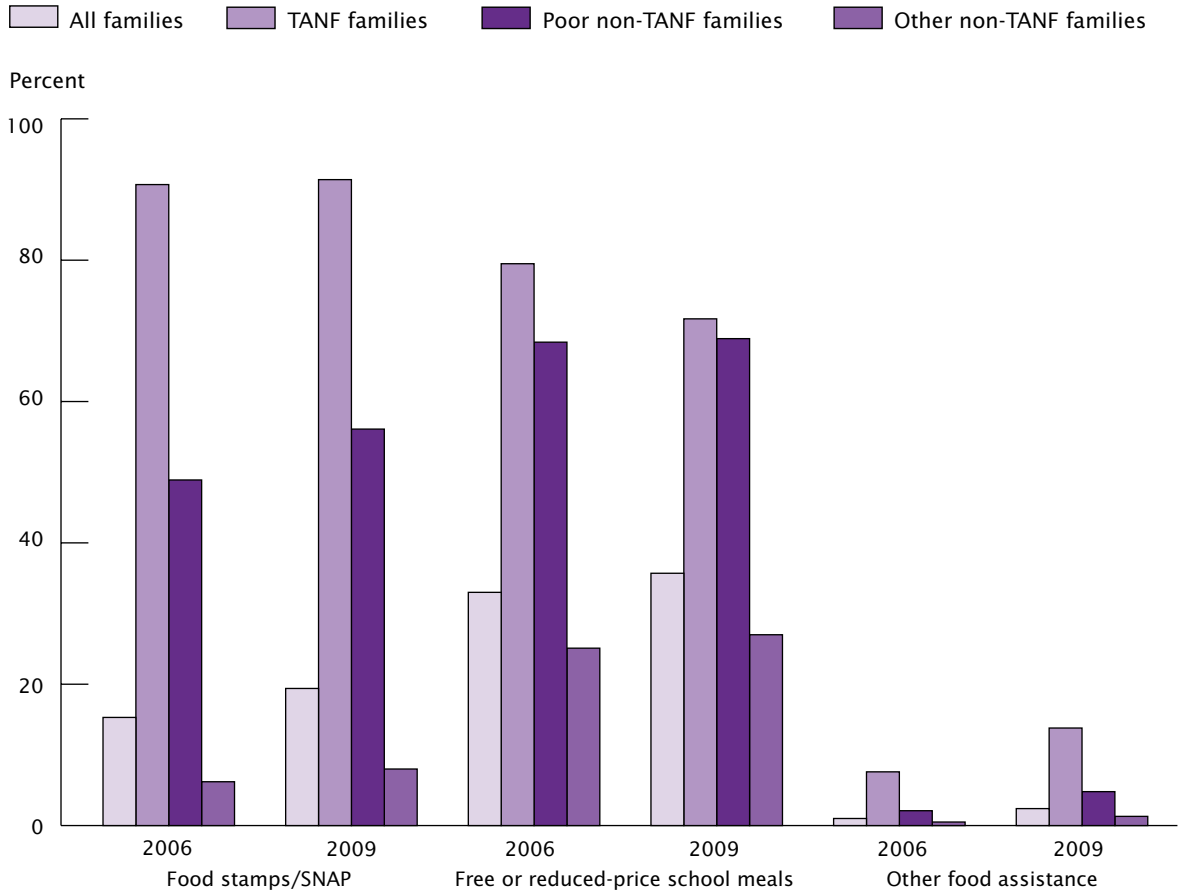
Figure 6 shows the percentage of families that participated in several types of housing programs in one or more of the past 12 months. The federal housing program includes public housing and Section 8 housing vouchers. Public housing provides low-cost housing to low-income families, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. This type of housing is owned by a local housing agency or other public agency. Section 8 provides vouchers to low-income families, the elderly, and persons with disabilities that enable them to choose any housing that meets the requirements of the program and is not limited to units located in public housing projects. From 2006 to 2009, there was no change in rates of participation in the federal housing program. In 2009, 36.9 percent of TANF families and 18.5 percent of poor non-TANF families lived in public housing or received a Section 8 voucher—compared with just 2.3 percent of other non-TANF families.

Families may have utilities—such as water, electricity, gas, or oil—paid for by a welfare agency. Figure 6 shows in 2009, 32.7 percent of TANF families, 16.3 percent of poor non-TANF families, and 2.1 percent of other non-TANF families had their utilities paid for in one or more of the past 12 months.[27]

Energy assistance may come from the federal, state, or local government. TANF families were the

[27] These estimates are not statistically different from the 2006 estimates.

Figure 7.
Participation in Food Assistance Programs in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009



Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

most likely to receive this kind of assistance—35.8 percent received energy assistance in the past 12 months in 2009.[28] However, receipt of energy assistance increased from 13.0 percent in 2006 to 17.6 percent in 2009 for poor non-TANF families and from 2.1 percent to 3.4 percent for other non-TANF families.

Figure 6 also shows the percentage of families that received some other type of housing assistance in the past 12 months. In 2009, 8.5 percent of TANF families received some other type of housing assistance—an increase from the 2006 estimate of 3.8 percent. Meanwhile, 2.0 percent of poor non-TANF families and 0.4 percent of other non-TANF families received this type of assistance in 2009.[29]

Food Assistance Programs

Figure 7 shows the percentage of families that participated in several types of food assistance programs in one or more of the past 12 months. The Food Stamp Program, which was renamed the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in 2008, provides low-income households with a debit card they can use like cash to purchase food at a grocery store. The vast majority of TANF families received food stamp/SNAP benefits in one or more of the past 12 months in 2006 (90.7 percent) and 2009 (91.4 percent).[30] From 2006 to 2009, the percentage of poor non-TANF families that received food stamp/SNAP benefits in the past 12 months increased from 48.9 percent to 56.1 percent.

[28] This estimate is not statistically different from the 2006 estimate.

[29] These estimates are not statistically different from the 2006 estimates.

[30] These estimates are not statistically different from each other.

Table 5.

Participation in WIC in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009

(Numbers in thousands)

Program	All families				TANF families				Poor non-TANF families				Other non-TANF families			
	2006 (N=15,802)		2009 (N=17,055)		2006 (N=784)		2009 (N=1,046)		2006 (N=2,825)		2009 (N=3,467)		2006 (N=12,193)		2009 (N=12,542)	
	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)
WIC	31.8	1.3	30.8	1.2	77.5	5.3	73.0	4.7	61.4	3.3	59.4	2.8	22.0	1.3	*19.4	1.2

* Statistically different from the 2006 estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

Notes: This analysis includes only families with children aged 0 to 5. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

Table 6.

Presence of a Work-Limiting Disability and Receipt of SSI in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic or program	All families				TANF families				Poor non-TANF families				Other non-TANF families			
	2006 (N=35,445)		2009 (N=37,089)		2006 (N=1,360)		2009 (N=1,749)		2006 (N=4,824)		2009 (N=5,765)		2006 (N=29,262)		2009 (N=29,575)	
	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)
Work-limiting disability . . .	14.8	0.7	14.3	0.6	38.0	4.7	34.0	3.9	22.5	2.1	21.7	1.9	12.4	0.7	11.7	0.6
SSI.	4.0	0.4	*4.7	0.4	21.6	4.0	20.8	3.3	7.9	1.4	7.4	1.2	2.6	0.3	*3.2	0.3

* Statistically different from the 2006 estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

Note: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

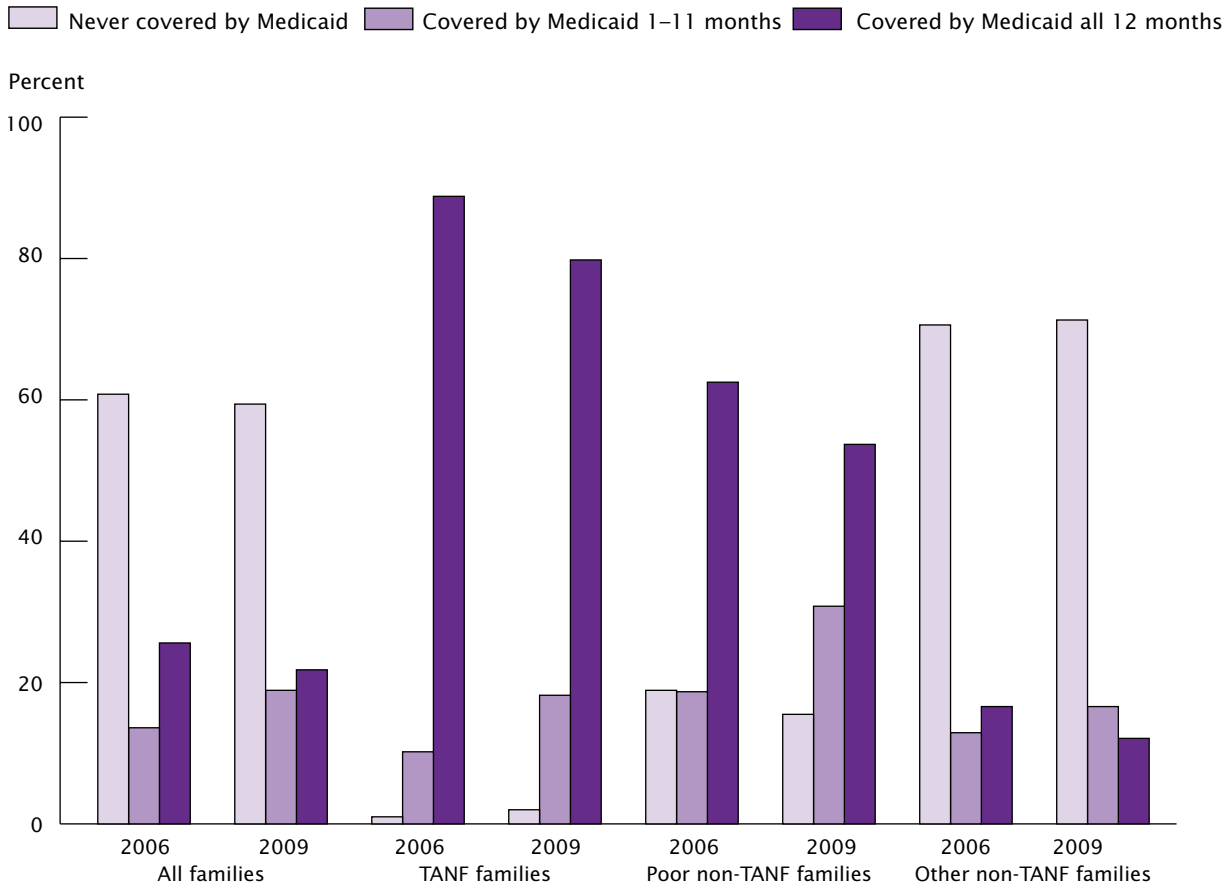
Likewise, food stamp/SNAP participation among other non-TANF families increased from 6.2 percent to 8.0 percent during that time.

The school lunch and breakfast programs provide reduced-price or free lunches and breakfasts to children from low-income families each school day. In 2009, 71.7 percent of TANF families—down from 79.5 percent in 2006—and 68.9 percent of poor non-TANF families received reduced-price or free school lunches or breakfasts. In the same year, 27.0 percent of other non-TANF families received this type of assistance—up from 25.1 percent in 2006.

Other types of food assistance include the receipt of money, vouchers, or certificates to buy groceries or food, bags of groceries or packaged food, and meals from a shelter, soup kitchen, Meals on Wheels, or other charity. Figure 7 shows that the percentage of TANF families that received other food assistance increased from 7.6 percent in 2006 to 13.8 percent in 2009. Similarly, in 2006, 2.1 percent of poor non-TANF families and 0.5 percent of other non-TANF families received some other type of food assistance in the past 12 months, while 4.8 percent and 1.3 percent, respectively, did so in 2009.

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education to low-income pregnant women and to infants and children up to age 5. Table 5 shows the percentage of families with a child 0 to 5 years old that received WIC benefits in one or more of the past 12 months. In 2009, 73.0 percent of eligible TANF families and 59.4 percent of eligible poor non-TANF families received WIC

Figure 8.
Medicaid Coverage in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009



Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

benefits.[31] From 2006 to 2009, the percentage of eligible other non-TANF families receiving WIC fell from 22.0 percent to 19.4 percent.

Disability and Supplemental Security Income

Table 6 shows the percentage of families with a parent who had a work-limiting disability in one or more of the past 12 months. In 2009, 34.0 percent of TANF families had a parent with a work-limiting disability in the past 12 months, as compared with 21.7 percent of poor non-TANF families and 11.7 percent of other non-TANF families.[32]

The percentage of families that received Supplemental Security Income (SSI)—a program that provides cash assistance to aged, blind, and disabled people who have little or no income—in one or more of the past 12 months is shown in Table 6. In 2009, 20.8 percent of TANF families and 7.4 percent of poor non-TANF families received SSI in one or more of the past 12 months.[33] There was a slight increase in SSI receipt among other non-TANF families—from 2.6 percent in 2006 to 3.2 percent in 2009.

Health Insurance

Medicaid provides health care coverage to eligible, low-income individuals and families.[34] The State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) is included as Medicaid in SIPP. Figure 8 shows the percentage of families in which at least one member was covered by

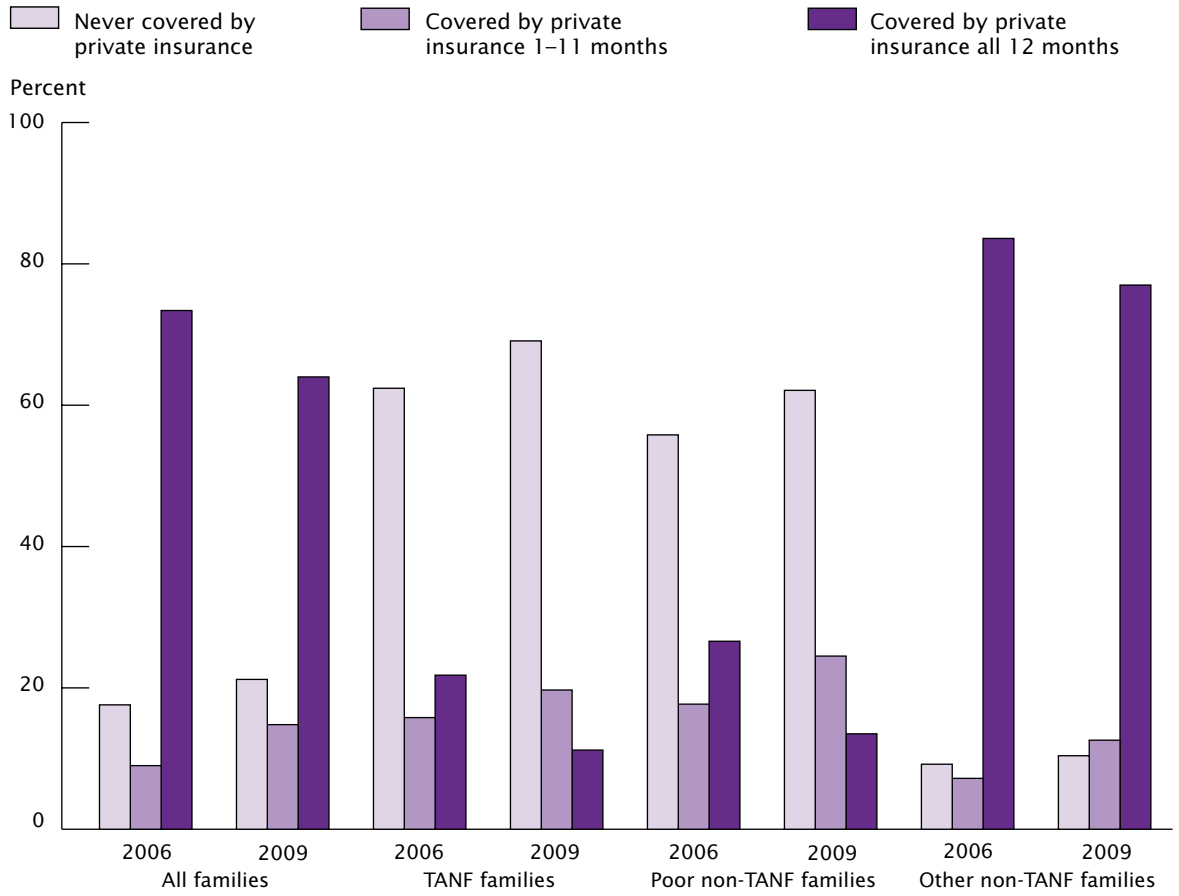
[31] These estimates are not statistically different from the 2006 estimates.

[32] These estimates are not statistically different from the 2006 estimates.

[33] These estimates are not statistically different from the 2006 estimates.

[34] This program is different from Medicare, which provides health insurance coverage to people 65 years and older, to people under 65 years with certain disabilities, and to people of any age with End-Stage Renal Disease.

Figure 9.
Private Health Insurance Coverage in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009



Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel Waves 1–3.

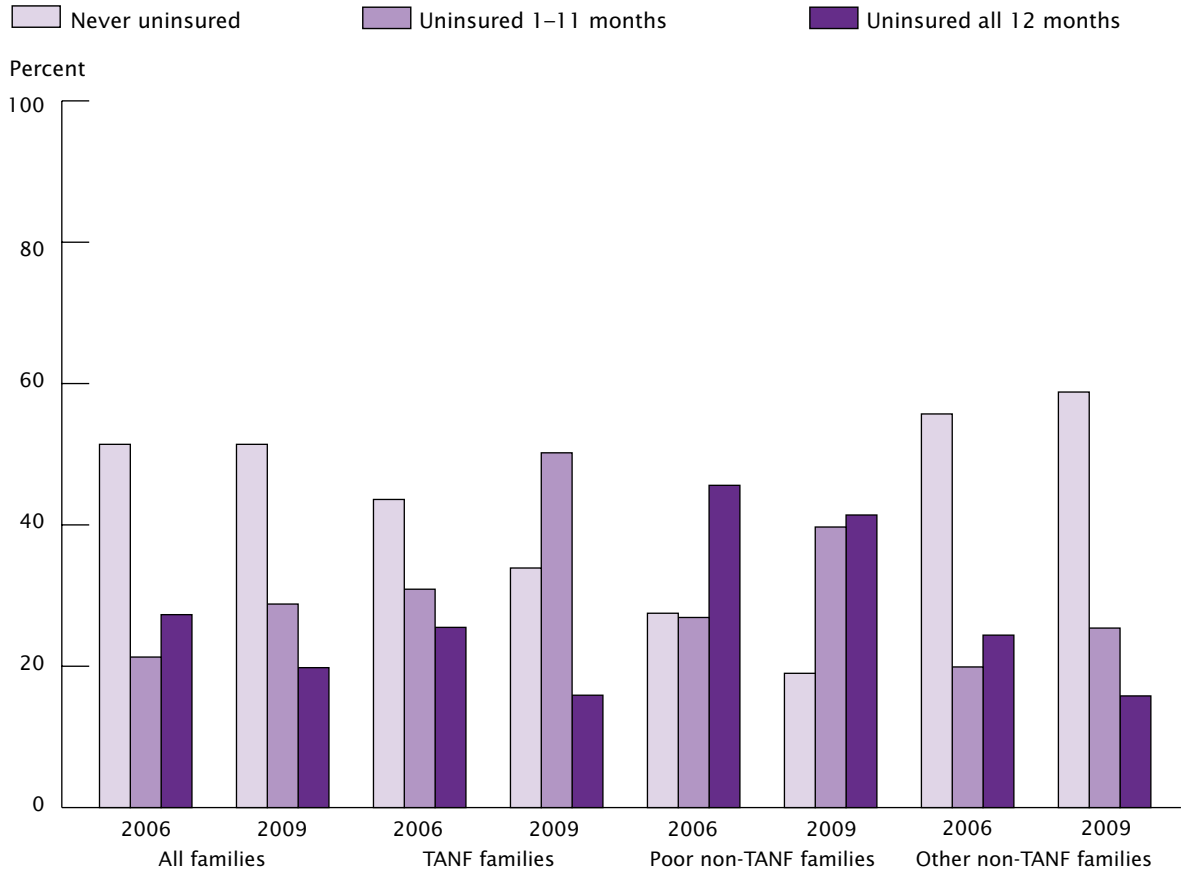
Medicaid in none, some, and all of the past 12 months. For each family type, from 2006 and 2009, there was an increase in the percentage covered by Medicaid in some of the past 12 months and a decrease in the percentage covered by Medicaid in all of the past 12 months. Medicaid coverage in some of the past 12 months increased from 10.2 percent to 18.2 percent for TANF families, from 18.7 percent to 30.8 percent for poor non-TANF families, and from 12.9 percent to 16.6 percent for other non-TANF families.[35] Meanwhile, Medicaid coverage in all of the past 12 months fell from 88.8 percent in 2006 to 79.8 percent in 2009 for TANF families, from 62.5 percent to 53.7 percent for poor non-TANF families, and from 16.6 percent to 12.1 percent for other non-TANF families. Accordingly, in 2009, 2.0 percent of TANF families had no Medicaid coverage in the past 12 months compared with 15.5 percent of poor non-TANF and 71.3 percent of other non-TANF families.[36]

Figure 9 shows the percentage of families in which at least one member was covered by a private health insurance plan in none, some, or all of the past 12 months. The percentage of families with no private health insurance coverage in the past 12 months increased for all

[35] In 2006, all of the estimates are significantly different from each other. In 2009, the estimates for other non-TANF and TANF families are not significantly different from each other, but these estimates are significantly different from the estimate for poor non-TANF families.

[36] The estimates for TANF and other non-TANF families are not statistically different from the 2006 estimates. The estimate for poor non-TANF families is statistically lower than the 2006 estimate.

Figure 10.
No Health Insurance Coverage in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009



Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

family types. In 2009, 69.1 percent of TANF families, 62.1 percent of poor non-TANF families, and 10.4 percent of other non-TANF families had no private health insurance coverage in the past 12 months, compared with 62.4 percent, 55.8 percent, and 9.2 percent, respectively, in 2006. Accordingly, in 2009, the percentage of families with private health insurance coverage in all of the past 12 months was 11.2 percent for TANF families, 13.5 percent for poor non-TANF families, and 77.0 percent of other non-TANF families—down from 21.8 percent, 26.6 percent, and 83.6 percent, respectively, in 2006. In 2009, 19.7 percent of TANF families were covered by private health insurance in some of the past 12 months.[37] In that same year, 24.5 percent of poor non-TANF families and 12.6 percent of other non-TANF families were covered by private health insurance in some of the past 12 months—up from 17.7 percent and 7.2 percent, respectively, in 2006.

The percentage of families that were uninsured in none, some, and all of the past 12 months is shown in Figure 10. From 2006 to 2009, the percentage of families who were never uninsured in the past 12 months fell from 43.6 percent to 33.9 percent for TANF families and from 27.5 percent to 19.0 percent for poor non-TANF families. The percentage of other non-TANF families who were never uninsured in the past 12 months increased from 55.7 percent in 2006 to 58.8 percent in 2009. The percentage of families who were uninsured in all of the past 12 months fell from 25.5 percent to 15.9 percent for TANF families, from 45.6 percent to 41.4 percent for poor non-TANF

[37] This estimate is not statistically different from the 2006 estimate.

Table 7.

Receipt of Child Support in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009

(Numbers in thousands)

Program	All families				TANF families				Poor non-TANF families				Other non-TANF families			
	2006 (N=14,912)		2009 (N=16,545)		2006 (N=1,182)		2009 (N=1,470)		2006 (N=3,396)		2009 (N=4,201)		2006 (N=10,334)		2009 (N=10,874)	
	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)
Child support . . .	44.1	1.4	*37.1	1.3	30.6	4.8	*23.2	3.8	40.8	3.0	*34.3	2.5	46.7	1.7	*40.1	1.6

* Statistically different from the 2006 estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18 where the parent is unmarried or married to a step-parent. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

Table 8.

Receipt of Child Care Assistance in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009

(Numbers in thousands)

Program	All families				TANF families				Poor non-TANF families				Other non-TANF families			
	2006 (N=16,041)		2009 (N=16,495)		2006 (N=393)		2009 (N=563)		2006 (N=2,079)		2009 (N=2,215)		2006 (N=13,569)		2009 (N=13,717)	
	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)
Child care assistance . . .	6.1	0.7	*4.6	0.6	32.5	8.4	30.9	6.6	15.1	2.8	*10.9	2.3	4.0	0.6	*2.5	0.5

* Statistically different from the 2006 estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

Notes: This analysis includes only families with full-time employment in one or more of the past 12 months and those with a child aged 6 or younger. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

families, and from 24.4 percent to 15.8 percent for other non-TANF families. For all family types, the percentage uninsured in some of the past 12 months increased from 2006 to 2009. In 2006, 30.9 percent of TANF families, 26.9 percent of poor non-TANF families, and 19.9 percent of other non-TANF families were uninsured in some of the past 12 months, compared with 50.2 percent, 39.7 percent, and 25.4 percent, respectively, in 2009.

Child Support

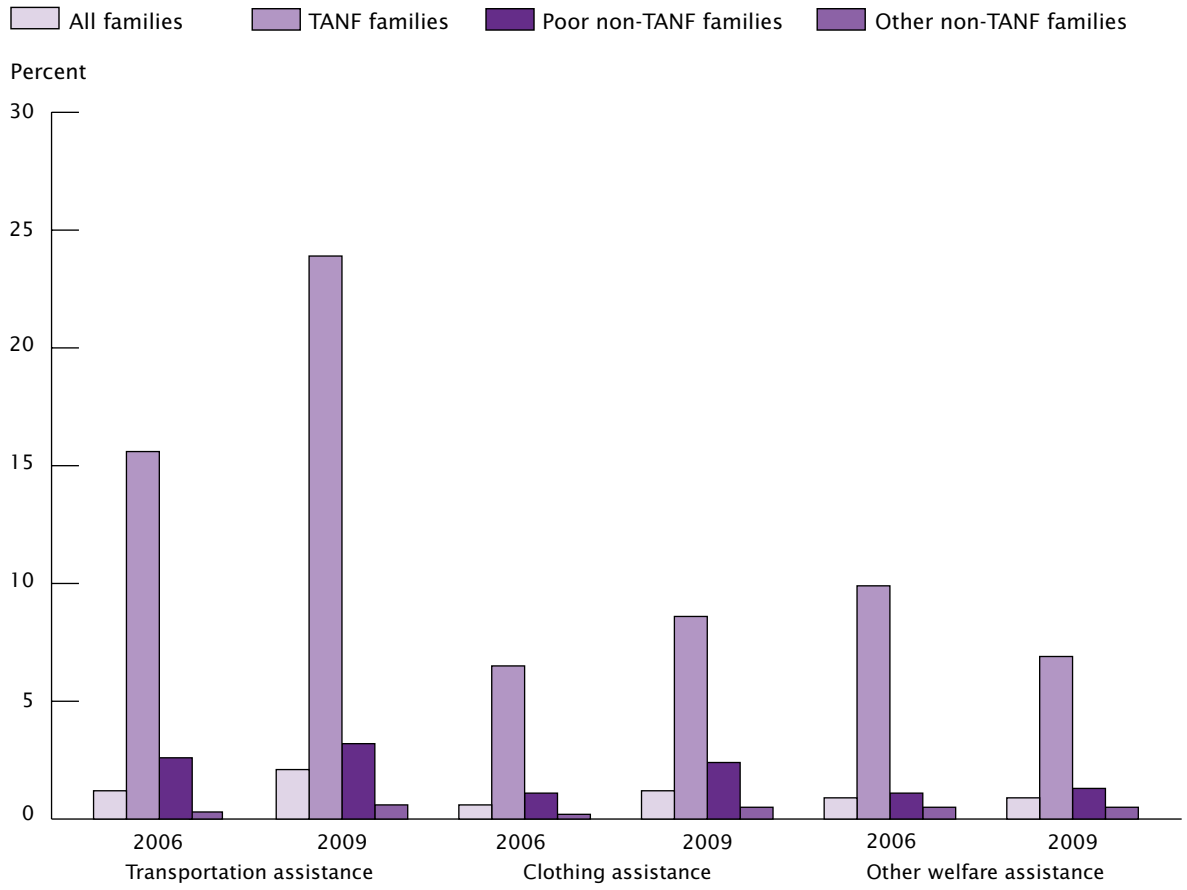
SIPP respondents are asked about the receipt of child support if the parent is unmarried or is married to a step-parent.[38] Table 7 shows the percentage of eligible families that received child support payments in one or more of the past 12 months. A smaller percentage of families received child support payments in 2009 than in 2006. The percentage of eligible TANF families receiving child support fell from 30.6 percent in 2006 to 23.2 percent in 2009. Whereas 40.8 percent of eligible poor non-TANF families and 46.7 percent of eligible other non-TANF families received child support in 2006, 34.3 percent and 40.1 percent, respectively, did so in 2009.

[38] The child support program is not an income-based program, but can be an important source of financial support for low-income families, especially those maintained by an unmarried mother.

Child Care Assistance

Many low-income families are eligible to receive child care assistance that allows parents to go to work, school, or training. This analysis is limited to families with full-time employment in one or more of the past 12 months and those with a child 6 years old or younger. Table 8 shows that the percentage of eligible TANF families that received child care assistance remained virtually unchanged from

Figure 11.
Receipt of Transportation Assistance, Clothing Assistance, and Other Assistance in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009



Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

2006 to 2009—at about 31 percent. However, the percentage of poor non-TANF families receiving child care assistance fell from 15.1 percent in 2006 to 10.9 percent in 2009, and the percentage of other non-TANF families receiving this assistance fell from 4.0 percent to 2.5 percent during that time.

Other Assistance Programs

Figure 11 shows participation in other types of assistance programs in the past 12 months. Transportation assistance is provided to low-income adults to help them get to work, school, training, or doctor's appointments. This assistance may come in the form of gas vouchers, bus passes, or car repairs. Receipt of transportation assistance among TANF families increased from 15.6 percent in 2006 to 23.9 percent in 2009 and exceeded participation by poor non-TANF and other non-TANF families. In 2009, 3.2 percent of poor non-TANF families received transportation assistance, which was not statistically different from the 2006 estimate. While receipt of transportation assistance was low for other non-TANF families, it increased from 0.3 percent in 2006 to 0.6 percent in 2009.

Low-income families may receive clothing assistance in the form of clothes or money or vouchers to purchase clothes. Although the participation rate for TANF families did not significantly change from 2006 to 2009, this group was more likely than non-TANF and poor non-TANF families to receive clothing assistance in the past 12 months—8.6 percent received this type of assistance in 2009. From 2006 to 2009, the percentage of poor non-TANF families that received clothing assistance increased from 1.1 percent to 2.4 percent and from 0.2 percent to 0.5 percent for other non-TANF families.

Table 9.
Employer Received Help With Hiring, Training, or Wages in the Past 4 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009
(Numbers in thousands)

Program	All families				TANF families				Poor non-TANF families				Other non-TANF families			
	2006 (N=34,658)		2009 (N=36,120)		2006 (N=1,344)		2009 (N=1,702)		2006 (N=4,664)		2009 (N=5,585)		2006 (N=28,649)		2009 (N=28,833)	
	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)
Help with hiring, training, or wages . . .	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	1.5	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	*0.1	0.1

* Statistically different from the 2006 estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

Figure 11 also shows if families received assistance from any other type of state or county welfare program. In 2009, 6.9 percent of TANF families, 1.3 percent of poor non-TANF families, and 0.5 percent of other non-TANF families received some other type of welfare assistance.[39]

Tables 9–11 show participation rates in other assistance programs using data from SIPP's Welfare Reform topical module. These questions were asked only once and inquire about the respondent's participation during the four months prior to the interview month.

In some cases, a social service agency will give money to a client's employer to cover all or part of that person's hiring, training, or wage costs. Table 9 shows that few employers received financial help with hiring, training, or wage costs. In 2009, the percentage for TANF families was 0.9 percent, for poor non-TANF families was 0.3 percent, and for other non-TANF families was 0.1 percent.[40]

Table 10 shows the percentage of families maintained by an unmarried parent that received help in obtaining child support. Eligible TANF families were more likely than eligible poor non-TANF and other non-TANF families to receive this type of assistance. In 2009, 12.0 percent of eligible TANF families received help in obtaining child support, whereas 6.9 percent of eligible poor non-TANF families and 2.5 percent of eligible other non-TANF families did so.[41]

Short-term cash assistance may be provided to low-income families to help keep them off of welfare or for emergencies. Table 11 shows that few families received short-term cash assistance. In 2009, 2.2 percent of TANF families received short-term cash assistance.[42] The percentage of poor non-TANF families receiving short-term cash assistance increased from 0.1 percent in 2006 to 0.5 percent in 2009. Virtually no other non-TANF families received this type of assistance in 2006 or 2009.

Welfare-Related Requirements Made by Welfare Office

The Welfare Reform topical module in SIPP asked respondents whether they performed certain activities in the past four months because the welfare or social service office required it of them to receive TANF or because they chose to do them. The percentage of TANF families that engaged in these activities is presented in Table 12. There were no significant changes from 2006 to 2009. In 2009, 56.7 percent of TANF families reported their income or any family or address changes on a regular basis. Only 8.0 percent reported working in exchange for their benefits or to gain experience. Additionally, 4.8 percent underwent drug testing and 4.4 percent established the paternity of a child.

[39] These estimates are not statistically different from the 2006 estimates.

[40] The estimates for TANF and poor non-TANF families are not statistically different from the 2006 estimates. The estimate for other non-TANF families is statistically higher than the 2006 estimate.

[41] These estimates are not statistically different from the 2006 estimates.

[42] This estimate is not statistically different from the 2006 estimate.

Table 10.

Receipt of Child Support Assistance in the Past 4 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009

(Numbers in thousands)

Program	All families				TANF families				Poor non-TANF families				Other non-TANF families			
	2006 (N=10,703)		2009 (N=11,937)		2006 (N=1,029)		2009 (N=1,252)		2006 (N=2,875)		2009 (N=3,385)		2006 (N=6,799)		2009 (N=7,300)	
	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)
Child support assistance . . .	4.6	0.7	4.8	0.7	10.6	3.4	12.0	3.1	7.1	1.7	6.9	1.5	2.5	0.7	2.5	0.6

Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18 with an unmarried parent. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

Table 11.

Receipt of Short-Term Cash Assistance in the Past 4 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009

(Numbers in thousands)

Program	All families				TANF families				Poor non-TANF families				Other non-TANF families			
	2006 (N=35,445)		2009 (N=37,089)		2006 (N=1,360)		2009 (N=1,749)		2006 (N=4,824)		2009 (N=5,765)		2006 (N=29,262)		2009 (N=29,575)	
	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)
Short-term cash assistance	0.1	0.1	*0.2	0.1	0.9	0.9	2.2	1.2	0.1	0.2	*0.5	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

* Statistically different from the 2006 estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

Note: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

Table 12.

Welfare-Related Requirements Made by the Welfare Office: 2006 and 2009

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2006		2009	
	Number or percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Number or percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)
TANF families	**1,360**	**131**	***1,749**	**142**
Reported income or family/address change	50.5	4.8	56.7	4.0
Worked in exchange for benefits	6.5	2.4	8.0	2.2
Drug testing	3.8	1.8	4.8	1.7
Established the paternity of a child.	2.4	1.5	4.4	1.7

* Statistically different from the 2006 estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

Note: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

Table 13.
Reasons for a Reduction in Benefits: 2006 and 2009
(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2006		2009	
	Number or percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Number or percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)
TANF families	**1,360**	**131**	***1,749**	**142**
Benefit amount has been reduced	13.0	3.2	16.6	3.0
Reasons benefits were reduced[1]	**176**	**47**	***291**	**58**
Income too high	39.9	13.1	33.2	9.4
Exceeded time limit	9.0	7.7	6.7	5.0
Work requirements not met	8.5	7.5	5.9	4.7
Child support requirement not met	7.5	7.0	*0.0	0.0
Did not provide all requested information	6.4	6.5	4.0	3.9
Rejected individual responsibility plan	0.8	2.4	1.0	2.0
Receiving SSI	0.0	0.0	0.8	1.8
Other reason	30.2	12.3	*46.5	10.0

* Statistically different from the 2006 estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

[1] This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18 that reported a reduction in their benefit amount.

Note: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

Reduction in TANF Benefit Amount

The Welfare Reform topical module asked current TANF recipients if their benefit amount had been reduced or if they had been notified that their benefit amount was going to be reduced. Table 13 shows that in 2009, 16.6 percent of TANF families reported a reduction in their benefit amount.[43] Respondents who answered "yes" to this question were then asked about the reason for this reduction in their benefit amount. The results are presented in Table 13.

Of the roughly 291,000 families with a reduced benefit amount in 2009, 33.2 percent reported that it was because their income was too high.[44] Fewer families reported a reduced benefit amount because they exceeded their time limit (6.7 percent), had not met their work requirements (5.9 percent), or did not provide all of the information requested of them (4.0 percent).[45]

No Longer Receiving TANF

Respondents who were not receiving TANF when the welfare reform topical module was administered were asked if they had ever received welfare, and if so, the year they last received welfare benefits. The percentage of families with prior receipt of welfare is shown in Table 14. In 2006, 1.4 percent of respondents not receiving TANF at the time of interview had received welfare prior to 1997 and 2.8 percent received welfare in 1997 or later. In 2009, 1.0 percent had received welfare prior to 1997 and 3.2 percent received welfare in 1997 or later.[46]

Of the respondents who last received welfare in 1997 or later (0.9 million in 2006 and 1.1 million in 2009), Table 14 shows their reported reasons for no longer receiving welfare. In 2009, 36.5 percent of former recipients no longer received welfare because their income was too high and 20.1 percent no longer needed welfare.[47] However, 12.3 percent of former recipients no longer received benefits because they had exceeded their time limit and 5.1 percent had received the maximum assistance allowed.[48] In 2006, 4.2 percent of respondents reported losing their welfare benefits because of noncooperation with work requirements, while only 1.4 percent did so in 2009.

CONCLUSION

This report shows that the recent economic recession impacted American families with children and the impact was not confined to TANF families or poor families. TANF participation rates did

[43] This estimate is not statistically different from the 2006 estimate.

[44] This estimate is not statistically different from the 2006 estimate.

[45] These estimates are not statistically different from the 2006 estimates.

[46] The 2006 and 2009 estimates for receiving welfare in 1997 or later are not significantly different from each other.

[47] These estimates are not statistically different from the 2006 estimates.

[48] These estimates are not statistically different from the 2006 estimates.

Table 14.
Reasons for No Longer Receiving Benefits: 2006 and 2009
(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2006		2009	
	Number or percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Number or percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)
Non-TANF families	**34,090**	**606**	***35,340**	**592**
Received welfare prior to 1997	1.4	0.2	*1.0	0.2
Received welfare 1997 or later	2.8	0.3	3.2	0.3
Reasons for no longer receiving TANF[1]	**946**	**109**	***1,112**	**113**
Income too high	34.6	5.5	36.5	4.9
No longer needed	14.7	4.1	20.1	4.1
Exceeded time limit	12.3	3.8	12.3	3.4
Noncooperation with work requirements	4.2	2.3	*1.4	1.2
Received maximum assistance	3.5	2.1	5.1	2.2
Got married	3.3	2.1	1.4	1.2
Rejected individual responsibility plan	2.4	1.8	0.9	1.0
Did not provide all info requested	2.2	1.7	*0.1	0.3
Banking eligibility	0.9	1.1	0.9	1.0
Children too old	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2
Noncooperation with child support requirements	1.2	1.3	0.6	0.8
Other reason	21.2	4.7	18.7	4.0

* Statistically different from the 2006 estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

[1] Includes only families that received TANF in 1997 or later.

Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

increase from 2006 to 2009. However, it was married-couple families—who have the lowest overall rates of TANF participation—that saw an increase in their overall TANF participation rate. There was no significant change in the participation rates of male-maintained or female-maintained families. Additionally, there was no significant increase in the TANF participation rate of poor families during this time.

Participation in other assistance programs was also up and not just for those also receiving TANF. From 2006 to 2009, the percentage of poor and other non-TANF families aided in meeting their most essential needs—through receipt of energy assistance, food stamps/SNAP, other food assistance, and clothing assistance—increased. Nonetheless, TANF families were generally more likely to receive these other types of assistance than either poor or other non-TANF families.

The uptake in assistance programs from 2006 to 2009 coincided with declining employment rates. From 2006 to 2009, poor and other non-TANF families became less likely to have a parent engaged in full-time employment. All family types experienced increased unemployment during this time. It appears, however, that some families took steps to improve their employment outlooks. Enrollment in programs to help find work and job skills programs increased for TANF and non-TANF families from 2006 to 2009.

Although many other non-TANF families appear to have been affected by the economic recession, TANF and poor non-TANF families remain disadvantaged in many ways. As expected, the median total income of TANF and poor non-TANF families pales in comparison to that of other non-TANF families. Furthermore, TANF and poor non-TANF families were less likely than other non-TANF families to have a parent engaged in full-time employment and were more likely to face unemployment. Finally, participation in a wide variety of assistance programs was much higher for TANF and poor non-TANF families than for other non-TANF families.

In conclusion, this report shows that many former TANF recipients no longer receive benefits because their income is too high or because they no longer need the assistance. Although the 1996 welfare reform legislation placed heavy emphasis on the coupling of work and welfare and introduced time limits on welfare receipt, it seems that few families are being forced off welfare for failing to find employment.

In fact, few TANF families reported working in exchange for benefits. There is some evidence, however, that families left welfare because they reached their time limit.

SOURCE AND ACCURACY OF ESTIMATES

Source of the Data

The population represented (the population universe) in the 2004 and 2008 Panels of the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) is the civilian noninstitutionalized population living in the United States. The SIPP is a longitudinal survey conducted at 4-month intervals. The data in this report were collected from October 2005 to September 2006 in Waves 6–8 of the 2004 SIPP, and from September 2008 to August 2009 in Waves 1–3 of the 2008 SIPP. The institutionalized population, which is excluded from the population universe, is composed primarily of the population in correctional institutions and nursing homes (91 percent of the 4.1 million institutionalized population in Census 2000).

Accuracy of the Estimates

Statistics from surveys are subject to sampling and nonsampling error. All comparisons presented in this report have taken sampling error into account and are significant at the 90 percent confidence level unless otherwise noted. This means the 90 percent confidence interval for the difference between the estimates being compared does not include zero.

Nonsampling errors in surveys may be attributed to a variety of sources, such as how the survey was designed, how respondents interpret questions, how able and willing respondents are to provide correct answers, and how accurately the answers are coded and classified. To minimize these errors, the Census Bureau employs quality control procedures throughout the production process including the overall design of surveys, the wording of questions, the review of the work of interviewers and coders, and the statistical review of reports. The SIPP weighting procedure uses ratio estimation, whereby sample estimates are adjusted to independent estimates of the national population by age, race, sex, and Hispanic origin. This weighting partially corrects for bias due to undercoverage, but biases may still be present when people who are missed by the survey differ from those interviewed in ways other than age, race, sex, and Hispanic origin. How this weighting procedure affects other variables in the survey is not precisely known. All of these considerations affect comparisons across different surveys or data sources.

For further information on the source of the data and accuracy of the estimates, including standard errors and confidence intervals, go to <www.census.gov/sipp/sourceac/S&A08_W1toW6(S&A-13).pdf>.

Additional information on the SIPP, including questions on the topical modules, can be found at the following Web sites: <www.sipp.census.gov/sipp/> (main SIPP Web site), <www.sipp.census.gov/sipp/workpapr/wp230.pdf> (SIPP Quality Profile), and <www.sipp.census.gov/sipp/usrguide/sipp2001.pdf> (SIPP User's Guide).

CONTACTS

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USER COMMENTS

The Census Bureau welcomes the comments and advice of users of its data and reports. If you have any suggestions or comments, please send an e-mail inquiry to <hhes-info@census.gov>.

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APPENDIX

Table A-1.

Labor Force Participation in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	All families				TANF families				Poor non-TANF families				Other non-TANF families			
	2006 (N=35,445)		2009 (N=37,089)		2006 (N=1,360)		2009 (N=1,749)		2006 (N=4,824)		2009 (N=5,765)		2006 (N=29,262)		2009 (N=29,575)	
	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)
Employed Full-Time																
No months	9.7	0.6	*12.2	0.6	55.2	4.8	52.9	4.1	36.3	2.5	*42.1	2.2	3.3	0.4	*3.9	0.4
Some months	18.3	0.7	*24.0	0.8	30.8	4.4	34.9	3.9	38.9	2.5	40.6	2.2	14.3	0.7	*20.1	0.8
All months	72.0	0.8	*63.9	0.9	14.0	3.3	12.2	2.7	24.8	2.2	*17.2	1.7	82.4	0.8	*76.0	0.8
Employed Part-Time																
No months	52.5	0.9	*49.4	0.9	49.9	4.8	49.5	4.1	42.2	2.5	39.9	2.2	54.4	1.0	*51.2	1.0
Some months	36.2	0.9	*40.6	0.9	42.8	4.8	44.9	4.1	47.5	2.6	*51.0	2.2	34.0	1.0	*38.3	1.0
All months	11.3	0.6	*10.1	0.5	7.3	2.5	5.7	1.9	10.3	1.6	9.1	1.3	11.6	0.7	*10.6	0.6
Unemployed																
No months	91.7	0.5	*86.1	0.6	66.9	4.5	*59.6	4.0	78.1	2.1	*66.5	2.1	95.1	0.4	*91.4	0.6
Some months	8.1	0.5	*13.3	0.6	31.5	4.5	*38.1	4.0	21.4	2.1	*31.6	2.1	4.8	0.4	*8.2	0.5
All months	0.2	0.1	*0.7	0.1	1.7	1.2	2.3	1.2	0.5	0.4	*1.9	0.6	0.1	0.1	*0.4	0.1
Not in Labor Force																
No months	61.3	0.9	*59.1	0.9	31.6	4.5	28.2	3.7	33.3	2.4	34.7	2.1	67.3	1.0	*65.7	0.9
Some months	16.1	0.7	*19.3	0.7	27.8	4.3	*38.1	4.0	28.8	2.3	*32.9	2.1	13.4	0.7	*15.5	0.7
All months	22.7	0.8	21.6	0.7	40.7	4.7	*33.7	3.9	37.8	2.5	*32.4	2.1	19.3	0.8	18.8	0.8

* Statistically different from the 2006 estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

[1] In the case of married couple families, the family is included in a particular category if either the husband or the wife falls into that category. Families may be included in more than one category.

Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

Table A-2.

Participation in Training and Education Programs, Housing Assistance Programs, and Food Assistance Programs in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009

(Numbers in thousands)

Program	All families				TANF families				Poor non-TANF families				Other non-TANF families			
	2006 (N=35,445)		2009 (N=37,089)		2006 (N=1,360)		2009 (N=1,749)		2006 (N=4,824)		2009 (N=5,765)		2006 (N=29,262)		2009 (N=29,575)	
	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)
Training and Education Programs																
Program to help find work	1.5	0.2	*4.0	0.3	11.5	3.1	*25.0	3.5	3.0	0.9	*7.4	1.2	0.8	0.2	*2.1	0.3
Job skills program	1.8	0.3	*3.5	0.3	15.6	3.5	*23.6	3.5	3.8	1.0	*7.6	1.2	0.8	0.2	*1.6	0.2
Educational program	16.4	0.7	17.0	0.7	26.7	4.3	28.3	3.7	23.1	2.2	21.9	1.9	14.8	0.7	15.3	0.7
Housing Assistance Programs																
Federal housing program	6.4	0.5	6.5	0.4	38.7	4.7	36.9	3.9	20.2	2.1	18.5	1.7	2.7	0.3	2.3	0.3
Utility assistance	5.5	0.4	5.7	0.4	33.3	4.5	32.7	3.8	17.7	2.0	16.3	1.7	2.2	0.3	2.1	0.3
Energy assistance	4.7	0.4	*7.1	0.5	30.6	4.4	35.8	3.9	13.0	1.7	*17.6	1.7	2.1	0.3	*3.4	0.4
Other housing assistance	0.5	0.1	*1.0	0.2	3.8	1.8	*8.5	2.3	1.3	0.6	2.0	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.1
Food Assistance Programs																
Food Stamp/SNAP	15.3	0.7	*19.4	0.7	90.7	2.8	91.4	2.3	48.9	2.6	*56.1	2.2	6.2	0.5	*8.0	0.5
Free/reduced-price school meal	33.0	0.9	*35.7	0.8	79.5	3.9	*71.7	3.7	68.4	2.4	68.9	2.1	25.1	0.9	*27.0	0.9
Other food assistance	1.0	0.2	*2.4	0.3	7.6	2.6	*13.8	2.8	2.1	0.7	*4.8	1.0	0.5	0.1	*1.3	0.2

* Statistically different from the 2006 estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

Table A-3.

Health Insurance Coverage in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009

Coverage	All families				TANF families				Poor non-TANF families				Other non-TANF families			
	2006 (N=35,445)		2009 (N=37,089)		2006 (N=1,360)		2009 (N=1,749)		2006 (N=4,824)		2009 (N=5,765)		2006 (N=29,262)		2009 (N=29,575)	
	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)
Medicaid																
No months	60.8	0.9	*59.4	0.9	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.2	18.9	2.0	*15.5	1.6	70.6	0.9	71.3	0.9
Some months	13.6	0.6	*18.9	0.7	10.2	2.9	*18.2	3.1	18.7	2.0	*30.8	2.1	12.9	0.7	*16.6	0.7
All months	25.6	0.8	*21.8	0.7	88.8	3.0	*79.8	3.3	62.5	2.5	*53.7	2.2	16.6	0.8	*12.1	0.6
Private insurance																
No months	17.6	0.7	*21.2	0.7	62.4	4.7	*69.1	3.8	55.8	2.5	*62.1	2.2	9.2	0.6	*10.4	0.6
Some months	9.0	0.5	*14.8	0.6	15.8	3.5	19.7	3.2	17.7	2.0	*24.5	1.9	7.2	0.5	*12.6	0.7
All months	73.4	0.8	*64.0	0.8	21.8	4.0	*11.2	2.6	26.6	2.3	*13.5	1.5	83.6	0.8	*77.0	0.8
Not insured																
No months	51.4	0.9	51.4	0.9	43.6	4.8	*33.9	3.9	27.5	2.3	*19.0	1.8	55.7	1.0	*58.8	1.0
Some months	21.3	0.8	*28.8	0.8	30.9	4.4	*50.2	4.1	26.9	2.3	*39.7	2.2	19.9	0.8	*25.4	0.9
All months	27.3	0.8	*19.8	0.7	25.5	4.2	*15.9	3.0	45.6	2.5	*41.4	2.2	24.4	0.9	*15.8	0.7

* Statistically different from the 2006 estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

Table A-4.

Receipt of Transportation Assistance, Clothing Assistance, and Other Assistance in the Past 12 Months by TANF and Poverty Status: 2006 and 2009

(Numbers in thousands)

Program	All families				TANF families				Poor non-TANF families				Other non-TANF families			
	2006 (N=35,445)		2009 (N=37,089)		2006 (N=1,360)		2009 (N=1,749)		2006 (N=4,824)		2009 (N=5,765)		2006 (N=29,262)		2009 (N=29,575)	
	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)	Percent	90 percent C.I. (+/-)
Transportation assistance	1.2	0.2	*2.1	0.3	15.6	3.5	*23.9	3.5	2.6	0.8	3.2	0.8	0.3	0.1	*0.6	0.2
Clothing assistance	0.6	0.1	*1.2	0.2	6.5	2.4	8.6	2.3	1.1	0.5	*2.4	0.7	0.2	0.1	*0.5	0.1
Other welfare assistance	0.9	0.2	0.9	0.2	9.9	2.9	6.9	2.1	1.1	0.5	1.3	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.1

* Statistically different from 2006 estimate at the 90 percent confidence level.

Notes: This analysis includes only families with children under the age of 18. For information on confidentiality protection and sampling and nonsampling error, see <http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), 2004 Panel, Waves 6–8, and 2008 Panel, Waves 1–3.

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