



**CDSS**

CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIAL SERVICES

# CalFresh

## *Characteristics Survey*



**Federal Fiscal Year**  
**2011**

*October 2010 through September 2011*

**CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD  
CHARACTERISTICS  
SURVEY**

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

**Federal Fiscal Year 2011  
October 2010 through September 2011**



**Prepared by**

**The California Department of Social Services  
Administration Division  
Research Services Branch  
Federal Data Reporting and Analysis Bureau**

Questions regarding the contents of  
this publication should be addressed to:

Shelley Tillman, Chief  
Federal Data Reporting and Analysis Bureau  
Research Services Branch  
Administration Division  
California Department of Social Services  
(916) 651-3783  
Shelley.Tillman@dss.ca.gov

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The objective of the CalFresh program is to improve the health and well-being of qualified households and individuals by providing them a means to meet their nutritional needs. The CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey presents data on various social and economic characteristics of individuals, families and households who received CalFresh benefits during FFY 2011 – October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011. Data for this report were taken from the County Performance Sample survey conducted by the CDSS that included a random sample of 5,583 CalFresh households. As with all sample data, the information in this report was subject to sampling and non-sampling errors.<sup>1</sup> Because the estimates from this report are subject to margins of error, they should be interpreted with caution. In addition, the data in this report will not reflect the impact of more recent policy or eligibility changes.

### Key Findings

Data from the FFY 2011 Characteristics Survey showed that females continued to make up the majority of individual recipients as well as household heads. Female CalFresh recipients accounted for 54.3 percent of all recipients and 71.9 percent of the heads of household. This is consistent with the national percentage of recipients that are female.<sup>2</sup>

Hispanics made up 56.2 percent of all CalFresh recipients, a slight decrease from FFY 2010 (57.2 percent), yet the percentage of Hispanic heads of household increased one percentage point over the same time period. California's Hispanic population increased to 38.1 percent during the same time period, which is one percentage point more than the previous federal fiscal year.<sup>3</sup>

The age of recipients continues to show that most CalFresh recipients (57.3 percent) were children younger than 18 years of age. This is 3.4 percentage points less than the proportion from FFY 2010. Moreover, California's proportion of children under 18 is twelve percentage points above the national percentage of children receiving benefits. The average ages of children (7.2 years) and heads of the household (37.3 years) were similar to the average ages in the previous federal fiscal year.

The average number of persons in a CalFresh household decreased slightly from 2.4 persons in FFY 2010 to 2.3 persons in FFY 2011.

An elderly or disabled person was the head of household in 5.8 percent of all CalFresh households. This is similar to the percentage in FFY 2010 (5.5 percent). One reason for the low participation among this group is the fact that elderly and disabled persons in California who receive Supplemental Security Income or State Supplemental Payment benefits are ineligible for CalFresh benefits as the benefit program already includes a stipend for food.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (continued)

In FFY 2011, 48.5 percent of CalFresh households had unearned income. This is 3.3 percentage points higher than in FFY 2010 and 11.5 percentage points less than the national percentage of households with unearned income. The percentage of CalFresh households with earned income increased slightly from 20.9 percent in FFY 2010 to 21.7 percent in FFY 2011, but still remains nine percentage points below the national percentage of households with earned income.

The average net income used to determine the CalFresh allotment was \$443 per household, which was \$19 less than the previous federal fiscal year and \$105 more than the national net income used to determine the benefit amount.

There were 45.1 percent of all CalFresh households that did not have any net income, 57.9 percent of households had a net income less than or equal to \$400 a month and 9.3 percent of households had a net income of \$1,000 or more per month. In comparison to FFY 2010, 43.9 percent had no net income, 56.6 percent of households had a net income less than or equal to \$400 and 11.4 percent had a net income of \$1,000 or more.

In FFY 2011 62.5 percent of the CalFresh heads of household completed 12 years of education. This is nearly identical to the percentage in FFY 2010 (62.6 percent). There were 56.8 percent of CalFresh heads of household with less than 12 years of education that had a net income. This is 3.2 percentage points less than the prior year. Of the group with less than 12 years of education, 12.1 percent had at least \$1,000 of net income which was used to determine their allotment. This is 1.9 percentage points less than in FFY 2010.

In FFY 2011, the average monthly CalFresh household benefit amount was \$315, or \$7 less than the FFY 2010 amount and \$31 more than the national average benefit per household. Of CalFresh heads of household who received benefits continuously for seven to 12 months, 41.5 percent were Hispanic, 39.5 percent lived in a single-person household, 54.1 percent had a net income of \$400 or less and 60.7 percent had at least a twelfth grade education.

Of the households claiming a utility expense, 59.4 percent were for a standard utility allowance rather than the actual utility expense. This is similar to the percentage in FFY 2010 (58.9 percent).

Of all CalFresh households, 77.3 percent reported a shelter cost. This is 1.2 percentage points below the FFY 2010 percentage, and five percentage points above the national percentage of households that report an excess shelter deduction. The average allowable excess shelter deduction was \$457, a \$25 increase from FFY 2010, and the average CalFresh household shelter cost increased from \$493 in FFY 2010 to \$499.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (continued)

In conclusion, the CalFresh program is a valuable resource that provides nutrition assistance to low-income Californians. In the upcoming years there are plans for additional program simplifications, removal of access barriers, reducing administrative complexity, providing stronger support for nutritious food choices and nutrition education. While the Department has implemented a number of programs that increased CalFresh participation, there will continue to be focused outreach and ongoing efforts to retain those already receiving benefits.

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<sup>1</sup> **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.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Characteristics of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Households: Fiscal Year 2011 (<http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2011Characteristics.pdf>).

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, California

## **CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS SURVEY INFORMATION**

### **THE CALFRESH PROGRAM**

The CalFresh program, formerly known as Food Stamps and federally known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), provides monthly 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 USDA Food and Nutrition Service, which funds 100 percent of the benefits. At the state level, the 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) benefits are considered categorically eligible for the CalFresh program (applicants are automatically eligible for CalFresh benefits if they are already receiving benefits from other specific low-income assistance programs).

California's Supplemental Security Income/State Supplemental Payment (SSI/SSP) recipients do not receive CalFresh benefits. 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 fewer than all of its members also receive public assistance.

### **PROGRAM CHANGES FOR FFY 2011**

In Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2011 there was a concerted effort to increase CalFresh participation and improve the image of the program. Assembly Bill (AB) 433 established a new policy to approve CalFresh benefits for all families without regard to assets. AB 433 also required the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to propose a new name for the Food Stamp Program. Through efforts by stakeholders, the final name choice, CalFresh, was chosen because it was described as encouraging recipients to eat fresh food, representing a healthy lifestyle and a "fresh" new program.

There were over 100 subcontracting agencies that provided outreach activities including: application assistance, prescreening, tabling at events, training to partner organizations and distribution of CalFresh information brochures. One of the biggest successes was the ability for the Department to provide a variety of CalFresh materials directly to County offices. Included in these materials was a General Market Brochure in English, Spanish, Hmong and Chinese that provides information on CalFresh benefits and eligibility limits. In addition to printed materials, a contract was in place to broadcast radio advertisements promoting the CalFresh program.

## **CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS SURVEY INFORMATION (continued)**

In particular, Spanish-language radio advertising targeted key regions of California with high concentrations of unemployed adults, potential CalFresh eligible participants and/or below average CalFresh participation rates.

### **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 FFY 2011, which is October 2010 through September 2011. This publication presents selected characteristics from the survey process.

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

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 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 characteristics surveys.

Data in this report reflect characteristics of households receiving CalFresh benefits for at least one month during FFY 2011.

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 Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System file was used to supplement these 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 that were issued CalFresh benefits in a particular month.

## **CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS SURVEY INFORMATION (continued)**

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 2011 consisted of 5,583 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 benefits 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 up to the totals vertically and/or horizontally. The differences are small, however, and not significant.

### **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.

The CalFresh survey is based upon a random sample selection process that yields first level data with a confidence level of 95 percent and a precision of plus or minus two percent.

### **DATA SOURCES**

The national information was derived from the *Characteristics of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Households – FFY 2011 (USDA)*. The California population and race information was derived from the *2011 American Consumer Survey (U.S. Census Bureau)*.

## CALFRESH RECIPIENT PROFILE

Like the population at large, the CalFresh population has a wide range of social and economic characteristics. The chart below shows the comparison of some of the key characteristics of the households receiving CalFresh in FFY2002, FFY 2010 and FFY 2011.

| <b>CHARACTERISTICS</b>   | <b>FFY 2002</b> | <b>FFY 2010</b> | <b>FFY 2011</b> |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Average age of head of household (years)                           | 36.6            | 36.9            | 37.3            |
| Average age of children (years)                                    | 8.3             | 7.4             | 7.2             |
| Average number of persons per household                            | 2.7             | 2.4             | 2.3             |
| Average number of children per household                           | 1.8             | 1.5             | 1.3             |
| Percent of recipients that are United States citizens              | 90.8%           | 92.7%           | 93.3%           |
| Heads of the household completing at least 12 years education      | 55.2%           | 62.6%           | 62.5%           |
| Average CalFresh allotment per household                           | \$199           | \$322           | \$315           |
| Percent of CalFresh recipients that also receive CalWORKs benefits | 63.0%           | 33.6%           | 32.8%           |
| Percent of CalFresh households that also receive CalWORKs benefits | 49.8%           | 28.5%           | 27.6%           |
| Percent of single-person NACF* households                          | 42.5%           | 46.6%           | 47.2%           |
| <b>RACE/ETHNICITY OF THE HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD:</b>                    |                 |                 |                 |
| Hispanic   | 33.8%           | 38.9%           | 40.3%           |
| White  | 30.1%           | 30.2%           | 31.0%           |
| Black  | 25.0%           | 19.9%           | 19.3%           |
| *Asian/Pacific Islander  | 10.9%           | 11.0%           | 6.4%            |
| *Other   | 0.0%            | 0.0%            | 3.0%            |
| <b>RACE/ETHNICITY OF THE CALFRESH RECIPIENTS:</b>                  |                 |                 |                 |
| Hispanic   | 46.4%           | 57.2%           | 56.2%           |
| White  | 20.7%           | 19.4%           | 21.3%           |
| Black  | 18.8%           | 13.2%           | 13.7%           |
| *Asian/Pacific Islander  | 14.1%           | 10.2%           | 6.0%            |
| *Other   | 0.0%            | 0.0%            | 2.8%            |

\* New for FFY 2011, the "Asian/Pacific Islander" category no longer includes "Other".

# SECTION 1

## GENDER, CITIZENSHIP & RACE/ETHNICITY

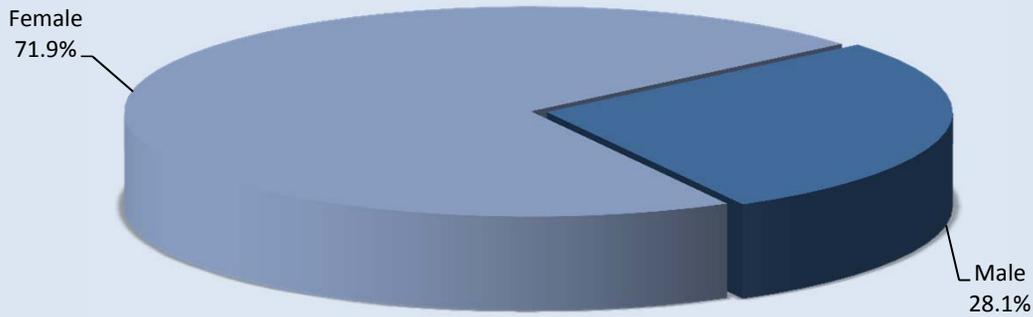
The number of females receiving CalFresh increased from 53 percent in FFY 2010 to 54 percent in FFY 2011, which was three percentage points below the national percentage of female recipients. (Figure 2)

Fifty-six percent of the CalFresh recipients were Hispanic, a slight decrease from the previous federal fiscal year. This represented a divergence from the overall trend in the growth of California's Hispanic population, which increased slightly from 37 percent in FFY 2010 to 38 percent in FFY 2011. (Figure 6)

Twelve percent of the CalFresh heads of household were noncitizens in FFY 2011, a full percentage point higher than the proportion in FFY 2010. (Figure 3)

Between FFY2002 and FFY2011, Hispanic recipients increased 10 percentage points, female recipients increased slightly, and noncitizen heads of household decreased nearly 3 percentage points.

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

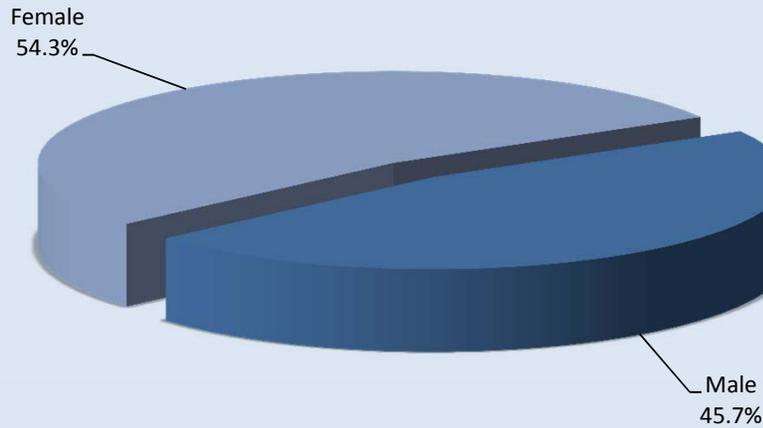


| GENDER                       | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                |              |
|------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                              | Number           | Percent      | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE  |              |
|                              |                  |              | Number            | Percent      | Number         | Percent      |
| Total                        | <u>1,330,596</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>367,867</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>962,729</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| Not Applicable <sup>1/</sup> | 308004           | 23.1         | 138552            | 37.7         | 169452         | 17.6         |
| Head of Household:           | <u>1022592</u>   | 76.9         | <u>229315</u>     | 62.3         | <u>793277</u>  | 82.4         |
| Male                         | 287,542          | 28.1         | 14,027            | 6.1          | 273515         | 34.5         |
| Female                       | 735,050          | 71.9         | 215,288           | 93.9         | 519762         | 65.5         |

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.

**Almost 72 percent of the total CalFresh households are headed by women. In public assistance households, almost 94 percent of the heads of household are women.**

**FIGURE 2  
GENDER OF THE CALFRESH RECIPIENTS**

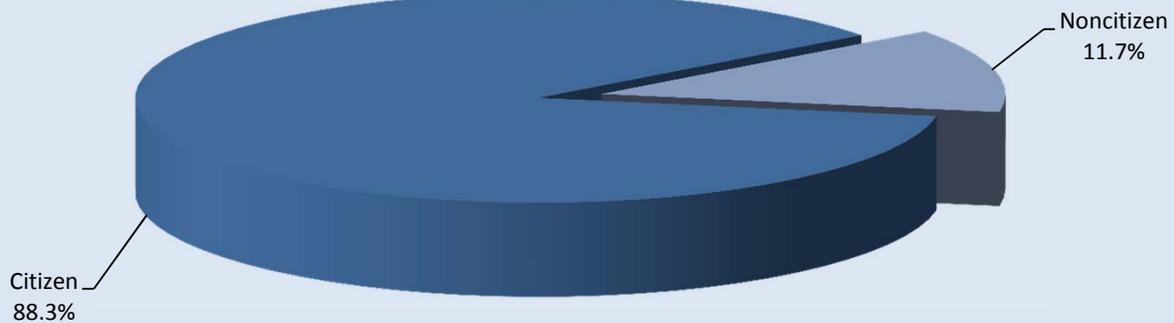


| GENDER | TOTAL RECIPIENTS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                  |              |
|--------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
|        | Number           | Percent      | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE    |              |
|        |                  |              | Number            | Percent      | Number           | Percent      |
| Total  | <u>3,096,816</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>1,015,398</u>  | <u>100.0</u> | <u>2,081,417</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| Male   | 1,414,211        | 45.7         | 438,191           | 43.2         | 976,020          | 46.9         |
| Female | 1,682,605        | 54.3         | 577,207           | 56.8         | 1,105,398        | 53.1         |

**While nearly 72 percent of all heads of household are women, they make up just over 54 percent of the CalFresh recipients.**

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

**FIGURE 3**  
**CITIZENSHIP STATUS OF THE HEAD OF THE CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD**



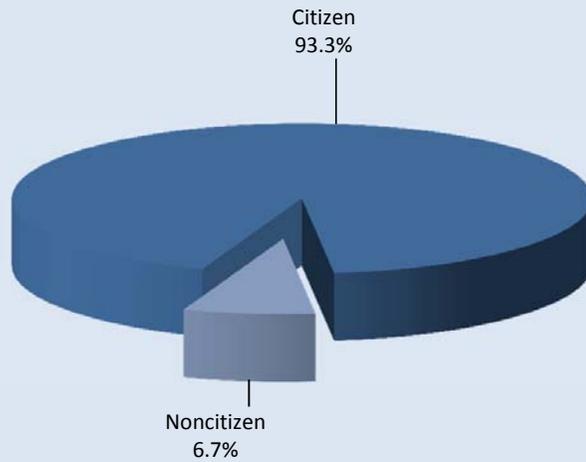
| CITIZENSHIP STATUS           | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                |              |
|------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                              | Number           | Percent      | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE  |              |
|                              |                  |              | Number            | Percent      | Number         | Percent      |
| Total                        | <u>1,330,596</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>367,867</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>962,729</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| Not Applicable <sup>1/</sup> | 308,004          | 23.1         | 138,552           | 37.7         | 169,452        | 17.6         |
| Head of Household:           | <u>1,022,592</u> | 76.9         | <u>229,315</u>    | 62.3         | <u>793,277</u> | 82.4         |
| Citizen                      | 902,921          | 88.3         | 208,780           | 91.0         | 694,141        | 87.5         |
| Noncitizen                   | 119,671          | 11.7         | 20,535            | 9.0          | 99,136         | 12.5         |

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.

**There are ten times more household heads who are citizens in the public assistance category than there are noncitizens.**

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

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

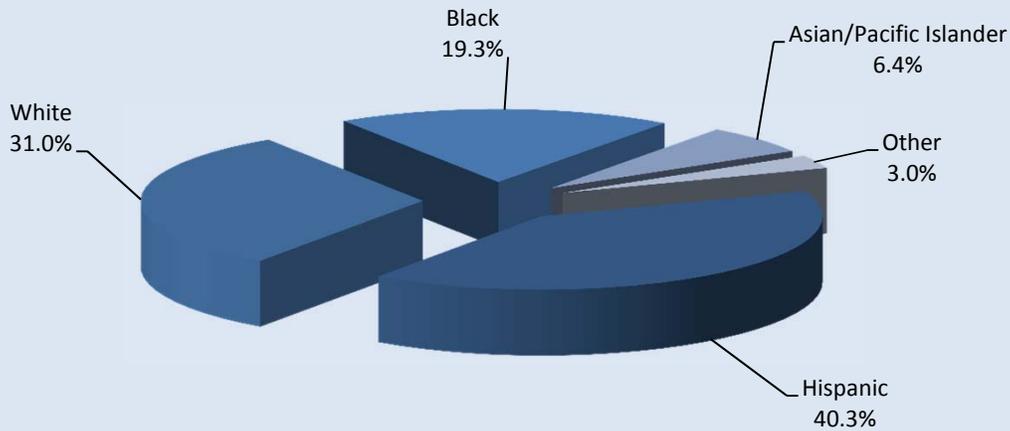


| CITIZENSHIP STATUS | TOTAL RECIPIENTS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                  |              |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
|                    | Number           | Percent      | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE    |              |
|                    |                  |              | Number            | Percent      | Number           | Percent      |
| Total              | <u>3,096,815</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>1,015,398</u>  | <u>100.0</u> | <u>2,081,417</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| Citizen            | 2,887,942        | 93.3         | 978,433           | 96.4         | 1,909,509        | 91.7         |
| Noncitizen         | 208,873          | 6.7          | 36,965            | 3.6          | 171,908          | 8.3          |

**United States citizens continue to make up the majority of CalFresh recipients (93.3 percent).**

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

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



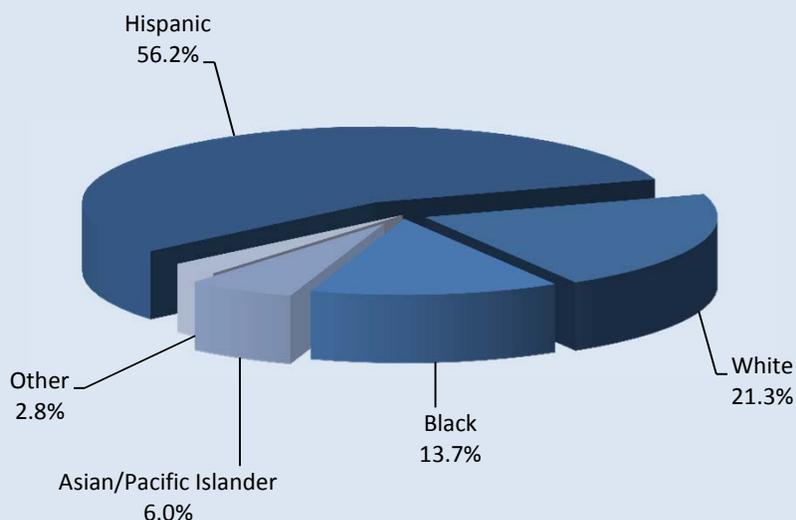
| RACE/ETHNICITY               | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                |              |
|------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                              |                  |              | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE  |              |
|                              | Number           | Percent      | Number            | Percent      | Number         | Percent      |
| Total                        | <u>1,330,596</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>367,867</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>962,729</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| Not Applicable <sup>1/</sup> | 308,004          | 23.1         | 138,552           | 37.7         | 169,452        | 17.6         |
| Head of Household:           | <u>1,022,591</u> | 76.9         | <u>229,315</u>    | 62.3         | <u>793,276</u> | 82.4         |
| Hispanic                     | 412,067          | 40.3         | 96,755            | 42.2         | 315,312        | 39.7         |
| White                        | 317,200          | 31.0         | 55,648            | 24.3         | 261,552        | 33.0         |
| Black                        | 197,639          | 19.3         | 56,723            | 24.7         | 140,916        | 17.8         |
| Asian/Pacific Islander       | 65,247           | 6.4          | 10,917            | 4.8          | 54,330         | 6.8          |
| Other                        | 30,438           | 3.0          | 9,272             | 4.0          | 21,166         | 2.7          |

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 42 percent of the public assistance households were Hispanic.**

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

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



| RACE/ETHNICITY         | TOTAL RECIPIENTS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                  |              |
|------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
|                        | Number           | Percent      | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE    |              |
|                        |                  |              | Number            | Percent      | Number           | Percent      |
| Total                  | <u>3096815</u>   | <u>100.0</u> | <u>1015398</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>2,081,417</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| Hispanic               | 1,739,973        | 56.2         | 611,928           | 60.3         | 1,128,045        | 54.2         |
| White                  | 660,809          | 21.3         | 156,425           | 15.4         | 504,384          | 24.2         |
| Black                  | 425,424          | 13.7         | 177,877           | 17.5         | 247,547          | 11.9         |
| Asian/Pacific Islander | 184,959          | 6.0          | 36,815            | 3.6          | 148,144          | 7.1          |
| Other                  | 85,650           | 2.8          | 32,353            | 3.2          | 53,297           | 2.6          |

**Over 60 percent of the CalFresh recipients on public assistance are Hispanic, which is four times more than the White recipients.**

## SECTION 2

# AGE & HOUSEHOLD SIZE

The age of recipients continues to show that most CalFresh recipients (57.3 percent) are children less than 18 years of age. This is a 3.5 percent decrease from FFY 2010, and twelve percentage points above the national percentage of recipient children. (Figure 8)

The average age of children receiving CalFresh (7.2 years), and the average age of the heads of the household (37.3 years) are similar to the averages in the previous federal fiscal year (7.4 years and 36.9 years, respectively).

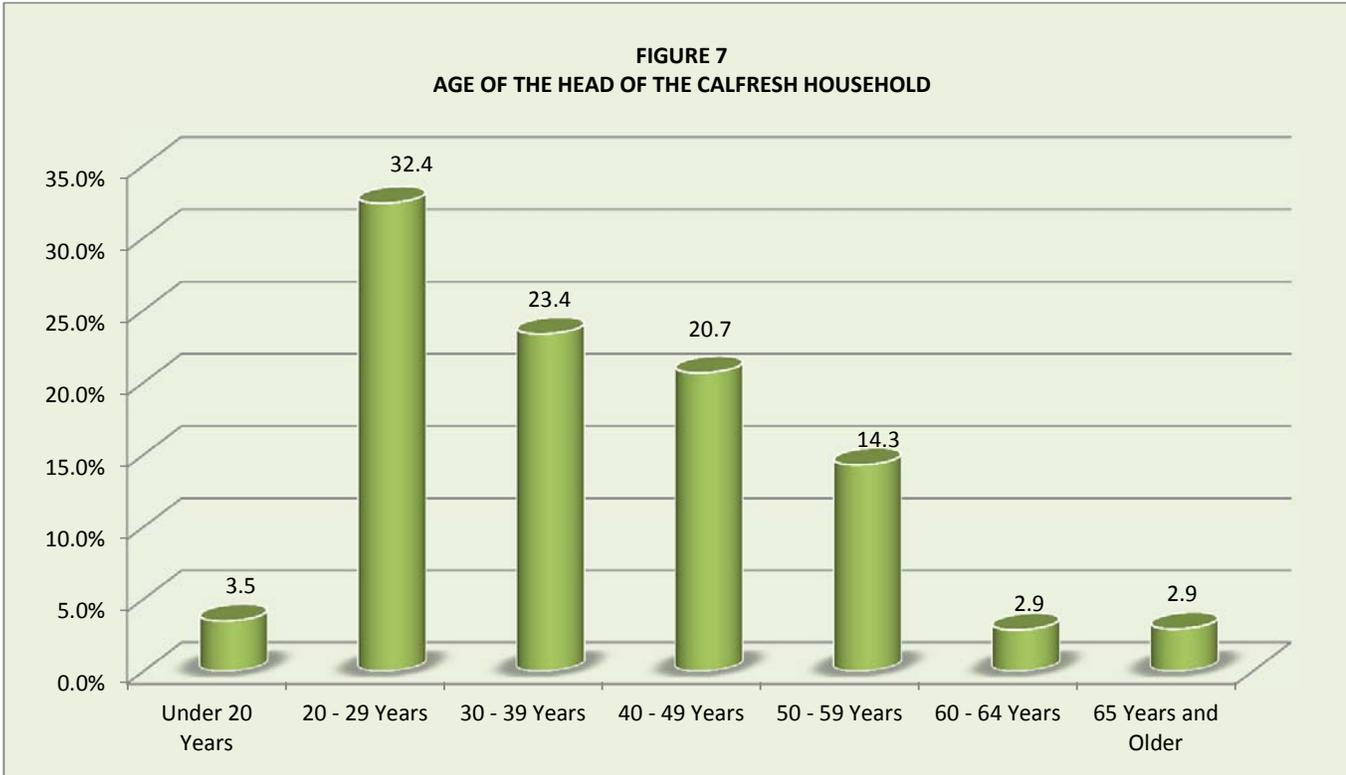
The average number of persons in a CalFresh household changed slightly from 2.4 persons (FFY 2010) to 2.3 persons. (Figure 10)

Six percent of the CalFresh households had an elderly or disabled member, which is similar to FFY 2010, and continues to be 31 percentage points below the national percentage of households with an elderly or disabled household member. (Figure 9)

In FFY2002, the average age of the CalFresh head of household was 36.6 years, the average household size was 2.7 persons, and 22 percent of the CalFresh households had an elderly or disabled member.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

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



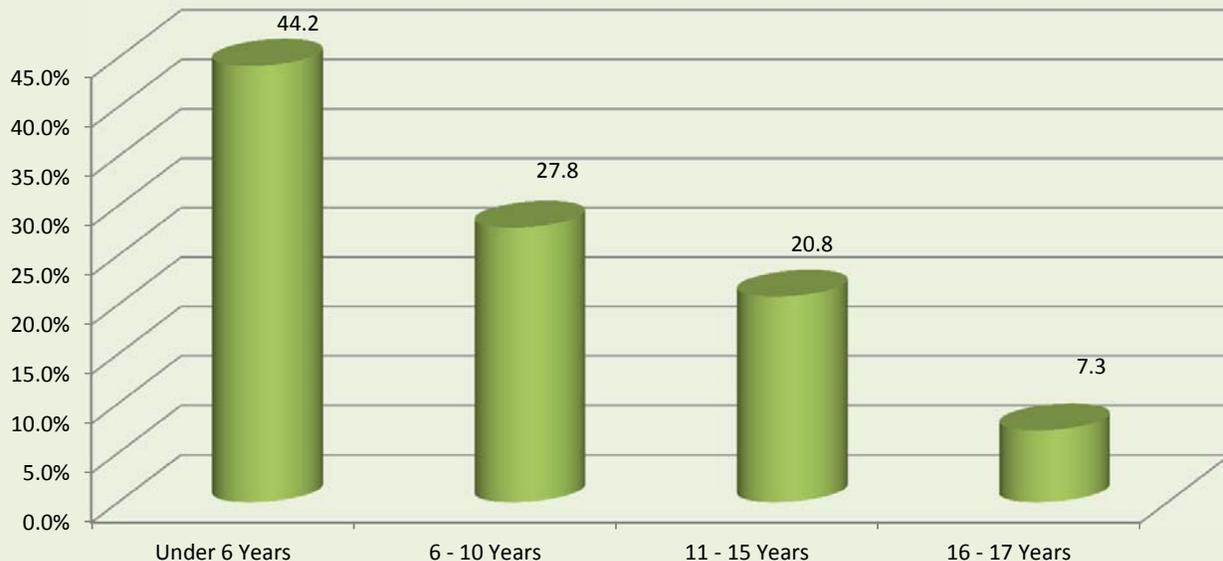
| AGE                          | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                |              |
|------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                              | Number           | Percent      | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE  |              |
|                              |                  |              | Number            | Percent      | Number         | Percent      |
| Total                        | <u>1,330,596</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>367,867</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>962,729</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| Not Applicable <sup>1/</sup> | 308,004          | 23.1         | 138,552           | 37.7         | 169,452        | 17.6         |
| Head of Household:           | <u>1,022,591</u> | 76.9         | <u>229,315</u>    | 62.3         | <u>793,276</u> | 82.4         |
| Under 20 Years               | 35,625           | 3.5          | 6,954             | 3.0          | 28,671         | 3.6          |
| 20 - 29 Years                | 331,352          | 32.4         | 118,990           | 51.9         | 212,362        | 26.8         |
| 30 - 39 Years                | 238,849          | 23.4         | 58,625            | 25.6         | 180,224        | 22.7         |
| 40 - 49 Years                | 211,329          | 20.7         | 32,544            | 14.2         | 178,785        | 22.5         |
| 50 - 59 Years                | 146,159          | 14.3         | 9,526             | 4.2          | 136,633        | 17.2         |
| 60 - 64 Years                | 29,311           | 2.9          | 1,338             | 0.6          | 27,973         | 3.5          |
| 65 Years and Older           | 29,966           | 2.9          | 1,338             | 0.6          | 28,628         | 3.6          |
| Avg/Median age               | 37.3 / 35        |              | 31.1 / 29         |              | 39.1 / 38      |              |

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 55 percent of the household heads were between the ages of 20 and 39 years old.**

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

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

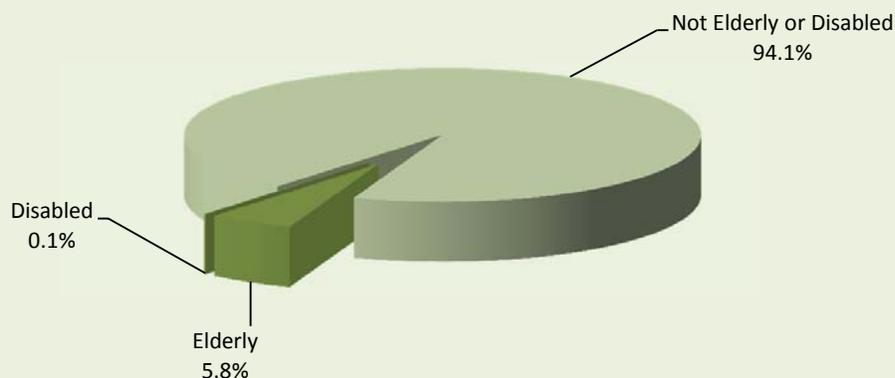


| AGE                           | TOTAL RECIPIENTS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                  |              |
|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
|                               | Number           | Percent      | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE    |              |
|                               | Number           | Percent      | Number            | Percent      | Number           | Percent      |
| Total                         | <u>3,096,815</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>1,015,398</u>  | <u>100.0</u> | <u>2,081,417</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| Adults in the CF Household    | 1,322,812        | 42.7         | 289,809           | 28.5         | 1,033,003        | 49.6         |
| Children in the CF Household: | <u>1,774,003</u> | <u>57.3</u>  | <u>725,589</u>    | <u>71.5</u>  | <u>1,048,414</u> | <u>50.4</u>  |
| Under 6 Years                 | 783,526          | 44.2         | 343,930           | 47.4         | 439,596          | 41.9         |
| 6 - 10 Years                  | 492,811          | 27.8         | 198,087           | 27.3         | 294,724          | 28.1         |
| 11 - 15 Years                 | 368,802          | 20.8         | 142,483           | 19.6         | 226,319          | 21.6         |
| 16 - 17 Years                 | 128,864          | 7.3          | 41,089            | 5.7          | 87,775           | 8.4          |
| Average Age of Child (Years)  |                  | 7.2          |                   | 6.8          |                  | 7.4          |

More than half (57.3) of the CalFresh recipients are children, and nearly 60 percent are in nonassistance households.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

**FIGURE 9**  
**ELDERLY OR DISABLED STATUS OF THE HEAD OF THE CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD**



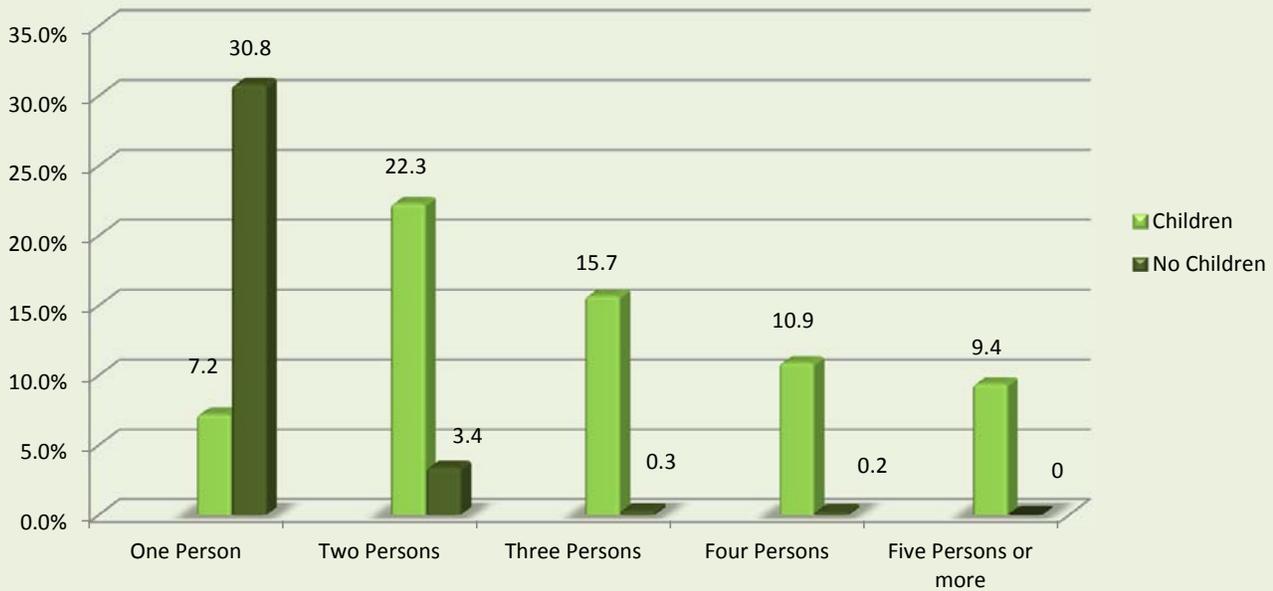
| ELDERLY OR DISABLED STATUS   | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                |              |
|------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                              | Number           | Percent      | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE  |              |
|                              |                  |              | Number            | Percent      | Number         | Percent      |
| Total                        | <u>1,330,596</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>367,867</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>962,729</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| Not Applicable <sup>1/</sup> | 308,004          | 23.1         | 138,552           | 37.7         | 169,452        | 17.6         |
| Head of Household:           | <u>1,022,591</u> | 76.9         | <u>229,315</u>    | 62.3         | <u>793,276</u> | 82.4         |
| Elderly                      | 59,277           | 5.8          | 2,676             | 1.2          | 56,601         | 7.1          |
| Disabled                     | 622              | 0.1          | 0                 | 0.0          | 622            | 0.1          |
| Not Elderly or Disabled      | 962,692          | 94.1         | 226,639           | 98.8         | 736,053        | 92.8         |

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 99 percent of the public assistance households were not elderly or disabled.**

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

**FIGURE 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>1,330,596</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>367,867</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>962,729</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| One Person                   |                  |              |                   |              |                |              |
| With Children                | 96,187           | 7.2          | 43,099            | 11.7         | 53,088         | 5.5          |
| No Children                  | 409,321          | 30.8         | 8,068             | 2.2          | 401,254        | 41.7         |
| Two Persons                  |                  |              |                   |              |                |              |
| With Children                | 296,566          | 22.3         | 144,097           | 39.2         | 152,469        | 15.8         |
| No Children                  | 44,893           | 3.4          | 1,483             | 0.4          | 43,409         | 4.5          |
| Three Persons                |                  |              |                   |              |                |              |
| With Children                | 208,294          | 15.7         | 73,408            | 20.0         | 134,886        | 14.0         |
| No Children                  | 3,340            | 0.3          | 0                 | 0.0          | 3,340          | 0.3          |
| Four Persons                 |                  |              |                   |              |                |              |
| With Children                | 144,665          | 10.9         | 59,936            | 16.3         | 84,729         | 8.8          |
| No Children                  | 2,062            | 0.2          | 0                 | 0.0          | 2,062          | 0.2          |
| Five Persons or more         |                  |              |                   |              |                |              |
| With Children                | 124,993          | 9.4          | 37,776            | 10.3         | 87,217         | 9.1          |
| No Children                  | 275              | 0.0          | 0                 | 0.0          | 275            | 0.0          |
| Avg/Median Number of Persons | 2.3 / 2.0        |              | 2.8 / 2.0         |              | 2.2 / 2.0      |              |

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

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

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



| HOUSEHOLDS WITH OTHER PERSONS   | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |               |              |
|---------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
|                                 | Number           | Percent      | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE |              |
|                                 |                  |              | Number            | Percent      | Number        | Percent      |
| Total                           | <u>24,172</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>7,510</u>      | <u>100.0</u> | <u>16,662</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| One Person                      | 13,659           | 56.5         | 4,113             | 54.8         | 9,546         | 57.3         |
| Two Persons                     | 6,960            | 28.8         | 3,131             | 41.7         | 3,829         | 23.0         |
| Three Persons                   | 770              | 3.2          | 266               | 3.5          | 504           | 3.0          |
| Four Persons                    | 2,783            | 11.5         | 0                 | 0.0          | 2,783         | 16.7         |
| Average Number of Other Persons |                  | 1.7          |                   | 1.5          |               | 1.8          |

**Public assistance households did not have more than three persons in their living quarters.**

## SECTION 3

### INCOME

In FFY 2011, 49 percent of CalFresh households fell in the category of those with unearned income. This is four percentage points higher than the previous federal fiscal year, and 11 percentage points below the national percentage of households with unearned income. (Figure 12)

The proportion of CalFresh households with earned income increased slightly – from 21 percent (FFY 2010) to 22 percent. This, however, is nine percentage points below the national percentage of households with earned income. (Figure 13)

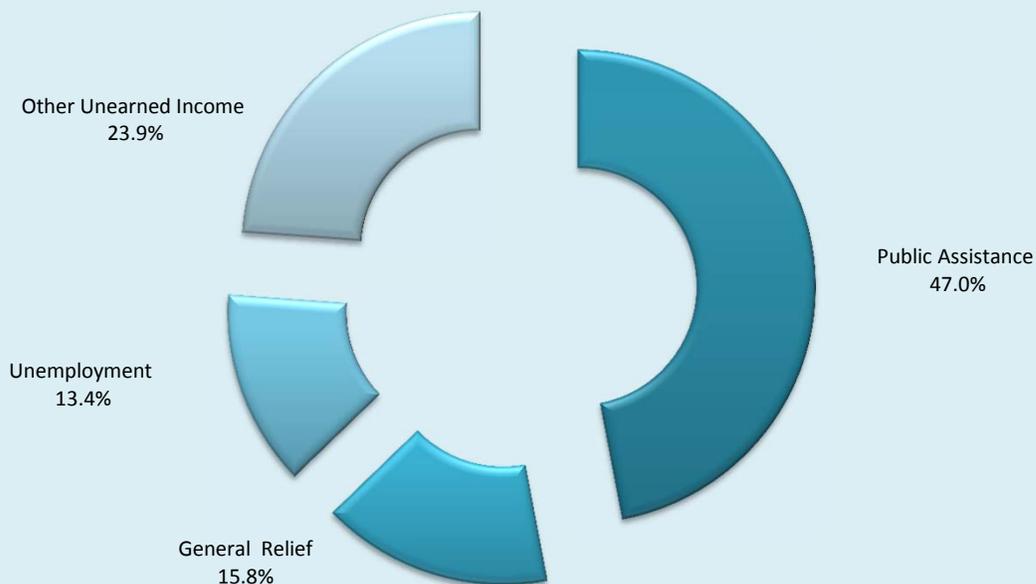
The average net income used to determine the CalFresh allotment was \$443 per household in FFY 2011. This is \$19 less than the allotment in the previous federal fiscal year, and \$105 more than the national net income used to determine the CalFresh allotment. (Figure 14)

Forty-five percent of CalFresh households did not have a net income. Of those CalFresh households with a net income, nearly 58 percent had a net income less than or equal to \$400 per month. Over nine percent of households had a net income of \$1,000 or more per month. (Figure 14)

During FFY2002, 79 percent of the CalFresh households reported unearned income, and the average net income used to determine the CalFresh allotment was \$521.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

**FIGURE 12**  
**SOURCE OF UNEARNED INCOME**



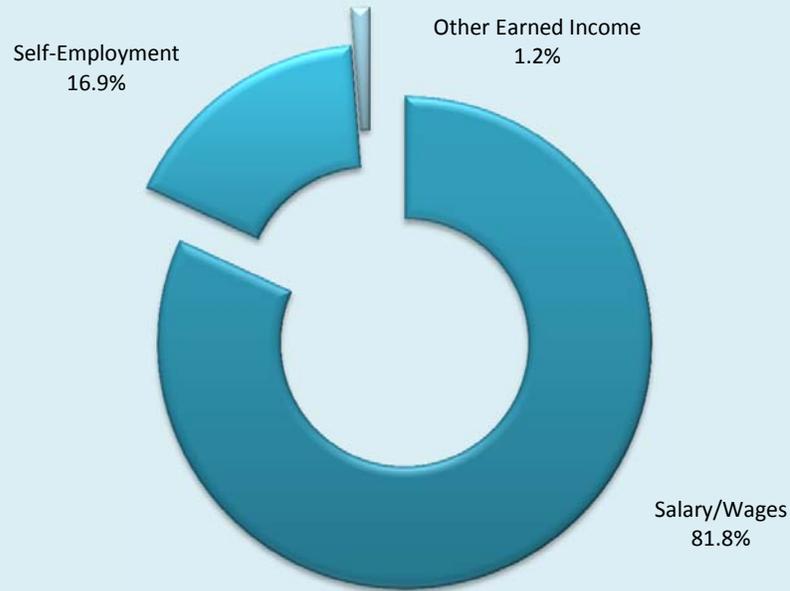
| INCOME SOURCE           | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |         |               | CLASSIFICATION    |         |               |               |         |               |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------|---------------|-------------------|---------|---------------|---------------|---------|---------------|
|                         |                  |         |               | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |         |               | NONASSISTANCE |         |               |
|                         | Number           | Percent | Avg / Med     | Number            | Percent | Avg / Med     | Number        | Percent | Avg / Med     |
| Total                   | 1,330,596        | 100.0   |               | 367,867           | 100.0   |               | 962,729       | 100.0   |               |
| No Unearned Income      | 684,989          | 51.5    |               | 126,682           | 34.4    |               | 558,307       | 58.0    |               |
| Unearned Income:        | 645,607          | 48.5    | 100.0         | 241,185           | 65.6    | 100.0         | 404,422       | 42.0    | 100.0         |
| Public Assistance Grant | 303,419          | 47.0    | \$496 / \$516 | 234,161           | 97.1    | \$502 / \$525 | 69,258        | 17.1    | \$469 / \$490 |
| General Relief          | 101,769          | 15.8    | \$215 / \$221 | 0                 | 0.0     | \$0 / \$0     | 101,769       | 25.2    | \$215 / \$221 |
| Unemployment Comp.      | 86,424           | 13.4    | \$698 / \$592 | 4,540             | 1.9     | \$699 / \$750 | 81,884        | 20.2    | \$698 / \$546 |
| Other Unearned Income   | 153,995          | 23.9    | \$586 / \$565 | 2,484             | 1.0     | \$261 / \$50  | 151,511       | 37.5    | \$621 / \$650 |

**Approximately, 50 percent of the CalFresh households receive public assistance.**

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

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

**FIGURE 13**  
**SOURCE OF EARNED INCOME**

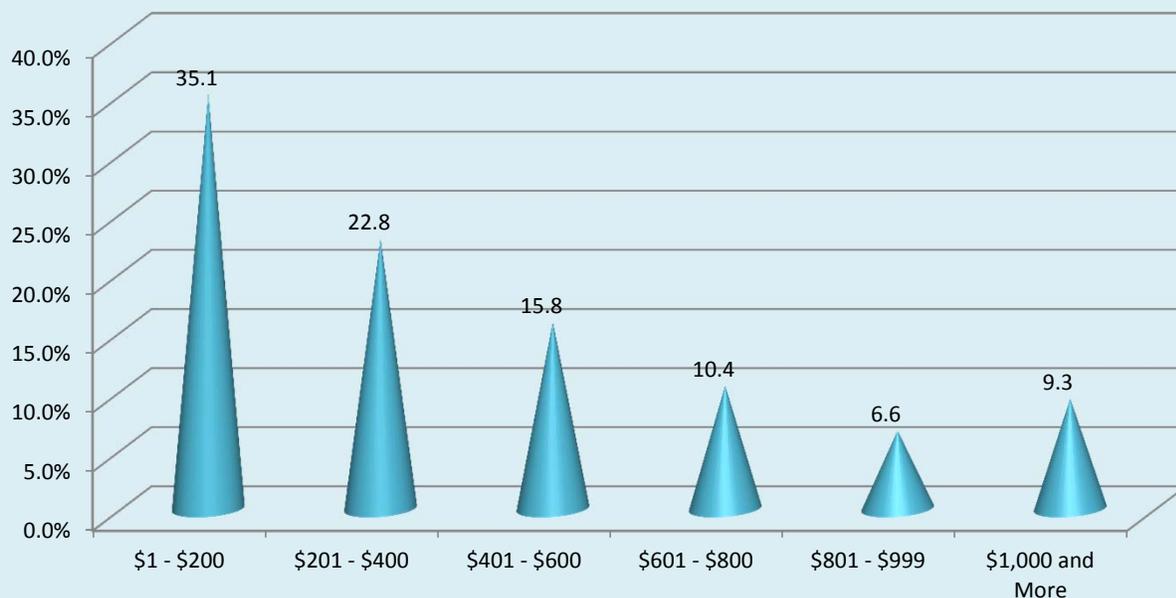


| INCOME SOURCE       | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |              |               | CLASSIFICATION    |              |               |                |              |               |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
|                     | Number           | Percent      | Avg./Med.     | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              |               | NONASSISTANCE  |              |               |
|                     |                  |              |               | Number            | Percent      | Avg./Med.     | Number         | Percent      | Avg./Med.     |
| Total               | <u>1,330,596</u> | <u>100.0</u> |               | <u>367,867</u>    | <u>100.0</u> |               | <u>962,729</u> | <u>100.0</u> |               |
| No Earned Income    | <u>1,042,385</u> | 78.3         |               | <u>310,925</u>    | 84.5         |               | <u>731,460</u> | 76.0         |               |
| Earned Income:      | <u>288,211</u>   | 21.7         | <u>100.0</u>  | <u>56,942</u>     | 15.5         | <u>100.0</u>  | <u>231,269</u> | 24.0         | <u>100.0</u>  |
| Salary/Wages        | 235,886          | 81.8         | \$798 / \$720 | 42,946            | 75.4         | \$648 / \$653 | 192,940        | 83.4         | \$826 / \$757 |
| Self-Employment     | 48,742           | 16.9         | \$291 / \$264 | 13,097            | 23.0         | \$324 / \$270 | 35,645         | 15.4         | \$283 / \$180 |
| Other Earned Income | 3,583            | 1.2          | \$94 / \$60   | 899               | 1.6          | \$65 / \$65   | 2,684          | 1.2          | \$96 / \$60   |

Nearly 17 percent of the CalFresh households are self-employed.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

**FIGURE 14**  
**NET INCOME USED TO DETERMINE THE CALFRESH ALLOTMENT**



| NET INCOME                       | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                |              |
|----------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                                  |                  |              | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE  |              |
|                                  | Number           | Percent      | Number            | Percent      | Number         | Percent      |
| Total                            | <u>1,330,596</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>367,867</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>962,729</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| No Net Income                    | 600,381          | 45.1         | 91,263            | 24.8         | 509,118        | 52.9         |
| Net Income:                      | <u>730,215</u>   | <u>54.9</u>  | <u>276,604</u>    | <u>75.2</u>  | <u>453,611</u> | <u>47.1</u>  |
| \$1 - \$200                      | 255,941          | 35.1         | 113,158           | 40.9         | 142,783        | 31.5         |
| \$201 - \$400                    | 166,711          | 22.8         | 79,235            | 28.6         | 87,476         | 19.3         |
| \$401 - \$600                    | 115,482          | 15.8         | 43,801            | 15.8         | 71,681         | 15.8         |
| \$601 - \$800                    | 75,987           | 10.4         | 23,067            | 8.3          | 52,920         | 11.7         |
| \$801 - \$999                    | 48,112           | 6.6          | 9,113             | 3.3          | 38,999         | 8.6          |
| \$1,000 and More                 | 67,982           | 9.3          | 8,230             | 3.0          | 59,752         | 13.2         |
| Avg./Median Amount of Net Income | \$443 / \$329    |              | \$335 / \$248     |              | \$508 / \$397  |              |

**The average amount of net income used to determine the CalFresh allotment was \$508 for nonassistance households, which is higher than the average of all CalFresh households.**

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

## SECTION 4

# EDUCATION

Over 62 percent of CalFresh heads of household had at least 12 years of education. This is nearly identical to the percentage in FFY 2010. (Figure 15)

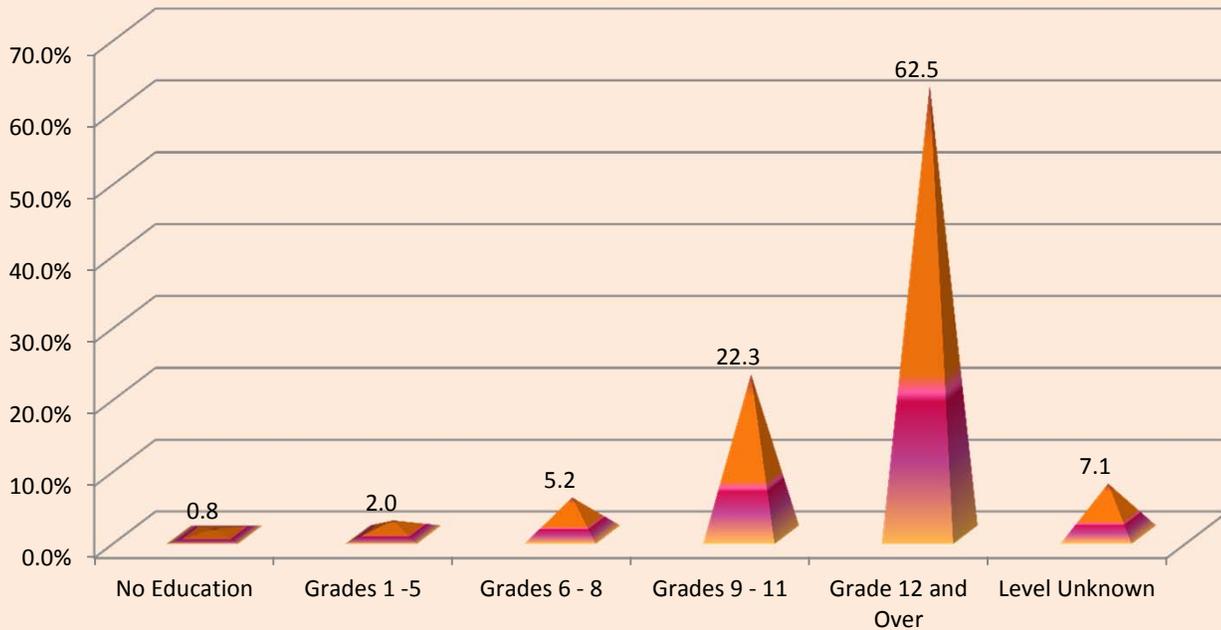
Nearly fifty-seven percent of the heads of household with less than 12 years of education had a net income. This income was used to determine their CalFresh allotment. (Figure 15a)

Twelve percent of the heads of household with less than 12 years of education had a net income of at least \$1,000, which was used to determine their CalFresh allotment. This is 2.4 percentage points below the FFY 2010 percentage. (Figure 15a)

CalFresh heads of household completing at least 12 years of education has increased 7 percentage points since FFY2002.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

**FIGURE 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>1,330,596</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>367,867</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>962,729</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| Not Applicable <sup>1/</sup> | 308,004          | 23.1         | 138,552           | 37.7         | 169,452        | 17.6         |
| Head of Household:           | <u>1,022,592</u> | 76.9         | <u>229,315</u>    | 62.3         | <u>793,277</u> | 82.4         |
| No Education                 | 8,267            | 0.8          | 1,949             | 0.8          | 6,318          | 0.8          |
| Grades 1 - 5                 | 20,413           | 2.0          | 2,191             | 1.0          | 18,222         | 2.3          |
| Grades 6 - 8                 | 53,034           | 5.2          | 7,800             | 3.4          | 45,234         | 5.7          |
| Grades 9 - 11                | 228,419          | 22.3         | 62,659            | 27.3         | 165,760        | 20.9         |
| Grade 12 and Over            | 639,618          | 62.5         | 148,614           | 64.8         | 491,004        | 61.9         |
| Level Unknown                | 72,841           | 7.1          | 6,102             | 2.7          | 66,739         | 8.4          |

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 65 percent of the head of households in the public assistance category completed 12 or more years of education.**

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

FIGURE 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    |              |                |              |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                   |                  |              | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE  |              |
|                   | Number           | Percent      | Number            | Percent      | Number         | Percent      |
| Head of Household | <u>310,133</u>   | <u>100.0</u> | <u>74,599</u>     | <u>100.0</u> | <u>235,534</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| No Net Income     | 133,899          | 43.2         | 14,339            | 19.2         | 119,560        | 50.8         |
| Net Income:       | <u>176,234</u>   | <u>56.8</u>  | <u>60,260</u>     | <u>80.8</u>  | <u>115,974</u> | <u>49.2</u>  |
| \$1 - \$200       | 61,581           | 34.9         | 24,242            | 40.2         | 37,339         | 32.2         |
| \$201 - \$400     | 38,083           | 21.7         | 16,651            | 27.6         | 21,432         | 18.5         |
| \$401 - \$600     | 27,206           | 15.4         | 10,731            | 17.8         | 16,475         | 14.2         |
| \$601 - \$800     | 13,771           | 7.8          | 3,914             | 6.5          | 9,857          | 8.5          |
| \$801 - \$999     | 14,263           | 8.1          | 2,974             | 4.9          | 11,289         | 9.7          |
| \$1,000 and Over  | 21,330           | 12.1         | 1,748             | 2.9          | 19,582         | 16.9         |

Over 50 percent of CalFresh heads of household with less than 12 years of education reported no income in the nonassistance category.

## SECTION 5

### BENEFITS

The average number of uninterrupted months of benefits since the initial application was 22, which is similar to the average in FFY 2010 (22.5 months). In the public assistance households, the average increased from 33.5 months (FFY 2010) to 35.5 months. (Figure 16)

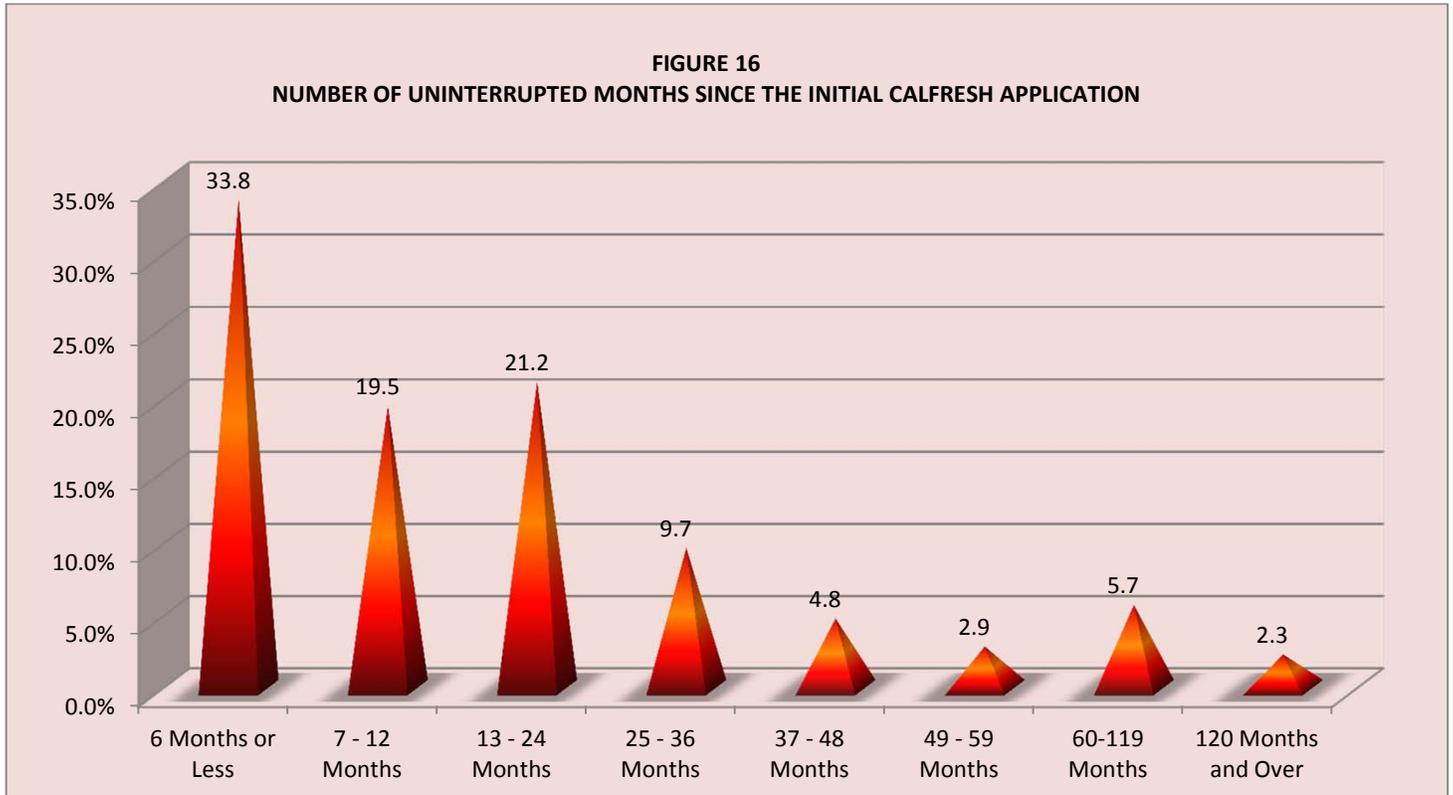
The average monthly CalFresh benefit was \$315, or \$31 above the national average benefit per household. This represents a decrease of \$7 from the FFY 2010 levels. (Figure 18)

Of CalFresh heads of household who received benefits continuously for seven to 12 months: 41.5 percent were Hispanic, 40 percent lived in single person households, 54 percent had a net income of \$400 or less, 61 percent had at least a twelfth grade education, and the average household size was 2.3 persons.

Between FFY2002 and FFY2011, the average number of uninterrupted months of benefits decreased by 20 months, and the average CalFresh benefit increased to \$116.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

**FIGURE 16**  
**NUMBER OF UNINTERRUPTED MONTHS SINCE THE INITIAL CALFRESH APPLICATION**

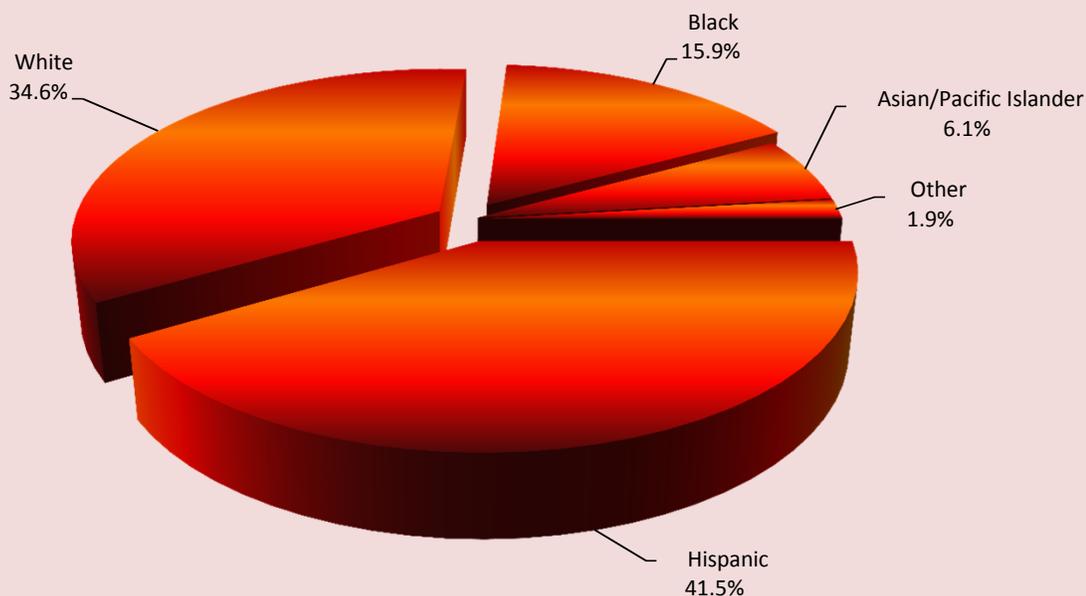


| MONTHS                          | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                |              |
|---------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                                 | Number           | Percent      | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE  |              |
|                                 |                  |              | Number            | Percent      | Number         | Percent      |
| Total                           | <u>1,330,596</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>367,867</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>962,729</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| 6 Months or Less                | 450,229          | 33.8         | 71,721            | 19.5         | 378,508        | 39.3         |
| 7 - 12 Months                   | 259,634          | 19.5         | 54,111            | 14.7         | 205,523        | 21.3         |
| 13 - 24 Months                  | 281,850          | 21.2         | 77,246            | 21.0         | 204,604        | 21.3         |
| 25 - 36 Months                  | 128,766          | 9.7          | 56,078            | 15.2         | 72,688         | 7.6          |
| 37 - 48 Months                  | 63,729           | 4.8          | 27,322            | 7.4          | 36,407         | 3.8          |
| 49 - 59 Months                  | 37,983           | 2.9          | 19,929            | 5.4          | 18,054         | 1.9          |
| 60-119 Months                   | 76,250           | 5.7          | 39,176            | 10.6         | 37,074         | 3.9          |
| 120 Months and Over             | 30,708           | 2.3          | 22,203            | 6.0          | 8,505          | 0.9          |
| Unknown                         | 1447             | 0.1          | 81                | 0.0          | 1366           | 0.1          |
| Avg/Median Uninterrupted Months | 22.0 / 11.8      |              | 35.5 / 20.9       |              | 16.8 / 9.8     |              |

The public assistance household's average time on aid is nearly three years (35.5 months).

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

**FIGURE 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 <sup>1/</sup>          | <u>259,634</u>   | <u>100.0</u>      | <u>54,111</u>     | <u>100.0</u>      | <u>205,523</u> | <u>100.0</u>      |
| Not Applicable <sup>2/</sup> | 115,798          | 44.6              | 33,430            | 61.8              | 82,368         | 40.1              |
| Head of Household:           | <u>143,836</u>   | 55.4 <u>100.0</u> | <u>20,681</u>     | 38.2 <u>100.0</u> | <u>123,155</u> | 59.9 <u>100.0</u> |
| Hispanic                     | 59,743           | 41.5              | 10,033            | 48.5              | 49,710         | 40.4              |
| White                        | 49,812           | 34.6              | 5,462             | 26.4              | 44,350         | 36.0              |
| Black                        | 22,836           | 15.9              | 4,061             | 19.6              | 18,775         | 15.2              |
| Asian/Pacific Islander       | 8,767            | 6.1               | 396               | 1.9               | 8,371          | 6.8               |
| Other                        | 2,678            | 1.9               | 729               | 3.5               | 1,949          | 1.6               |

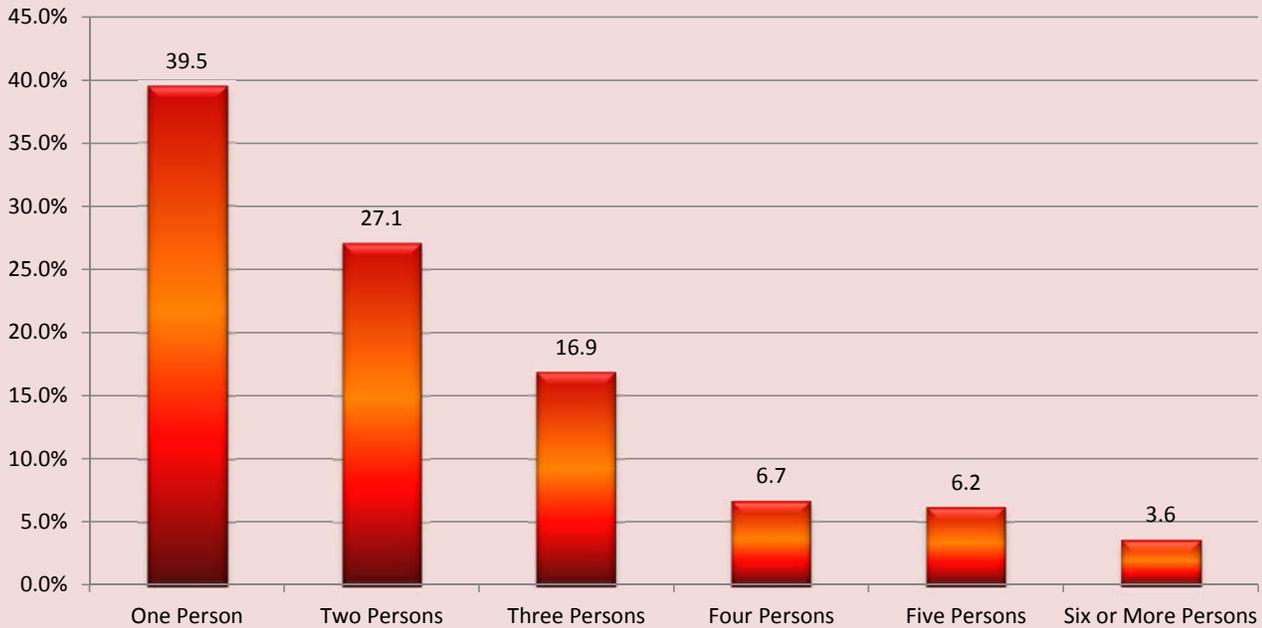
1/ From Table 16

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 the public assistance households receiving CalFresh for seven to 12 months, the combined percentage of Asian/Pacific Islander/other households is 5.4 percent.**

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

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



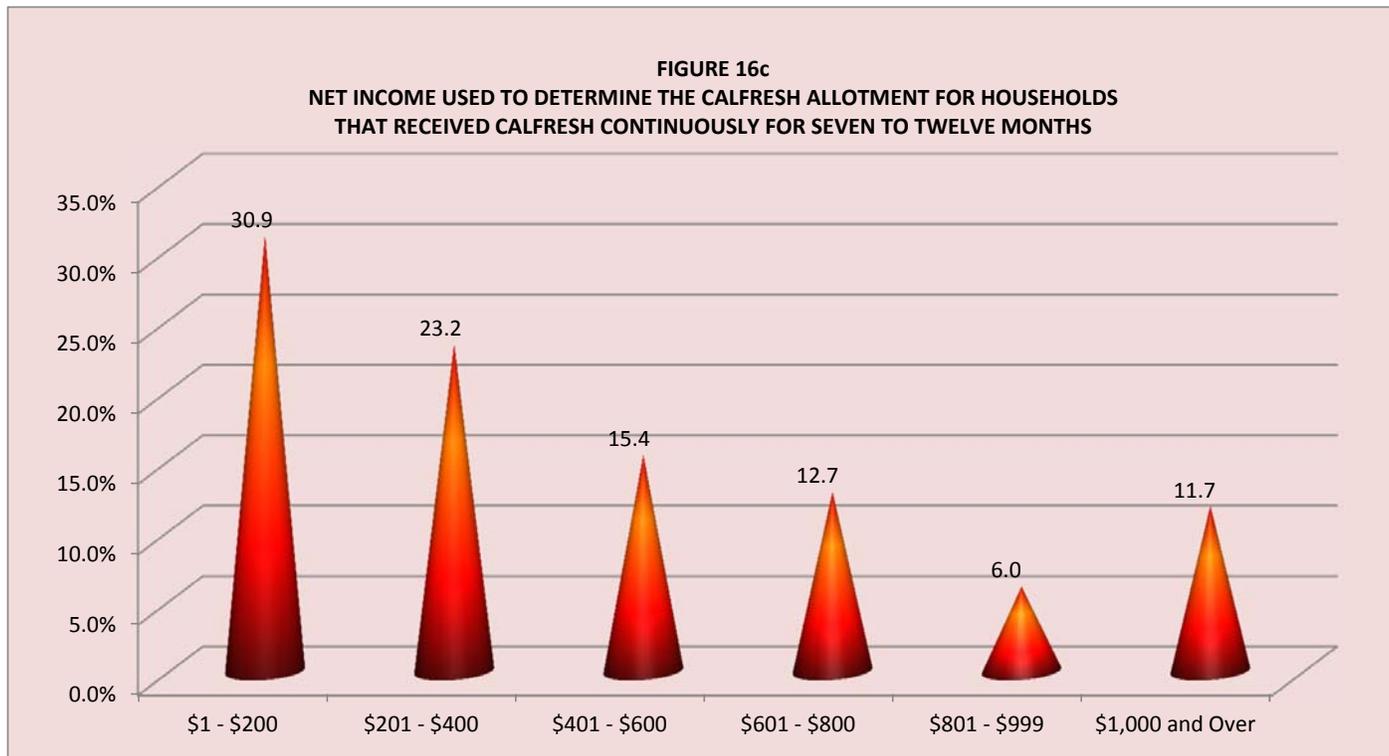
| PERSONS IN HOUSEHOLD          | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                |              |
|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                               | Number           | Percent      | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE  |              |
|                               |                  |              | Number            | Percent      | Number         | Percent      |
| Total <sup>1/</sup>           | <u>259,634</u>   | <u>100.0</u> | <u>54,111</u>     | <u>100.0</u> | <u>205,523</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| One Person                    | 102,664          | 39.5         | 4,416             | 8.2          | 98,248         | 47.8         |
| Two Persons                   | 70,468           | 27.1         | 28,123            | 52.0         | 42,345         | 20.6         |
| Three Persons                 | 43,771           | 16.9         | 11,157            | 20.6         | 32,614         | 15.9         |
| Four Persons                  | 17,314           | 6.7          | 4,098             | 7.6          | 13,216         | 6.4          |
| Five Persons                  | 16,055           | 6.2          | 3,767             | 7.0          | 12,288         | 6.0          |
| Six or More Persons           | 9,362            | 3.6          | 2,550             | 4.7          | 6,812          | 3.3          |
| Avg./Median Number of Persons | 2.3 / 2.0        |              | 2.7 / 2.0         |              | 2.1 / 2.0      |              |

1/ From Table 16

**At 40 percent, the one person household made up the largest household size, yet only eight percent of that group received public assistance.**

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

**FIGURE 16c**  
**NET INCOME USED TO DETERMINE THE CALFRESH ALLOTMENT FOR HOUSEHOLDS**  
**THAT RECEIVED CALFRESH CONTINUOUSLY FOR SEVEN TO TWELVE MONTHS**



| NET INCOME                       | HOUSEHOLDS<br>TOTAL |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                |              |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                                  |                     |              | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE  |              |
|                                  | Number              | Percent      | Number            | Percent      | Number         | Percent      |
| Total <sup>1/</sup>              | <u>259,634</u>      | <u>100.0</u> | <u>54,111</u>     | <u>100.0</u> | <u>205,523</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| No Net Income                    | 119,474             | 46.0         | 12,693            | 23.5         | 106,781        | 52.0         |
| Net Income:                      | <u>140,160</u>      | 54.0         | <u>41,418</u>     | 76.5         | <u>98,742</u>  | 48.0         |
| \$1 - \$200                      | 43,376              | 30.9         | 14,797            | 35.7         | 28,579         | 28.9         |
| \$201 - \$400                    | 32,536              | 23.2         | 9,318             | 22.5         | 23,218         | 23.5         |
| \$401 - \$600                    | 21,531              | 15.4         | 9,375             | 22.6         | 12,156         | 12.3         |
| \$601 - \$800                    | 17,857              | 12.7         | 3,591             | 8.7          | 14,266         | 14.4         |
| \$801 - \$999                    | 8,408               | 6.0          | 1,319             | 3.2          | 7,089          | 7.2          |
| \$1,000 and Over                 | 16,452              | 11.7         | 3,018             | 7.3          | 13,434         | 13.6         |
| Avg./Median Amount of Net Income | \$493 / \$385       |              | \$424 / \$329     |              | \$522 / \$387  |              |

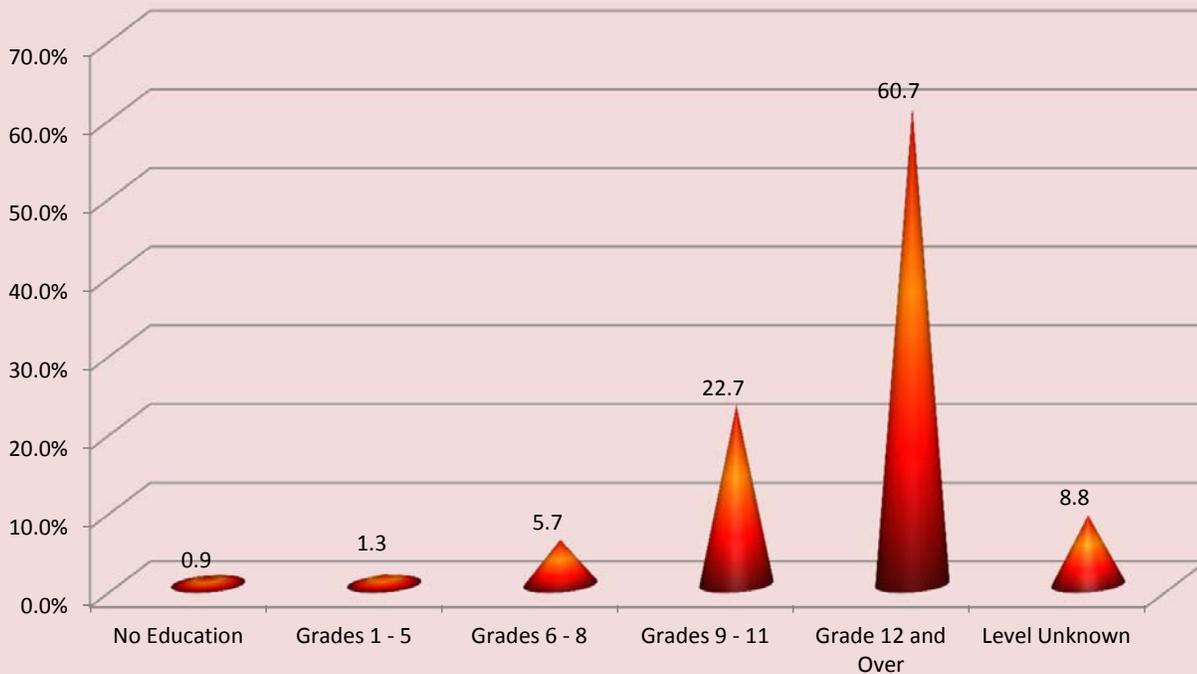
1/ From Table 16

**Although the average net income used to determine the CalFresh allotment for households that had received CalFresh for seven to 12 months was \$493, over 54 percent of the households had a net income between \$1 and \$400.**

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

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

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



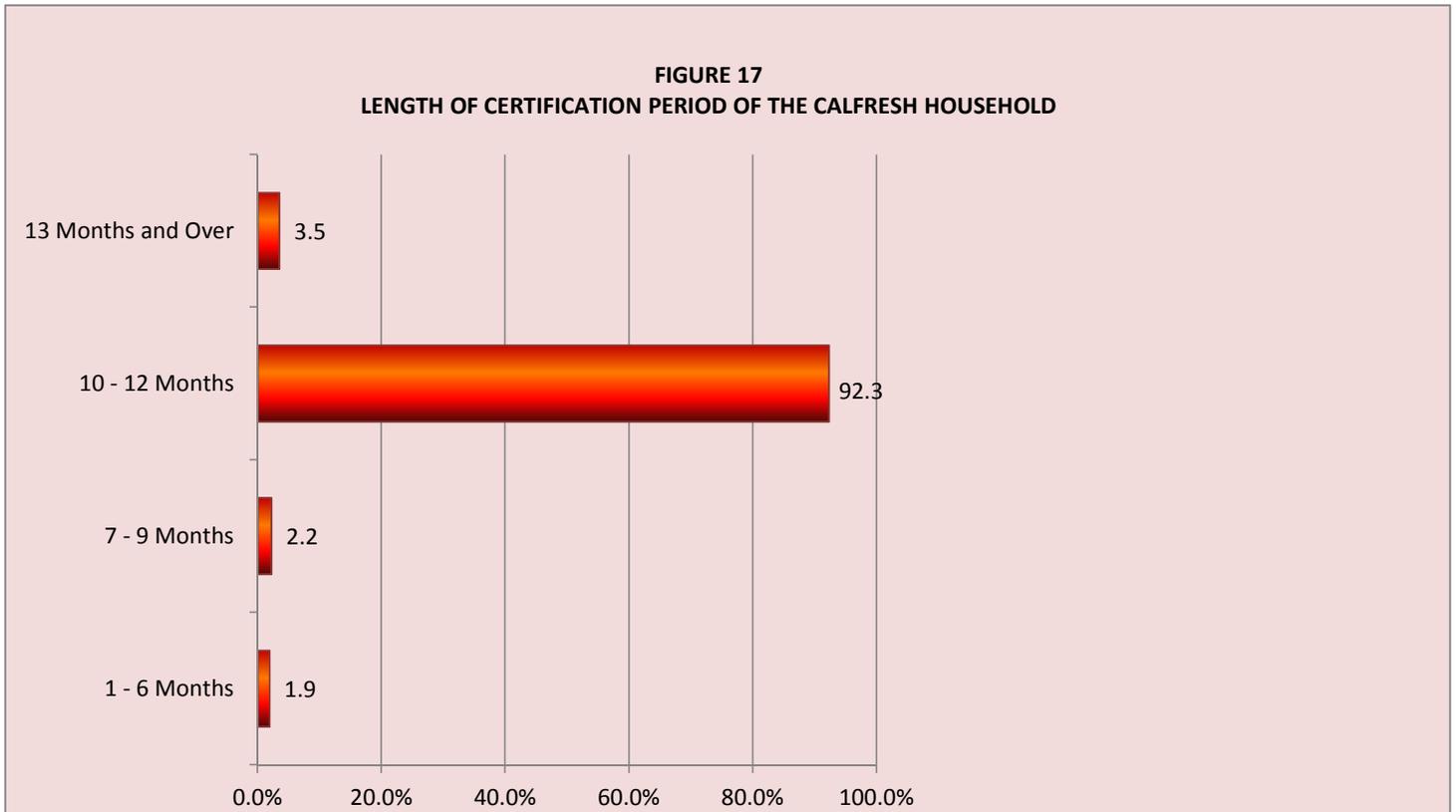
| EDUCATION LEVEL              | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                |              |
|------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                              | Number           | Percent      | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE  |              |
|                              |                  |              | Number            | Percent      | Number         | Percent      |
| Total <sup>1/</sup>          | <u>259,634</u>   | <u>100.0</u> | <u>54,111</u>     | <u>100.0</u> | <u>205,523</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| Not Applicable <sup>2/</sup> | 43,773           | 16.9         | 12,878            | 23.8         | 30,895         | 15.0         |
| Head of Household:           | <u>215,861</u>   | 83.1         | <u>41,233</u>     | 76.2         | <u>174,628</u> | 85.0         |
| No Education                 | 1,990            | 0.9          | 0                 | 0.0          | 1,990          | 1.1          |
| Grades 1 - 5                 | 2,722            | 1.3          | 260               | 0.6          | 2,462          | 1.4          |
| Grades 6 - 8                 | 12,221           | 5.7          | 528               | 1.3          | 11,693         | 6.7          |
| Grades 9 - 11                | 49,093           | 22.7         | 12,997            | 31.5         | 36,096         | 20.7         |
| Grade 12 and Over            | 130,932          | 60.7         | 26,776            | 64.9         | 104,156        | 59.6         |
| Level Unknown                | 18,903           | 8.8          | 672               | 1.6          | 18,231         | 10.4         |

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 the total households that have received CalFresh continuously for seven to 12 months, 31 percent have less than 12 years of education.**

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011



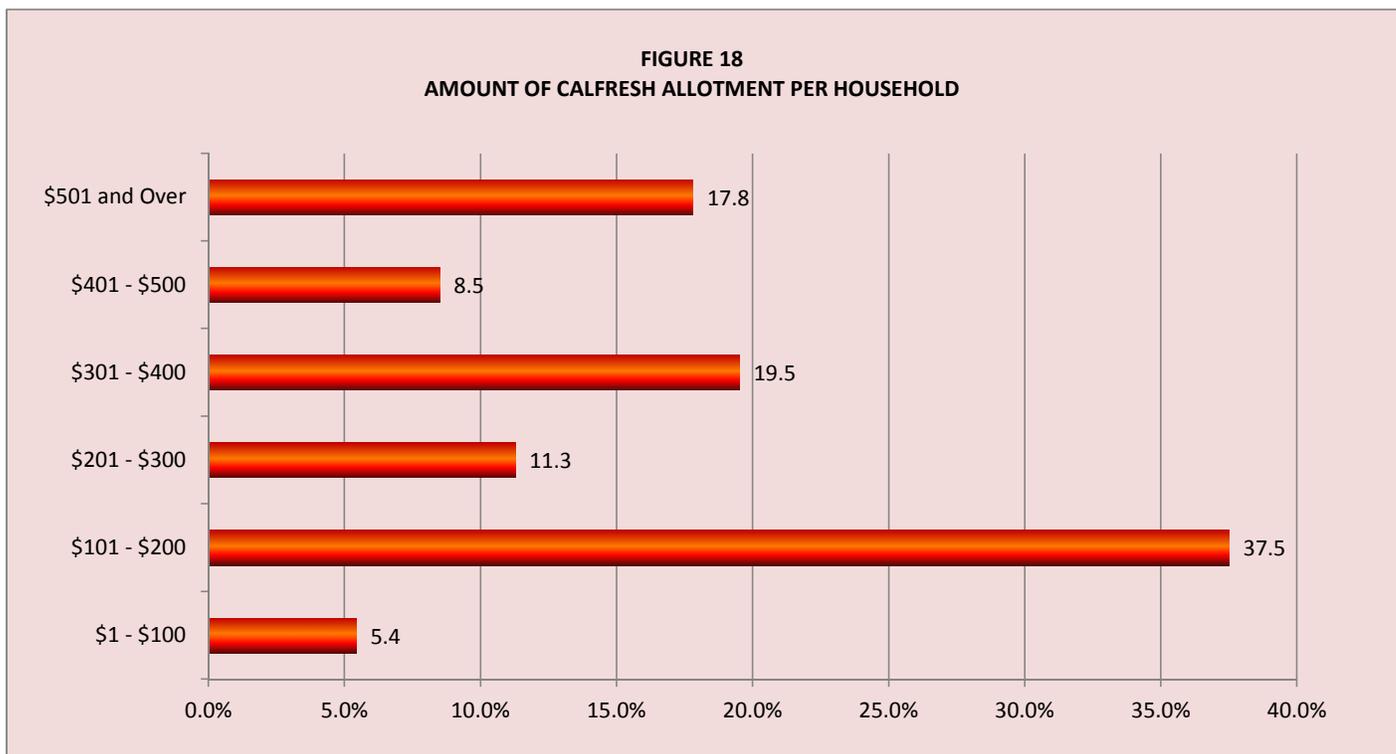
| CERTIFICATION PERIOD        | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                |              |
|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                             | Number           | Percent      | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE  |              |
|                             |                  |              | Number            | Percent      | Number         | Percent      |
| Total                       | <u>1,330,596</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>367,867</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>962,729</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| 1 - 6 Months                | 25,870           | 1.9          | 1,415             | 0.4          | 24,455         | 2.5          |
| 7 - 9 Months                | 29,473           | 2.2          | 8,009             | 2.2          | 21,464         | 2.2          |
| 10 - 12 Months              | 1,228,306        | 92.3         | 357,426           | 97.2         | 870,880        | 90.5         |
| 13 Months and Over          | 46,947           | 3.5          | 1,017             | 0.3          | 45,930         | 4.8          |
| Avg. Months of Cert. Period |                  | 12           |                   | 11.8         |                | 12.1         |

**Less than two percent of all households are eligible for benefits for six months or less.**

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 2011

**FIGURE 18**  
**AMOUNT OF CALFRESH ALLOTMENT PER HOUSEHOLD**

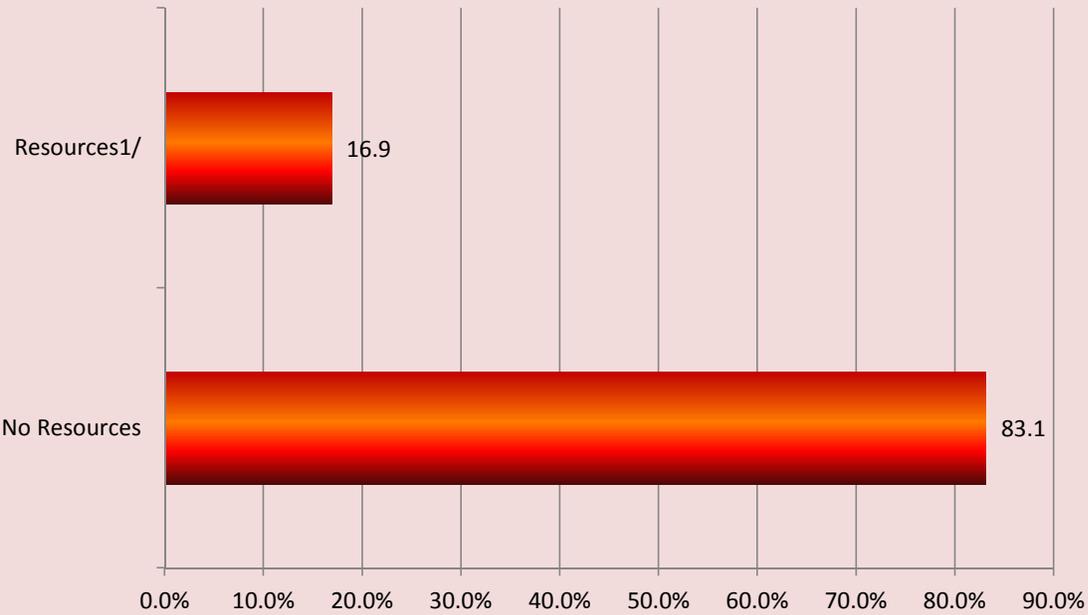


| ALLOTMENT                     | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                |              |
|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                               |                  |              | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE  |              |
|                               | Number           | Percent      | Number            | Percent      | Number         | Percent      |
| Total                         | <u>1,330,596</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>367,867</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>962,729</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| \$1 - \$100                   | 72,293           | 5.4          | 2,914             | 0.8          | 69,379         | 7.2          |
| \$101 - \$200                 | 499,020          | 37.5         | 62,425            | 17.0         | 436,595        | 45.3         |
| \$201 - \$300                 | 149,984          | 11.3         | 70,006            | 19.0         | 79,978         | 8.3          |
| \$301 - \$400                 | 259,539          | 19.5         | 96,379            | 26.2         | 163,160        | 16.9         |
| \$401 - \$500                 | 113,001          | 8.5          | 48,307            | 13.1         | 64,694         | 6.7          |
| \$501 and Over                | 236,759          | 17.8         | 87,836            | 23.9         | 148,923        | 15.5         |
| Avg/Median CalFresh Allotment | \$315 / \$268    |              | \$376 / \$352     |              | \$292 / \$200  |              |

The average CalFresh allotment is \$315 per household. However, 37.5 percent of the total households have a CalFresh allotment between \$101 - \$200.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

**FIGURE 19**  
**RESOURCES OWNED BY THE CALFRESH HOUSEHOLD**



| RESOURCES               | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                |              |
|-------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                         | Number           | Percent      | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE  |              |
|                         |                  |              | Number            | Percent      | Number         | Percent      |
| Total                   | <u>1,330,596</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>367,867</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>962,729</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| No Resources            | 1,106,044        | 83.1         | 341,608           | 92.9         | 764,436        | 79.4         |
| Resources <sup>1/</sup> | 224,552          | 16.9         | 26,259            | 7.1          | 198,293        | 20.6         |

1/ Excludes vehicles.

**Ninety-three percent of the public assistance households did not report resources.**

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

## SECTION 6

# EXPENSES, DEDUCTIONS & REPORTING

Of the total households claiming a utility expense, 59 percent claimed a standard utility allowance. This is similar to the percentage claimed in FFY 2010 (58.9 percent). (Figure 20)

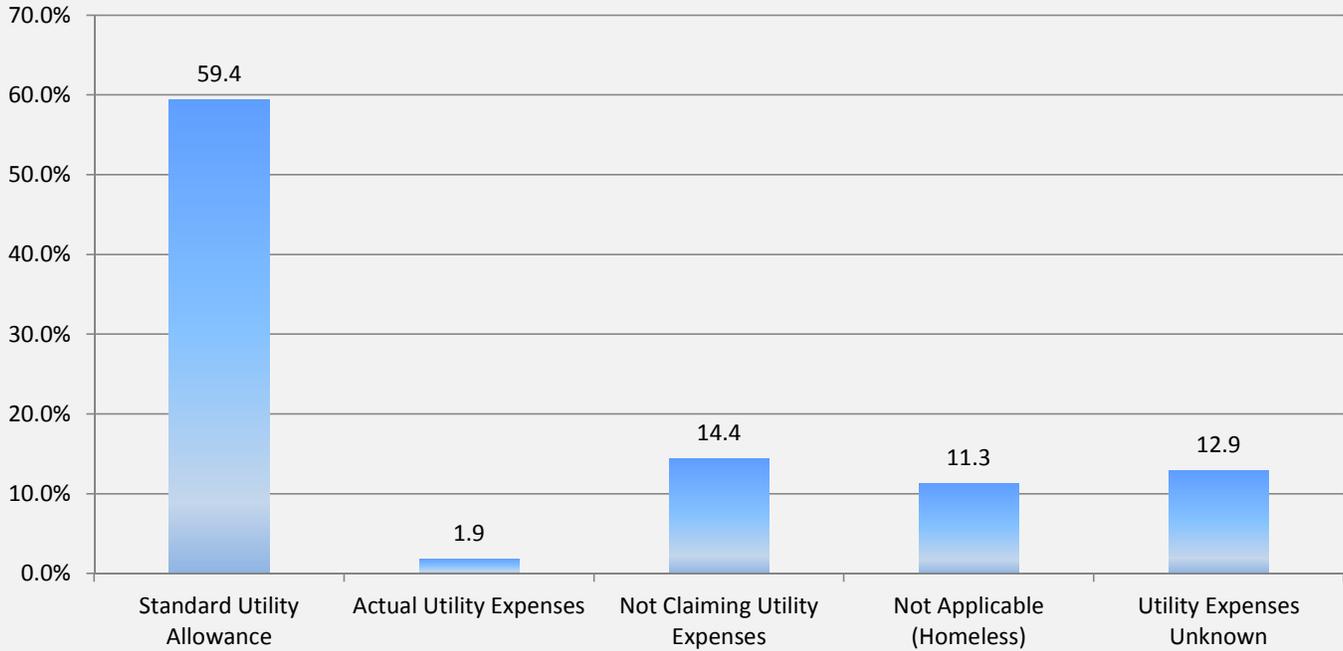
Seventy-seven percent of all CalFresh households reported a shelter cost. This is nearly two percentage points below the percentage in the previous federal fiscal year and five percentage points above the national proportion of reporting an excess shelter deduction. (Figure 24)

The average allowable excess shelter deduction was \$457, a \$25 increase from the previous federal fiscal year. The average CalFresh household shelter cost was \$499, which is six dollars higher than the cost reported in the previous federal fiscal year. (Figure 21)

In FFY2002, 62 percent of the CalFresh households claimed a standard utility allowance, 89 percent of the households reported a shelter cost, and the average excess shelter deduction was \$249.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

**FIGURE 20**  
**CALFRESH HOUSEHOLDS CLAIMING UTILITY EXPENSES**



| UTILITY EXPENSES              | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                |              |
|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                               | Number           | Percent      | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE  |              |
|                               |                  |              | Number            | Percent      | Number         | Percent      |
| Total                         | <u>1,330,596</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>367,867</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>962,729</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| Standard Utility Allowance    | 790,724          | 59.4         | 245,311           | 66.7         | 545,413        | 56.7         |
| Actual Utility Expenses       | 25,153           | 1.9          | 5,826             | 1.6          | 19,327         | 2.0          |
| Not Claiming Utility Expenses | 192,151          | 14.4         | 54,703            | 14.9         | 137,448        | 14.3         |
| Not Applicable (Homeless)     | 150,873          | 11.3         | 8,038             | 2.2          | 142,835        | 14.8         |
| Utility Expenses Unknown      | 171,695          | 12.9         | 53,989            | 14.7         | 117,706        | 12.2         |

**Less than 2 percent of the CalFresh households are claiming an actual utility expense.**

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

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

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



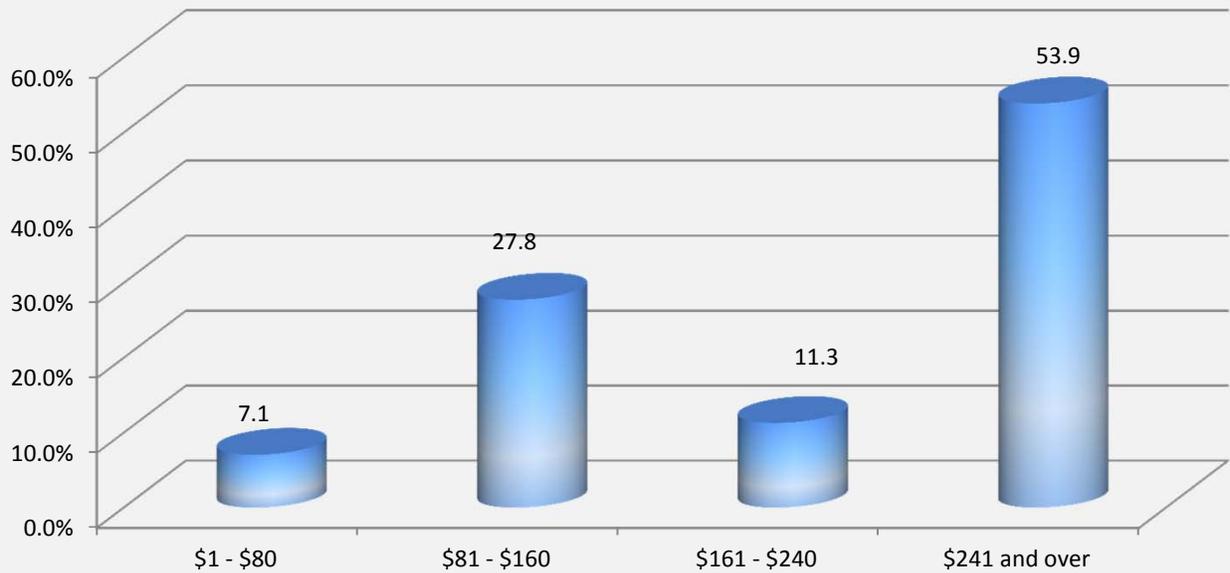
| EXCESS SHELTER                         | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |               |                |              |              |
|--|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
|  | Number           | Percent      | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE |                |              |              |
|  |                  |              | Number            | Percent      | Number        | Percent        |              |              |
| Total                                  | <u>1,330,596</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>367,867</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>100.0</u>  | <u>962,729</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| Households Not Reporting Shelter Cost  | 301,834          | 22.7         | 22,574            | 6.1          |               | 279,260        | 29.0         |              |
| Households Reporting Shelter Cost;     | <u>1,028,762</u> | <u>77.3</u>  | <u>345,293</u>    | <u>93.9</u>  | <u>100.0</u>  | <u>683,469</u> | <u>71.0</u>  | <u>100.0</u> |
| No Allowable Excess Shelter Cost       | 92,480           | 9.0          | 28,088            | 8.1          |               | 64,392         | 9.4          |              |
| Allowable Excess Shelter Cost:         | <u>936,282</u>   | <u>91.0</u>  | <u>317,205</u>    | <u>91.9</u>  | <u>100.0</u>  | <u>619,077</u> | <u>90.6</u>  | <u>100.0</u> |
| \$1 - \$100                            | 86,614           | 9.3          | 34,765            | 11.0         |               | 51,849         | 8.4          |              |
| \$101 - \$200                          | 130,736          | 14.0         | 43,533            | 13.7         |               | 87,203         | 14.1         |              |
| \$201 - \$300                          | 117,567          | 12.6         | 51,214            | 16.1         |               | 66,353         | 10.7         |              |
| \$301 - \$400                          | 121,337          | 13.0         | 49,431            | 15.6         |               | 71,906         | 11.6         |              |
| \$401 - \$500                          | 139,098          | 14.9         | 37,804            | 11.9         |               | 101,294        | 16.4         |              |
| \$501 and Over                         | 340,930          | 36.4         | 100,458           | 31.7         |               | 240,472        | 38.8         |              |
| Avg/Median Allowed Excess Shelter Cost | \$457 / \$400    |              | \$405 / \$348     |              |               | \$483 / \$426  |              |              |

**Twenty-three percent of CalFresh households did not report shelter costs.**

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

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

**FIGURE 22**  
**CALFRESH HOUSEHOLDS ALLOWED A DEPENDENT CARE DEDUCTION**

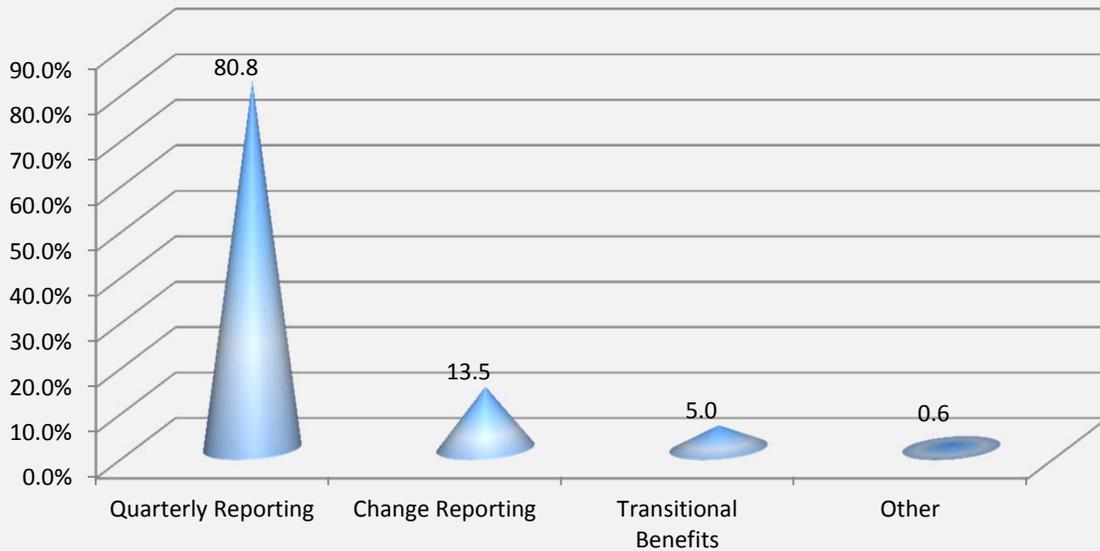


| DEPENDENT CARE                      | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |              | CLASSIFICATION    |              |                |              |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|                                     | Number           | Percent      | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |              | NONASSISTANCE  |              |
|                                     |                  |              | Number            | Percent      | Number         | Percent      |
| Total                               | <u>1,330,596</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>367,867</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>962,729</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| No Dependent Care Deduction         | 1,315,907        | 98.9         | 366,954           | 99.8         | 948,953        | 98.6         |
| Dependent Care Deduction:           | <u>14,689</u>    | 1.1          | <u>913</u>        | 0.2          | <u>13,776</u>  | 1.4          |
| \$1 - \$80                          | 1,037            | 7.1          | 275               | 30.1         | 762            | 5.5          |
| \$81 - \$160                        | 4,077            | 27.8         | 127               | 13.9         | 3,950          | 28.7         |
| \$161 - \$240                       | 1,661            | 11.3         | 348               | 38.1         | 1,313          | 9.5          |
| \$241 and over                      | 7,914            | 53.9         | 163               | 17.9         | 7,751          | 56.3         |
| Avg/Median Dependent Care Deduction | \$304 / \$260    |              | \$167 / \$172     |              | \$313 / \$260  |              |

Over 56 percent of the nonassistance households were allowed to deduct \$241 or more for dependent care.

CalFresh Household Characteristics Survey  
Federal Fiscal Year 2011

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



| REPORTING STATUS      | TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS |         | CLASSIFICATION    |         |               |         |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------|-------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
|                       | Number           | Percent | PUBLIC ASSISTANCE |         | NONASSISTANCE |         |
|                       |                  |         | Number            | Percent | Number        | Percent |
| Total                 | 1,330,596        | 100.0   | 367,867           | 100.0   | 962,729       | 100.0   |
| Quarterly Reporting   | 1,075,293        | 80.8    | 359,991           | 97.9    | 715,302       | 74.3    |
| Change Reporting      | 180,089          | 13.5    | 7,331             | 2.0     | 172,758       | 17.9    |
| Transitional Benefits | 67,018           | 5.0     | 0                 | 0.0     | 67,018        | 7.0     |
| Other                 | 8,196            | 0.6     | 545               | 0.1     | 7,651         | 0.8     |

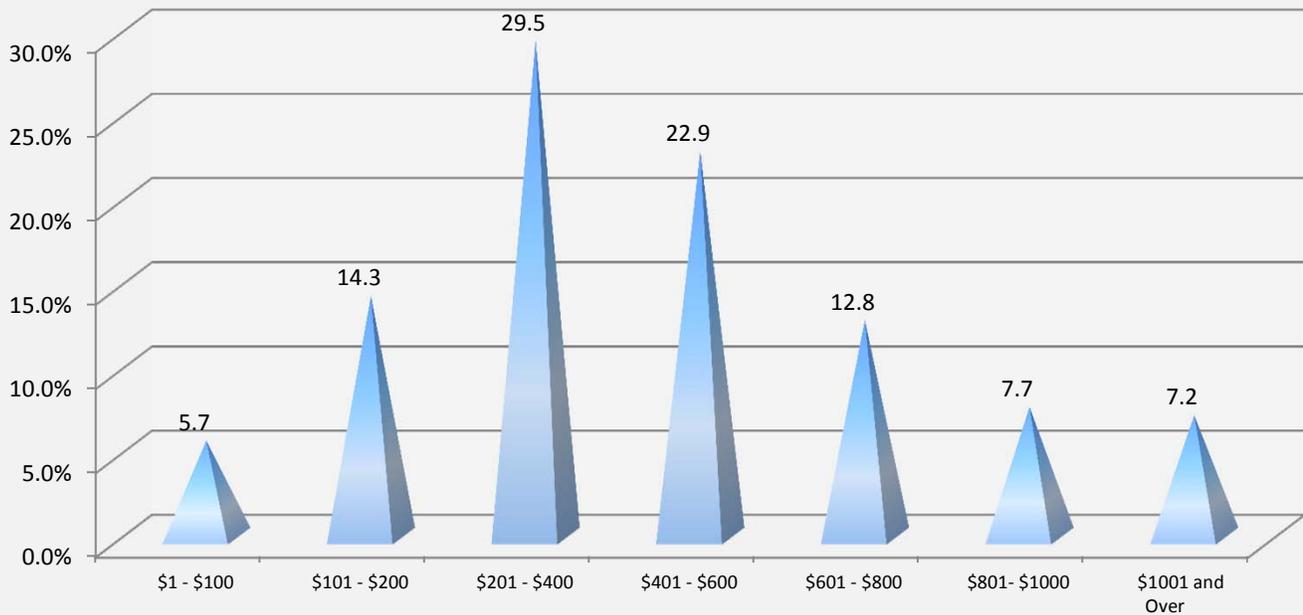
**Seventy-four percent of nonassistance households are reporting on a quarterly basis.**

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 2011

**FIGURE 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                                 | <u>1,330,596</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>367,867</u>    | <u>100.0</u> | <u>962,729</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| Households Not Reporting Shelter Cost | 301,833          | 22.7         | 22,574            | 6.1          | 279,259        | 29.0         |
| Households Reporting Shelter Cost     | <u>1,028,763</u> | <u>77.3</u>  | <u>345,293</u>    | <u>93.9</u>  | <u>683,470</u> | <u>71.0</u>  |
| \$1 - \$100                           | 58,363           | 5.7          | 20,609            | 6.0          | 37,754         | 5.5          |
| \$101 - \$200                         | 146,882          | 14.3         | 49,449            | 14.3         | 97,433         | 14.3         |
| \$201 - \$400                         | 303,087          | 29.5         | 121,824           | 35.3         | 181,263        | 26.5         |
| \$401 - \$600                         | 235,541          | 22.9         | 88,604            | 25.7         | 146,937        | 21.5         |
| \$601 - \$800                         | 132,016          | 12.8         | 38,256            | 11.1         | 93,760         | 13.7         |
| \$801 - \$1000                        | 78,951           | 7.7          | 15,989            | 4.6          | 62,962         | 9.2          |
| \$1001 and Over                       | 73,923           | 7.2          | 10,562            | 3.1          | 63,361         | 9.3          |
| Avg./Median Amt. of Shelter Cost      | \$499 / \$412    |              | \$435 / \$400     |              | \$531 / \$450  |              |

The average amount of shelter cost for CalFresh households was \$499 per month.

### Reliability Estimates for Selected Sample Sizes<sup>1</sup>

| Selected<br>Sample<br>Size | Characteristic Percent                                   |       |       |       |       |
|----------------------------|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                            | 10%  | 20%   | 30%   | 40%   | 50%   |
|                            | <b>Estimated reliability at 95% confidence (+ or -):</b> |       |       |       |       |
| 5,600                      | 0.80%  | 1.07% | 1.22% | 1.31% | 1.34% |
| 4,300                      | 0.91%  | 1.22% | 1.40% | 1.49% | 1.52% |
| 4,000                      | 0.95%  | 1.26% | 1.45% | 1.55% | 1.58% |
| 3,300                      | 1.04%  | 1.39% | 1.60% | 1.71% | 1.74% |
| 3,000                      | 1.10%  | 1.46% | 1.67% | 1.79% | 1.83% |
| 2,700                      | 1.15%  | 1.54% | 1.78% | 1.89% | 1.92% |
| 2,300                      | 1.25%  | 1.67% | 1.91% | 2.04% | 2.09% |
| 1,500                      | 1.55%  | 2.07% | 2.37% | 2.53% | 2.58% |
| 1,000                      | 1.90%  | 2.53% | 2.90% | 3.10% | 3.16% |
| 500                        | 2.68%  | 3.68% | 4.10% | 4.38% | 4.47% |
| 400                        | 3.00%  | 4.00% | 4.58% | 4.90% | 5.00% |
| 300                        | 3.46%  | 4.62% | 5.29% | 5.66% | 5.77% |
| 200                        | 4.24%  | 5.66% | 6.48% | 6.93% | 7.07% |

Example: Figure 10 shows that 16% of total CalFresh households were three-person households. The reliability chart shows a reliability of + or - 1.07% for a sample size of 5600 (actual sample 5583). This means we are 95% confident that the true value lies between 14.9% and 17.0% (16.0%+/-1.07%). That is, there is 1 chance in 20 (5%) that the true value falls outside this range.

<sup>1</sup> Reliability is based on an unrestricted random sample of **cases** and, as a result, the actual reliability of the data may be better than reflected in the table. Reliability does not apply to **persons** (recipient) data.

