

TANF Financial Assistance to Poor Families Is Disappearing in Washington

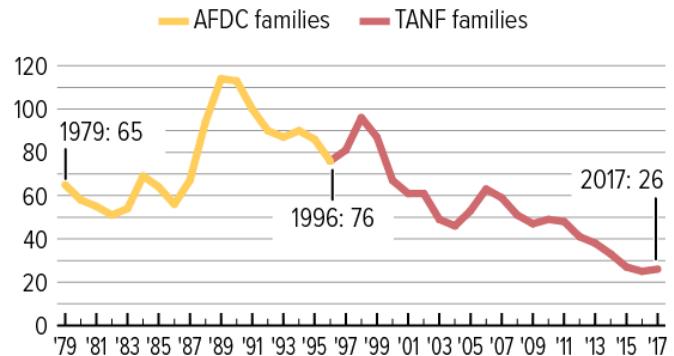
In 2016-17, for every 100 poor families with children in Washington, only 26 received TANF. This “TANF-to-poverty ratio” declined 50 points since 1995-96.

TANF-to-poverty ratio **1995/96** **2016/17**

Washington 76 26

National 68 23

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



Washington families with children

1995/96 **2016/17**

on AFDC/TANF 99,570 28,545

in Poverty 130,292 109,145

in Deep Poverty 33,495 50,160

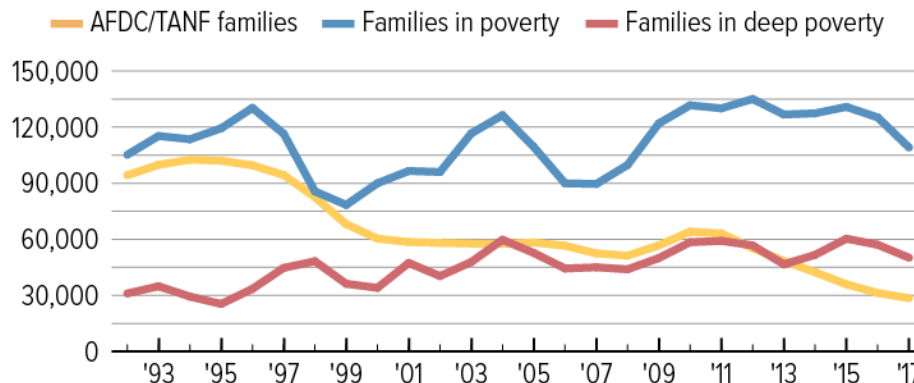
TANF benefit level

Share of federal poverty level

WA benefit \$569 33%

Median state benefit \$450 26%

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



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, ‘2017’ represents ‘2016-2017.’ 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 1996 is adjusted for inflation using the CPI-U-RS.