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Tables Describing the Asset and Vehicle Holdings of Low-Income Households in 1999

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INTRODUCTION

TABLES DESCRIBING ASSET AND VEHICLE HOLDINGS OF LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS IN 1999

The Food Stamp Program (FSP) uses an asset test (also called a resource test) to target food assistance benefits to the neediest households. The limit in 1999 was \$3,000 for households with elderly members and \$2,000 for all other households. Countable assets include cash, assets that can easily be converted into cash (such as funds in checking or savings accounts, savings certificates, stocks or bonds, or lump sum payments), and some nonliquid resources, including some vehicles. Certain types of property, such as family homes, tools of a trade, or business property used to earn income are not counted.

In 1999, some vehicles were not counted as assets for determining eligibility. These included vehicles used as a home, vehicles used to produce income, and vehicles used to transport disabled people or fuel and water. Vehicles used for other purposes were counted in the following way: for the first vehicle and any other vehicles used to commute to work, any value exceeding \$4,650 was counted towards the asset limit; for all other vehicles, the higher of the value exceeding \$4,650 and the total equity was counted.¹

In this report, we use November 1999 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) data to examine the assets of five low-income groups: food stamp households; eligible non-participating households, households ineligible for food stamps based solely on the value of their vehicles; households ineligible for food stamps based on the value of their other assets; and income-ineligible households whose income is below 300 percent of poverty. We compare the asset and vehicle holdings of these groups to determine how the distributions differ. We also examine the demographic and economic characteristics of the different groups.

This report is one of a series presenting the asset and vehicle holdings of low-income households.

¹ Since November 1999, the treatment of assets and vehicles has changed. New regulations implemented in January 2001 excluded from the asset test any vehicle with equity below \$1,500 and eliminated the equity test for virtually all other vehicles. In addition, the FY 2001 Agricultural Appropriations Act (P.L. 106-387), implemented on July 1, 2001, allowed states to use cash welfare vehicle rules in place of food stamp rules if the cash welfare rules were more generous. Both these changes were designed to make it easier for low-income workers to keep a car and still receive food stamps. The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-171), enacted on May 12, 2002, raised the asset limit to \$3,000 for households with disabled members.

SUMMARY TABLE A

SUMMARY DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIOECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS BY ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS, NOVEMBER 1999 LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

(Percentages and Means) Total Low-Eligible Households Asset-Ineligible Households Food Stamp Income Eligible Vehicle Other Asset Income-Ineligible Households Participants^c Nonparticipants Ineligible Ineligible Households **Demographic Characteristics** Mean Household Size 2.4 2.3 2.0 2.7 2.0 2.5 Percent of Household Heads under Age 40 37.2 48.9 34.9 48.7 20.2 37.4 Percent of Household Heads That Are Married 40.8 15.5 24.8 45.2 40.5 49.7 Percent with Children (Age 17 or Younger) 41.2 52.2 51.5 42.5 34.7 24.4 Percent with Elderly Member (Age 60 or Over) 35.7 21.7 55.7 34.4 43.7 21.4 Percent Minority 30.2 55.7 40.1 31.1 14.9 24.8 Percent Rural 23.3 21.7 24.0 24.8 26.4 22.9 **Socioeconomic Characteristics** Percent of Household Heads That are High School Graduates 71.7 49.2 53.8 74.8 78.2 79.5 Percent with at least One Worker^a 48.7 14.1 28.9 50.3 28.6 63.4 Percent with Earnings^a 52.2 21.6 36.7 48.5 24.1 66.5 Percent Receiving Public Assistance^b 9.7 47.5 1.8 0.7 3.2 12.0 Percent below Poverty Level 25.8 90.5 56.2 56.9 51.4 0.0 Percent Homeowners 57.4 54.3 71.3 65.2 26.5 43.6 82.5 Percent with Vehicles 75.3 30.5 56.4 100.0 86.9 Mean Number of Vehicles per Household 1.3 0.4 0.8 1.7 1.4 1.5 Mean Age of First Vehicle Weighted Total (000s) 51,820 7,703 1,507 6,444 4,584 31,582 14,240 399 1,253 Sample Size 1.843 2,181 8,564

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File

^a Households with at least one worker are those containing someone who had a full-time job the whole month, and households with earnings are those with positive wages. Since workers may have been absent from their jobs one or more weeks of the month, a household with a worker may not have had earnings during the month.

^b Public assistance indicates receipt of TANF, General Assistance, or SSI.

^c The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 1

FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS OF LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS

Households	Total Low-	Eligible H	Eligible Households		Asset-Ineligible Households	
	Income Households	Food Stamp Participants ^a	Eligible Nonparticipants	Vehicle Ineligible	Other Asset Ineligible	Income-Ineligible Households
Total (000s)	51,820	6,444	7,703	1,507	4,584	31,582
Percent	100.0	12.4	14.9	2.9	8.8	60.9
Sample Size	14,240	1,843	2,181	399	1,253	8,564

^a The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

FIGURE 1 FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS OF LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS

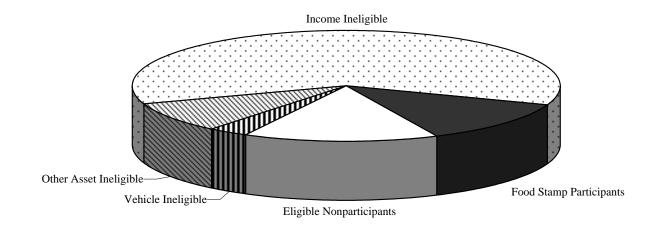


TABLE 2

LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS BY "VEHICLE INELIGIBLE" AND "OTHER-ASSET INELIGIBLE" STATUS

		Veh	icle Ineligible			Other-As	set Ineligible	
		Vehicle Assets Over Limit, No	Both Vehicle and Non-vehicle Assets Under Limit, but	Vehicle Assets Over Limit, Non-		No Vehicle Assets,	Vehicle Assets Under Limit, Non-	Both Vehicle and Non-vehicle
		Non-vehicle	Combination Over	vehicle Assets		but Non-vehicle	vehicle Assets	Assets Over
Households	Total	Assets	Limit	Under Limit	Total	Assets Over Limit	Over Limit	Limit
Total (000s)	1,507	545	74	888	4,584	2,489	706	1,389
Percent	24.7	36.2	4.9	58.9	75.3	54.3	15.4	30.3
Sample Size	399	146	20	233	1,253	702	188	363

FIGURE 2

LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS BY "VEHICLE INELIGIBLE" AND "OTHER-ASSET INELIGIBLE" STATUS

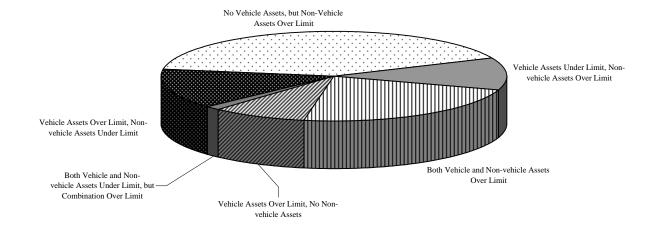


TABLE 3 $\label{table 3}$ TYPES OF NON-VEHICLE ASSETS BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS $\label{town} \text{LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY}$

(Percentages, Means, Medians)

	Total Low-	Eligible	Households	Asset-Ineligi	ble Households	
	Income	Food Stamp	Eligible	Vehicle	Other Asset	Income-Ineligible
Assets	Households	Participants ^a	Nonparticipants	Ineligible	Ineligible	Households
Checking Accounts						
Percent>0	29.5	9.4	22.8	37.6	35.3	34.1
Mean Value (Dollars)	797	237	358	412	1,423	826
Median (Dollars)	341	100	200	225	600	400
Interest-Bearing Accounts						
Percent>0	50.5	8.7	21.3	31.4	89.2	61.5
Mean Value (Dollars)	32,429	424	662	662	43,825	34,408
Median (Dollars)	4,000	200	350	470	10,000	4,376
Rental Property						
Percent>0	2.5	0.2	0.9	1.6	4.9	3.0
Mean Value (Dollars)	101,543	26,230	55,667	115,133	122,818	100,627
Median (Dollars)	56,000	12,000	30,000	40,000	40,000	60,000
Life Insurance						
Percent>0	53.4	15.1	32.2	45.9	58.6	66.1
Mean Value (Dollars)	85,918	29,040	44,723	96,932	81,129	93,709
Median (Dollars)	30,000	10,000	10,000	40,000	20,000	40,000
Savings Bonds						
Percent>0	7.7	0.6	0.8	3.2	12.5	10.4
Mean Value (Dollars)	3,394	153	362	313	3,297	3,550
Median (Dollars)	500	100	100	200	500	550
Keogh or IRA						
Percent>0	12.3	0.1	0.2	2.2	30.2	15.7
Mean Value (Dollars)	43,600	48	1,213	745	46,805	43,213
Median (Dollars)	18,000	24	1,321	450	21,293	18,000
Weighted Total (000s)	51,820	6,444	7,703	1,507	4,584	31,582
Sample Size	14,240	1,843	2,181	399	1,253	8,564

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File

Low-income households are defined as those within 300 percent of poverty.

Note: Means and medians exclude values of zero and negative values.

^a The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 4

HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS

LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

(Percentages)

	Total Low-	Eligible I	Households	Asset-Ineligil	ole Households	
	Income	Food Stamp	Eligible	Vehicle	Other Asset	Income-
Household with	Households	Participants ^a	Nonparticipants	Ineligible	Ineligible	Ineligible
Children	41.2	52.2	34.7	51.5	24.4	42.5
Single Adult	32.1	62.9	43.9	32.7	18.8	23.1
Married Parents	50.4	15.9	31.8	45.9	63.9	61.8
Other Multiple Adults	10.3	8.8	9.4	10.3	5.5	11.3
Other	7.2	12.5	14.9	11.1	11.8	3.8
Disabled (Under Age 60)	7.2	24.3	8.0	5.9	1.8	4.3
Living Alone	35.0	52.8	45.6	41.4	23.8	10.0
Not Alone	65.0	47.2	54.4	58.6	76.2	90.0
Elderly	35.7	21.7	43.7	21.4	55.7	34.4
Living Alone	55.9	81.5	74.1	43.5	64.9	45.2
Not Alone	44.1	18.5	25.9	56.5	35.1	54.8
Other	21.3	13.0	18.5	25.1	19.8	23.7
Living Alone	67.5	89.4	77.4	69.2	67.8	63.1
Not Alone	32.5	10.6	22.6	30.8	32.2	36.9
Weighted Total (000s)	51,820	6,444	7,703	1,507	4,584	31,582
Sample Size	14,240	1,843	2,181	399	1,253	8,564

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TABLE 5

MARITAL STATUS AND SEX OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS

LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

(Percentages)

	Total Low-	Eligible I	Households	Asset-Ineligib	ole Households	
	Income	Food Stamp	Eligible	Vehicle	Other Asset	Income-Ineligible
	Households	Participants ^a	Nonparticipants	Ineligible	Ineligible	Households
Marital Status						
Married	40.8	15.5	24.8	45.2	40.5	49.7
Widowed	17.4	13.6	24.5	9.2	29.0	15.2
Divorced/Separated	21.1	31.8	25.6	22.3	14.8	18.7
Never Married	20.7	39.2	25.1	23.3	15.7	16.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sex of Head of Household						
Married-Couple Head	36.7	11.6	19.4	38.4	36.5	46.0
Male Head	20.9	22.8	24.9	15.0	19.2	20.0
Female Head	42.4	65.6	55.7	46.6	44.3	33.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Weighted Total (000s)	51,820	6,444	7,703	1,507	4,584	31,582
Sample Size	14,240	1,843	2,181	399	1,253	8,564

^a The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 6

HOUSEHOLD SIZE BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS

LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

(Percentages and Means)

	Total Low-	Eligible H	Households	Asset-Ineligi	ble Households	
	Income	Food Stamp	Eligible	Vehicle	Other Asset	Income-Ineligible
	Households	Participants ^a	Nonparticipants	Ineligible	Ineligible	Households
Household Size		•	•			
1 Person	37.9	44.7	52.1	30.6	51.6	31.4
2 Persons	25.8	18.5	22.6	24.0	25.5	28.3
3 Persons	13.1	13.6	9.5	17.3	7.5	14.5
4 Persons	12.8	12.0	7.9	11.7	8.6	14.9
5 Persons	6.7	7.0	5.2	9.9	4.0	7.2
6 Persons	2.4	2.4	1.9	2.7	1.9	2.5
7 or More Persons	1.3	1.8	0.9	3.8	0.9	1.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mean Number of Persons per Househo	ld					
Persons	2.4	2.3	2.0	2.7	2.0	2.5
Children (Age 17 and Under)	0.9	1.2	0.7	1.2	0.5	0.8
Children Age 5 and Under	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3
Children Age 6-17	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.6
Adults (Age 18-59)	1.1	0.9	0.8	1.2	0.7	1.2
Elderly Persons (Age 60+)	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.5
Disabled Persons (Under Age 60)	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Weighted Total (000s)	51,820	6,444	7,703	1,507	4,584	31,582
Sample Size	14,240	1,843	2,181	399	1,253	8,564

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File

^a The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 7

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS

LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

(Percentages and Means)

	Total Low-	Eligible I	Households	Asset-Ineligib	ole Households	
	Income	Food Stamp	Eligible	Vehicle	Other Asset	Income-Ineligible
Educational Attainment	Households	Participants ^a	Nonparticipants	Ineligible	Ineligible	Households
No Formal Education	0.5	1.5	1.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Less than High School	10.4	17.9	19.5	7.5	10.4	6.9
Some High School	15.1	27.1	21.6	12.7	9.2	12.1
High School Graduate	35.3	31.5	32.0	36.7	33.9	37.1
Some College	25.9	15.5	17.3	30.0	25.7	29.9
4+ Years of College	10.5	2.2	4.5	8.1	18.5	12.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Weighted Total (000s)	51,820	6,444	7,703	1,507	4,584	31,582
Sample Size	14,240	1,843	2,181	399	1,253	8,564

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File

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TABLE 8

RACE AND ETHNICITY OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS

LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

(Percentages)

	Total Low-	Eligible I	Households	Asset-Ineligil	ole Households		
	Income	Food Stamp	Eligible	Vehicle	Other Asset	Income-Ineligible	
Race/Ethnicity	Households	Participants ^a	Nonparticipants	Ineligible	Ineligible	Households	
White, Non-Hispanic	69.8	44.3	59.9	68.9	85.1	75.2	
African American, Non-Hispanic	15.5	31.6	20.4	15.1	4.6	12.6	
Hispanic	11.5	19.7	16.0	12.3	6.4	9.5	
Asian	2.1	2.5	2.1	2.9	3.5	1.7	
Other	1.1	1.9	1.7	0.8	0.4	0.9	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Weighted Total (000s)	51 920	E 111	7.702	1 507	4.504	21.502	
Weighted Total (000s)	51,820	6,444	7,703	1,507	4,584	31,582	
Sample Size	14,240	1,843	2,181	399	1,253	8,564	

^a The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 9

AGE OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

(Percentages and Means)

	Total Low-	Eligible H	ouseholds	Asset-Ineligil	ole Households		
	Income	Food Stamp	Eligible	Vehicle	Other Asset	Income-Ineligible	
Age	Households	Participants ^a	Nonparticipants	Ineligible	Ineligible	Households	
Under 20	3.9	8.5	6.6	8.1	2.9	2.2	
20-29	13.3	18.2	12.5	18.5	5.2	13.3	
30-39	20.1	22.1	15.8	22.2	12.1	21.8	
40-49	17.5	17.7	14.0	20.3	13.5	18.8	
50-59	11.4	13.0	8.9	10.6	12.8	11.5	
60 and Older	33.8	20.5	42.2	20.4	53.4	32.2	
Total	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	
Mean Age	49.6	42.9	51.7	42.6	58.7	49.5	
Weighted Total (000s)	51,820	6,444	7,703	1,507	4,584	31,582	
Sample Size	14,240	1,843	2,181	399	1,253	8,564	

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File

^a The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 10

RESIDENCE IN URBAN OR RURAL AREA BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY (Percentages)

	Total Low-	Eligible l	Households	Asset-Ineligil	ole Households		
	Income	Food Stamp	Eligible	Vehicle	Other Asset	Income-Ineligible	
Location	Households	Participants ^a	Nonparticipants	Ineligible	Ineligible	Households	
Urban Residence	76.7	78.3	76.0	75.2	73.6	77.1	
Rural Residence	23.3	21.7	24.0	24.8	26.4	22.9	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Weighted Total (000s)	51,820	6,444	7,703	1,507	4,584	31,582	
Sample Size	14,240	1,843	2,181	399	1,253	8,564	

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File

^a The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 11

HOUSEHOLD EMPLOYMENT STATUS BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

(Percentages and Means)

	Total Low-	Eligible H	Households	Asset-Ineligi	ble Households	_
Number of Workers	Income Households	Food Stamp Participants ^d	Eligible Nonparticipants	Vehicle Ineligible	Other Asset Ineligible	Income-Ineligible Households
No Workers	51.3	85.9	71.1	49.7	71.4	36.6
1 Worker	37.7	13.3	27.0	40.7	24.1	47.1
Percentage with Teen Worker ^a	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Percentage with Adult Worker b	35.7	13.0	25.4	40.1	21.9	44.7
Percentage with Elderly Worker ^c 2 Workers	1.9 10.2	0.2 0.7	1.6 1.9	0.7 9.4	2.2 4.3	2.3 15.1
Percentage with Teen Worker ^a	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2
Percentage with Adult Worker b	10.2	0.7	1.9	9.4	4.1	15.0
Percentage with Elderly Worker ^c 3 or More Workers	0.4 0.7	0.0 0.1	0.1 0.0	0.5 0.2	0.8 0.1	0.5 1.2
Percentage with Teen Worker ^a	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Percentage with Adult Worker b	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	1.2
Percentage with Elderly Worker ^c Total	0.0 100.0	0.0 100.0	0.0 100.0	0.0 100.0	0.0 100.0	0.1 100.0
Mean Full-Time Workers per Household	0.6	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.8
Weighted Total (000s) Sample Size	51,820 14,240	6,444 1,843	7,703 2,181	1,507 399	4,584 1,253	31,582 8,564

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File

^aAt least one full-time worker in household is under 18 years of age.

^bAt least one full-time worker in household is age 18-59.

^cAt least one full-time worker in household is age 60 or older.

^d The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 12

HOURS WORKED BY PRIMARY WORKER BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

(Percentages and Means)

	Total Low-	Eligible I	Households	Asset-Ineligi	ble Households		
	Income	Food Stamp	Eligible	Vehicle	Other Asset	Income-Ineligible	
Hours worked per week	Households	Participants ^a	Nonparticipants	Ineligible	Ineligible	Households	
0 Hours	40.2	70.0	54.9	34.7	57.3	28.3	
1 to 20 Hours (Part Time)	5.5	6.4	7.1	7.1	8.5	4.4	
21 to 34 Hours (Part Time)	5.2	6.0	7.2	6.8	5.3	4.4	
35 or More Hours (Full Time)	49.1	17.5	30.8	51.5	28.9	62.8	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Mean Number of Hours per Week	24.9	10.4	17.1	27.8	16.9	30.7	
Weighted Total (000s)	51,820	6,444	7,703	1,507	4,584	31,582	
Sample Size	14,240	1,843	2,181	399	1,253	8,564	

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File

^a The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 13

GROSS INCOME LEVEL BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

(Percentages and Means)

	Total Low-	Eligible H	Households	Asset-Ineligib	ole Households		
	Income	Food Stamp	Eligible	Vehicle	Other Asset	Income-Ineligible	
Ratio of Gross Income to Poverty Line	Households	Participants ^a	Nonparticipants	Ineligible	Ineligible	Households	
No Income	2.9	9.7	8.4	7.7	2.8	0.0	
Less than or equal to 50% of Poverty	6.4	23.6	9.2	15.4	18.4	0.0	
51% to 100% of Poverty	16.5	57.1	38.5	33.8	30.3	0.0	
101% to 130% of Poverty	10.9	7.4	35.6	38.8	29.3	1.6	
131% to 185% of Poverty	21.3	1.3	6.9	3.3	14.7	30.7	
Greater than 185% of Poverty	42.0	0.8	1.4	0.9	4.5	67.7	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Mean Poverty Ratio	162	63	87	82	94	215	
Weighted Total (000s)	51,820	6,444	7,703	1,507	4,584	31,582	
Sample Size	14,240	1,843	2,181	399	1,253	8,564	

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File

^a The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 14

INCOME SOURCE BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS

LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

(Percentages and Means)

			Households	Asset-Ineligi	ble Households	Income-Ineligible
		Food Stamp	Eligible	Vehicle	Other Asset	
Income Source	Total Low-Income Households	Participants ^b	Nonparticipants	Ineligible	Ineligible	Households
Gross Income						
Percent>0	97.1	90.3	91.6	92.3	97.2	100.0
Mean (Dollars)	1,715	675	878	1,011	866	2,244
Median (Dollars)	1,576	578	800	936	813	2,028
Earnings	,					ŕ
Percent>0	52.2	21.6	36.7	48.5	24.1	66.5
Mean (Dollars)	1,867	763	940	1,056	926	2,143
Median (Dollars)	1,712	716	880	1,040	833	1,990
TANF						
Percent>0	2.6	18.8	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4
Mean (Dollars)	336	333	NA	NA	263	365
Median (Dollars)	302	300	NA	NA	200	340
General Assistance						
Percent>0	0.4	2.4	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1
Mean (Dollars)	249	244	208	NA	NA	311
Median (Dollars)	200	203	155	NA	NA	200
SSI						
Percent>0	7.5	32.0	11.8	1.8	0.6	2.8
Mean (Dollars)	415	403	370	318	260	497
Median (Dollars)	470	500	333	405	305	480
Social Security						
Percent>0	36.5	28.8	42.7	24.2	50.4	35.2
Mean (Dollars)	820	492	603	695	716	965
Median (Dollars)	770	486	600	625	698	914
Unemployment Insurance						
Percent>0	1.2	1.9	0.8	3.4	0.8	1.1
Mean (Dollars)	698	606	428	692	671	779
Median (Dollars)	630	600	276	760	584	740
Other Income ^a						
Percent>0	63.8	31.6	43.5	54.8	87.4	72.4
Mean (Dollars)	545	333	362	418	291	639
Median (Dollars)	300	200	222	241	141	401
Median (Donats)	300	200	222	∠ +1	141	401
Weighted Total (000s)	51,820	6,444	7,703	1,507	4,584	31,582
Sample Size	14,240	1,843	2,181	399	1,253	8,564

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File

Low-income households are defined as those within 300 percent of poverty.

Note: Means and medians exclude values of zero and negative values.

^aOther Income includes alimony, child support, disability payments, dividend income, educational assistance, government pensions, interest income, lump sum payments, reserve pay, foster care payments, pensions, profits from self-employment, railroad retirement, rental income, veteran's pension, WIC vouchers, and worker's compensation.

The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 15

HOME OWNERSHIP BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

(Percentages)

	Total Low-	Eligible l	Eligible Households		Asset-Ineligible Households	
	Income	Food Stamp	Eligible	Vehicle	Other Asset	Income-Ineligible
Home Ownership	Households	Participants ^a	Nonparticipants	Ineligible	Ineligible	Households
Own	57.4	26.5	43.6	54.3	71.3	65.2
Rent	37.2	66.7	48.3	37.4	24.5	30.3
Noncash Rent	5.4	6.8	8.1	8.3	4.2	4.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Weighted Total (000s)	51,820	6,444	7,703	1,507	4,584	31,582
Sample Size	14,240	1,843	2,181	399	1,253	8,564

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File

^a The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 16

NUMBER OF VEHICLES PER HOUSEHOLD BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

(Percentages and Means)

	Total Low-	Eligible I	Households	Asset-Ineligil	ble Households		
	Income	Food Stamp	Eligible	Vehicle	Other Asset	Income-Ineligible	
Number of Vehicles	Households	Participants ^a	Nonparticipants	Ineligible	Ineligible	Households	
No Vehicles	24.7	69.5	43.6	0.0	17.5	13.1	
1 Vehicle	40.1	23.7	39.8	50.5	45.3	42.2	
2 Vehicles	23.4	5.5	13.4	31.0	22.8	29.3	
3 Vehicles	9.3	1.1	2.8	12.9	11.0	12.1	
4+ Vehicles	2.6	0.2	0.5	5.6	3.3	3.3	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Mean Number of Vehicles	1.3	0.4	0.8	1.7	1.4	1.5	
Weighted Total (000s)	51,820	6,444	7,703	1,507	4,584	31,582	
Sample Size	14,240	1,843	2,181	399	1,253	8,564	

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File

^a The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 17

NUMBER OF VEHICLES PER HOUSEHOLD MEMBER BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS

LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

(Means)

	Total Low-	Eligible I	Households	Asset-Ineligib	ole Households	
Vehicles per Household Member	Income Households	Food Stamp Participants ^a	Eligible Nonparticipants	Vehicle Ineligible	Other Asset Ineligible	Income-Ineligible Households
		•	•			
Vehicles per Person	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.9	0.8	0.7
Vehicles per Adult (Age 18 and Over)	0.8	0.3	0.6	1.2	1.0	0.9
Vehicles per Nonelderly Adult (Age 18-59)	0.9	0.3	0.7	1.2	1.2	1.0
Vehicles per Employed Worker	1.2	0.7	0.9	1.4	1.5	1.2
Vehicles per Adult Worker	1.4	0.8	1.0	1.6	1.7	1.4
Vehicles per Full-Time Worker	1.4	0.8	1.0	1.6	1.7	1.4
Vehicles per Part-Time Worker	1.5	0.6	1.0	1.8	1.7	1.7
Weighted Total (000s)	51,820	6,444	7,703	1,507	4,584	31,582
Sample Size	14,240	1,843	2,181	399	1,253	8,564

^a The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 18

FAIR MARKET VALUE OF TOTAL VEHICLE HOLDINGS BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS
LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS WITH VEHICLES ONLY
(Percentages and Means)

	Total Low- Income	Eligible I	Households	Asset-Ineligi	ble Households	
Fair Market Value (FMV)	Households with Vehicles	Food Stamp Participants ^a	Eligible Nonparticipants	Vehicle Ineligible	Other Asset Ineligible	Income-Ineligible Households
L	29.7	<i>(5.1</i>	547	0.7	20.0	22.4
Less than or equal to \$1,000	28.7	65.1	54.7	0.7	28.9	23.4
\$1,001 - \$1,500	4.0	5.0	5.0	0.0	3.8	4.1
\$1,501 - \$2,500	6.9	9.8	8.8	0.3	4.8	7.1
\$2,501 - \$4,000	8.8	7.3	13.7	0.3	9.3	8.5
\$4,001 - \$6,000	9.2	8.3	10.4	1.4	8.8	9.6
\$6,001 - \$9,000	12.3	3.1	4.8	29.6	10.2	13.5
\$9,001 - \$13,000	13.6	0.8	1.8	31.1	14.6	15.3
\$13,001 - \$17,000	7.6	0.4	0.6	19.6	8.6	8.4
More than \$17,000	8.9	0.0	0.1	16.8	11.0	10.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mean Total FMV	6,741	1,508	2,069	12,674	7,404	7,438
Median Total FMV	4,222	450	549	11,115	4,644	5,318
Weighted Total (000s)	39,044	1,963	4,345	1,507	3,782	27,447
Sample Size	10,563	541	1,184	399	1,022	7,417

^a The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 19

EQUITY IN TOTAL VEHICLE HOLDINGS BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS
LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS WITH VEHICLES ONLY

(Percentages and Means)

	Total Low- Income	Eligible I	Households	Asset-Ineligi	ble Households		
Equity of Vehicle Holdings	Households with Vehicles	Food Stamp Participants ^b	Eligible Nonparticipants	Vehicle Ineligible	Other Asset Ineligible	Income-Ineligible Households	
Negative Equity	14.1	12.0	9.9	24.0	6.5	15.5	
\$0 - \$1,000	29.6	61.4	53.6	6.0	29.7	24.9	
\$1,001 - \$1,500	5.2	4.5	5.6	2.3	4.2	5.4	
\$1,501 - \$2,500	8.3	9.3	9.2	3.2	5.2	8.8	
\$2,501 - \$4,000	9.4	5.8	11.9	4.9	10.3	9.4	
\$4,001 - \$6,000	8.4	4.9	6.4	8.3	9.3	8.9	
\$6,001 - \$9,000	8.6	1.8	2.0	17.6	9.4	9.5	
\$9,001 - \$13,000	7.8	0.2	1.0	17.8	10.7	8.5	
\$13,001 - \$17,000	4.2	0.2	0.3	9.1	8.0	4.3	
More than \$17,000	4.3	0.0	0.1	6.7	6.7	4.8	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Mean Equity Value	3,712	704	1,210	5,813	5,542	3,955	
Median Equity Value	1,662	250	450	6,553	3,612	2,201	
Mean Percentage Equity ^a	55.8	42.8	61.7	44.7	79.3	53.2	
Weighted Total (000s)	39,044	1,963	4,345	1,507	3,782	27,447	
Sample Size	10,563	541	1,184	399	1,022	7,417	

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File

^aMean Percentage Equity = Equity/FMV * 100

^b The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 20

FAIR MARKET VALUE OF FIRST VEHICLE BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS WITH VEHICLES ONLY

(Percentages, Means, and Medians)

	Total Low- Income	Eligible l	Eligible Households		ole Households		
Fair Market Value	Households with Vehicles	Food Stamp Participants ^a	Eligible Nonparticipants	Vehicle Ineligible	Other Asset Ineligible	Income-Ineligible Households	
Less than or equal to \$1,000	29.2	65.3	55.2	0.7	29.6	24.0	
\$1,001 - \$1,500	5.8	8.0	7.0	0.3	4.7	5.9	
\$1,501 - \$2,500	6.6	8.0	8.2	0.2	5.3	6.8	
\$2,501 - \$4,000	9.9	7.9	14.2	2.4	9.9	9.8	
\$4,001 - \$6,000	10.0	7.1	10.1	3.1	8.5	10.8	
\$6,001 - \$9,000	13.9	2.6	3.6	32.4	12.4	15.5	
\$9,001 - \$13,000	15.3	0.5	1.5	37.7	18.6	16.8	
\$13,001 - \$17,000	6.1	0.4	0.3	15.5	7.0	6.8	
More than \$17,000	3.3	0.0	0.0	7.5	3.9	3.8	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Mean Total FMV (Dollars)	5,450	1,405	1,897	10,688	5,840	5,960	
Median (Dollars)	3,671	250	549	9,502	4,016	4,769	
Weighted Total (000s)	39,044	1,963	4,345	1,507	3,782	27,447	
Sample Size	10,563	541	1,184	399	1,022	7,417	

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File

^a The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 21

EQUITY IN FIRST VEHICLE BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS WITH VEHICLES ONLY

(Percentages, Means, and Medians)

	Total Low- Income	Eligible l	Households	Asset-Ineligible Households			
Equity of Vehicle Holdings	Households with Vehicles	Food Stamp Participants ^b	Eligible Nonparticipants	Vehicle Ineligible	Other Asset Ineligible	Income-Ineligible Households	
Negative Equity	15.6	10.7	10.1	26.5	7.9	17.4	
\$0 - \$1,000	30.3	62.0	53.9	5.8	30.3	25.6	
\$1,001 - \$1,500	6.7	7.3	7.3	3.5	5.2	6.9	
\$1,501 - \$2,500	7.9	7.5	8.6	3.3	5.7	8.4	
\$2,501 - \$4,000	10.0	6.5	11.4	7.4	10.8	10.1	
\$4,001 - \$6,000	8.3	4.1	5.7	9.9	9.3	8.8	
\$6,001 - \$9,000	8.5	1.6	1.8	16.3	10.3	9.4	
\$9,001 - \$13,000	7.7	0.2	0.9	18.5	13.2	8.0	
\$13,001 - \$17,000	3.0	0.2	0.1	6.0	4.8	3.2	
More than \$17,000	1.8	0.0	0.0	2.9	2.5	2.1	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Mean Equity Value (Dollars)	2,856	679	1,106	4,437	4,299	3,002	
Median Equity Value (Dollars)	1,437	225	250	4,651	2,903	1,546	
Mean Percentage Equity ^a (Dollars)	52.3	33.0	59.6	43.7	77.7	49.5	
Weighted Total (000s)	39,044	1,963	4,345	1,507	3,782	27,447	
Sample Size	10,563	541	1,184	399	1,022	7,417	

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File

^aMean Percentage Equity = Equity/FMV * 100

^a The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 22

VALUE OF NON-VEHICLE ASSETS BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS WITH ASSETS ONLY

(Percentages and Means)

	Total Low- Income	Eligible I	Iouseholds	Asset-Ineligible Households			
Countable Assets (Non-Vehicle)	Households with Assets	Food Stamp Participants ^a	Eligible Nonparticipants	Vehicle Ineligible	Other Asset Ineligible	Income-Ineligible Households	
\$1 - \$500	22.9	78.9	62.6	53.9	0.0	18.7	
\$501 - \$1,000	7.6	8.9	16.8	17.3	0.0	7.4	
\$1,001 - \$2,000	8.4	11.8	16.2	26.9	0.0	8.2	
\$2,001 - \$4,000	7.6	0.4	4.3	2.0	10.7	7.9	
\$4,001 - \$6,000	5.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.0	6.1	
\$6,001 - \$8,000	4.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	6.8	4.4	
\$8,001 - \$10,000	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.4	3.2	
More than \$10,000	40.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	66.1	44.2	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Mean Assets (Dollars)	42,042	369	617	724	68,462	45,681	
Median Assets (Dollars)	5,000	150	340	500	20,400	6,955	
Weighted Total (000s)	34,404	1,076	3,054	962	4,584	24,728	
Sample Size	9,386	302	873	253	1,253	6,705	

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File

^a The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

TABLE 23

NON-VEHICLE ASSETS OF ELDERLY AND NONELDERLY HOUSEHOLDS BY FSP ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION STATUS

LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

(Percentages, Means, and Medians)

	Total Low-	Eligible	Households	Asset-Ineligi	ble Households	
	Income	Food Stamp	Eligible	Vehicle	Other Asset	Income-Ineligible
Countable Assets (Non-Vehicle)	Households	Participants ^a	Nonparticipants	Ineligible	Ineligible	Households
Elderly Households						
\$1 - \$500	15.5	71.5	53.6	45.3	0.0	11.0
\$501 - \$1,000	5.1	11.9	16.9	18.8	0.0	4.1
\$1,001 - \$2,000	7.0	15.3	21.0	25.4	0.0	5.8
\$2,001 - \$4,000	5.6	1.4	8.3	10.5	4.7	5.5
\$4,001 - \$6,000	5.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.8	5.2
\$6,001 - \$8,000	3.9	0.0	0.1	0.0	6.9	3.9
\$8,001 - \$10,000	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.7	3.2
More than \$10,000	54.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	71.9	61.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mean Assets (Dollars)	63,543	491	814	928	72,789	74,922
Median Assets (Dollars)	13,298	250	500	800	24,090	19,700
Nonelderly Households						
\$1 - \$500	27.9	81.4	72.3	55.9	0.0	23.2
\$501 - \$1,000	9.2	7.9	16.8	16.9	0.0	9.4
\$1,001 - \$2,000	9.4	10.7	10.9	27.2	0.0	9.6
\$2,001 - \$4,000	8.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.2	9.3
\$4,001 - \$6,000	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	6.6
\$6,001 - \$8,000	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.7	4.6
\$8,001 - \$10,000	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.2	3.2
More than \$10,000	31.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	58.8	34.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mean Assets (Dollars)	27,650	328	405	676	63,013	28,367
Median Assets (Dollars)	2,800	100	214	500	15,400	3,679
Weighted Total (000s)	34,404	1,076	3,054	962	4,584	24,728
Sample Size	9,386	302	873	253	1,253	6,705

^a The number of participating households simulated in the MATH SIPP is lower than the number of actual participating households reported in the FSPQC datafile. The MATH SIPP must strike a balance between representing the total number of households and accurately capturing the characteristics of the caseload. Since TANF is significantly underrepresented in the SIPP, the model simulates fewer participating households to better reflect the proportion with TANF.

ELIGIBILITY USING DIFFERENT VEHICLE ASSET TESTS LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

TABLE 24

Vehicle Asset Tests	Number of Newly Eligible Households (000s)	Number of Newly Eligible Individuals (000s)	Number of Newly Eligible Units with Children (000s)	Number of Newly Eligible Units with Elderly (000s)	Average Benefit per Eligible Household (\$)	Total Increase in Cost (\$000) ^c
Exclude All Vehicles	1,503	4,091	776	319	135	220,233
2003 Baseline ^a	1,123	4,159	574	203	139	228,690
Baselaw (1999 MATH SIPP Model) ^b	14,147	30,585	6,034	4,763	134	1,894,043

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Model

^a Note that, in addition to the 2003 vehicle rules, the 2003 Baseline of the 1999 MATH SIPP model also includes other changes to the FSP such as restructuring the standard deduction, increasing the asset limit for households with disabled members from \$2,000 to \$3,000, and restoring eligibility to many legal immigrants.

^b Row refers to population of currently eligible low-income households (baselaw).

^c Column includes potential benefits to eligible nonparticipating units as well as actual benefits to participating units.

DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIOECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF NEWLY ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS BY REFORM (Numbers, Percentages and Means)

TABLE 25

		Exclude All	
	1999 Vehicle Rules ^c	Vehicles (1999 MATH SIPP Model)	2003 Baseline ^d
Eligible Households (000s)	14,147	15,650	15,270
Cost (\$000s) ^a	1,894,043	2,114,276	2,122,733
Increase in Eligibility (000s)	n.a.	1,503	1,123
Increase in Cost (\$000s) ^a	n.a.	220,233	228,690
Demographic Characteristics			
Mean Household Size	2.2	2.2	2.3
Percent of Household Heads Under Age 40	41.3	42.0	40.0
Percent of Household Heads That Are Married	20.6	22.9	24.4
Percent with Children (Age 17 or Younger)	42.7	43.5	43.3
Percent with Elderly Member (Age 60 or Over)	33.7	32.5	32.5
Percent Minority	47.2	45.7	46.2
Percent Rural	23.0	23.1	23.0
Socioeconomic Characteristics			
Percent of Household Heads That Are High School Graduates	51.7	54.0	54.6
Percent with At Least One Worker	22.2	24.9	27.3
Percent with Earnings	37.8	40.0	39.8
Percent Receiving Public Assistance ^b	28.2	25.6	27.0
Percent Below Poverty Level	71.8	70.4	70.4
Percent Homeowners	35.8	37.6	36.8
Percent with Vehicles	44.6	49.9	48.4
Mean Number of Vehicles per Household	0.6	0.7	0.7
Mean Age of First Vehicle	6.8	6.8	6.9
Sample Size	4,024	4,421	4,312

Source: 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File

^a Cost includes benefits to current participants and potential benefits to nonparticipating eligible households.

^b Receipt of TANF, General Assistance, or SSI

^c Column refers to population of currently eligible households (baselaw).

^d Note that, in addition to the 2003 vehicle rules, the 2003 Baseline of the 1999 MATH SIPP model also includes other changes to the FSP such as restructuring the standard deduction, increasing the asset limit for households with disabled members from \$2,000 to \$3,000, and restoring eligibility to many legal immigrants.

APPENDIX A

METHODOLOGY

TABLES DESCRIBING ASSET AND VEHICLE HOLDINGS OF LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS IN 1999

DATA

The tables describing the asset and vehicle holdings of low-income households in 1999 are based on the 1999 MATH SIPP model, which simulates FSP eligibility and participation in November 1999. The 1999 MATH SIPP model was developed using data from the 1996 Panel of the Survey of Income and Program Participation, specifically the core and topical module files from Wave 12.¹

UNIVERSE

The universe for these tables is all households in the 1999 MATH SIPP model with total income less than or equal to 300 percent of poverty.

DEFINITIONS

In the 1999 MATH SIPP Eligibility File, a household's eligibility for the FSP is determined based on the income, asset, and other information reported in the 1999 SIPP survey. FSP participation is simulated in the 1999 MATH SIPP model to match target controls in the Food Stamp Program Quality Control (FSPQC) data. In the asset and vehicle tables, all low-income households were grouped into one of the following five categories:

- Food Stamp Participants. Households that are eligible for and participating in the FSP
- *Eligible Nonparticipants*. Households that are eligible for the FSP but do not participate.
- *Vehicle Ineligible Households*. Households that pass both the gross and net income tests; have financial assets less than the asset limit; and have vehicular assets that, when added to financial assets, put the household over the asset limit.

¹ Note that we used the core files re-released in August 2002. For a more detailed description of the development of the 1999 MATH SIPP model, see Bloom, Michael, *Technical Working Paper: Creation of the November 1999 MATH SIPP Microsimulation Model and Database* (forthcoming).

- *Other Asset Ineligible Households*. Households that pass both the gross and net income tests, fail the asset test, and are not Vehicle Ineligible Households.
- *Income Ineligible Households*. Households that fail the net and/or gross income tests (regardless of whether they pass the asset test).

COUNTING FINANCIAL ASSETS AND VEHICLES

FSP regulations explain which household member's assets are counted when determining FSP eligibility. The financial and vehicular assets of individuals who receive TANF or SSI are not counted when determining eligibility. However, the financial and vehicular assets of ineligible aliens who are excluded from the Food Stamp household are included in the household's countable assets.

KEY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN 1996 AND 1999 TABLES

We previously produced these asset and vehicle tables using the 1996 MATH SIPP Eligibility File.² The 1999 MATH SIPP model includes new FSP rules that were implemented between 1996 and 1999. The following summarizes the important differences between the 1996 and 1999 files and tables:

- Excluded Aliens. PRWORA, which was passed in August 1996, excluded most aliens from the FSP and counted the assets of excluded aliens toward the household's asset limit. Effective November 1, 1998, the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (AREERA) restored eligibility to aliens who were in the United States and 65 when PRWORA was enacted on August 22, 1996, or were in the United States on August 22, 1996, and are under age 18 or disabled. AREERA also extended the eligibility period for refugees, asylees, and deportees from five to seven years. The 1996 MATH SIPP model simulates the PRWORA alien exclusions and asset rules, and the 1999 MATH SIPP model simulates the new rules under AREERA, as well as the asset rules from PRWORA.
- *Time-Limited Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents*. In addition to the disqualification of many aliens, PRWORA set time limits for most childless, nondisabled adults. Individuals who are age 18 to 49, physically and mentally able to work, and do not live with children, must register for work. With certain exceptions, these individuals are subject to work requirements, and those who do not meet the work requirements are limited to 3 months of benefits in any 36-month period. These rules took effect after the simulation period of the 1996 MATH SIPP model, but are included in the 1999 MATH SIPP model.

² See Fowler et al, Tables Describing the Asset and Vehicle Holdings of Low-Income Households in 1996, August 2001.

- *Modified Food Stamp Unit Composition Rules*. PRWORA increased from 18 to 22 the age under which children must file with their parents when they live in the same household, even if the children have a spouse or child of their own. The 1999 MATH SIPP reflects this change.
- *Modified Retail to Wholesale Vehicle Imputation*. The early waves of the 1996 SIPP Panel did not include the year a vehicle was made. However, by Wave 6, the year was added to the file. Because of the additional information available, we modified the imputation equations for the retail to wholesale imputation.

These differences should be kept in mind when comparing these two sets of tables.

REFORM TABLES

Tables 24 and 25 are based on policy reforms run with the 1999 MATH SIPP model. Specifically, they compare eligibility and demographic characteristics of low-income households under three scenarios: (1) the baseline run of the 1999 MATH SIPP model, (2) a reform run with the 1999 MATH SIPP model excluding all vehicles from countable assets, and (3) the 2003 Baseline of the 1999 MATH SIPP model. The 2003 Baseline incorporates new vehicle rules implemented in 2000 and 2001 and updated in 2003, as well as key changes to the FSP enacted in the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002. The new vehicle rules:

- Exclude vehicles with equity less than \$1,500.
- Value one vehicle per adult in every household at its fair market value (FMV) in excess of \$4,650. Any vehicles used by a teenager to drive to work or school are also valued at their excess FMV. If there are no qualifying adults or teenagers in the household, one vehicle is still valued at its excess FMV.
- Expand the definition of categorical eligibility to exempt more applicants from the asset test. (Due to data limitations, we are only able to model this in selected states that used this policy option to exempt virtually everyone in the state from the asset test. For example, some states extend categorical eligibility to households by offering TANF-funded child care services, or by sending a brochure on available services. The available data cannot identify households affected by these policies.)
- Give states the option to use their TANF vehicle rules in place of federal FSP vehicle rules, as long as the TANF rules are more generous.

The 2003 Baseline also simulates the following key provisions of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-171):

- The standard deduction varies by household size.
- The asset limit for households with a disabled member increased from \$2,000 to \$3,000

• Many legal immigrants had their eligibility restored (all children, all disabled individuals, and any adults in the United States for at least five years).

Note that the figures in Tables 24 and 25 do not exactly match model output from the 1999 MATH SIPP model or the 2003 Baseline, because Tables 24 and 25 restrict the population to households with income below 300 percent of poverty, while the 1999 MATH SIPP model and 2003 Baseline do not.

RELATED REPORTS

- Fowler, Lisa, Daisy Ewell, and Nancy Wemmerus. "Tables Describing the Asset and Vehicle Holdings of Low-Income Households In 1996." Report submitted to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. Washington, DC: Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. August 2001.
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- Wemmerus, Nancy E. "How Vehicles Affect Food Stamp Program Eligibility." Report submitted to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. Washington, DC: Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. June 1993.
- Wemmerus, Nancy E., Laura Castner, and Dan O'Connor. "Tables Describing the Asset and Vehicle Holdings of Food Stamp Participants, Nonparticipants, and Asset Ineligibles in 1994." Report submitted to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. Washington, DC: Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. September 1999.
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