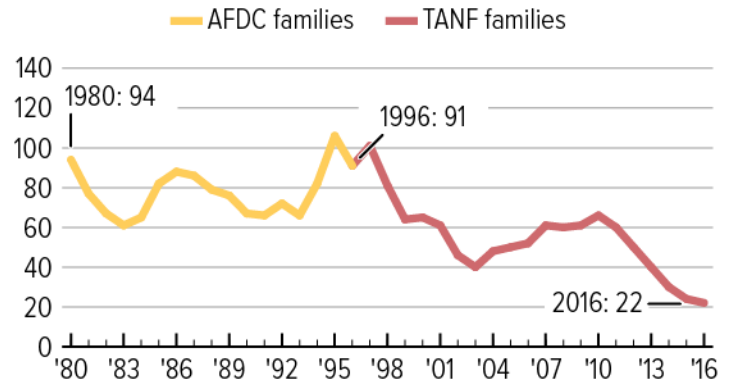


# Maine's TANF Cash Assistance Is Disappearing for Poor Families

In 2015-16, for every 100 poor families with children in Maine, only 22 received TANF. This “TANF-to-poverty ratio” declined 69 points since 1995-96.

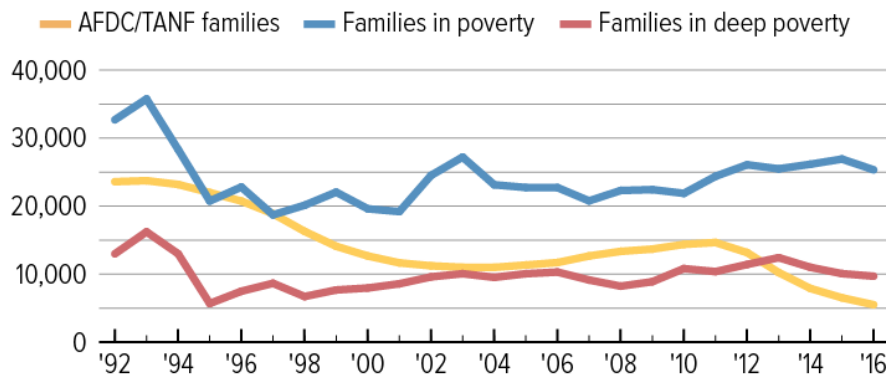
TANF-to-poverty ratio	1995/96	2015/16
Maine	91	22
National	68	23

**Number of Families in Maine Receiving AFDC/TANF Cash Assistance for Every 100 Families with Children in Poverty**



Families with children	1995/96	2015/16	TANF benefit level	Share of federal poverty level	
on AFDC/TANF	20,700	5,500	Maine benefit	\$485	29%
in Poverty	22,800	25,300	Median state benefit	\$432	25%
in Deep poverty	7,500	9,700			

**Changes in AFDC/TANF Cases and the Number of Families with Children in Poverty and Deep Poverty in Maine**



Source note: TANF = Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; AFDC = Aid to Families with Dependent Children. CBPP analysis of poverty and deep poverty data from the Census' Current Population Survey. CBPP uses two-year averages of the poverty data and the TANF-to-Poverty ratios to improve the reliability of the data at the state level. Single year labels represent two-year averages for state data. For example, '2016' represents '2015-2016.' AFDC/TANF caseload data from Department of Health and Human Services and (since September 2006) caseload data collected from state agencies. TANF benefit levels compiled by CBPP from various sources. Benefit levels represented are the maximum benefit for a family of three. The change in the value of the benefits since 1995 is adjusted for inflation using the CPI-U-RS.