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G4: 3.1.a - Increase percentage who leave public assistance (TANF) due to increased income or at their request from 56% in March 2017 to 60% by June 2019.

Reported on September 18, 2017



INCREASE FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY

**Department of Social and Health Services
(DSHS)**

Economic Services Administration (ESA)

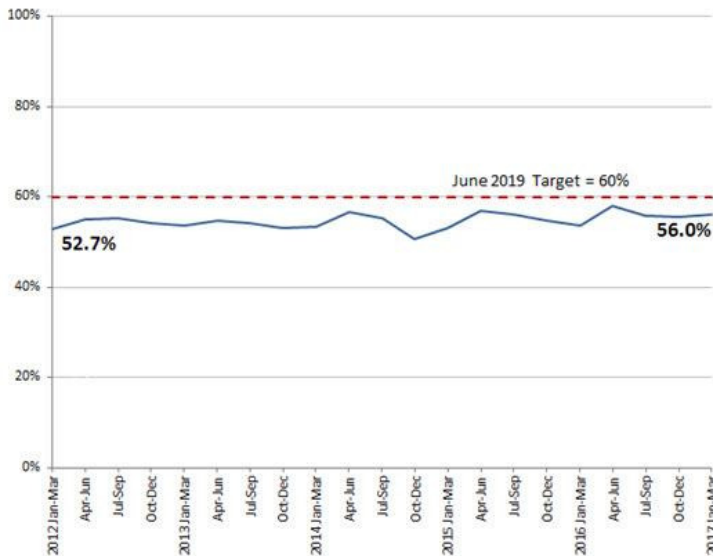
David Stillman, Assistant Secretary

September 18, 2017



Current State: *Where are we at today*

Percent of families who leave public assistance (TANF) due to increased income or at their request

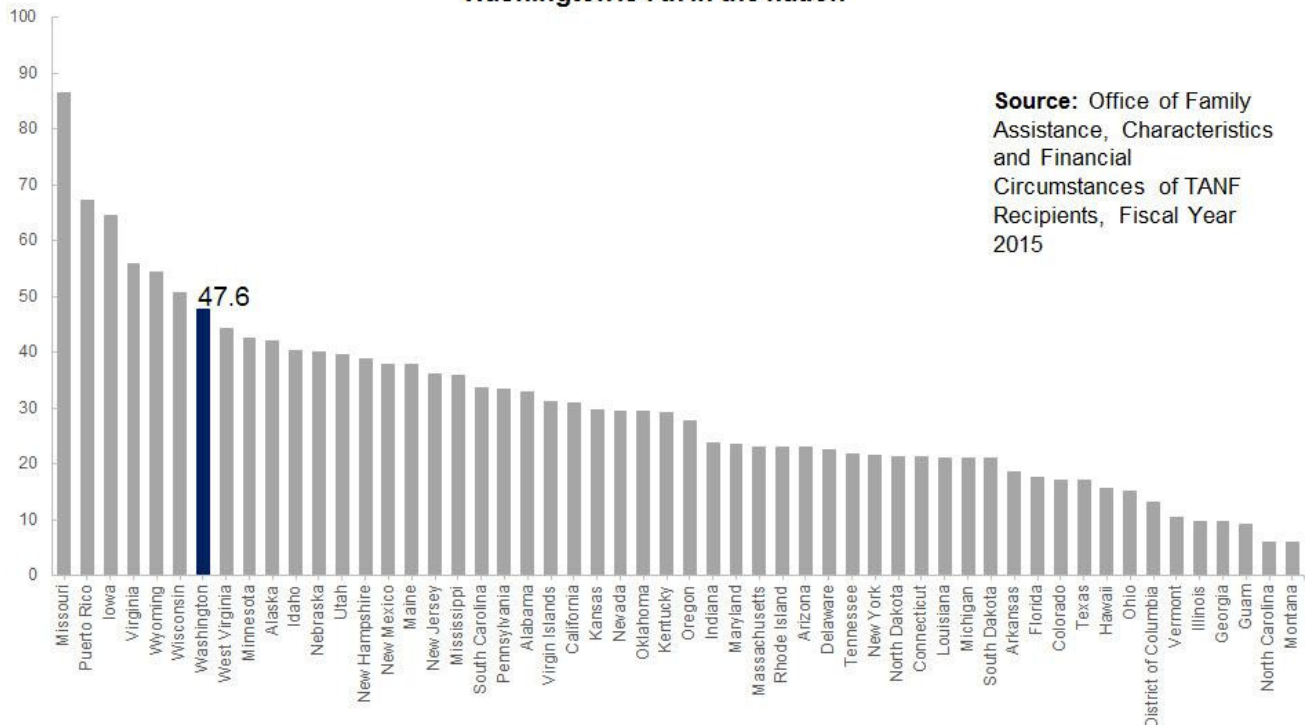


Exits due to Self-Sufficiency

- 3.1.a: Increase percentage who leave public assistance (TANF) due to increased income or at their request from 56% in March of 2017 to 60% by June 2019.
- This measure reflects a portion of the WorkFirst caseload that is comprised of families who are able and capable of achieving self-sufficiency.
- Historical trend shows an average of 50 – 60 percent of monthly closures are due to self-sufficiency reasons as opposed to procedural reasons.
- The last time the 60 percent target was achieved was in SFY11, prior to the implementation of the time limit and sanction policies in 2010 and 2011.

Current State: *How do we compare nationally?*

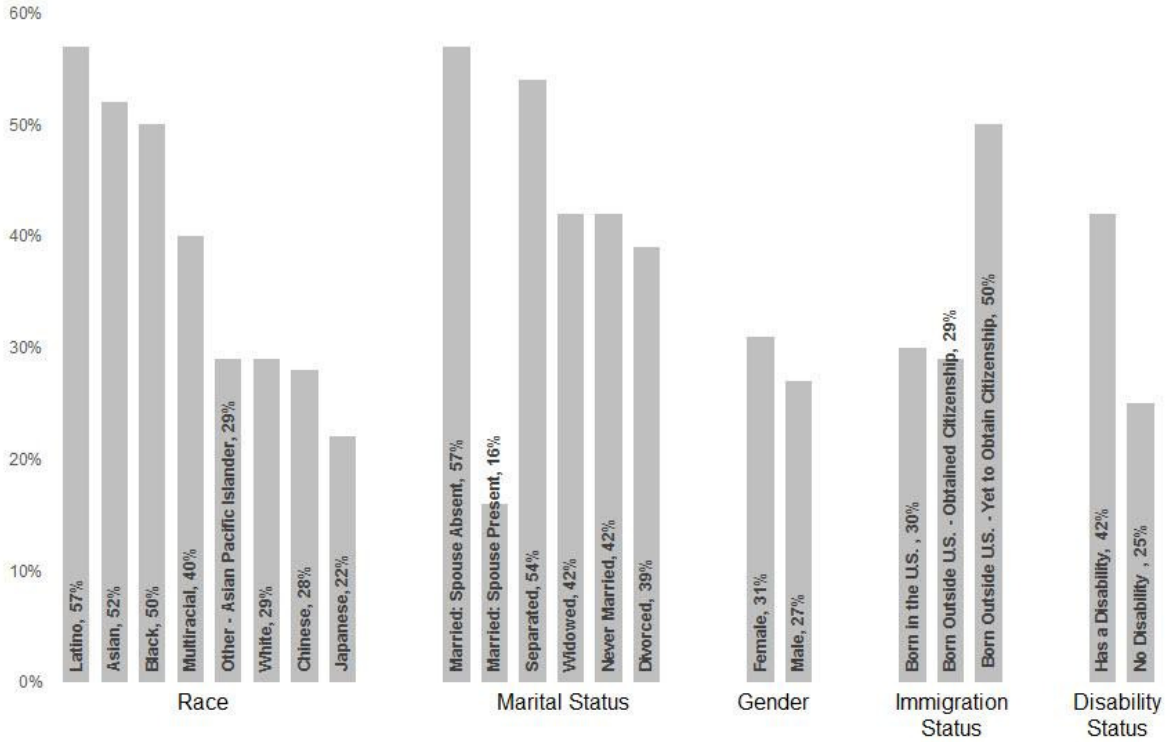
Percent of TANF Cases Closed Due To Increased Income or Client Request: Washington is 7th in the nation



Source: Office of Family Assistance, Characteristics and Financial Circumstances of TANF Recipients, Fiscal Year 2015

Background: 2015 Washington State Demographics

Percentage of people living below 200% of the federal poverty level by key demographics

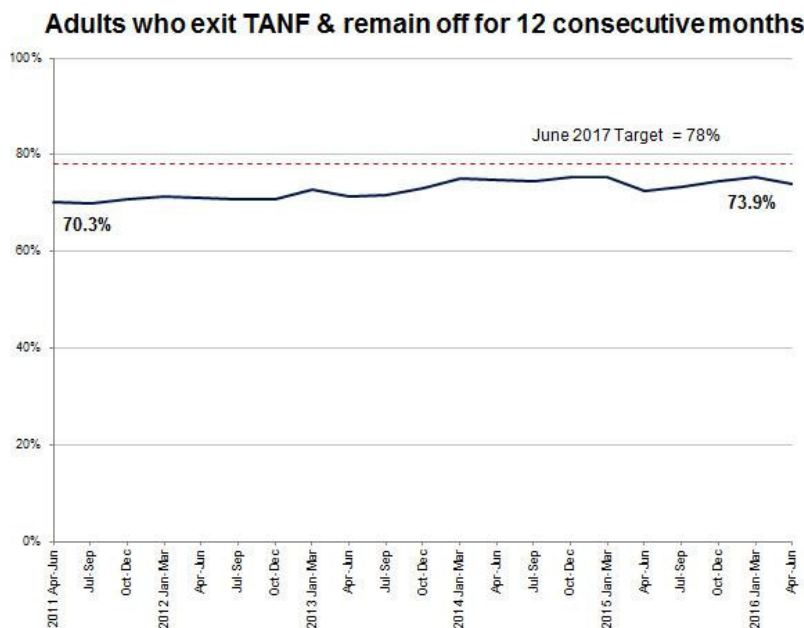


Source: DSHS|ESA|CSD analysis of 2015 American Community Survey data 2015

Background: *Demographics*

For every 100 children living below 100% of the federal poverty level that are...	...the TANF program reaches:
Black	28
Native American	20
Asian/Pacific Islander	18
White	15
Latino	11
Multiracial	4

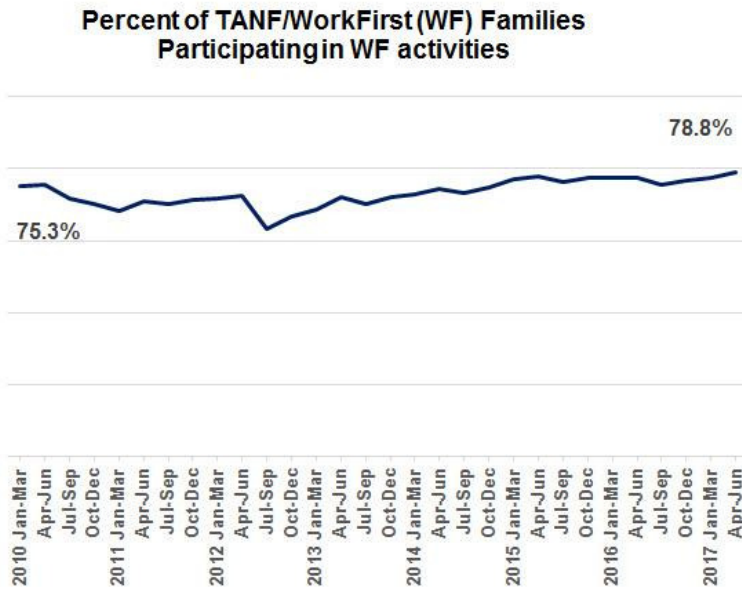
Background: *TANF/WorkFirst Performance*



12-month Exits

- Historical look at families who exited the program one year ago.
- Trend has been increasing since 2008.
- In Jan. 2011, TANF hardship extension criteria were restricted resulting in a one-time spike in terminations.
- A decline in the number of families who are able to successfully remain off of TANF may indicate social and/or economic conditions that are having an adverse effect on these economically disadvantaged families.

Background: TANF/WorkFirst Performance



WorkFirst (WF) Participation

- The number of WF families that are participating in approved activities.
- Activities that are appropriate for the WF program may not be a countable activity under federal rules.
- Individuals who were exempt from participation, sanctioned, or whose participation was temporarily suspended are excluded.

Action Plan

Task	Task Lead	Partners	Expected Outcome	Status	Due Date
Help clients gain employment and provide post-employment supports through expansion of Employer Pipeline.	Babs Roberts	State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, Employment Security	Increased number of employers in state actively recruiting from TANF client population. Increase number of clients remaining off TANF.	On Track	Dec. 2018
Support case manager efficacy in client engagement	Babs Roberts	WSU – Casey Jackson	Consistent, effective Motivational Interviewing techniques will increase client engagement and improve client outcomes	On Track	Dec. 2018
Supported Employment Pilots	Lori Pfginst	BHA, Sunrise Services, Snohomish, Skagit Counties	Stable employment paired with integrated mental health services result in better health and family self-sufficiency.	On Track	Dec. 2017
Expand Life Skills opportunities	Babs Roberts	Commerce, Employment Security	Increase successful outcomes for families by through expanded life skills opportunities.	Completed	July 2017
Transforming case management	Babs Roberts	All of CSD	Creating effective case management practices and a social service business delivery model.	In process	Feb. 2018
Enhanced Comprehensive Evaluation and WorkFirst Orientation	Babs Roberts	Commerce, State Board and Employment Security, Divisions across DSHS	Enhance the comprehensive evaluation and standardized overview of the WorkFirst program to further incorporate strength based and family centered approach.	In process	June 2018
Poverty reduction listening tours	Lori Pfginst	CSD, communities across Washington	Learning from our communities to identify: unique poverty needs, ways to strengthen partnerships, system changes to support the elimination of disparities, and best practices in reducing intergenerational poverty.	In process	June 2018

Strategies: Poverty Reduction Initiatives

Goal: Reduce the percentage of Washingtonians living with income below 200% of the federal poverty level in a way that eliminates disparities.

Life Skills Options

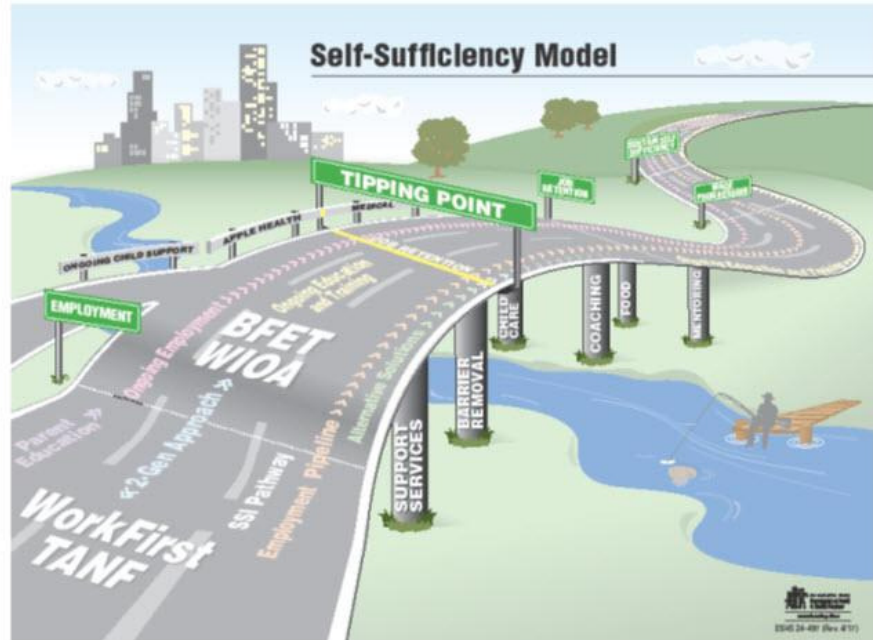
- Getting Ahead
- Strategies for Success

Parenting Supports

- Parental Education/Home Visiting

Increased Services

- Transportation Initiative Pilot
- Part-time Community Jobs
- Supported Employment



Strategies: Continued poverty reduction initiatives

Goal: Reduce the percentage of Washingtonians living with income below 200% of the federal poverty level in a way that eliminates disparities.

Systems to Family Stability Policy Academy

- WIOA alignment
- Trauma-informed coaching case management
- Multi-generational, whole-family approach

Transforming Case Management

- Creating effective case management practices and a social service business delivery model

Listening Forums: Learning from our communities to identify:

- Unique poverty needs,
- Ways to strengthen partnerships,
- System changes to support the elimination of disparities, and
- Best practices in reducing intergenerational poverty.



Assistance Needed

- Continued support for interagency effort to reduce poverty and advance intergenerational opportunity and success for all Washingtonians
- Coordinate cross-system/agency request legislation for 2019
- Build partnerships and stakeholder support for economic opportunity efforts
- Recognize the expertise of communities

Partnership: *Home Visiting and Other Parenting Support*

Partners:

- Community Services Division
- Department of Early Learning
- Thrive Washington
- Community Organizations

Shared Goal:

- Parents and Children Living in Poverty Develop Essential Skills that Support Family Well-Being and Financial Success Across Generations

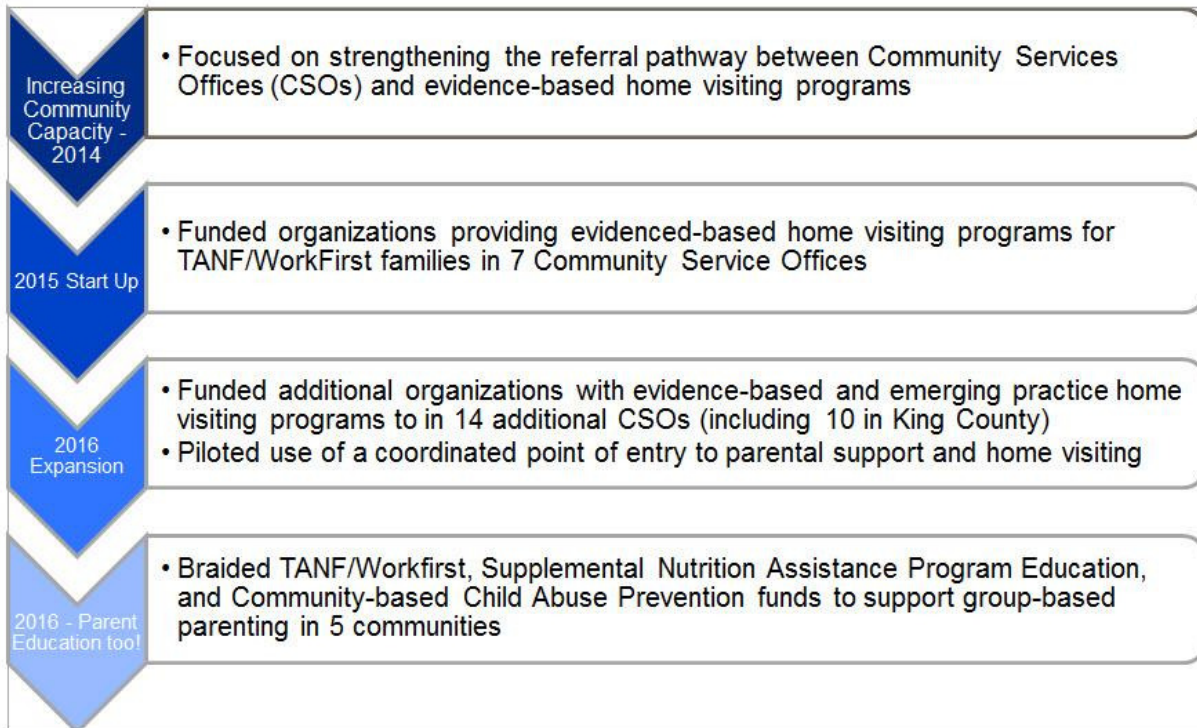
Partnership: *Home Visiting and Other Parenting Support*

History of Home Visiting in Washington



Partnership: *Home Visiting and Other Parenting Support*

2014-2017 Work



Partnership: *Home Visiting and Other Parenting Support*

Who is served:

Families participating in TANF/Workfirst that meet home visiting model requirements

Priority populations within TANF/Workfirst are families that are pregnant, have a child under one year, or are homeless

We use TANF funds to create 344 home visiting slots specifically for TANF/WorkFirst families

We also work to build referral pathways to increase access to home visiting and parent education for all families that use CSD services

What we have learned...

- Shared data systems for referrals can be challenging but are helpful
- Start up takes a lot of coordination, translation of home visiting and TANF terminology and clarifying expectations with both partners
- Nurse-Family Partnership enrolls first-time parents during the first two trimesters of pregnancy – tight window to “catch” families coming onto TANF
- Half of TANF/Workfirst families have a child under school age – lots of potential for expansion in future
- TANF Home Visiting enrollees face above average challenges among those receiving home visiting services – 55% had a recent history of homelessness, 20% had a history of criminal justice involvement, and 14% had a history of domestic violence.
- If referrals to home visiting and parent support are to become a standard of practice, staff need time and training to build new processes into workflows. Reinforcement and feedback about the process and impact on families are also important.

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