



# Child-Only

## CalWORKs Cases with No Aided Adult

*Characteristics Survey*

*Federal Fiscal Year 1999*

*October 1998 through September 1999*

# **Child-Only**

## **A Look at Characteristics of Families With No Aided Adult**

**A Subset of Cases from the  
FFY 1999  
CalWORKs Characteristics Survey**

**Federal Fiscal Year 1999  
October 1998 through September 1999**

**California Work Opportunity  
And Responsibility to Kids Program  
(CalWORKs)**



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### **INTRODUCTION**

In Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 1999, the California Department of Social Services conducted a statewide survey of the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) caseload. A portion of the CalWORKs caseload was comprised of cases that contained only aided children; that is, all other persons in the home, including adults, were not receiving aid. This publication provides characteristics data on that "Child-Only" caseload.

Please be aware that because some people in the home are not related to and/or are not contributing to the financial support of an aided child, it is not required that all characteristic data be collected on them during the survey process. Therefore, the amount of data on unaided adults will vary from table to table.

Please refer to the original FFY 1999 CalWORKs Characteristics Survey publication for information such as program background, a description of source data and the survey process, reliability factors, etc. The publication can be found on the department's web site at [www.dss.cahwnet.gov/research](http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/research).

For FFY 1999, October 1998 through September 1999, the CalWORKs monthly average caseload was 624,095. Based on the cases in this survey, 31.8%, or 198,517 cases, are child-only.

For comparison purposes, references are given to tables in the FFY 1999 CalWORKs Characteristics Survey, when appropriate.

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### SUMMARY DATA

This publication provides characteristic information on aided children and unaided persons in child-only cases. However, regulations do not stipulate the collection of data on persons who are not related to and/or are not contributing to the financial support of an aided child. Therefore, we do not have some characteristic information on these unaided persons.

The following is a selection of key points that describe our child-only caseload:

- The percentage of CalWORKs cases that are child-only has been increasing over the past few years from 19.2% in October 1995 to 31.8% for FFY 1999.
- This child-only caseload increase is largely due to sanctioned cases, which account for 12.3% of the cases in FFY 1999.
- About 43% of adults in the child-only caseload are unaided because they are ineligible non-citizens.
- Child-only cases tend to have a higher percentage of Hispanic children than non child-only cases, 67% compared to 41%. For all CalWORKs cases combined, the percent of Hispanic children is 49%.
- In child-only cases, the number of persons in the home is roughly the same as the number of persons in homes for other CalWORKs cases.
- The mother of 32.6% of the aided children in child-only cases was married at the time of the child's birth. This compares to 39.1% for non child-only cases and 37.1% for combined CalWORKs cases.
- On average, child-only cases received a cash grant of \$73 less than non child-only cases and \$53 less than combined CalWORKs cases.

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*Table 1***Trend of Child-Only Cases**

Year of Survey <sup>a/</sup>	Child-Only Caseload	
	Number of Cases	Percent of Total Caseload
October 1995 AFDC Characteristics Survey	173,956	19.2
October 1996 AFDC Characteristics Survey	177,930	20.7
FFY 1998 TANF Characteristics Survey	169,753	24.0
FFY 1999 CalWORKs Characteristics Survey	198,517	31.8

a/ No survey was conducted in 1997.

In October 1999, the department began collecting child-only data on the CA 237 Caseload Movement Report. The annual monthly average number of child-only cases from that report is lower than the monthly average from surveys. Cases in which adults are sanctioned for non-cooperation of child support or welfare to work requirements, are counted as child-only cases in the surveys, but are kept in their original designation for the CA 237 report.

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*Table 2***Reason There is No Adult in the Case**

Reason No Adult <sup>a/</sup>	FFY 1999	
	12-Month Average	
	Cases	Percent
TOTAL CASES	<u>198,517</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Ineligible Non-Citizen	86,448	43.5
SSI/SSP Recipient	32,144	16.2
Welfare to Work Sanctioned	24,449	12.3
Caretaker Relative Is Nonneedy	21,417	10.8
No Reason Specified	17,244	8.7
Other Reason	15,161	7.6
Program Violations	832	0.4
Child Support Sanctioned	541	0.3
Drug Felon	281	0.1

a/ If the reason the mother was not in the case was listed as "Absent" or the reason was missing, then the reason the father was not in the case was counted instead of the mother. If information on both the mother and the father was missing, then the reason the caretaker relative was not in the case was used.



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*Table 3***Reason Mother is Not in the Case**

Reason No Mother	FFY 1999 12-Month Average	
	Cases	Percent
TOTAL CASES	<u>198,517</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Ineligible Non-Citizen	85,339	43.0
Absent Mother	30,420	15.3
SSI/SSP Recipient	24,222	12.2
No Reason Specified	22,789	11.5
Welfare to Work Sanctioned	22,538	11.4
Other Reason	6,538	3.3
Deceased Mother	3,813	1.9
Incarcerated Mother	1,204	0.6
Program Violations	832	0.4
Child Support Sanctioned	541	0.3
Drug Felon	281	0.1

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*Table 4***Reason Father is Not in the Case**

Reason No Father	FFY 1999 12-Month Average	
	Cases	Percent
TOTAL CASES	<u>198,517</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Absent Father	116,340	58.6
Ineligible Non-Citizen	36,014	18.1
No Reason Specified	19,463	9.8
Welfare to Work Sanctioned	10,034	5.1
SSI/SSP Recipient	7,319	3.7
Deceased Father	4,104	2.1
Incarcerated Father	2,529	1.3
Other Reason	2,444	1.2
Institutionalized Father	270	0.1

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*Table 5***Reason Caretaker Relative is Not in the Case**

Reason No Caretaker Relative	FFY 1999 12-Month Average	
	Cases	Percent
TOTAL CASES	<u>198,517</u>	<u>100.0</u>
PARENT IS THE CARETAKER OR UNKNOWN	169,169	85.2
NON-PARENT CARETAKER RELATIVE IN CASE	<u>29,348</u>	14.8
Non-Needy	21,417	73.0
SSI/SSP Recipient	6,552	22.3
Ineligible Non-Citizen	839	2.9
Welfare to Work Sanctioned	270	0.9
Other Reason	270	0.9

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*Table 6***Number of All Persons in the Home**

Number of Persons	FFY 1999 12-Month Average	
	Cases	Percent
TOTAL CASES	<u>198,517</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Two	26,024	13.1
Three	35,493	17.9
Four	45,540	22.9
Five	32,283	16.3
Six	25,159	12.7
Seven	13,665	6.9
Eight or More	17,492	8.8
Unknown/Missing Data	2,861	1.4
AVERAGE NUMBER OF ALL PERSONS	4.6	

- ✓ Refer to Table 6 in the FFY 1999 CalWORKs Characteristics Survey for data on all CalWORKs cases/persons in this category.

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*Table 7***Number of Unaided Persons in the Home**

Number of Persons	FFY 1999 12-Month Average	
	Cases	Percent
TOTAL CASES	<u>198,517</u>	<u>100.0</u>
One	60,529	30.5
Two	64,576	32.5
Three	22,827	11.5
Four	18,857	9.5
Five or More	25,556	12.9
Unknown/Missing Data	6,172	3.1
AVERAGE NUMBER OF UNAIDED PERSONS	2.5	

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*Table 8***Number of Aided Children**

Number of Children	FFY 1999 12-Month Average	
	Cases	Percent
TOTAL CASES	<u>198,517</u>	<u>100.0</u>
One	70,814	35.7
Two	67,884	34.2
Three	34,173	17.2
Four or More	24,835	12.5
Unknown/Missing Data	811	0.4
AVERAGE NUMBER OF AIDED CHILDREN	2.1	

- ✓ Refer to Table 3 in the FFY 1999 CalWORKs Characteristics Survey for additional data on this caseload.
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*Table 9***Age of Aided Children**

Age of Children in Years	FFY 1999 12-Month Average	
	Children	Percent
TOTAL CHILDREN	<u>420,137</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Less than Two Years	38,684	9.2
Two to Five	131,381	31.3
Six to Twelve	177,271	42.2
Thirteen to Fifteen	43,371	10.3
Sixteen to Eighteen	29,430	7.0
AVERAGE AGE OF AIDED CHILDREN IN YEARS	7.4	

- ✓ Refer to Table 9 in the FFY 1999 CalWORKs Characteristics Survey for data on all CalWORKs cases/persons in this category.
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*Table 10***Citizenship of Unaided Adult in the Home**

Citizenship Status	FFY 1999 12-Month Average		
	Cases	Percent	
TOTAL CASES	<u>198,517</u>	<u>100.0</u>	
CASES WITHOUT CITIZENSHIP DATA <sup>a/</sup>	56,587	28.5	
CITIZENSHIP OF ONE UNAIDED ADULT PER CASE <sup>b/</sup>	<u>141,930</u>	71.5	<u>100.0</u>
U.S. Citizen	41,369	29.1	
Ineligible Non-Citizen	89,658	63.2	
Eligible Non-Citizen <sup>c/</sup>	10,903	7.7	

- a/ This number is a reflection that data is not required to be collected on unaided persons. It does not indicate a problem in the data collection process.
- b/ The citizenship status of the adult in the home with the lowest person number was identified in the chart above. Typically, person numbers are assigned based on relationship, with the mother and the father receiving lower person numbers than aunts, uncles, unrelated adults, etc. It would be misleading to portray the citizenship status of all adults in the home because of the way the sample was selected.
- c/ These adults are not receiving aid for reasons such as they are sanctioned or they are SSI/SSP recipients. They are not excluded from the case because of their citizenship status.

- ✓ Refer to Table 25 in the FFY 1999 CalWORKs Characteristics Survey for data on all CalWORKs cases/persons in this category.



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*Table 11***Citizenship of Aided Children**

Citizenship Status	FFY 1999 12-Month Average	
	Children	Percent
TOTAL CHILDREN	<u>420,137</u>	<u>100.0</u>
U.S. Citizen	414,693	98.7
Non-Citizen	5,444	1.3

✓ Refer to Table 26 in the FFY 1999 CalWORKs Characteristics Survey for data on all CalWORKs cases/persons in this category.

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*Table 12***Race of Unaided Adult in the Home**

Race	FFY 1999 12-Month Average	
	Cases	Percent
TOTAL CASES	<u>198,517</u>	<u>100.0</u>
CASES WITHOUT RACE DATA <sup>a/</sup>	132,202	66.6
RACE OF ONE UNAIDED ADULT PER CASE <sup>b/</sup>	<u>66,315</u>	33.4
Hispanic	33,364	50.3
White	16,383	24.7
Black	9,763	14.7
Asian/Other	6,535	9.9
Native American	270	0.4

- a/ This number is a reflection that data is not required to be collected on unaided persons. It does not indicate a problem in the data collection process.
- b/ The race of the adult in the home with the lowest person number was identified in the chart above. Typically, person numbers are assigned based on relationship, with the mother and the father receiving lower person numbers than aunts, uncles, unrelated adults, etc. It would be misleading to portray the race of all adults in the home because of the way the sample was selected.

- ✓ Refer to Table 15 in the FFY 1999 CalWORKs Characteristics Survey for data on all CalWORKs cases/persons in this category.

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*Table 13***Race of Aided Children**

Race	FFY 1999 12-Month Average	
	Children	Percent
TOTAL CHILDREN	<u>420,137</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Hispanic	283,697	67.5
White	58,422	13.9
Black	43,429	10.3
Asian/Other	31,597	7.5
Native American	2,992	0.7

- ✓ Refer to Table 15 in the FFY 1999 CalWORKs Characteristics Survey for data on all CalWORKs cases/persons in this category.
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*Table 14***Education Level of Unaided Adult in the Home**

Years of Education	FFY 1999 12-Month Average	
	Cases	Percent
TOTAL CASES	<u>198,517</u>	<u>100.0</u>
CASES WITHOUT EDUCATION DATA <sup>a/</sup>	160,718	81.0
EDUCATION LEVEL OF ONE UNAIDED ADULT PER CASE <sup>b/</sup>	<u>37,799</u>	19.0
One to Six	3,536	9.4
Seven to Nine	5,446	14.4
Ten to Eleven	10,868	28.8
Twelve and Over	14,125	37.4
No Education	1,633	4.3
Unknown	2,191	5.8

a/ This number is a reflection that data is not required to be collected on unaided persons. It does not indicate a problem in the data collection process.

b/ The education level of the adult in the home with the lowest person number was identified in the chart above. Typically, person numbers are assigned based on relationship, with the mother and the father receiving lower person numbers than aunts, uncles, unrelated adults, etc. It would be misleading to portray the education level of all adults in the home because of the way the sample was selected.

✓ Refer to Table 23 in the FFY 1999 CalWORKs publication for data on all CalWORKs cases/persons in this category.

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*Table 15***Marital Status of Mother at Birth of Aided Child**

Marital Status at Birth of Each Child <sup>a/</sup>	FFY 1999	
	12-Month Average	
	Children	Percent
TOTAL CHILDREN	<u>420,137</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Not Married	211,922	50.4
Married	137,104	32.6
Unknown	71,111	16.9

a/ Identifies the marital status of the mother at the time each of her children was born. This data is sometimes identified as children born out of wedlock.

✓ Refer to Table 12 in the FFY 1999 CalWORKs Characteristics Survey for data on all CalWORKs cases/persons in this category.

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*Table 16*

**Time on Aid Since Most Recent  
 CalWORKs Case Opening**

Time on CalWORKs Program	FFY 1999 12-Month Average	
	Cases	Percent
TOTAL CASES	<u>198,517</u>	<u>100.0</u>
CASES WITHOUT TIME ON CALWORKS DATA	1,410	0.7
TIME SINCE MOST RECENT CALWORKS OPENING	<u>197,107</u>	99.3
Less than 6 months	18,150	9.2
6 months to less than 1 year	55,901	28.4
1 year and longer	123,056	62.4

- ✓ Refer to Table 35 in the FFY 1999 CalWORKs Characteristics Survey for data on all CalWORKs cases/persons in this category.

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*Table 17***Earned Income per Case**

Amount of Monthly Income <sup>a/</sup>	FFY 1999	
	12-Month Average	
	Cases	Percent
TOTAL CASES	<u>198,517</u>	<u>100.0</u>
CASES WITHOUT EARNED INCOME DATA	151,449	76.3
CASES WITH EARNED INCOME	<u>47,068</u>	23.7
Less than \$100	2,204	4.7
\$100 - \$299	10,304	21.9
\$300 - \$499	11,686	24.8
\$500 - \$699	5,761	12.2
\$700 - \$899	4,348	9.2
\$900 - \$1,099	5,426	11.5
\$1,100 - \$1,299	4,057	8.6
\$1,300 or More	3,282	7.0
AVERAGE MONTHLY AMOUNT OF EARNED INCOME	\$613	

a/ Unlike the FFY 1999 CalWORKs Characteristics Survey, earnings data in this publication was not supplemented with data from the Employment Development Department wage file.

✓ Refer to page 76 in the FFY 1999 CalWORKs Characteristics Survey for additional data on this CalWORKs category.

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*Table 18***Unearned Income per Case**

Unearned Income	FFY 1999 12-Month Average	
	Cases	Percent
TOTAL CASES	<u>198,517</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Cases Without Unearned Income <sup>a/</sup>	174,405	87.9
Cases With Unearned Income	24,112	12.1

a/ This number is a reflection that data is not required to be collected on unaided persons. It does not indicate a problem in the data collection process.

✓ Refer to Table 43 in the FFY 1999 CalWORKs Characteristics Survey for data on all CalWORKs cases/persons in this category.

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*Table 19***Cash Grant Received per Case**

Monthly Grant Amount	FFY 1999 12-Month Average	
	Cases	Percent
TOTAL CASES	<u>198,517</u>	<u>100.0</u>
No Cash Grant <sup>a/</sup>	3,003	1.5
Under \$100	2,919	1.5
\$100 - \$199	5,256	2.6
\$200 - \$299	21,234	10.7
\$300 - \$399	55,617	28.0
\$400 - \$499	43,477	21.9
\$500 - \$599	30,822	15.5
\$600 - \$699	21,176	10.7
\$700 or More	15,013	7.6
AVERAGE GRANT AMOUNT	\$442	

a/ A case may not receive a cash grant because of increased income or the grant was used to pay back a previous overpayment.

✓ Refer to Table 32 in the FFY 1999 CalWORKs Characteristics Survey for data on all CalWORKs cases/persons in this category.



State of California

Health and Human Services Agency

Department of Social Services