Receipt of Rental Subsidies: 1993 and 1999

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Introduction

Housing has not been a prominent element of recent discussions of welfare reform. The goal of the 1996 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) was to move individuals dependent on public assistance to economic independence. Clearly, the movement of people to affordable housing is an important consideration in achieving that goal.

The earlier welfare program, Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), and the housing assistance programs were designed to assist different clienteles but sometimes served the same populations. The focus of this report is on government-sponsored programs that provide either direct or indirect rental assistance for low-income families. This assistance can take the form of housing vouchers that are given to families for which payments are made directly to a private landlord, it can be in the form of reduced rent for households living in government owned and operated properties, or it can take the form of a reduced interest rate. This report discusses changes in receipt of rental subsidies between 1993 and 1999 using the Survey of Program Dynamics (SPD) second longitudinal file (SLF).2 In addition, the

report compares receipt of housing assistance with participation in the food stamp and public assistance programs.³

Highlights⁴

- The number of renters increased from 26 million in 1993 (± 753 thousand) to 30 million in 1999 (± 783 thousand), but the proportion receiving a rental subsidy remained unchanged at 18 percent (see Table 1).
- In 1993, 80 percent of renters receiving rental subsidies were not married, and 41 percent had at least one child living with them. In 1999, 85 percent of renters receiving rental subsidies were not married, and 30 percent had at least one child living with them (see Table 1).
- Of those persons receiving rental subsidies in both 1993 and 1999, 75 percent were nonworkers in 1993, and 72 percent were nonworkers in 1999. For those who received a rental subsidy in 1993 but did not in 1999, 40 percent were nonworkers in 1993,

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Demographic Programs



U.S. Department of Commerce Economics and Statistics Administration U.S. CENSUS BUREAU



^{&#}x27; Under the Federal Housing Authority's (FHA) "below market-interest rate" programs, the amount of interest paid on the mortgage by the project owner is reduced so that the owner can charge rents that can be afforded by families and individuals of low and moderate income. The FHA pays the mortgage lender the difference between the interest payment required at the market rate and the lower interest payment made by the owner.

² The SPD SLF, in comparison to the SPD first longitudinal file, includes two additional years of data and the variables on eligibility collected in the 1998, 1999, and 2000 SPD.

³ Throughout this report the term "renter" refers to the reference person in the household. The reference person is the individual in whose name the home is rented. If a married couple jointly rents the home, either the husband or wife may be listed as the reference person.

⁴ The estimates in this report are based on responses from a sample of the population. As with all surveys, estimates may vary from the actual values because of sampling variation or other factors. All comparisons made in this report have undergone statistical testing and are significant at the 90-percent confidence level unless otherwise noted.

and 32 percent were nonworkers in 1999. Of the renters who did not receive a rental subsidy in 1993 but did in 1999, 64 percent were nonworkers in 1993, and 69 percent were nonworkers in 1999 (see Table 5).

- Renters receiving rental subsidies in 1993 but not in 1999 experienced a 98 percent increase in their median income.⁵ Median income for renters that continued to receive or started to receive a rental subsidy did not significantly change (see Table 5).
- From 1993 to 1999, receipt of public assistance and food stamps declined among renters that continued to receive, stopped receiving, or started receiving a rental subsidy (see Tables A-1, A-2, and A-3).

Background

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) ushered in major reforms in the welfare program and required the U.S. Census Bureau to conduct the Survey of Program Dynamics (SPD) to help researchers evaluate the legislation's effectiveness.⁶ The Census Bureau collected 7 years of longitudinal data on the demographic, social, and economic

The Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)

The data already collected in the 1992 and 1993 SIPP panels provide extensive background information which can help researchers determine the effects of welfare reform. The SIPP is a longitudinal survey of households, interviewed at least nine times at 4-month intervals, where all initial household members are followed if they have moved. The SIPP collects more detailed data than any other national survey on program eligibility, access and participation, transfer income, and in-kind benefits. Coupled with an extensive array of economic and demographic data (for example, employment and job transition, income, and family composition), the 1992 and 1993 SIPP panels represent the pre-reform situation of households quite well.

characteristics of a national representative sample of the U.S. population to supplement 3 years (9 or 10 waves) of longitudinal data available from the 1992 and 1993 panels of the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP). When all data are finally released, the SPD will provide 10 years of data on program eligibility, access and participation, transfer income and inkind benefits, employment transitions, income, and family composition (see text box: The Survey of Income and Program Participation).

The SPD collected data in three phases. In the first phase, people from the 1992 and 1993 SIPP panels were recontacted and interviewed in May-July 1997 about their 1996 income and program participation using the 1997 "Bridge" Survey, a slightly modified version of the March 1997 Current Population Survey (CPS). Approximately 35,000 households were interviewed using the 1997 "Bridge" Survey, which included everyone interviewed in the first and last waves of the 1992 and 1993 SIPP panels.

The second phase involved the full implementation of a core set of questions on topics such as employment, earnings, income, and

program participation during the preceding calendar year. A new computer-assisted questionnaire was administered in 1998 to household respondents 15 years old and over in a sample of approximately 19,000 households with children under age 15.

The third phase of SPD started in 1999 and surveyed a sample of approximately 19,000 households through 2002, collecting core data as well as data dealing with such topics as child well-being, health care, and child support.⁷

The SPD SLF provides information on more than 29,000 individuals and covers the 1993-94 and 1996-99 periods. Common for each year is core data collected on demographic characteristics, labor force activity, and income and program participation. The SPD SLF does provide information on program participation, the causes of program participation, and its long-term effects on the well being of recipients and their households.⁸ The SPD SLF also provides information

⁵ The 1993 median household income was adjusted to 1999 dollars by the CPI-U-RS.

The specific language of P.L. 104-193 requires and funds a new survey by the Census Bureau, the Survey of Program Dynamics. The legislation directs the Census Bureau to "continue to collect data on the 1992 and 1993 panels of the Survey of Income and Program Participation as necessary to obtain such information as will enable interested people to evaluate the impact on a random national sample of recipients of assistance under state programs funded under this part and other low-income families, and in doing so, shall pay particular attention to the issues of out-of-wedlock birth, welfare dependency, the beginning and end of welfare spells, and the causes of repeat welfare spells, and shall obtain information about the status of children participating in such panels.'

⁷ At the time this report was being prepared, the fully edited, third longitudinal component of the Survey of Program Dynamics was not yet available for analysis.

⁸ A more complete description of the SPD longitudinal files is available at the SPD Web site (www.sipp.census.gov/spd) and the SPD Users Guide, also available online.

on participation in housing assistance programs, as well as insights into the impact of welfare reform on the utilization of the housing assistance program (see text box: SPD housing assistance questions).

In the following discussion, the data are analyzed cross-sectionally and longitudinally. The cross-sectional analysis provides insights on demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of renters at two distinct points in time, 1993 and 1999.

The subsequent longitudinal analysis, on the other hand, provides insight on changes that occurred between 1993 and 1999 in the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of renters.

Table 1. Characteristics of Renters: 1993 and 1999

| | | 19 | 93 | | | 19 | 999 | |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------|
| Characteristic | Received a rental subsidy | Standard error | Did not receive a rental subsidy | Standard error | Received a rental subsidy | Standard error | Did not receive a rental subsidy | Standard error |
| Renters (thousands) | 4,831 | 228 | 21,367 | 429 | 5,368 | 240 | 24,868 | 451 |
| Percent of total | 18.4 | 0.8 | 81.6 | 0.8 | 17.8 | 0.7 | 82.2 | 0.7 |
| Median household income (1999 dollars) | \$11,021 | \$406 | \$33,455 | \$532 | \$9,898 | \$320 | \$30,854 | \$712 |
| Race and Ethnicity | | | | | | | | |
| White | 64.9 | 2.3 | 81.9 | 0.9 | 62.6 | 2.2 | 81.6 | 0.9 |
| Non-Hispanic | 53.7 | 2.4 | 70.9 | 1.0 | 50.1 | 2.3 | 70.9 | 1.0 |
| Black | 32.3 | 2.2 | 14.4 | 0.8 | 32.9 | 2.2 | 14.0 | 0.7 |
| Other | 3.0 | 0.9 | 3.7 | 0.4 | 4.6 | 1.0 | 4.5 | 0.4 |
| Hispanic, any race | 16.4 | 1.8 | 13.4 | 0.8 | 16.7 | 1.7 | 12.7 | 0.7 |
| Sex | | | | | | | | |
| Male Female | 28.4 71.6 | 2.2 2.2 | 54.5 45.5 | 1.2 1.2 | 25.2 74.8 | 2.0 2.0 | 49.8 50.2 | 1.1 1.1 |
| Marital Status | | | | | | | | |
| Married, spouse present | 18.7 | 1.9 | 34.1 | 1.1 | 12.0 | 1.5 | 30.0 | 1.0 |
| Married, spouse absent | 0.9 | 0.5 | 1.4 | 0.2 | 2.8 | 0.7 | 1.7 | 0.3 |
| Widowed | 20.6 | 1.9 | 8.8 | 0.7 | 27.4 | 2.1 | 9.9 | 0.7 |
| Divorced | 22.1 | 2.0 | 17.8 | 0.9 | 18.5 | 1.8 | 18.9 | 0.9 |
| Separated | 6.6 | 1.2 | 7.3 | 0.6 | 6.4 | 1.2 | 5.4 | 0.5 |
| Never married | 31.1 | 2.2 | 30.5 | 1.0 | 32.8 | 2.2 | 34.2 | 1.0 |
| Age | | | | | | | | |
| Under 25 years old | 8.3 | 1.3 | 12.0 | 0.7 | 7.5 | 1.2 | 15.1 | 0.8 |
| 25-34 years old | 25.2 19.7 | 2.1 1.9 | 34.3 23.0 | 1.1 1.0 | 13.7 15.1 | 1.6 1.6 | 30.0 19.0 | 1.0 0.9 |
| 35-44 years old45-54 years old | 9.4 | 1.9 | 12.8 | 0.8 | 12.3 | 1.5 | 13.0 | 0.9 |
| 55-64 years old | 10.3 | 1.5 | 6.5 | 0.5 | 10.2 | 1.4 | 7.8 | 0.5 |
| 65 and older | 27.1 | 2.1 | 11.4 | 0.7 | 41.2 | 2.2 | 15.0 | 0.8 |
| Number of Children in Household | | | | | | | | |
| None | 59.1 | 2.4 | 69.8 | 1.0 | 70.1 | 2.1 | 73.9 | 0.9 |
| 1 | 19.1 | 1.9 | 14.6 | 0.8 | 12.5 | 1.5 | 13.6 | 0.7 |
| 2 | 12.5 | 1.6 | 10.7 | 0.7 | 9.6 | 1.3 | 8.4 | 0.6 |
| 3 or more | 9.3 | 1.4 | 4.9 | 0.5 | 7.8 | 1.2 | 4.1 | 0.4 |
| Working Status | | | | | | | | |
| Full time, full year | 19.4 | 1.9 | 56.7 | 1.2 | 16.5 | 1.7 | 56.8 | 1.0 |
| Part time, full year | 7.4 | 1.3 | 7.3 | 0.6 | 6.8 | 1.2 | 7.7 | 0.5 |
| Full time, part year | 7.1 | 1.2 | 11.0 | 0.7 | 5.3 | 1.0 | 9.5 | 0.6 |
| Part time, part year | 8.0 | 1.3 | 5.1 | 0.5 | 6.4 | 1.2 | 4.0 | 0.4 |
| Nonworker | 58.0 | 2.4 | 20.0 | 0.9 | 65.0 | 2.2 | 22.0 | 0.9 |
| Did household receive public assistance? | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 32.0 | 2.2 | 10.4 | 0.7 | 13.5 | 1.6 | 3.5 | 0.4 |
| No | 68.0 | 2.2 | 89.6 | 0.7 | 86.5 | 1.6 | 96.5 | 0.4 |
| Did household receive food stamps? | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 51.6 | 2.4 | 16.9 | 0.9 | 34.4 | 2.2 | 9.0 | 0.6 |
| No | 48.4 | 2.4 | 83.1 | 0.9 | 65.6 | 2.2 | 91.0 | 0.6 |

Notes: Numbers may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Results are (\pm 1.645 * standard error).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Program of Dynamics second longitudinal file.

SPD housing assistance questions

The SPD asks renters:

HPUBLIC: "Is this a public housing project owned by a local housing authority or other public agency?" (YES/NO)

HLORENT: "Are you paying lower rent because the federal, state, or local government is paying part of the cost?" (YES/NO).

Cross-Sectional Analysis of Rental Assistance

This first analysis of the SPD SLF looks at the data at two distinct points in time, 1993 and 1999, and provides an overview into the characteristics of those receiving and not receiving rental assistance. While the number of renters increased 15 percent from 1993 to 1999, the proportion receiving rental assistance remained unchanged between 1993 and 1999. People receiving rental assistance in these 2 years share several characteristics. Those receiving subsidies are unemployed, single women with low household incomes and have two or more children (see Table 1).

Between 1993 and 1999, the median household income for those receiving rental assistance decreased 10 percent, from \$11,021 in 1993 to \$9,898 in 1999. By comparison, those not receiving a subsidy experienced an 8 percent decrease in median income (\$33,455 in 1993 and \$30,854 in 1999) between 1993 and 1999. Non-Hispanic Whites constituted more than 54 percent of those receiving a rental subsidy in 1993 and 50 percent in 1999. About 80 percent of those receiving

Table 2.

Characteristics of Renters Who Received a Rental Subsidy in Both 1993 and 1999

(Stayers)

| Characteristic | Number in thousands | Percent of total | Standard error |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Total | 2,552 | 100.0 | _ |
| Race and Ethnicity | | | |
| White | 1,529 | 59.9 | 3.3 |
| Non-Hispanic | 1,261 | 49.4 | 4.3 |
| Black | 925 | 36.3 | 3.2 |
| Other | 98 | 3.9 | 1.3 |
| Hispanic | 410 | 16.1 | 2.5 |
| Sex | | | |
| Male | 527 | 20.7 | 2.7 |
| Female | 2,025 | 79.4 | 2.7 |

⁻ Represents zero.

Notes: Numbers may not add to total because of rounding. Results are (± 1.645 * standard error). Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Program Dynamics second longitudinal file.

Table 3.
Characteristics of Renters Who Reported Receiving a Rental Subsidy in 1993 But Not in 1999
(Leavers)

| Characteristic | Number in thousands | | Standard error |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------|----------------|
| Total | 2,279 | 100.0 | _ |
| Race and Ethnicity | | | |
| White | 1,596 | 70.1 | 3.2 |
| Non-Hispanic | 1,336 | 58.6 | 4.2 |
| Black | 636 | 27.9 | 3.2 |
| Other | 46 | 2.0 | 1.0 |
| Hispanic | 381 | 16.7 | 2.6 |
| Sex | | | |
| Male | 844 | 37.0 | 3.4 |
| Female | 1,435 | 63.0 | 3.4 |

⁻ Represents zero.

Notes: Numbers may not add to total because of rounding. Results are (\pm 1.645 * standard error). Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Program Dynamics second longitudinal file.

Table 4.

Characteristics of Renters Who Did Not Receive a Rental Subsidy in 1993 But Did in 1999

(Entropts)

| Characteristic | Number in thousands | | Standard error |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------|----------------|
| Total | 1,063 | 100.0 | _ |
| Race and Ethnicity | | | |
| White | 696 | 65.5 | 4.9 |
| Non-Hispanic | 491 | 46.2 | 6.4 |
| Black | 302 | 28.5 | 4.7 |
| Other | 64 | 6.0 | 2.5 |
| Hispanic | 233 | 21.9 | 4.3 |
| Sex | | | |
| Male | 288 | 27.1 | 4.6 |
| Female | 775 | 72.9 | 4.6 |

Represents zero.

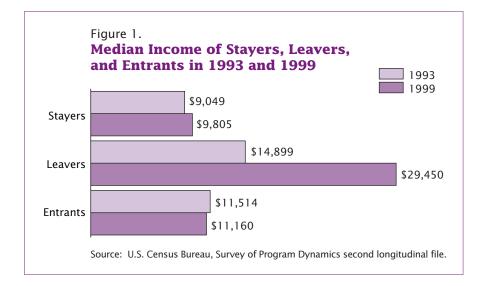
Notes: Numbers may not add to total because of rounding. Results are (\pm 1.645 * standard error). Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Program Dynamics second longitudinal file.

Table 5.

Selected Characteristics of Renters Receiving a Rental Subsidy in 1993 or 1999

| Ch ava ataviatia | Stayers | ; | Leaver | rs | Entrants | |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|---|
| Characteristic | 1993 | 1999 | 1993 | 1999 | 1993 | 1999 |
| Total | 2,552 | | 2,279 | | 1,063 | |
| Median household income (1999 dollars) | \$9,049 | \$9,805 | \$14,899 | \$29,450 | \$11,514 | \$11,160 |
| Marital Status | | | | | | |
| Married, spouse present Married, spouse absent Widowed Divorced Separated Never married | 10.1 1.0 29.9 19.9 7.8 31.3 | 11.3 1.2 31.1 21.6 6.9 28.0 | 28.4 0.8 10.2 24.6 5.1 30.9 | 35.5 2.8 12.7 23.1 3.4 22.6 | 18.4 2.8 22.8 18.7 8.9 28.5 | 15.9 1.3 27.0 26.0 8.9 20.9 |
| Age | | | | | | |
| Under 25 years old 25-34 years old 35-44 years old 45-54 years old 55-64 years old 65 and older | 4.5 16.9 16.8 8.1 14.1 39.6 | 0.6 10.2 16.0 13.3 11.2 48.7 | 12.5 34.6 23.0 10.8 6.0 13.0 | 0.0 20.0 35.4 19.3 9.3 16.1 | 11.0 17.6 13.0 14.1 10.0 34.4 | 0.0 17.6 13.8 15.5 11.9 41.2 |
| Number of Children in Household | | | | | | |
| None | 66.7 16.6 8.2 8.5 | 69.0 10.1 12.6 8.4 | 50.7 21.9 17.3 10.2 | 49.6 19.3 13.9 17.2 | 66.7 17.0 12.7 3.7 | 66.6 11.4 10.3 11.7 |
| Working Status | | | | | | |
| Full time, full year Part time, full year Full time, part year Part time, part year Nonworker. | 7.3 5.6 5.8 6.8 74.5 | 12.3 6.8 5.1 3.4 72.4 | 33.0 9.5 8.6 9.3 39.6 | 45.8 9.3 9.8 3.1 32.0 | 11.0 5.0 13.6 7.0 63.5 | 12.8 6.4 4.5 7.3 69.0 |

Notes: Numbers may not add to total because of rounding. Results are (\pm 1.645 * standard error). Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Program Dynamics second longitudinal file.



a rental subsidy in 1993 were not married and 85 percent were not married in 1999, while 31 percent were "never married" in 1993 and 33 percent "never married" in 1999.9 In 1993, 22 percent of those receiving a rental subsidy had

two or more children and by 1999, this number decreased to 17 percent. In 1993, 58 percent of people receiving a rental subsidy were nonworkers and by 1999 this proportion increased to 65 percent. In comparison, 20 percent of those not receiving a subsidy in 1993 were nonworkers, as were 22 percent by 1999.

Receipt of public assistance and food stamps decreased for those receiving and those not receiving a rental subsidy, but decreased more for those receiving a rental subsidy. For both those receiving and those not receiving a rental subsidy, there were decreases in both the numbers receiving public assistance and food stamps, with most notable changes occurring for

⁹ Not married consists of those who are widowed, divorced, separated, or never married.

people receiving a rental subsidy. In 1993, 32 percent of those receiving a rental subsidy also reported receiving public assistance, but by 1999 only 14 percent did so. The same pattern occurred for participation in the food stamp program, 5-in-10 people receiving a rental subsidy also reported receiving food stamps in 1993 but only 3-in-10 did so in 1999.

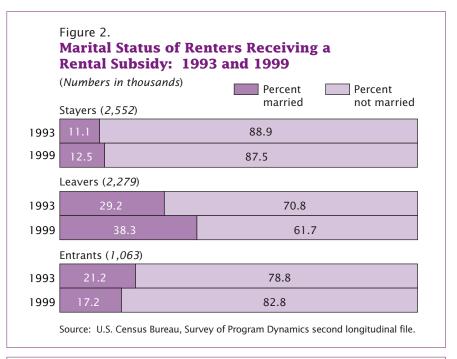
Longitudinal Analysis of Rental Assistance

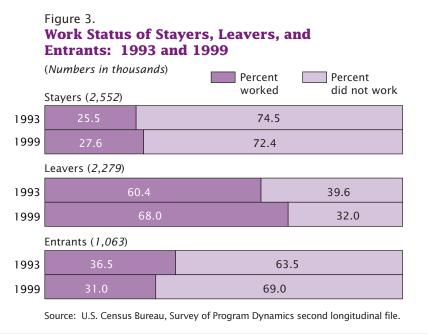
This second analysis uses the longitudinal component of the data—the fact that the data in 1993 and 1999 are about the same individuals—separating individuals in the SPD SLF into three groups. Group 1 (stayers) is comprised of those who received a rental subsidy in both 1993 and 1999. Group 2 (leavers) are those who received a rental subsidy in 1993 but not in 1999. Group 3 (entrants) consists of people who did not receive a rental subsidy in 1993 but did so in 1999.

The housing assistance program is a means-tested program that uses household income and size to determine eligibility for participation. Therefore, factors such as changes in marital status, family composition, and employment status can affect participation and movements on and off the program.

The main differences among the groups appear when looking at changes in their working status and median income between 1993 and 1999. The proportion of leavers who were workers increased nearly 8 percentage points, from 60 percent in 1993 to 68 percent in 1999. By comparison, for stayers and entrants, the working status was statistically equal.

These changes in the working status are similarly reflected in the changes in their median incomes.

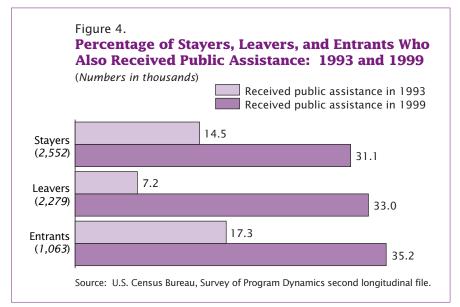


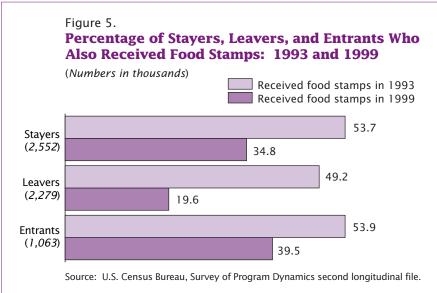


For leavers, median household income rose 98 percent, from \$14,899 in 1993 to \$29,450 in 1999. For stayers and entrants, the median household income remained statistically unchanged (see Figure 1).¹⁰

The distribution of marital status was about the same for stayers and entrants between 1993 and 1999 (see Figure 2). For leavers, 29 percent were married in 1993, and by 1999, this number increased to 38 percent. There were, however, several notable changes in household composition for all of the groups during that period. For

¹⁰ The 1993 median household income was adjusted to 1999 dollars by the CPI-U-RS.





stayers, household composition did not significantly change between 1993 and 1999. In 1993, 17 percent of stayers had two or more children living in the household, 17 percent had one child, and 67 percent had no children in the household. In 1999, 21 percent of stayers had two or more children living in the household, 10 percent had one child, and 69 percent had no children living in the household.

For leavers, the proportion of renters with no children did not change, but the proportion of households with three or more children increased from 10 percent in 1993 to 17 percent in 1999.

Entrants experienced no change in household composition. In 1993, 16 percent had two or more children living in the household; by 1999, 22 percent had two or more children living in the household. The number of entrants with one child was 17 percent in 1993 and 11 percent in 1999. In both 1993 and 1999, 67 percent of entrants had no children living in the household.

Figure 3 summarizes work status and participation in the housing assistance program. For stayers, three-quarters (75 percent) were nonworkers in 1993 and this did not change for 1999 (72 percent). However, the proportion of leavers who were not working declined, from 40 percent in 1993 to 32 percent in 1999. Entrants experienced just the opposite: 64 percent were nonworkers in 1993 and 69 percent in 1999.

Housing Assistance Participation and Public Assistance and Food Stamp Participation

For each group, the proportion receiving public assistance declined between 1993 and 1999 (see Figure 4). Leavers experienced the largest decline in receipt of public assistance, from 33 percent in 1993 to 7 percent in 1999. For stayers, those receiving public assistance dropped from 31 percent in 1993 to 15 percent in 1999. Similarly, the number of entrants receiving public assistance dropped from 35 percent in 1993 to 17 percent in 1999.

Food stamp participation declined between 1993 and 1999 for all of the three groups (see Figure 5). For leavers, the proportion declined from 49 percent in 1993 to 20 percent in 1999. For stayers, the proportion receiving food stamps fell from 54 percent in 1993 to 35 percent in 1999. For entrants, the proportion receiving food stamps fell from 54 percent in 1993 to 40 percent in 1999.

¹¹ Public assistance refers to any cash payments received from the state or federal government because a household's income was too low to meet their needs. The income sources that public assistance includes are (1) general assistance, (2) TANF/AFDC, and (3) other assistance received.

Conclusion

This report describes research undertaken to investigate participation in rental subsidy programs during the period of welfare reform using the SPD SLF. While the number of renters increased between 1993 and 1999, the proportion receiving a rental subsidy remained the same. Several notable characteristics are common among the recipients, however. Those who continued to receive or started to receive a rental subsidy are predominantly poor, young, unmarried women with children, who were not working. Moreover, the SPD SLF indicates a decline in the receipt of both public assistance and food stamp benefits between 1993 and 1999 for people receiving rental subsidies. The release of the SPD third longitudinal file will provide two additional years (calendar years 2000 and 2001) of data and will allow for the ongoing investigation of people who continued to receive, stopped receiving, and started receiving rental subsidies, as well as their participation in the public assistance and food stamp programs.

SPD Public-Use File

The SPD second longitudinal public-use file, containing data from 1992 through 1999 was released in the fall of 2002. For further information contact the HHES Information Staff at 301-763-3242 or by e-mail at hhes-info@census.gov or visit the SPD Web page at www.sipp.census.gov/spd/.

Accuracy of the Estimates

Statistics from surveys are subject to sampling and nonsampling error. All comparisons presented in this report have taken sampling error into account and are significant at the 90-percent confidence level. This means the 90-percent confidence interval for the difference between the estimates being compared does not include zero. Nonsampling errors in surveys may be attributed to a variety of sources, such as how the survey was designed, how respondents interpret questions, how able and willing respondents are to provide correct answers, and how accurately the answers are coded and classified. The Census Bureau employs quality control procedures throughout the production process including the overall design of surveys, the wording of questions, review of the work of interviewers and

coders, and statistical review of reports to minimize these errors.

The Survey of Income and Program Participation weighting procedure uses ratio estimation, whereby sample estimates are adjusted to independent estimates of the national population by age, race, sex, and Hispanic origin. This weighting partially corrects for bias due to undercoverage, but biases may still be present when people who are missed by the survey differ from those interviewed in ways other than the age, race, sex, and Hispanic origin. How this weighting procedure affects other variables in the survey is not precisely known. All of these considerations affect comparisons across different surveys or data sources.

For further information on the source of the data and accuracy of the estimates including standard errors and confidence intervals, go to www.sipp.census.gov/sipp /sourceac/s&a96_040501.pdf or contact Dennis Sissel of the Census Bureau Demographic Statistical Methods Division on the Internet at charles.d.sissel@census.gov. For information on the content of the report, contact John Hisnanick, Chief, Longitudinal Income Statistics Branch, at 301-763-6685.

APPENDIX TABLES

Table A-1.

Characteristics of Renters Who Reported Receiving a Rental Subsidy in Both 1993 and 1999, by Year (Stayers)

| | Received a rental subsidy in both 1993 and 1999 | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| Characteristic | 1993 (000s) | Percent | S.E. | 1999 (000s) | Percent | S.E. | |
| Total | 2,552 | 100.0 | _ | 2,552 | 100.0 | _ | |
| Median household income (1999 dollars) | \$9,049 | - | \$347 | \$9,805 | - | \$552 | |
| Marital Status | | | | | | | |
| Married, spouse present Married, spouse absent Widowed Divorced Separated Never married | 256 26 763 507 200 800 | 10.1 1.0 29.9 19.9 7.8 31.3 | 2.0 0.7 3.1 2.7 1.8 3.1 | 288 31 793 550 175 715 | 11.3 1.2 31.1 21.6 6.9 28.0 | 2.1 0.7 3.1 2.7 1.7 3.0 | |
| Age | | | | | | | |
| Under 25 years 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65 and older | 116 431 428 206 361 1,011 | 4.5 16.9 16.8 8.1 14.1 39.6 | 1.4 2.5 2.5 1.8 2.3 3.3 | 15 261 408 341 285 1,243 | 0.6 10.2 16.0 13.3 11.2 48.7 | 0.6 2.2 2.7 2.5 2.3 3.6 | |
| Number of Children in Household | | | | | | | |
| None | 1,701 425 209 217 | 66.7 16.6 8.2 8.5 | 3.4 2.7 2.0 2.0 | 1,760 257 322 214 | 69.0 10.1 12.6 8.4 | 3.3 2.2 2.4 2.0 | |
| Working Status | | | | | | | |
| Full time, full year Part time, full year Full time, part year Part time, part year Nonworker. | 186 143 148 174 1,902 | 7.3 5.6 5.8 6.8 74.5 | 1.6 1.4 1.4 1.5 2.6 | 314 173 130 88 1,848 | 12.3 6.8 5.1 3.4 72.4 | 2.0 1.5 1.3 1.1 2.7 | |
| Did Household Receive Public Assistance Payments? | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 793 1,759 | 31.1 69.0 | 3.1 3.1 | 370 2,182 | 14.5 85.5 | 2.3 2.3 | |
| Did Household Receive Food Stamps? | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 1,371 1,181 | 53.7 46.3 | 3.3 3.3 | 889 1,663 | 34.8 65.2 | 3.2 3.2 | |

⁻ Represents zero.

Note: Numbers may not add to total because of rounding. Results are (\pm 1.645 * standard error).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Program Dynamics second longitudinal file.

Table A-2.

Characteristics of Renters Who Reported Receiving a Rental Subsidy in 1993, But Not in 1999, by Year (Leavers)

| 21 | Received a rental subsidy in 1993, but not in 1999 | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Characteristic | 1993 (000s) | Percent | S.E. | 1999 (000s) | Percent | S.E. |
| Total | 2,279 | 100.0 | _ | 2,279 | 100.0 | _ |
| Median household income (1999 dollars) | \$14,899 | - | \$1,340 | \$29,450 | _ | \$2,821 |
| Marital Status | | | | | | |
| Married, spouse present Married, spouse absent Widowed Divorced Separated Never married | 647 18 232 561 117 704 | 28.4 0.8 10.2 24.6 5.1 30.9 | 3.2 0.6 2.1 3.0 1.6 3.3 | 808 64 289 526 77 515 | 35.5 2.8 12.7 23.1 3.4 22.6 | 3.4 1.2 2.4 3.0 1.3 3.0 |
| Age | | | | | | |
| Under 25 years 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65 and older | 286 788 525 246 137 297 | 12.5 34.6 23.0 10.8 6.0 13.0 | 2.5 3.6 3.2 2.4 1.8 2.6 | 0 455 806 439 213 367 | 0.0 20.0 35.4 19.3 9.3 16.1 | 0.0 3.1 3.7 3.0 2.2 2.8 |
| Number of Children in Household | | | | | | |
| None | 1,154 498 393 233 | 50.7 21.9 17.3 10.2 | 3.5 2.9 2.7 2.1 | 1,131 439 318 392 | 49.6 19.3 13.9 17.2 | 3.5 2.8 2.4 2.7 |
| Working Status | | | | | | |
| Full time, full year Part time, full year Full time, part year Part time, part year Nonworker. | 753 216 195 212 902 | 33.0 9.5 8.6 9.3 39.6 | 3.0 1.9 1.8 1.8 3.1 | 1,044 212 223 71 729 | 45.8 9.3 9.8 3.1 32.0 | 3.2 1.8 1.9 1.1 3.0 |
| Did Household Receive Public Assistance Payments? | | | | | | |
| Yes | 752 1,527 | 33.0 67.0 | 3.3 3.3 | 163 2,116 | 7.2 92.9 | 1.8 1.8 |
| Did Household Receive Food Stamps? | | | | | | |
| Yes | 1,121 1,158 | 49.2 50.8 | 3.5 3.5 | 447 1,832 | 19.6 80.4 | 2.8 2.8 |

⁻ Represents zero.

Note: Numbers may not add to total because of rounding. Results are (\pm 1.645 * standard error).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Program Dynamics second longitudinal file.

Table A-3.
Characteristics of Renters Who Did Not Receive a Rental Subsidy in 1993, But Did in 1999, by Year (Entrants)

| 21 | Did not recieve a rental subsidy in 1993, but did in 1999 | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Characteristic | 1993 (000s) | Percent | S.E. | 1999 (000s) | Percent | S.E. |
| Total | 1,063 | 100.0 | - | 1,063 | 100.0 | _ |
| Median household income (1999 dollars) | \$11,514 | - | \$1,124 | \$11,160 | _ | \$666 |
| Marital Status | | | | | | |
| Married, spouse presesnt Married, spouse absent Widowed Divorced Separated Never married | 195 30 242 198 95 303 | 18.4 2.8 22.8 18.7 8.9 28.5 | 4.0 1.7 4.3 4.0 2.9 4.7 | 169 14 287 276 95 222 | 15.9 1.3 27.0 26.0 8.9 20.9 | 3.8 1.2 4.6 4.5 2.9 4.2 |
| Age | | | | | | |
| Under 25 years 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65 and older | 116 187 138 150 106 366 | 11.0 17.6 13.0 14.1 10.0 34.4 | 3.2 3.9 3.5 3.6 3.1 4.9 | 0 187 146 165 127 438 | 0.0 17.6 13.8 15.5 11.9 41.2 | 0.0 3.9 3.6 3.7 3.3 5.1 |
| Number of Children in Household | | | | | | |
| None | 709 181 135 39 | 66.7 17.0 12.7 3.7 | 4.9 3.9 3.4 2.0 | 708 121 110 124 | 66.6 11.4 10.3 11.7 | 4.9 3.3 3.1 3.3 |
| Working Status | | | | | | |
| Full time, full year Part time, full year Full time, part year Part time, part year Nonworker. | 117 53 144 74 675 | 11.0 5.0 13.6 7.0 63.5 | 2.9 2.0 3.2 2.4 4.5 | 136 68 48 78 733 | 12.8 6.4 4.5 7.3 69.0 | 3.1 2.3 1.9 2.4 4.3 |
| Did Household Receive Public Assistance Payments? | | | | | | |
| Yes | 374 688 | 35.2 64.8 | 4.9 4.9 | 184 879 | 17.3 82.7 | 3.9 3.9 |
| Did Household Receive Food Stamps? | | | | | | |
| Yes | 572 490 | 53.9 46.1 | 5.2 5.2 | 420 643 | 39.5 60.5 | 5.0 5.0 |

⁻ Represents zero.

Note: Numbers may not add to total because of rounding. Results are (\pm 1.645 * standard error).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Program Dynamics second longitudinal file.

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