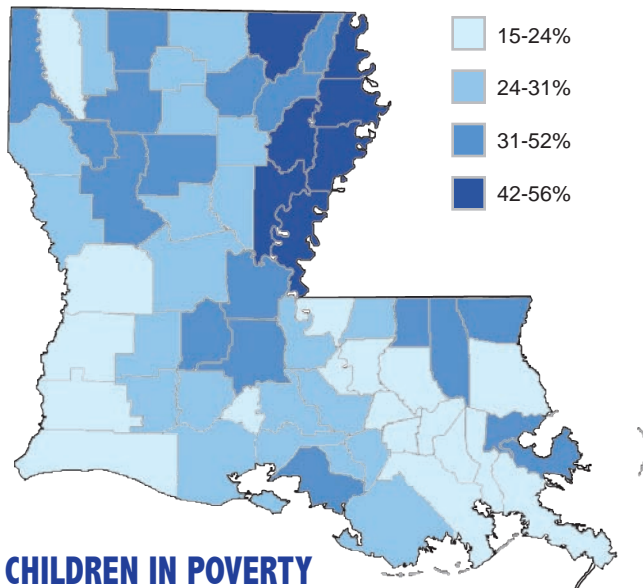


POVERTY AND INCOME



CHILDREN IN POVERTY
(PERCENT) — 2007

PEOPLE IN POVERTY

DEFINITION: Estimated number and percentage of people with incomes lower than the federal poverty threshold. In 2007, the federal poverty threshold for a family of four was \$20,650.

DATA SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division, Small Area Estimates Branch, Washington D.C. Final release date for 2007 estimates: December 2008

RATE CALCULATION: $100 * (\text{number of people in poverty} \div \text{total population in the poverty universe})$

CHILDREN (AGES 0-17) IN POVERTY

DEFINITION: Estimated number and percentage of children under age 18 whose family incomes are less than the federal poverty threshold.

DATA SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division, Small Area Estimates Branch, Washington D.C. Final release date for 2007 estimates: December 2008

RATE CALCULATION: $100 * (\text{estimated number of children ages 0-17 in poverty} \div \text{total number of children ages 0-17 in the poverty universe})$

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

DEFINITION: Estimated point at which one half of all households have higher incomes and one half of all households have lower incomes.

DATA SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division, Small Area Estimates Branch, Washington D.C. Final release date for 2007 estimates: December 2008

SIGNIFICANCE

A family's income has a major impact on a child's overall well-being. Children from low-income families are more likely than their higher-income peers to experience negative outcomes ranging from being born at a low birthweight to dropping out of school.¹ Research consistently shows that experiencing poverty during early childhood is closely correlated with poorer educational outcomes in later years. The National Center for Children in Poverty reports that at age 4, children who live in poverty are 18 months behind what is normal for their age group, and the gap remains unchanged at age 10.²

In addition to impacting a child's educational achievement, poverty is also associated with poor health outcomes for children. The 2007 National Survey of Children's Health found that parents in households with incomes below the poverty line were much more likely to report that their child was in fair or poor health than parents in higher-income households. Overall, 8.4% poor children were reported to be in fair or poor health, while the same was true for less than 2% of children in households with incomes above 200% of the FPL.³

Louisiana has one of the highest rates of child poverty in the country, behind only Mississippi. In 2007, 27% of Louisiana children lived in families with income below the federal poverty line.⁴ Children are at a higher risk for being poor than adults, including both working-age adults and the elderly. In 2007, the child poverty rate in Louisiana was twice as large as the elderly poverty rate (13%) and significantly higher than the poverty rate for adults ages 18-64, which was 16%.⁵

Child poverty rates vary widely across Louisiana. East Carroll's child poverty rate (56%) is more than 3.7 times as large as St. Tammany's child poverty rate (15%). Only four Louisiana parishes—Ascension, Livingston, St. Charles, and St. Tammany—have child poverty rates that are below the national average of 18%.

RACIAL DISPARITIES

In Louisiana, African American children are 3.5 times as likely to live in poverty as white children. According to Census data, 46% of Louisiana's African American children lived in poverty, while the same was true for just 13% of white children in 2007.⁶

¹ Kristin Anderson Moore, Ph.D., Zakia Redd, M.P.P., Mary Burkhauser, M.A., Kassim Mbwana, M.P.P., and Ashleigh Collins, M.A., "Children in Poverty: Trends, Consequences and Policy Options," *Child Trends*, April 2009, retrieved from www.childtrends.org on 6/1/2009.

² Lisa Klein & Jane Knitzer, "Promoting Effective Early Learning: What Every Policymaker and Educator Should Know," National Center for Children in Poverty, 2007, retrieved from www.nccp.org/ on 7/30/2009.

³ Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative, "Children's Overall Health Status," 2007 National Survey of Children's Health, Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health, retrieved from www.nschdata.org on 7/30/2009.

⁴ The Annie E. Casey Foundation, "Children in poverty—2007," KIDS COUNT Data Center, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, retrieved from www.kidscount.org/datacenter on 7/30/2009.

⁵ U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, "Table S1701: Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months," 2007 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, retrieved from <http://factfinder.census.gov> on 7/30/2009.

⁶ The Annie E. Casey Foundation, "Children in poverty by Race—2007," KIDS COUNT Data Center, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, retrieved from www.kidscount.org/datacenter on 7/30/2009.

POVERTY AND INCOME

2007	PEOPLE IN POVERTY		CHILDREN (AGES 0-17) IN POVERTY		MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME
	No.	%	No.	%	\$
LOUISIANA	783,922	19	285,425	27	40,866
Acadia	13,801	24	4,803	29	33,098
Allen	4,592	22	1,484	26	34,958
Ascension	11,949	12	4,562	16	56,720
Assumption	4,976	22	1,707	31	39,643
Avoyelles	10,419	27	3,773	36	29,239
Beauregard	5,329	16	1,883	22	40,592
Bienville	3,691	26	1,259	36	29,728
Bossier	15,889	15	6,387	22	47,539
Caddo	56,372	23	22,667	36	35,547
Calcasieu	31,383	18	10,924	24	42,018
Caldwell	1,913	20	656	29	33,250
Cameron	1,040	14	329	22	40,460
Catahoula	2,977	30	1,083	45	30,003
Claiborne	4,242	29	1,321	39	31,393
Concordia	5,514	30	2,110	45	28,595
De Soto	5,160	20	1,947	30	35,058
East Baton Rouge	75,602	18	25,450	24	42,173
East Carroll	2,790	39	1,241	56	23,888
East Feliciana	4,186	23	1,292	28	35,960
Evangeline	9,012	26	3,352	35	28,629
Franklin	5,590	29	2,288	46	28,282
Grant	3,689	19	1,370	27	37,473
Iberia	14,839	20	5,684	28	39,268
Iberville	5,831	20	2,054	27	37,483
Jackson	2,631	18	932	27	35,137
Jefferson	61,203	15	22,895	23	47,366
Jefferson Davis	5,695	19	2,023	25	36,185
Lafayette	30,465	15	11,240	22	44,568
Lafourche	15,654	17	5,223	24	41,706
La Salle	2,402	18	811	26	36,307
Lincoln	9,008	24	2,436	28	31,767
Livingston	12,440	11	4,683	15	53,259
Madison	3,680	33	1,637	49	25,855
Morehouse	8,601	31	3,569	51	28,847
Natchitoches	10,737	29	3,531	37	30,227
Orleans	49,922	22	15,461	36	37,348
Ouachita	30,176	21	13,082	34	37,147
Plaquemines	3,423	16	1,218	22	44,896
Pointe Coupee	4,712	21	1,586	30	38,131
Rapides	24,894	20	9,115	28	36,938
Red River	2,060	23	840	35	29,651
Richland	4,694	24	1,857	36	29,394
Sabine	4,486	19	1,513	26	35,126
St. Bernard	3,702	19	1,330	40	33,093
St. Charles	5,582	11	2,087	15	54,998
St. Helena	2,305	22	837	33	32,113
St. James	3,610	17	1,222	22	44,195
St. John the Baptist	7,972	17	3,179	24	43,752
St. Landry	27,327	31	10,237	42	28,472
St. Martin	8,629	17	3,312	25	38,271
St. Mary	11,356	22	4,465	34	36,109
St. Tammany	25,127	11	8,594	15	58,891
Tangipahoa	25,576	23	9,655	32	34,132
Tensas	1,976	37	667	50	22,264
Terrebonne	18,916	18	6,934	25	44,235
Union	4,173	19	1,584	29	34,172
Vermilion	11,229	21	4,043	29	37,556
Vernon	7,262	17	3,431	24	41,605
Washington	11,006	26	4,050	36	30,160
Webster	8,183	21	2,726	29	34,207
West Baton Rouge	3,719	17	1,316	23	43,020
West Carroll	2,741	26	900	35	28,781
West Feliciana	2,239	23	479	20	47,714
Winn	3,623	26	1,100	33	32,371

FAMILY INDEPENDENCE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (FITAP)

DEFINITION: Average number and percentage of children served by the Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program (FITAP) in a state fiscal year (July 1-June 30).

SIGNIFICANCE

The FITAP program provides cash assistance to families whose financial resources are insufficient to meet basic subsistence needs. The FITAP program, which is funded through the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) block grant and state matching funds, is targeted toward families with extremely low incomes. In Louisiana, the average grant is about \$200 a month.¹ The average family receiving FITAP benefits consists of a single mother and her two children.

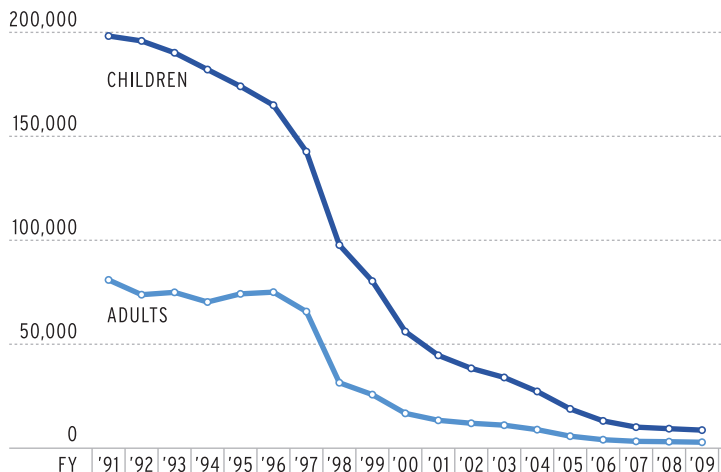
To qualify for the program, participants must meet income and asset requirements and have a child under the age of 18 living in the home. All work-eligible recipients must participate in a job readiness program known as Solutions to Empower People (STEP.)

In 1996, the U.S. Congress passed the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act (PRWOA), which replaced the federal Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program with TANF block grants. TANF instituted new requirements for recipients of cash benefits, including work requirements and a five-year cap on lifetime benefits. Unlike AFDC, TANF provides states with substantial flexibility in how program dollars are spent. Louisiana uses TANF dollars to support a wide range of activities, including direct cash assistance (FITAP), job readiness training, child care, preschool programs, and teen pregnancy prevention programs.²

Louisiana has spent an increasingly smaller portion of its TANF dollars on direct cash assistance. In federal fiscal year 2007, Louisiana spent 16% of its TANF dollars on basic assistance, a decline from 21% in FY 2003.³ Nationally, states spent an average of 30% of their TANF dollars on basic assistance in FY 2007.⁴

In Louisiana, the number of FITAP cases has declined dramatically since 1996. The number of Louisiana children served by FITAP declined

FITAP PARTICIPATION IN LOUISIANA Fiscal years 1991-2009



from 142,441 children in FY 1997 to 10,156 children in FY 2007.⁵ In FY 2007, less than 1% of children statewide were served by the FITAP program. Every parish has seen their cash assistance rolls plunge since welfare reform was implemented. Even in East Carroll Parish (where the child poverty rate is among the nation's highest), just 5.4% of all children were served by the FITAP program in FY 2007. This represents a substantial decline from FY 2001, when 18% of East Carroll's children were served by the program.⁶

DATA SOURCE

FITAP Data: Department of Social Services, Office of Family Support, Quality Assurance Division. Population Data: Population Estimates Program, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau Washington D.C. Release Date: August 7, 2008.

DATA NOTE

Because FITAP data are based on state fiscal year averages, population estimates for two years were averaged to calculate a FITAP participation rate per 100 children.

RATE CALCULATION

$100 * (\text{average number of children ages 0-17 served by FITAP} \div \text{total number of children ages 0-17})$

¹ Louisiana Department of Social Services, "Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program," Louisiana Department of Social Services, retrieved from www.dss.state.la.us/ on 7/30/2009.

² Louisiana Department of Social Services, "Louisiana Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) State Plan 2008-2009," Louisiana Department of Social Services, retrieved from www.dss.state.la.us/ on 7/30/2009.

³ Center for Law and Social Policy, "Louisiana Use of TANF and Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Funds in Fiscal Year 2007" and "Louisiana Use of TANF and Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Funds in Fiscal Year 2003," Center for Law and Social Policy, retrieved from www.clasp.org on 7/30/2009.

⁴ Matt Lewis and Elizabeth Lower-Basch, "Analysis of Fiscal Year 2007 TANF and MOE Spending by States," Center for Law and Social Policy, retrieved from www.clasp.org on 7/30/2009.

⁵ Louisiana Department of Social Services, "State Fiscal Year Totals 1996-1997 FITAP Combined (Basic and Up)," Louisiana Department of Social Services, retrieved from <http://www.dss.state.la.us/> on 7/30/2009.

⁶ Agenda for Children's analysis of data provided by the Louisiana Department of Social Services.

CHILDREN SERVED BY THE FAMILY INDEPENDENCE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (FITAP)

AVERAGE MONTHLY NUMBER AND PERCENT OF ALL CHILDREN

	FY 2001		FY 2007		CHANGE FYs 2001-2007	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	% change in rate
LOUISIANA	44,618	3.7	10,156	0.9	-34,462	-75.7
Acadia	396	2.3	66	0.4	-330	-82.5
Allen	153	2.5	23	0.4	-130	-83.8
Ascension	338	1.4	70	0.2	-268	-86.2
Assumption	198	3.0	41	0.7	-157	-76.9
Avoyelles	712	6.5	160	1.5	-552	-76.8
Beauregard	122	1.4	38	0.4	-84	-70.5
Bienville	102	2.4	47	1.3	-55	-46.9
Bossier	476	1.7	216	0.7	-260	-59.4
Caddo	2,608	3.9	959	1.5	-1,649	-61.6
Calcasieu	1,035	2.1	319	0.7	-716	-66.4
Caldwell	102	4.0	39	1.7	-63	-57.0
Cameron	11	LNE	<5	LNE	n.a.	n.a.
Catahoula	115	4.2	37	1.5	-78	-64.3
Claiborne	185	4.4	49	1.4	-136	-68.0
Concordia	349	6.3	194	4.0	-155	-36.7
De Soto	332	4.6	25	0.4	-307	-91.4
East Baton Rouge	2,385	2.2	1,124	1.0	-1,261	-55.3
East Carroll	502	18.0	122	5.4	-380	-70.0
East Feliciana	68	1.3	28	0.6	-40	-52.3
Evangeline	410	4.0	129	1.3	-281	-67.2
Franklin	310	5.3	46	0.9	-264	-83.1
Grant	189	3.6	53	1.0	-136	-72.3
Iberia	1,129	5.2	242	1.2	-887	-76.8
Iberville	295	3.4	96	1.2	-199	-65.0
Jackson	136	3.5	30	0.8	-106	-77.4
Jefferson	3,081	2.7	458	0.5	-2,623	-81.5
Jefferson Davis	173	1.9	51	0.6	-122	-68.5
Lafayette	772	1.5	296	0.6	-476	-59.9
Lafourche	537	2.2	121	0.5	-416	-77.4
La Salle	76	2.1	14	LNE	-62	n.a.
Lincoln	321	3.5	143	1.6	-178	-54.1
Livingston	226	0.8	47	0.2	-179	-75.9
Madison	215	4.9	134	3.9	-81	-20.6
Morehouse	645	7.7	276	3.8	-369	-50.7
Natchitoches	354	3.5	214	2.2	-140	-37.9
Orleans	13,743	10.8	844	2.1	-12,899	-80.6
Ouachita	1,479	3.6	884	2.2	-595	-39.5
Plaquemines	273	3.5	10	LNE	-263	n.a.
Pointe Coupee	335	5.5	44	0.8	-291	-85.5
Rapides	1,143	3.4	444	1.3	-699	-61.2
Red River	172	6.0	31	1.2	-141	-80.1
Richland	357	6.3	74	1.4	-283	-77.8
Sabine	202	3.3	53	0.9	-149	-72.7
St. Bernard	442	2.6	12	LNE	-430	n.a.
St. Charles	201	1.4	50	0.4	-151	-71.2
St. Helena	91	3.0	13	LNE	-78	n.a.
St. James	186	3.0	47	0.8	-139	-73.4
St. John the Baptist	213	1.6	88	0.6	-125	-62.3
St. Landry	1,427	5.6	322	1.3	-1,105	-76.6
St. Martin	399	2.8	120	0.9	-279	-67.8
St. Mary	519	3.3	88	0.6	-431	-82.0
St. Tammany	661	1.2	117	0.2	-544	-83.5
Tangipahoa	1,190	4.3	326	1.1	-864	-74.3
Tensas	114	6.6	20	1.4	-94	-78.8
Terrebonne	594	2.0	143	0.5	-451	-74.6
Union	169	2.9	53	1.0	-116	-65.8
Vermilion	356	2.4	63	0.4	-293	-83.2
Vernon	125	0.8	48	0.3	-77	-62.9
Washington	528	4.5	137	1.2	-391	-73.5
Webster	299	2.8	79	0.8	-220	-71.8
West Baton Rouge	107	1.8	29	0.5	-78	-72.1
West Carroll	57	1.9	52	2.0	-5	7.6
West Feliciana	21	0.7	<5	LNE	LNE	n.a.
Winn	158	3.8	58	1.7	-100	-55.8

* PERCENT CHANGE refers to the change in the percentage of children served by FITAP between 2001 to 2007.
LNE [low number of events] is used because the rate or percent may be unreliable.

CHILDREN SERVED BY THE KINSHIP CARE PROGRAM

DEFINITION: Average number of children served by the Kinship Care program in a state fiscal year (July 1-June 30).

SIGNIFICANCE

Children who are unable to live with their parents tend to experience better outcomes if they live with a relative than if they live in a non-relative foster home or a group home.¹ For example, compared to children who live in group homes or in non-relative foster care, children who live with relatives are less likely to experience behavioral problems and far less likely to report having tried to run away from home.²

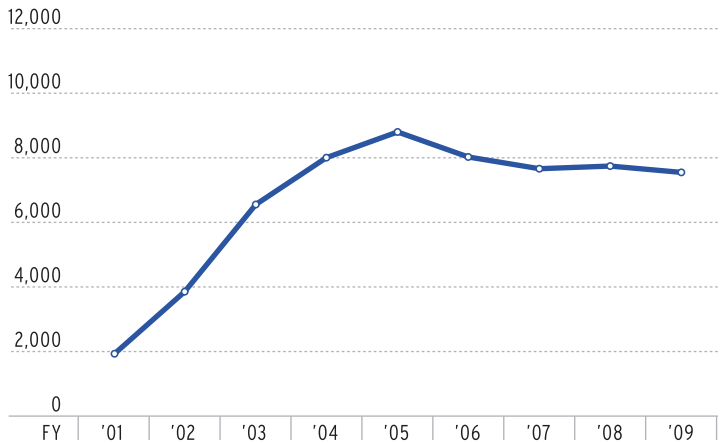
The Kinship Care Subsidy Program supports low-income relatives caring for a related child in their home by providing monthly cash benefits (\$280 a month per child). Relatives who may apply for Kinship Care include siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, step-parents, step-siblings, first cousins, nephews, nieces, and their legal spouses. In order to qualify for the program, the child must live with the relative full-time and the child's parents cannot live in the same home as the child. In addition to other requirements, the relative and the child must meet the program's income guidelines. In 2009, this meant that the child's earnings must be less than \$280 a month and the household income must be less than 150% of the federal poverty level (about \$33,075 for a family of four).³

The Kinship Care Subsidy Program is administered by the Louisiana Department of Social Services and is funded by the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) block grant. Participation in the program, which began in 2000, nearly quadrupled between FY 2001 and FY 2009, rising from 1,925 children to 7,551 children. Participation statewide peaked in FY 2005, when 8,800 children were served by the Kinship Care program. Much of the decline in program participation between FY 2005 and FY 2009 is attributable to post-Katrina declines in participation in Orleans Parish. During FY 2005, an average of 1,668 children in Orleans Parish benefitted from the Kinship Care program, accounting for 19% of all children served by the program statewide. In FY 2009, only 667 children in Orleans Parish were served by Kinship Care—1,001 fewer than in FY 2005.⁴

DATA SOURCE

Department of Social Services, Office of Family Support, Quality Assurance Division

CHILDREN SERVED BY THE KINSHIP CARE PROGRAM IN LOUISIANA Fiscal years 2001-2009



¹ Tiffany Conway and Rutledge Q. Hutson, "Is Kinship Care Good for Kids?" Center for Law and Social Policy, 2007, retrieved from www.clasp.org on 6/1/2009.

² *ibid.*

³ Louisiana Department of Social Services, "Kinship Care Subsidy Program," Louisiana Department of Social Services, retrieved from www.dss.state.la.us on 6/1/2009.

⁴ Data provided by the Louisiana Department of Social Services by special request

CHILDREN SERVED BY KINSHIP CARE PROGRAM AVERAGE MONTHLY NUMBER

	FY 2001	FY 2009	CHANGE FROM FYs 2001-2009
	No.	No.	No.
LOUISIANA	1,925	7,551	5,626
Acadia	17	120	103
Allen	22	54	32
Ascension	16	105	89
Assumption	8	53	45
Avoyelles	38	123	85
Beauregard	27	53	26
Bienville	<5	22	n.a.
Bossier	26	94	68
Caddo	86	485	399
Calcasieu	64	278	214
Caldwell	13	24	11
Cameron	<5	<5	n.a.
Catahoula	6	16	10
Claiborne	9	49	40
Concordia	15	85	70
De Soto	11	34	23
East Baton Rouge	120	651	531
East Carroll	<5	38	n.a.
East Feliciana	18	30	12
Evangeline	76	135	59
Franklin	11	34	23
Grant	9	50	41
Iberia	38	132	94
Iberville	18	59	41
Jackson	<5	33	n.a.
Jefferson	114	356	242
Jefferson Davis	15	64	49
La Salle	11	11	0
Lafayette	42	187	145
Lafourche	27	71	44
Lincoln	<5	73	n.a.
Livingston	29	157	128
Madison	<5	113	n.a.
Morehouse	<5	99	n.a.
Natchitoches	27	145	118
Orleans	266	667	401
Ouachita	40	383	343
Plaquemines	21	19	-2
Pointe Coupee	<5	35	n.a.
Rapides	124	377	253
Red River	12	32	20
Richland	<5	66	n.a.
Sabine	11	42	31
St. Bernard	25	30	5
St. Charles	11	53	42
St. Helena	<5	18	n.a.
St. James	<5	25	n.a.
St. John the Baptist	19	63	44
St. Landry	130	254	124
St. Martin	27	77	50
St. Mary	24	77	53
St. Tammany	27	177	150
Tangipahoa	102	445	343
Tensas	<5	20	n.a.
Terrebonne	21	99	78
Union	<5	42	n.a.
Vermilion	19	93	74
Vernon	9	30	21
Washington	43	182	139
Webster	13	119	106
West Baton Rouge	6	21	15
West Carroll	0	28	28
West Feliciana	<5	<5	n.a.
Winn	12	41	29

*n.a. The change between 2001 and 2009 was not calculated for any parish in which an average of fewer than 5 children participated in the program in either FY 2001 or FY 2009.

CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE

DEFINITION: Average number and percentage of children (ages 0-12) who were served by the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) in a state fiscal year (July 1-June 30).

SIGNIFICANCE

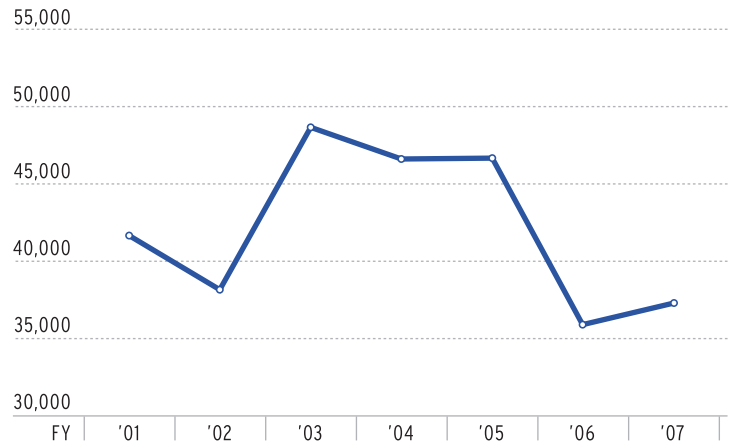
The Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) helps low- and moderate-income families pay for child care while parents attend work, go to school and/or look for work. In Louisiana, 76% of families served by CCAP in federal fiscal year (FFY) 2007 were employed, 10% were both employed and in an education or training program, and an additional 8% were in a training or education program.¹ National research shows that parents who receive child care subsidies are more likely to work, work more hours, sustain employment and earn more than their peers who do not receive child care subsidies.²

CCAP is administered by the Louisiana Department of Social Services (DSS) and is funded by the federal Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), the federal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) block grant, and state matching dollars. Families who are eligible for CCAP must pay a portion of the cost of care in the form of a copayment, which ranges from 20% to 60% of the cost of care, depending on the family's income. Families that receive FITAP (cash assistance) are exempt from the copayment requirement. In 2007, Louisiana families with copayments spent an average of 12% of their monthly income on copayments. Nationally, families served by CCDBG funding spent an average of 6% of their income on copayments.³

Participating families can use CCAP to pay for child care in several different settings, including Class A child care centers, family child care homes, in-home care, and school-based before- and after-school programs and summer camps. Louisiana families served by CCDBG funds are more likely to use center-based care than their counterparts in the rest of the country. In FFY 2007, 77% of Louisiana children served by CCDBG funds received care in a child care center, compared to 58% nationally. Louisiana children served by CCDBG funds were considerably less likely than their counterparts nationally to receive care in a family child care home. In FFY 2007, 11% of Louisiana children served by CCDBG funds were cared for in a family child care home, compared to 28% nationally.⁴

AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED BY THE CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN LOUISIANA

Fiscal years 2001-2007



Louisiana's Child Care Assistance Program serves children under age 13, as well as disabled children under age 18. Relative to the rest of the country, a disproportionate share of Louisiana children served by CCDBG funding were infants and toddlers. In FFY 2007, 41% of Louisiana children served by CCDBG were infants and toddlers (ages 0-2). The comparable figure for the nation was 29%. One-third of children served by CCDBG funds in Louisiana were preschoolers (ages 3-5), which is comparable to the national rate of 36%. School-age children (ages 6-13) comprise 26% of Louisiana children served by CCDBG funds, compared to 35% nationally.⁵

The number of children served by the Child Care Assistance Program fell from 46,680 in FY 2005 to 37,296 in FY 2007. In Orleans Parish, the percentage of children ages 0-12 who were served by CCAP in Orleans Parish fell from 9.2% in FY 2005 to 4.5% in FY 2007, a decline of 50.6%. Other hurricane-affected parishes also saw substantial declines in both the absolute number of children served by CCAP and the percentage of children served by CCAP.

DATA SOURCE

Department of Social Services, Office of Family Support, Quality Assurance Division

RATE CALCULATION

$100 * (\text{average number of children served by CCAP} \div \text{total number of children ages 0-12})$

¹ Center for Law and Social Policy, "Louisiana Child Care Participation Profile," Center for Law and Social Policy, retrieved from www.clasp.org on 7/30/2009.

² Stephanie A. Schaefer, J. Lee Kreader, and Ann M. Collins, "Parent Employment and the Use of Child Care Subsidies," Child Care and Early Education Research Connections, 2006, retrieved from www.childcareresearch.org on 5/1/2009.

³ Center for Law and Social Policy, "Louisiana Child Care Participation Profile," Center for Law and Social Policy, retrieved from www.clasp.org on 7/30/2009.

⁴ *ibid.*

⁵ *ibid.*

CHILDREN RECEIVING CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE

AVERAGE MONTHLY NUMBER AND PERCENT OF ALL CHILDREN AGES 0-12 SERVED

	FY 2005		FY 2007		CHANGE FROM FYs 2005-2007	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%*
LOUISIANA	46,680	5.6	37,296	4.9	-9,384	-12.7
Acadia	431	3.3	384	3.3	-47	-0.3
Allen	104	3.1	60	1.4	-43	-53.8
Ascension	240	1.2	334	1.6	93	37.2
Assumption	89	2.4	81	2.1	-9	-10.7
Avoyelles	452	5.7	428	5.6	-24	-2.6
Beauregard	219	3.5	194	3.2	-25	-9.8
Bienville	110	4.7	102	4.1	-8	-12.4
Bossier	911	3.8	803	3.8	-108	0.9
Caddo	3,429	7.1	3,271	7.2	-157	1.0
Calcasieu	1,968	5.6	1,575	4.7	-393	-17.4
Caldwell	40	2.2	24	1.4	-16	-33.4
Cameron	8	0.7	5	0.5	-3	-29.2
Catahoula	97	5.3	87	5.1	-11	-4.3
Claiborne	82	3.6	97	4.2	15	14.7
Concordia	431	13.7	321	9.4	-110	-31.2
De Soto	222	4.7	181	3.9	-41	-18.7
East Baton Rouge	5,477	7.4	5,943	7.7	465	4.6
East Carroll	242	14.2	242	15.4	1	8.8
East Feliciana	97	2.3	116	3.5	19	53.6
Evangeline	381	5.4	281	4.0	-99	-25.1
Franklin	283	7.4	359	9.9	76	34.8
Grant	293	7.2	285	8.0	-9	10.8
Iberia	1,271	8.5	1,192	8.1	-78	-4.4
Iberville	420	7.5	421	7.7	1	2.8
Jackson	79	2.1	80	3.2	2	46.9
Jefferson	3,794	5.2	2,137	3.1	-1,657	-40.8
Jefferson Davis	112	2.0	96	1.6	-16	-21.7
Lafayette	1,795	4.6	1,873	4.9	78	7.5
Lafourche	421	2.6	379	2.4	-43	-7.5
La Salle	71	2.7	70	3.1	-1	13.7
Lincoln	480	7.3	546	8.3	66	13.5
Livingston	519	2.2	594	2.6	74	22.2
Madison	129	5.0	156	6.4	27	28.2
Morehouse	680	13.4	624	12.3	-56	-8.8
Natchitoches	1,232	15.1	1,043	14.6	-189	-3.3
Orleans	6,908	9.2	1,204	4.5	-5,704	-50.6
Ouachita	1,769	6.3	1,739	6.2	-30	-1.8
Plaquemines	180	3.2	91	2.4	-88	-25.8
Pointe Coupee	141	3.9	165	4.3	24	9.3
Rapides	2,225	8.7	1,989	8.3	-235	-4.8
Red River	33	1.9	23	1.3	-9	-28.1
Richland	217	5.1	212	5.7	-5	13.1
Sabine	153	4.0	138	3.4	-15	-16.2
St. Bernard	587	4.6	42	2.9	-545	-36.9
St. Charles	312	3.6	275	2.9	-38	-20.3
St. Helena	149	7.2	136	7.4	-13	2.1
St. James	157	4.0	143	3.7	-13	-8.3
St. John the Baptist	509	5.6	483	5.0	-25	-10.7
St. Landry	1,017	5.7	962	5.4	-55	-4.6
St. Martin	594	6.5	567	5.8	-27	-10.2
St. Mary	593	5.9	564	5.9	-29	0.0
St. Tammany	944	2.3	697	1.7	-247	-27.2
Tangipahoa	1,342	7.0	1,341	6.2	-1	-11.9
Tensas	70	4.9	70	6.9	0	39.9
Terrebonne	782	3.9	686	3.3	-96	-13.7
Union	96	2.7	80	2.0	-16	-25.4
Vermilion	308	3.0	270	2.7	-38	-12.2
Vernon	135	1.2	135	1.2	0	-0.9
Washington	276	3.1	230	2.8	-46	-9.9
Webster	167	2.4	207	3.0	40	29.1
West Baton Rouge	216	5.8	236	5.9	20	0.8
West Carroll	12	0.5	10	0.6	-1	9.5
West Feliciana	44	2.5	43	2.6	-2	1.2
Winn	142	5.1	179	7.3	37	44.6

*Note that the percentage change refers to the change in the percentage of children who received Child Care Assistance. The percentage of children who were served by CCAP in Louisiana declined by 12.7% between FY 2005 and FY 2007. The number of children of children who were served by CCAP declined by 20.1% in the same time period.

CHILDREN SERVED BY THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (FOOD STAMPS)

DEFINITION: Average number and percentage of children served by the SNAP program in the state fiscal year (July 1-June 30).

SIGNIFICANCE

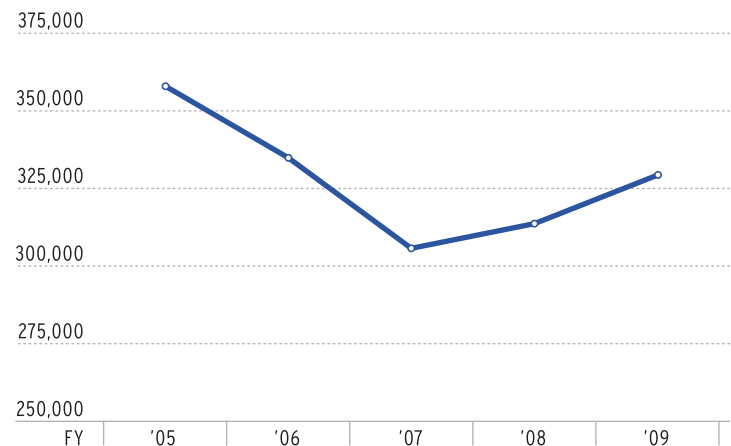
The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) program provides participants with monthly benefits that help families purchase the food they need for good health. All benefits provided by SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamps, are paid for by the federal government. States and the federal government share the costs of administering the program.¹

The SNAP program provides participants with an electronic benefits card that can be used to purchase food. SNAP benefits cannot be used to purchase hot food or non-food items (such as medicine or vitamins), nor can they be used to purchase alcohol or tobacco products. In July 2009, the average Louisiana household participating in SNAP included 2.4 recipients and received an average benefit of \$322.² The exact amount of a household's benefits is determined by a household's size and income, with the lowest-income households receiving the largest benefits.

In order to qualify for SNAP assistance, most households must meet certain asset and income criteria. For most households, gross income must be below 130% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and net income must be below 100% FPL. In 2009, this means that a family of four's gross monthly income must be less than \$2,297 and net monthly income (gross income, less allowable deductions) must be less than \$1,767. Households may have up to \$2,000 in resources, such as checking and savings accounts. Certain assets are exempt from the calculation of resources, including a house, vehicle, and the resources of someone receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI). If the household includes at least one person who is elderly or disabled, the resource limit is \$3,000. In order to receive benefits, all able-bodied adults (with specific exceptions) in the household must register for work and accept suitable employment.³

The USDA estimates that 75% of all Louisianans who were eligible for SNAP in FY 2006 actually participated in the program. Participation rates were slightly lower among

AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED BY THE SNAP IN LOUISIANA Fiscal years 2005-2009



the working poor. Approximately 70% of people who were considered to be among the eligible working poor in Louisiana participated in SNAP in 2006. According to estimates from 2004, 2005 and 2006, Louisiana's SNAP participation rate has been consistently higher than the national average.⁴

The number of Louisiana children served by SNAP declined by 52,365 between FY 2005 and FY 2007, falling from 358,033 to 305,668. This downward trend reversed in FY 2008 and FY 2009, when the program served an average of 329,348 Louisiana children each month.

DATA SOURCE

SNAP data: Department of Social Services, Office of Family Support, Quality Assurance Division. Population Data: Population Estimates Program, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau Washington D.C. Release Date: August 7, 2008. Available at www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php

DATA NOTE

Because SNAP data are based on state fiscal year averages, population estimates for two years were averaged to calculate a SNAP participation rate per 100 children.

RATE CALCULATION

$100 * (\text{average number of children ages 0-17 served by SNAP} \div \text{total number of children ages 0-17})$

¹ Food Research and Action Center, "Food Stamp Program," Food Research and Action Center, retrieved from www.frac.org on 6/30/2009.

² Louisiana Department of Social Services, Office of Family Support, "Food Stamp Program: State Fiscal Year 2010," Louisiana Department of Social Services retrieved from www.dss.state.la.us/ on 8/20/2009.

³ Louisiana Department of Social Services, Office of Family Support, "Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamp Program)," Louisiana Department of Social Services, retrieved from www.dss.state.la.us/ on 6/30/2009.

⁴ Christine Kissmer, "Reaching Those in Need: State Food Stamp Participation Rates in 2006," United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, 2008, retrieved from <http://www.fns.usda.gov> on 6/30/2009.

CHILDREN SERVED BY SNAP

AVERAGE MONTHLY NUMBER
AND PERCENT OF ALL CHILDREN

FY 2005

FY 2007

CHANGE FROM
FYs 2005-2007

	FY 2005		FY 2007		% change in rate*	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
LOUISIANA	358,033	31.0	305,668	28.5	-52,365	-8.2
Acadia	4,715	28.4	4,612	27.7	-103	-2.7
Allen	1,781	30.0	1,689	28.4	-92	-5.4
Ascension	4,042	16.4	4,401	15.7	359	-4.7
Assumption	1,983	33.6	1,908	33.6	-75	0.0
Avoyelles	4,331	40.6	4,065	37.9	-267	-6.7
Beauregard	1,826	21.0	1,722	19.4	-104	-8.0
Bienville	1,320	35.3	1,292	36.0	-27	2.0
Bossier	5,861	21.2	6,105	20.7	244	-2.1
Caddo	21,523	33.8	21,700	33.7	177	-0.3
Calcasieu	12,550	26.5	11,374	24.1	-1,176	-9.0
Caldwell	810	33.4	825	34.9	16	4.4
Cameron	375	16.1	156	9.6	-218	-40.6
Catahoula	946	39.0	1,074	43.9	129	12.6
Claiborne	1,476	39.6	1,353	38.5	-122	-2.7
Concordia	2,265	46.6	2,294	47.6	29	2.3
De Soto	2,222	32.8	2,198	32.7	-24	-0.4
East Baton Rouge	32,226	31.7	34,458	32.0	2,232	0.9
East Carroll	1,658	66.1	1,616	71.6	-42	8.4
East Feliciana	1,235	25.2	1,386	29.0	151	15.2
Evangeline	3,783	39.0	3,638	37.1	-145	-4.9
Franklin	2,354	44.1	2,406	47.1	52	6.6
Grant	1,722	34.2	1,669	32.4	-54	-5.1
Iberia	7,340	35.4	7,173	34.7	-168	-2.0
Iberville	2,982	37.6	3,195	40.8	213	8.4
Jackson	1,024	28.6	1,068	30.1	43	5.0
Jefferson	24,460	22.3	17,730	17.9	-6,730	-20.1
Jefferson Davis	2,148	25.1	1,950	23.1	-198	-8.0
Lafayette	11,798	23.5	11,958	22.7	160	-3.6
Lafourche	5,827	25.4	5,503	24.1	-324	-5.0
La Salle	796	23.4	757	22.3	-39	-4.9
Lincoln	2,944	33.8	3,042	33.6	98	-0.6
Livingston	5,687	20.2	5,876	18.7	190	-7.4
Madison	2,058	57.2	2,022	58.8	-36	2.8
Morehouse	3,611	46.4	3,566	49.1	-45	5.6
Natchitoches	3,958	41.3	4,238	43.5	280	5.3
Orleans	58,867	50.4	18,087	45.9	-40,779	-8.9
Ouachita	14,271	36.3	14,946	37.6	676	3.6
Plaquemines	1,834	23.7	1,157	20.4	-677	-13.9
Pointe Coupee	1,707	30.9	1,867	34.4	159	11.3
Rapides	11,354	34.6	11,085	33.1	-269	-4.4
Red River	962	35.9	948	37.4	-14	4.3
Richland	2,354	44.7	2,346	45.0	-8	0.6
Sabine	1,582	26.9	1,656	28.3	74	5.4
St. Bernard	3,410	21.8	923	36.8	-2,486	69.2
St. Charles	2,807	20.8	2,502	18.0	-304	-13.6
St. Helena	1,156	43.5	1,273	47.8	118	9.9
St. James	1,780	31.5	1,643	29.4	-137	-6.7
St. John the Baptist	3,869	29.5	3,917	28.5	48	-3.3
St. Landry	8,944	36.4	9,102	36.8	158	1.1
St. Martin	4,410	32.7	4,125	30.1	-285	-8.1
St. Mary	5,601	39.5	5,140	37.5	-461	-4.9
St. Tammany	8,198	14.7	6,766	11.5	-1,432	-21.4
Tangipahoa	10,363	37.9	10,617	35.3	253	-6.9
Tensas	840	55.7	833	59.4	-6	6.8
Terrebonne	8,437	29.3	7,274	25.2	-1,163	-13.9
Union	1,546	27.9	1,692	30.5	146	9.0
Vermilion	3,871	27.3	3,564	24.9	-307	-8.6
Vernon	2,042	13.4	2,264	15.2	222	14.1
Washington	4,870	43.2	4,527	39.7	-343	-8.2
Webster	3,063	31.2	3,086	32.1	23	3.1
West Baton Rouge	1,401	25.3	1,474	25.8	73	2.0
West Carroll	1,053	38.0	962	36.2	-91	-4.7
West Feliciana	497	18.8	541	21.7	44	15.1
Winn	1,312	35.8	1,333	38.6	21	7.8

* Note that the "percentage change" refers to the change in the percentage of children who received Food Stamps between 2005 and 2007. Statewide, the percentage of children who received food stamps declined 8.2%, falling from 31% in FY 2005 to 28.5% in FY 2007.

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC)

DEFINITION: The average number of women, infants, and children (ages 1-4) served by the WIC program each month.

SIGNIFICANCE

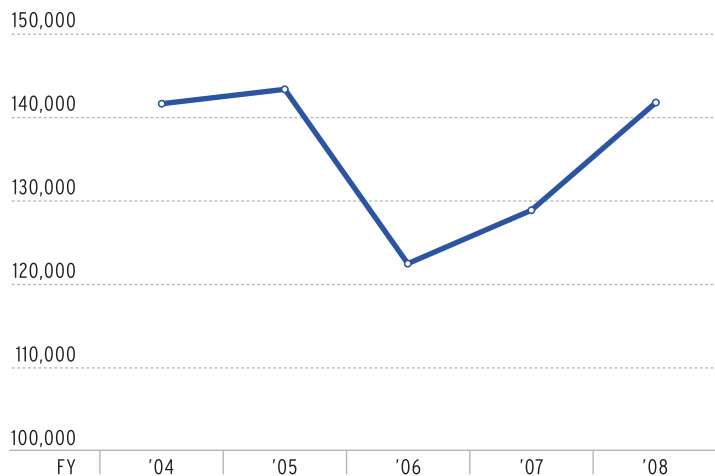
Adequate nutrition helps babies and children grow up strong and healthy. The WIC program provides supplemental food, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant and postpartum women, infants, and children up to age five. Food provided through the WIC program includes eggs, milk, cheese, peanut butter, dried beans, tuna, cereal, carrots, and fruit juice. Infant formula is also provided for infants who are not exclusively breastfed. Starting in October 2009, WIC food packages will include fruits and vegetables, as well as whole-grain breads for women and children. The new food packages will also provide infants with jarred fruits and vegetables.

WIC promotes breastfeeding by providing counseling and coaching, along with enhanced food packages, and other supports (such as breast pumps) to breastfeeding mothers. On average, 15.8% of infants participating in the WIC program in Louisiana in 2007 were breastfed. By May 2009, this figure had increased to 18.9%.¹

Research has shown that WIC participation leads to improved outcomes for mothers, babies, and children. Women who participate in WIC during their pregnancies tend to experience better birth outcomes than other low-income women. WIC participation is linked to a lower incidence of moderately low and very low birth weight infants, fewer infant deaths, and an increased probability of receiving prenatal care. WIC also has a positive impact on children's diets and is associated with higher intakes of key vitamins and minerals, such as iron, vitamin C, thiamin, niacin and vitamin B6. WIC has even been shown to increase the vocabulary scores of children whose mothers participated in WIC prenatally.²

WIC is funded and administered at the federal level by the U.S. Department of

WIC PARTICIPATION IN LOUISIANA Fiscal years 2004-2008



Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service. In Louisiana, the Department of Health and Hospitals administers the program. In order to be eligible for the WIC program, an applicant's gross income must be below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). For a family of four, this means a family must earn less than \$40,793 a year. In FY 2007, the average monthly benefit for a participant in Louisiana was \$43.83, just above the national average of \$39.04.³

After dropping by over 20,000 participants between federal fiscal year (FFY) 2005 and FFY 2006, WIC participation in Louisiana rebounded to 141,704 participants in FFY 2008, only 1,658 fewer participants than in FFY 2005

CHART DATA SOURCE

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, "WIC Program: Total Participation," retrieved from www.fns.usda.gov on 7/30/2009.

DATA SOURCE

Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health, Center for Preventive Health, Nutrition Services

DATA NOTE

All data reflect average program participation for the period of May-April.

¹ Data received from Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health, Center for Preventive Health, Nutrition Services, by special request.

² U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, "How WIC Helps," U.S. Department of Agriculture, retrieved from www.fns.usda.gov on 6/30/2009.

³ U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, "WIC Program: Average Monthly Benefit per Person," U.S. Department of Agriculture, retrieved from www.fns.usda.gov on 6/1/2009.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC) AVERAGE MONTHLY NUMBER

2007	TOTAL	INFANTS	CHILDREN AGES 1-4
LOUISIANA	136,030	41,274	58,085
Acadia	2,066	568	940
Allen	876	270	356
Ascension	3,400	924	1,581
Assumption	687	175	345
Avoyelles	2,075	524	1,016
Beauregard	1,095	327	473
Bienville	516	143	237
Bossier	2,425	740	1,026
Caddo	8,492	2,709	3,649
Calcasieu	4,876	1,638	1,842
Caldwell	565	126	283
Cameron	247	64	116
Catahoula	597	140	311
Claiborne	639	168	311
Concordia	953	255	463
De Soto	1,059	277	528
East Baton Rouge	11,613	3,716	4,713
East Carroll	540	118	311
East Feliciana	820	224	395
Evangeline	1,524	411	741
Franklin	919	260	408
Grant	795	198	398
Iberia	2,575	825	938
Iberville	990	319	417
Jackson	723	184	355
Jefferson	11,321	4,253	3,936
Jefferson Davis	1,104	345	471
Lafayette	5,676	1,713	2,353
Lafourche	2,884	850	1,224
La Salle	592	160	276
Lincoln	1,172	349	470
Livingston	3,001	890	1,259
Madison	882	181	503
Morehouse	1,120	351	445
Natchitoches	1,633	416	791
Orleans	3,922	1,560	1,260
Ouachita	5,821	1,779	2,589
Pointe Coupee	915	259	442
Rapides	4,931	1,316	2,269
Red River	686	166	357
Richland	886	231	410
Sabine	855	231	399
St. Bernard	808	298	254
St. Charles	1,084	361	428
St. Helena	775	170	433
St. James	715	203	331
St. John the Baptist	1,410	470	518
St. Landry	4,304	1,191	1,989
St. Martin	2,036	557	933
St. Mary	1,741	581	659
St. Tammany	5,508	1,594	2,369
Tangipahoa	4,353	1,290	1,802
Tensas	238	58	128
Terrebonne	3,323	1,076	1,453
Union	846	225	405
Vermilion	1,681	497	674
Vernon	1,996	567	841
Washington	2,445	616	1,247
Webster	1,574	477	660
West Baton Rouge	843	248	368
West Carroll	608	139	327
West Feliciana	545	126	290
Winn	731	179	371

TAX FILERS RECEIVING THE FEDERAL EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT

DEFINITION: Number and percentage of tax returns that resulted in the receipt of the federal Earned Income Tax Credit.

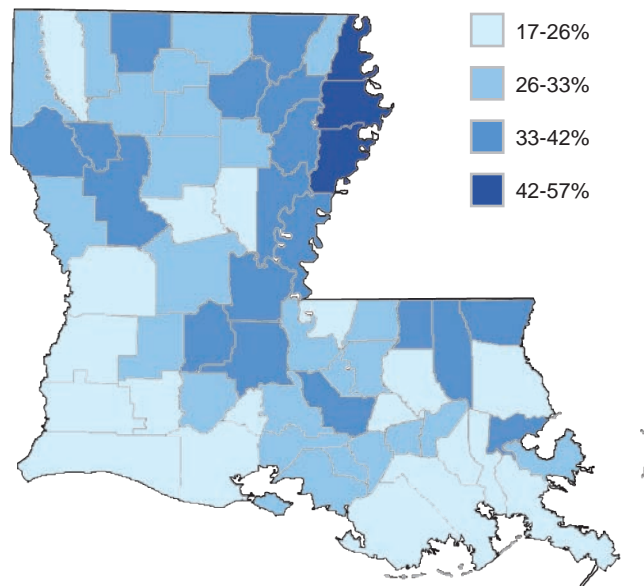
SIGNIFICANCE

The federal Earned Income Tax Credit is widely hailed as one of the most successful anti-poverty programs in the United States. According to the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, the federal Earned Income Tax Credit lifted 4.1 million people nationwide out of poverty in 2005, including 2.2 million children.¹

The EITC is a refundable tax credit that rewards work by boosting the wages of working low- and moderate-income families, as well as very-low income childless individuals. Eligible families have incomes below about \$34,000 and \$41,000; the exact cut-off amount varies depending on the householder's marital status and number of children. Low-wage workers who don't have children are also eligible for the credit if they have incomes below about \$13,000 (or \$16,000 for a married couple.)² The EITC functions as a wage supplement for low-income workers by reducing the amount of taxes they pay, as well as providing them with extra money to pay for basic needs, such as transportation or home repairs. It is also designed to incentivize work for the lowest-wage workers, meaning that the value of the credit increases as one's wages increase, up to a certain point. Research has shown that the EITC has increased labor force participation, especially among single mothers.³

The Earned Income Tax Credit does not simply help working families and their children; it also provides an infusion of dollars into local and state economies. In 2006, 496,072 Louisiana tax filers received the EITC, accounting for 28% of all tax returns filed by Louisiana residents. The average credit claimed by Louisiana filers was \$2,296; the total value of all Earned Income Tax Credits claimed by Louisianans was over \$1.1 billion in 2006. This represents a substantial boon to local economies because most EITC recipients use their credits to fulfill short and medium-term needs, such as purchasing clothing for children, repairing a vehicle or paying overdue bills.⁴

Louisiana tax filers are much more likely to claim the EITC than their counterparts nationwide. While 17% of all individual income taxpayers nationwide receive the credit, the same is true for 28% of Louisiana filers.⁵ Not surprisingly, parishes with relatively low rates of child poverty also have relatively low EITC reciprocity rates, while those parishes with the highest rates of child poverty tend to have correspondingly high rates of EITC reciprocity. Ascension and St. Tammany are the only parishes in which less than one out of every five tax filers receives the EITC.



FEDERAL EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT (EITC) (PERCENT) — 2006

They are also two of just four Louisiana parishes in which the child poverty rate was below the national average in 2007. The four parishes with the highest child poverty rates in 2007—Morehouse, Tensas, Madison, and East Carroll—also had the state's highest rates of EITC reciprocity.

DATA SOURCE

Agenda for Children's analysis of data provided by the Brookings Institution's EITC Interactive data system, available at <http://www.brookings.edu>

DATA NOTE

This indicator reflects the number of tax returns receiving the EITC, not the number of households receiving the EITC. A single household can have multiple tax filers (such as when several unmarried adults share a house). Additionally, some households do not include any tax filers.

RATE CALCULATION

$100 * (\text{number of tax returns that resulted in the receipt of the federal EITC} \div \text{total number of tax returns})$

¹ Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, "Policy Basics: The Earned Income Tax Credit," Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, December 17, 2008, retrieved from <http://www.cbpp.org/files/policybasics-eitc.pdf> on 7/30/2009.

² *ibid.*

³ *ibid.*

⁴ Alan Berube, "Using the Earned Income Tax Credit to Stimulate Local Economies," Brookings Institution Metropolitan Policy Program, 2006, retrieved from <http://www.brookings.edu/> on 7/30/2009.

⁵ Brookings Institution, Metropolitan Policy Program, "EITC Interactive: User Guide and Data Dictionary," Brookings Institution Metropolitan Policy Program, retrieved from www.brookings.org on 7/1/2009.

TAX FILERS RECEIVING THE FEDERAL EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT

NUMBER AND PERCENT OF ALL FILERS

	2000		2006		CHANGE 2000-2006	
	#	%	#	%	#	% change in rate*
LOUISIANA	47,4583	26	496,072	28	21,489	7.7
Acadia	6,219	28	6,750	29	531	4.7
Allen	2,395	28	2,616	30	221	5.4
Ascension	6,247	19	7,877	19	1,630	0.6
Assumption	2,534	28	2,764	29	230	4.4
Avoyelles	4,784	31	5,392	34	608	8.4
Beauregard	2,389	21	2,888	23	499	9.9
Bienville	1,907	33	1,900	33	-7	0.3
Bossier	8,921	21	10,902	23	1,981	10.3
Caddo	31,055	29	34,996	32	3,941	10.0
Calcasieu	16,641	22	19,011	24	2,370	10.5
Caldwell	1,112	28	1,127	28	15	0.5
Cameron	763	19	640	23	-123	18.0
Catahoula	1,499	34	1,415	35	-84	2.6
Claiborne	1,965	33	2,036	35	71	7.4
Concordia	2,625	36	2,748	38	123	4.7
De Soto	3,493	33	3,842	34	349	1.6
East Baton Rouge	39,656	23	51,790	28	12,134	21.4
East Carroll	1,597	53	1,517	57	-80	7.8
East Feliciana	2,207	30	2,420	31	213	4.3
Evangeline	3,605	30	4,228	34	623	11.7
Franklin	2,940	36	2,948	37	8	1.8
Grant	1,764	25	1,997	26	233	3.4
Iberia	8,669	29	9,571	31	902	8.4
Iberville	3,953	31	4,335	34	382	9.8
Jackson	1,582	26	1,715	28	133	8.3
Jefferson	42,695	21	45,049	24	2,354	14.2
Jefferson Davis	3,089	25	3,257	25	168	2.0
Lafayette	17,228	21	20,638	22	3,410	6.1
Lafourche	7,244	20	8,414	22	1,170	9.7
La Salle	1,161	23	1,164	23	3	0.7
Lincoln	3,857	25	4,389	27	532	6.2
Livingston	7,590	20	9,803	21	2,213	6.7
Madison	2,250	49	2,211	53	-39	9.0
Morehouse	4,620	38	4,887	42	267	11.7
Natchitoches	4,401	32	4,969	34	568	6.4
Orleans	69,435	36	35,655	34	-33,780	-5.9
Ouachita	17,819	29	20,476	33	2,657	12.2
Plaquemines	2,756	25	2,224	24	-532	-2.7
Pointe Coupee	2,576	27	2,710	29	134	7.6
Rapides	14,462	28	16,118	29	1,656	5.4
Red River	1,278	38	1,303	39	25	1.7
Richland	3,050	37	3,139	38	89	2.7
Sabine	2,231	26	2,464	28	233	8.0
St. Bernard	5,661	20	2,687	30	-2,974	50.8
St. Charles	4,331	21	5,320	23	989	9.8
St. Helena	1,722	40	1,918	40	196	-0.2
St. James	2,683	29	2,922	28	239	-4.2
St. John the Baptist	5,262	29	6,826	31	1,564	5.4
St. Landry	9,975	32	11,663	34	1,688	7.3
St. Martin	6,136	31	6,805	31	669	0.1
St. Mary	6,475	29	7,408	32	933	9.4
St. Tammany	13,363	16	15,719	17	2,356	7.7
Tangipahoa	11,646	31	14,717	33	3,071	7.1
Tensas	1,112	44	1,009	45	-103	2.3
Terrebonne	9,858	23	11,048	24	1,190	4.6
Union	2,524	28	2,779	31	255	9.2
Vermilion	4,850	23	5,481	25	631	10.8
Vernon	4,086	20	5,252	26	1,166	31.5
Washington	5,302	34	5,844	37	542	9.1
Webster	4,601	28	5,119	30	518	7.1
West Baton Rouge	2,336	26	2,919	28	583	9.6
West Carroll	1,458	31	1,421	32	-37	2.2
West Feliciana	1,204	26	1,200	25	-4	-4.7
Winn	1,734	30	1,720	32	-14	5.0

*Percentage change reflects the percentage change in the rate (percentage of filers receiving the EITC), not the percentage change in absolute numbers. Thus, while St. Bernard saw a major decline in the absolute number of tax filers claiming the EITC between 2000 and 2006, the percentage of St. Bernard filers claiming the EITC actually rose by 50.8% (from 20% to 30%) during that same time period.