Illinois | TANF Caseload Factsheet
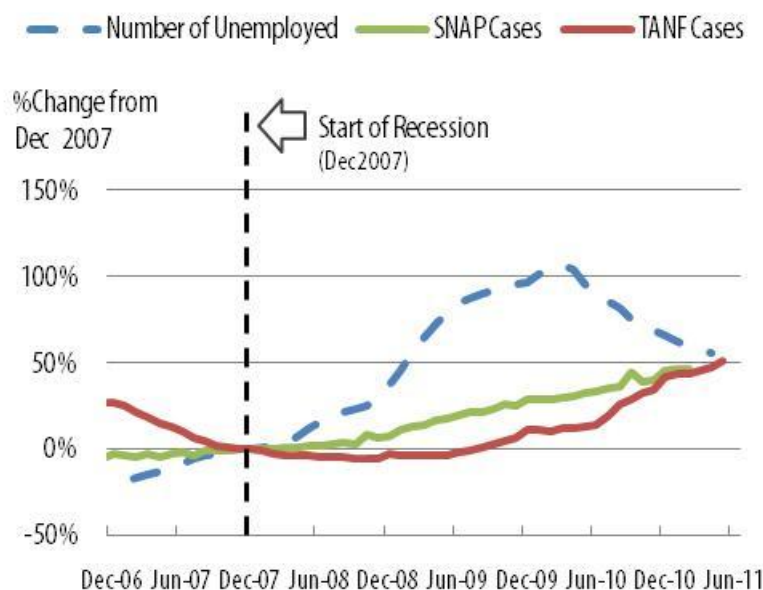
Center on
Budget
and Policy
Priorities

The TANF caseload in Illinois increased by 11 percent from Dec 07 to Dec 09.

TANF, SNAP and Unemployment Trends

	Dec 07	Dec 09	Dec 10	% Change Dec 07-09	% Change Dec 09-10
Number of Unemployed	369,600	725,300	613,400	96%	-15%
SNAP Cases	589,800	760,600	857,300	29%	13%
TANF Cases	26,600	29,600	37,600	11%	27%

- Illinois' TANF caseload was declining sharply prior to the recession, and continued to decline slightly during the first year of the recession. The caseload has been steadily increasing since December 2008.

- Among all states, Illinois ranked 26th in the amount its caseload increased from December 2007 to December 2009.

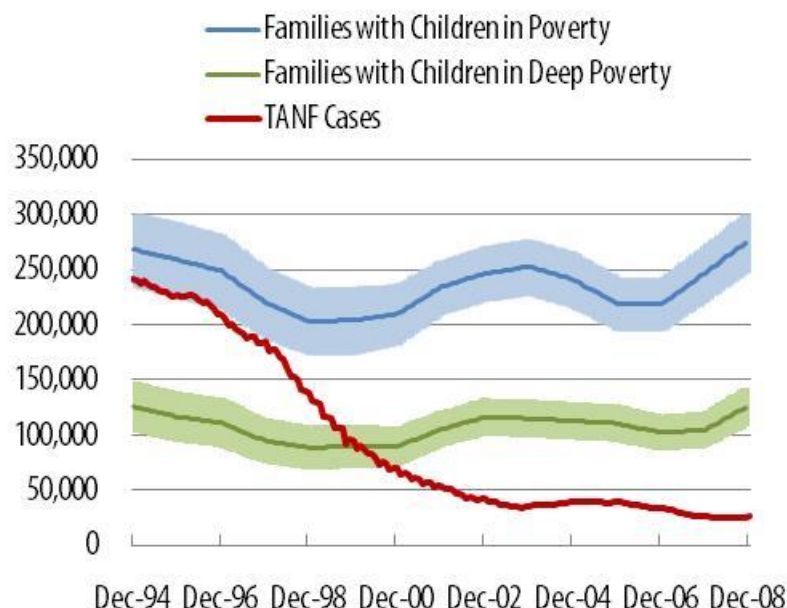### Changes in TANF Cases, SNAP Cases, and the Number of Unemployed Persons

A smaller share of needy families receives TANF now compared to 15 years ago.

TANF and Poverty Trends in Illinois

Families with children:	1994-95	2008-09
... on AFDC/TANF	237,000	26,100
... in Poverty	268,300	276,800
TANF to Poverty Ratio	88	9
United States TANF to Poverty Ratio	75	28

- In 1994-95, for every 100 Illinois families in poverty, the AFDC program served 88 families. In 2008-09, only 9 families participated in TANF for every 100 in poverty.

- In 2009, Illinois used 5% of its state and federal TANF funds on Basic Assistance.

- The monthly grant for a family of three in Illinois was $432 in 2010, 18% lower than in 1996 after adjusting for inflation.

Beginning in 2006, this analysis uses TANF caseload data collected directly from state agencies rather than the official data reported by HHS in order to more consistently reflect the number of families receiving cash welfare in each state over time. Unlike the HHS data, these data include solely state-funded programs, and exclude worker supplement programs.

Number of Families with Children in Poverty, Deep Poverty and TANF Cases

Deep Poverty refers to families below half the poverty line. Shading in graph shows the 90% confidence interval (lower and upper bound) of poverty estimates. Two years of Current Population Survey (CPS) data were merged to improve reliability. For example, Dec-08 represents merged CPS poverty data for calendar years 2008 and 2009.