

TANF Cash Assistance Should Reach Many More Families in New Mexico to Lessen Hardship

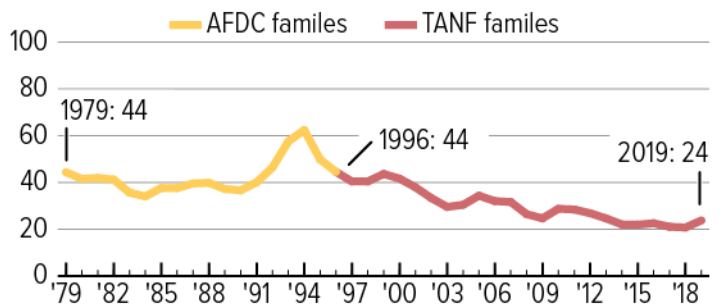


In 2018-19, for every 100 families living in poverty in New Mexico, only 24 received TANF cash assistance. This “TANF-to-poverty ratio” has fallen 20 points since 1995-96. If TANF reached the same share of families in poverty that its predecessor AFDC did in 1996, 9,523 more families in New Mexico would be helped by TANF now.

TANF-to-poverty ratio

	1995/96	2018/19
New Mexico	44	24
National	68	23

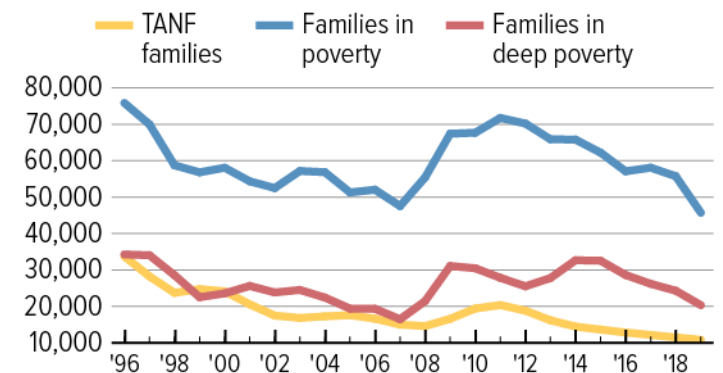
Number of Families in New Mexico Receiving AFDC/TANF Cash Assistance for Every 100 Families with Children in Poverty



Families with children

	1995/96	2018/19
Receiving AFDC/TANF	33,742	10,826
In poverty	75,832	45,733
In deep poverty	34,271	20,360

Changes in AFDC/TANF Cases and the Number of Families with Children in Poverty and Deep Poverty in New Mexico



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, “2019” represents “2018-2019.” AFDC/TANF caseload data from Department of Health and Human Services and (since September 2006) caseload data collected from state agencies. All ratios are rounded and point differences between ratios may appear inexact due to rounding.