

# California Dominates Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

Jim Untershine, GZS of LB, 12-18-01

## Executive Summary

Of the 33 tables included in the US House Green Book in section 7 entitled "Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)", 25 tables compare states regarding TANF statistics. Of the 25 tables comparing states 22 tables included California.

California leads the nation in 11 of the 22 tables and appears in the top 5 states in 13 of the 22 tables.

**Table 7-1 (Family assistance grants under TANF)** shows California leading the nation in 1999 receiving \$3.73 billion in family assistance grants from the federal government.

**Table 7-3 (High-performance bonus awards)** shows California leading the nation in 1999 receiving \$45.5 million in high performance bonuses from the federal government

**Table 7-5 (AFDC/TANF families, monthly average)** shows California leading the nation in 1999 reporting an average of 624,000 AFDC/TANF families

**Table 7-7 (Maximum combined AFDC/TANF benefits for a parent with two children)** shows Alaska leading the nation in 2000 allowing a maximum of \$923 / mo. in AFDC/TANF benefits for a family of 3. California did not appear in the top 5 states allowing a maximum of \$626 / mo.

**Table 7-8 (Maximum monthly TANF benefit for families with 2 persons, no work)** shows Alaska leading the nation in 2000 allowing a maximum of \$821 / mo. in TANF benefits for a family of 2. California did not appear in the top 5 states allowing a maximum of \$505 / mo.

**Table 7-9 (Maximum combined TANF and food stamp benefit for families with 2 persons, no work)** shows Alaska leading the nation in 2000 allowing a maximum of \$904 / mo. in TANF & Food Stamps benefits for a family of 2. California did not appear in the top 5 states allowing a maximum of \$627 / mo.

**Table 7-10 (AFDC/TANF maximum benefit for a three-person family)** shows Alaska leading the nation in 2000 allowing a maximum of \$923 / mo. in AFDC/TANF benefits for a family of 3. California did not appear in the top 5 states allowing a maximum of \$626 / mo.

**Table 7-11 (Annualized earnings and income for single parent and two children working half time at minimum wage)** shows Alaska leading the nation in 2000 allowing 141% of poverty level (\$14,450 / yr.) from wages and benefits for a family of 3 working half time. California appears fifth allowing 112%.

**Table 7-12 (Earnings and income for single parent with two children working full time at minimum wage)** shows Connecticut leading the nation in 2000 allowing 190% of poverty level (\$14,450 / yr.) from wages and benefits for a family of 3 working full time. California did not appear in the top 5 states allowing 138%.

**Table 7-13 (TANF break-even points—monthly earnings that end eligibility, single-parent family with two children)** shows Alaska leading the nation in 2000 allowing \$1,998 / mo. benefits for a family of 3 working full time after working 12 mo. California appears third allowing \$1,458 / mo.

**Table 7-14 (State use of cumulative TANF grants)** shows California leading the nation in 1997, 1998, and 1999 receiving 10.7 billion in TANF grants

**Table 7-16 (Federal and state expenditures in AFDC/TANF and related programs)** shows California leading the nation in 1999 receiving 3.35 billion in grants

**Table 7-17 (TANF grants, transfers and expenditures)** shows California leading the nation in 1999 transferring \$307 million of funding to Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF).

**Table 7-18 (Total TANF and TANF MOE expenditures)** shows California leading the nation in 1999 spending \$6.25 billion of TANF / MOE funding.

**Table 7-19 (State maintenance-of-effort (MOE) expenditures)** shows California leading the nation in 1999 spending \$2.91 billion of MOE funding.

**Table 7-20 (Total TANF/AFDC and related program expenditures per family)** shows Idaho leading the nation in 1999 spending \$18,500 per family of non-MOE funding. California did not appear in the top 5 states spending \$9,800.

**Table 7-21 (TANF work participation rates)** shows Oregon leading the nation in 1998 reporting 98.2% work participation rate. California did not appear in the top 5 states reporting 36.6%.

**Table 7-23 (TANF work participants for all-family category by work activity)** shows California leading the nation in 1998 reporting 180,000 families participating in work.

## California Dominates Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

[Table 7-24](#) (**TANF work participants for two-parent family category by work activity**) shows California leading the nation in 1998 reporting 29,600 families with 2 parents participating in work.

[Table 7-26](#) (**Percent of TANF adults engaged in work or job preparation activity**) shows Iowa leading the nation in 1998 reporting 52.4% families participating in unsubsidized work. California did not appear in the top 5 states reporting 28.0%.

[Table 7-29](#) (**Percentage of AFDC/TANF adults who are nonwhite**) shows Puerto Rico and District of Columbia share in leading the nation reporting 100% non-white adults on TANF. California did not appear in the top 5 states reporting 68.0%.

[Table 7-31](#) (**Welfare-to-Work (WTW) expenditures**) shows California leading the nation in 1999 spending \$39.5 million on welfare-to-work programs while paying \$3.7 million.

The following tables did not include California:

[Table 7-2](#) (**Estimated supplemental grants with high population growth and/or low AFDC program expenditures**) shows Florida leading the nation in 2001 receiving \$60.4 million in supplemental grants from the federal government.

[Table 7-6](#) (**Average monthly benefit for AFDC/TANF families**) shows Alaska leading the nation in 1998 reporting average monthly benefits of \$669 million to AFDC/TANF families.

[Table 7-22](#) (**Penalties for failing fiscal year 1998 TANF work participation rate for two-parent families**) shows Pennsylvania leading the nation in 1998 penalized \$33.3 million for failing work participation rate.

# California Dominates Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

**Table 7-1 (Family assistance grants and required state spending under TANF)**

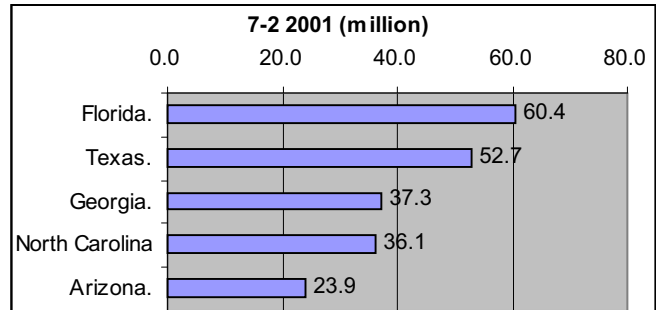
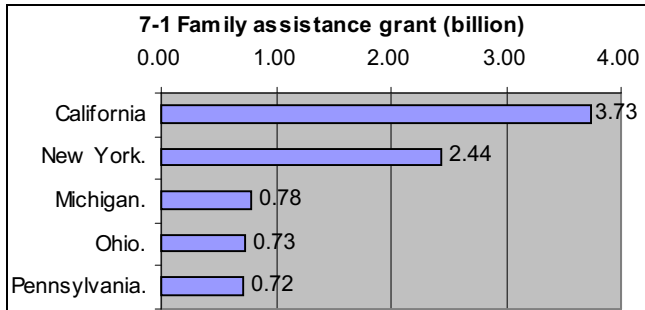
Congressional Research Service based on information from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows:

California leading the nation in 1999 receiving \$3.73 billion in family assistance grants from the federal government.

**Table 7-2 (Estimated supplemental grants to states with high population growth and/or relatively low federal AFDC and related program expenditures per poor person, fiscal years 1998-2001)**

Congressional Research Service based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Census Bureau shows:

Florida leading the nation in 2001 receiving \$60.4 million in supplemental grants from the federal government. California did not appear in the top 5 states (missing).



**Table 7-3 (High-performance bonus awards, fiscal year 1999)**

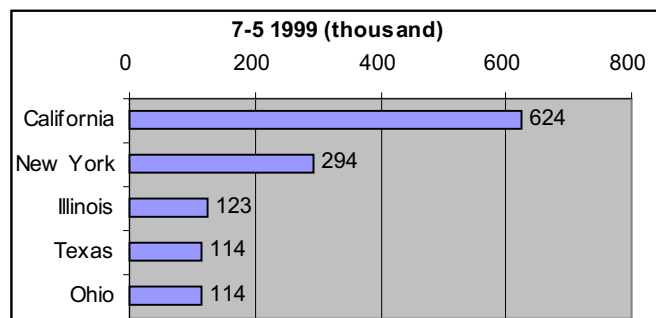
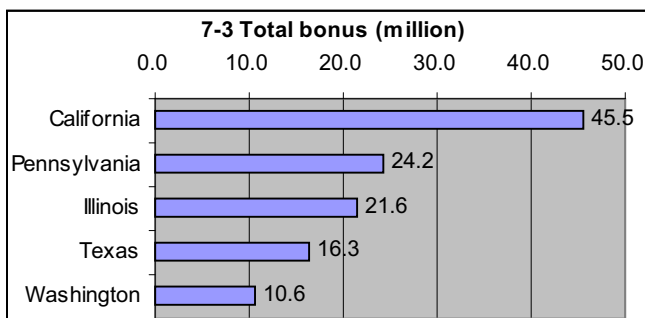
Congressional Research Service based on information from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows:

California leading the nation in 1999 receiving \$45.5 million in high performance bonuses from the federal government

**Table 7-5 (AFDC/TANF families, monthly average by fiscal year)**

Congressional Research Service based on data reported by States to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows:

California leading the nation in 1999 reporting an average of 624,000 AFDC/TANF families



# California Dominates Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

**Table 7-6 (Average monthly benefit for AFDC/TANF families, fiscal years 1994-98)**

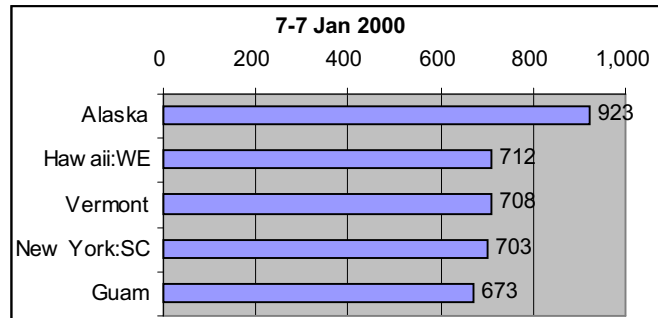
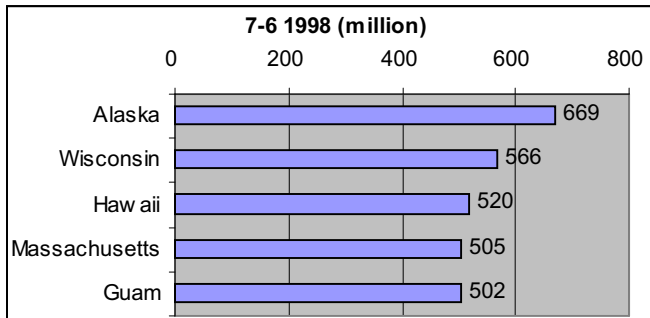
Congressional Research Service based on data reported by States to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows:

Alaska leading the nation in 1998 reporting average monthly benefits of \$669 million to AFDC/TANF families. California did not appear in the top 5 states (missing).

**Table 7-7 (Maximum combined AFDC/TANF benefits for a family of three (parent with two children), July 1994- January 2000)**

Congressional Research Service based on data reported by States to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows:

Alaska leading the nation in 2000 allowing a maximum of \$923 / mo. in AFDC/TANF benefits for a family of 3. California did not appear in the top 5 states allowing a maximum of \$626 / mo.



**Table 7-8 (Maximum monthly TANF benefit for families of one to six persons, January 1, 2000)**

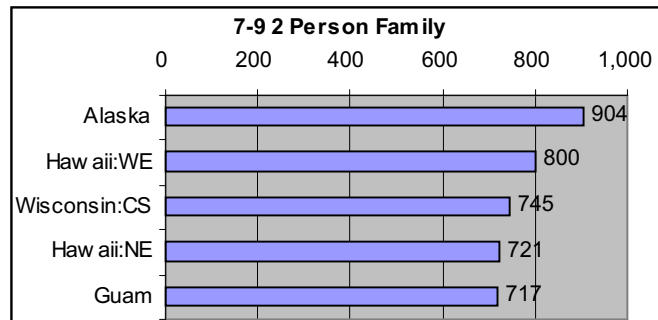
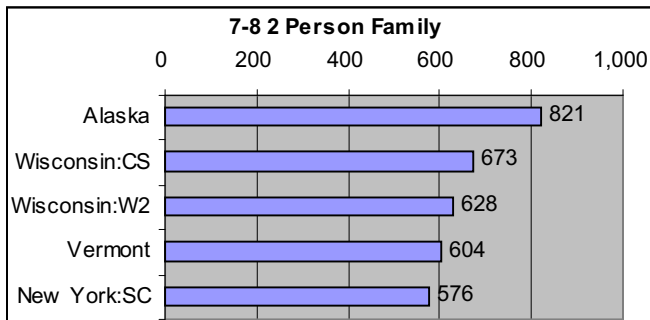
Congressional Research Service on the basis of a telephone survey of States shows:

Alaska leading the nation in 2000 allowing a maximum of \$821 / mo. in TANF benefits for a family of 2. California did not appear in the top 5 states allowing a maximum of \$505 / mo.

**Table 7-9 (Maximum combined TANF and food stamp benefit for families of one to six persons, January 1, 2000)**

Congressional Research Service shows:

Alaska leading the nation in 2000 allowing a maximum of \$904 / mo. in TANF & Food Stamps benefits for a family of 2. California did not appear in the top 5 states allowing a maximum of \$627 / mo.



# California Dominates Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

**Table 7-10 (AFDC/TANF maximum benefit for a three-person family by state, selected years 1970-2000)**

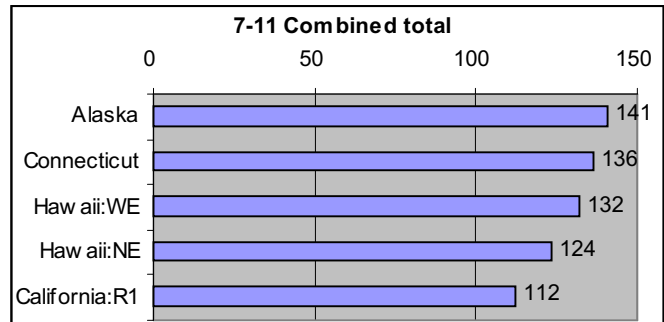
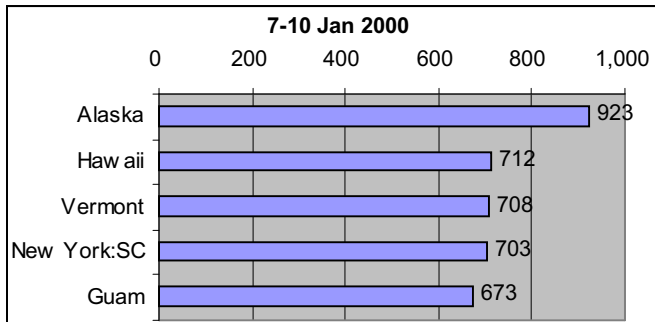
Congressional Research Service on the basis of data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Congressional Research Service shows:

Alaska leading the nation in 2000 allowing a maximum of \$923 / mo. in AFDC/TANF benefits for a family of 3. California did not appear in the top 5 states allowing a maximum of \$626 / mo.

**Table 7-11 (Annualized earnings and income from selected major benefit programs for single parent with two children working half time at minimum wage in month 13 of employment, January 1, 2000)**

Congressional Research Service based on State and Federal minimum wage laws, EIC law, food stamp law, and the CRS January 2000 Survey of State TANF benefit levels and program rules shows:

Alaska leading the nation in 2000 allowing 141% of poverty level (\$14,450 / yr.) from wages and benefits for a family of 3 working half time. California appears fifth allowing 112%.



**Table 7-12 (Earnings and income from selected major benefit programs for single parent with two children working full time at minimum wage, working in month 13, annualized, January 1, 2000)**

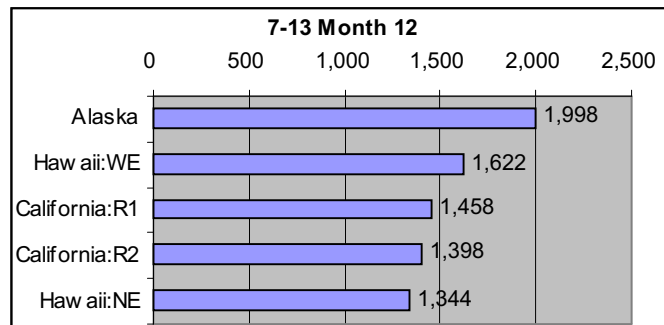
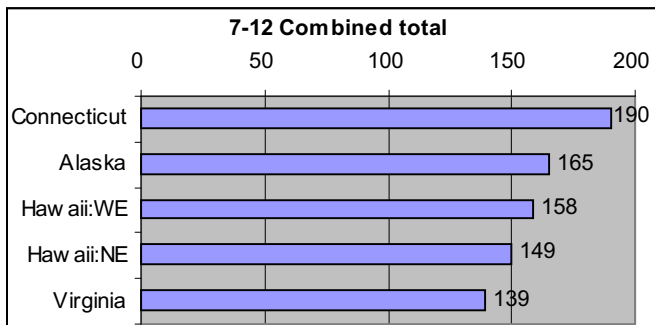
Congressional Research Service based on State and Federal minimum wage laws, EIC law, food stamp law, and the CRS January 2000 Survey of State TANF benefit levels and program rules shows:

Connecticut leading the nation in 2000 allowing 190% of poverty level (\$14,450 / yr.) from wages and benefits for a family of 3 working full time. California did not appear in the top 5 states allowing 138%.

**Table 7-13 (TANF break-even points—monthly earnings that end eligibility, single-parent family with two children, January 1, 2000)**

Congressional Research Service based on the CRS January 1, 2000 Survey of State TANF benefit levels and program rules shows:

Alaska leading the nation in 2000 allowing \$1,998 / mo. benefits for a family of 3 working full time after working 12 mo. California appears third allowing \$1,458 / mo.



# California Dominates Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

**Table 7-14 (State use of cumulative TANF grants for fiscal years 1997, 1998, and 1999)**

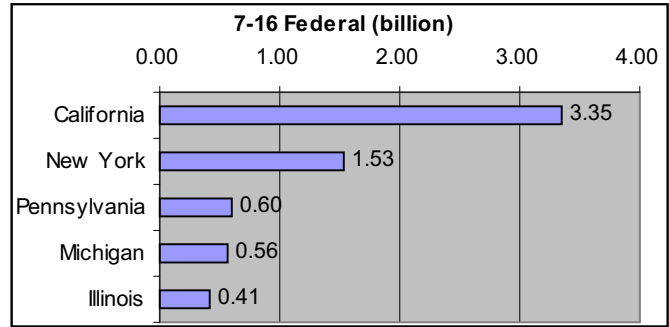
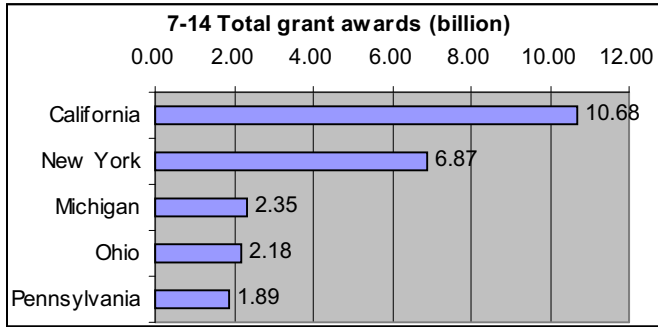
Congressional Research Service based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows:

California leading the nation in 1997, 1998, and 1999 receiving 10.7 billion in TANF grants

**Table 7-16 (Federal and state expenditures in AFDC/TANF and related programs, by state, fiscal years 1995 and 1999)**

Congressional Research Service based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows:

California leading the nation in 1999 receiving 3.35 billion in TANF grants



**Table 7-17 (TANF grants, transfers and expenditures, fiscal year 1999)**

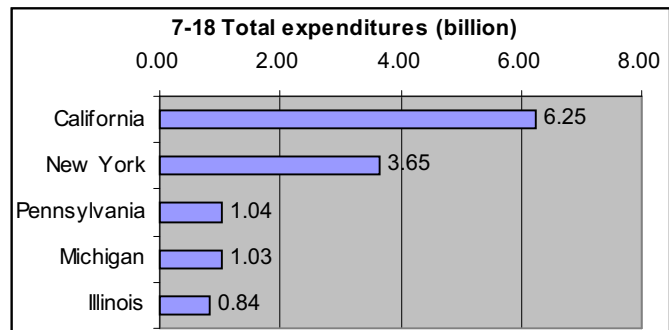
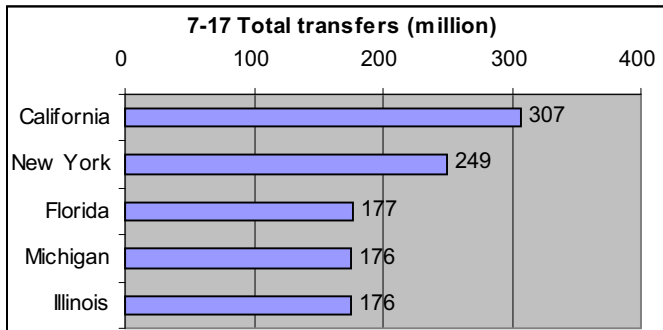
Congressional Research Service based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows:

California leading the nation in 1999 transferring \$307 million of funding to CCDF.

**Table 7-18 (Total TANF and TANF MOE expenditures, by state and major category, fiscal year 1999)**

Congressional Research Service based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows:

California leading the nation in 1999 spending \$6.25 billion of TANF / MOE funding.



# California Dominates Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

**Table 7-19 (State maintenance-of-effort (MOE) expenditures by program category, fiscal year 1999)**

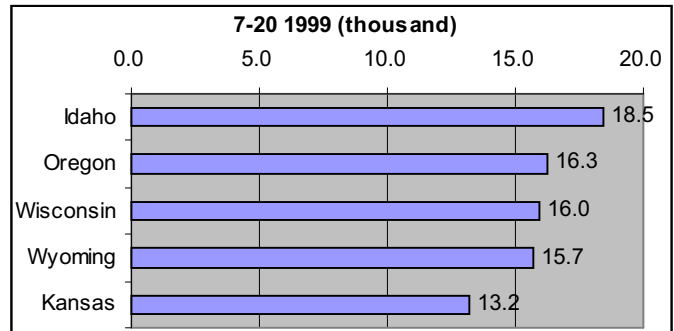
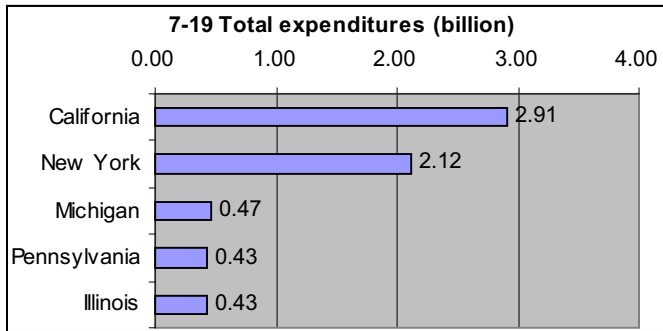
Congressional Research Service based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows:

California leading the nation in 1999 spending \$2.91 billion of MOE funding.

**Table 7-20 (Total TANF/AFDC and related program expenditures per family (excludes TANF MOE expenditures that could also be counted toward the CCDF MOE), by state, fiscal years 1995-99)**

Congressional Research Service based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows:

Idaho leading the nation in 1999 spending \$18,500 per family of non-MOE funding. California did not appear in the top 5 states spending \$9,800.



**Table 7-21 (TANF work participation rates, fiscal year 1998)**

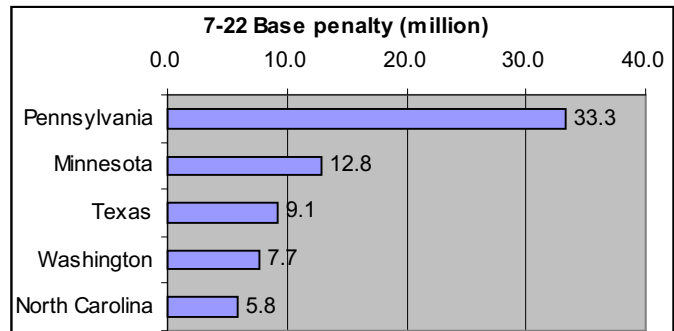
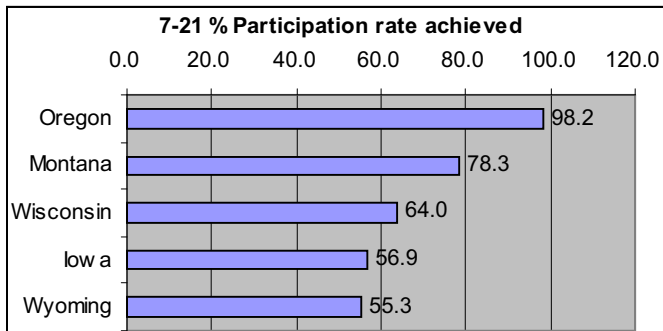
Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows:

Oregon leading the nation in 1998 reporting 98.2% work participation rate. California did not appear in the top 5 states reporting 36.6%.

**Table 7-22 (Penalties for failing fiscal year 1998 TANF work participation rate for two-parent families (proportional reduction based on degree of failure))**

Office of Family Assistance, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows:

Pennsylvania leading the nation in 1998 penalized \$33.3 million for failing work participation rate. California did not appear in the top 5 states (missing)



# California Dominates Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

**Table 7-23 (TANF work participants for all-family category by work activity, fiscal year 1998)**

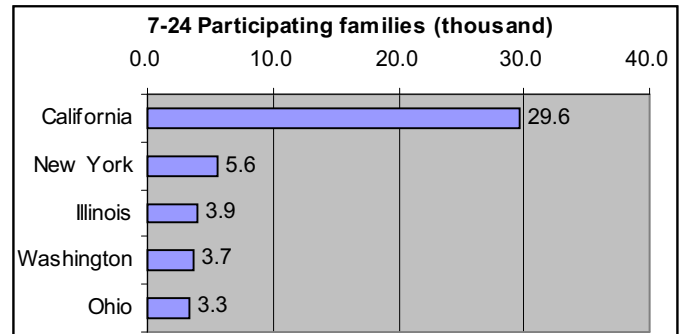
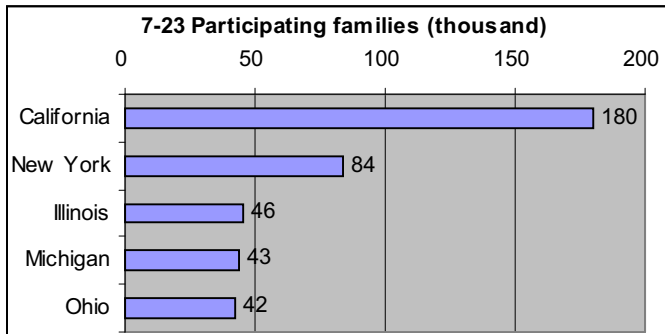
Congressional Research Service based on data in U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (1999, table 3:5) shows:

California leading the nation in 1998 reporting 180,000 families participating in work.

**Table 7-24 (TANF work participants for two-parent family category by work activity, fiscal year 1998)**

Congressional Research Service based on data in U.S. Department, 1999, table 3:6 shows:

California leading the nation in 1998 reporting 29,600 families with 2 parents participating in work.



**Table 7-26 (Percent of TANF adults engaged in work or job preparation activity, fiscal year 1998)**

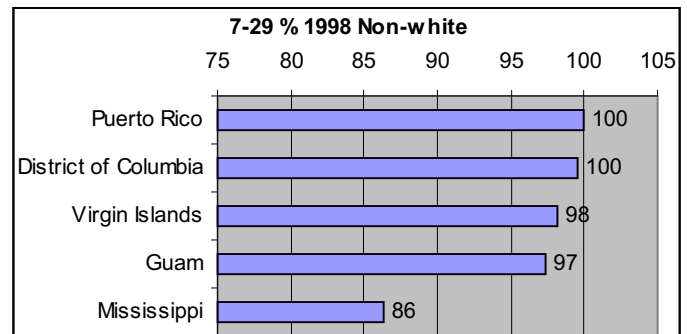
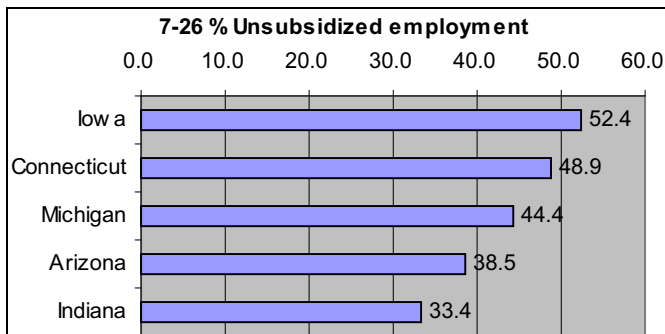
Congressional Research Service tabulations of the fiscal year 1998 Emergency TANF Data Report sample shows:

Iowa leading the nation in 1998 reporting 52.4% families participating in unsubsidized work. California did not appear in the top 5 states reporting 28.0%.

**Table 7-29 (Percentage of AFDC/TANF adults who are nonwhite, fiscal years 1994-98)**

Congressional Research Service based on fiscal year 1994-97 AFDC-QC files and tabulations of the fiscal year 1998 Emergency TANF Data Report sample shows:

Puerto Rico and District of Columbia share leading the nation in reporting 100% non-white adults on TANF. California did not appear in the top 5 states reporting 68.0%.



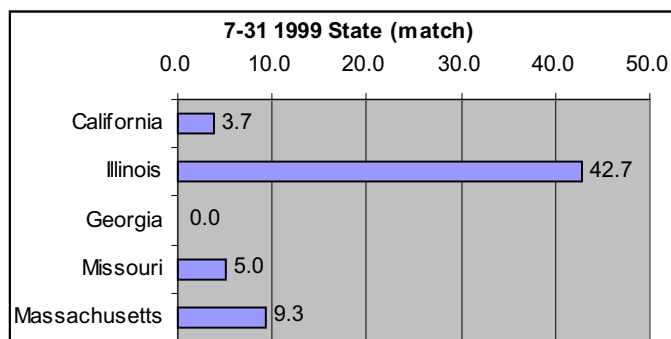
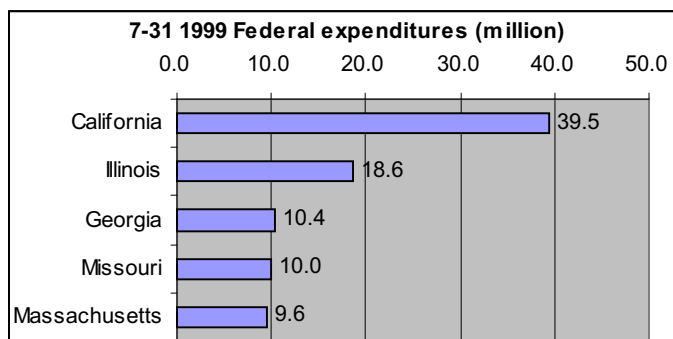


# California Dominates Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

**Table 7-31 (Welfare-to-work expenditures, fiscal years 1998 and 1999)**

Congressional Research Service based on data from the U.S. Department of Labor shows:

California leading the nation in 1999 spending \$39.5 million on welfare-to-work programs while paying \$3.7 million.



The tables not included in this analysis do not compare states and include:

Table 7-4 (Historical trends in AFDC/TANF enrollments, fiscal years 1970-99)

Table 7-15 (Total, federal, and state expenditures for TANF and predecessor programs (AFDC, EA, and JOBS), fiscal years 1990-99)

Table 7-25 (Percent of AFDC/TANF adults engaged in work or job preparation activity, fiscal years 1994-98)

Table 7-27 (Composition of AFDC/TANF families, selected years, 1969-98)

Table 7-28 (Racial/ethnic composition of AFDC/TANF adults, fiscal years 1994-98)

Table 7-30 (Child's relationship to head of household by family type, fiscal year 1998)

Table 7-32 (Returns to TANF within 1 year of exit)

Table 7-33 (Selected provisions of state TANF programs)