



CDSS

CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL SERVICES

CalFresh

Characteristics Survey



Federal Fiscal Year
2010

October 2009 through September 2010

**CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD
CHARACTERISTICS
SURVEY**

**Social and Economic Characteristics
of
Families Receiving CalFresh**

Federal Fiscal Year 2010

October 2009 through September 2010



CDSS

CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL SERVICES

Prepared by

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CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey Federal Fiscal Year 2010—Executive Summary

California Department of Social Services
Research Services Branch
Federal Data Reporting and Analysis Bureau
Trend Analysis Unit

The objective of CalFresh is to improve the health and wellbeing of qualified households and individuals by providing them a means to meet their nutritional needs. Between Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2005 and FFY 2010, the average monthly number of CalFresh recipients increased from 2.1 to 3.3 million, an increase of 57 percent.

Accordingly, the number of households receiving CalFresh in any average month has been on the rise. The number of households receiving assistance increased from an average of approximately three-quarters of a million per month in FFY 2005 to an average of 1.4 million per month in FFY 2010. This increase was largely due to the severe economic downturn that started in December 2007, officially ended eighteen months later, and has left unemployment levels of over 10 percent through 2012¹. Since 2010 the number of individuals and households that received CalFresh has continued to increase.

Knowing the characteristics of CalFresh recipients is essential in understanding the needs of low income families. It is instrumental in developing strategies and informing policies that address areas to focus program participation and identify subpopulations for increasing outreach efforts.

Drawing on data from the County Performance Sample survey conducted by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) that included a random sample of 5,711 CalFresh households, the CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey report presents data on various social and economic characteristics of individuals, families, and households who received CalFresh benefits during FFY 2010 – October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010. As with all sample data, the information in this report was subject to sampling and non-sampling errors². Because the estimates from this report are subject to margin of errors, they should be interpreted with caution.

Data on the demographic characteristics of program participants reflect that 57 percent of the CalFresh recipients were Hispanics, yet Hispanics were only 37 percent of California's population³. Similarly, of the total heads of household who participated in CalFresh, 39 percent were Hispanics, 30 percent were White, 20 percent were Black, and 11 percent were Asian/Pacific Islanders.

¹According to the Food Research Action Center (FRAC) 2012 SNAP participation report (<http://frac.org/reports-and-resources/snapfood-stamp-monthly-participation-data/>), the current unemployment and underemployment in most states have contributed to SNAP caseload growth in recent years.

²**Sampling error** is a statistical error caused due to working with sample data rather than population or census data. Using sample data presents the risk that results found in an analysis may not represent the results that would be obtained from using data involving the entire population from which the sample was derived. **Non-sampling errors** are statistical errors caused by human error to which a specific statistical analysis is exposed. These errors can include, but are not limited to, data entry errors, biased questions in a questionnaire, biased data processing, inappropriate analysis conclusions and false information provided by respondents.

³U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census Summary File 1.

The majority (53 percent) of the CalFresh recipients were female, which was three percentage points less than the national percentage of female participants. During the same period, over 70 percent of the heads of CalFresh households were female.

Slightly over seven percent of the CalFresh recipients were non-citizens. Although this figure does not reflect the share of non-citizens receiving benefits from the California Food Assistance Program (CFAP), research findings indicate that non-citizen individuals and families eligible for some important benefits — such as CalFresh — tend to access them at significantly lower rates than do citizens. A wide range of arguments that have been commonly advanced to explain this relatively low enrollment rate include lack of knowledge about the program, burdensome program enrollment, compliance requirements, social stigma, and cultural resistance. Fear of jeopardizing the family's residential status or eligibility for citizenship in the United States may also be one such argument^{4,5}.

The distribution of recipients by age show that most CalFresh recipients (60.7 percent) were children less than 18 years of age with 42 percent of the children under the age of six. This was four percentage points more than the national percentage of children under six.

Less than six percent of the CalFresh households had an elderly or disabled person. This was 29 percentage points less than the national percentage of households with an elderly or disabled person. The principle reason for the low percentage of elderly and disabled persons' participation is attributed to the fact that a significant number of the elderly receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or State Supplemental Payment (SSP) benefits, which includes a stipend for food and makes them ineligible for CalFresh.

Of all CalFresh households in FFY 2010, approximately eight percent were single-person child-only households. Child-only households do not have an eligible adult living in the household.

In 2010, approximately a third (32.7 percent) of CalFresh head of households were 20-29 years old, and the average age of the head of household was 36.9 years.

Monthly income is the most important determinant of a household's CalFresh eligibility. In FFY 2010, 45 percent of the CalFresh households had unearned income, this was 15 percentage points less than national percentage of households that had unearned income. Similarly, over 20 percent of the CalFresh households had earned income; this was ten percentage points less than the national percentage of households that had earned income.

The amount of a CalFresh household's benefit allotment is determined in part based on the receipt of any unearned or earned income. The majority of the CalFresh households with unearned income were receiving public assistance (47.1 percent) or general relief (16.9 percent) and there was a small percentage (13.6 percent) that received unemployment compensation.

⁴Skinner, Curtis (2011). "SNAP Take-up Among Immigrant Families with Children, National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP)", Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University (http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/text_1002.pdf)

⁵According to the 2011 USDA report on Guidance on Non-Citizen Eligibility, SNAP participation has been historically low among eligible non-citizen households (http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/government/pdf/Non-Citizen_Guidance_063011.pdf)

In FFY 2010, the average net income used to determine the CalFresh Allotment was \$462; this was \$126 more than the national amount of net income. Forty-four percent of CalFresh households did not have a net income, the majority of households (56.6 percent) had a net income less than or equal to \$400 a month, and only slightly over eleven percent had a monthly net income of \$1000 or more. Nearly all of the earned income in the CalFresh household (86 percent) was from salary or wages that averaged \$883 per month.

Due to Cost-of-Living Adjustments and falling incomes which resulted in increased benefit allotments, the average monthly CalFresh benefit of all participating households increased to \$322 in 2010, and it was \$35 more than the national benefit allotted per household. More than half of the CalFresh households were not required to report resources because of categorical eligibility.

Of the total households that reported a shelter cost, 66 percent reported an allowable excess shelter deduction of \$276, and the average shelter deduction was \$432. This was \$88 more than the national average shelter deduction. Fifty-nine percent of households claimed a standard utility allowance. Less than one percent of the households were allowed a dependent care deduction, and the average deduction was \$304. This was \$79 more than the national average. The significant changes, mostly increases, occurred in the average dollar amounts for allowable excess shelter deduction, dependent care deduction, and shelter cost.

The number of heads of households with at least 12 years of education significantly increased since 2005. By FFY 2010, the number of households headed by adults who completed at least 12 years of education had increased by 142 percent while the number of all households increased by 87 percent since FFY 2005. Increased job losses and falling incomes during the recent recession is likely to have led to more people with a higher level of education being eligible for CalFresh.

In conclusion, CalFresh provides nutrition assistance to millions of needy individuals and families. In FFY 2010, 53 percent of CalFresh recipients were female, 93 percent were U.S. citizens, 57 percent were Hispanic, and about 61 percent were children under 18. Currently, CDSS is developing strategies to reach out to individuals and families that may not be aware of their eligibility for CalFresh benefits.



CALFRESH RECIPIENT PROFILE

Like the population at large, the CalFresh population has a wide range of social and economic characteristics. However, since our last publication in FFY 2002, there has been a change in the general population, new policies and regulations have been implemented, and the state's economic downturn has affected CalFresh eligibility and recipient profiles. The chart below shows the comparison of some of the key characteristics of the households receiving CalFresh in FFY 2002 and FFY 2010.

CHARACTERISTICS	FFY 2010	FFY 2002
Average age of head of household (years)	36.9	36.6
Average age of child (years)	7.4	8.3
Average number of persons per household	2.4	2.7
Average number of children per household	1.5	1.8
Percent of recipients that are United States citizens	92.7%	90.8%
Heads of the household completing at least 12 years education	62.6%	55.2%
Average CalFresh allotment per household	\$322	\$199
Percent of CalFresh recipients that also receive CalWORKs benefits	33.6%	63.0%
Percent of CalFresh households that also receive CalWORKs benefits	28.5%	49.8%
Percent of single-person NACF households	46.6%	42.5%
<i>Race/Ethnicity of the head of household:</i>		
Hispanic	38.9%	33.8%
White	30.2%	30.1%
Black	19.9%	25.0%
Asian Pacific Islander/Other	11.0%	10.9%
<i>Race/Ethnicity of the CalFresh recipients:</i>		
Hispanic	57.2%	46.4%
White	19.4%	20.7%
Black	13.2%	18.8%
Asian Pacific Islander/Other	10.2%	14.1%

SECTION 1

GENDER/RACE/ETHNICITY/CITIZENSHIP

Fifty-seven percent of the CalFresh recipients were Hispanic, yet they were only 37 percent of California's population¹. Similarly, of the total heads of household who participated in CalFresh, 39 percent were Hispanic, 30 percent were White, 20 percent were Black, and 11 percent were Asian/Pacific Islanders.

The majority (53 percent) of the CalFresh recipients were female, which was three percentage points less than the national percentage of female recipients.

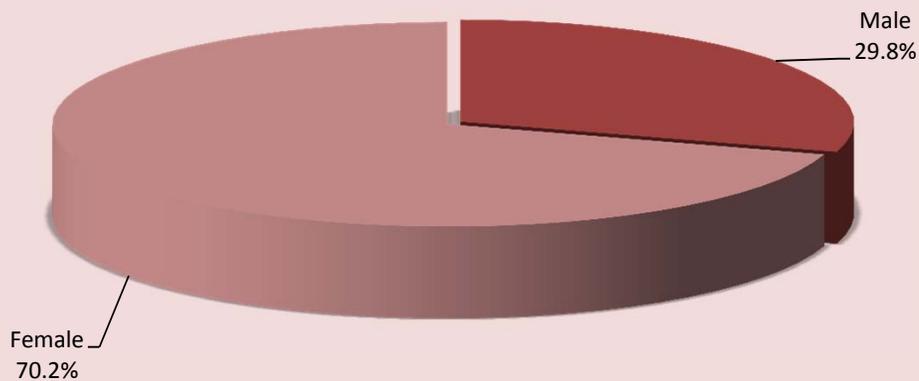
Slightly over seven percent of the CalFresh recipients were non-citizens. Although this figure does not reflect the share of non-citizens receiving CFAP benefits, research findings indicate that non-citizen individuals and families eligible for some important benefits — such as CalFresh — tend to access them at significantly lower rates than do citizens. A wide range of arguments that have commonly been advanced to explain this relatively low enrollment rate include lack of knowledge about the programs, burdensome program enrollment, compliance requirements, social stigma, and cultural resistance. Fear of jeopardizing the family's residential status or eligibility for citizenship in the United States may also be one such argument.^{4,5}

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census Summary File 1.

⁴ Skinner, Curtis (2011). "SNAP Take-up Among Immigrant Families with Children, National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP)", Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University (http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/text_1002.pdf)

⁵ According to the 2011 USDA report on Guidance on Non-Citizen Eligibility, SNAP participation has been historically low among eligible non-citizen households (http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/government/pdf/Non-Citizen_Guidance_063011.pdf)

**CHART 1
GENDER OF THE HEAD OF THE CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD**

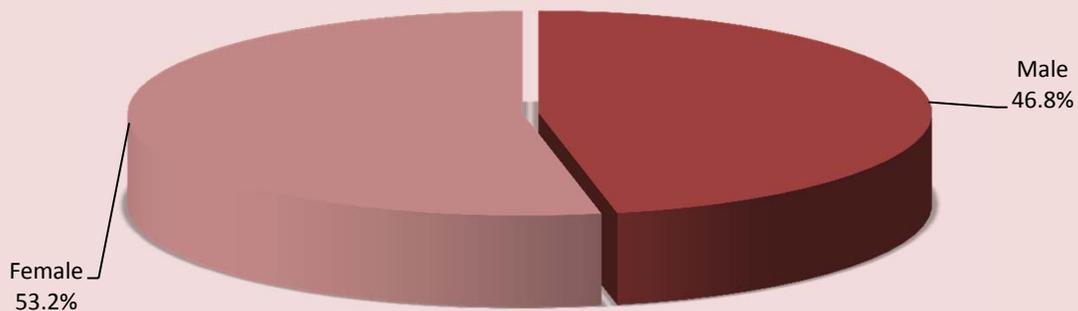


GENDER	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION					
			PUBLIC ASSISTANCE			NONASSISTANCE		
	Number		Number		Number			
Total	<u>1,400,751</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>399,545</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,001,206</u>	<u>100.0</u>		
Not Applicable ^{1/}	372,494	26.6	165,919	41.5	206,575	20.6		
Head of Household:	<u>1,028,257</u>	73.4	<u>233,626</u>	58.5	<u>794,631</u>	79.4	<u>100.0</u>	
Male	306,240	29.8	24,867	10.6	281,373	35.4		
Female	722,017	70.2	208,759	89.4	513,258	64.6		

1/ "Not Applicable" refers to those households in which the parents or responsible household members were not designated as head of household or authorized representative due to their alien, SSI/SSP or other ineligible recipient status.

- **Over 70 percent of CalFresh households are headed by women. In public assistance households almost 90 percent of the household heads are women.**

**CHART 2
GENDER OF THE CALFRESH RECIPIENTS**

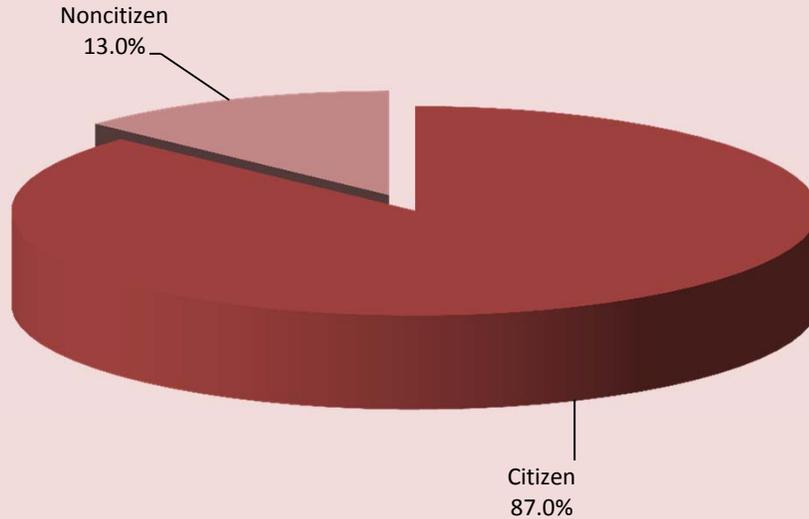


GENDER	TOTAL RECIPIENTS		CLASSIFICATION			
			PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
	Number		Number		Number	
Total	<u>3,379,326</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,136,455</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>2,242,871</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Male	1,581,851	46.8	498,425	43.9	1,083,426	48.3
Female	1,797,475	53.2	638,030	56.1	1,159,445	51.7

- Slightly more CalFresh recipients in the public assistance category are female.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

CHART 3
CITIZENSHIP STATUS OF THE HEAD OF THE CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD



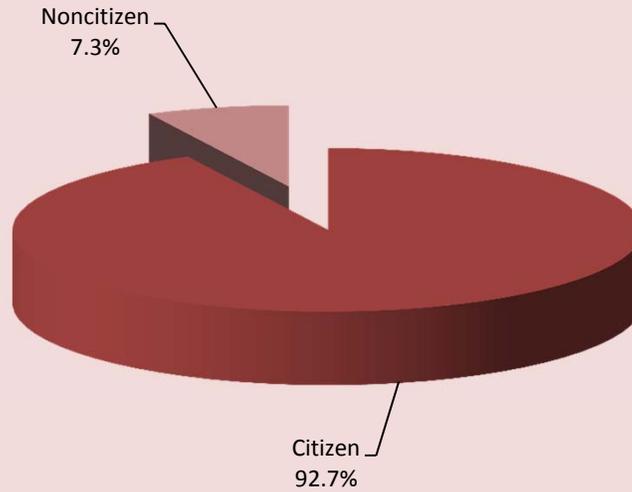
CITIZENSHIP STATUS	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	<u>1,400,751</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>399,545</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,001,206</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Not Applicable ^{1/}	372,494	26.6	165,919	41.5	<u>206,575</u>	20.6
Head of Household:	<u>1,028,257</u>	73.4	<u>233,626</u>	58.5	<u>794,631</u>	79.4
Citizen	894,463	87.0	208,264	89.1	686,199	86.4
Noncitizen	133,793	13.0	25,361	10.9	108,432	13.6

1/ "Not Applicable" refers to those households in which the parents or responsible household members were not designated as head of household or authorized representative due to their alien, SSI/SSP or other ineligible recipient status.

- **Noncitizens made up 13 percent of the total heads of household and only 10.9 percent of total households in the public assistance category.**

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

**CHART 4
CITIZENSHIP STATUS OF THE CALFRESH RECIPIENTS**

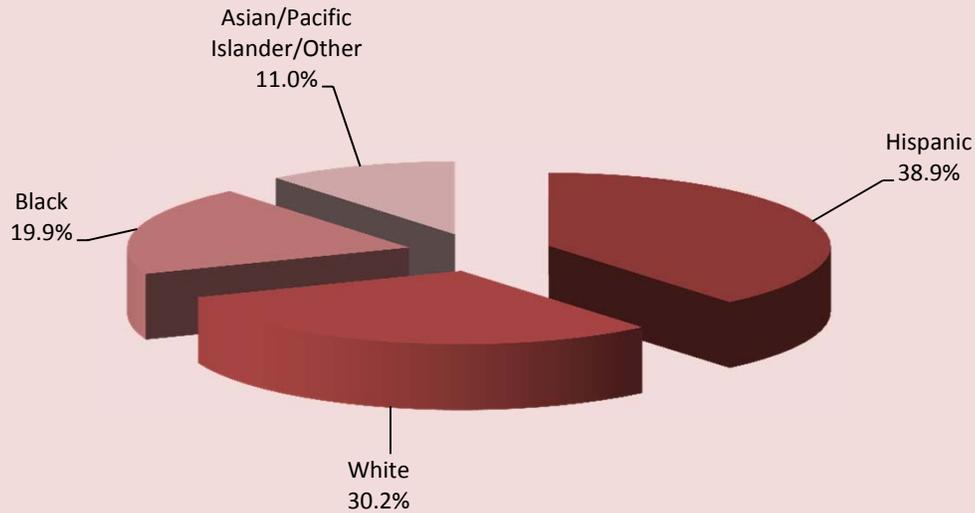


CITIZENSHIP STATUS	TOTAL RECIPIENTS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	<u>3,379,326</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,136,455</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>2,242,871</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Citizen	3,131,516	92.7	1,085,329	95.5	2,046,187	91.2
Noncitizen	247,810	7.3	51,126	4.5	196,684	8.8

- A large percentage (92.7) of CalFresh recipients are United States citizens.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

**CHART 5
RACE/ETHNICITY OF THE HEAD OF THE CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD**



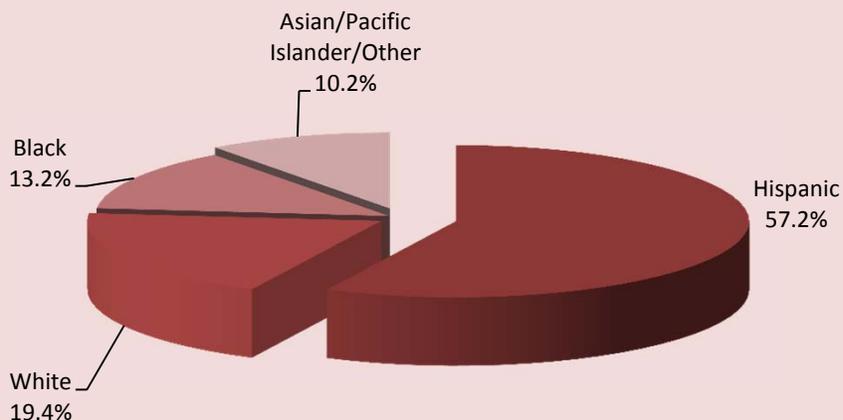
RACE/ETHNICITY	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	<u>1,400,751</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>399,545</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,001,206</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Not Applicable ^{1/}	372,494	26.6	165,919	41.5	206,575	20.6
Head of Household:	<u>1,028,257</u>	73.4 <u>100.0</u>	<u>233,626</u>	58.5 <u>100.0</u>	<u>794,630</u>	79.4 <u>100.0</u>
Hispanic	400,429	38.9	104,773	44.8	295,656	37.2
White	310,527	30.2	54,405	23.3	256,122	32.2
Black	204,453	19.9	49,102	21.0	155,351	19.6
Asian/Pacific Islander/Other	112,847	11.0	25,346	10.8	87,501	11.0

1/ "Not Applicable" refers to those households in which the parents or responsible household members were not designated as head of household or authorized representative due to their alien, SSI/SSP or other ineligible recipient status.

- **Nearly 70 percent of the total households heads are Hispanic or White.**

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

**CHART 6
RACE/ETHNICITY OF THE CALFRESH RECIPIENTS**



RACE/ETHNICITY	TOTAL RECIPIENTS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	<u>3,379,326</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,136,455</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>2,242,871</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Hispanic	1,934,057	57.2	688,063	60.5	1,245,994	55.6
White	655,429	19.4	182,839	16.1	472,590	21.1
Black	446,672	13.2	155,138	13.7	291,534	13.0
Asian/Pacific Islander/Other	343,168	10.2	110,415	9.7	232,753	10.4

- More than half (57.2) of the CalFresh recipients are Hispanic.

SECTION 2

AGE/HOUSEHOLD SIZE

The distribution of recipients by age show that most CalFresh recipients (60.7 percent) were children less than 18 years of age with 42 percent of the children under the age of six. This was four percentage points more than the national percentage of children under six.

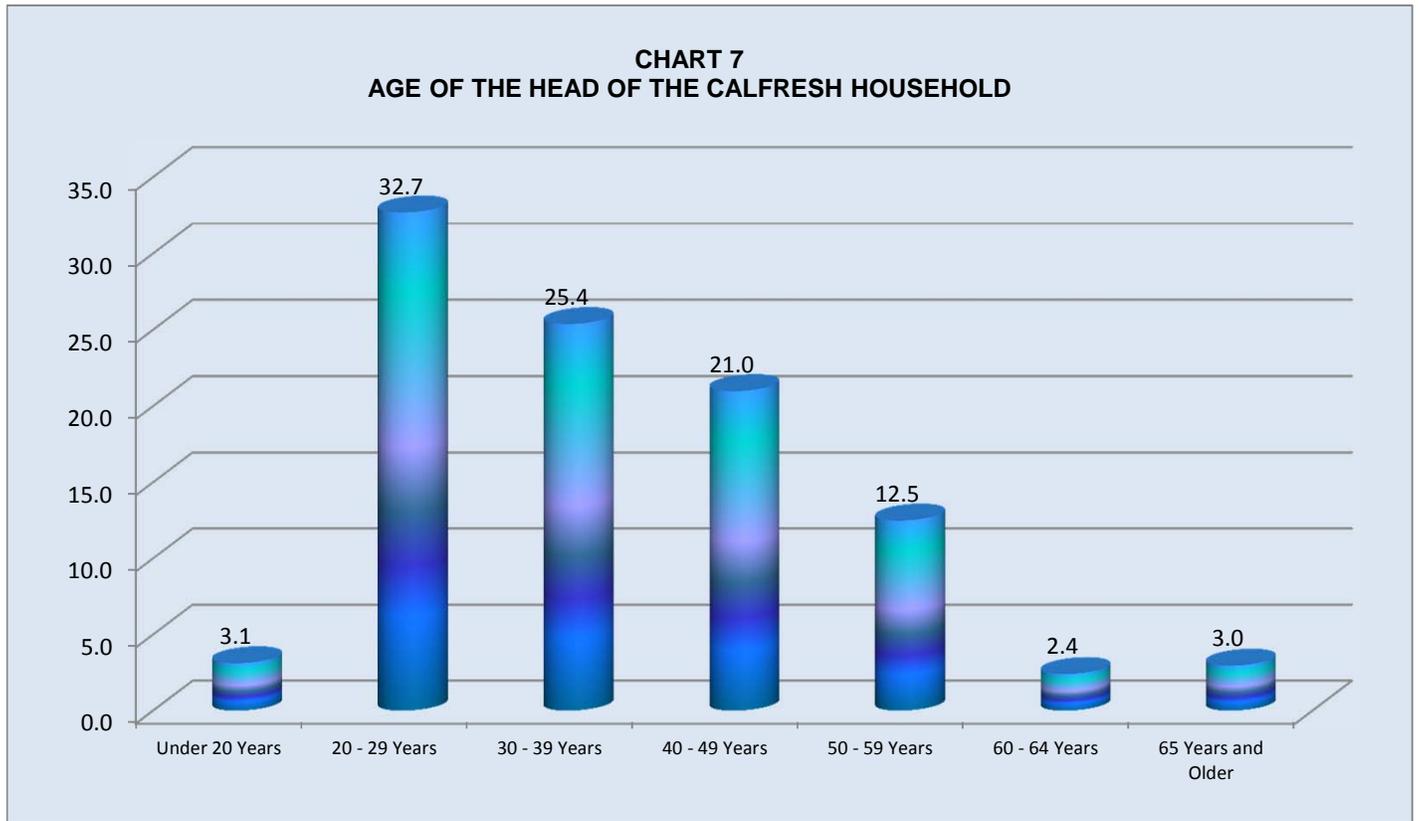
Less than six percent of the CalFresh households had an elderly or disabled person. This was 29 percentage points less than the national percentage of households with an elderly or disabled person. The principle reason for the low percentage of elderly and disabled persons' participation is attributed to the fact that a significant number of the elderly receive SSI/SSP benefits, which includes a stipend for food and makes them ineligible for Calfresh.

Of all CalFresh households in FFY 2010, approximately eight percent were single-person-child-only households. Child-only households do not have an eligible adult living in the household.

In 2010, approximately a third (32.7 percent) of CalFresh head of households were 20-29 years old, and the average age of the head of household was 36.9 years.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

**CHART 7
AGE OF THE HEAD OF THE CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD**



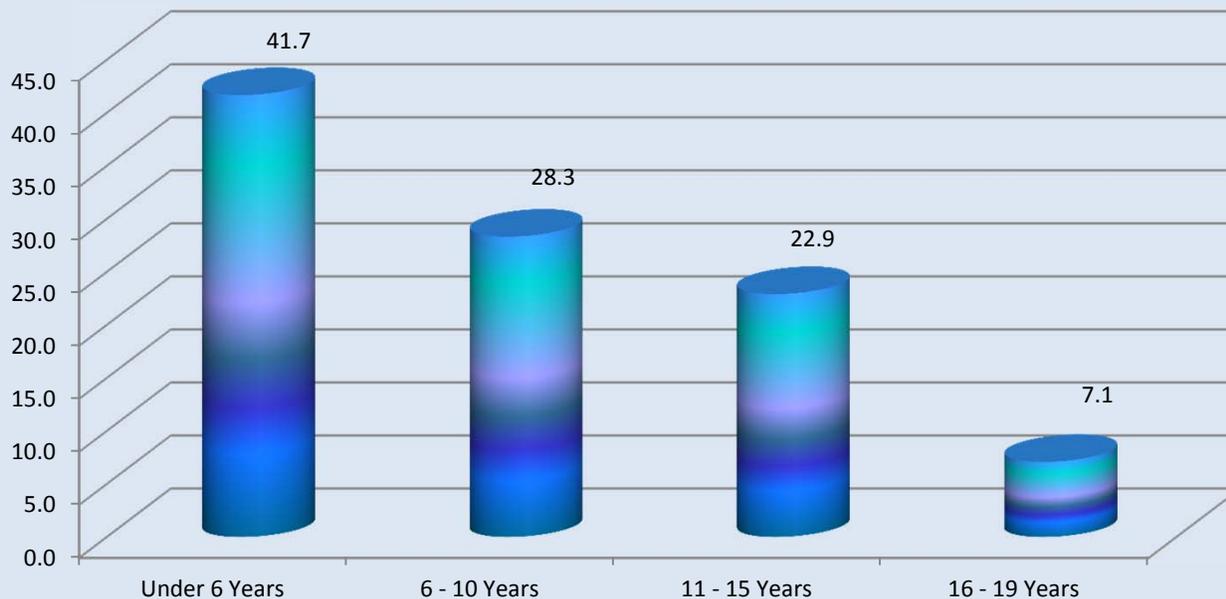
AGE	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	<u>1,400,751</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>399,545</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,001,206</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Not Applicable ^{1/}	372,494	26.6	165,919	41.5	206,575	20.6
Head of Household:	<u>1,028,257</u>	73.4	<u>233,626</u>	58.5	<u>794,631</u>	79.4
Under 20 Years	32,044	3.1	12,223	5.2	19,821	2.5
20 - 29 Years	336,031	32.7	97,728	41.8	238,303	30.0
30 - 39 Years	260,921	25.4	80,671	34.5	180,250	22.7
40 - 49 Years	215,752	21.0	37,670	16.1	178,082	22.4
50 - 59 Years	128,396	12.5	4,701	2.0	123,695	15.6
60 - 64 Years	24,707	2.4	314	0.1	24,393	3.1
65 Years and Older	30,406	3.0	319	0.1	30,087	3.8
Avg/Median age	36.9/35		31.2/30		38.6/37	

1/ "Not Applicable" refers to those households in which the parents or responsible household members were not designated as head of household or authorized representative due to their alien, SSI/SSP or other ineligible recipient status.

- **Approximately 79.1 percent of heads of household were between 20 - 49 years of age, and the average age was 36.9 years old.**

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

**CHART 8
AGE OF CHILDREN OF THE CALFRESH RECIPIENTS**

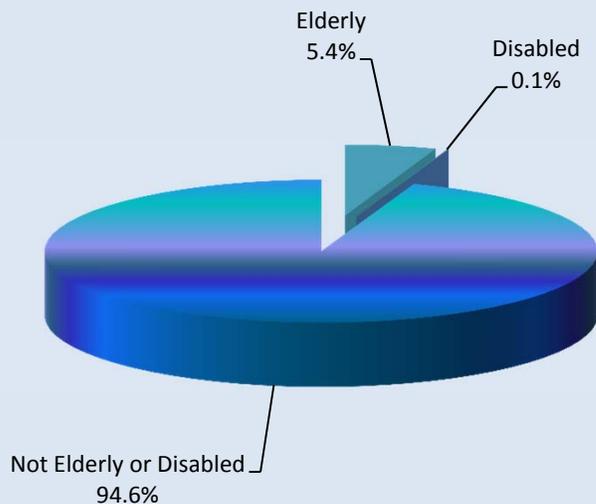


AGE	TOTAL RECIPIENTS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	<u>3,379,326</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,136,455</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>2,242,871</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Adults in the CF Household	1,327,735	39.3	295,730	26.0	1,032,005	46.0
Children in the CF Household:	<u>2,051,591</u>	60.7	<u>840,725</u>	74.0	<u>1,210,866</u>	54.0
Under 6 Years	855,035	41.7	351,667	41.8	503,368	41.6
6 - 10 Years	581,159	28.3	237,690	28.3	343,469	28.4
11 - 15 Years	470,135	22.9	189,947	22.6	280,188	23.1
16 - 19 Years	145,261	7.1	61,421	7.3	83,840	6.9
Average Age of Child (Years)	7.4		7.4		7.4	

- Forty-two percent of all recipient children were under six years old, and the average age was 7.4 years old.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

CHART 9
ELDERLY OR DISABLED STATUS OF THE HEAD OF THE CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD



ELDERLY OR DISABLED STATUS	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	<u>1,400,751</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>399,545</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,001,206</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Not Applicable ^{1/}	372,494	26.6	165,919	41.5	206,575	20.6
Head of Household:	<u>1,028,257</u>	<u>73.4</u>	<u>233,626</u>	<u>58.5</u>	<u>794,631</u>	<u>79.4</u>
Elderly	55,113	5.4	634	0.3	54,479	6.9
Disabled	852	0.1	159	0.1	693	0.1
Not Elderly or Disabled	973,144	94.6	232,992	99.7	740,152	93.1

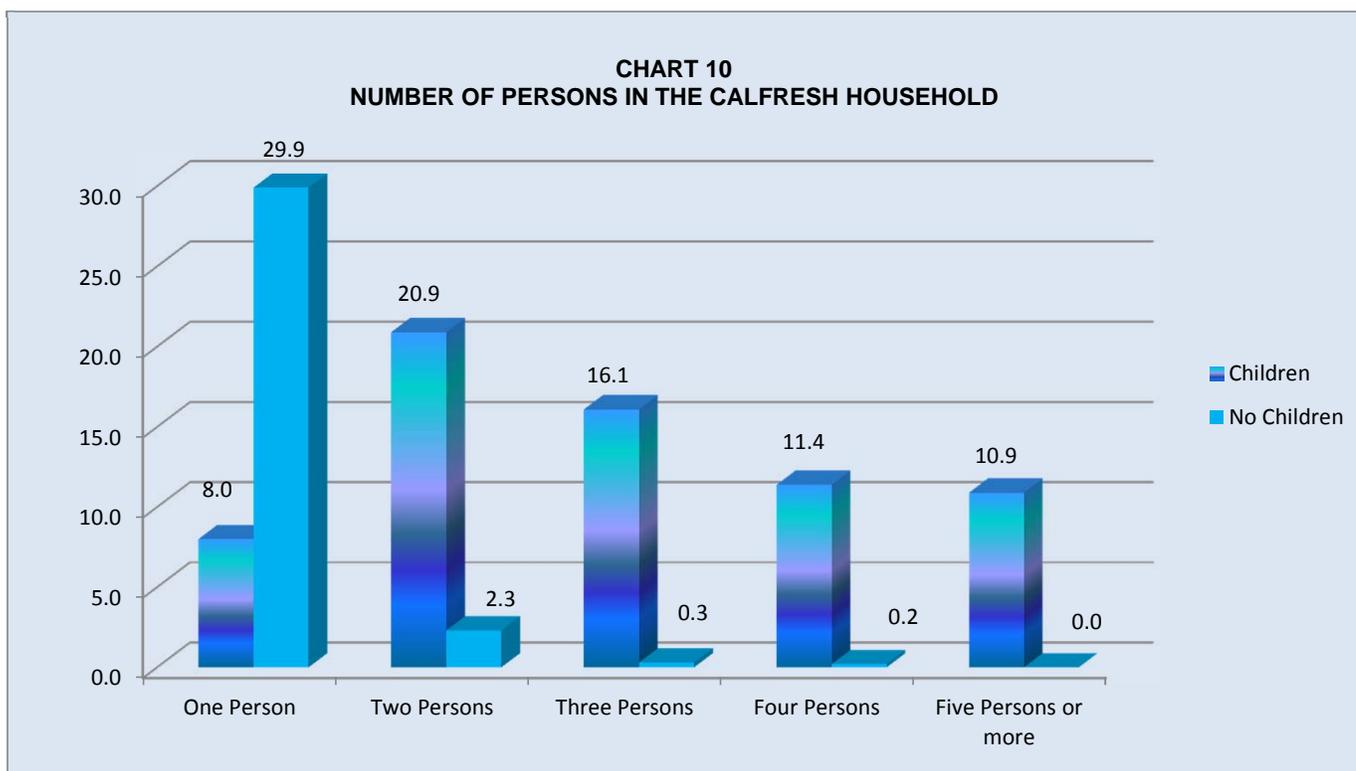
1/ "Not Applicable" refers to those households in which the parents or responsible household members were not designated as head of household or authorized representative due to their alien, SSI/SSP or other ineligible recipient status.

- **A small percentage (5.5) of the head of households are elderly/disabled.**

Note: Those aged 60 and over are considered elderly, and the disabled category includes those who are deemed physically/mentally unfit for employment.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

CHART 10
NUMBER OF PERSONS IN THE CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD

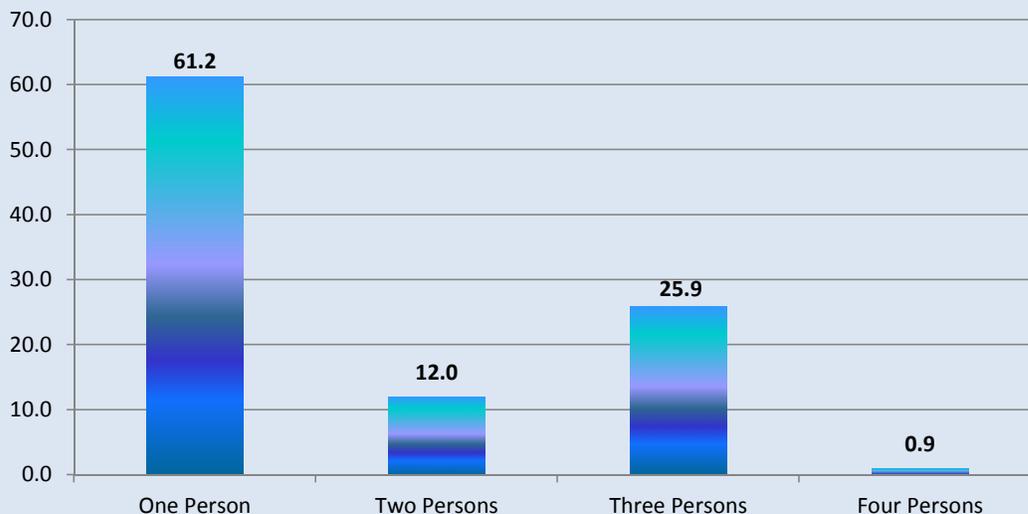


PERSONS IN HOUSEHOLD	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	<u>1,400,751</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>399,545</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,001,206</u>	<u>100.0</u>
One Person						
With Children	112,442	8.0	55,976	14.0	56,466	5.6
No Children	419,301	29.9	9,458	2.4	409,843	40.9
Two Persons						
With Children	293,225	20.9	121,716	30.5	171,509	17.1
No Children	32,263	2.3	280	0.1	31,983	3.2
Three Persons						
With Children	225,390	16.1	98,382	24.6	127,008	12.7
No Children	4,047	0.3	0	0.0	4,047	0.4
Four Persons						
With Children	159,127	11.4	66,429	16.6	92,698	9.3
No Children	2,103	0.2	0	0.0	2,103	0.2
Five Persons or more						
With Children	152,404	10.9	47,303	11.8	105,101	10.5
No Children	449	0.0	0	0.0	449	
Avg/Median Number of Persons	2.4 / 2.0		2.8 / 3.0		2.2 / 2.0	

- One-person households with no children was the largest group of nonassistance households, while two-person household with children was the largest group in the public assistance category.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

CHART 11
NUMBER OF PERSONS IN THE SAME LIVING QUARTERS
NOT INCLUDED IN THE CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD



HOUSEHOLDS WITH OTHER PERSONS	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
			PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	<u>30,395</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>7,041</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>23,354</u>	<u>100.0</u>
One Person	18,612	61.2	4,352	61.8	14,260	61.1
Two Persons	3,642	12.0	954	13.5	2,688	11.5
Three Persons	7,859	25.9	1,673	23.8	6,186	26.5
Four Persons	282	0.9	62	0.9	220	0.9
Average Number of Other Persons	1.7		1.6		1.7	

- When compared to the public assistance households, nonassistance households had three times more persons in their living quarters.

SECTION 3

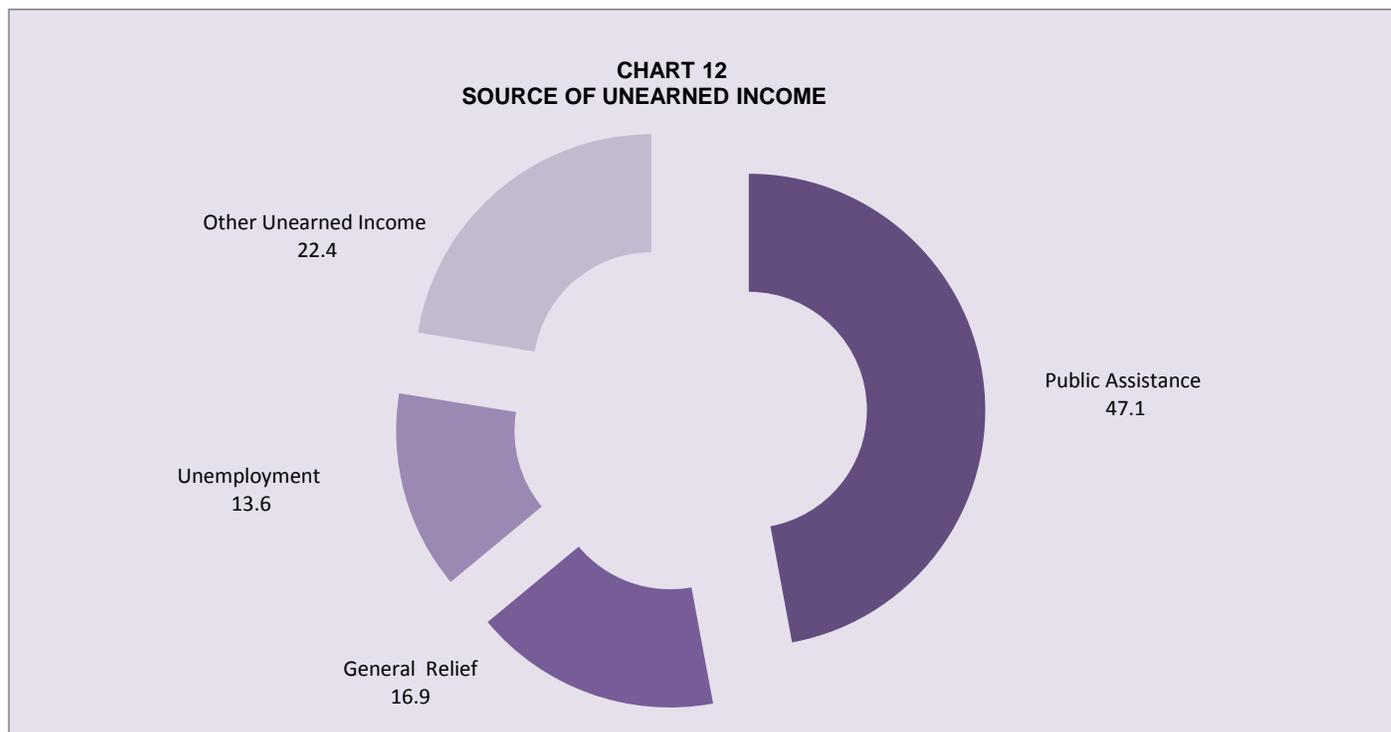
INCOME

Monthly income is the most important determinant of a household's CalFresh eligibility. In FFY 2010, 45 percent of the CalFresh households had unearned income, this was 15 percentage points less than the national percentage of households that had unearned income. Similarly, over 20 percent of the CalFresh households had earned income; this was ten percentage points less than the national percentage of households that had earned income.

The amount of a CalFresh household's benefit allotment is determined in part based on the receipt of any unearned or earned income. The majority of the CalFresh households with unearned income were receiving public assistance (47.1 percent) or general relief (16.9 percent) and there was a small percentage (13.6 percent) that received unemployment compensation.

In FFY 2010, the average net income used to determine the CalFresh Allotment was \$462; this was \$126 more than the national amount of net income. Forty-four percent of the CalFresh households did not have a net income, the majority of households (56.6 percent) had a net income less than or equal to \$400 a month and only slightly over eleven percent had a monthly net income of \$1000 or more. Nearly all of the earned income in the CalFresh household (86 percent) was from salary or wages that averaged \$883 per month.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010



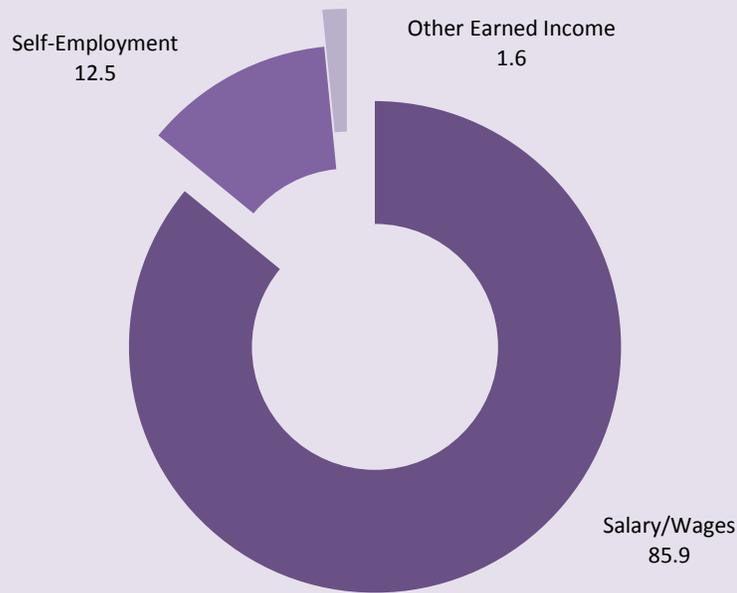
INCOME SOURCE	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS			CLASSIFICATION					
	Number	Percent	Avg./Med.	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE			NONASSISTANCE		
				Number	Percent	Avg./Med.	Number	Percent	Avg./Med.
Total	1,400,751	100.0		399,545	100.0		1,001,206	100.0	
No Unearned Income	764,896	54.6		155,151	38.8		609,745	60.9	
Unearned Income:	<u>635,855</u>	45.4	<u>100.0</u>	<u>244,394</u>	61.2	<u>100.0</u>	<u>391,461</u>	39.1	<u>100.0</u>
Public Assistance Grant	299,270	47.1	\$554 / \$561	234,994	96.2	\$566 / \$561	64,276	16.4	\$513 / \$533
General Relief	107,454	16.9	\$227 / \$221	781	0.3	\$519 / \$519	106,673	27.2	\$225 / \$221
Unemployment Comp.	86,461	13.6	\$771 / \$794	4,593	1.9	\$474 / \$513	81,868	20.9	\$788 / \$802
Other Unearned Income	142,670	22.4	\$514 / \$452	4,026	1.6	\$184 / \$50	138,644	35.4	\$599 / \$593

- Over 60 percent of the CalFresh households source of unearned income was public assistance or general relief.

Note: Other unearned income includes Social Security, Workmans compensation, government and non-government disability, pensions, alimony, deemed income, and veterans benefits.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

CHART 13
SOURCE OF EARNED INCOME

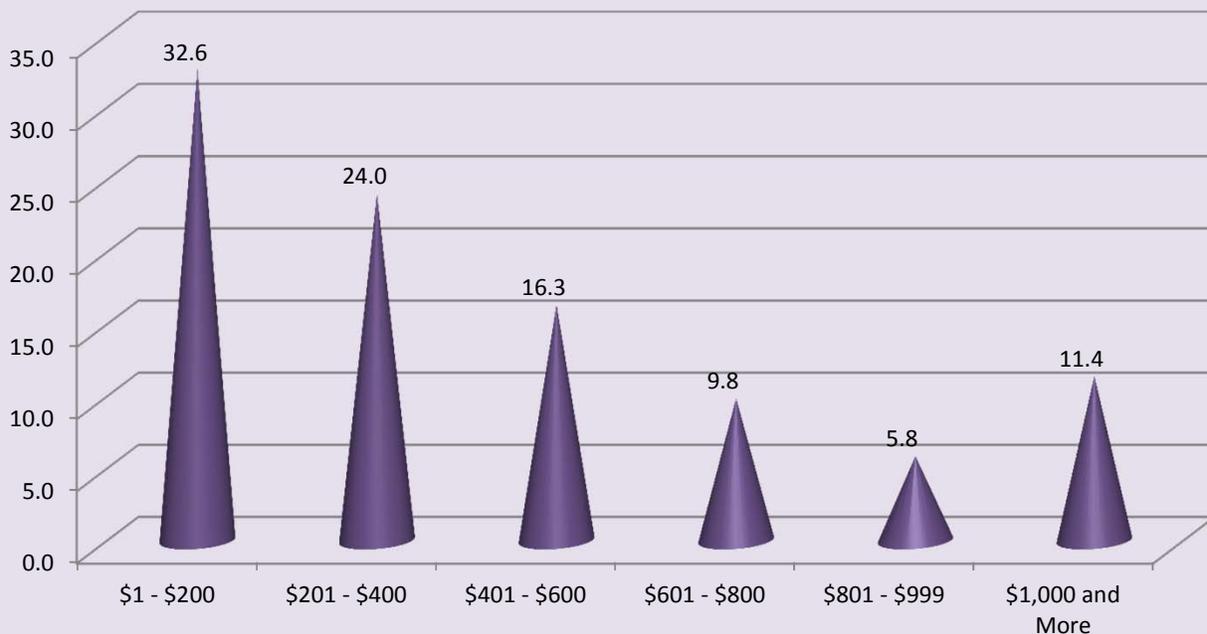


INCOME SOURCE	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS			CLASSIFICATION					
	Number	Percent	Avg./Med.	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE			NONASSISTANCE		
	Number	Percent	Avg./Med.	Number	Percent	Avg./Med.	Number	Percent	Avg./Med.
Total	<u>1,400,751</u>	<u>100.0</u>		<u>399,545</u>	<u>100.0</u>		<u>1,001,206</u>	<u>100.0</u>	
No Earned Income	<u>1,108,181</u>	79.1		<u>345,268</u>	86.4		<u>762,913</u>	76.2	
Earned Income:	<u>292,570</u>	20.9	<u>100.0</u>	<u>54,277</u>	13.6	<u>100.0</u>	<u>238,293</u>	23.8	<u>100.0</u>
Salary/Wages	251,378	85.9	\$883 / \$786	45,325	83.5	\$776 / \$768	206,053	86.5	\$909 / \$788
Self-Employment	36,550	12.5	\$285 / \$150	8,952	16.5	\$400 / \$594	27,598	11.6	\$248 / \$150
Other Earned Income	4,642	1.6	\$248 / \$100	0	0.0		4,642	1.9	\$248 / \$100

- Eighty-six percent of earned income came from salaries and wages, which is significantly higher than any other source of earned income.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

CHART 14
NET INCOME USED TO DETERMINE CALFRESH ALLOTMENT



NET INCOME	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	<u>1,400,751</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>399,545</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,001,206</u>	<u>100.0</u>
No Net Income	615,440	43.9	103,078	25.8	512,362	51.2
Net Income:	<u>785,311</u>	<u>56.1</u>	<u>296,467</u>	<u>74.2</u>	<u>488,844</u>	<u>48.8</u>
\$1 - \$200	256,207	32.6	102,855	34.7	153,352	31.4
\$201 - \$400	188,505	24.0	87,073	29.4	101,432	20.7
\$401 - \$600	128,234	16.3	57,063	19.2	71,171	14.6
\$601 - \$800	77,237	9.8	26,515	8.9	50,722	10.4
\$801 - \$999	45,779	5.8	9,453	3.2	36,326	7.4
\$1,000 and More	89,349	11.4	13,508	4.6	75,841	15.5
Avg./Median Amount of Net Income	\$462 / \$338		\$366 / \$310		\$521 / \$388	

- The average amount of net income used to determine the CalFresh allotment was \$366 for public assistance households, and \$521 for nonassistance households.

Note: The household's net income and deductions are used to determine the correct benefit level.

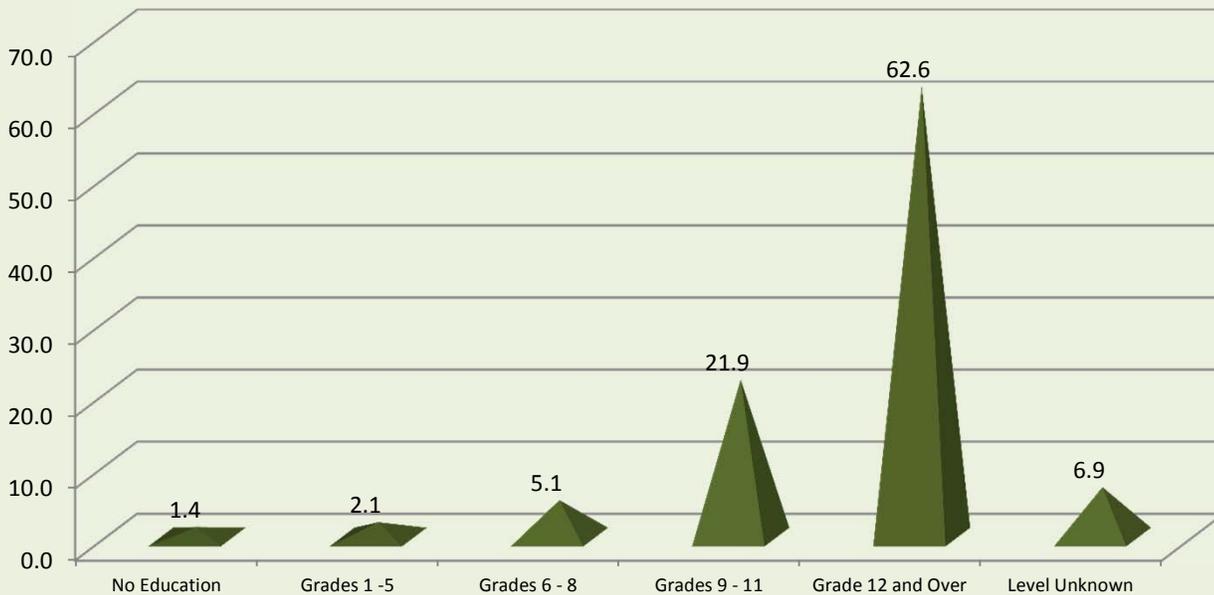
SECTION 4

EDUCATION

The number of heads of households with at least 12 years of education significantly increased since 2005. By FFY 2010, the number of households headed by adults who completed at least 12 years of education had increased by 142 percent while the number of all households increased by 87 percent since FFY 2005. Increased job losses and falling incomes during the recent recession is likely to have led to more people with a higher level of education being eligible for CalFresh.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

CHART 15
EDUCATION LEVEL OF THE HEAD OF THE CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD



EDUCATION LEVEL	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	<u>1,400,751</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>399,545</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,001,206</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Not Applicable ^{1/}	372,494	26.6	165,919	41.5	206,575	20.6
Head of Household:	<u>1,028,257</u>	73.4	<u>233,626</u>	58.5	<u>794,631</u>	79.4
No Education	14,489	1.4	2,200	0.9	12,289	1.5
Grades 1 - 5	21,235	2.1	1,129	0.5	20,106	2.5
Grades 6 - 8	52,727	5.1	9,960	4.3	42,767	5.4
Grades 9 - 11	224,987	21.9	60,980	26.1	164,007	20.6
Grade 12 and Over	643,479	62.6	153,547	65.7	489,932	61.7
Level Unknown	71,342	6.9	5,810	2.5	65,532	8.2

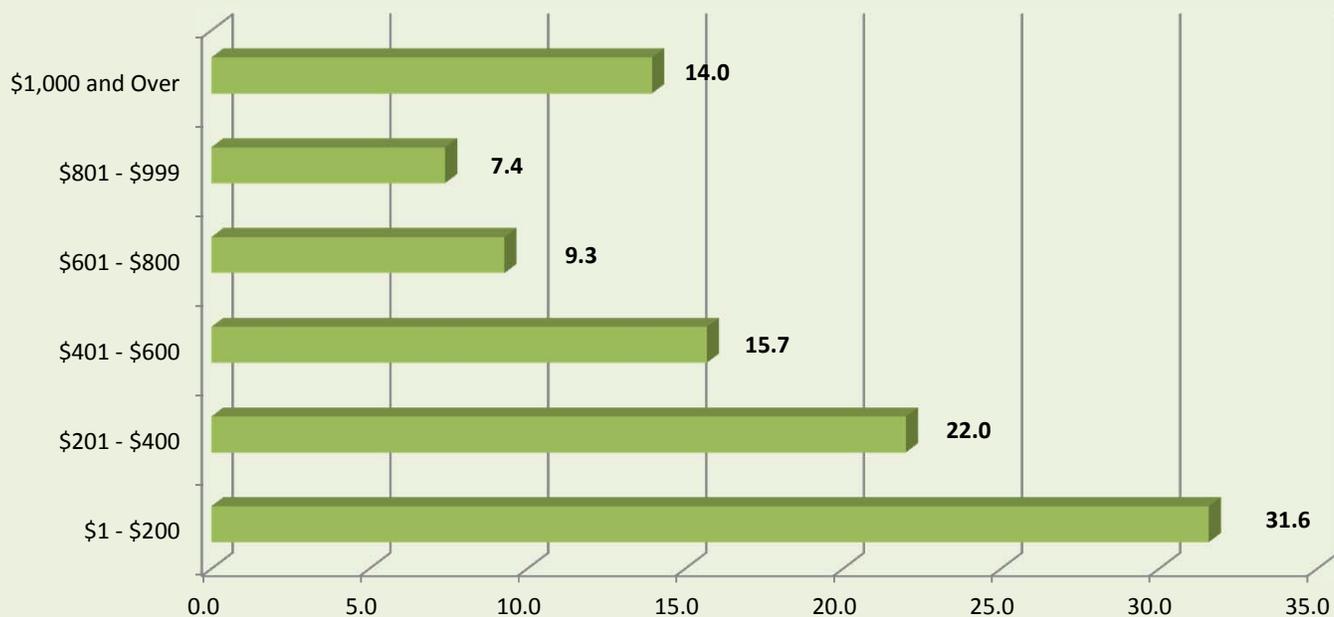
1/ "Not Applicable" refers to those households in which the parents or responsible household members were not designated as head of household or authorized representative due to their alien, SSI/SSP or other ineligible recipient status.

- **The majority (62.6) of the head of households have completed 12 or more years of education.**

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

CHART 15a

NET INCOME USED TO DETERMINE THE CALFRESH ALLOTMENT FOR HOUSEHOLDS
IN WHICH THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD HAS LESS THAN 12 YEARS OF EDUCATION



NET INCOME	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Head of Household	<u>313,436</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>74,268</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>239,168</u>	<u>100.0</u>
No Net Income	128,632	41.0	15,640	21.1	112,992	47.2
Net Income:	<u>184,804</u>	59.0	<u>58,628</u>	78.9	<u>126,176</u>	52.8
\$1 - \$200	58,372	31.6	15,814	27.0	42,558	33.7
\$201 - \$400	40,783	22.0	17,228	29.4	23,555	18.7
\$401 - \$600	29,006	15.7	13,998	23.9	15,008	11.9
\$601 - \$800	17,164	9.3	4,120	7.0	13,044	10.3
\$801 - \$999	13,684	7.4	2,084	3.5	11,600	9.2
\$1,000 and Over	25,795	14.0	5,384	9.2	20,411	16.2

- Forty-one percent of CalFresh heads of household with less than 12 years of education reported no income.

SECTION 5

BENEFITS

The average time on aid dropped from three years to less than two years. The majority of CalFresh households (55.7 percent) had been on aid for about a year or less. The average length of time to recertification was 12 months, this was similar to the national average. However, the certification period varies with a change in financial circumstances.

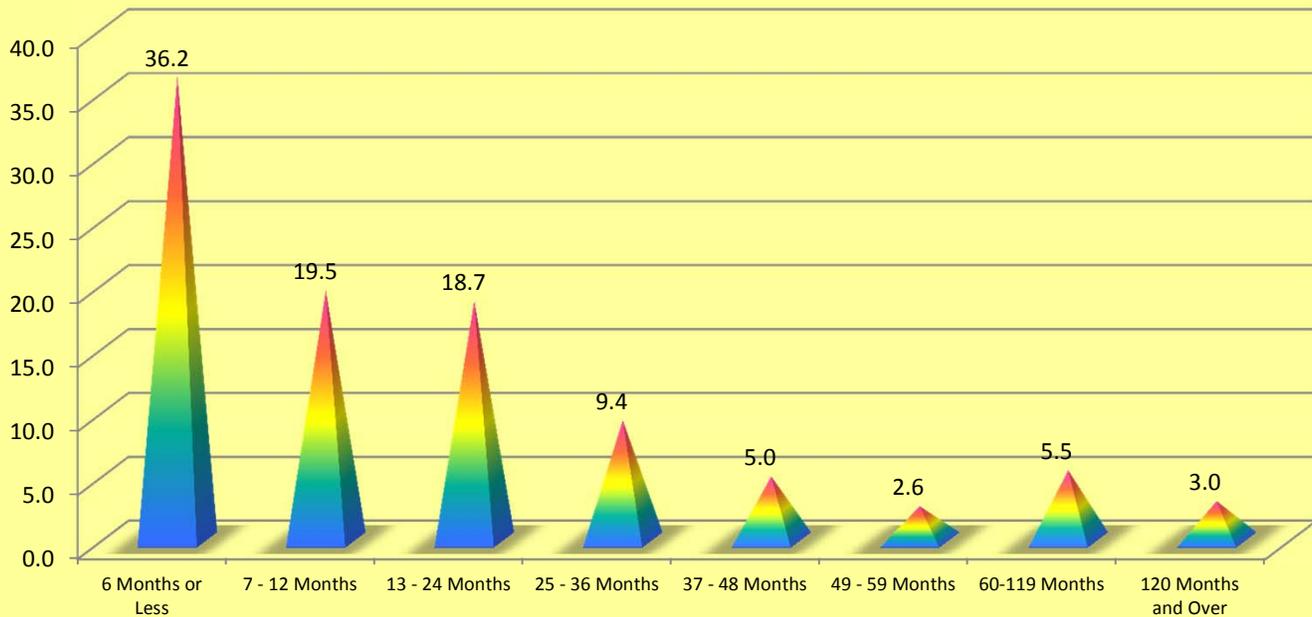
Due to Cost-of-Living Adjustments and falling incomes which resulted in increased benefit allotments, the average monthly CalFresh benefit of all participating households increased to \$322 in 2010, and it was \$35 more than the national benefit allotted per household.

More than half of the CalFresh households were not required to report resources because of categorical eligibility.

Over 19 percent of the CalFresh households received benefits for seven to 12 months. Of those, 44.6 percent were Hispanic, nearly nine out of ten had four or less persons in the household, almost 49 percent reported no net income, and more than 61 percent completed 12 years of education or more.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

CHART 16
NUMBER OF UNINTERRUPTED MONTHS SINCE THE INITIAL CALFRESH APPLICATION

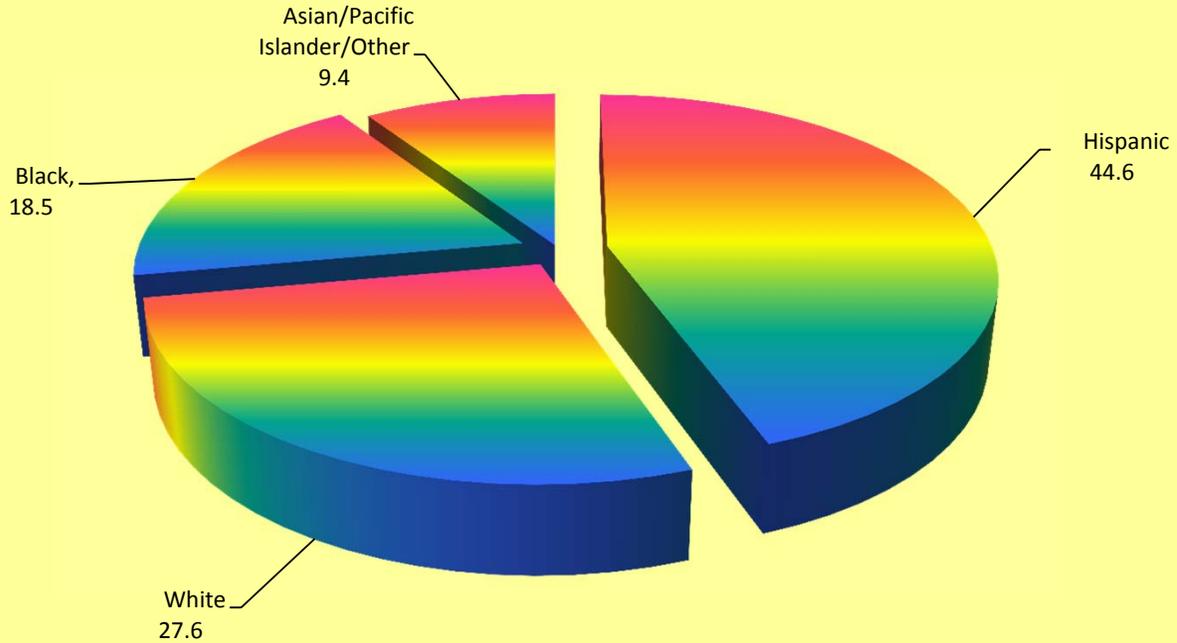


MONTHS	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	<u>1,400,751</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>399,545</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,001,206</u>	<u>100.0</u>
6 Months or Less	507,645	36.2	94,436	23.6	413,209	41.3
7 - 12 Months	273,458	19.5	62,690	15.7	210,768	21.1
13 - 24 Months	262,122	18.7	77,996	19.5	184,126	18.4
25 - 36 Months	131,243	9.4	53,236	13.3	78,007	7.8
37 - 48 Months	69,714	5.0	28,495	7.1	41,219	4.1
49 - 59 Months	37,026	2.6	15,976	4.0	21,050	2.1
60-119 Months	76,427	5.5	44,466	11.1	31,961	3.2
120 Months and Over	42,683	3.0	22,251	5.6	20,432	2.0
Unknown	433	0.0	0	0.0	433	0.0
Avg/Median Uninterrupted Months	22.5/10.8		33.5/18.2		18.0/8.9	

- The CalFresh households average time on aid is 22.5 months. However, public assistance households average time on aid is close to 3 years (33.5).

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

CHART 16a
RACE/ETHNICITY OF THE HEAD OF THE CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD
THAT RECEIVED CALFRESH CONTINUOUSLY FOR SEVEN TO TWELVE MONTHS



RACE/ETHNICITY	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
			PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total ^{1/}	<u>273,458</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>62,690</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>210,768</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Not Applicable ^{2/}	71,338	26.1	23,449	37.4	47,889	22.7
Head of Household:	<u>202,120</u>	73.9	<u>39,241</u>	62.6	<u>162,879</u>	77.3
Hispanic	90,108	44.6	19,164	48.8	70,944	43.6
White	55,737	27.6	11,415	29.1	44,322	27.2
Black	37,354	18.5	5,300	13.5	32,054	19.7
Asian/Pacific Islander/Other	18,921	9.4	3,362	8.6	15,559	9.6

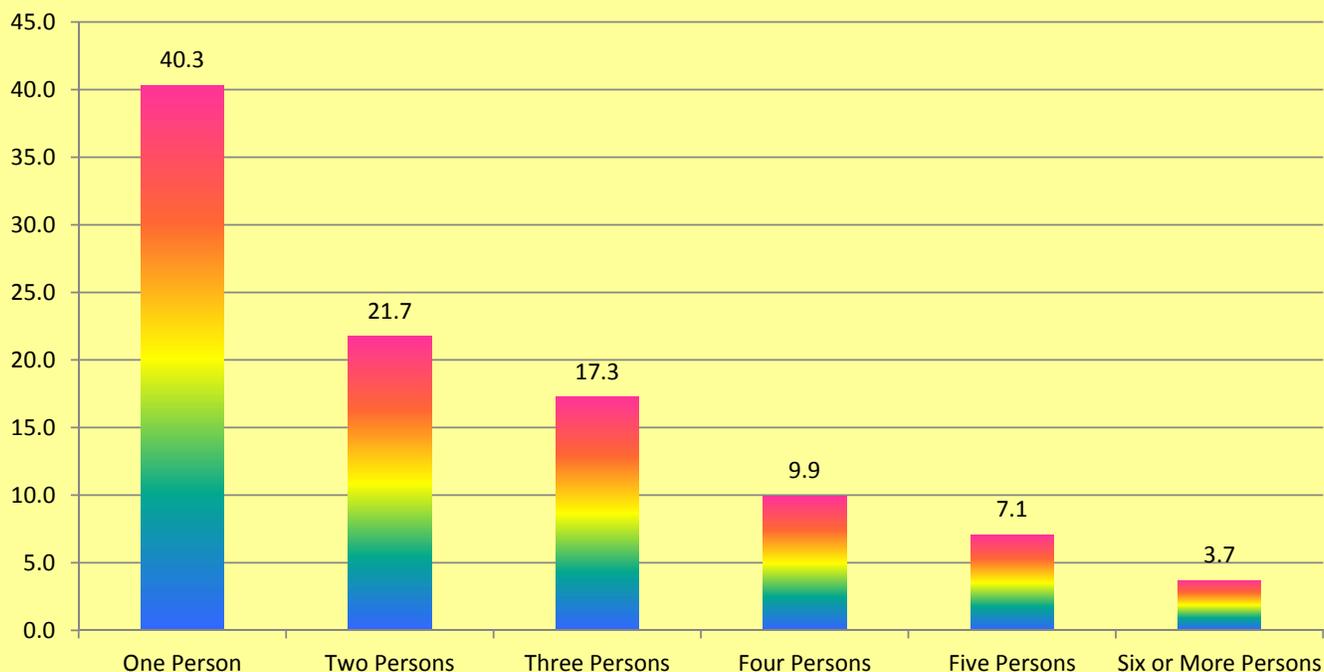
1/ From Table 16

2/ "Not Applicable" refers to those households in which the parents or responsible household members were not designated as head of household or authorized representative due to their alien, SSI/SSP or other ineligible recipient status.

- Of those receiving CalFresh for 7 to 12 months, 44.6 percent were Hispanic.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

CHART 16b
NUMBER OF PERSONS IN THE CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD THAT RECEIVED CALFRESH CONTINUOUSLY FOR SEVEN TO TWELVE MONTHS

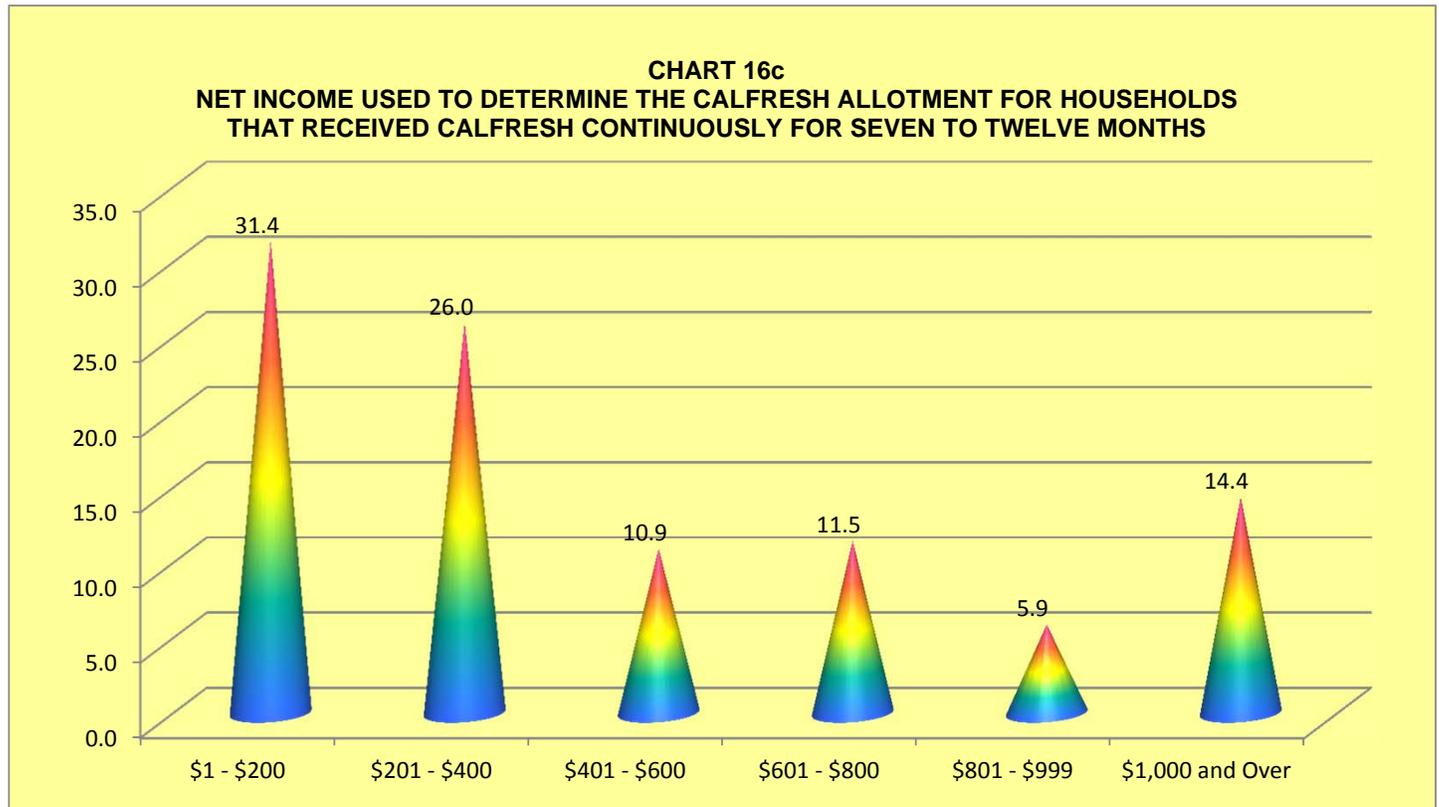


PERSONS IN HOUSEHOLD	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total ^{1/}	<u>273,458</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>62,690</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>210,768</u>	<u>100.0</u>
One Person	110,207	40.3	13,389	21.4	96,818	45.9
Two Persons	59,444	21.7	19,605	31.3	39,839	18.9
Three Persons	47,209	17.3	14,228	22.7	32,981	15.6
Four Persons	27,189	9.9	8,333	13.3	18,856	8.9
Five Persons	19,307	7.1	6,148	9.8	13,159	6.2
Six or More Persons	10,102	3.7	987	1.6	9,115	4.3
Avg./Median Number of Persons	2.3 / 2.0		2.6 / 2.0		2.3 / 2.0	

1/ From Table 16

- The average size of households that received CalFresh continuously for 7 to 12 months was 2.3 persons; the average size of all CalFresh households was 2.4 persons (Table 10).

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010



NET INCOME	HOUSEHOLDS TOTAL		PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total ^{1/}	<u>273,458</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>62,689</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>210,769</u>	<u>100.0</u>
No Net Income	133,550	48.8	17,116	27.3	116,434	55.2
Net Income:	<u>139,908</u>	51.2	<u>45,573</u>	72.7	<u>94,335</u>	44.8
\$1 - \$200	43,947	31.4	17,615	38.7	26,332	27.9
\$201 - \$400	36,347	26.0	17,182	37.7	19,165	20.3
\$401 - \$600	15,273	10.9	5,299	11.6	9,974	10.6
\$601 - \$800	16,020	11.5	3,590	7.9	12,430	13.2
\$801 - \$999	8,229	5.9	708	1.6	7,521	8.0
\$1,000 and Over	20,092	14.4	1,179	2.6	18,913	20.0
Avg./Median Amount of Net Income	\$493 / \$330		\$303 / \$277		\$587 / \$430	

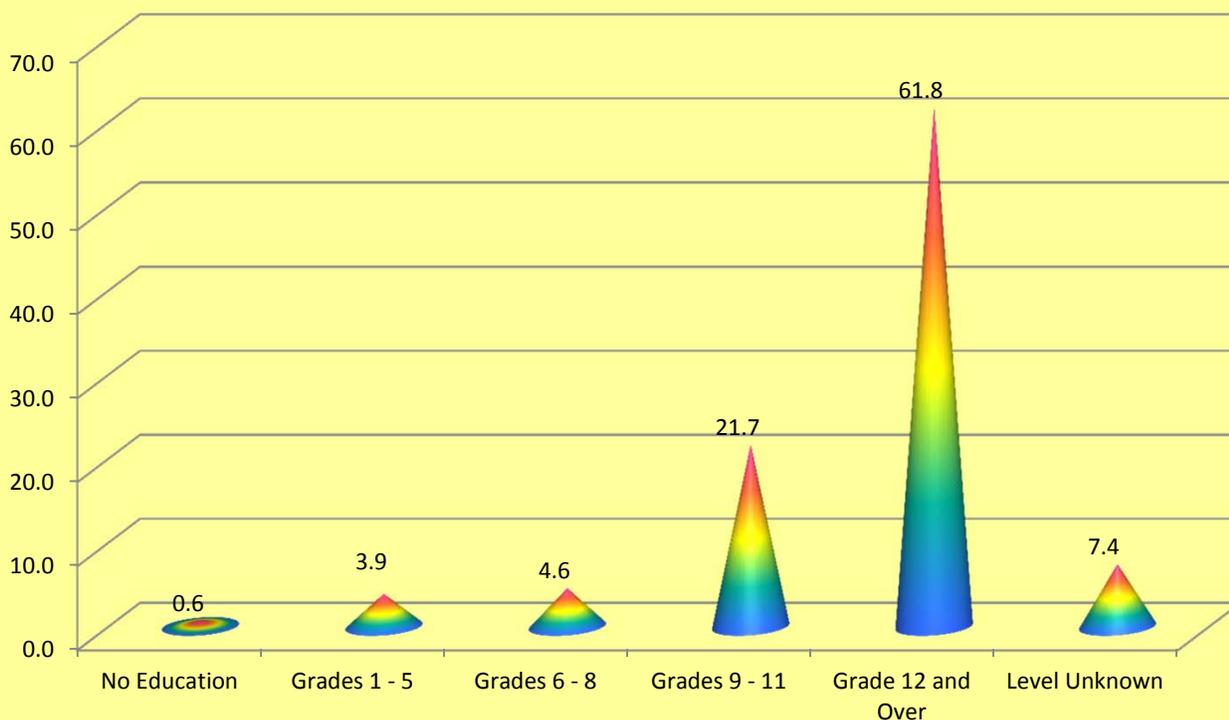
1/ From Table 16

- The average net income used to determine the CalFresh allotment for households that had received CalFresh continuously for 7 to 12 months was \$493.

Note: The household's net income and deductions are used to determine the correct benefit level.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

CHART 16d
EDUCATION LEVEL OF THE HEAD OF THE CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD THAT RECEIVED CALFRESH CONTINUOUSLY FOR SEVEN TO TWELVE MONTHS



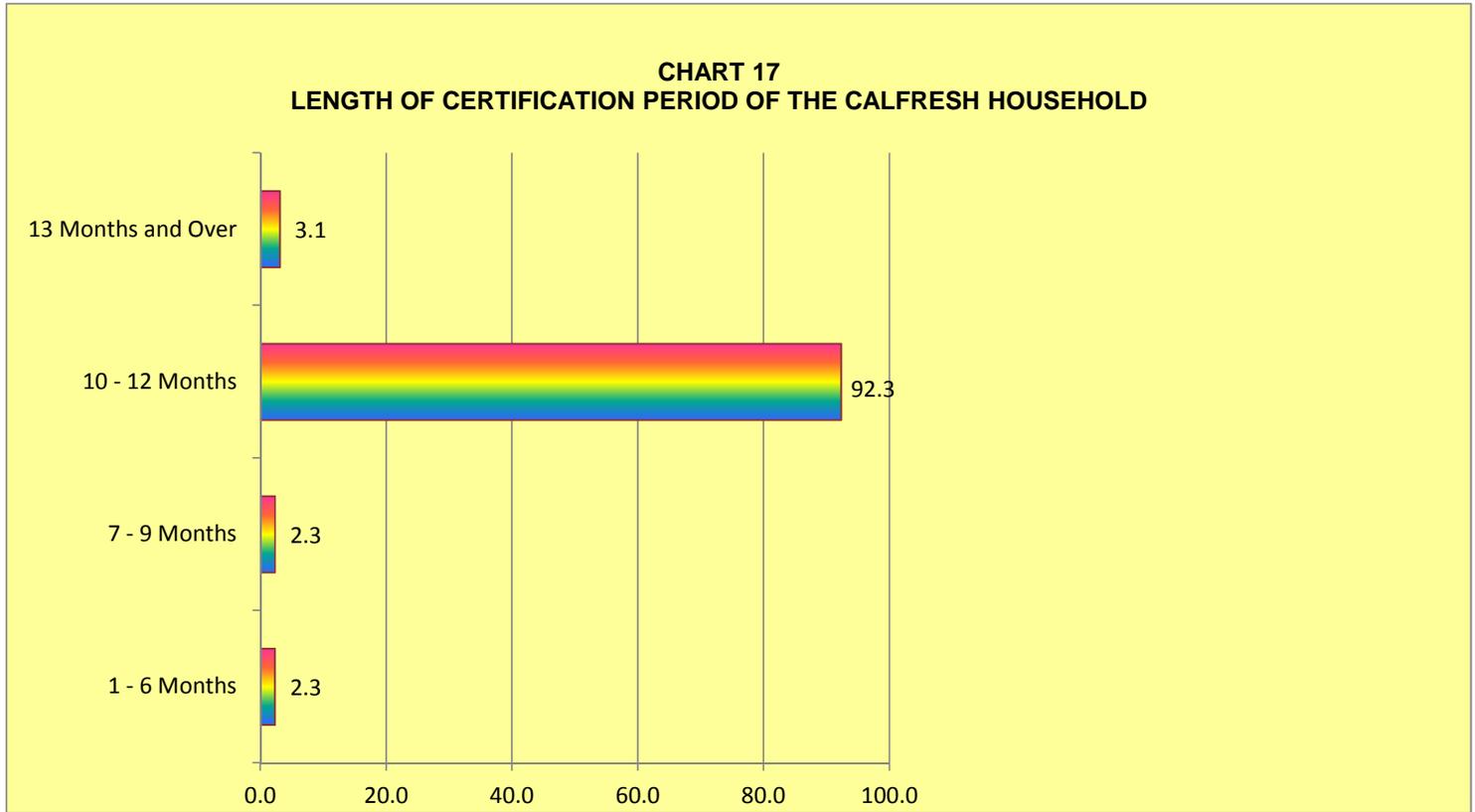
EDUCATION LEVEL	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total ^{1/}	<u>273,458</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>62,690</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>210,768</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Not Applicable ^{2/}	70,478	25.8	23,449	37.4	47,029	22.3
Head of Household:	<u>202,980</u>	<u>74.2</u>	<u>39,241</u>	<u>62.6</u>	<u>163,739</u>	<u>77.7</u>
No Education	1,197	0.6	54	0.1	1,143	0.7
Grades 1 - 5	7,902	3.9	0	0.0	7,902	4.8
Grades 6 - 8	9,286	4.6	2,250	5.7	7,036	4.3
Grades 9 - 11	44,001	21.7	9,288	23.7	34,713	21.2
Grade 12 and Over	125,532	61.8	26,069	66.4	99,463	60.7
Level Unknown	15,062	7.4	1,580	4.0	13,482	8.2

1/ From Table 16

2/ "Not Applicable" refers to those households in which the parents or responsible household members were not designated as head of household or authorized representative due to their alien, SSI/SSP or other ineligible recipient status.

- **Over 61 percent of the total households that have received CalFresh continuously for 7 to 12 months have at least 12 years of education.**

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010



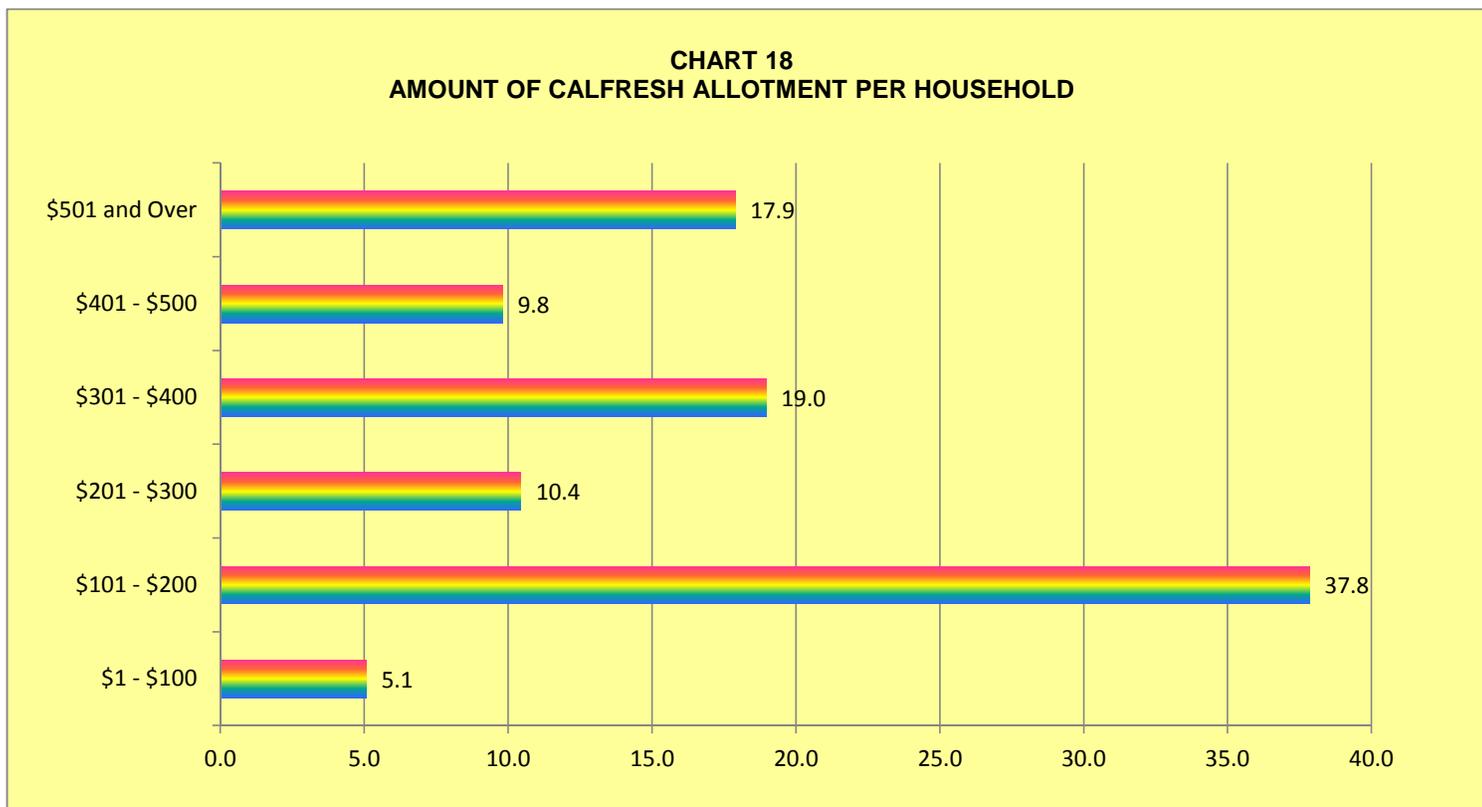
CERTIFICATION PERIOD	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	<u>1,400,751</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>399,545</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,001,206</u>	<u>100.0</u>
1 - 6 Months	32,294	2.3	1,302	0.3	30,992	3.1
7 - 9 Months	32,374	2.3	10,398	2.6	21,976	2.2
10 - 12 Months	1,292,729	92.3	385,768	96.6	906,961	90.6
13 Months and Over	43,354	3.1	2,077	0.5	41,277	4.1
Avg. Months of Cert. Period	11.9		11.8		11.9	

- **Nearly all households (92.3) are eligible for benefits for 10-12 months, and the average is 11.9 months.**

Note: The CalFresh households are eligible to receive benefits until the certification period ends, when they must recertify (verify income,deductions).

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

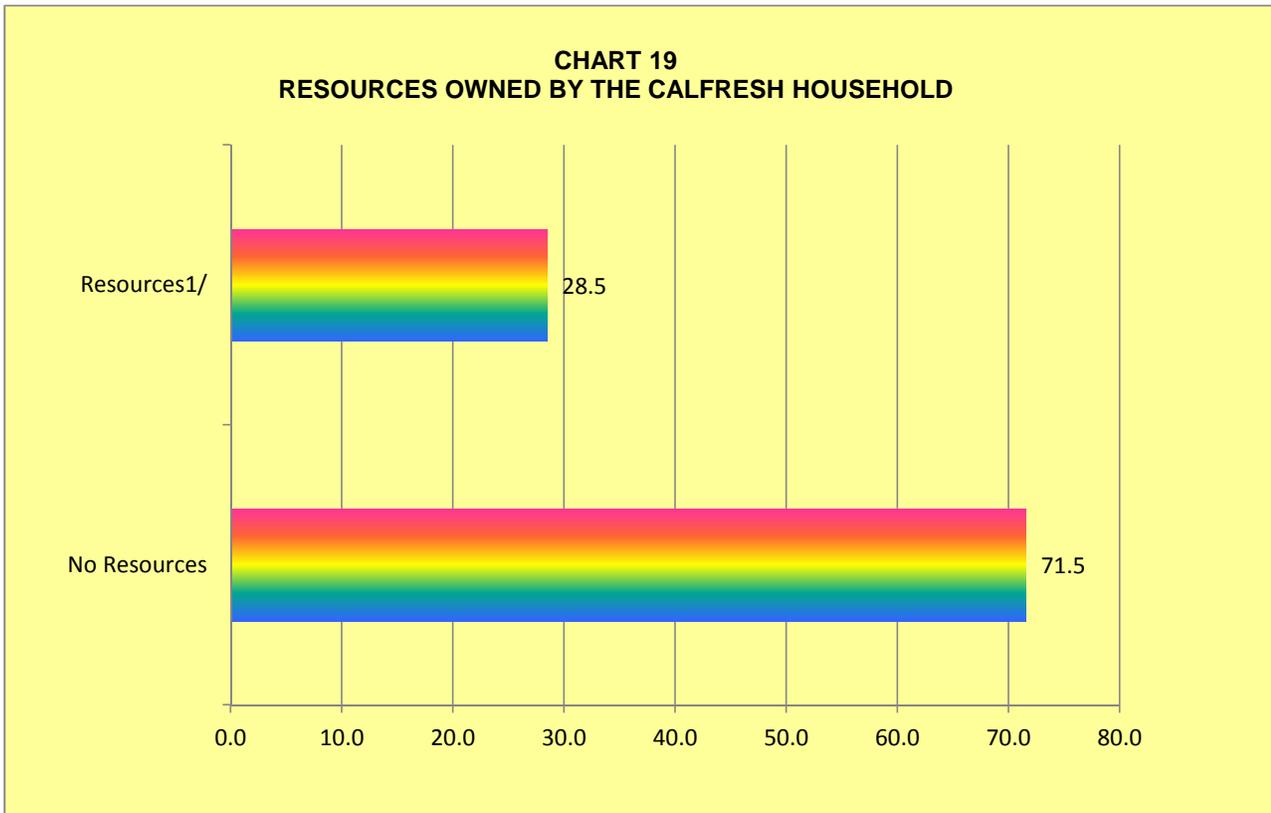
CHART 18
AMOUNT OF CALFRESH ALLOTMENT PER HOUSEHOLD



ALLOTMENT	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	<u>1,400,751</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>399,545</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,001,206</u>	<u>100.0</u>
\$1 - \$100	71,052	5.1	7,981	2.0	63,071	6.3
\$101 - \$200	530,077	37.8	75,484	18.9	454,593	45.4
\$201 - \$300	146,211	10.4	61,093	15.3	85,118	8.5
\$301 - \$400	265,549	19.0	88,109	22.0	177,440	17.7
\$401 - \$500	137,407	9.8	65,367	16.4	72,040	7.2
\$501 and Over	250,455	17.9	101,511	25.4	148,944	14.9
Avg/Median CalFresh Allotment	\$322 / \$271		\$386 / \$367		\$297 / \$200	

- The average CalFresh allotment is \$322 per household.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010



RESOURCES	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	<u>1,400,751</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>399,545</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,001,206</u>	<u>100.0</u>
No Resources	1,002,109	71.5	348,978	87.3	653,131	65.2
Resources ^{1/}	398,642	28.5	50,567	12.7	348,075	34.8

1/ Excludes vehicles.

- **Most of the CalFresh households (71.5) did not report resources.**

Note: Resources include bank accounts, cash on hand, and liquid assets.

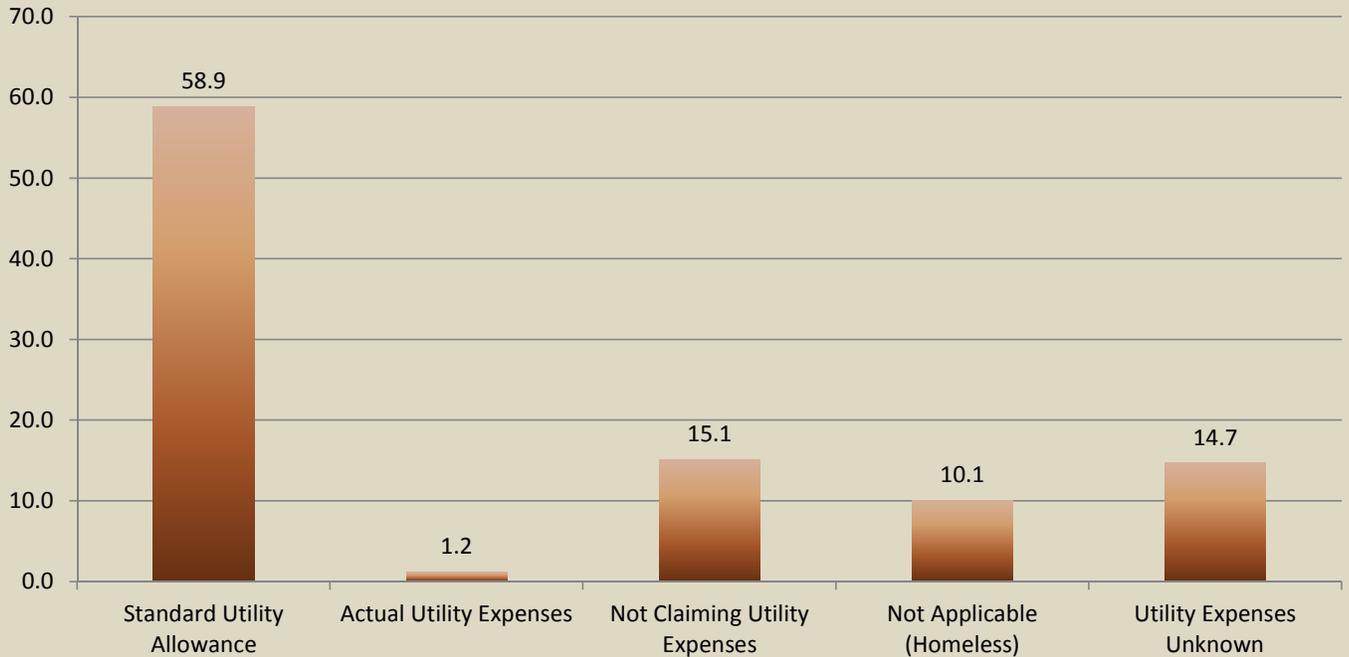
SECTION 6

EXPENSES/DEDUCTIONS/REPORTING

Of the total households that reported a shelter cost, 66 percent reported an allowable excess shelter deduction of \$276, and the average shelter deduction was \$432. This was \$88 more than the national average shelter deduction. Fifty-nine percent of the households claimed a standard utility allowance. Less than one percent of the households were allowed a dependent care deduction, and the average deduction was \$304. This was \$79 more than the national average. The significant changes, mostly increases, occurred in the average dollar amounts for allowable excess shelter deduction, dependent care deduction, and shelter cost.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

**CHART 20
CALFRESH HOUSEHOLDS CLAIMING UTILITY EXPENSES**



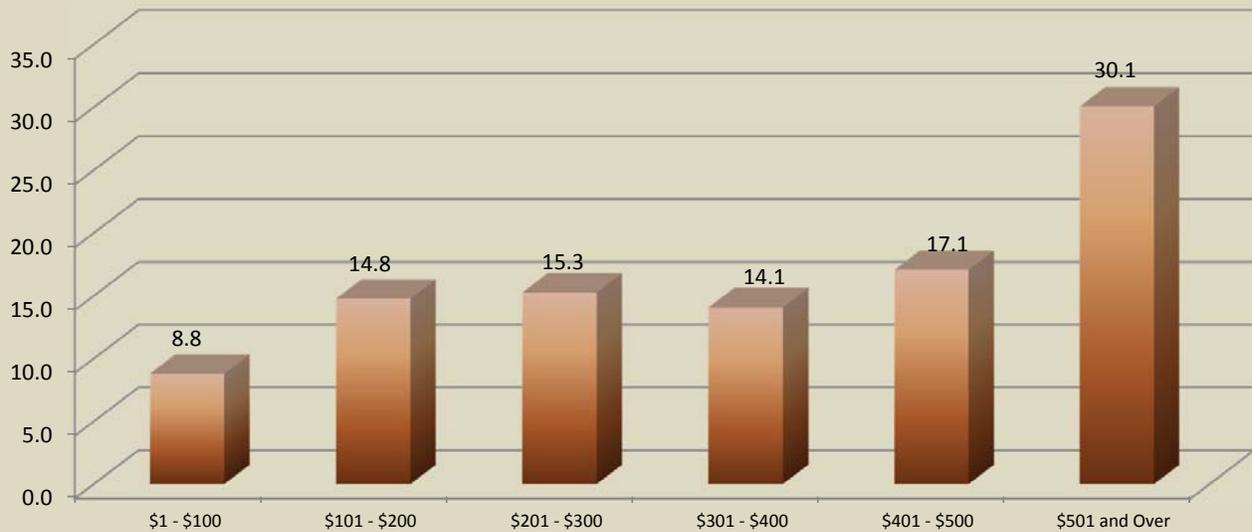
UTILITY EXPENSES	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	<u>1,400,751</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>399,545</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,001,206</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Standard Utility Allowance	824,350	58.9	267,304	66.9	557,046	55.6
Actual Utility Expenses	16,309	1.2	4,687	1.2	11,622	1.2
Not Claiming Utility Expenses	212,460	15.1	59,290	14.8	153,170	15.3
Not Applicable (Homeless)	141,798	10.1	10,151	2.5	131,647	13.1
Utility Expenses Unknown	205,834	14.7	58,113	14.5	147,721	14.8

- **More than half (58.9) of the CalFresh households are claiming a standard utility allowance.**

Note: The standard utility allowance includes heating and cooling bills.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

**CHART 21
CALFRESH HOUSEHOLDS ALLOWED EXCESS SHELTER DEDUCTION**



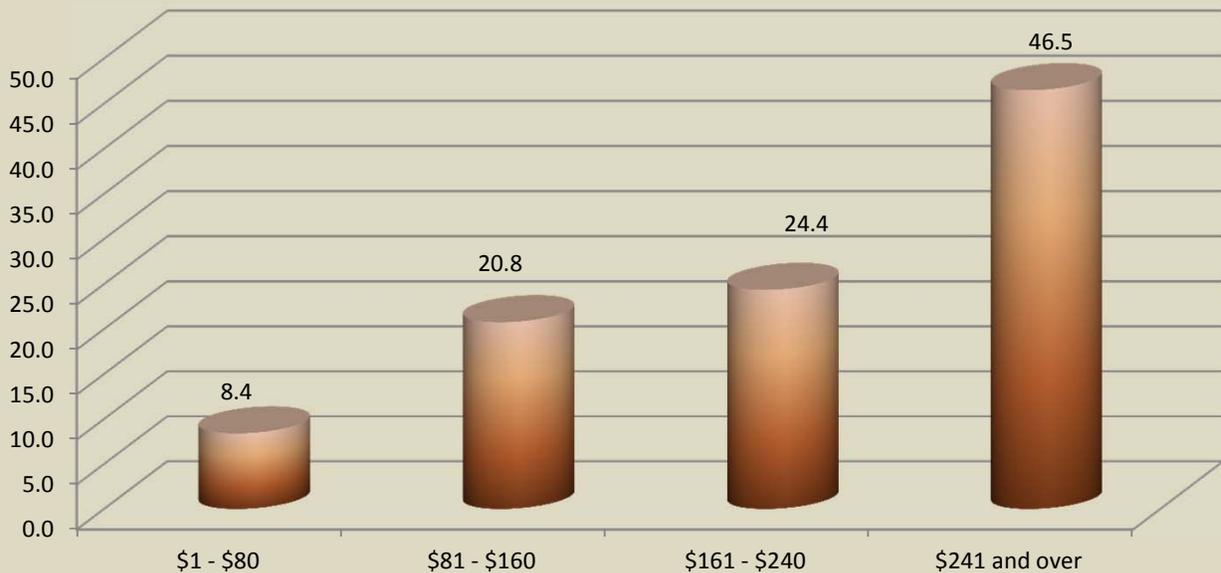
EXCESS SHELTER	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION					
			PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE			
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Total	<u>1,400,751</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>399,545</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,001,206</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Households Not Reporting Shelter Cost	301,335	21.5	25,027	6.3		276,308	27.6	
Households Reporting Shelter Cost;	<u>1,099,416</u>	<u>78.5</u>	<u>374,518</u>	<u>93.7</u>		<u>724,898</u>	<u>72.4</u>	
No Allowable Excess Shelter Cost	106,082	9.6	26,270	12.0		79,812	33.7	
Allowable Excess Shelter Cost:	<u>993,334</u>	<u>90.4</u>	<u>348,248</u>	<u>88.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>645,086</u>	<u>66.3</u>	<u>100.0</u>
\$1 - \$100	87,306	8.8	33,852	9.7		53,454	8.3	
\$101 - \$200	146,693	14.8	48,698	14.0		97,995	15.2	
\$201 - \$300	151,539	15.3	60,379	17.3		91,160	14.1	
\$301 - \$400	139,777	14.1	49,244	14.1		90,533	14.0	
\$401 - \$500	169,427	17.1	66,008	19.0		103,419	16.0	
\$501 and Over	298,591	30.1	90,067	25.9		208,524	32.3	
Avg/Median Allowed Excess Shelter Cost	\$432 / \$376		\$391 / \$365			\$454 / \$381		

- Of the total CalFresh households with allowable excess shelter cost, over 30 percent were allowed to deduct \$501 or more.

Note: The excess shelter deduction is a result of the shelter cost minus income and deductions.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

CHART 22
CALFRESH HOUSEHOLDS ALLOWED A DEPENDENT CARE DEDUCTION

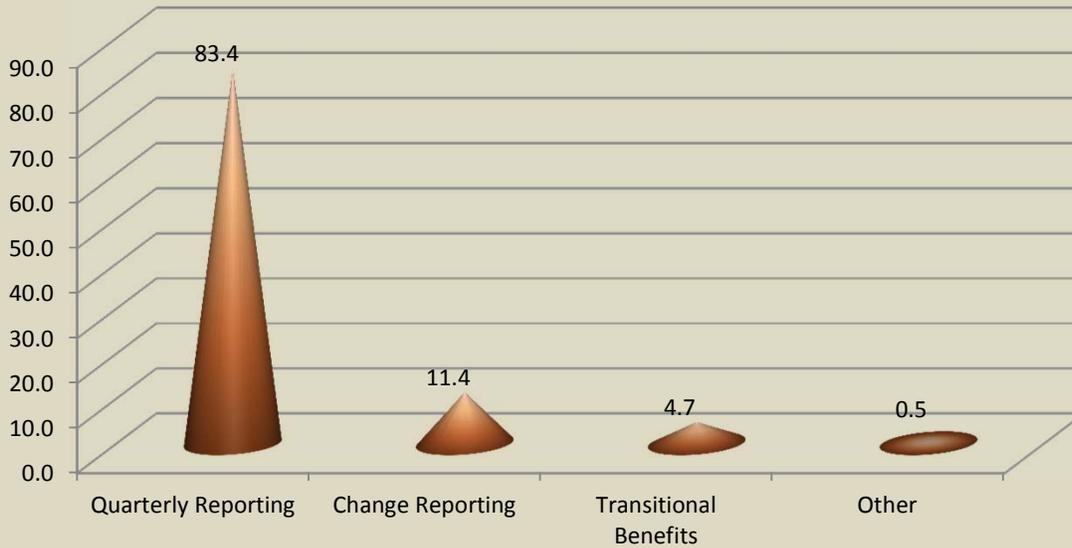


DEPENDENT CARE	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	<u>1,400,751</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>399,545</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1,001,206</u>	<u>100.0</u>
No Dependent Care Deduction	1,387,817	99.1	397,793	99.6	990,024	98.9
Dependent Care Deduction	12,934	0.9	1,752	0.4	11,182	1.1
\$1 - \$80	1,086	8.4	394	22.5	691	6.2
\$81 - \$160	2,685	20.8	310	17.7	2,374	21.2
\$161 - \$240	3,150	24.4	62	3.5	3,089	27.6
\$241 and over	6,013	46.5	986	56.3	5,028	45.0
Avg/Median Dependent Care Deduction	\$304 / \$222		\$299 / \$242		\$306 / \$217	

- Households that were allowed a dependent care deduction were less than 1 percent of the total households.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

**CHART 23
REPORTING STATUS OF THE CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD**



REPORTING STATUS	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
	Number	Percent	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	1,400,751	100.0	399,545	100.0	1,001,206	100.0
Quarterly Reporting	1,168,185	83.4	390,792	97.8	777,393	77.6
Change Reporting	159,180	11.4	6,653	1.7	152,527	15.2
Transitional Benefits	66,168	4.7	236	0.1	65,932	6.6
Other	7,218	0.5	1,863	0.5	5,355	0.5

- **Nearly 98 percent of public assistance households are reporting on a quarterly basis.**

Reporting Status Definitions:

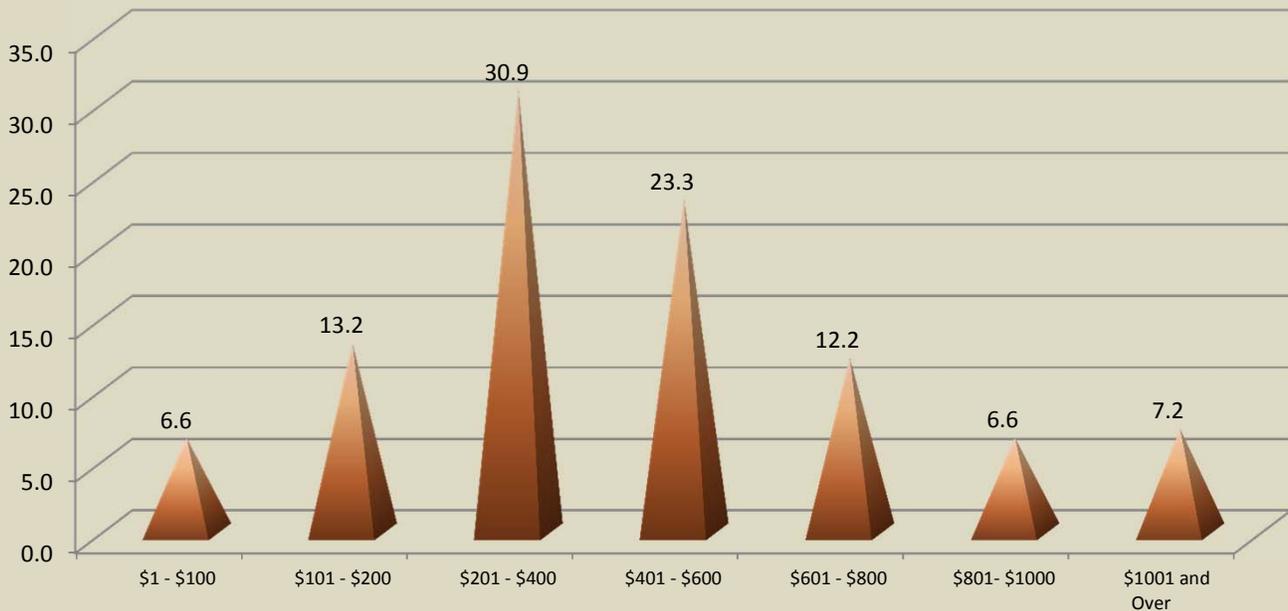
Quarterly Reporting - Households subject to the quarterly reporting requirements must submit complete reports on a quarterly basis.

Change Reporting - Households subject to the change reporting requirements must report certain changes in circumstances within ten days of becoming aware of the change.

Transitional Benefits - There are no reporting requirements during the transitional months.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

CHART 24
REPORTED BUDGET MONTH SHELTER COST OF THE CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD



SHELTER COST	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS		CLASSIFICATION			
			PUBLIC ASSISTANCE		NONASSISTANCE	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	1,400,751	100.0	399,545	100.0	1,001,206	100.0
Households Not Reporting Shelter Cost	301,335	21.5	25,027	6.3	276,308	27.6
Households Reporting Shelter Cost	1,099,416	78.5	374,518	93.7	724,898	72.4
\$1 - \$100	72,119	6.6	16,557	4.4	55,562	7.7
\$101 - \$200	145,055	13.2	39,450	10.5	105,605	14.6
\$201 - \$400	339,832	30.9	126,994	33.9	212,838	29.4
\$401 - \$600	255,630	23.3	113,924	30.4	141,706	19.5
\$601 - \$800	133,962	12.2	42,497	11.3	91,465	12.6
\$801 - \$1000	72,255	6.6	19,757	5.3	52,498	7.2
\$1001 and Over	80,563	7.2	15,339	4.2	65,224	9.0
Avg./Median Amt. of Shelter Cost	\$493 / \$400		\$463 / \$419		\$509 / \$400	

- The average amount of shelter cost for CalFresh households was \$493 per month.

CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS SURVEY INFORMATION

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CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS SURVEY INFORMATION

THE CALFRESH PROGRAM

The CalFresh Program, formally known as Food Stamps and federally known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), provides monthly electronic benefits that assist low-income households in purchasing the food they need to maintain adequate nutritional levels.

National eligibility standards and benefit levels were established by Congress while national administration of the program is provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Service, which funds 100 percent of the benefits. At the state level, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) is responsible for program supervision, with county administration.

Eligibility determination includes an assessment of income level; resources, such as real and personal property; residency; employment status; and citizenship or legal immigrant status. Households in which all members receive California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) are considered categorically eligible for CalFresh.

California's Supplemental Security Income/State Supplemental Payment (SSI/SSP) recipients do not receive CalFresh. Instead, they receive cash equivalent (cash-out) as part of their benefits.

A **Public Assistance CalFresh (PACF)** household is one in which all of its members also receive public assistance.

A **Non-Assistance CalFresh (NACF)** household is one in which none or less than all of its members also receive public assistance

Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDS) ages 18 through 49 are limited to three months of CalFresh in three years, unless they work 20 or more hours per week, participate in a workfare assignment, or participate in an allowable work activity for at least 20 hours per week.

SURVEY DISPLAY

This report presents data on various social and economic characteristics of individuals and families who received CalFresh benefits through the federal CalFresh program in California. The data reflect general characteristics of this population and are based on information obtained from the County Performance Sample survey conducted by the CDSS for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2010 – October 2009 through September 2010. This publication presents selected characteristics from the survey process.

For comparison purposes, the tables in this publication display NACF and PACF data separately.

CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS SURVEY INFORMATION

Pie charts and bar charts, where appropriate, have been included as a visual aid to assist the reader in the assimilation of the data. Moreover, the median and the mean (average) have been computed for many of the tables. The median is the middle value of a population. A normally distributed population will find the mean and the median fairly close to one another. When the population is not normally distributed, however, the median and mean can be very different because such a population will lack a well-defined center point.

SURVEY TOOL

The Performance Measurement County (PMC) staff conducts Quality Control (QC) reviews for the CalFresh Program using the Research and Development Enterprise Project (RADEP). The RADEP is a web-based data collection and reporting tool that is used for federal reporting requirements, policy development, program evaluation, participation rate calculations, and characteristic surveys.

Data in this report reflect characteristics of families receiving CalFresh for at least one month during the time period of October 2009 through September 2010.

Information was derived from review of case records, third party verifications and recipient interviews, which were conducted as a means of verifying data in the files and to provide additional information that may not be found in the case records. The Medical Eligibility Data System (MEDS) file was used to supplement this data.

SAMPLING INFORMATION

The sample cases for the CalFresh portion of this survey were drawn from a county CalFresh Monthly Issuance File. This file consists of all certified eligible households issued CalFresh in a particular month.

Each month, a random sample of open cases is drawn from the 19 largest counties — these are PMC counties, which represent approximately 90 percent of the statewide caseload — and an additional sample is drawn from the remaining 39 counties as a whole. The total sample for FFY 2010 consisted of 5,711 cases.

DATA PRESENTATION

The data represented by tables in this publication were developed using statistical methodology to expand the number of sample cases to the average of the actual number of CalFresh cases that received CalFresh during the twelve-month period. Since the sample was drawn from cases and not persons, the person data were also expanded using statistically derived case weights. Due to sample expansion, the frequencies may or may not be the same as those found in other reports. Also, because of rounding, the frequencies may or may not add to the totals vertically and/or horizontally. The differences are small, however, and not significant.

CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS SURVEY INFORMATION

RELIABILITY OF THE DATA

Since the information presented in the tables was based on a sample, it may differ somewhat from figures that would have been obtained if a complete census had been taken. Comparison of sample data with available actual data and with data from comparable prior studies shows the information to be quite reliable. **However, as with all sample data, care should be exercised in the interpretation of figures when based on a relatively small number of cases.**

DATA SOURCES:

The national information was derived from the *Characteristics of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Households – FFY 2010*. The California population and race information was derived from the *American Consumer Survey*.