

**What Works Best for Whom:  
Effects of Welfare and Work Policies  
by Subgroup**

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## Findings in Brief

This report examines the effects of welfare and work policies on earnings, welfare benefits, income, stable employment, and stable welfare exits across a range of subgroups using information from random assignment studies of 26 welfare and work policies studied by MDRC. No two of the programs are alike, but they used one of five broad approaches: (1) job-search-first programs required most welfare recipients to initially look for work; (2) education-first programs initially required most welfare recipients to enroll in education and training; (3) employment-focused mixed-activity programs stressed the importance of finding work but required more job-ready welfare recipients to look for work while allowing others to enroll in education or training programs; (4) education-focused mixed-activity programs likewise used a mix of initial activities but did not stress employment; and (5) earnings supplement programs provided extra financial payments to welfare recipients who went to work.

Among the key findings of the report are the following.

**x Job search appears to be important for increasing employment and earnings.** Earnings and employment generally increased the most for subgroups and program models where job search was stressed more than education or that used earnings supplements to encourage employment. Despite the apparent importance of job search, education still appears to have a role to play. The most effective programs across a range of subgroups were employment-focused mixed-activity programs, which allowed some more disadvantaged recipients to enroll initially in education and training but stressed the importance of employment to all participants.

**x Only earnings supplement programs consistently increased income.** Earnings supplement programs increased income across a range of subgroups while other approaches left income largely unchanged across a range of subgroups. All of the earnings supplement programs except one used enhanced earnings disregards, which allow welfare recipients to remain on welfare with more earnings. As a result, they encouraged people to combine work and welfare rather than to leave welfare for work.

**x In general, effects of the different types of programs on stable welfare exits were similar across subgroups.** For virtually every subgroup that was examined and for each of the five program models, impacts on stable welfare exits were not significantly different across subgroups. In particular, several programs that extensively used partial family sanctions to enforce mandates had much larger effects on stable welfare exits than on stable employment.

**x Performance indicators may be more indicative of impacts for more disadvantaged groups than for less disadvantaged groups.** For the most disadvantaged sample members, programs with larger impacts also tended to be the ones with higher outcome levels for program group members. This was not the case for the least disadvantaged sample members. This suggests that the use of performance indicators such as earnings levels for program participants might be a more accurate measure of the effect of a program for more disadvantaged groups.



# Chapter 1

## Introduction

Welfare caseloads have declined by more than half since 1993, and most welfare recipients who left welfare did so to go to work. Nevertheless, only the most optimistic observers believe the question of how to encourage welfare recipients to work has been solved. Even in the unexpectedly strong economy of the 1990s, many welfare recipients did not find work, and there consequently remain many hard-to-employ recipients on the rolls. In this era of time-limited welfare benefits, helping families achieve stable employment so they can remain off the rolls is critical. Finally, federal TANF rules might be reauthorized in 2004, and early indications are the new rules will require more welfare recipients to work and require them to work more hours per week. In light of these facts, states should be wondering how best to help welfare recipients find work, stay at work, and stay off cash assistance, and whether the answer to that question is different for different groups of welfare recipients.

This report examines the question of the best approaches to helping different welfare recipients work, leave welfare, and increase their income by studying 26 recent welfare and work policies. The programs share two distinguishing features. They all implemented a policy that was designed to increase work among welfare recipients, and they were all studied by MDRC using a rigorous experimental research design in which individuals were randomly assigned either to a program group, which took part in the new welfare and work policy, or to a control group, which did not have access to the new policy. The 26 programs cover a wide range of approaches. Some were focused more on education to help people build skills before looking for work, while some required welfare recipients to look for work. Some supplemented earnings to provide additional incentives to work and to help ensure that families benefited financially from work. Two were versions of TANF programs that included time limits on how long families could receive welfare.

This report tries to answer the question of “what works best for whom” among these welfare-to-work programs. Implicit in this question are three issues. For which identifiable subgroups of individuals did the programs have the largest and smallest impacts? Did successful programs affect only earnings and welfare benefits, or did they also increase income from earnings and public assistance? Which programs or program models had the most promising effects either for a broad range of subgroups or for some particularly important groups?

Welfare-to-work programs have existed for several decades, and earlier studies tried to determine who does and does not benefit from such programs. For Work Incentive Programs (WIN) implemented during the 1980s, Gueron and Pauly (1991) and Friedlander and Burtless (1995) found that the programs generally increased employment and earnings and were cost-effective. In comparing impacts for various groups in five of these studies, Friedlander (1988) found that earnings gains were concentrated among a middle group of welfare applicants who had spent some but not a great deal of prior time on welfare. In contrast, welfare savings came primarily from long-term recipients, especially those without a high school diploma or with little recent work experience. Partly in response to these findings, the Family Support Act of 1988 (FSA) created the Job Opportunities and Basic Skills Training (JOBS) program, which required

states to target resources toward welfare recipients who were the most likely to have a very long stay on welfare and the least likely to work and to offer services that were thought most likely to benefit this hard-to-serve group. Studying some of these programs, Michalopoulos and Schwartz (2001) found that programs meeting the requirements of the FSA helped more disadvantaged groups as much as or more than less disadvantaged groups.

The remainder of the report is organized as follows. This chapter describes the 26 programs being studied with an eye toward trying to understand similarities and differences that may affect subgroup impacts. Chapter 2 describes the effects of the programs on earnings, welfare benefits, and income by subgroup. Chapter 3 describes the effects of the programs on employment stability by subgroup. Chapter 4 describes the effects of the programs on stable welfare exits by subgroup. In each chapter, the focus is on three subgroups defined according to three barriers to work. The most disadvantaged group consists of long-term welfare recipients who have not graduated from high school and who did not work in the year prior to random assignment. The least disadvantaged group consists of people who faced none of these challenges, while the moderately disadvantaged are those with one or two of these challenges.

## **CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROGRAMS**

This report presents results for single-parent families from 26 different welfare-to-work programs operated in ten states, two Canadian provinces, and more than a dozen counties over a period of more than 10 years. This section provides some background information on the programs, including the program models and the characteristics of the sample members and the sites. The programs include:<sup>1</sup>

- x San Diego's Saturation Work Initiative Model (SWIM)
- x Six programs from California's Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN)
- x Eleven programs from the National Evaluation of Welfare-to-Work Strategies (NEWWS)
- x Two versions of Minnesota's Family Investment Program (MFIP)
- x Two versions of Vermont's Welfare Restructuring Program (WRP)
- x Two versions of the Canadian Self-Sufficiency Project (SSP)
- x Florida's Family Transition Program (FTP)
- x Connecticut's Jobs First

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<sup>1</sup>All 26 programs have three years or more of information on outcomes for sample members after random assignment. Two other programs studied since 1990 by MDRC — Florida's Project Independence and Los Angeles's Jobs First GAIN — did not have three years of follow-up data when this report was written.

## The Program Models

**The Saturation Work Initiative Model (SWIM)**<sup>2</sup> Operated between July 1985 and September 1987, the Saturation Work Initiative Model (SWIM) was an employment-focused program that was mandatory for most single-parent welfare-recipient households with no child under age 6. To provide help in finding employment, SWIM started most participants off with a two-week job search workshop. Participants who did not find a job after job search were referred to the Employment Work Experience Program (EWEP), which required them to work 20 to 30 hours per week for 13 weeks in public or nonprofit agencies in exchange for their welfare benefits. Those who were still not working after EWEP were referred to community education and training programs.

**Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN)**<sup>3</sup> Implemented in the mid 1980s, Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) was California's welfare-to-work program. In six of the state's 58 counties, the effects of GAIN were studied in a random assignment evaluation begun in early 1988.<sup>4</sup> Participants in the welfare-to-work program were placed in one of two tracks after an initial assessment. Individuals who had neither a high school diploma nor a General Educational Development (GED) certificate, who obtained low scores on either a basic reading or math test, or who were not proficient in English were considered "in need of basic education." Most entered a program of basic education, GED preparation, or English as a Second Language (ESL). Most other participants were required to enroll in a job search activity, primarily job club or supervised job search. If a participant in either track completed her first activity without finding a job, she may have been referred to on-the-job training, work experience, supported work, or other education and training. Although the six GAIN counties that were studied shared a uniform program model, the characteristics of the counties and their implementation of the model differed somewhat. In particular, the program operated in Riverside was much more employment focused than the others. Nearly all staff in Riverside emphasized quick employment, while no more than half in any other county did so.

**The National Evaluation of Welfare-to-Work Strategies (NEWWS)** The National Evaluation of Welfare-to-Work Strategies (NEWWS) was a study of 11 welfare-to-work programs created or adapted to fit the provisions of JOBS.<sup>5</sup> The JOBS program was designed to help states reach the hard-to-serve who sometimes fell through the cracks in earlier programs. To this end, states were required to spend at least 55 percent of JOBS resources on potential long-term recipients or among the more disadvantaged groups, including those who had received welfare in 36 of the prior 60 months, those who were custodial parents under age 24 without a high school diploma or GED, those who had little work experience, and those who were about to lose eligibility for welfare because their youngest child was age 16 or over. Under NEWWS, 11 welfare-to-work programs were studied in seven sites: Atlanta, Georgia; Columbus, Ohio; Detroit and

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<sup>2</sup>For a more detailed discussion of the SWIM program, see Hamilton and Friedlander (1989).

<sup>3</sup>For a more complete description of the GAIN program design, see Riccio, Friedlander, and Freedman (1994), particularly Chapters 1 and 2.

<sup>4</sup>Although GAIN began before the Family Support Act was implemented, it met the provisions of the legislation and later became California's JOBS program.

<sup>5</sup>For more information on the Family Support Act and the JOBS program, see Hamilton and Brock (1994), Chapter 1.

Grand Rapids, Michigan; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Portland, Oregon; and Riverside, California.<sup>6</sup> The programs fell into three broad categories. Three sites — Atlanta, Grand Rapids, and Riverside — implemented “labor force attachment” (LFA) programs that required most participants to begin with job search activities. Seven programs — “human capital development” (HCD) programs in Atlanta, Grand Rapids, and Riverside;<sup>7</sup> two programs in Columbus that tested different forms of case management;<sup>8</sup> and programs in Detroit and Oklahoma City — operated education-first programs that required most welfare recipients to enroll in education or training. The eleventh program — in Portland — emphasized to clients that the goal of the program was to get a job but encouraged participants to wait until they found a “good” job and encouraged those in need of more skills to enroll in education or training initially and look for a job later.

**The Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP)**<sup>9</sup> The Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) was begun in 1994 to test whether financial incentives would encourage welfare recipients to work. The financial incentive in MFIP was an enhanced earnings disregard that allowed working welfare recipients to continue receiving benefits until they earned 140 percent of the federal poverty threshold. Put another way, a mother of two who worked 20 hours per week and earned \$6 per hour would receive almost \$250 more in income under MFIP than under the usual welfare system (Figure 1.1 in Miller et al., 1997). In addition, MFIP required welfare recipients to participate in its welfare-to-work program after they had received welfare in 24 months over a three-year period. MFIP’s welfare-to-work program was an employment-focused program that assigned more job-ready individuals to jobs search but allowed others to enroll initially in education programs. This report describes results for two versions of MFIP, an incentives-only program that offered program group members the enhanced earnings disregard, and a full-services program that not only offered the enhanced disregard but also required long-term recipients to participate in the welfare-to-work program.

**The Family Transition Program (FTP)** Florida’s Family Transition Program (FTP) was a pilot version of a time-limited welfare program studied in Escambia County (Pensacola) beginning in 1994).<sup>10</sup> FTP required participants to engage in employment and training services, included a financial incentive that made work pay more than it did under the usual welfare rules, and imposed a time limit on receipt of welfare benefits. About 40 percent of the program group was considered more disadvantaged and allowed to receive welfare for 36 months in a 72-month

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<sup>6</sup>Descriptions included here are adapted from Freedman et al. (2000), Chapter 3.

<sup>7</sup>In Atlanta and Grand Rapids, people were randomly assigned to the control group, the HCD program group, or the LFA program group. In Riverside, those in need of basic education according to the GAIN criteria described above were randomly assigned to one of these three groups, but those not in need of basic education were randomly assigned to either the control group or the LFA program group.

<sup>8</sup>In Columbus, people were randomly assigned to the control group, a traditional case management group (in which one caseworker verified eligibility for welfare and a second managed program participation), or an integrated case management group (in which one caseworker both verified eligibility and managed program participation).

<sup>9</sup>For more details on the MFIP program, see Miller et al. (1997), Chapter 1. MFIP is also the name of Minnesota’s TANF program, which is a modified version of the MFIP program described here.

<sup>10</sup>The description of the FTP program is adapted from Bloom, Kemple, and Rogers-Dillon (1997), Chapter 1; information on implementation of the program is from Chapter 3.

period before reaching the program's time limit.<sup>11</sup> The remaining 60 percent of the program group was allowed to receive welfare for 24 months in a 60-month period before reaching the time limit. Unlike most of the other programs in this report the control group in FTP was also required to participate in services through Project Independence, Florida's JOBS program. Although both the control and program groups were required to participate in employment and training services, the mandate was different for the two groups in several ways. First, the welfare-to-work program for the control group was not fully funded during the period when FTP was studied. Second, control group members with a child under age 3 were exempt from the participation mandate. Third, mandates were much more strictly enforced for the program group than for the control group. Fourth, more participants in the program group were allowed to participate in education and skills development because they were not considered job ready.

**Connecticut Jobs First.**<sup>12</sup> Jobs First began operating in January 1996 as Connecticut's TANF program. With a 21-month time limit, Jobs First had the shortest time limit in the country. In practice, however, most families that reached the time limit while the program was being evaluated were granted an extension if they had earnings that were less than their welfare grant plus \$90. In addition to the time limit, the program required welfare recipients to enroll in employment and training services that included both job search and basic education. Welfare recipients were also encouraged to work through the program's generous financial incentive, which allowed them to keep their entire welfare check and food stamp benefit as long as they were earning less than the federal poverty threshold.

**The Vermont Welfare Restructuring Project (WRP)**<sup>13</sup> One of the earliest statewide welfare reform programs initiated under waivers of federal welfare rules prior to 1996, WRP used a number of policies to try to increase self-sufficiency by enabling families to supplement or supplant public assistance with earnings. To provide a financial incentive to work, WRP had an earned income disregard that allowed parents to keep more earnings after an initial period of work. To ease the transition away from welfare, WRP extended Medicaid and child care subsidies. To allow parents a means of finding and keeping a job, WRP permitted welfare recipients to own a more valuable car. Finally, to force parents to work if all other encouragement failed, WRP included a time limit that required parents to work after 30 months.

**The Canadian Self-Sufficiency Project (SSP)**<sup>14</sup> SSP offered a three-year earnings supplement to selected single-parent welfare recipients in British Columbia and New Brunswick. The earnings supplement was a monthly cash payment available to single parents who had been on welfare for at least one year and who left welfare for full-time work (30 hours or more per week) within a year of entering the program. The supplement was paid on top of earnings for up to three continuous years, as long as the person continued to work full-time and remained off welfare. While collecting the supplement, an eligible single parent received an immediate payoff from work; in most cases, her total income before taxes was about twice her earnings.

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<sup>11</sup>A person was given a 36-month time limit if she had received welfare for at least 36 of the 60 months prior to random assignment or if she was a high school dropout under age 24 with little or no recent work history.

<sup>12</sup>Bloom et al. (2002).

<sup>13</sup>For more details on the WRP program, see Scrivener, et al. (2002).

<sup>14</sup>For more details on SSP, see Michalopoulos et al. (2002) and Michalopoulos, Robins, and Card (Forthcoming).

Table 1.1 summarizes the main work-related components of each program. As the table indicates, nearly every program included mandatory welfare-to-work activities, and most of the programs had neither additional financial incentives nor time limits. However, eight of the sites or programs supplemented the earnings of those who went to work to provide additional financial incentive to work and to further increase the income of those who worked. In addition, two programs had time limits on how long families could receive benefits.

Table 1.2 further summarizes the self-sufficiency approaches used by the programs by placing them into one of five categories.

- x **Job-Search-First Programs.** SWIM, Atlanta LFA, Riverside LFA, and Grand Rapids LFA required most welfare recipients to initially look for work.
- x **Education-First Programs.** Atlanta HCD, Riverside HCD, Grand Rapids HCD, two programs in Columbus, and programs in Detroit and Oklahoma City required most welfare recipients to enroll initially in education and training. In Atlanta, Riverside, and Grand Rapids, education was usually adult basic education (ABE). In Detroit and Oklahoma City, services focused more on long-term education and training.
- x **Employment-Focused Mixed-Activity Programs.** Riverside GAIN and the JOBS program in Portland stressed the importance of finding work but used a mix of initial activities, requiring more job-ready welfare recipients to look for work but allowing others to enroll in education or training programs. While Riverside GAIN used remedial education — ABE, GED preparation, or English-as-a-second-language (ESL) classes — Portland used both remedial education and vocational training.
- x **Education-Focused Mixed-Activity Programs.** The GAIN programs in Alameda, Butte, Los Angeles, San Diego, and Tulare Counties were more education focused while using a mix of initial activities. Participants in these programs who had not graduated from high school or earned a GED, who lacked basic math or verbal skills, or who did not speak English were assigned to ABE, GED preparation, or ESL classes. Other participants were asked to look for work.
- x **Earnings Supplement Programs.** The two versions of Vermont's WRP program, the two versions of the MFIP program, the two provinces in SSP, Florida's FTP, and Connecticut's Jobs First programs all supplemented earnings of welfare recipients who went to work. Sometimes earnings supplements were combined with requirements that welfare recipients engage in job search or education and, in Florida and Connecticut, combined with time limits on welfare receipt.

Different programs using the same basic approach might be more or less effective at engaging welfare recipients, or might rely more or less on job search compared with education. To further explore differences across the programs. Table 1.3 shows the impacts of the programs on four types of welfare-to-work activities: job search, basic education, vocational training, and unpaid work experience.

Not surprisingly, programs in the top two categories (job search first and employment-focused mixed activities) resulted in larger increase in job search than in education. Neverthe-

less, several of the employment-focused programs did increase the use of education and training. Among the LFA programs, for example, vocational training increased by 16 percentage points and basic education increased by 5.1 percentage points in Atlanta. Because they used a mix of initial activities, Riverside GAIN and Portland both increased the use of education and training, although Riverside's effects were exclusively on basic education while Portland increased the use of vocational training as well.

Likewise, programs that focused more on education activities (education-focused mixed activities and education-first programs) tended to have larger effects on basic education than on job search. There was considerable variation across these programs, however. Among the more education-focused programs, all except two increased use of basic education by more than 10 percentage points. The two exceptions were Detroit and Oklahoma City, which ran de facto voluntary programs during much or all of the period in which they were evaluated. Three programs included only more disadvantaged welfare recipients — the evaluation of Alameda and Los Angeles GAIN included only long-term welfare recipients and only those in need of basic education were randomly assigned to the Riverside HCD program — and all three increased use of basic education by more than 20 percentage points.

There is one dimension on which the more education-oriented programs were generally similar. Most of them emphasized short-term basic education rather than vocational training or post-secondary education. In all cases except one (Detroit), the programs' impact on use of basic education exceeded its impact on use of vocational training. Where impacts on post-secondary education were measured separately from vocational training (all programs not included in NEWWS), impacts on post-secondary education were small and therefore not included in the table.

Regardless of orientation — employment-focused, education-focused, or with earnings supplements — the ultimate goal of every program was to encourage work. Perhaps for this reason, nearly every program with a mandatory participation requirement (that is, excluding SSP and the incentives only versions of MFIP and WRP) increased job search activities by more than 10 percentage points.

Since this is a report about subgroups, it is important to understand the activities that different groups of people were assigned to. In the mixed-activity programs, in particular, job-ready participants were supposed to be assigned to different activities than those who were thought to need more education. To help understand subgroup differences in activities, Table 1.4 shows impacts on participation in GAIN and NEWWS for those who were not considered to need basic education, and for those who were. In NEWWS, the "in-need" group consists of individuals who had not graduated from high school or earned a GED certificate by the time of random assignment. In GAIN, an individual was considered in need of basic education if, at the time of random assignment, they had neither a high school diploma nor a GED certificate, had obtained low scores on either a basic reading or math test, or were not proficient in English. Because it is beyond the scope of the present study to calculate participation rates by subgroup, Table 1.4 relies on numbers that appear in published reports. Impacts on program participation are not shown for other subgroups because they were not consistently reported across studies. They are not shown for other programs because they were not calculated for these subgroups in other studies.

By and large, the job-search-first programs appear to live up to their billing. Whether or not participants were in need of basic education, the primary effect of the programs was to increase job search activities. As shown above, the Atlanta LFA was not quite as single-minded as the other programs, increasing the use of basic education by those in need of basic education by 13.3 percentage points.

For the other three program models, in contrast, education did increase considerably among the in-need group. Most of those programs focused on basic education, with increases as great as 51.8 percentage points in the Alameda GAIN program. But Portland and Detroit had larger effects on post-secondary and vocational training for the in-need group than for basic education.

Perhaps the greatest difference between the two subgroups is seen in the education-focused mixed-activity programs. All four programs increased job search by those not in need of basic education by more than 20 percentage points and increased use of basic education by the in-need group by more than 25 percentage points. For these programs, therefore, differences between more and less disadvantaged groups might reflect differences between the effectiveness of job search and the effectiveness of basic education. If that is true, then the effects of these programs for more disadvantaged groups should be similar to the effects of education-first programs for more disadvantaged groups, while their effects for less disadvantaged groups should be similar to the effects of the job-search-first programs.

## **Data Sources**

With one exception, follow-up information used in this report comes from administrative records. Earnings information was taken from reports made by employers to the state unemployment insurance (UI) system. Welfare and food stamp information comes from state, county, or provincial welfare system administrative records. The exception is SSP, where information on employment and earnings come from surveys conducted at the time of random assignment and about 18, 36, and 54 months after random assignment.<sup>15</sup>

Some subgroups in this report are defined based solely on administrative records collected for the period prior to random assignment. Others are defined from baseline information provided by caseworkers or sample members at the time of random assignment. Baseline information included demographic information, such as the educational attainment, prior work experience, and welfare history of the sample member; marital status and number and ages of children; race and ethnicity, and sex.

Still other subgroups are defined based on responses to a private opinion survey (POS), which was administered at the time of random assignment to sample members in MFIP, FTP, and the Atlanta, Grand Rapids, Portland, and Riverside NEWWS sites. The POS was designed to ascertain such information as sample members' risk of depression; mastery or locus of control;

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<sup>15</sup>Because food stamp amounts were not collected for the evaluation of SWIM, public assistance amounts for SWIM include only cash assistance payments. In MFIP, food stamps and General Assistance were included in the cash assistance welfare check for members of the program group. As a result, public assistance amounts in MFIP for both the control and program groups represent the sum of cash welfare payments, General Assistance, and the cash value of food stamps.



preference for work; barriers to work or program participation because of child care, transportation, and health or family problems; and degree of work-related parental concerns. Similar information was asked on a baseline survey in SSP.

## **RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

This report tries to answer the question of “what works best for whom” among welfare and work policies for single-parent welfare recipients. Implicit in this question are three broad research issues.

### **x Which groups were affected the most and the least?**

To answer the “for whom” part of the question, the report examines subgroups of single-parent families based on a number of characteristics, including educational attainment; work and welfare history; race, ethnicity, and sex; number and age of children; barriers to work because of child care, transportation, and health or emotional problems; preference for work over welfare; parental concerns about leaving family for work; and depression and feeling of mastery over life circumstances. To investigate results for a group of individuals expected to be especially hard to help, a most disadvantaged subgroup was defined to include long-term recipients (those who had ever been on welfare two years or more prior to random assignment) who had not graduated from high school and who had no earnings in the year prior to random assignment. Likewise, a least disadvantaged group was defined as individuals with none of these barriers, while individuals were considered moderately disadvantaged if they had one or two barriers. The report focuses on these three levels of disadvantage because they differ substantially in how much they would work and receive welfare in the absence of the policies that are examined.

### **x In what dimensions are the programs succeeding?**

In studying the policies, the report investigates a number of outcomes: earnings, welfare benefits, income, stable employment, and stable welfare exits. Policymakers may want to encourage welfare recipients to work; for them, the “best” program may be the one that increases employment and earnings the most. Other policymakers may be primarily interested in reducing spending on welfare; for them, the best program may be the one that reduces cash assistance the most. Welfare recipients and policymakers concerned about child and family poverty may care most about total income; for them, the best program may be the one that increases income the most. Finally, programs with similar effects on earnings and welfare receipt might differ in how much they encourage people to work steadily or to remain off the welfare rolls for a sustained period. For example, policies with similar effects on welfare benefit amounts might have different effects on how long people stay off the rolls if one program operates in a state with relatively generous welfare grants while the other operates in a state with relatively low grant levels.

### **x Which programs or program models work best?**

These programs vary in a number of ways, including how they helped clients make the transition from welfare to work, who was enrolled in the programs, how the programs were implemented, where the programs were implemented, and the economic conditions under which they were implemented. If programs with one set of characteristics consistently outperformed others for some subgroups, policymakers might want to repeat those programs for some welfare recipients.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- x The group of programs with the most consistent effects on employment and earnings were employment-focused programs that allowed some welfare recipients to enroll in short-term education or training.**

One program model had the largest effects on earnings and employment across a wide range of subgroups. Programs in this group assigned job-ready individuals initially to look for work and assigned others initially to education or training activities. Even for those in need of education, however, the programs stressed that employment was the ultimate goal. There are several possible explanations for the success of this group of programs. Perhaps the use of both job search and education allowed each participant to initially do what was best for her, while the programs' employment focus ensured they were looking for work fairly quickly. This result should be interpreted cautiously, however, because there were only two programs in this category, and those two programs — Riverside GAIN and Portland's JOBS program — are perhaps the two most effective welfare-to-work programs ever studied using random assignment.

- x Results point to the importance of job search in increasing employment and earnings.**

The employment-focused mixed-activity programs mentioned above had substantial effects on job search both for those in need of basic education and for others. Job-search-first programs, which obviously stressed job search, had fairly substantial effects on earnings and employment for a wide range of subgroups. Perhaps most revealing were the effects of education-focused mixed-activity programs. These programs had among the largest effects on earnings and employment for less disadvantaged groups, for whom they substantially increased job search activities, but had fairly small effects on more disadvantaged groups, for whom they stressed education activities.

- x Education-oriented programs generated small impacts for more disadvantaged groups.**

For more disadvantaged groups, the two types of education-oriented programs had smaller effects on earnings, welfare benefits, and stable employment than the other three program models. Since education costs more than job search, this suggests that education as the primary welfare-to-work activity might not be the best approach for the most disadvantaged, and that education and training might be better targeted at groups that have already had success in school rather than those who appear to lack basic academic skills. Since these education-oriented programs did not necessarily use state-of-the-art education services, it is possible that a program that wants to use education and training to increase earnings for the most disadvantaged could do better than the programs studied by MDRC. Finally, it is important to recognize that a head-to-head comparison of education-first and job-search-first programs in three sites in the National Evaluation of Welfare-to-Work Strategies found that the two approaches had similar effects after the first year or two (Hamilton et al., 2000).

- x Only programs that supplemented the income of parents who went to work consistently increased income, but they did so by increasing families' use of public assistance.**

Syntheses of the effects of welfare and work policies have found that programs that supplement earnings consistently increase household income while policies that use only work-related mandates do not (Bloom and Michalopoulos, 2001). This result holds for subgroups as well: earnings supplement programs increase income across a range of subgroups while other programs leave income largely unchanged across a range of subgroups. All of the earnings supplement programs except one used enhanced earnings disregards, which allow welfare recipients to remain on welfare with more earnings. As a result, they encouraged people to combine work and welfare rather than to leave welfare for work. Although these programs encourage self-sufficiency through work, in a world of time-limited welfare they also make it more likely that welfare recipients will use up their time on welfare quickly.

**x In general, effects of the different types of programs on stable welfare exits were similar across subgroups.**

For virtually every subgroup that was examined, for each of the five program models, and for each of three outcomes that were examined, impacts on stable welfare exits were not significantly different across subgroups. Since differences were found in the impacts of the programs on stable employment by subgroup, this suggests that a number of programs are encouraging people to leave welfare without helping them find stable work. In particular, several programs that enforced participation mandates with extensive use of partial family sanctions had much larger effects on stable welfare exits than on stable employment.

**x The most disadvantaged are much less likely to find stable employment or to have stable welfare exits than the least disadvantaged.**

Among most disadvantaged control group members, only about 5 percent worked at least 75 percent of the follow-up period, compared with more than one third of the least disadvantaged. About 25 percent of the most disadvantaged sample members stayed off welfare for four or more consecutive quarters, compared with more than half of the least disadvantaged sample members. These differences are not surprising since most disadvantaged sample members were long-term welfare recipients who had not worked in the year prior to random assignment, and history is often an excellent indicator of the future. However, the differences are much larger than for subgroups defined by the individual characteristics.

**x Performance indicators may be more indicative of program impacts for more disadvantaged groups than for less disadvantaged groups.**

For the most disadvantaged sample members, programs with larger impacts also tended to be the ones with higher average outcome levels for program group members. This was not the case for the least disadvantaged sample members. This result may suggest that the use of performance indicators such as earnings levels for program participants might be a more accurate measure of the effect of a program for more disadvantaged groups, for whom earnings are expected to be consistently low across sites in the absence of a program, than for less disadvantaged groups, for whom earnings vary substantially across sites.

**Table 1.1**  
**Policy Components of the Programs**

<b>Evaluation or Program</b>	<b>Mandatory Services</b>				
	<b>Job search first</b>	<b>Education first</b>	<b>Mix of job search and education as initial activities</b>	<b>Earnings supplements</b>	<b>Time limited welfare</b>
<b>SWIM (San Diego)</b>	✓				
<b>GAIN</b>					
Alameda			✓		
Butte			✓		
Los Angeles			✓		
Riverside			✓		
San Diego			✓		
Tulare			✓		
<b>NEWWS</b>					
Atlanta LFA	✓				
Atlanta HCD		✓			
Grand Rapids LFA	✓				
Grand Rapids HCD		✓			
Riverside LFA	✓				
Riverside HCD		✓			
Columbus Integrated		✓			
Columbus Traditional		✓			
Detroit		✓			
Oklahoma City		✓			
Portland			✓		
<b>FTP (Florida)</b>			✓	✓	✓
<b>Jobs First (Conn.)</b>			✓	✓	✓
<b>MFIP (Minnesota)</b>					
Full Services			✓	✓	
Incentives Only				✓	
<b>WRP (Vermont)</b>					
Full Services	✓			✓	
Incentives Only				✓	
<b>Self-Sufficiency Project</b>					
British Columbia				✓	
New Brunswick				✓	

**Table 1.2**  
**Summary of Self-Sufficiency Approaches of 26 Welfare and Work Programs**

<b>Policies with Earning Supplements</b>	<b>Education-First Programs</b>	<b>Education-Focused Programs with Mix of First Activity</b>	<b>Employment-Focused Programs With Mix of First Activity</b>	<b>Job-Search-First Programs</b>
SSP in New Brunswick	Atlanta HCD	Alameda GAIN	Riverside GAIN	Atlanta LFA
SSP in British Columbia	Grand Rapids HCD	Butte GAIN	Portland	Grand Rapids LFA
Minnesota MFIP Full Services	Riverside HCD	Los Angeles GAIN		Riverside LFA
Minnesota MFIP Incentives Only	Columbus Integrated	San Diego GAIN		San Diego SWIM
Vermont WRP Full Services	Columbus Traditional	Tulare GAIN		
Vermont WRP Incentives Only	Detroit			
Connecticut Jobs First	Oklahoma City			
Florida Family Transition Program				

**Table 1.3**  
**Impacts on Participation in Welfare-to-Work Activities**

Program	Job search	Basic Education	Post-Secondary or Vocational Training	Work Experience
<b>Job search first</b>				
SWIM	53.2	10.2	n/a	20.7
Atlanta LFA	29.1	5.1	16.0	6.4
Grand Rapids LFA	27.1	-0.2	-2.5	3.2
Riverside LFA	31.8	-0.5	0.0	1.0
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>				
Riverside GAIN	36.6	15.9	-1.8	-0.6
Portland	32.2	5.3	7.3	7.1
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>				
Alameda GAIN	28.0	35.4	5.3	1.8
Butte GAIN	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Los Angeles GAIN	9.8	21.4	2.7	-0.6
San Diego GAIN	26.2	13.7	3.0	0.8
Tulare GAIN	22.5	31.6	7.4	-0.1
<b>Education first</b>				
Atlanta HCD	11.4	16.1	9.7	4.9
Grand Rapids HCD	12.8	12.4	5.9	2.5
Riverside HCD	21.1	38.2	1.3	0.8
Columbus Integrated	10.3	11.9	2.6	6.7
Columbus Traditional	7.7	11.2	6.0	5.4
Detroit	6.9	0.2	7.0	-0.1
Oklahoma City	5.1	9.8	3.2	2.6
<b>Earnings Supplements</b>				
SSP - British Columbia	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
SSP - New Brunswick	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
MFIP Full Services	15.5	-1.9	-0.6	1.0
MFIP Incentives Only	1.4	-2.0	-0.7	2.1
WRP Full Services	13.8	1.8	3.7	3.7
WRP Incentives Only	1.9	2.3	0.6	-0.2
Jobs First	17.2	-1.5	0.3	0.8
FTP	20.6	9.8	8.8	6.7

SOURCE: NEWWS: Table A.1 of Freedman et al. (2000); GAIN: Table 2.5 of Riccio et al. (1994); SWIM: Table 3.1 of Friedlander and Hamilton (1993); Jobs First: Table 2.2 of Bloom et al. (2002); FTP: Table 3.2 of Bloom et al. (1998a); WRP: Table 3.9 of Bloom et al. (1998b); MFIP: Tables 3.2 through 3.5 of Miller et al. (2000).

NOTE: n/a = not available in published reports.

Participation was measured over a two-year period in NEWWS and FTP; over a 3-year period in MFIP and Jobs First; over a period from two to three years in SWIM and GAIN; and over a period of 42 months in WRP.

In NEWWS and GAIN, vocational training includes post-secondary education. In the published SWIM reports, impacts for education were calculated for all education and training combined.

**Table 1.4**  
**Impacts on Participation in Welfare-to-Work Activities, by Need for Basic Education**

Program and Subgroup	Not in Need of Basic Education			In Need of Basic Education				
	Job search	Basic Education	Post-secondary Vocational & Training	Work Experience	Job Search	Basic Education	Post-secondary Vocational & Training	Work Experience
<b>Job search first</b>								
Atlanta LFA	28.7	0.7	1.5	8.6	29.8	13.3	1.9	2.9
Grand Rapids LFA	29.8	0.8	-3.0	3.8	21.5	-2.8	-0.9	2.1
Riverside LFA	29.3	0.9	0.5	1.0	33.7	-1.7	-0.3	1.1
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>								
Riverside GAIN	47.8	-0.7	-2.4	-0.8	31.3	24.4	-1.2	-0.5
Portland	36.2	4.7	5.2	5.9	25.8	6.2	12.8	8.0
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>								
Alameda GAIN	52.3	4.7	16.4	3.9	15.8	51.8	0.2	0.7
Los Angeles GAIN	22.9	1.8	4.6	-1.2	7.4	25.7	3.1	-0.4
San Diego GAIN	34.0	-0.7	4.8	0.9	19.9	25.3	1.8	-0.7
Tulare GAIN	43.4	0.8	12.1	0.3	11.5	48.2	4.0	-0.2
<b>Education first</b>								
Atlanta HCD	14.0	5.4	15.3	7.6	7.2	34.2	1.1	0.7
Grand Rapids HCD	11.9	5.2	3.4	3.6	14.9	25.6	9.7	0.9
Riverside HCD					21.1	38.2	1.3	0.8
Columbus Integrated	10.6	4.6	3.3	8.0	8.9	22.9	-0.5	3.5
Columbus Traditional	8.7	1.8	5.3	6.9	6.8	25.1	5.7	2.4
Detroit	7.0	-3.1	2.1	-1.4	7.9	3.8	10.5	1.5
Oklahoma City	4.8	3.5	1.4	2.6	4.0	17.8	4.0	3.0

SOURCE: NEWWS: Table A.2 of Freedman et al. (2000); GAIN: Tables 2.7 and 2.8 of Riccio et al. (1994).

NOTE: Participation was measured over a two-year period in NEWWS and over a period from two to three years in GAIN. In NEWWS, the "in-need of basic education" group consists of individuals who had not graduated from high school or earned a GED certificate by the time of random assignment. In GAIN, an individual was considered in need of basic education if, at the time of random assignment, they had neither a high school diploma nor a GED certificate, had obtained low scores on either a basic reading or math test, or were not proficient in English.

## Chapter 2

### Impacts on Earnings, Welfare Benefits, and Income

This chapter presents the effects of the 26 welfare and work policies by subgroup on earnings, welfare benefits, and income from earnings, cash assistance, and food stamps. Although a number of subgroups are examined, the chapter focuses on a composite subgroup based on three barriers to work: welfare history, recent work history, and high school credential. (Appendix A shows results for a number of other subgroups.) These barriers were used because the baseline information that was collected in most MDRC studies did not include information on psychosocial constructs such as depression, family problems, and barriers to work from child care and transportation. In addition, Michalopoulos and Schwartz (2001) found these barriers, especially recent work history, to be much better predictors of future success in the labor market than the psychosocial barriers.

These barriers were used to define three levels of disadvantage. The “most disadvantaged” group consists of long-term recipients (those who had been on welfare for at least two years prior to random assignment) who had not graduated from high school or worked in the year prior to random assignment. The “least disadvantaged” group consists of people who had none of these barriers. The “moderately disadvantaged” group consists of people who had one or two barriers.

This chapter examines impacts by level of disadvantage in four ways. Impacts are first shown for each of five program models, defined by the self-sufficiency approaches described in Chapter 1. Once the most and least successful program models are identified, impacts for individual programs are examined to determine whether a program model’s success was shared by all programs of that type. If there is variability across programs, the next question is whether differences in impacts across programs can be explained by the intensity of what the programs did. This is done by relating impacts by subgroup and program to the effects that the programs had on job search and education, their part-time and full-time work incentives, and whether they had a time limit on welfare benefits. The penultimate section of the chapter tackles a very different issue by comparing impacts to program group outcomes as the beginning of an investigation into the usefulness of performance standards as a means of evaluating the effectiveness of welfare-to-work programs. The chapter ends by briefly examining pooled impacts by program model for a number of additional subgroups.

#### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

**x Job search assistance produced the most consistent gains in earnings across subgroups, particularly for more disadvantaged groups.** Programs that required all welfare recipients to initially look for work generated substantial impacts for more disadvantaged subgroups. Employment-focused programs that used a mix of activities, but that primarily increased job search assistance, generated large effects on earnings across subgroups. Perhaps most telling, education-focused programs that used a mix of activities focused on job search for job-ready participants and generated substantial earnings gains for groups of more job-ready participants. By contrast, programs that required most participants to engage in education — primarily remedial education — generated fairly small effects for most subgroups.



**x Programs that supplemented the earnings of people who worked full time also generated substantial effects on earnings.** Another means of encouraging work, particularly among more disadvantaged groups, is to supplement the earnings of those who work full time. This approach was used in the Canadian Self-Sufficiency Project, which increased earnings substantially in two very different provinces. By contrast, earnings disregards in most welfare programs in the U.S. primarily encourage part-time work. Such earnings disregards by themselves may encourage work among people who would not otherwise have worked, but their overall effects might be mitigated by work cutbacks among people who would have worked full time.

**x Only programs that supplemented the income of parents who went to work consistently increased income.** Syntheses of the effects of welfare and work policies have found that programs that supplement earnings consistently increase household income while policies that use only work-related mandates do not (Bloom and Michalopoulos, 2001). This result holds for subgroups as well: earnings supplement programs — both those with supplements for full-time work and those with supplements for part-time work — increase income across a range of subgroups while other programs leave income largely unchanged across a range of subgroups.

**x Performance indicators such as program group average outcomes may be more indicative of program impacts for more disadvantaged groups than for less disadvantaged groups.** For the most disadvantaged sample members, programs with larger impacts on earnings also tended to be the ones with higher average earnings levels for program group members. This was not the case for the least disadvantaged sample members. This result may suggest that the use of performance indicators such as earnings levels for program participants might be a more accurate measure of the effect of a program for more disadvantaged groups, for whom earnings are expected to be consistently low across sites in the absence of a program, than for less disadvantaged groups, for whom earnings vary substantially across sites.

## **POOLED IMPACTS BY PROGRAM MODEL**

Table 2.1 presents pooled impacts on earnings, cash assistance payments, and income from earnings, cash assistance payments, and food stamp benefits by level of disadvantage for the five program models described in Chapter 1 (job search first, education first, employment-focused mixed activity, education-focused mixed activity, and earnings supplements). To calculate the pooled results, impacts from the individual programs of a particular type were averaged together, weighted by the number of sample members in a subgroup in a program. For all three measures, results are shown averaged over the three years following random assignment and for the third year by itself.

### **Impacts on Earnings**

#### ***Which program model increased earnings the most for the most disadvantaged?***

The ultimate reason to look at impacts by subgroup is to understand the type of program that is most likely to help a particular group. If a state is primarily interested in helping the most disadvantaged, they might want to pick a program model that has the biggest effects for that group. If they want an approach that helps a broad portion of the caseload, they might pick the approach that tends to have relatively large impacts across the board.

Table 2.1 suggests that the best way to increase the earnings of the most disadvantaged welfare recipients over a three-year period is to stress employment, either through case management or financial work incentives, but not to rely too much on education. Of the five program models, only the education-focused mixed-activity programs failed to significantly increase earnings over the three-year period, while the education-first programs had relatively small effects on earnings for the most disadvantaged. While the effects of both education-oriented approaches were greater in the third year, they still lagged behind the effects of the other programs.<sup>16</sup>

If the primary goal is to increase earnings for the most disadvantaged without regard to income, an administrator should probably choose either the job-search-first programs or the mixed-activity programs with an employment focus. Both types of programs used primarily job search to encourage work among the most disadvantaged, an approach that has been found to save money or to be relatively inexpensive to run. In contrast, programs that supplement earnings generally cost more — sometimes substantially more — than the programs they replaced.

***Which program model increased earnings the most for the moderately disadvantaged?***

All of the program models generated significant earnings gains for the moderately disadvantaged, but impacts were largest — \$1,406 per year over the three-year period and \$1,558 in Year 3 — for the employment-focused mixed-activity programs. In fact, earnings gains for the full sample were greatest for the moderately disadvantaged (not shown on the table) and were significantly larger than for the other two subgroups.

Results in Table 2.1 are consistent with the notion that job search is an effective way to increase earnings for the moderately disadvantaged, a group that includes some people in need of basic education and some job-ready welfare recipients. Both the job-search-first programs and the employment-focused mixed-activity programs would have had large effects on job search for such a mixed group, and impacts on earnings for the moderately disadvantaged were largest for these program models. Likewise, education-first programs would have had the smallest impact on job search for such a group, and they generated the smallest impacts on earnings. Finally, education-focused mixed-activity programs would have had modest effects on job search, and programs in that category had modest impacts on earnings for the moderately disadvantaged.

***Which program model increased earnings the most for the least disadvantaged?***

Among the least disadvantaged participants, both categories of mixed-activity programs generated substantial effects on earnings, while none of the other program models significantly increased earnings.

The fact that mixed-activity programs had larger effects on earnings for the least disadvantaged than the job-search-first programs presents a bit of a mystery. All three program models substantially increased job search for high school graduates (recall that all of the least

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<sup>16</sup> Although it is not reported on the table, a statistical test was performed to determine whether impacts across the five program models were significantly different for each subgroup. For each of the six outcomes shown on Table 2.1, impacts were significantly different across the program models at the 1 percent significance level (or better) for each of the three subgroups.

disadvantaged had a high school diploma or GED at random assignment) and had much smaller effects on education and training. If job search were responsible for large increases in earnings, impacts on earnings should have been substantial for job-search-first programs as well. Perhaps the large impact of the mixed-activity programs suggests that they successfully targeted education services at the least disadvantaged welfare recipients who were best able to benefit from education. Recall, however, that Chapter 1 showed that the mixed-activity programs had larger effects on job search among high school graduates than did the job-search-first programs. Their larger effects on earnings might reflect their larger effects on job search. Finally, it is worth noting that impacts on earnings for job-search-first programs were not statistically significantly lower for the least disadvantaged than for the other groups.

The results in Table 2.1 suggest that if one program had to be designed to increase earnings for a broad range of welfare recipients, it should be employment focused with a mix of initial activities. It was the only program model with effects on annual earnings exceeding \$800 for all three groups. Moreover, it had the largest effects for both the most disadvantaged and moderately disadvantaged. Although using education for most welfare recipients was not an effective approach, these results suggest it might be important to use education for those in need of basic skills, especially if the ultimate goal of finding a job is stressed.

Cost might also point away from the education-focused programs and toward the employment-focused programs. In the NEWWS evaluation, for example, the Atlanta, Grand Rapids, and Riverside LFA and HCD programs were run side-by-side, allowing rigorous comparisons of the two approaches. In each case, the LFA program cost less or saved more than the HCD programs. For example, in Grand Rapids, the LFA program saved the government \$2,908 per program group member over a five-year period, while the HCD program cost the government \$308. The most cost-effective program studied in NEWWS was Portland, which is also an employment-focused program, and which saved the government more than \$5,000 per program group member over five years. Finally, the evaluation of GAIN, the Riverside program generated the largest savings, and several of the more education-focused generated smaller welfare savings than their programs cost to operate.<sup>17</sup>

### **Impacts on Cash Assistance Payments**

#### ***Which program model saved the most welfare dollars for the most disadvantaged?***

The middle set of results in Table 2.1 show the effects of the program models on welfare payments. If the sole goal of a welfare-to-work program were to save welfare dollars, these results suggest that a program should be employment-focused, and probably should require all welfare recipients to work. This makes some sense, since welfare payments in most of these programs were reduced when earnings increased, and the more employment-focused programs had larger effects on earnings for the most disadvantaged than did the more education-focused programs.

Although most welfare-to-work programs are designed to reduce welfare use, they are typically not judged solely on their welfare savings, but on whether welfare savings stem from increased self-sufficiency. Thus, it is important to compare the levels of welfare savings to the level

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<sup>17</sup> Hamilton, et al, 2001 for NEWWS; Riccio et al., 1994, for GAIN.

of earnings gains in judging the effectiveness of the various program models. In this regard, the employment-focused mixed-activity programs stand out. They generated the largest effects on earnings among the most disadvantaged, but reduced welfare payments by less than they increased earnings. In contrast, the job-search-first programs reduced welfare payments by more than they increased earnings. Another way to think of this is that the employment-focused mixed-activity programs had significantly larger effects on earnings for the most disadvantaged than the job-search-first programs, but the two program models generated about the same level of welfare savings.

There is one other important distinction across the program models. With the exception of SSP, which worked by supplementing the income of people who left welfare for full-time work, the earnings supplement programs made it easier for people to combine work and welfare. As a result, those programs did not reduce cash assistance payments to the most disadvantaged. In contrast, all of the other program models reduced cash assistance payments for the most disadvantaged.

***Which program model saved the most welfare dollars for the moderately and least disadvantaged?***

As for the most disadvantaged, welfare savings for the moderately disadvantaged were a mirror image of earnings gains. Among the mandatory welfare-to-work programs, welfare savings were largest for the more employment-focused programs, just as earnings gains for this group were largest for these programs.

For the least disadvantaged, in contrast, welfare savings from program models other than the earnings supplement programs were fairly consistent, ranging from \$235 per person among education-focused mixed-activity programs to \$364 for the job-search-first programs. In contrast, the effects on earnings across the subgroups and program models ranged from close to \$0 to more than \$1,400. This might reflect the fact that the least disadvantaged were likely to leave welfare on their own, limiting the amount that a welfare-to-work program could save for them. The best conclusion from the point of view of welfare savings may be that different welfare-to-work activities are somewhat equally effective.

If one program had to be designed to save welfare dollars for a broad range of welfare recipients, the results in Table 2.1 suggest that it should be a job-search-first program. The effects of job-search-first programs on welfare benefits were the largest for the most and least disadvantaged, and they generated considerable welfare savings for the moderately disadvantaged. Since their effects on earnings were not generally as large as the mixed-activity programs, however, the job-search-first programs may have saved welfare dollars without providing large benefits for their participants.

The effects on earnings across subgroups also suggest an important role for job search. For job-search-first programs, which focused on job search for all participants, impacts on earnings were not significantly different across the subgroups. Employment-focused mixed-activity programs likewise had substantial effects on job search for high school graduates and non-graduates, and impacts on earnings were substantial for all three subgroups. Education-first programs had fairly small impacts on job search across the board, and these programs had fairly small effects on earnings for all three subgroups. Perhaps most telling, however, are results for the education-focused mixed-activity programs. These programs focused on job search for participants

who were not thought to need basic education, but they focused on basic education for other participants. Consistent with this difference, education-focused mixed-activity programs had their largest effects on earnings for the least disadvantaged, modest effects for the moderately disadvantaged, and no effect for the most disadvantaged.

### **Impacts on Income**

With regard to income, the story is clear: to increase income across a broad range of welfare recipients, use earnings supplements. Earnings supplement programs were explicitly designed to increase income by supplementing the earnings of program group members who went to work more than the earnings of control group members who went to work. In contrast, the other programs reduced cash assistance payments by the same amount for program group and control group members who worked the same amount. Because those programs increase earnings, they also reduced welfare benefits (as discussed above), and had smaller effects on income by design.

Results with regard to income from earnings, cash assistance, and food stamps are shown in the last two columns of results in Table 2.1.<sup>18</sup> The distinction between earnings supplement programs and other program models is apparent. While the other program models generally had modest effects on income because individuals traded welfare checks for work checks, the programs with earnings supplements had quite large effects on income, ranging from \$873 for the most disadvantaged to \$1,166 for the moderately disadvantaged over the three-year follow-up period and from \$822 for the most disadvantaged to \$1,769 for the moderately disadvantaged in year 3.

Other than earnings supplement programs, the biggest effects on income occurred where program models had large effects on earnings. In particular, employment-focused mixed-activity programs significantly increased income for the most and moderately disadvantaged groups, while education-focused mixed-activity programs significantly increased earnings for the least disadvantaged. Because these program models raised earnings much more than they reduced welfare payments for those subgroups — presumably because many people gained so much in earnings that they left welfare entirely — they increased income for all three groups over the three-year period.

## **IMPACTS FOR INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS**

Having established the relative benefits of different program models, it is reasonable to ask how consistent programs are within the five program models. In particular, examining impacts by program provides an opportunity to further explore the notion that job search is key to generating impacts among programs with mandatory program participation. This section addresses the question by showing the effects of each program on annual earnings over three years. The results are shown in three figures, one for each of the subgroups.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> Income for SSP and the San Diego SWIM program does not include food stamps benefits since data on food stamps were not collected for SWIM, and Canada does not have a Food Stamps Program. In addition, income in SSP includes earnings supplement payments.

<sup>19</sup> Impacts for earnings, cash assistance payments, and income (from earnings, cash assistance, and food stamps benefits) are shown in Appendix Table A.10, along with significance levels of impacts and differences across subgroups for each program.

## Most Disadvantaged

Figure 2.1 shows the effects on earnings over the three-year follow-up period for each program for the most disadvantaged. Results were fairly consistent for the employment-focused mixed-activity programs (quite successful), for the education-first programs (moderately successful), and for the education-focused mixed-activity programs (generally not successful at increasing earnings).<sup>20</sup> With only two programs in the employment-focused mixed-activities category, however, conclusions regarding that program model should be made cautiously.<sup>21</sup>

Less consistent among the most disadvantaged are the job-search-first and earnings-supplement programs. While two of the job-search-first programs had sizable effects, two had more modest effects. Likewise, four of the earnings supplement programs had relatively large effects among the most disadvantaged, but four had almost no effect.

Differences across the earnings supplement programs may reflect differences in the generosity and form of the incentives in those programs. For example, the earnings supplement in the Vermont WRP programs was only more generous for most workers after they had combined work and welfare for four months, and the Full WRP program did not require welfare recipients to participate in welfare-to-work activities until they had received benefits for 28 months. This might explain why the Vermont programs — represented by the fifth and sixth bars among the earnings supplement programs — did not have much effect on earnings. In addition, earnings disregard policies may encourage some people who would have worked full time to cut back their work effort, while the SSP supplement is not expected to have this effect because it rewards only full-time work and the Full MFIP program might have reduced this effect by requiring people to participate in welfare-to-work activities or work for 30 hours per week. This might explain why the impact on earnings of the MFIP incentives-only program (the fourth bar among the earnings supplement programs) are much less than in either Full MFIP (the third bar) or SSP (the first two bars). The likely effect of different types of incentives is examined in more detail in the next section.

## Moderately Disadvantaged

Figure 2.2 shows similar results for the moderately disadvantaged.<sup>22</sup> With the exception of the earnings supplement programs, results are more consistent across programs for this group,

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<sup>20</sup> Statistical tests confirm what the figure apparently shows. Differences across programs within a program model were not statistically significant at the 10 percent level for the mixed-activities employment-focused programs (p-value of .243), for the mixed-activity education-focused programs (p-value of .545), or for the education-first programs (p-value of .354). However, differences were statistically significant among the job-search-first programs (p-value of .056) and the earnings supplement programs (p-value of .017).

<sup>21</sup> A third program that fits into this category is Florida's Project Independence (PI) program, which was not used in this report because only two years of follow-up information are available. As shown in Bloom and Michalopoulos (2001), PI had much smaller effects than the Riverside GAIN and Portland JOBS programs, although the program's relative lack of effectiveness is probably due to how it was implemented.

<sup>22</sup> For the moderately disadvantaged, differences across programs within a program model were not statistically significant at the 10 percent level for the job-search-first programs (p-value of .178), the employment-focused mixed-activity programs (p-value of .911), or for the education-focused mixed-activity programs (p-value of .312). Differences were statistically significant among the education-first programs (p-value of .083) and the earnings supplement programs (p-value less than .001).

perhaps because this group is the largest for many of the programs. As for the most disadvantaged, both employment-focused mixed-activity programs were very successful. Compared to the most disadvantaged, however, the education-oriented programs were more consistently effective for the moderately disadvantaged. Finally, the earnings supplement programs were generally ineffective at increasing earnings for this group, with the exception of the two SSP programs.

### **Least Disadvantaged**

Figure 2.3 shows similar results for the least disadvantaged.<sup>23</sup> Although results are quite variable across the programs, this is partly a consequence of the small number of least disadvantaged individuals in the studies. As Appendix Table A.10 indicates, individual programs' impacts on earnings were usually not statistically significant even when they were several hundred dollars per year. For example, the SWIM program increased earnings by nearly \$1,500 per person, while the other job-search-first programs had little effect on earnings for the least disadvantaged. However, these differences are not statistically significant, in part because the SWIM results were estimated from only 352 people (including both program and control group members).

Despite the small sample sizes, two program models had significant differences in earnings impacts across programs. For the two employment-focused mixed-activity programs, the Riverside GAIN program increased earnings by \$1,769 per year, while Portland had virtually no effect on earnings for the least disadvantaged. Among the earnings supplement programs, the SSP program in New Brunswick increased earnings by more than \$2,600 per person (although there were few least disadvantaged participants in this program), while the MFIP incentives-only program significantly reduced earnings for this group. Once again, this might reflect differences in the incentives for different programs. Least disadvantaged sample members might be likely to work full time on their own, but MFIP's earnings disregard provided an incentive to reduce hours of work from full time to part time while the SSP earnings supplement only rewarded full time work.

## **EXPLAINING DIFFERENCES IN IMPACTS ACROSS PROGRAMS**

Figures 2.1 through 2.3 showed that programs that did not supplement earnings were fairly consistent in their effects, particularly for the most and moderately disadvantaged. But factors other than program model varied from site to site, and there was variation in how many people received welfare-to-work services and the degree to which the earnings supplement programs provided financial work incentives. In addition, if the types of welfare-to-work activities that a program used are really responsible for its large or small effects, then programs that used more education should have smaller effects on earnings than programs that used less education, all else equal. This section uses regression techniques from the meta-analysis literature to further explore how subgroup impacts vary with the impact the program had on job search and education work activities, the

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<sup>23</sup> For the least disadvantaged, differences across programs within a program model were not statistically significant at the 10 percent level for the job-search-first programs (p-value of .192), the education-first programs (p-value of .443), or the education-first programs (p-value of .666). Differences were statistically significant among the employment-focused mixed-activity programs (p-value of .023) and the earnings supplement programs (p-value of .041).

generosity of the welfare system and financial work incentives, the presence of time limits, and the state of the local economy.<sup>24</sup>

### **Factors Examined in the Analysis**

**Program participation.** Welfare-to-work services are likely to be more effective if people use them. To explore the relationship between the use of services and program impacts, impacts on job search activities and basic education are included in the analysis.<sup>25</sup> Although this seems clear, there are at least three problems with using impacts of a program on activities. First, we know how many people participated in activities but we do not have consistent information on how long they participated in those activities on average. Second, while impacts on job search might indicate that a program ran effective job search services, it might indicate other factors, such as having had more job-ready participants.

A final difficulty in using information on program participation is that participation rates were not available by level of disadvantage. For programs not included in GAIN or NEWWS, impacts on program participation were available only for the full sample, and those impacts were used for all three subgroups. As discussed in Chapter 1, GAIN and NEWWS published impacts on participation for high school graduates (those not in need of basic education) and high school non-graduates (those in need of basic education). Impacts on participation for high school graduates were used for the least disadvantaged, since all of them had a high school credential at the time of random assignment. Impacts on participation for high school nongraduates were used for the most disadvantaged, since none of them had a high school credential at random assignment. Impacts for the full sample were used for the moderately disadvantaged.

**Financial work incentives.** Financial work incentives are expected to increase a program's effects on earnings and income. To investigate this relationship, a program's financial work incentive was calculated as the difference in income from earnings, cash assistance payments, food stamps, and SSP earnings supplement payments between the old and new program rules. Because part-time work incentives might have different effects than full-time work incentives, this difference was calculated for someone who worked 20 hours per week and for someone who worked 40 hours per week. In both cases, it was assumed that the parent had two children, had no other sources of income that would reduce cash assistance payments, and earned \$6 per hour. By this measure, part-time work incentives ranged from \$0 in SSP, which required people to work full time to receive its supplement, to \$345 per month in Jobs First. Full-time work incentives ranged from \$0 in Vermont and FTP to \$542 in the British Columbia SSP program.

**Time limits on welfare receipt.** Time limits are expected to reduce income and cash assistance payments relative to what they would have been, and might encourage employment and increase earnings. To capture the effects of time limits, the regressions include a variable that

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<sup>24</sup> The statistical model underlying this analysis is sometimes referred to as a random effects model, which is estimated using a method described by Raudenbush (1994).

<sup>25</sup> The GAIN evaluation did not estimate the impact of the Butte program on participation in job search or education. Therefore, Butte is not included in the analysis described in this section. In NEWWS and GAIN, impacts for vocational training were not separated from impacts on post-secondary education. In SWIM, impacts were presented for all educational activities combined, so the impacts on education was divided equally into basic education and vocational training for purposes of this meta-analysis.



equals one for the time-limited welfare programs in Florida and Connecticut. Both time-limited programs included financial work incentives as well, but participants could receive them only until they hit the program's time limit. In Florida, we therefore multiplied the part-time work incentive described above by  $2/3$ , since many recipients were eligible for welfare benefits for only 24 months in the 36-month follow-up period. In Connecticut, we multiplied the full-time work incentive by  $21/36$  since families would have lost eligibility for welfare after 21 months if the parent had been working full time. Since a parent working part time in Connecticut could have received an extension when she reached the time limit, the part-time incentive in Connecticut was not adjusted for the presence of the time limit.

**The economy.** To explore the effects of local economic conditions, the regressions include the local unemployment rate when the study began. It is not clear how program impacts would be affected by these conditions. Weak economic conditions imply that few people will be able to find work and that jobs will pay little. At the same time, a weak economy will result in a less disadvantaged caseload if it brings people onto the rolls who will leave welfare quickly. Both factors are true for both the control and program groups, however, and impacts may therefore be either higher or lower when the economy is in bad shape. Using individual-level data from 59 welfare offices involved in several of the welfare-to-work experiments included here, Bloom, Hill, and Riccio (2001) found that an increase in the unemployment rate of one percentage point was associated with an increase in the annual impact on earnings of \$94, all else equal.

**Welfare grant levels.** The final factor examined in the analysis was cash assistance grant levels. Grant levels might be related to a program's effectiveness because of who enters the caseload and the incentives to leave welfare for work. The welfare guarantee in Riverside was close to \$700 per month for a single mother with two children, among the highest levels in the country, but about \$300 per month in Atlanta. This suggests that a person receiving welfare in Atlanta would have few other prospects for economic support, and that sample members in Atlanta are likely to be more disadvantaged than sample members in Riverside. In other words, among the most disadvantaged, Atlanta sample members are probably even more disadvantaged in other ways than Riverside sample members. At the same time, sample members in low-grant states like Georgia are likely to be on welfare for only a short period of time because benefits are so low. In low-grant states, almost any job will pay enough to make a person ineligible for welfare benefits; in a high-grant state, it is easier to combine work and welfare. This suggests that programs will have a harder time reducing welfare use and, presumably, increasing employment and earnings in low-grant states than in high-grant states.

## **Results**

**Earnings.** Consider Table 2.2, which shows the relationship between these factors and the impacts on earnings over the three years following random assignment by level of disadvantage. According to these results, a program that wants to increase earnings for the most and moderately disadvantaged should increase the amount of job search that is done and increase full-time work incentives. In particular, a 1 percentage point increase in the impact on job search activities is associated with a \$19.80 increase in the impact of a program on annual earnings for the most disadvantaged, and an increase of \$29.70 for the moderately disadvantaged. Increasing full-time work incentives by \$1 per month would increase the impact on earnings by about \$2 to \$3 per year per person. Although none of the factors were associated with earnings impacts for the least

disadvantaged, this reflects the relative imprecision of impact estimates for this group (as reflected by the large standard errors of the estimated coefficients), which is a consequence of the small size of the subgroup in many of the programs.

Two recent analyses by other researchers using some of the same data have also attempted to estimate the effects of increased program participation for the full sample (that is, not by subgroup). A meta-analysis of mandatory U.S. welfare-to-work programs conducted by researchers in the United Kingdom used the studies included in this report except for SSP, and also included earlier programs and programs evaluated by organizations other than MDRC (Ashworth et al., 2001). Results from the meta-analysis implied that a 1 percentage point increase in the impact on job search assistance was associated with earnings gains of \$10.64 per year, that basic education was not associated with any change in earnings, that vocational training was associated with a decrease of \$27.20 per year in earnings, and that work experience was associated with an increase in earnings of \$2.84 per year.

A recent MDRC study of the effects of management practices in NEWWS, GAIN, and Florida's Project Independence found that an emphasis on moving clients into jobs quickly was associated with higher earnings impacts, but that job search assistance per se was not associated with higher earnings gains (Bloom, Hill, and Riccio, 2001). The study of management practices also found that basic education was associated with a reduction in earnings impacts of \$16 per year, and that vocational training did not significantly affect earnings impacts.

Results in Table 2.2 are consistent with the main finding from the other two analyses, namely that an emphasis on employment is associated with larger earnings gains and that there is little evidence that mandatory basic education will increase earnings.

The effect of job search could help explain why some programs were more effective than others. Compare the Riverside and Los Angeles GAIN programs. Riverside GAIN increased job search among those in need of basic education by 31.3 percentage points, but Los Angeles GAIN increased job search for this group 7.4 percentage points. The regression implies that this difference of 23.9 percentage points (31.3-7.4) explains a difference of \$473 per year ( $\$19.8 \times 23.9$ ) in the impact on earnings for the most disadvantaged between the two programs, or about half of the \$939 difference that actually existed for the most disadvantaged.

The other significant correlate of earnings gains for the most disadvantaged is full-time work incentives. A \$1 increase in the monthly incentive to work full time is associated with about a \$2 to \$3 increase in the annual impact on earnings. This could explain why some programs with financial work incentives had larger effects than other programs. For example, the full-time work incentive in MFIP was calculated at \$148 per month for a single parent with two children earning \$6 per hour. In the two SSP programs, by comparison, the full-time work incentive was \$542 per month in British Columbia and \$436 per month in New Brunswick, while in Vermont there was no incentive to work full time. Impacts on earnings correspond closely to these different incentives. For the most disadvantaged, results in Table 2.2 imply that the MFIP incentives increased earnings by \$411 per year, that SSP's incentives increased earnings by \$1,363 in British Columbia and \$843 in New Brunswick, and that WRP's incentives did not significantly affect earnings. This is not surprising: more generous work incentives have larger effects on earnings than less generous work incentives.

Note that part-time work incentives are not associated with a significant increase in the impact on earnings for the most disadvantaged, but are associated with a significant reduction in earnings for the moderately disadvantaged. This suggests that enhanced earnings disregards such as the ones used in WRP and MFIP, which typically have larger part-time incentives than full-time incentives, will have smaller effects on earnings than programs such as SSP that provide a large incentive to work full time.

For the moderately disadvantaged, a \$1 increase per month in the incentive to work part time is associated with a reduction in annual earnings of \$3.63 per year. Although this result might seem counterintuitive, it is well grounded in economic theory. The idea is as follows. Some welfare recipients would have gone to work full time on their own. Providing extra income to those who work part time allows parents who would have worked full time to curtail their work effort with less of a reduction in their income than under the old welfare system. Reducing their work effort might allow them to spend more time with their children, or it might simply allow them to work less hard without suffering as much financially.

Compare the MFIP incentives only program to the SSP program in British Columbia. MFIP provided a part-time work incentive of \$237 per month and a full-time work incentive of \$148 per month. As mentioned above, SSP in British Columbia provided a full-time work incentive of \$542 and no part-time work incentive. Results in Table 2.2 for the moderately disadvantaged imply that MFIP's incentives would have encouraged the average moderately disadvantaged parent to reduce her earnings by \$458 per year ( $2.72*148-3.63*237$ ). The results likewise imply that SSP's incentives encouraged the average participant in British Columbia to increase her earnings by \$1474 per year ( $2.72*542$ ). In actuality, the MFIP incentives only program reduced earnings for the moderately disadvantaged by \$427 per year, while SSP increased earnings among the moderately disadvantaged in British Columbia by \$1,488, quite close to the results implied by the regression results shown in Table 2.2.

Another way to think about the results in Table 2.2 is that they present two different means for increasing the earnings of welfare recipients. For the most and moderately disadvantaged, a program could increase earnings by increasing job search participation by one percentage point or by increasing full-time work incentives by about \$10 to \$11 per month. Which approach the program should take might depend on the relative costs of the two approaches, and other benefits (such as income gains) that are associated with the two approaches.

**Cash assistance payments.** Table 2.3 shows how the program components are related to impacts on welfare payments by level of disadvantage. The most consistent determinant of impacts on cash assistance payments is part-time work incentives, which considerably increase benefit amounts for all three groups. In addition, job search is associated with smaller benefit amounts (although significantly so only for the most disadvantaged), which is consistent with their positive effects on earnings. Finally, time limits are associated with decreased cash assistance payments (again, significantly so only for the most disadvantaged).

The effect of financial work incentives on welfare savings reflects the way that the incentives were offered. In each program that provided a part-time work incentive, welfare recipients in the program group were allowed to keep more of their welfare check when they worked than would have been the case under the usual welfare rules. However, earnings disregards in Minnesota, Vermont, and Florida provided greater incentives to work part time than full time,

and the full-time work incentive in SSP actually reduced welfare payments because people were required to stop receiving welfare to receive the SSP earnings supplement.

With regard to time limits, their negative association with welfare payments is certainly not a surprising result, but three things should be remembered when interpreting this result. First, no family reached a time limit until near the end of the second year in Connecticut and until the end of the second year in Florida. Thus, the effect of time limits over the three-year period probably masks a larger effect in the third year after random assignment. Second, time limits were studied in one state with a relatively low benefit level and one state with a relatively high benefit level. The average effect of time limits shown in Table 2.2 might not be representative of either state. Finally, the time-limited welfare programs in Florida and Connecticut also included financial work incentives and welfare-to-work activities. Thus, the total welfare savings generated by those programs are much less than the effects of time limits alone. For example, over the three-year period in Connecticut, program group members received higher cash assistance payments on average than did control group members.

**Income.** Table 2.4 shows similar results regarding which factors were associated with impacts on annual income for the three subgroups. Several results are noteworthy.

First, welfare-to-work activities by themselves are generally associated with neither an increase nor decrease in income. This has been noted before in individual studies such as the NEWS and GAIN evaluations and in syntheses of the effects of welfare and work activities, and was seen in the figures shown earlier in the chapter.<sup>26</sup>

Second, policies with financial work incentives increase the income of people who are offered the incentives. According to Table 2.1, a \$1 increase in the monthly incentive to work part time is associated with a \$5.24 increase in annual income for the average most disadvantaged sample member. Likewise, a \$1 increase in the monthly incentive to work full time is associated with an increase in annual income ranging between \$2.52 and \$6.22 per family, depending on the subgroup. This is again consistent with other syntheses of the effects of financial incentive programs.<sup>27</sup>

Finally, note that time limits are associated with a decrease in income of about \$917 per family for the most disadvantaged, resulting largely from a reduction in cash assistance payments. As mentioned above, it is important to remember that both time-limited programs included in the analysis also had financial work incentives. Thus, the total effect those programs had on income was not negative, but adding the time limit to the financial work incentives resulted in smaller income gains than providing the financial work incentives without time limits on welfare. According to the final reports in the two studies, Jobs First substantially increased income for the average sample member over the three years covered in this report, and FTP had modest positive effects on income.

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<sup>26</sup> Hamilton et al, 2001; Riccio et al, 1994; Bloom and Michalopoulos, 2001.

<sup>27</sup> Berlin, 2000; Bloom and Michalopoulos, 2001.

## USE OF PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Having compared impacts across subgroups and explored how programs affected earnings, welfare payments, and income by subgroup, the chapter uses subgroup impacts to explore the possibility of using earnings levels of program group members to assess the effectiveness of a program. Because it is difficult to reliably determine whether a program or service provider is having an impact on outcomes of welfare recipients, many policymakers and administrators use performance indicators as a means of judging whether the program is effective. Outside the welfare system, the Job Training and Partnership Act (JTPA) and Workforce Investment Act (WIA) included the use of performance measures to judge whether local service providers were effective.

Although the use of performance indicators has an intuitive appeal, most evidence indicates that the effectiveness of programs is not very closely linked to how well individuals do because it is often not clear whether services helped someone do better or whether they were capable of doing well on their own. Using the random assignment evaluation of JTPA, for example, Barnow (2000) concluded that “there is only a weak correspondence between [performance and impacts] and that the Department of Labor should avoid making significant rewards or sanctions based on the current performance management system.” Heckman, Heinrich, and Smith (2002) reached a similar conclusion that “short run measures used to monitor performance are weakly, and sometimes perversely, related to long run impacts.”

Using similar data from a random assignment study of the National Job Corps, Burghardt and Schochet (2001) concluded, “The performance measurement system does not distinguish well among centers with large impacts and centers with small or no impacts. Consistently low-performing centers produced positive impacts that were not distinguishable from the impacts produced by consistently high-performing centers or centers that fell in a middle group that was neither consistently high nor consistently low. This finding is troubling, because the lowest-ranking centers may be penalized financially or otherwise for not showing satisfactory performance, even though they provide the same value added for their students as do high-performing centers.”

With regard to welfare programs, Friedlander (1988) investigated the use of performance indicators in welfare-to-work programs of the 1980s and found little relationship between outcomes and impacts. Some of the programs that changed outcomes the most served clients with relatively poor outcomes and vice-versa. On the other hand, results from the AFDC Homemaker-Home Health Aide experiment (Zornitsky and Rubin, 1988) found a more consistent relationship between impacts and outcomes: “A key result that emerged from our validation analysis is that there are candidate measures that represent valid predictors of both earnings gains and reductions in welfare dependency. Of over twenty separate correlations evaluated, fourteen or 70 percent were found to be significant and with the expected sign. As was anticipated, however, some measures performed better than others.”

Taken as a whole, these studies suggest that performance indicators appear to work poorly for a wide range of people. Perhaps they are more useful for subgroups of individuals. Figure 2.4 compares, for most disadvantaged sample members over a three-year period, the impacts on earnings of each program used in this report (the vertical axis) to the outcomes for program group members in the various programs (the horizontal axis). If average earnings levels revealed which programs were most effective, then sites with higher earnings levels for program group members

would also be the sites with the largest impacts on earnings. On the figure, they would appear to the right and near the top of the figure. Likewise, the least effective programs would also have low program group earnings and would appear on the left and to the bottom of the figure.

Figure 2.4 implies that earnings levels are a fairly good, though not perfect, indicator of which programs were most effective. For example, three program groups had earnings of nearly \$2,500 per year, and these three programs had among the largest impacts for the most disadvantaged. One of the three was the only program to increase earnings by more than \$1,200 per year. Likewise, each of the programs in which individuals earned less than \$1,000 per year had among the smallest impacts on earnings. Overall, the correlation between program group earnings levels and program impacts was 0.579 for most disadvantaged sample members, indicating a substantial degree of correlation between the two measures.

A very different and less promising story is told by Figure 2.5, which shows the same results for the least disadvantaged sample members. In this case, there is no clear relationship between program group earnings and program impacts on earnings. For example, the least disadvantaged sample members in one program earned nearly \$12,000 per year on average, but the impact for this program was in the middle of the range shown in Figure 2.5. Overall, the correlation between earnings for the average program group member and a program's impact on earnings was only 0.031 for the least disadvantaged, indicating very little relationship between the two.

These results suggest that performance indicators may be more useful measures of how much effect a program has for more disadvantaged welfare recipients than for less disadvantaged sample members. The reason is that earnings for the most disadvantaged are relatively low in all sites and relatively consistent across sites, so differences in earnings levels of people who passed through programs in different places gives a reasonable — though not perfect — indication of the effect of the program. In contrast, earnings of the least disadvantaged program group members vary substantially from place to place and less disadvantaged sample members who earned a lot in a site may have done so even in the absence of welfare-to-work services.

## IMPACTS FOR OTHER SUBGROUPS

This section presents pooled results for four other sets of subgroups: (1) by welfare status prior to random assignment (long-term recipients, short-term recipients, and new applicants); (2) by high school credential; (3) by earnings in the year prior to random assignment; and (4) by number of children at random assignment. In addition, Appendix A presents impacts on earnings, welfare benefits, and income for a range of other subgroups, both pooled within the five program models and by program.

**By prior-year earnings.** Table 2.5 shows pooled impacts by program model on earnings, welfare benefits, and income over three years for three subgroups defined by earnings reported to the UI system in the year prior to random assignment: (1) those with no earnings, (2) those with \$5,000 or less in earnings, and (3) those with more than \$5,000 in earnings. Recall that whether someone worked in the year prior to random assignment was one of the three criteria used to define level of disadvantage. In general, results by prior-year earnings are similar to results by level of disadvantage. Job search activities and a focus on employment appear to be most effective for groups with less recent earnings, implying that they benefit more from help finding work than other groups, and implying that they benefit more from employment than from basic education.

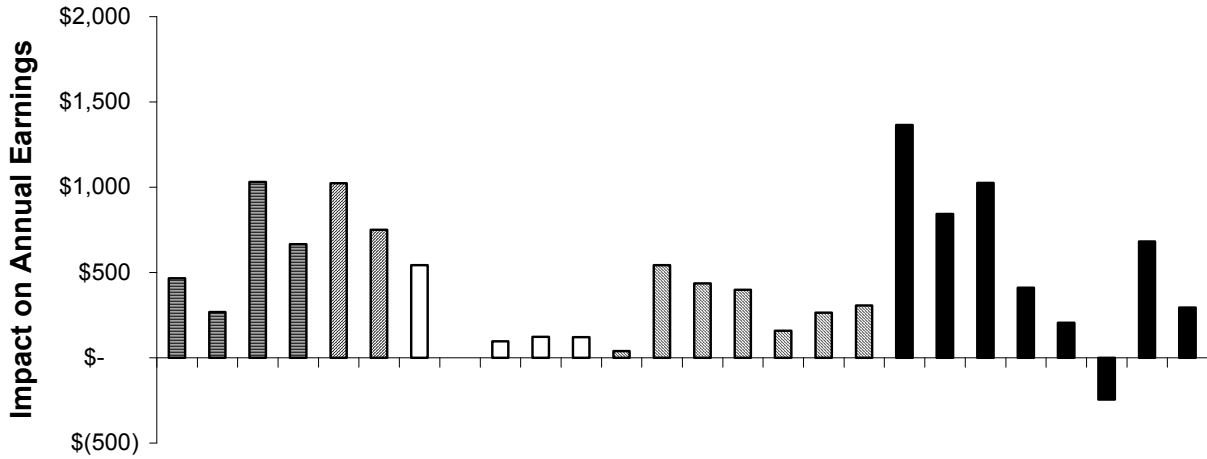
The benefits of an employment focus are less clear for the high-earnings group. While mixed-activity programs, which would have emphasized job search for this group, increased their earnings by about \$1,000 per year per person, the job-search-first and earnings supplement programs did not significantly increase their earnings. The effects of the earnings supplement programs might be especially instructive. Perhaps because many of the incentives in these programs encouraged primarily part-time work, they had little ability to encourage those who would have worked anyway to work more.

**By welfare status.** Table 2.6 shows pooled impacts for long-term recipients (those who had been on welfare for at least two years prior to random assignment), short-term recipients, and new applicants. Results for this subgroup might help an administrator target services by how long someone has been on welfare. Differences by program model are also important to the extent that long-term recipients are the group most likely to hit welfare time limits. In general, results are consistent with results by level of disadvantage, with larger impacts for groups and program models where job search was emphasized. One interesting result is the large impact on earnings of education-first programs for new applicants. This result is somewhat mysterious since within the education-first programs, a large proportion of the new applicants came from Oklahoma City where impacts on earnings were quite small.

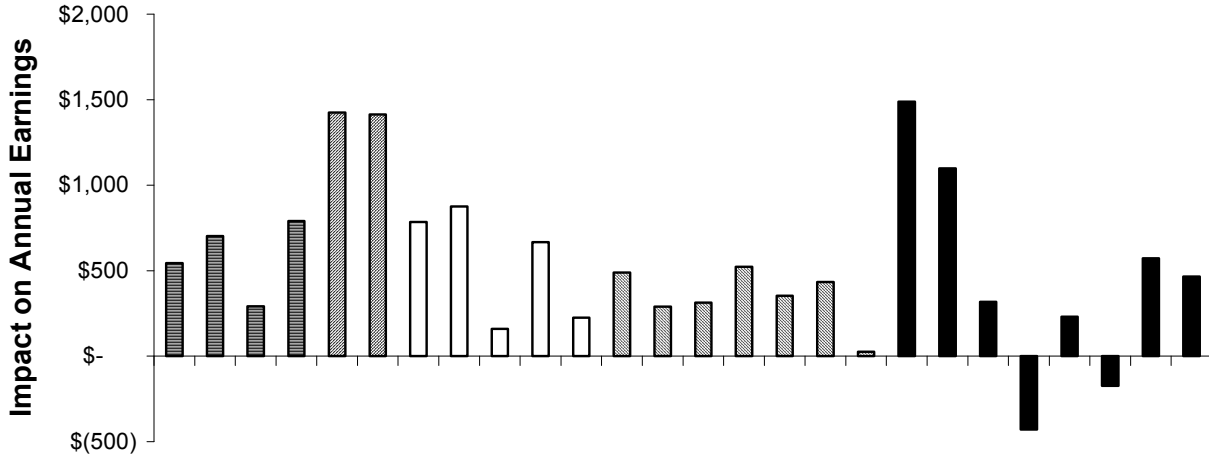
**By high school credential.** Table 2.7 shows pooled impacts by high school credential. Results for this subgroup may shed light on whether mandatory remedial education has been an effective means of increasing the earnings of welfare recipients who lack a high school diploma or GED. In addition, these subgroups correspond most closely to the subgroups shown in Table 1.4, which showed the impacts of programs in GAIN and NEWS on participation in activities such as job search and education. Impacts on earnings by high school credential might provide the strongest evidence in favor of job search. In the job-search-first programs, where emphasis on job search would have been similar for the two groups, impacts on earnings were similar for the two groups. Most striking are results for the education-focused mixed-activity programs, where impacts on earnings were significantly greater for high school graduates — a group where job search was emphasized — than for nongraduates, for whom education received more emphasis.






**By number of children.** Table 2.8 shows pooled impacts for families with one, two, or three or more children at the time of random assignment. Impacts vary more widely across these three subgroups than for the subgroups presented above. In each case, impacts over the three-year period are smaller for families with one child than for families with three or more children. This is a somewhat surprising result in light of the notion that larger families will face more barriers to work, such as child care. It might reflect the fact that smaller families in the control group had higher earnings than larger families, leaving less room for the programs to benefit smaller families.

**Figure 2.1**  
**Impacts on Annual Earnings Over Three Years for Most Disadvantaged**  
**Sample Members**



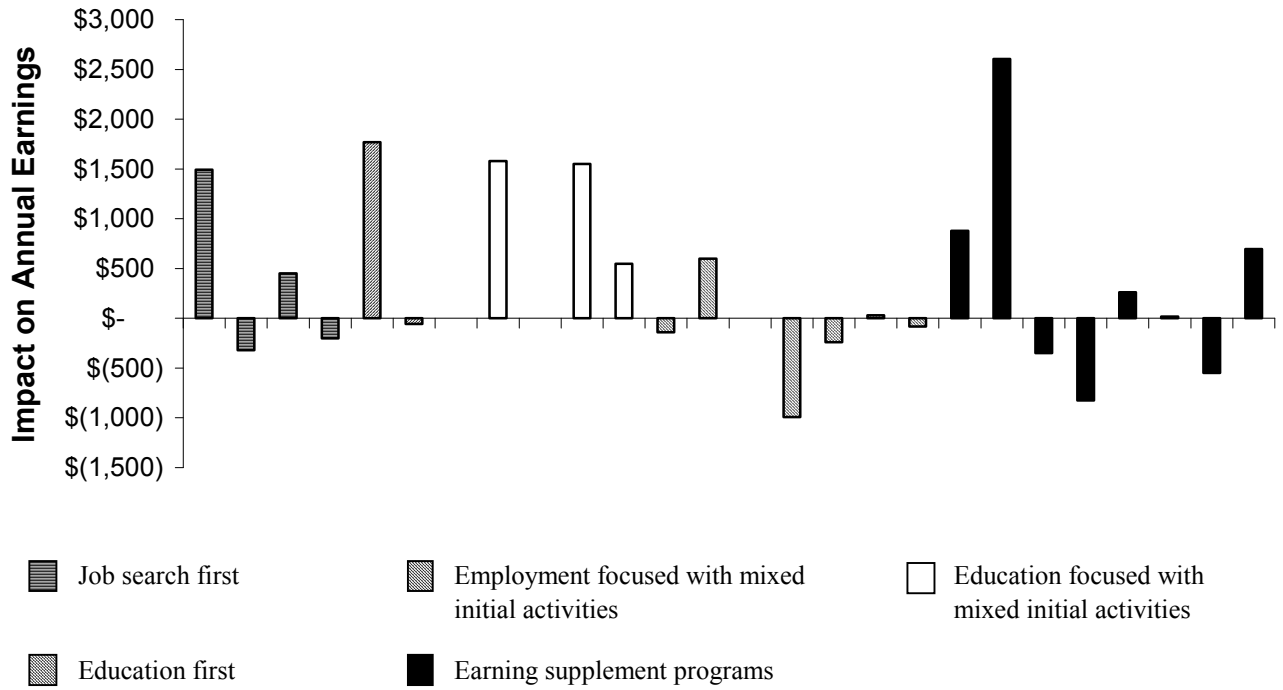
**Figure 2.2**  
**Impacts on Annual Earnings Over Three Years for Moderately**  
**Disadvantaged Sample Members**



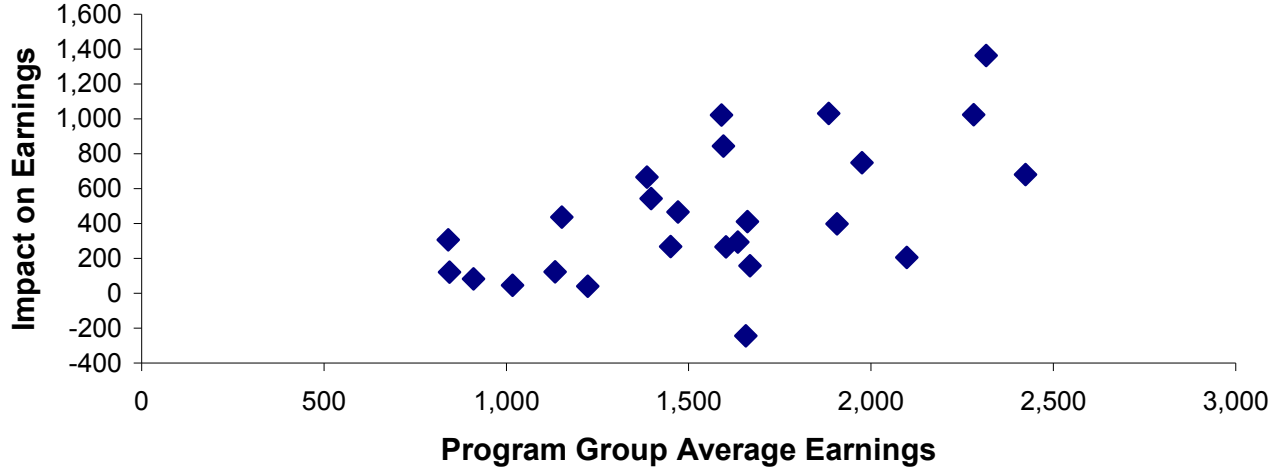
- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  Job search first |  Employment focused with mixed initial activities |  Education focused with mixed initial activities |
|  Education first  |  Earning supplement programs                      |   |



**Figure 2.3**  
**Impacts on Annual Earnings Over Three Years for Least Disadvantaged**  
**Sample Members**



**Figure 2.4**  
**Program Group Earnings Compared to Earnings Impact**  
**Most Disadvantaged Sample Members**



**Figure 2.5**  
**Program Group Earnings Compared to Earnings Impact**  
**Least Disadvantaged Sample Members**

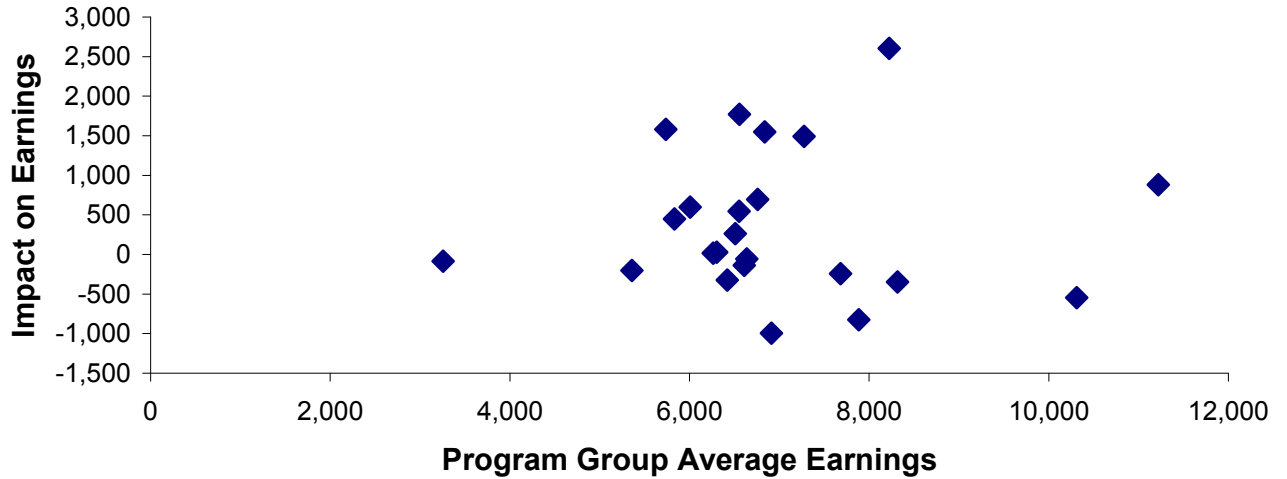


Table 2.1

Impacts on Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income by Level of Disadvantage by Program Model

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Job search first</b>							
Most disadvantaged	3,111	586 ***	668 ***	††	†††	-348 **	-228
Moderately disadvantaged	11,013	634 ***	574 ***	-752 ***	-708 ***	-47	-87
Least disadvantaged	2,570	186	30	-568 ***	-526 ***	-278	-225
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
Most disadvantaged	1,854	†††	†	†††	†††	403 *	607 **
Moderately disadvantaged	7,539	866 ***	1,008 ***	-418 **	-368 *	337 **	426 **
Least disadvantaged	1,600	1,406 ***	1,558 ***	-855 ***	-886 ***	417	529
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>							
Most disadvantaged	4,752	††	††	-351 **	-302	††	†
Moderately disadvantaged	10,548	91	152	-342 ***	-337 ***	62	288
Least disadvantaged	1,983	1,326 ***	1,448 **	-235	-240	1,048 **	1,175 **
<b>Education first</b>							
Most disadvantaged	5,282	†	404 ***	-362 ***	-410 **	††	-271
Moderately disadvantaged	21,576	242 ***	350 ***	-262 ***	-287 ***	-66	16
Least disadvantaged	5,074	-248	-266	-270 ***	-223 *	-612 ***	-531
<b>Earnings supplements</b>							
Most disadvantaged	3,778	†	686 ***	74	-87	847 ***	††
Moderately disadvantaged	21,148	598 ***	535 ***	228 ***	-42	1,058 ***	803 ***
Least disadvantaged	8,917	104	206	343 **	268	981 ***	1,095 ***

(continued)

**Table 2.1 (Continued)**

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

A Q-test was applied to differences across program models for each subgroup and outcome. Impacts were significantly different at the 1 percent level for all outcomes and subgroups with the following exceptions. Impacts on welfare benefits in Year 3 were not significantly different across program models. Impacts on earnings for the least disadvantaged were significantly different at the 10 percent significance level. Impacts on welfare benefits for the most disadvantaged were significantly different at the 5 percent significance level.

Individuals were classified as most disadvantaged if they had no earnings in the year prior to random assignment, did not have a high school diploma or GED at random assignment, and had received welfare continuously for two years prior to random assignment. Individuals were classified as least disadvantaged if they had none of these characteristics. All other sample members were classified as moderately disadvantaged.

**Table 2.2**  
**Estimated Determinants of Impacts on Earnings Over Three Years**  
**by Level of Disadvantage**

	Level of Disadvantage		
	Most	Moderate	Least
<b>Welfare-to-work participation</b>			
Impact on Job Search	19.8 *** (7.7)	29.7 *** (6.7)	14.5 (20.3)
Impact on Basic Education	-3.9 (4.8)	-3.0 (6.5)	34.1 (28.5)
Impact on Vocational Training	15.8 (16.4)	24.4 (16.4)	4.3 (54.5)
Impact on Work Experience	-32.3 (20.0)	-44.0 ** (19.8)	-12.5 (62.5)
<b>Financial work incentives</b>			
Part-time (20 hours per week)	-0.06 (1.17)	-3.63 *** (1.02)	-4.21 (3.07)
Full-time (40 hours per week)	1.75 ** (0.72)	2.72 *** (0.68)	1.10 (2.04)
<b>Time limit</b>	-282 (266)	-62 (247)	385 (725)
<b>Economic factors</b>			
Welfare grant level for a family of 3	0.00 (0.45)	-0.19 (0.60)	2.81 (1.80)
Unemployment rate	0.5 (26.2)	-22.3 (28.7)	-67.0 (106.2)
<b>Intercept</b>	153 (278)	277 (340)	-1130 (1168)

Notes: Estimates are the result of a random-effects regression using subgroup impacts.

Individuals were classified as most disadvantaged if they had no earnings in the year prior to random assignment, did not have a high school diploma or GED at random assignment, and had received welfare for two years prior to random assignment. Individuals were classified as moderately disadvantaged if they faced one or two of these barriers, and they were classified as least disadvantaged if they faced none of the barriers.

Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. Standard errors are shown in parentheses.

The part-time work incentive is estimated as the difference in income from earnings, cash assistance payments, and Food Stamps (for U.S. studies) or earning supplement payments (for SSP) between the new and old programs for a parent with two children who works 20 hours per week and earns \$6 per hour. The full-time work incentive is defined in a similar way if the parent works 40 hours per week.

**Table 2.3**  
**Estimated Determinants of Impacts on Welfare Payments Over Three Years**  
**by Level of Disadvantage**

	Level of Disadvantage		
	Most	Moderate	Least
<b>Welfare-to-work participation</b>			
Impact on Job Search	-12.8 * (6.8)	-14.4 (10.3)	-9.7 (13.5)
Impact on Education	1.4 (4.4)	6.2 (9.6)	7.5 (17.4)
Impact on Vocational Training	-2.8 (14.3)	4.1 (25.1)	18.9 (33.8)
Impact on Work Experience	16.3 (20.5)	11.7 (28.4)	27.0 (38.1)
<b>Financial work incentives</b>			
Part-time (20 hours per week)	6.03 *** (1.28)	8.23 *** (1.63)	10.35 *** (2.38)
Full-time (40 hours per week)	-0.83 (0.65)	-0.96 (0.98)	-1.18 (1.33)
<b>Time limit</b>	-380 * (216)	-318 (377)	-571 (485)
<b>Economic factors</b>			
Welfare grant level for a family of 3	-0.52 (0.37)	-0.29 (0.89)	0.48 (1.22)
Unemployment rate	-13.2 (27.5)	-22.1 (42.1)	0.4 (69.4)
<b>Intercept</b>	51 (248)	-34 (522)	-624 (739)

Notes: Estimates are the result of a random-effects regression using subgroup impacts.

Individuals were classified as most disadvantaged if they had no earnings in the year prior to random assignment, did not have a high school diploma or GED at random assignment, and had received welfare for two years prior to random assignment. Individuals were classified as moderately disadvantaged if they faced one or two of these barriers, and they were classified as least disadvantaged if they faced none of the barriers.

Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. Standard errors are shown in parentheses.

The part-time work incentive is estimated as the difference in income from earnings, cash assistance payments, and Food Stamps (for U.S. studies) or earning supplement payments (for SSP) between the new and old programs for a parent with two children who works 20 hours per week and earns \$6 per hour. The full-time work incentive is defined in a similar way if the parent works 40 hours per week.

**Table 2.4**  
**Estimated Determinants of Impacts on Income Over Three Years**  
**by Level of Disadvantage**

	Level of Disadvantage		
	Most	Moderate	Least
<b>Welfare-to-work participation</b>			
Impact on Job Search	-3.0 (9.9)	4.0 (9.8)	-12.3 (23.7)
Impact on Education	-3.3 (6.0)	-1.4 (9.4)	29.8 (31.8)
Impact on Vocational Training	-1.7 (20.6)	43.1 * (23.8)	48.2 (62.4)
Impact on Work Experience	8.0 (26.7)	-18.0 (27.7)	38.2 (69.3)
<b>Financial work incentives</b>			
Part-time (20 hours per week)	5.24 *** (1.56)	0.82 (1.44)	-2.26 (3.77)
Full-time (40 hours per week)	2.52 *** (0.89)	5.90 *** (0.96)	6.22 ** (2.64)
<b>Time limit</b>	-917 *** (353)	-586 (358)	-212 (834)
<b>Economic factors</b>			
Welfare grant level for a family of 3	-0.09 (0.53)	0.05 (0.86)	4.95 ** (2.19)
Unemployment rate	-20.4 (36.1)	-21.3 (41.4)	-57.1 (121.9)
<b>Intercept</b>	98 (349)	-66 (500)	-2348 * (1339)

Notes: Estimates are the result of a random-effects regression using subgroup impacts.

Individuals were classified as most disadvantaged if they had no earnings in the year prior to random assignment, did not have a high school diploma or GED at random assignment, and had received welfare for two years prior to random assignment. Individuals were classified as moderately disadvantaged if they faced one or two of these barriers, and they were classified as least disadvantaged if they faced none of the barriers.

Income includes earnings, cash assistance welfare payments, Food Stamp benefits, and SSP earning supplement payments.

Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. Standard errors are shown in parentheses.

The part-time work incentive is estimated as the difference in income from earnings, cash assistance payments, and Food Stamps (for U.S. studies) or earning supplement payments (for SSP) between the new and old programs for a parent with two children who works 20 hours per week and earns \$6 per hour. The full-time work incentive is defined in a similar way if the parent works 40 hours per week.

**Table 2.5**  
**Impacts on Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income by Prior-Year Earnings by Program Model**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Job search first</b>							
No earnings	9,832	663 ***	678 *** <sup>†</sup>	-637 ***	-628 *** <sup>†††</sup>	-117	-113
\$5,000 or less	4,604	493 ***	503 **	-544 ***	-475 ***	-152	-102
More than \$5,000	2,345	184	-275	-403 ***	-151	-316	-446
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
No earnings	6,545	1,366 ***	1,509 ***	-763 ***	-813 ***	408 ***	468 **
\$5,000 or less	3,082	895 ***	914 ***	-572 ***	-542 ***	202	244
More than \$5,000	1,428	1,269 ***	1,415 **	-748 ***	-572 ***	358	766
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>							
No earnings	10,911	334 ***	537 ***	-331 ***	-326 ***	-43	159
\$5,000 or less	4,047	313	310	-289 **	-255	-31	-3
More than \$5,000	2,325	923 *	1,156 *	-209	-162	703	1,005 *
<b>Education first</b>							
No earnings	17,102	189 ***	293 ***	-200 ***	-216 ***	†	†
\$5,000 or less	10,487	14	10	-285 ***	-363 ***	-65	67
More than \$5,000	4,605	126	308	-213 ***	-83	-363 ***	-476 **
<b>Earnings supplements</b>							
No earnings	17,647	531 *** <sup>††</sup>	711 *** <sup>††</sup>	184 **	-16	940 ***	1,057 ***
\$5,000 or less	9,839	288 **	285	253 **	3	1,107 ***	1,091 ***
More than \$5,000	7,196	-66	102	377 ***	291	1,187 ***	1,384 ***

(continued)



### Table 2.5 (Continued)

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent. A Q-test was applied to differences across program models for each subgroup and outcome. Impacts were significantly different at the 1 percent level for all outcomes and subgroups with the following exceptions. Impacts on welfare benefits in Year 3 were not significantly different across program models. Impacts on earnings for the least disadvantaged were significantly different at the 10 percent significance level. Impacts on welfare benefits for the most disadvantaged were significantly different at the 5 percent significance level. Individuals were classified based on earnings reported to the unemployment insurance (UI) system.

**Table 2.6**  
**Impacts on Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income by Welfare Status by Program Model**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Job search first</b>							
Long-term recipient	9,998	607 ***	578 ***	†	††	-191 **	-208 *
Short-term recipient	6,256	401 **	311	-662 ***	-632 ***	-160	-155
New applicant	440	1,600 *	1,797 *	-463 ***	-372 ***	709	1,278
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
Long-term recipient	6,084	1,256 ***	1,388 ***	-754 ***	-750 ***	320 **	439 **
Short-term recipient	3,978	1,185 ***	1,145 ***	-714 ***	-669 ***	315	337
New applicant	931	-130	227	-229	-130	-468	109
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>							
Long-term recipient	11,504	351 **	488 ***	-339 ***	-292 ***	-22	166
Short-term recipient	4,055	871 ***	1,099 ***	-225	-243	612 **	818 **
New applicant	1,724	622	845	-588 **	-568 *	-82	154
<b>Education first</b>							
Long-term recipient	17,613	††	†††	††	†††	†††	†††
Short-term recipient	9,606	216 ***	310 ***	-295 ***	-400 ***	-192 *	-275
New applicant	4,713	-20	98	-162 ***	-94	-228 *	21
		1,197 ***	1,883 ***	-2	244	1,213 ***	2,306 ***
<b>Earnings supplements</b>							
Long-term recipient	15,511	280 ***	280 **	203 ***	30	††	†††
Short-term recipient	6,408	358 **	519 **	304	263	787 ***	563 ***
New applicant	11,924	84	311	272 **	-21	966 ***	991 ***
						366 **	2,010 ***

(continued)

### Table 2.6 (Continued)

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

A Q-test was applied to differences across program models for each subgroup and outcome. Impacts were significantly different at the 1 percent level for all outcomes and subgroups with the following exceptions. Impacts on welfare benefits in Year 3 were not significantly different across program models. Impacts on earnings for the least disadvantaged were significantly different at the 10 percent significance level. Impacts on welfare benefits for the most disadvantaged were significantly different at the 5 percent significance level.

Individuals were classified as long-term recipients if they had received welfare for two or more years prior to random assignment, short-term recipients if they had received welfare for less than two years prior to random assignment, and new applicants if they had never received welfare prior to random assignment.

Table 2.7

Impacts on Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income by High School Credential by Program Model

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Job search first</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	6,506	597 ***	591 ***	-627 ***	-581 ***	-154	-131
High school diploma/GED	10,275	497 ***	407 ***	-535 ***	-462 ***	-163	-183
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	4,452	896 ***	1,088 ***	-602 ***	-585 ***	199	377 *
High school diploma/GED	6,603	1,449 ***	1,495 ***	-750 ***	-771 ***	496 ***	524 **
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	8,578	135	265 *	-346 ***	-313 **	-264 *	-111
High school diploma/GED	8,705	702 ***	931 ***	-303 ***	-328 ***	347 *	551 **
<b>Education first</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	13,838	306 ***	438 ***	-315 ***	-377 ***	-120	-88
High school diploma/GED	18,356	48	82	-171 ***	-159 **	-168 *	-57
<b>Earnings supplements</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	9,178	402 ***	546 ***	247 *	152	853 ***	838 ***
High school diploma/GED	25,504	220 **	362 ***	273 ***	63	891 ***	1,099 ***

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

A Q-test was applied to differences across program models for each subgroup and outcome. Impacts were significantly different at the 1 percent level for all outcomes and subgroups with the following exceptions. Impacts on welfare benefits in Year 3 were not significantly different across program models. Impacts on earnings for the least disadvantaged were significantly different at the 10 percent significance level. Impacts on welfare benefits for the most disadvantaged were significantly different at the 5 percent significance level.

**Table 2.8**  
**Impacts on Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income by Number of Children by Program Model**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Job search first</b>							
Three or more	4,240	744 ***	844 ***	†	††	-179	-136
Two	5,390	414 ***	259	-764 ***	-796 ***	-239 *	-292
One	7,150	477 ***	400 **	-506 ***	-425 ***	-87	-75
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
Three or more	2,843	1,582 ***	1,599 ***	††	††	650 **	632 *
Two	3,623	1,417 ***	1,747 ***	-797 ***	-812 ***	483 **	782 ***
One	4,524	876 ***	877 ***	-724 ***	-735 ***	78	105
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>							
Three or more	4,379	367	592 **	††	†	64	291
Two	5,463	865 ***	1,116 ***	-235	-242	375 **	514 **
One	7,266	136	239	-425 ***	-516 ***	-129	120
<b>Education first</b>							
Three or more	7,856	284 ***	377 ***	††	††	-202	-217
Two	10,277	102	65	-355 ***	-423 ***	-202 *	-290
One	14,061	18	150	-218 ***	-255 ***	-150	68
<b>Earnings supplements</b>							
Three or more	6,338	494 ***	674 ***	†	†	1,207 ***	1,237 ***
Two	12,735	126	144	243	-315	660 ***	717 ***
One	15,353	287 **	542 ***	303 **	171	805 ***	1,050 ***

(continued)

### Table 2.8 (Continued)

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent. A Q-test was applied to differences across program models for each subgroup and outcome. Impacts were significantly different at the 1 percent level for all outcomes and subgroups with the following exceptions. Impacts on welfare benefits in Year 3 were not significantly different across program models. Impacts on earnings for the least disadvantaged were significantly different at the 10 percent significance level. Impacts on welfare benefits for the most disadvantaged were significantly different at the 5 percent significance level.

## Chapter 3

### Impacts on Stable Employment

This chapter presents results on employment stability by subgroup. Although results on earnings presented in Chapter 2 are likely to generally reflect the impact of programs and program models on employment overall, two programs with similar effects on earnings might have different effects on stable employment. One might operate in a higher-wage labor market than the other, or one might result in sustained employment for a relatively small number of people while the other results in sporadic employment for many more people.

Knowing which programs improved stable employment is useful because stable employment is likely to produce other positive effects. For one, nonexperimental research has found that earnings and wages grow more quickly for individuals who work steadily, so programs that encourage stable employment are more likely to help participants eventually escape poverty and the need for public assistance.<sup>28</sup> Moreover, welfare-to-work activities that help participants achieve stable employment are also likely to help them avoid reaching welfare time limits.

The chapter presents results for three measures of stable employment: whether someone worked in the year after random assignment and then worked in six of the eight quarters in the second and third years after random assignment; whether they worked in nine of the twelve quarters of the three years after random assignment; and whether they worked in six out of the eight quarters in the second and third years after random assignment (whether or not they worked in the first year after random assignment). Each of these measures defines stable employment as having worked at least 75 percent of the time over some period, and follows the example set by work in NEWWS.<sup>29</sup> Each measure of stable employment is based solely on quarterly reports to the UI system.<sup>30</sup> As a result, only jobs in the formal sector count as employment and contribute to the measures of stable employment. Moreover, there is no way to distinguish between stable employment that involved one day of work each quarter from employment in which a person worked full-time every week for several consecutive quarters.

The chapter follows the same format as Chapter 2. Impacts are first presented by level of disadvantage, starting with pooled results by program model, a graphical presentation of results by program, and a meta-analysis to explore which factors are associated with larger or smaller impacts on stable employment. The chapter then compares impacts to program group levels as a means of exploring the usefulness of performance indicators to assess the effectiveness of welfare-to-work programs. The chapter ends with a brief discussion of results for subgroups defined by earnings in the year prior to random assignment, welfare status, high school credential, number of children, and risk of depression. Since the conclusions drawn by looking at other subgroups are essentially the same as the conclusions drawn from the results in this chapter, results for the additional subgroups are presented in Appendix B.

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<sup>28</sup> Corcoran and Loeb (1999); Gladden and Taber (1999).

<sup>29</sup> Freedman (2000).

<sup>30</sup> An exception is SSP, where employment was measured through follow-up interviews.

As discussed in Chapter 2 three levels of disadvantage were defined. The “most disadvantaged” group consists of long-term recipients (who had been on welfare for at least two years prior to random assignment) who had not graduated from high school or worked in the year prior to random assignment. The “least disadvantaged” group consists of people who had none of these barriers. The “moderately disadvantaged” group consists of people who had one or two barriers.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

**x The most disadvantaged are much less likely to find stable employment than the least disadvantaged.** Among most disadvantaged control group members, only about 5 percent worked at least 75 percent of the follow-up period, compared with about 20 percent of the moderately disadvantaged and more than one third of the least disadvantaged. However, the same is not true for new applicants, who were only slightly more likely to find stable employment than were long-term welfare recipients. This suggests that knowing someone is a welfare applicant provides limited useful information on their likely employment prospects.

**x A focus on employment, either through job search or full-time work incentives, appears key in using pre-employment policies to increase stable employment among welfare recipients.** Job-search first, employment-focused mixed-activity programs, and programs with earnings supplements — particularly supplements for full-time work — were most effective at increasing stable employment for the most disadvantaged and moderately disadvantaged. By contrast, the two types of education-oriented programs had smaller effects on stable employment than the other three program models.

**x Impacts on stable employment tended to be larger for groups with less work experience.** Effects on stable employment were generally larger for people with no earnings in the year prior to random assignment than for individuals with substantial employment, and were generally larger for the most disadvantaged group than for the least disadvantaged group. This may reflect the fact that that program participants with a more substantial recent work history are better able than others to find stable work on their own: The least disadvantaged control group members were about 10 times as likely as the most disadvantaged to find stable employment.

**x Impacts on stable employment tended to be larger for groups who might be better able to respond to participation requirements and work incentives.** Effects on stable employment were generally larger for high school graduates than for nongraduates and were generally larger for people with a low risk of depression than for those with a high risk of depression. This might reflect the ability of individuals in the different groups to take advantage of program services and earnings supplements. Regardless of services and incentives they are offered, high school nongraduates might face difficulty convincing a good employer to give them a chance. Likewise, those at a high risk of depression might have difficulty putting lessons learned through job clubs into effect.

**x Performance indicators may be more indicative of program impacts for more disadvantaged groups than for less disadvantaged groups.** For the most disadvantaged sample members, programs with larger impacts on stable employment also tended to be the ones with more employment stability among program group members. This was not the case for the least



disadvantaged sample members. This result may suggest that the use of performance indicators such as whether program participants stay employed for several quarters in a row might be a more accurate measure of the effect of a program for more disadvantaged groups, for whom stable employment is expected to be low across sites in the absence of a program.

## **POOLED IMPACTS BY PROGRAM MODEL**

Table 3.1 presents pooled impacts on the three measures of stable employment by level of disadvantage for the five program models described in Chapter 1. As discussed in Chapter 2, to calculate the pooled results, the sample from the various studies was pooled, and impacts were calculated from the pooled sample, taking into account the program and site that an individual came from. This is essentially the same as taking a weighted average of the impacts across programs, with weights representing the proportion of a subgroup that came from a particular study.

Because differences in the level of employment stability by subgroup have not been explored in previous analyses of random assignment studies, Table 3.1 shows not only impacts on stable employment but also the proportion of control group members who had stable employment. It is striking — but not surprising — how much less stable employment there was for the most disadvantaged than for the least disadvantaged. For example, in random assignment studies of job-search-first programs, only 4.8 percent of the most disadvantaged control group members worked in six of the eight quarters after they found work (the first measure shown on the table) compared with 18.3 percent of moderately disadvantaged sample members and 36.1 percent of least disadvantaged sample members. Looking across all program models and all three measures of stable employment, only about 4 to 13 percent of most disadvantaged control group members had stable employment. Among the moderately disadvantaged, the level is generally two to four times as high, ranging from about 15 to about 31 percentage points. And among the least disadvantaged, stable employment is even more likely. For example, more than half of the least disadvantaged control group members in earnings supplement studies worked in at least 6 of the first 8 quarters after random assignment.

In terms of impacts, there have been two prior attempts to use random assignment evaluations to synthesize the effects of random assignment studies of pre-employment strategies on stable employment. Freedman (2000) found that Portland's employment-focused mixed-activities approach generated the largest effects on stable employment among programs studied in NEWWS, perhaps because of the use of both job search and education activities, but perhaps because the program operated in a strong economy or because it encouraged participants to take good jobs that paid more than the minimum wage, involved full-time work, and provided fringe benefits. Freedman (2000) also found that job-search-first programs generated somewhat larger effects on employment stability than education-focused programs, although many of the people who found work quickly in the Riverside LFA program also lost their jobs quickly. Adding MFIP and SSP to this synthesis, Michalopoulos (2001) found that the two earnings supplement programs generated even larger effects on stable employment on average than programs that used only welfare-to-work services. The monthly incentive provided by those programs may have encouraged recipients to stay at work when they felt like quitting or to find new jobs if they lost their first jobs. This chapter

expands on the prior two syntheses by examining results for about twice as many programs and by examining impacts on employment stability by subgroup.

For the most disadvantaged, results in Table 3.1 generally confirm the results from Freedman (2000) and Michalopoulos (2001), and are similar to the impacts on earnings described in Chapter 2. For the most disadvantaged welfare recipients, earnings supplement programs and the two program models that stressed job search for the most disadvantaged all resulted in greater steady work, while the two program models that stressed basic education for this group had relatively small effects on stable employment.

For the moderately disadvantaged, all of the program models generated statistically significant increases in stable employment using all three measures, with impacts ranging from 1.5 percentage points (or about 7 percent of the control group level) to 10.2 percentage points (or about 47 percent of the control group level), depending on which measure and which program model are examined. According to all three measures, however, the more education-oriented program models resulted in substantially smaller increases in stable employment than the other program models.

Results for the least disadvantaged sample members also point to the importance of an employment focus. The two versions of mixed-activity programs (employment-focused and education-focused) had the largest effects on stable employment, and both primarily increased job search among job-ready participants. By contrast, education-first programs reduced the proportion of the least disadvantaged that worked in 6 of the 8 quarters in years 2 and 3 by 3.8 percentage points.

## IMPACTS FOR INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS

Having established the relative benefits of different program models, it is reasonable to ask how consistent programs are within the five program models. This section addresses the question by showing the effects of each program on annual earnings over three years. The results are shown in three figures, one for each level of disadvantage.<sup>31</sup>

Figure 3.1 shows for the most disadvantaged the effects of the programs on the proportion of sample members who worked in nine of the twelve quarters during the three years after random assignment (the second outcome shown in the tables). In general, impacts within each program model are fairly consistent. In fact, differences across programs within a program model were statistically insignificant for the five program models.<sup>32</sup> Both employment-focused mixed-activity programs had substantial effects on employment stability, three of the four job-search-first programs had modest effects, and the education-focused mixed-activities and education-first programs generally had small effects for the most disadvantaged.

Less consistent among the most disadvantaged are the earnings supplement programs. One of the programs generated among the largest increases in stable employment for the most disadvantaged and several generated increases in stable employment that were larger than any of

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<sup>31</sup> Impacts by program are shown in Table B.10.

<sup>32</sup> The p-values of q-statistics of homogeneity were 0.156 for job-search-first programs, .105 for education-first programs, .220 for employment-focused mixed-activity programs, .848 for education-focused mixed-activity programs, and .142 for earnings supplement programs.

the education-oriented programs. However, several of the earnings supplement programs generated fairly small increases in stable employment. Especially ineffective were the two versions of the Vermont WRP policy, which had the least generous supplement of all the programs shown in Figure 3.1 (shown as the fifth and sixth bars among the earnings supplement programs). This suggests that generous earnings supplements can help individuals maintain steady work, perhaps because they provide a constant incentive to remain at work. Even among earnings supplement programs, however, differences in impacts on stable employment were not statistically significant.

Figure 3.2 shows that results for the moderately disadvantaged are similar to results for the most disadvantaged. Impacts are fairly consistent and fairly positive for the job-search-first and employment-focused mixed-activity programs, fairly consistent but less positive for the two education-oriented sets of programs, and less consistent for the earnings supplement programs.

As for the most disadvantaged, several earnings supplement programs generated sizable impacts on stable employment for the moderately disadvantaged, but the two versions of WRP and the MFIP Incentives Only program did not. Because the programs generally had more moderately disadvantaged than most disadvantaged sample members, however, differences across the earnings supplements were statistically significant for the moderately disadvantaged. This provides more rigorous evidence that some incentives — presumably the more generous incentives — encourage more stable employment than other incentives.<sup>33</sup>

Figure 3.3 shows similar results for the least disadvantaged. In general, few of the programs generated sizable effects on stable employment for the least disadvantaged. This may be due to the relatively high levels of stable employment for this group. The most notable exception is the SSP program in New Brunswick, which increased stable employment by 17 percentage points, but which had few least disadvantaged sample members (which suggests that the increase in stable employment may be as much statistical fluke as a real effect).<sup>34</sup>

## **EXPLAINING DIFFERENCES IN IMPACTS ACROSS PROGRAMS**

Pooled results by program model implied that job search and earnings supplements were effective methods for encouraging stable employment. However, some programs with earnings supplements generated much larger effects on stable employment than others, and there was likewise variation across the programs that used mandatory employment-related services. This section explores the relationship between policies and impacts on stable employment using meta-analytic techniques that were motivated and described in Chapter 2.

Table 3.2 shows the relationship between various factors and impacts on whether someone worked in 9 of the 12 quarters following random assignment. Results using the other two measures of stable employment were quite similar and are therefore not presented.

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<sup>33</sup> The p-values of q-statistics of homogeneity were .753 for job-search-first programs, .291 for education-first programs, .164 for employment-focused mixed-activity programs, .371 for education-focused mixed-activity programs, and less than .001 for earnings supplement programs.

<sup>34</sup> The p-values of q-statistics of homogeneity were .278 for job-search-first programs, .252 for education-first programs, .246 for employment-focused mixed-activity programs, .850 for education-focused mixed-activity programs, and less than .236 for earnings supplement programs.

As anticipated, the two factors that are associated with larger increases in stable employment are impacts on participation in job search activities and full-time work incentives (but not part-time incentives). For the most disadvantaged and the moderately disadvantaged, an increase in job search of one percentage point is associated with an increase in stable employment of .24 percentage points and an increase in the monthly full-time work incentive of \$1 is associated with an increase in stable employment of .02 percentage points.

The effect of job search helps explain why some programs were more effective than others. Compare the Riverside and Los Angeles GAIN programs. Riverside GAIN increased job search among those in need of basic education by 31.3 percentage points, but Los Angeles GAIN increased job search for this group 7.4 percentage points. The regression implies that this difference of 23.9 percentage points (31.3-7.4) explains a difference of 5.8 percentage points (.24\*23.9) in the impact on stable employment for the most disadvantaged between the two programs, or about half of the 10 percentage point difference that actually existed for the most disadvantaged (an impact of 10.0 percentage points for Riverside GAIN and -0.1 percentage point for Los Angeles GAIN).

The other significant correlate of increases in stable employment for the most disadvantaged is full-time work incentives. This could explain why some programs with financial work incentives had larger effects than other programs. For example, the full-time work incentive in MFIP was calculated at \$148 per month for a single parent with two children earning \$6 per hour. In the two SSP programs, by comparison, the full-time work incentive was \$542 per month in British Columbia and \$436 per month in New Brunswick, while in Vermont there was no incentive to work full time. Impacts on stable employment correspond closely to these different incentives. For the most disadvantaged, the MFIP's incentives increased stable employment by 4.4 percentage points, SSP's incentives increased earnings by 6.5 percentage points in British Columbia and 6.8 percentage points in New Brunswick, and WRP's incentives did not significantly affect stable employment.

Finally, the results imply that a program can be especially effective if it combines an emphasis on employment with financial work incentives. By adding a participation requirement to its financial incentive, the full MFIP program increased stable employment among the most disadvantaged by 9.8 percentage points compared with 4.4 percentage points for the MFIP incentives-only program. Among the moderately disadvantaged, the full MFIP program increased stable employment by 6.5 percentage points, while the MFIP incentives by themselves did not significantly affect stable employment.

## **USE OF PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

Chapter 2 showed that earnings levels might be a useful measure of the effectiveness of a welfare-to-work program for the most disadvantaged but not for the least disadvantaged. In light of the large number of welfare recipients that have gone to work since 1993, the focus of many welfare systems has turned to employment retention. This section explores whether levels of stable employment among program group members are likely to provide an indication of the effectiveness of a program at encouraging stable employment. As in Chapter 2, this section argues that performance indicators might be more useful among more disadvantaged groups than among welfare recipients more generally.

Figure 3.4 compares the proportion of most disadvantaged program group members with stable employment in a program to that program's impact on stable employment among the most disadvantaged. For this figure, a person is considered to have steady employment if she works in 9 of the 12 quarters following random assignment. The figure implies that levels of stable employment are a fairly good, though not perfect, indicator of which programs were most effective at encouraging stable employment. For example, in two programs, more than 15 percent of most disadvantaged sample members had stable employment, and both programs generated impacts on stable employment of more than 10 percentage points. Overall, the correlation between stable employment in the program group and program impacts was 0.667 for most disadvantaged sample members, indicating a substantial degree of correlation between the two measures.

A very different and less promising story is told by Figure 3.5, which shows the same results for the least disadvantaged sample members. In this case, there is no clear relationship between the proportion of the program group that achieved stable employment and program impacts on stable employment. For example, more than 60 percent of the least disadvantaged sample members in Jobs First had stable employment, but the impact of Jobs First on employment stability was in the middle of the range shown in Figure 3.5. At the other extreme, only about 25 percent of the least disadvantaged sample members in Oklahoma City had stable employment, but the impact of this program was also near the middle of the range shown in the figure. Overall, the correlation between stable employment in the program group and a program's impact on stable employment was -0.069 for the least disadvantaged, indicating very little relationship between the outcomes and impacts.

These results suggest that performance indicators may be more useful measures of how much effect a program has for more disadvantaged welfare recipients than for less disadvantaged sample members. The reason is that more disadvantaged groups are unlikely to find stable employment on their own in all sites, so differences in levels of stable employment of people who passed through programs in different places gives a reasonable — though not perfect — indication of the effect of the program. In contrast, levels of stable employment among the least disadvantaged program group members vary substantially from place to place.

## IMPACTS FOR OTHER SUBGROUPS

This section presents pooled results for four other sets of subgroups: (1) by welfare status prior to random assignment (long-term recipients, short-term recipients, and new applicants); (2) by high school credential; (3) by earnings in the year prior to random assignment; and (4) by number of children at random assignment. In addition, it presents results by program by risk of depression. Appendix B presents impacts on stable employment for a range of other subgroups, both pooled within the five program models and by program.<sup>35</sup>

**By prior-year earnings.** Table 3.3 shows pooled control group levels and program impacts by program model on the three measures of stable employment for three subgroups defined by earnings reported to the UI system in the year prior to random assignment: (1) those with no earn-

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<sup>35</sup> Appendix B also contains pooled results and results for psychosocial subgroups defined using Private Opinion Surveys that were administered in 19 of the 26 programs. Differences in impacts across these subgroups were generally small.

ings, (2) those with \$5,000 or less in earnings, and (3) those with more than \$5,000 in earnings. Recall that whether someone worked in the year prior to random assignment was one of the three criteria used to define level of disadvantage. In general, results by prior-year earnings are similar to results by level of disadvantage. Job search activities and a focus on employment appear to be most effective for groups with less recent earnings, implying that they benefit more from help finding work than other groups, and implying that they benefit more from employment than from basic education.

The benefits of an employment focus are less clear for the high-earnings group. While employment-focused mixed-activity programs substantially increased stable employment for the high-earnings group, the job-search-first and education-focused mixed-activity programs did not consistently result in more stable employment for them.

Also noteworthy is the contrast between the effect of the earnings supplement programs on stable employment and their effect on earnings. As shown in Chapter 2, the earnings supplement programs as a group had little effect on earnings for the high-earnings groups, most likely because the part-time work incentives contained in most welfare earnings disregards encouraged some members of this group to cut back their work effort from full time to part time. By contrast, the earnings supplement programs did significantly increase stable employment for the high-earnings group, although the impact is modest. This might reflect the ability of the programs to move some people into work and give them a constant incentive to stay there, even while they encourage some people to work fewer hours when they do work.

**By welfare status.** Table 3.4 shows pooled results for long-term recipients (those who had been on welfare for at least two years prior to random assignment), short-term recipients, and new applicants. Results for this subgroup might help an administrator target services by how long someone has been on welfare. Differences by program model are also important to the extent that long-term recipients are the group most likely to hit welfare time limits. In general, results are consistent with results by level of disadvantage, with larger impacts for groups and program models where job search was emphasized.

There is a striking contrast between impacts by level of disadvantage and impacts by welfare status for the groups that might be considered most job ready — the least disadvantaged and new welfare applicants. While more employment-focused approaches significantly increased stable employment for the least disadvantaged, they did not generally have much effect on stable employment for new welfare applicants. This may reflect the heterogeneous nature of new applicants. Some have encountered circumstances that have forced them on the rolls temporarily, but others are at the beginning of a long welfare spell. While the least disadvantaged also have recent work experience and a high school diploma, new applicants might have neither of these. This contrast also appears in the proportion of control group members who found stable employment. While the least disadvantaged control group members were 10 times as likely to find stable employment as the most disadvantaged, new applicants in many of the programs were no more likely than long-term recipients to find stable employment.

**By high school credential.** Table 3.5 shows pooled results by high school credential. Because of how stable employment is defined, it is not surprising that the more education-oriented approaches had relatively small effects on stable employment for high school nongraduates. If participants followed through with their education assignments, it would have been hard for them to

find work early enough to work in 9 of the 12 quarters following random assignment. If they did not follow through on their education assignments, on the other hand, it is unlikely that the programs would have much of an effect. The results make it clear that encouraging stable employment in the short term requires more of an employment focus.

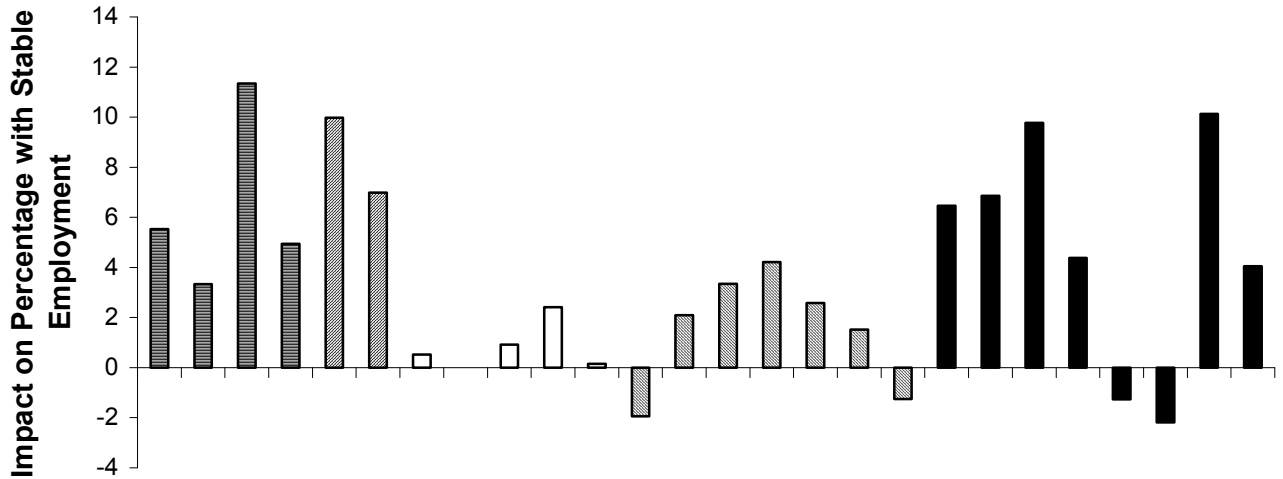
**By number of children.** Table 3.6 shows pooled impacts for families with one, two, or three or more children at the time of random assignment. Impacts are fairly consistent across the three subgroups for all of the program models.

**By risk of depression.** Table 3.7 shows results by risk of depression for nine programs where information was available on sample members' risk of depression at the time of random assignment. This subgroup is of interest for two reasons. First, many welfare recipients are at high risk of depression. For example, Brock et al. (2002) found that about one-fourth of current and former welfare recipients in high-poverty neighborhoods in Cuyahoga County (Cleveland), Ohio were at risk of depression. Second, previous subgroup analyses have indicated that welfare-to-work programs have been most effective for those at the lowest risk of depression, raising the question of whether this is true for other outcomes such as stable employment,

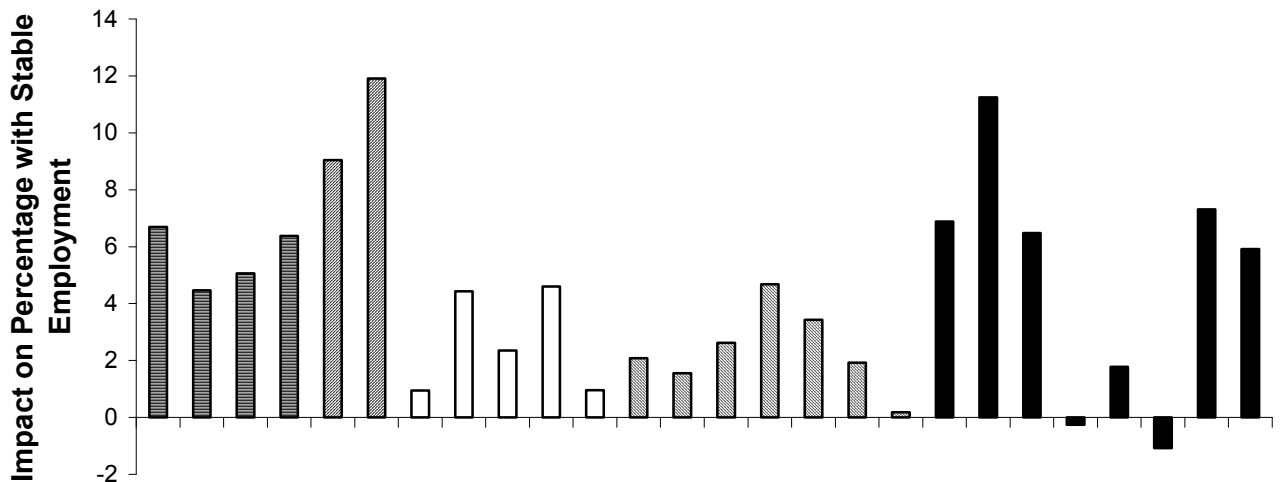
Risk of depression was assessed using sample members' responses to four items from the 20-item Center for Epidemiological Studies Depression (CES-D) Scale. Each respondent was asked how often in the prior week she felt sad, how often she felt depressed, how often she felt lonely, and how often she had trouble shaking the blues. Answers to these questions were used to assess an individual's risk of depression because the CES-D Scale has been found to be correlated with clinical depression. That is, individuals who say they suffer from many of the symptoms or suffer from some symptoms frequently are more likely than others to be judged by a psychiatrist to be depressed. Sample members were divided into three groups: those at high risk of depression, those at moderate risk, and those at low risk. (In the interest of brevity, those groups will often be referred to as the most depressed, the moderately depressed, and the least depressed.) For more details on how the subgroups were defined, see Appendix A of Michalopoulos and Schwarz (2000).

Because results are available for only nine programs, results are shown for each program. Because there are so few programs in each program model (and no education-focused mixed-activity programs), pooled results are shown across all programs. The pooled results indicate that the programs did not significantly increase stable employment for the highest risk group, but had larger effects for those at moderate risk of depression and the largest effects for those at low risk of depression.

**Figure 3.1**  
**Impacts on Percentage Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters**  
**for Most Disadvantaged Sample Members**



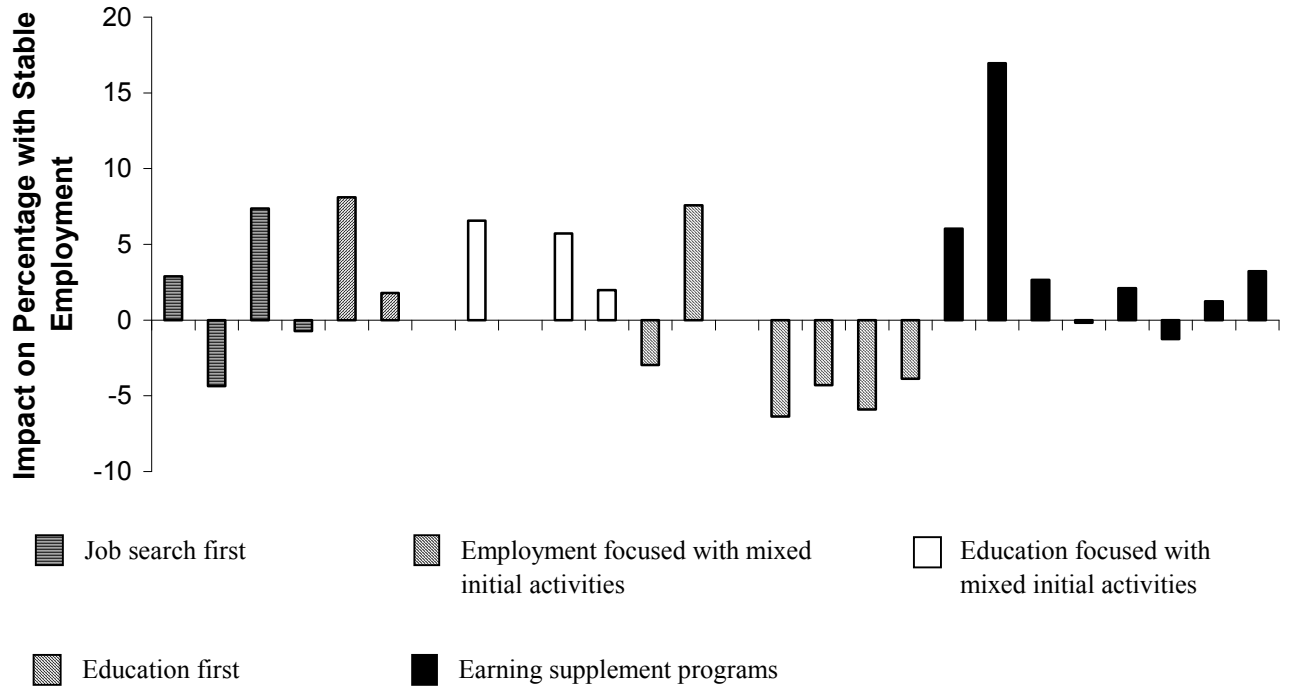
**Figure 3.2**  
**Impacts on Percentage Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters**  
**for Moderately Disadvantaged Sample Members**



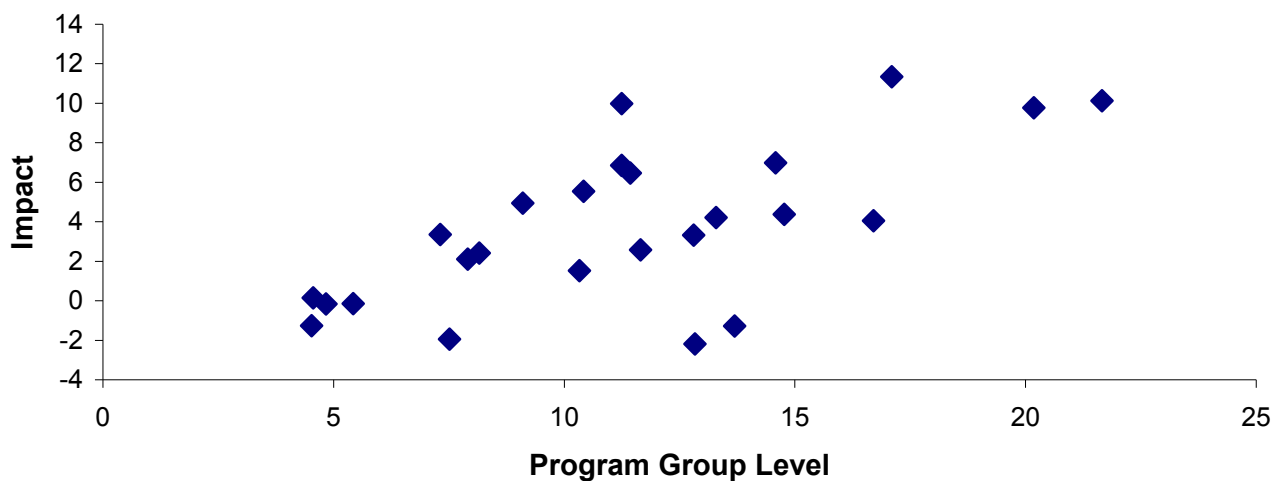
- Job search first
- Employment focused with mixed initial activities
- Education focused with mixed initial activities
- Education first
- Earning supplement programs



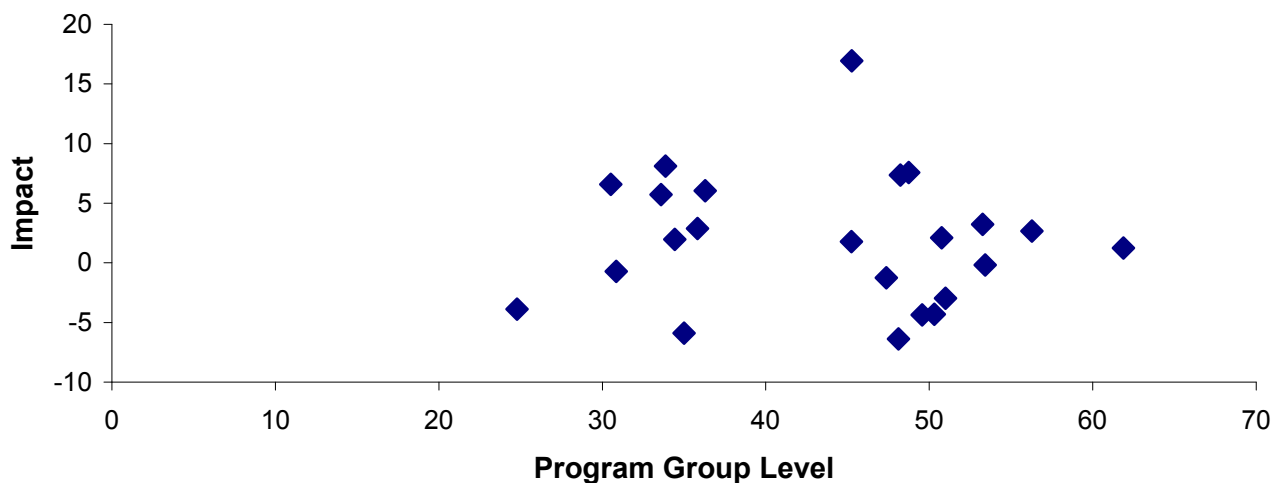
**Figure 3.3**  
**Impacts on Percentage Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters**  
**for Least Disadvantaged Sample Members**



**Figure 3.4**  
**Comparison of Program Group Levels to Impacts**  
**Stable Employment**  
**for Most Disadvantaged Sample Members**



**Figure 3.5**  
**Comparison of Program Group Levels to Impacts**  
**Stable Employment**  
**for Least Disadvantaged Sample Members**



NOTE: A person is considered to have stable employment if she worked in 9 of the 12 quarters following random assignment.

**Table 3.1**

**Impacts on Stable Employment by Level of Disadvantage by Program Model**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)			Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)			Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)		
		Control Group	Impact		Control Group	Impact		Control Group	Impact	
<b>Job search first</b>										
Most disadvantaged	3,111	4.8	5.6 ***	5.9	5.8 ***	††	8.2	6.2 ***	††	††
Moderately disadvantaged	11,013	18.3	5.4 ***	19.9	5.7 ***	***	24.2	5.0 ***	***	***
Least disadvantaged	2,570	36.1	1.2	38.1	0.6		42.1	-0.5		
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>										
Most disadvantaged	1,854	4.2	7.5 ***	4.3	8.7 ***	***	7.9	10.1 ***	†	†
Moderately disadvantaged	7,539	15.5	9.9 ***	16.7	10.6 ***	***	21.5	10.2 ***	***	***
Least disadvantaged	1,600	33.3	6.2 **	35.0	4.9 **	**	39.9	3.3		
<b>Education first</b>										
Most disadvantaged	5,282	6.3	0.8	8.0	1.1	††	11.3	2.3 **	†††	††
Moderately disadvantaged	21,576	20.1	1.5 ***	22.9	1.7 ***	***	27.1	2.4 ***	***	***
Least disadvantaged	5,074	35.1	-1.7	38.9	-2.6		44.1	-3.8 **	**	**
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>										
Most disadvantaged	4,752	4.9	0.4	5.2	0.9		6.2	2.2 *	*	*
Moderately disadvantaged	10,548	15.8	2.5 ***	16.2	3.2 ***	***	19.2	3.8 ***	***	***
Least disadvantaged	1,983	27.3	5.1 *	28.4	5.4 *	*	32.8	4.8 *	*	*
<b>Earnings supplements</b>										
Most disadvantaged	3,846	8.2	5.7 ***	10.1	5.9 ***	***	13.8	6.6 ***	***	***
Moderately disadvantaged	21,894	25.6	4.6 ***	26.9	5.1 ***	***	32.0	5.1 ***	***	***
Least disadvantaged	9,193	48.1	3.5 ***	49.2	3.6 ***	***	53.1	3.8 ***	***	***

(continued)

**Table 3.1 (Continued)**

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, information collected at baseline, and (for SSP) follow-up surveys with sample members.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

Individuals were classified as most disadvantaged if they had no earnings in the year prior to random assignment, did not have a high school diploma or GED, random assignment, and had received welfare for two years prior to random assignment. Individuals were classified as least disadvantaged if they had none of these characteristics. All other sample members were classified as moderately disadvantaged.

**Table 3.2**

**Estimated Determinants of Impacts on Whether Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters  
by Level of Disadvantage**

	Level of Disadvantage		
	Most	Moderate	Least
<b>Welfare-to-work participation</b>			
Impact on Job Search	0.24 *** (0.09)	0.24 *** (0.06)	0.16 (0.13)
Impact on Basic Education	-0.02 (0.05)	-0.03 (0.06)	0.10 (0.18)
Impact on Vocational Training	0.10 (0.19)	0.02 (0.16)	-0.14 (0.37)
Impact on Work Experience	-0.31 (0.22)	-0.21 (0.17)	-0.21 (0.39)
<b>Financial work incentives</b>			
Part-time (20 hours per week)	0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.02)
Full-time (40 hours per week)	0.02 * (0.01)	0.02 *** (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
<b>Time limit</b>	-0.78 (3.29)	-0.50 (2.48)	-0.15 (4.74)
<b>Economic factors</b>			
Welfare grant level for a family of 3	0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)
Unemployment rate	0.00 (0.28)	0.13 (0.25)	-0.52 (0.66)
<b>Intercept</b>	0.40 (3.19)	2.77 (3.27)	-2.98 (7.63)

Notes: Estimates are the result of a random-effects regression using subgroup impacts.

Individuals were classified as most disadvantaged if they had no earnings in the year prior to random assignment, did not have a high school diploma or GED at random assignment, and had received welfare for two years prior to random assignment. Individuals were classified as moderately disadvantaged if they faced one or two of these barriers, and they were classified as least disadvantaged if they faced none of the barriers.

Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. Standard errors are shown in parentheses.

The part-time work incentive is estimated as the difference in income from earnings, cash assistance payments, and Food Stamps (for U.S. studies) or earning supplement payments (for SSP) between the new and old programs for a parent with two children who works 20 hours per week and earns \$6 per hour. The full-time work incentive is defined in a similar way if the parent works 40 hours per week.

**Table 3.3**  
**Impacts on Stable Employment by Prior-Year Earnings by Program Model**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Job search first</b>							
No earnings	9,832	9.5	5.5 ***	10.8	5.8 ***	14.7	5.3 ***
\$5,000 or less	4,604	26.0	5.2 ***	28.9	4.8 ***	32.7	4.1 ***
More than \$5,000	2,345	41.6	1.1	42.1	1.7	46.0	0.6
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
No earnings	6,545	7.9	10.3 ***	8.7	11.0 ***	13.5	11.2 *** ††
\$5,000 or less	3,082	23.2	6.7 ***	24.5	8.0 ***	29.4	6.6 ***
More than \$5,000	1,428	39.1	8.3 ***	41.0	5.8 *	44.8	5.2 *
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>							
No earnings	10,911	6.6	2.0 ***	7.1	2.5 ***	9.4	3.4 ***
\$5,000 or less	4,047	21.5	0.9	22.0	2.1	25.3	1.6
More than \$5,000	2,325	38.2	3.5	37.8	4.4	40.4	5.7 **
<b>Education first</b>							
No earnings	17,102	10.0	0.9 *	11.8	1.6 *** †	16.2	2.3 *** ††
\$5,000 or less	10,487	26.6	-0.1	30.9	-1.0	35.1	-0.7
More than \$5,000	4,605	45.0	0.0	47.4	1.1	51.0	1.4
<b>Earnings supplements</b>							
No earnings	18,333	14.3	5.3 ***	15.6	5.8 ***	20.7	6.5 *** ††
\$5,000 or less	10,036	36.1	4.6 ***	38.1	4.8 ***	42.8	4.4 ***
More than \$5,000	7,413	57.9	3.5 ***	58.2	3.3 ***	61.5	3.4 ***

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, information collected at baseline, and (for SSP) follow-up surveys with sample members.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

**Table 3.4**  
**Impacts on Stable Employment by Welfare Status by Program Model**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8		Employed in 9 of 12		Employed in 6 of 8	
		Subsequent Quarters (%)		Quarters (%)		Quarters (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Job search first</b>							
Long-term recipient	9,998	15.1	5.9 ***	16.7	†	20.0	†††
Short-term recipient	6,256	23.8	3.2 ***	25.6		30.3	***
New applicant	440	17.7	9.1	19.0		24.1	10.0
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
Long-term recipient	6,084	13.8	9.6 ***	14.7	††	19.2	†††
Short-term recipient	3,978	18.5	9.4 ***	19.6		25.1	***
New applicant	931	26.0	-2.4	29.7		34.1	-9.3
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>							
Long-term recipient	11,504	11.6	2.3 ***	11.7		13.9	4.1 ***
Short-term recipient	4,055	17.2	3.6 **	18.3		21.5	3.8 **
New applicant	1,724	20.9	2.1	21.8		26.2	1.6
<b>Education first</b>							
Long-term recipient	17,613	19.3	†	22.1		26.0	††
Short-term recipient	9,606	24.4	1.6 **	27.0		31.7	2.6 ***
New applicant	4,713	15.6	-1.0	19.0		23.9	-0.5
			1.2				-1.5
<b>Earnings supplements</b>							
Long-term recipient	15,792	25.6	†††	27.2		32.6	4.7 ***
Short-term recipient	6,533	29.7	5.2 ***	31.5		36.2	5.1 ***
New applicant	12,608	36.0	0.5	36.7		40.6	2.2 **

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, information collected at baseline, and (for SSP) follow-up surveys with sample members.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

New applicants had never received welfare in the past; short-term recipients had received welfare for less than two years.

**Table 3.5**  
**Impacts on Stable Employment by High School Credential by Program Model**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Job search first</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	6,506	11.9	5.6 ***	13.3	5.9 ***	16.5	5.4 ***
High school diploma/GED	10,275	22.8	4.2 ***	24.5	4.2 ***	28.8	3.6 ***
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	4,452	10.6	6.6 *** ††	11.2	8.0 ***	14.8	8.3 ***
High school diploma/GED	6,603	20.1	10.6 ***	21.4	10.4 ***	26.6	10.0 ***
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	8,578	11.3	0.1 †††	11.9	0.4 †††	13.4	1.4 ††
High school diploma/GED	8,705	17.2	4.0 ***	17.7	4.6 ***	21.3	5.0 ***
<b>Education first</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	13,838	13.9	1.2 **	16.5	1.4 **	19.9	2.0 ***
High school diploma/GED	18,356	25.1	0.4	27.9	0.6	32.6	1.1
<b>Earnings supplements</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	9,315	19.2	3.8 ***	20.9	4.1 ***	24.8	4.4 ***
High school diploma/GED	26,467	33.5	4.5 ***	34.6	4.8 ***	39.5	4.9 ***

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, information collected at baseline, and (for SSP) follow-up surveys with sample members.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.



**Table 3.6**  
**Impacts on Employment Stability by Number of Children by Program Model**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Job search first</b>							
Three or more	4,240	15.5	5.8 ***	16.8	6.0 ***	20.1	6.0 ***
Two	5,390	20.5	3.9 ***	21.9	4.2 ***	26.0	3.5 ***
One	7,150	19.1	4.3 ***	20.9	4.5 ***	25.0	3.6 ***
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
Three or more	2,843	13.1	11.7 ***	14.6	11.6 ***	20.0	10.8 ***
Two	3,623	17.3	7.7 ***	17.8	9.0 ***	22.3	9.4 ***
One	4,524	17.6	8.2 ***	18.9	8.3 ***	23.1	7.8 ***
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>							
Three or more	4,379	12.0	2.3	12.1	3.3 **	13.9	4.2 ***
Two	5,463	14.8	3.6 ***	15.8	3.0 **	18.4	3.7 ***
One	7,266	15.4	0.6	15.7	1.7	18.8	2.2 *
<b>Education first</b>							
Three or more	7,856	18.0	0.7	20.9	0.8	25.0	2.1 **
Two	10,277	21.2	1.0	23.7	1.3	28.0	1.5 *
One	14,061	21.4	-0.3	24.2	-0.1	28.3	0.1
<b>Earnings supplements</b>							
Three or more	6,495	25.4	6.2 ***	27.0	6.1 ***	31.5	6.1 ***
Two	13,064	29.4	4.1 ***	30.4	4.6 ***	35.3	4.4 ***
One	15,892	31.8	3.7 ***	33.3	3.8 ***	37.9	4.2 ***

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, information collected at baseline, and (for SSP) follow-up surveys with sample members.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

Table 3.7

Impacts on Stable Employment by Risk of Depression by Program

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Pooled across all programs</b>							
High risk	3,615	19.9	2.3 †	22.3	2.0 †	27.2	1.8 †
Moderate risk	6,170	19.3	4.1 ***	21.1	5.0 ***	25.7	4.8 ***
Low risk	16,832	20.7	5.8 ***	22.0	6.3 ***	26.8	6.4 ***
<b>Job search first</b>							
Atlanta LFA							
High risk	383	28.4	0.6	30.0	3.7	33.2	5.2
Moderate risk	762	24.2	0.6	26.7	1.2	30.4	2.8
Low risk	1,999	25.5	3.8 *	27.0	3.8 *	31.3	4.0 *
Grand Rapids LFA							
High risk	319	25.3	2.6	31.7	1.1	40.8	-3.8
Moderate risk	488	22.2	9.3 **	24.9	11.5 ***	30.6	10.1 **
Low risk	1,148	24.3	7.2 ***	29.4	4.8 *	34.7	5.0 *
Riverside LFA							
High risk	519	12.9	3.0	14.1	1.1	17.5	0.9
Moderate risk	858	12.6	5.2 **	13.3	7.1 ***	17.8	5.2 *
Low risk	2,425	14.2	5.6 ***	14.5	6.1 ***	18.7	5.0 ***
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
Portland							
High risk	775	17.9	6.3 **	19.5	6.9 **	24.6	6.3 *
Moderate risk	1,174	23.7	4.2	25.2	5.2 *	29.9	6.8 **
Low risk	2,946	19.9	11.4 ***	20.6 ***	13.4 ***	25.9	14.3 ***
<b>Education first</b>							
Atlanta HCD							
High risk	400	28.3	-5.6	29.9	-4.3	33.1	-1.3
Moderate risk	826	24.3	1.8	26.8	2.7	30.5	5.1
Low risk	1,970	25.5	0.0	27.0	0.2	31.2	3.1

continued

**Table 3.7 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Education first (continued)</b>							
Grand Rapids HCD							
High risk	304	25.1	-3.4	31.5	-4.4	40.9	-3.4
Moderate risk	474	22.5	0.6	25.1	3.6	30.9	1.1
Low risk	1,164	24.3	5.0 *	29.4	3.9	34.7	5.8 **
Riverside HCD							
High risk	270	11.9	-1.6	11.9	-0.9	15.7	-1.7
Moderate risk	444	7.9	3.5	8.8	2.6	11.6	2.5
Low risk	1,010	11.1	3.6 *	11.4	4.1 *	15.1	4.1 *
<b>Earnings Supplements</b>							
SSP - British Columbia							
High risk	263	5.2	13.0 *** ††	9.3	15.3 ***	10.1	16.7 ***
Moderate risk	482	7.4	5.0 *	10.0	6.0 **	10.9	5.9 *
Low risk	1,782	14.3	1.9	15.1	7.9 ***	17.2	6.6 ***
SSP - New Brunswick							
High risk	247	18.0	-1.2	19.5	1.5	20.3	2.4
Moderate risk	451	9.0	7.8 **	11.2	9.5 ***	12.6	10.0 ***
Low risk	1,724	17.4	7.8 ***	18.9	10.6 ***	20.1	11.3 ***

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, SSP follow-up surveys, and information collected at the time of random assignment.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

## Chapter 4

### Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits

According to Chapter 2, employment-focused programs caused larger reductions in welfare receipt than either education-focused programs or programs with earnings supplements, especially for more disadvantaged groups. A program can generate large reductions in welfare receipt either by helping a relatively small number of people leave welfare for a prolonged period or by helping many people leave welfare for a short period, to return after a few months. This chapter explores the ability of various welfare-to-work programs to help people remain off welfare. This is the first attempt we know of to systematically examine the effects of welfare-to-work programs on stable welfare exits using data from random assignment studies.

Understanding which approaches to encouraging work help people stay off the rolls takes on obvious added importance in this era of time-limited welfare benefits. Education and training programs had smaller impacts on welfare benefit payments overall (according to Chapter 2), but their payoff might be better jobs that allow people to stay off the rolls for a sustained period later. Likewise, programs with enhanced earnings disregards increase welfare use in the short term, but they generate considerable employment stability (according to Chapter 3) that might help families stay off the rolls longer when they finally do leave. On the contrary, job-search-first programs might be reducing welfare receipt only temporarily if they help parents find unstable welfare exits.

As in Chapters 2 and 3, this chapter first examines these issues for subgroups defined by level of disadvantage, starting with pooled results by program model, a graphical presentation of results by program, and a meta-analysis to explore which factors are associated with larger or smaller impacts on stable welfare exits. The chapter then compares impacts to program group levels as a means of exploring the usefulness of performance indicators to assess the effectiveness of welfare-to-work programs. The chapter ends with a brief discussion of results for subgroups defined by earnings in the year prior to random assignment, welfare status, high school credential, number of children, and risk of depression. Since the conclusions drawn by looking at the other subgroups are essentially the same as the conclusions drawn from the results in this chapter, results for the additional subgroup are presented in Appendix C.

The chapter examines three measures of stable welfare exits: whether someone left welfare in the year after random assignment and was off welfare in six of the eight quarters in the second and third years after random assignment; whether they were off welfare in nine of the twelve quarters of the three years after random assignment; and whether they stayed off welfare for four or more consecutive quarters the first time they were off the rolls after random assignment. These measures are modeled after the types of stable employment outcomes used in Chapter 3 and MDRC's other work on employment stability in random assignment studies.

The effectiveness of a program at encouraging stable welfare exits might vary with the measure that is used. A person must leave welfare in the first year to have a stable welfare exit by either of the first two measures (being off welfare in the year after random assignment and six of the eight quarters in the second and third years after random assignment, and being off welfare for nine quarters in the twelve-quarter follow-up period). Programs that rely on education and training might fare poorly by these measures, since they are successful only if some people stay on welfare

while they take advantage of education and training opportunities. Education-focused programs might be better judged by the third outcome, which deems someone to have had a stable welfare exit if they are off the rolls for four consecutive quarters at any time in the following period. By this measure, a person who continued to receive welfare while enrolled in school for two years but remained off the rolls for the entire third year would be counted as having a stable welfare exit.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

**x More disadvantaged sample members are less likely to have stable welfare exits than less disadvantaged sample members.** About 25 percent of the most disadvantaged sample members stayed off welfare for four or more consecutive quarters within three years of random assignment, compared with more than half of the least disadvantaged sample members. Results were similar for the other two measures of stable welfare exits. These differences are not surprising since most disadvantaged sample members were long-term welfare recipients prior to random assignment, and history is often an excellent indicator of the future.

**x Conclusions about stable welfare exits were sensitive to which definition was used.** The three measures represent somewhat different concepts. One of the measures counts an individual as having a stable exit only if she left welfare in the year after random assignment, while a second measure looks at the entire three-year period. The third measure does not require an early exit but regards an exit as a success if it is sustained for four or more quarters. While the education-focused programs are unlikely to be successful by either of the first two measures because they try to keep individuals on welfare for some time while their skills are improved, they are more likely to be successful according to the third measure.

**x In general, results were similar across subgroups.** For virtually every subgroup split that was examined, for each of the five program models, and for each of the three outcomes, impacts on stable welfare exits were not statistically significantly different for different subgroups. Since Chapter 3 found greater differences in the impacts of the programs on stable employment, this suggests that a number of programs are encouraging people to leave welfare without helping them find stable work.

**x Most earnings supplement programs do not encourage stable welfare exits.** All of the earnings supplement programs except SSP used enhanced earnings disregards, which allow welfare recipients to remain on welfare with more earnings. As a result, they encourage people to combine work and welfare rather than to leave welfare for work. Although these programs encourage self-sufficiency through work, in a world of time-limited welfare they also make it more likely that welfare recipients will use up their time on welfare quickly.

**x Program group levels of stable welfare exits were not especially good indicators of how effective programs were at encouraging stable welfare exits for either the most disadvantaged or the least disadvantaged.** In contrast to results on earnings and stable employment shown in Chapters 2 and 3, the proportion of program group members with stable welfare exits was not highly correlated with how much a program increased stable welfare exits for either the most disadvantaged or least disadvantaged. Focusing just on programs that operated in California's relatively generous welfare environment, however, there was more of a relationship for the most disadvantaged. This suggests that the use of performance indicators might be a more

accurate measure of how well programs promote stable welfare exits for more disadvantaged groups, as long as adjustments are made for features of the local environment that might increase or decrease the likelihood that people stay on the rolls.

## **POOLED IMPACTS BY PROGRAM MODEL**

Table 4.1 presents pooled impacts and control group levels for the three measures of stable welfare exits by level of disadvantage for the five program models described in Chapter 1. As discussed in Chapter 2 three levels of disadvantage were defined. The “most disadvantaged” group consists of long-term recipients (who had been on welfare for at least two years prior to random assignment) who had not graduated from high school or worked in the year prior to random assignment. The “least disadvantaged” group consists of people who had none of these barriers. The “moderately disadvantaged” group consists of people who had one or two barriers. Also as discussed in Chapter 2, to calculate the pooled results, the sample from the various studies was pooled, and impacts were calculated from the pooled sample, taking into account the program and site that an individual came from. This is essentially the same as taking a weighted average of the impacts across programs, with weights representing the proportion of a subgroup that came from a particular study.

### **Off welfare in 9 of 12 quarters**

The three measures of stable welfare exits may potentially tell very different stories. The first measure, having been off welfare for nine of twelve quarters, is in some ways the most comprehensive. A stable welfare exit by this definition requires someone to leave welfare within the first year and to remain off welfare most of the rest of the follow-up period. Programs with immediate and sustained effects will look better than either programs with delayed effects (such as education-oriented programs) or with temporary effects.

According to this first measure, the most disadvantaged are about one-third as likely to have stable welfare exits as the least disadvantaged. In job-search-first programs, for example, 10.8 percent of the most disadvantaged sample members had stable welfare exits compared with 35.4 percent of the least disadvantaged. In addition, results for control group members are similar across the five program models, suggesting that bias from different samples will not have much effect on comparisons across the program models.

In terms of impacts, the results are somewhat different from the impacts on earnings presented in Chapter 2 and the impacts on stable employment presented in Chapter 3. In those analyses, programs that used a substantial amount of job-search activities or work incentives — especially full-time work incentives — were the most effective. Focusing still on the first outcome shown in Table 4.1, only the job-search-first and the education-first programs succeeded at increasing the number of stable welfare exits among the most disadvantaged. In particular, the employment-focused mixed-activities programs that were so successful at increasing employment and earnings did not significantly increase the likelihood of leaving welfare steadily.

Results for the earnings supplement programs are instructive. While these programs were fairly effective at promoting stable employment and increasing earnings, they resulted in fewer welfare exits for moderately and least disadvantaged sample members. This is a consequence of the fact that earnings were supplemented through enhanced welfare earnings disregards in most of

these studies, with the two SSP sites being the exceptions. Enhanced earnings disregards encourage people to combine work and welfare, and thus lengthen the time that people stay on welfare.

In contrast to the small to modest effects on stable welfare exits for the most disadvantaged, all of the program models without earnings supplements increased stable welfare exits for the least disadvantaged and all except the education-focused mixed-activities programs increased stable welfare exits for the moderately disadvantaged. Combined with results from Chapter 3, this implies that mandatory welfare-to-work services discourage welfare use even when they don't result in extra employment, especially for the least disadvantaged.

### **Off welfare in year 1 and 6 of 8 quarters in years 2 and 3**

The second measure, being off welfare in year 1 and six of the next eight quarters, is similar to the first definition in that it requires an effect within the first year and requires someone to remain off welfare 75 percent or more of the time. It is slightly less restrictive than the first measure in the sense that someone who leaves welfare in the last quarter of year 1 could have a stable welfare exit by remaining off welfare for six of the next eight quarters, or only seven of the twelve quarters overall. It is slightly more restrictive in the sense that the person must be off welfare for three-fourths of the second and third years, rather than three-fourths of the entire follow-up period.

Despite these minor differences, the results using this second measure are extremely close to the results using the first measure. This suggests that there is a great deal of overlap between the two measures. People who are off welfare for nine quarters in a three year period are also off for six of the last eight quarters, and vice versa, perhaps because most leave welfare and stay off through the remainder of the follow-up period.

### **Off welfare for four or more consecutive quarters**

The third measure, being off welfare for four consecutive quarters during the first spell off welfare, is both more restrictive and less restrictive than the other measures. It is more restrictive in that it requires someone to have a sustained period of a year off welfare rather than being off welfare most of the time. It is less restrictive in that the year off welfare could happen at any time during the three-year follow-up period, and the person could have been on welfare every other quarter outside of that year. Since the year off welfare could have occurred in the second or third year after random assignment, programs that relied more on education and training to prepare individuals for work may look better by this measure.

More control group members had stable welfare exits according to this definition than by the other definitions. In evaluations of job-search-first programs, for example, 27.3 percent of the most disadvantaged control group members left welfare and stayed off for a year or more, compared to about 10 percentage points by the other definitions. Among the least disadvantaged control group members in those evaluations, 57.8 percent were off welfare for at least a year at a stretch.

In terms of impacts, results using the third measure are quite similar to results using the other two measures, although differences across the program models are somewhat smaller. Education-first programs had somewhat larger effects on stable welfare exits among the most disadvantaged using this measure. Employment-focused mixed-activities programs had virtually no

effect on stable welfare exits among the least disadvantaged. And earnings supplement programs did not reduce welfare exits by this definition.

## IMPACTS FOR INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS

Having established the relative benefits of different program models, it is reasonable to ask how consistent programs are within the five program models. This section addresses the question by showing the effects of each program on stable welfare exits, defined as having been off welfare for four or more consecutive quarters. The results are shown in three figures, one for each of the subgroups.

Figure 4.1 shows for the most disadvantaged the effects of the programs on the proportion of sample members who were off welfare for four or more consecutive quarters during the three years after random assignment (the third outcome shown in the tables).<sup>36</sup> With the exception of the earnings supplement programs, the results suggest that programs within a program model were about equally effective or ineffective (in the case of the mixed-activity programs) at encouraging stable welfare exits among the most disadvantaged.

Both the job-search-first and education-first programs had fairly consistent and fairly positive effects. It is not clear why education-first programs performed more consistently better on this outcome than on other outcomes, although it is consistent with the notion that education programs take some time to have an effect (since someone could have remained on welfare for two years and still had a stable welfare exit by this definition).

The fact that programs in both categories consistently encouraged people to leave welfare might also reflect the use of tougher sanctions in most of these programs in comparison to most of the programs in the mixed-activities categories, although no program in this analysis used full-family sanctions that would eliminate a family's benefit entirely. Among the education-first programs, three programs that made extensive use of sanctions — the Grand Rapids HCD program and the two Columbus programs — are among those that increased stable welfare exits. Moreover, one of the two education-first programs with a small impact for the most disadvantaged was the Oklahoma City program, which was identified by NEWWS researchers as a de facto voluntary program. Although these suggest an important role for sanctioning, the Detroit program, which was also identified as less mandatory than education-first programs other than Oklahoma City, increased stable welfare exits by about as much as the Grand Rapids and Columbus programs.

Both employment-focused mixed-activity programs (Riverside GAIN and Portland JOBS) had large effects on earnings and stable employment for the most disadvantaged, but both had small to modest effects on stable welfare exits. Since California's welfare benefits are among the highest in the country, it is possible that most disadvantaged sample members worked steadily as a result of the Riverside program but did not earn enough to leave welfare. This is also consistent with the small effects of the education-focused mixed-activity programs, which were also in California, although it is interesting to note that the San Diego SWIM program (the leftmost bar on

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<sup>36</sup> The p-values of q-statistics of homogeneity for the most disadvantaged were .740 for job-search-first programs, .475 for education-first programs, .526 for employment-focused mixed-activities programs, .594 for education-focused mixed-activities programs, and .less than .001 for earnings supplement programs.



the figure), the Riverside LFA program (the third bar from the left), and the Riverside HCD program (the third bar from the left among the education-first programs) significantly increased stable welfare exits, and increased stable welfare exits by about as much as they increased stable employment.

Earnings supplement programs were the one category with varying effects by program. There are two reasons for this diversity. As described earlier, the two SSP sites supplemented the earnings only of people who left welfare for full-time work. Thus, these two programs, which are represented by the two leftmost bars in the figure, increased work only by reducing welfare receipt. The other six programs supplemented earnings through the welfare system. By itself, this would have allowed more people to continue receiving welfare when they went to work, and should have reduced stable welfare exits. However, two of these programs — Florida’s FTP program and Connecticut’s Jobs First program — combined earnings supplements with time-limited welfare. These two programs, which are represented by the two rightmost bars on the figure, consequently increased welfare exits by the somewhat extreme measure of ending welfare benefits of families that reached the time limits in these programs.

Figure 4.2 shows that impacts on stable welfare exits for the moderately disadvantaged are similar to results for the most disadvantaged. Impacts are fairly consistent across programs except for the earnings supplement programs.<sup>37</sup> The primary difference between impacts for the most disadvantaged and moderately disadvantaged is in the employment-focused mixed-activity programs, which had larger and more consistently positive effects among the moderately disadvantaged.

Figure 4.3 shows similar results for the least disadvantaged.<sup>38</sup> In general, few of the programs generated sizable effects on stable welfare exits for the least disadvantaged. This may be because many in this group would have left welfare on their own, without the assistance of a welfare-to-work program. The most notable exception is the SSP program in New Brunswick, which increased stable welfare exits by 17 percentage points, but which had few least disadvantaged sample members (which suggests that the increase in stable employment may be as much statistical fluke as a real effect).

## **EXPLAINING DIFFERENCES IN IMPACTS ACROSS PROGRAMS**

Pooled results by program model showed much less difference across the different program models than did results for earnings or stable employment. In particular, programs that stressed job search did about as well as programs that stressed education. Moreover, results were fairly consistent across programs within each program model that used only mandatory welfare-to-work services. This section delves deeper into these comparisons by exploring the relationship between

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<sup>37</sup> The p-values of q-statistics of homogeneity for the moderately disadvantaged were .309 for job-search-first programs, .777 for education-first programs, .051 for employment-focused mixed-activities programs, .276 for education-focused mixed-activities programs, and less than .001 for earnings supplement programs.

<sup>38</sup> The p-values of q-statistics of homogeneity for the least disadvantaged were .938 for job-search-first programs, .627 for education-first programs, .286 for employment-focused mixed-activities programs, .781 for education-focused mixed-activities programs, and less than .001 for earnings supplement programs.

policies and impacts on stable welfare exits using meta-analytic techniques that were motivated and described in Chapter 2.

Table 4.2 shows the relationship between various factors and impacts on whether someone was off welfare for four consecutive quarters in the three years following random assignment. Results using the other two measures of stable employment were fairly similar and are therefore not presented.

As anticipated by the results by program and subgroup, welfare-to-work services do not generally appear to be associated with larger impacts on stable welfare exits. This stands in contrast to results on earnings and stable employment, for which job search was associated with larger effects.

Also as anticipated, part-time financial work incentives are associated with smaller impacts on stable welfare exits. This reflects the fact that part-time financial work incentives in these programs stemmed solely from welfare earnings disregards which would have encouraged or allowed families to stay on welfare when parents went to work.

By contrast, full-time work incentives are associated with increased impacts on stable welfare exits. The three programs with the strongest full-time work incentives were the two SSP programs and the Connecticut Jobs First program. The SSP programs increased stable welfare exits because people had to leave welfare for full-time work to receive SSP earnings supplements. The Connecticut program might have encouraged stable welfare exits not because of its full-time work incentive, but because it limited recipients to 21 months of welfare during the three years following random assignment.

As discussed earlier, programs that had relatively large effects on employment might have smaller effects on stable welfare exits if generous welfare grants allow people to combine work and welfare relatively easily. If that is the case, then programs in sites with higher welfare grants should have had smaller effects on stable welfare exits, all else equal. In other words, the estimated effect of welfare grant levels shown in Table 4.2 should be negative. In fact, it is negative for all three subgroups, but never statistically significantly different from zero.

## **USE OF PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

Chapter 2 showed that earnings levels might be a useful measure of the effectiveness of a welfare-to-work program for the most disadvantaged but not for the least disadvantaged, and Chapter 3 reached a similar conclusion regarding stable employment. Zornitsky and Rubin (1988) found that it was much harder to use outcomes as an indicator of the effectiveness of a program at reducing welfare use than at increasing employment and earnings. This section explores whether dividing people into subgroups by level of disadvantage provides a means of using levels of stable welfare exits as indicators of the effectiveness of a program at encouraging people to leave welfare. In contrast to Chapters 2 and 3, and in concurrence with Zornitsky and Rubin (1998), this section argues that subgroups do not increase the usefulness of performance indicators in assessing whether programs help recipients leave welfare and stay off the roles.

Figure 4.4 compares the proportion of most disadvantaged program group members with stable welfare exits in a program to that program's impact on stable welfare exits among the most

disadvantaged. For this figure, the third measure of stable welfare exits was used (off welfare in four or more consecutive quarters). The figure implies that levels of stable welfare exits are not especially strong indicators of which programs were most effective. For example, about 55 percent of most disadvantaged program group members in Oklahoma City had stable welfare exits, but the program had essentially no impact on this outcome. Likewise, there are a number of programs with relatively low levels of stable welfare exits among program group members, but their impacts were both high and low. Overall, the correlation between program group earnings levels and program impacts was 0.376 for most disadvantaged sample members, indicating only a marginally statistically significant relationship ( $p$ -value=0.064). Figure 4.5 actually shows a somewhat higher relationship between outcomes and impacts for the least disadvantaged group (correlation of .466).

As mentioned earlier, it is likely that people leave welfare faster in low-grant states than in high-grant states. In particular, employment is more likely to make someone ineligible for welfare in a low-grant state than in a high-grant state. To look for patterns in programs where welfare benefit levels are similar, Figures 4.6 and 4.7 restrict the comparisons to nine California programs included in the analysis.

There appears to be somewhat more of a relationship between outcomes and impacts of the California programs when looking at the most disadvantaged. The program with the largest effect on stable welfare exits — Riverside LFA, with an impact of 8 percentage points — had the second highest level of stable welfare exits as well. Likewise, the program with the smallest impact — Alameda GAIN, at -2 percentage points — also had the lowest rate of stable exits. In fact, the correlation between outcomes and impacts in this case is 0.710, which, despite the fact that only eight programs were involved in the estimate, is statistically significant at the 5 percent level ( $p$ -value=0.048).

A less promising story is told by Figure 4.7, which shows results for the six California programs that had some least disadvantaged sample members (that is, excluding Alameda GAIN, Los Angeles GAIN, and Riverside HCD). In this case, there is no clear relationship between program group levels of stable welfare exits and program impacts on stable welfare exits. In all six programs, about 60 percent of the least disadvantaged left welfare for four or more consecutive quarters, but the impacts of the six programs ranged from about 0 to about 6 percentage points. Overall, the correlation between outcomes and impacts was only -0.181 for the least disadvantaged, indicating very little relationship between the two.

These results confirm the finding from Chapters 2 and 3 that performance indicators may be more useful measures of a program's effectiveness among more disadvantaged groups than among less disadvantaged groups.

## **IMPACTS FOR OTHER SUBGROUPS**

This section presents pooled results for four other sets of subgroups: (1) by welfare status prior to random assignment (long-term recipients, short-term recipients, and new applicants); (2) by high school credential; (3) by earnings in the year prior to random assignment; and (4) by number of children at random assignment. In addition, it presents results by program by risk of depres-

sion. Appendix C presents impacts on stable welfare exits for a range of other subgroups, both pooled within the five program models and by program.<sup>39</sup>

**By prior-year earnings.** Table 4.3 shows pooled impacts by program model on stable welfare exits for three subgroups defined by earnings reported to the UI system in the year prior to random assignment: (1) those with no earnings, (2) those with \$5,000 or less in earnings, and (3) those with more than \$5,000 in earnings. Recall that whether someone worked in the year prior to random assignment was one of the three criteria used to define level of disadvantage. In general, results are similar across the three subgroups. In fact, there are no significant differences across the subgroups in any of the five program models for any of the three measures of stable welfare exits.

**By welfare status.** Table 4.4 shows pooled impacts for long-term recipients (those who had been on welfare for at least two years prior to random assignment), short-term recipients, and new applicants. Results for this subgroup might help an administrator target services by how long someone has been on welfare. Differences by program model are also important to the extent that long-term recipients are the group most likely to hit welfare time limits. There is little consistent pattern across subgroups, program models, or outcomes. In some cases, impacts are largest for short-term recipients, while in other cases they are larger for new applicants.

**By high school credential.** Table 4.5 shows pooled impacts by high school credential. In general, results are similar for high school graduates and nongraduates. In fact, only in one case for one subgroup are differences in impacts between the two subgroups statistically significant.

**By number of children.** Table 4.6 shows pooled impacts for families with one, two, or three or more children at the time of random assignment. As for the other subgroups, impacts are fairly consistent across the three subgroups for all of the program models, with no significant differences by family size for any of the program models for any of the outcomes.

**By risk of depression.** Table 4.7 shows results by risk of depression for nine programs where information was available on sample members' risk of depression at the time of random assignment.<sup>40</sup> This subgroup is of interest for two reasons. First, many welfare recipients are at high risk of depression. For example, Brock et al. (2002) found that about one-fourth of current and former welfare recipients in high-poverty neighborhoods in Cuyahoga County (Cleveland), Ohio were at risk of depression. Second, previous subgroup analyses have indicated that welfare-to-work programs have been most effective for those at the lowest risk of depression, raising the question of whether this is true for other outcomes such as stable welfare exits.

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<sup>39</sup> Appendix C also contains pooled results and results for psychosocial subgroups defined using Private Opinion Surveys that were administered in 19 of the 26 programs. Differences in impacts across these subgroups were generally small.

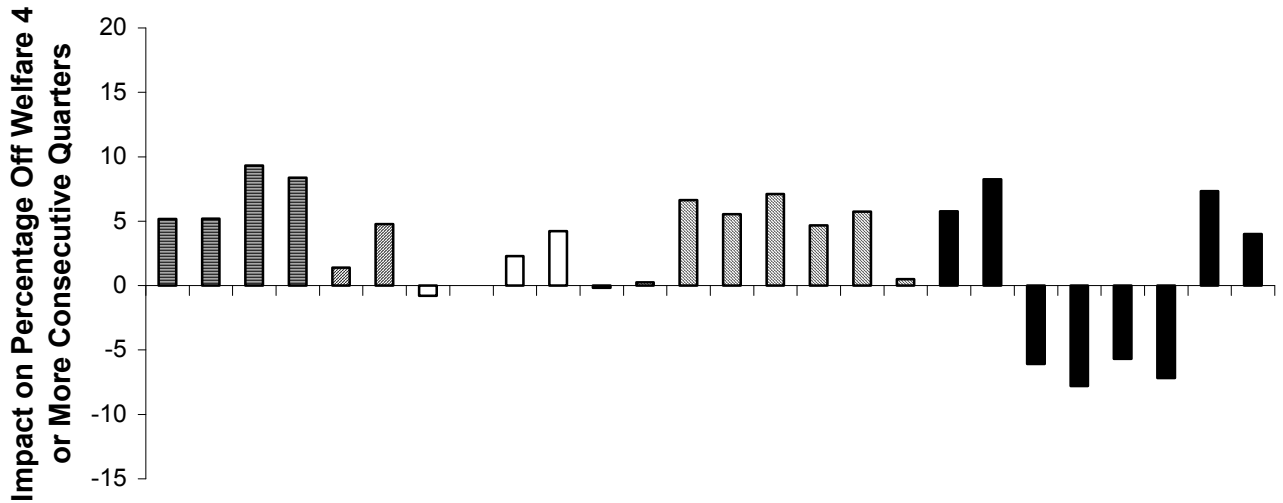
<sup>40</sup> As described in Chapter 3, risk of depression was assessed using sample members' responses to four items from the 20-item Center for Epidemiological Studies Depression (CES-D) Scale. Each respondent was asked how often in the prior week she felt sad, how often she felt depressed, how often she felt lonely, and how often she had trouble shaking the blues. For more details on how the subgroups were defined, see Appendix A of Michalopoulos and Schwarz (2000).

Because results are available for only nine programs, results are shown for each program. Because there are so few programs in each program model (and no education-focused mixed-activity programs), pooled results are shown across all programs.

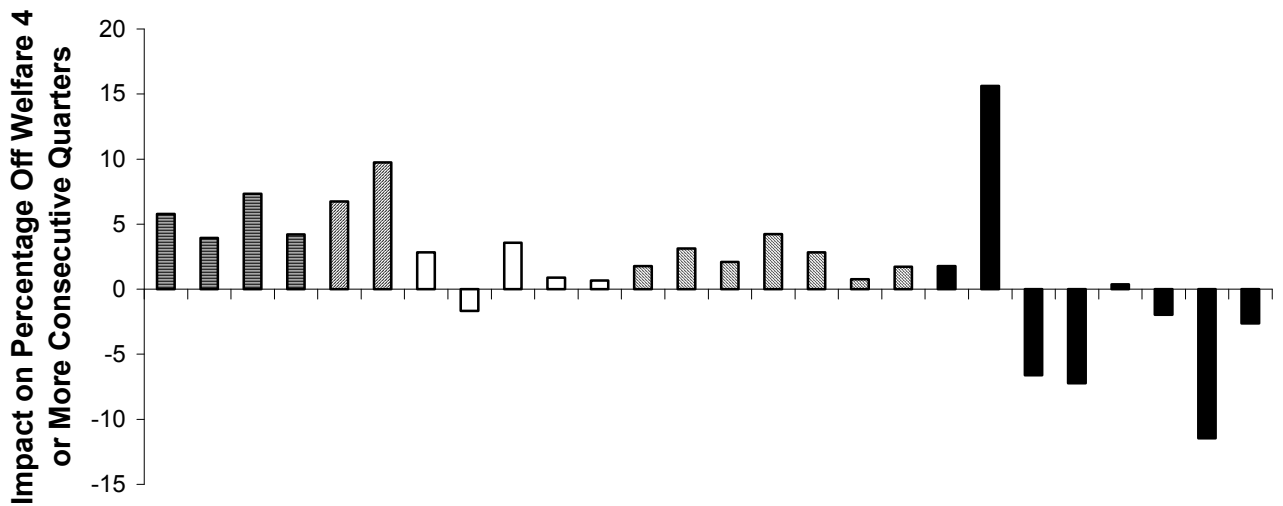
The pooled results indicate that the programs significantly increased stable welfare exits for all three risk groups, and that the impacts were about the same size for all three groups. This is in contrast to the effects of the programs on stable employment, which were largest for those at low risk of depression and close to zero for those at high risk of depression. This might be reason for concern. It implies that welfare and work policies — particularly those that use mandatory welfare-to-work services — are encouraging a number of people who might be depressed to leave the rolls without helping them find sustained employment.

Looking across programs models, the job-search first programs and the two SSP programs generally resulted in the largest increases in stable welfare exits for the high-risk group. By contrast, the Portland JOBS program did not have a significant effect for this group, just as it did not have a significant effect on stable employment for this group.

**Figure 4.1**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits**  
**for Most Disadvantaged Sample Members**

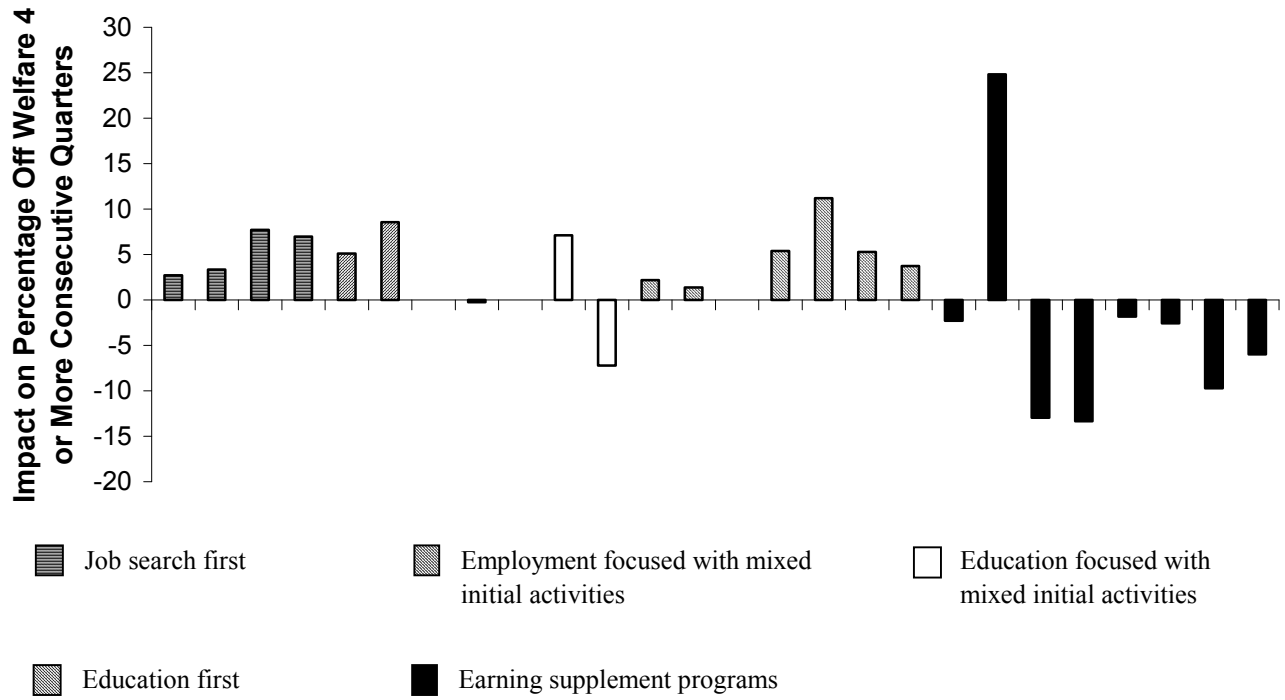


**Figure 4.2**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits**  
**for Moderately Disadvantaged Sample Members**

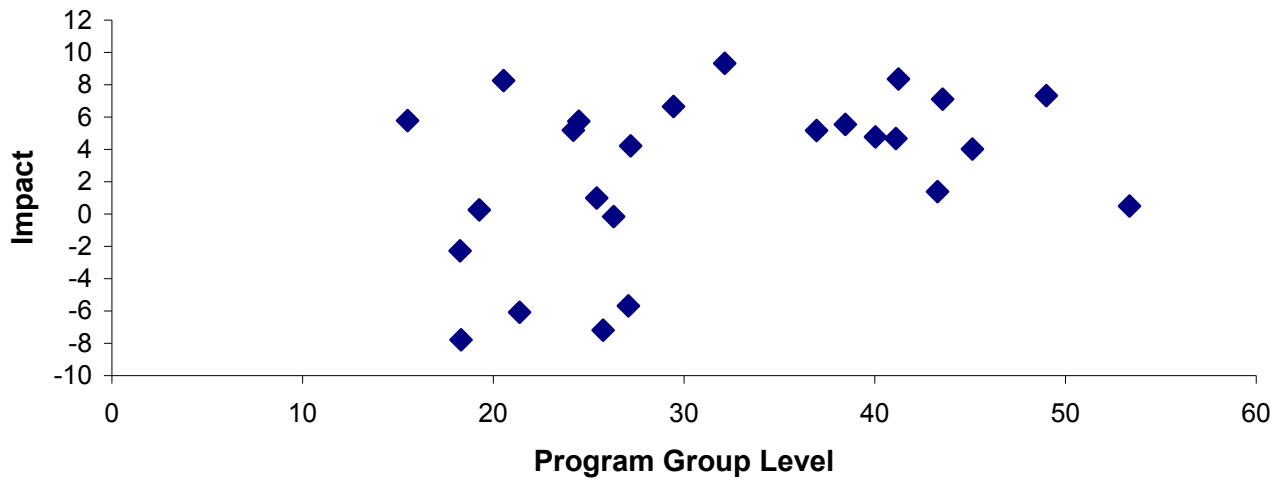


- Job search first
  - Education first
- Employment focused with mixed initial activities
  - Earning supplement programs
- Education focused with mixed initial activities

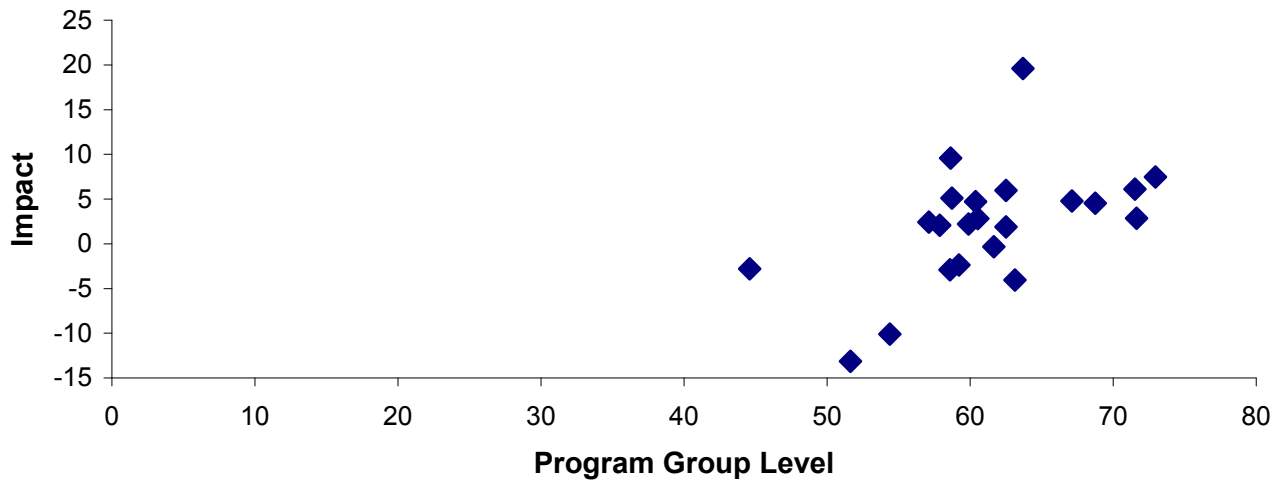
**Figure 4.3**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits**  
**for Least Disadvantaged Sample Members**



**Figure 4.4**  
**Comparison of Program Group Level to Impact**  
**Stable Welfare Exits**  
**for Most Disadvantaged Sample Members**



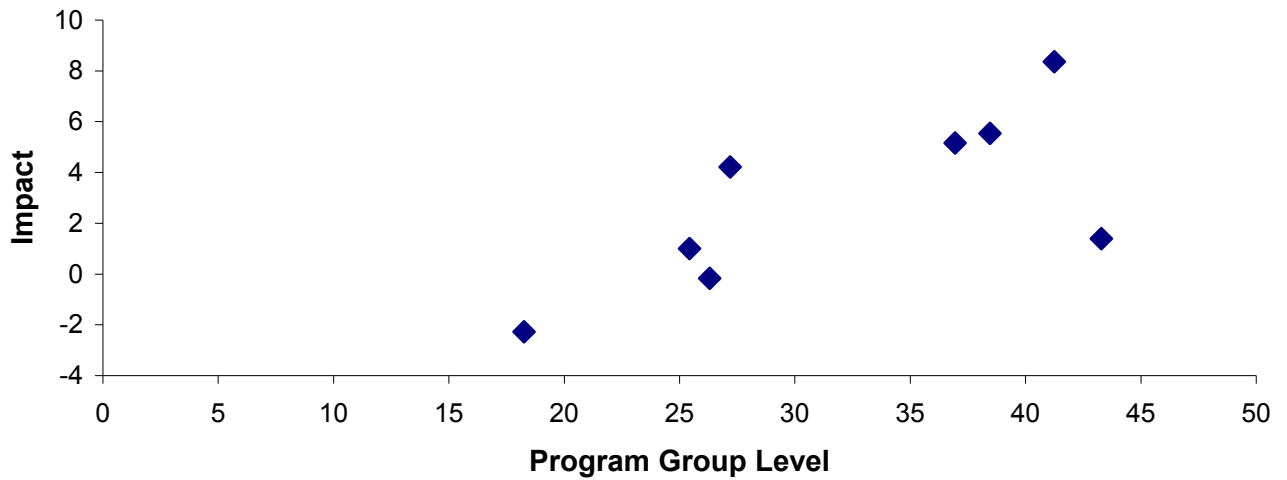
**Figure 4.5**  
**Comparison of Program Group Level to Impact**  
**Stable Welfare Exits**  
**for Least Disadvantaged Sample Members**



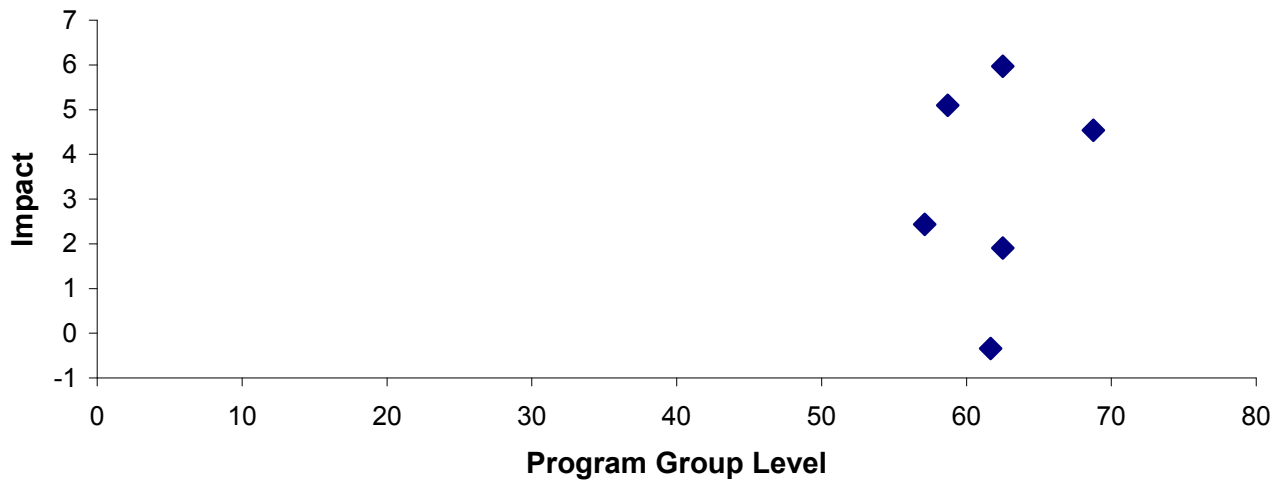
NOTE: A person is considered to have a stable welfare exit if she was off welfare for four or more consecutive quarters in the three years following random assignment.



**Figure 4.6**  
**Comparison of Program Group Level to Impact**  
**Stable Welfare Exits**  
**for Most Disadvantaged Sample Members in California**



**Figure 4.7**  
**Comparison of Program Group Level to Impact**  
**Stable Welfare Exits**  
**for Least Disadvantaged Sample Members in California**



NOTE: A person is considered to have a stable welfare exit if she was off welfare for four or more consecutive quarters in the three years following random assignment.

**Table 4.1**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits by Level of Disadvantage by Program Model**

Program and Subgroup	Size	Off Welfare in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Off Welfare in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)		Off Welfare 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Job search first</b>							
Most disadvantaged	3,111	10.8	7.3 ***	11.5	7.6 ***	27.3	7.2 ***
Moderately disadvantaged	11,013	21.5	5.0 ***	22.6	5.5 ***	41.5	5.4 ***
Least disadvantaged	2,570	35.4	5.5 ***	37.3	5.5 ***	57.8	4.7 **
<b>Education first</b>							
Most disadvantaged	5,213	12.6	2.4 *	12.8	3.1 *	29.6	4.0 **
Moderately disadvantaged	20,348	23.9	2.2 ***	25.2	2.3 ***	44.1	3.6 ***
Least disadvantaged	4,654	36.4	5.1 ***	37.6	5.6 ***	60.1	3.4 *
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
Most disadvantaged	1,854	18.6	†	19.9	††	38.6	†††
Moderately disadvantaged	7,539	26.0	8.3 ***	27.4	8.8 ***	46.3	9.9 ***
Least disadvantaged	1,600	39.3	7.0 **	41.1	8.9 **	64.2	-1.1
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>							
Most disadvantaged	4,752	11.5	1.2	11.7	1.3	24.2	1.8
Moderately disadvantaged	10,548	20.5	1.5	21.2	1.7	37.6	3.3 ***
Least disadvantaged	1,983	33.4	4.7 *	36.2	3.1 *	54.9	4.4
<b>Earnings supplements</b>							
Most disadvantaged	3,836	14.1	†	15.4	-1.9	27.6	-0.1
Moderately disadvantaged	21,496	25.3	-3.5 ***	27.5	-3.6 ***	44.5	0.3
Least disadvantaged	8,936	42.5	-5.3 ***	45.9	-5.4 ***	60.6	-0.4

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from welfare administrative records and information collected at baseline.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

Individuals were classified as most disadvantaged if they had no earnings in the year prior to random assignment, did not have a high school diploma or GED at random assignment, and had received welfare for two years prior to random assignment. Individuals were classified as least disadvantaged if they had none of these characteristics, and were classified as moderately disadvantaged otherwise.

**Table 4.2**  
**Estimated Determinants of Impacts on Percentage Off Welfare for Four Consecutive Quarters**  
**By Level of Disadvantage**

	Level of Disadvantage		
	Most	Moderate	Least
<b>Welfare-to-work participation</b>			
Impact on Job Search	0.11 (0.08)	0.11 (0.08)	-0.01 (0.08)
Impact on Basic Education	-0.06 (0.05)	-0.03 (0.08)	0.07 (0.11)
Impact on Vocational Training	0.07 (0.18)	-0.03 (0.19)	-0.45 ** (0.22)
Impact on Work Experience	-0.14 (0.23)	0.02 (0.22)	0.23 (0.27)
<b>Financial work incentives</b>			
Part-time (20 hours per week, \$00)	-4.55 *** (1.15)	-5.76 *** (1.10)	-7.54 *** (1.10)
Full-time (40 hours per week, \$00)	0.54 (0.66)	1.40 * (0.75)	0.98 * (0.58)
<b>Time limit</b>	7.4 ** (3.1)	3.4 (2.9)	10.1 *** (2.7)
<b>Economic factors</b>			
Welfare grant level for a family of 3 (\$000)	-4.45 (3.48)	-1.22 (6.86)	-1.53 (6.61)
Unemployment rate	0.46 * (0.25)	0.34 (0.32)	0.25 (0.34)
<b>Intercept</b>	2.48 (2.92)	1.68 (4.03)	3.14 (5.59)

Notes: Estimates are the result of a random-effects regression using subgroup impacts.

Individuals were classified as most disadvantaged if they had no earnings in the year prior to random assignment, did not have a high school diploma or GED at random assignment, and had received welfare for two years prior to random assignment.

Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. Standard errors are shown in parentheses.

The part-time work incentive is estimated as the difference in income from earnings, cash assistance payments, and Food Stamps (for U.S. studies) or earning supplement payments (for SSP) between the new and old programs for a parent with two children who works 20 hours per week and earns \$6 per hour. The full-time work incentive is defined in a similar way if the parent works 40 hours per week.

**Table 4.3**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits by Prior-Year Earnings by Program Model**

Program and Subgroup	Off Welfare in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)			Off Welfare in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)			Off Welfare 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)		
	Sample Size	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Job search first</b>									
No earnings	9,832	18.5	5.5 ***	15.1	3.8 ***	34.2	5.9 ***		
\$5,000 or less	4,604	21.8	5.1 ***	12.3	3.1 ***	39.7	6.9 ***		
More than \$5,000	2,345	34.8	6.4 ***	12.8	1.8	55.1	2.3		
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>									
No earnings	6,545	23.5	7.3 ***	20.8	0.8	39.4	9.7 ***		
\$5,000 or less	3,082	29.2	4.7 **	15.4	2.0	48.8	4.5 **		
More than \$5,000	1,428	36.7	10.8 ***	14.9	0.7	54.2	7.4 **		
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>									
No earnings	10,911	17.0	1.0	13.5	1.5	29.4	2.9 **		
\$5,000 or less	4,047	21.3	1.4	11.5	2.3 *	37.9	2.3		
More than \$5,000	2,325	30.3	3.1	11.4	1.5	47.1	0.5		
<b>Education first</b>									
No earnings	17,102	22.9	1.4 **	18.9	1.8 ***	36.3	3.2 ***		
\$5,000 or less	10,487	24.9	2.8 ***	13.6	2.0 ***	42.6	3.8 ***		
More than \$5,000	4,605	35.0	4.0 ***	10.7	3.0 ***	55.1	2.4		
<b>Earnings supplements</b>									
No earnings	17,915	23.2	-3.0 ***	18.0	-2.2 ***	35.8	1.3		
\$5,000 or less	9,971	25.2	-2.7 ***	10.4	-0.8	40.5	2.5 **		
More than \$5,000	7,221	47.6	-5.5 ***	10.5	-0.6	56.8	-1.0		

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from welfare administrative records and information collected at baseline.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

Individuals earnings were based on reports to state unemployment insurance (UI) systems.

**Table 4.4**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits by Welfare Status by Program Model**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off Welfare in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)			Off Welfare in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)			Off Welfare 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)				
		Control	Impact	Control	Control	Impact	Control	Group	Impact	Control	Group	Impact
		Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group
<b>Job search first</b>												
Long-term recipient	9,998	15.1	6.0 ***	11.3	3.0 ***	31.4	6.1 ***					
Short-term recipient	6,256	30.9	4.6 ***	17.9	3.2 ***	49.0	5.4 ***					
New applicant	440	35.0	13.6 **	22.7	6.0	58.9	-0.6					
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>												
Long-term recipient	6,084	21.5	5.3 ***	15.4	0.8	37.9	8.6 ***					
Short-term recipient	3,978	30.1	10.4 ***	19.6	2.2	49.9	7.3 ***					
New applicant	931	50.8	-1.5	26.7	8.8 *	60.9	2.9					
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>												
Long-term recipient	11,504	14.0	1.3	9.5	1.5 *	27.1	2.3 *					
Short-term recipient	4,055	27.6	1.0	17.8	1.2	43.3	3.3					
New applicant	1,724	37.6	6.1 *	22.2	5.4 *	51.5	9.5 **					
<b>Education first</b>												
Long-term recipient	17,613	16.6	2.6 ***	10.3	1.7 ***	33.4	4.6 ***					
Short-term recipient	9,606	31.1	2.1 **	18.1	2.5 ***	49.3	2.3 *					
New applicant	4,713	42.6	5.9	32.2	3.0	58.9	-4.5					
<b>Earnings supplements</b>												
Long-term recipient	15,768	19.2	-2.5 ***	9.6	-0.5	32.9	0.6					
Short-term recipient	6,529	31.7	-4.3 ***	16.0	-1.9 **	47.4	-1.5					
New applicant	11,971	39.8	-5.8 ***	17.8	-1.0	50.1	1.5					

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from welfare administrative records and information collected at baseline.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

New applicants had never received welfare in the past; short-term recipients had received welfare for less than two years.

**Table 4.5**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits by High School Credential by Program Model**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off Welfare in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Off Welfare in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)		Off Welfare 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Job search first</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	6,506	17.0	5.4 ***	13.5	3.3 ***	32.1	5.1 ***
High school diploma/GED	10,275	24.6	5.6 ***	14.4	3.3 ***	42.6	5.9 ***
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	4,452	24.0	5.5 ***	21.1	0.6	40.2	5.9 ***
High school diploma/GED	6,603	29.0	7.5 ***	17.1	1.1	46.3	9.2 ***
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	8,578	15.5	2.0 *	11.5	2.9 ***	28.4	1.8
High school diploma/GED	8,705	23.6	1.3	13.6	1.0	38.4	3.8 ***
<b>Education first</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	13,838	21.0	2.6 ***	16.7	1.6 ***	35.4	3.4 ***
High school diploma/GED	18,356	28.4	2.1 ***	15.6	2.3 ***	45.1	3.3 ***
<b>Earnings supplements</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	9,305	20.9	††	14.4	-0.8	31.4	0.5
High school diploma/GED	25,802	32.1	-4.6 ***	14.1	-1.4 ***	44.8	1.0

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from welfare administrative records and information collected at baseline.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

**Table 4.6**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits by Number of Children by Program Model**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8		Employed in 9 of 12		Employed in 6 of 8	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Job search first</b>							
Three or more	4,240	16.2	5.7 ***	12.3	2.7 ***	30.7	4.7 ***
Two	5,390	20.6	5.1 ***	12.9	3.4 ***	38.7	4.8 ***
One	7,150	25.8	5.6 ***	15.9	3.5 ***	43.3	6.4 ***
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
Three or more	2,843	21.9	6.0 ***	17.6	0.4	38.0	7.9 ***
Two	3,623	25.1	7.7 ***	16.5	1.7	42.2	9.6 ***
One	4,524	31.2	6.9 ***	20.4	1.4	48.9	6.8 ***
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>							
Three or more	4,379	14.2	0.0	11.1	0.0	25.7	0.0
Two	5,463	17.0	2.5 *	10.1	3.0 ***	29.3	5.3 ***
One	7,266	24.8	2.0	15.5	2.1 *	41.5	2.3
<b>Education first</b>							
Three or more	7,856	19.6	2.3 **	12.8	2.5 ***	33.3	3.8 ***
Two	10,277	25.0	1.7 *	15.6	1.4 **	40.1	4.7 ***
One	14,061	28.8	2.4 ***	18.2	2.1 ***	45.9	2.2 **
<b>Earnings supplements</b>							
Three or more	6,409	24.6	-5.0 ***	13.5	-1.7 *	35.6	1.2
Two	12,860	28.7	-3.6 ***	13.4	-0.4	41.8	-0.1
One	15,582	31.2	-4.2 ***	14.9	-1.8 ***	42.6	1.4

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from welfare administrative records and information collected at baseline.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

Table 4.7

Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits by Risk of Depression at Random Assignment

Program and Subgroup	Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters in Years 1-3		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the next 8 Quarters		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Full Sample</b>							
High risk	3,017	19.8	5.8 ***	12.6	2.5 *	35.9	4.6 **
Moderate risk	5,090	18.4	5.1 ***	11.6	1.8 *	33.1	5.6 ***
Low risk	14,094	18.5	6.3 ***	10.9	2.4 ***	34.0	6.2 ***
<b>Job search first</b>							
Atlanta LFA							
High risk	383	14.8	7.0 *	10.0	-1.7	34.3	5.2
Moderate risk	762	14.3	4.1	7.9	1.3	32.9	0.0
Low risk	1,999	16.3	2.9 *	7.2	0.9	32.1	4.7 **
Grand Rapids LFA							
High risk	319	20.1	15.0 ***	6.4	††	46.7	-2.3
Moderate risk	488	14.2	8.1 **	7.9	5.4 *	36.4	4.5
Low risk	1,148	17.0	9.4 ***	7.1	4.4 **	38.3	2.7
Riverside LFA							
High risk	519	25.9	5.6	19.5	7.5 **	36.9	10.0 **
Moderate risk	858	24.6	7.4 **	19.9	5.6 **	36.5	8.7 ***
Low risk	2,425	25.4	6.4 ***	20.3	3.2 *	40.8	4.7 **
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
Portland							
High risk	775	26.7	†††	16.4	0.1	43.0	3.5
Moderate risk	1,174	28.0	4.4	15.6	-1.5	44.5	3.2
Low risk	2,946	22.4	13.0 ***	13.2	2.8 **	38.5	13.2 ***

(continued)



**Table 4.7 (Continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters in Years 1-3		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the next 8 Quarters		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Education first</b>							
Atlanta HCD							
High risk	400	14.9	4.8	10.0	0.5	34.3	3.4
Moderate risk	826	14.4	2.0	7.9	-1.5	32.9	0.7
Low risk	1,970	16.2	1.1	7.2	0.0	32.0	2.8
Grand Rapids HCD							
High risk	304	19.6	6.0	5.9	5.2	46.7	-3.1
Moderate risk	474	14.1	8.7 **	7.8	5.7 **	36.3	5.7
Low risk	1,164	17.0	4.6 **	7.2	3.1 *	38.4	5.8 **
Riverside HCD							
High risk	270	23.8	-7.0	19.4	-0.3	36.6	4.6
Moderate risk	444	21.0	6.8 *	20.0	3.8	35.4	8.7 *
Low risk	1,010	23.0	3.2	18.3	4.6 *	37.0	1.3
<b>Earning supplements</b>							
British Columbia							
High risk	263	5.9	9.3 **	6.5	-0.8	13.1	5.6
Moderate risk	482	6.1	3.5	3.5	1.3	11.8	8.2 **
Low risk	1,782	9.5	2.9 *	4.9	1.8	20.8	6.3 ***
New Brunswick							
High risk	247	9.2	10.8 **	5.4	2.1	22.5	7.6
Moderate risk	451	8.5	6.9 **	8.5	-2.3	19.2	9.4 **
Low risk	1,724	12.3	13.4 ***	7.9	2.7 *	24.7	11.3 ***

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from welfare administrative records and information collected at baseline.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

## Appendix A

### Additional Impacts on Earnings, Welfare Benefits, and Income

Chapter 2 described results by level of disadvantage, as represented by welfare status, work history, and high school credential. The main findings were that employment-focused programs with a mix of initial activities worked well across a broad range of subgroups, that education-focused programs worked especially poorly for more disadvantaged groups, and that only earnings supplements consistently increased income and did so across the range of subgroups. This appendix presents similar results for a range of other subgroups defined based on demographic characteristics or psychosocial characteristics. The results support the conclusions drawn in Chapter 2.

Tables A.1, A.3, A.5, A.6, and A.8 show pooled impacts for the five program models discussed in Chapters 1 and 2 (job search first, employment focused with a mix of initial activities, education focused with a mix of initial activities, education first, and earnings supplements). Each table shows results for several subgroups defined from administrative records or baseline demographic information. These subgroups include welfare history (long-term and short-term welfare recipients, and welfare applicants), earnings in the year prior to random assignment, high school credential, number of children, and age of youngest child. As in Chapter 2, results are presented for the average of the three-year follow-up period and for the third year alone.

Tables A.2, A.4, A.7, and A.9 show additional pooled impacts for the four program models for subgroups defined based on the opinion surveys collected at the time of random assignment. (None of the education-focused mixed activity programs had private opinion data.) These subgroups include preference for work, work-related parental concerns, mastery, risk of depression, health or emotional problems, child care problems, and transportation problems. Appendix A of Michalopoulos and Schwartz (2001) describes how these subgroups were defined.

Tables A.10 through A.15 show results by program for several subgroups, including by level of disadvantage (Table A.10), by earnings in the year prior to random assignment (Table A.11), by high school credential (Table A.12), by welfare status (Table A.13), by race and ethnicity (Table A.14), and by risk of depression (Table A.15).

**Table A.1**  
**Impacts on Average Total Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income per Year**  
**Pooled Across Job-Search-First Welfare-to-Work Programs**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Sample or Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)			Impacts on Average Total AFDC Payments per Year (\$)			Impacts on Average Total Income per Year (\$)		
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Year 3
<b>Total earnings in past 12 months</b>										
No earnings	9,832	663 ***	†	678 ***	†††	-637 ***	†††	-117	-113	
\$5,000 or less	4,604	493 ***	503 **	-275	-628 ***	-544 ***	-475 ***	-152	-102	
More than \$5,000	2,345	184	-275	-275	-151	-403 ***	-151	-316	-446	
<b>Welfare history<sup>a</sup></b>										
Long-term recipient	9,998	607 ***	578 ***	578 ***	†	-662 ***	††	-191 **	-208 *	
Short-term recipient	6,256	401 **	311	311	-463 ***	-372 ***	-372 ***	-160	-155	
New applicant	440	1,600 *	1,797 *	1,797 *	-506	-146	-146	709	1,278	
<b>Education credential receipt</b>										
No high school diploma/GED	6,506	597 ***	591 ***	591 ***	-627 ***	-581 ***	-581 ***	-154	-131	
High school diploma/GED	10,275	497 ***	407 ***	407 ***	-535 ***	-462 ***	-462 ***	-163	-183	
<b>Number of children</b>										
Three or more	4,240	744 ***	†	844 ***	†	-764 ***	††	-179	-136	
Two	5,390	414 ***	259	259	-506 ***	-384 ***	-384 ***	-239 *	-292	
One	7,150	477 ***	400 **	400 **	-500 ***	-425 ***	-425 ***	-87	-75	
<b>Age of youngest child</b>										
Under 6	7,735	††	†	762 ***	†	-570 ***	††	92	144	
6 or older	8,956	380 ***	306 **	306 **	-589 ***	-512 ***	-512 ***	-373 ***	-375 **	
<b>Gender</b>										
Female	15,465	557 ***	469 ***	469 ***	-585 ***	-524 ***	-524 ***	-147 *	-183 *	
Male	1,266	198	348	348	-380 **	-249	-249	-349	-7	

(continued)

**Table A.1 (continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members were classified as new applicants if they responded on the BIF that they had never received welfare in the past. Sample members were classified as short term recipients if they had received welfare before on their own case or their spouses' case but had received it for a total of less than two years. They were classified as long term recipients if they had received welfare for two years or more prior to random assignment.

Table A.2

Impacts on Average Total Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income per Year Pooled Across Job-Search-First Welfare-to-Work Programs with a POS, by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment

Subgroup	Sample Size	Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Average Total AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Average Total Income per Year (\$)		
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	
Preference for work								
Low	3,646	554 ***	613 ***	-538 ***	-464 ***	-183	-67	
Moderate	3,725	645 ***	400 *	-599 ***	-504 ***	-93	-232	
High	1,158	416	191	-817 ***	-703 ***	-618 **	-739 *	
Work-Related Parental Concerns scale								
High	2,002	547 ***	495 **	-661 ***	-659 ***	-355 *	-421	
Low	6,887	576 ***	432 ***	-576 ***	-463 ***	-155	-185	
Mastery scale								
Low	3,252	715 ***	630 ***	-495 ***	-476 ***	56	-39	
High	5,637	501 ***	382 **	-616 ***	-498 ***	-288 **	-279	
Risk of depression								
High	1,221	419	329	-691 ***	-575 ***	-472	-416	
Moderate	2,108	507 **	561 *	-628 ***	-563 ***	-282	-140	
Low	5,572	626 ***	470 ***	-566 ***	-490 ***	-107	-210	
<b><u>Barriers to work or participation</u></b>								
Health or emotional problem <sup>a</sup>								
Yes	2,369	371 **	378 *	-565 ***	-495 ***	-360 *	-316	
No	6,503	675 ***	530 ***	-604 ***	-520 ***	-106	-165	
Cannot afford/arrange for child care								
Yes	5,586	575 ***	614 ***	-573 ***	-519 ***	-182	-98	
No	3,157	595 ***	244	-636 ***	-506 ***	-197	-427 *	

(continued)

**Table A.2 (continued)**

Subgroup	Sample Size	Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Average Total AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Average Total Income per Year (\$)	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
Transportation problem			†				
Yes	3,107	807 ***	881 ***	-637 ***	-600 ***	-3	77
No	5,717	546 ***	361 *	-600 ***	-503 ***	-235 *	-322 *

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Private Opinion Survey data.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members in the "yes" category on this measure could have had a health or emotional problem themselves at random assignment or one of their family members could have had such a problem.

**Table A.3**  
**Impacts on Average Total Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income per Year**  
**Pooled Across Employment-Focused Mixed-Activity Welfare-to-Work Programs**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Sample or Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year (\$)	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
Full sample	11,055	1,231 ***	1,337 ***	-707 ***	-706 ***	355 ***	451 ***
Total earnings in past 12 months							
No earnings	6,545	1,366 ***	1,509 ***	-763 ***	-813 ***	408 ***	468 **
\$5,000 or less	3,082	895 ***	914 ***	-572 ***	-542 ***	202	244
More than \$5,000	1,428	1,269 ***	1,415 **	-748 ***	-572 ***	358	766
Welfare history <sup>a</sup>							
Long-term recipient	6,084	1,256 ***	1,388 ***	-754 ***	-750 ***	320 **	439 **
Short-term recipient	3,978	1,185 ***	1,145 ***	-714 ***	-669 ***	315	337
New applicant	931	-130	227	-229	-130	-468	109
Education credential receipt							
No high school diploma/GED	4,452	††	1,088 ***	-602 ***	-585 ***	199	377 *
High school diploma/GED	6,603	1,449 ***	1,495 ***	-750 ***	-771 ***	496 ***	524 **
Number of children							
Three or more	2,843	††	1,599 ***	-797 ***	-812 ***	650 **	632 *
Two	3,623	1,417 ***	1,747 ***	-724 ***	-735 ***	483 **	782 ***
One	4,524	876 ***	877 ***	-656 ***	-629 ***	78	105
Age of youngest child							
Under 6	4,623	††	1,942 ***	-936 ***	-1,098 ***	442	563
6 or older	6,295	1,009 ***	1,065 ***	-617 ***	-553 ***	260	387 *
Gender							
Female	9,915	†	1,342 ***	-756 ***	-756 ***	††	†††
Male	1,033	1,185 **	1,207 *	-408 *	-343	717	391 **

(continued)

**Table A.3 (Continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members were classified as new applicants if they responded on the BIF that they had never received welfare in the past. Sample members were classified as short term recipients if they had received welfare before on their own case or their spouses' case but had received it for a total of less than two years. They were classified as long term recipients if they had received welfare for two years or more prior to random assignment.



Table A.4

Impacts on Average Total Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income per Year Pooled Across Employment-Focused Mixed-Activity Welfare-to-Work Programs with a POS, by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment

Subgroup	Sample Size	Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Average Total AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Average Total Income per Year (\$)	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Work-Related Parental Concerns scale</b>							
High	1,423	1,451 ***	1,689 ***	-879 ***	-957 ***	115	251
Low	3,486	1,022 ***	1,354 ***	-685 ***	-784 ***	89	316
<b>Mastery scale</b>							
Low	1,719	††	1,112 ***	†††	†††	72	341
High	3,193	1,417 ***	1,720 ***	-903 ***	-1,008 ***	124	316
<b>Risk of depression</b>							
High	775	735 **	837 *	†††	†††	297	490
Moderate	1,174	770 **	1,007 **	-434 ***	-586 ***	169	245
Low	2,946	1,389 ***	1,770 ***	-989 ***	-1,072 ***	-13	268
<b>Barriers to work or participation</b>							
<b>Health or emotional problem<sup>a</sup></b>							
Yes	1,385	1,336 ***	1,568 ***	-573 ***	-560 ***	†	787 **
No	3,517	1,033 ***	1,350 ***	-812 ***	-930 ***	-104	84
<b>Cannot afford/arrange for child care</b>							
Yes	3,371	1,024 ***	1,304 ***	-782 ***	-896 ***	-91	55
No	1,475	1,330 ***	1,623 ***	-669 ***	-696 ***	392	687 *
<b>Transportation problem</b>							
Yes	1,428	905 ***	1,417 ***	†††	†††	262	707 **
No	3,447	1,251 ***	1,470 ***	-459 ***	-537 ***	29	140

(continued)

**Table A.4 (continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Private Opinion Survey data.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members in the "yes" category on this measure could have had a health or emotional problem themselves at random assignment or one of their family members could have had such a problem.

**Table A.5**  
**Impacts on Average Total Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income per Year**  
**Pooled Across Education-Focused Mixed-Activity Welfare-to-Work Programs**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Sample or Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year (\$)	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
Full sample	17,283	428 ***	601 ***	-291 ***	-276 ***	95	281 *
Total earnings in past 12 months							
No earnings	10,911	334 ***	537 ***	-331 ***	-326 ***	-43	159
\$5,000 or less	4,047	313	310	-289 **	-255	-31	-3
More than \$5,000	2,325	923 *	1,156 *	-209	-162	703	1,005 *
Welfare history <sup>a</sup>							
Long-term recipient	11,504	351 **	488 ***	-339 ***	-292 ***	-22	166
Short-term recipient	4,055	871 ***	1,099 ***	-225	-243	612 **	818 **
New applicant	1,724	622	845	-588 **	-568 *	-82	154
Education credential receipt							
No high school diploma/GED	8,578	††	††	-346 ***	-313 **	††	††
High school diploma/GED	8,705	702 ***	931 ***	-303 ***	-328 ***	-264 *	551 **
Number of children							
Three or more	4,379	††	††	-235	-242	64	291
Two	5,463	865 ***	1,116 ***	-425 ***	-516 ***	375 **	514 **
One	7,266	136	239	-245 ***	-113	-129	120
Age of youngest child							
Under 6	2,360	398	971 **	-65	-138	293	812 *
6 or older	14,748	423 ***	532 ***	-322 ***	-296 ***	56	189
Gender							
Female	14,987	425 ***	611 ***	-279 ***	-292 ***	114	286 *
Male	2,228	407	610	-337	-198	-18	346

(continued)

**Table A.5 (continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members were classified as new applicants if they responded on the BIF that they had never received welfare in the past. Sample members were classified as short term recipients if they had received welfare before on their own case or their spouses' case but had received it for a total of less than two years. They were classified as long term recipients if they had received welfare for two years or more prior to random assignment.

Table A.6

**Impacts on Average Total Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income per Year Pooled Across Education-First Welfare-to-Work Programs by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Sample or Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year (\$)	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
Full sample	32,194	118 **	184 **	-220 ***	-240 ***	-169 ***	-101
Total earnings in past 12 months							
No earnings	17,102	189 ***	293 ***	-200 ***	-216 ***	†	†
\$5,000 or less	10,487	14	10	-285 ***	-363 ***	-363 ***	-476 **
More than \$5,000	4,605	126	308	-213 ***	-83	-136	236
Welfare history <sup>a</sup>							
Long-term recipient	17,613	††	†††	††	†††	†††	†††
Short-term recipient	9,606	216 ***	310 ***	-295 ***	-400 ***	-192 *	-275
New applicant	4,713	-20	98	-162 ***	-94	-228 *	21
		1,197 ***	1,883 ***	-2	244	1,213 ***	2,306 ***
Education credential receipt							
No high school diploma/GED	13,838	††	††	††	††	††	††
High school diploma/GED	18,356	306 ***	438 ***	-315 ***	-377 ***	-120	-88
		48	82	-171 ***	-159 **	-168 *	-57
Number of children							
Three or more	7,856	284 ***	377 ***	††	††	††	††
Two	10,277	102	65	-355 ***	-423 ***	-202	-217
One	14,061	18	150	-218 ***	-255 ***	-202 *	-290
				-150 ***	-136 *	-150	68
Age of youngest child							
Under 6	18,207	†	293 ***	-201 ***	-251 ***	†	†
6 or older	13,748	10	40	-238 ***	-191 **	-286 ***	-97
Gender							
Female	29,981	108 *	152 **	†	†	†	†
Male	1,995	232	528	-235 ***	-258 ***	-199 ***	-160
				-6	17	251	658

(continued)

**Table A.6 (continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members were classified as new applicants if they responded on the BIF that they had never received welfare in the past. Sample members were classified as short term recipients if they had received welfare before on their own case or their spouses' case but had received it for a total of less than two years. They were classified as long term recipients if they had received welfare for two years or more prior to random assignment.

Table A.7

Impacts on Average Total Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income per Year Pooled Across Education-First Welfare-to-Work Programs with a POS, by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment

Subgroup	Sample Size	Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Average Total AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Average Total Income per Year (\$)	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
Preference for work							
Low	3,181	114	228	-154	-172	-89	-23
Moderate	3,292	329 **	526 **	-372 ***	-331 ***	-139	74
High	1,037	-355	-415	-237	-135	-634 **	-555
Work-Related Parental Concerns scale							
High	1,801	135	327	-396 ***	-441 ***	-413 *	-292
Low	6,045	164	280	-227 ***	-201 **	-110	3
Mastery scale							
Low	3,055	298 *	451 **	-312 ***	-311 ***	-93	13
High	4,793	112	232	-228 ***	-228 **	-181	-79
Risk of depression							
High	1,109	-346	-461	-143	-172	-578 **	-697 *
Moderate	1,955	-17	224	-254 **	-288 *	-360	-193
Low	4,808	287 *	420 **	-308 ***	-273 ***	-68	68
<b><u>Barriers to work or participation</u></b>							
Health or emotional problem <sup>a</sup>							
Yes	2,158	-18	252	-164	-152	-247	-11
No	5,690	236	316	-299 ***	-296 ***	-127	-69
Cannot afford/arrange for child care							
Yes	4,909	176	366 **	-275 ***	-261 ***	-172	15
No	2,801	45	66	-240 **	-255 **	-259	-305

(continued)

**Table A.7 (continued)**

Subgroup	Sample Size	Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Average Total AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Average Total Income per Year (\$)	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
Transportation problem							
Yes	2,802	309 **	415 **	-464 ***	-452 ***	-292 *	-181
No	4,981	174	339	-160 *	-148	-16	122

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Private Opinion Survey data.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members in the "yes" category on this measure could have had a health or emotional problem themselves at random assignment or one of their family members could have had such a problem.



**Table A.8**  
**Impacts on Average Total Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income per Year**  
**Pooled Across Programs with Earning Supplements**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Sample or Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year (\$)	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
Full sample	34,682	243 ***	385 ***	279 ***	95	823 ***	945 ***
Total earnings in past 12 months							
No earnings	17,647	††	††	184 **	-16	940 ***	1,057 ***
\$5,000 or less	9,839	288 **	285	253 **	3	1,107 ***	1,091 ***
More than \$5,000	7,196	-66	102	377 ***	291	1,187 ***	1,384 ***
Welfare history <sup>a</sup>							
Long-term recipient	15,511	280 ***	280 **	203 ***	30	††	†††
Short-term recipient	6,408	358 **	519 **	304	263	787 ***	563 ***
New applicant	11,924	84	311	272 **	-21	966 ***	991 ***
						366 **	2,010 ***
Education credential receipt							
No high school diploma/GED	9,178	402 ***	546 ***	247 *	152	853 ***	838 ***
High school diploma/GED	25,504	220 **	362 ***	273 ***	63	891 ***	1,099 ***
Number of children							
Three or more	6,338	494 ***	†	243	-315	††	1,237 ***
Two	12,735	126	144	303 **	171	660 ***	717 ***
One	15,353	287 **	542 ***	255 ***	182	805 ***	1,050 ***
Age of youngest child							
Under 6	17,336	338 ***	487 ***	253 ***	72	904 ***	1,043 ***
6 or older	11,632	199	370 **	277 **	95	736 ***	858 ***
Gender							
Female	31,738	222 ***	358 ***	267 ***	63	808 ***	932 ***
Male	2,410	570	702	381	274	1,062 ***	1,008 **

(continued)

**Table A.8 (continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members were classified as new applicants if they responded on the BIF that they had never received welfare in the past. Sample members were classified as short term recipients if they had received welfare before on their own case or their spouses' case but had received it for a total of less than two years. They were classified as long term recipients if they had received welfare for two years or more prior to random assignment.

Table A.9

Impacts on Average Total Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income per Year Pooled Across Programs with Earning Supplements with a POS, by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment

Subgroup	Sample Size	Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)			Average Total AFDC Payments per Year (\$)			Average Total Income per Year (\$)			
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Year 3	
Preference for work											
Low	5,109	296 *	368	517	498 ***	517	703 ***	713 ***			
Moderate	6,003	-72	90	1,200 **	781 ***	1,200 **	403 **	403 *			
High	2,598	272	665 *	-1,102	99	-1,102	852 ***	1,099 ***			
Work-Related Parental Concerns scale											
High	3,091	452 **	703 ***	149	364	149	857 ***	1,026 ***			†
Low	10,728	84	228	650	585 ***	650	529 ***	536 ***			
Mastery scale											
Low	7,142	158	78	198	180	198	637 ***	545 ***			†
High	11,399	450 ***	571 ***	202	192	202	975 ***	994 ***			
Risk of depression											
High	510	952 **	516	-884 ***	-1,101 ***	-884 ***	1,130 ***	1,055 **			
Moderate	933	776 ***	791 ***	-769 ***	-791 ***	-769 ***	1,199 ***	1,305 ***			
Low	3,506	749 ***	491 **	-618 ***	-668 ***	-618 ***	1,601 ***	1,366 ***			
<b>Barriers to work or participation</b>											
Health or emotional problem <sup>a</sup>											
Yes	3,569	-60	62	393	530 *	393	505 ***	547 **			
No	10,153	196	393 **	481	507 ***	481	588 ***	629 ***			
Cannot afford/arrange for child care											
Yes	5,048	385 **	564 ***	-452	175	-452	885 ***	1,023 ***			†
No	8,651	4	175	1,161 **	774 ***	1,161 **	439 ***	430 **			

(continued)

**Table A.9 (continued)**

Subgroup	Sample Size	Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Average Total AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Average Total Income per Year (\$)	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
Transportation problem		†	†				†
Yes	4,987	418 ***	684 ***	291 *	-17	795 ***	972 ***
No	8,719	52	211	588 ***	596	530 ***	519 ***

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Private Opinion Survey data.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members in the "yes" category on this measure could have had a health or emotional problem themselves at random assignment or one of their family members could have had such a problem.

Table A.10

Impacts on Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income by Level of Disadvantage by Program

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Job search first</b>							
<b>SWIM</b>							
Most disadvantaged	745	465 **	444	-531 *	-492	-66	-48
Moderately disadvantaged	2,113	544 **	565 *	-811 ***	-791 ***	-267	-226
Least disadvantaged	352	1,493 *	1,586	-181	-83	1,313 *	1,503
<b>Atlanta LFA</b>							
Most disadvantaged	828	268 †	356	-232 ***	-259 **	-16	15
Moderately disadvantaged	2,401	703 ***	748 ***	-204 ***	-178 ***	407 **	435 *
Least disadvantaged	564	-322	-393	-108	-24	-413	-383
<b>Grand Rapids LFA</b>							
Most disadvantaged	456	1,031 ***	1,627 ***	-962 ***	-960 ***	-161	445 †
Moderately disadvantaged	2,124	291	94	-699 ***	-566 ***	-550 ***	-612 **
Least disadvantaged	432	450	411	-442 ***	-109	-133	255
<b>Riverside LFA</b>							
Most disadvantaged	1,084	665 ***	540 **	-1,054 ***	-947 ***	-708 **	-722 **
Moderately disadvantaged	4,374	791 ***	670 ***	-602 ***	-583 ***	23	-113
Least disadvantaged	1,221	-202	-655	-563 ***	-398 **	-965 **	-1,187 **
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
<b>Riverside GAIN</b>							
Most disadvantaged	974	1,023 ***	1,008 ***	-333	-211	804 **	938 **
Moderately disadvantaged	3,739	1,424 ***	1,338 ***	-894 ***	-773 ***	429 *	445
Least disadvantaged	795	1,769 ***	1,810 **	-436	-446	1,245 *	1,269
<b>Portland</b>							
Most disadvantaged	880	749 ***	1,029 ***	-608 ***	-658 ***	-156	5
Moderately disadvantaged	3,800	1,414 ***	1,748 ***	-884 ***	-1,027 ***	157	284
Least disadvantaged	805	-56	-336	-340 ***	-106	-515	-396

continued

**Table A.10 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Year 3		Year 3		Year 1-3	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>							
<b>Alameda</b>							
Most disadvantaged	1,205	542 *	835 **	-201	-315	357	550
Moderately disadvantaged	839	784 *	1,128 **	-85	-200	775 *	1,024 *
Least disadvantaged	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Butte</b>							
Most disadvantaged	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Moderately disadvantaged	807	876 *	968	-187	-272	630	588
Least disadvantaged	243	1,581	2,287 *	6	75	1,665	2,443 **
<b>Los Angeles</b>							
Most disadvantaged	4,396	96	164	-351 ***	-275 **	-342 *	-210
Moderately disadvantaged	2,074	159	280	-425 ***	-406 **	-386	-255
Least disadvantaged	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>San Diego</b>							
Most disadvantaged	1,331	124	121	-528 *	-460	-435	-377
Moderately disadvantaged	5,405	668 ***	899 ***	-456 ***	-386 **	122	425
Least disadvantaged	1,483	1,549 ***	1,528 **	-352	-288	1,109 **	1,169 *
<b>Tulare</b>							
Most disadvantaged	554	121	441 *	-160	-333	-94	93
Moderately disadvantaged	1,423	225	641 *	110	53	315	671
Least disadvantaged	257	548	1,714	418	-86	980	1,614

continued

**Table A.10 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Education first</b>							
<b>Atlanta HCD</b>							
Most disadvantaged	860	40	80	-135	-114	-122	-73
Moderately disadvantaged	2,408	489 ***	708 ***	-203 ***	-192 ***	253	453 **
Least disadvantaged	562	-139	-35	-62	-38	-155	-12
<b>Grand Rapids HCD</b>							
Most disadvantaged	450	543 ***	837 ***	†	††	-485 *	-288
Moderately disadvantaged	2,077	290	243	-477 ***	-496 ***	-278	-406
Least disadvantaged	466	600	581	-169	-31	465	570
<b>Riverside HCD</b>							
Most disadvantaged	1,094	436 ***	671 ***	-764 ***	-796 ***	-571 **	-412
Moderately disadvantaged	1,865	313	439 *	-523 ***	-640 ***	-370	-441
Least disadvantaged	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Columbus Integrated</b>							
Most disadvantaged	899	398 **	496	-448 ***	-522 ***	-330	-336
Moderately disadvantaged	3,134	523 ***	652 **	-331 ***	-351 ***	-16	38
Least disadvantaged	613	-993 *	-1,032	-278 ***	-220 *	-1,464 ***	-1,405 **
<b>Columbus Traditional</b>							
Most disadvantaged	888	159	79	-345 ***	-371 ***	-345	-472
Moderately disadvantaged	3,222	354 *	422 *	-232 ***	-260 ***	-16	-5
Least disadvantaged	595	-241	-525	-380 ***	-249 **	-949	-1,007
<b>Detroit</b>							
Most disadvantaged	1,097	265	572 *	-126	-260	28	107
Moderately disadvantaged	3,033	434 **	603 **	-197 **	-300 ***	124	124
Least disadvantaged	324	30	331	-307	-236	-478	-128
<b>Oklahoma City</b>							
Most disadvantaged	291	307	493	-101	12	202	657
Moderately disadvantaged	4,057	26	84	-57	-41	-29	26
Least disadvantaged	1,459	-83	-511 *	-135 *	-89	-303	-714 **

continued

**Table A.10 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Earnings Supplements</b>							
SSP - British Columbia							
Most disadvantaged	611	1,363 ***	1,483 ***	-1,047 ***	-1,029 ***	1,171 ***	1,464 ***
Moderately disadvantaged	3,163	1,488 ***	1,659 ***	-714 ***	-790 ***	3,342 ***	4,698 ***
Least disadvantaged	1,511	880	1,496 **	-542 **	-961 ***	5,224 ***	9,823 ***
SSP - New Brunswick							
Most disadvantaged	769	843 ***	840 ***	-700 ***	-719 ***	967 ***	935 ***
Moderately disadvantaged	1,538	1,098 ***	855 **	-1,375 ***	-1,315 ***	2,285 ***	2,093 ***
Least disadvantaged	117	2,605 **	1,548	-1,639 ***	-1,504 **	4,354 ***	3,387 **
MFIP Full Services							
Most disadvantaged	530	1,024 ***	1,086 ***	416	325	1,432 ***	1,410 ***
Moderately disadvantaged	4,430	317 *	338	472	-692	1,300 ***	1,172 ***
Least disadvantaged	2,383	-348	88	723	-67	586 **	701 *
MFIP Incentives Only							
Most disadvantaged	424	411	721	1,392 ***	1,154 **	1,795 ***	1,874 ***
Moderately disadvantaged	3,552	-428 **	-588 **	2,384 ***	3,633 ***	1,292 ***	1,129 ***
Least disadvantaged	1,653	-825 *	-695	3,052 ***	6,097 ***	655 *	768
WRP Full Services							
Most disadvantaged	414	206	286	34	-52	397	406
Moderately disadvantaged	4,283	231	599 ***	-193 **	-351 ***	14	182
Least disadvantaged	2,291	263	405	54	-20	357	449
WRP Incentives Only							
Most disadvantaged	201	-244	-495	437	577	444	416
Moderately disadvantaged	2,136	-175	132	-12	-67	-167	57
Least disadvantaged	1,152	18	49	167	173	251	348

continued



**Table A.10 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Earnings Supplements (Continued)</b>							
Jobs First							
Most disadvantaged	796	681 **	785 **	-15 †	-590 *** ††	768 **	257
Moderately disadvantaged	3,940	573 **	811 ***	422 ***	-362 ***	1,127 ***	371
Least disadvantaged	1,212	-547	-750	443 ***	-77	101	-719
FTP							
Most disadvantaged	436	294	398	-312 **	-465 *** ††	-447	-399
Moderately disadvantaged	1,783	465 **	729 ***	-142 **	-301 ***	208	350
Least disadvantaged	515	697	1,042	-36	-129 **	563	844

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

n/a = not applicable because sample sizes were too small to reliably calculate impacts.

Individuals were classified as most disadvantaged if they had no earnings in the year prior to random assignment, did not have a high school diploma or GED at random assignment, and had received welfare for two years prior to random assignment. Individuals were classified as least disadvantaged if they had none of these characteristics. All other sample members were classified as moderately disadvantaged.

**Table A.11**  
**Impacts on Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income by Prior-Year Earnings by Program**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>JOB search first</b>							
<b>SWIM</b>							
No earnings	1,948	628 ***	634 **	-837 ***	-838 ***	-209	-204
\$5,000 or less	768	733 *	1,174 **	-642 **	-579 *	91	595
More than \$5,000	494	1,176 *	564	-404	-215	772	349
<b>Atlanta LFA</b>							
No earnings	2,353	601 ***	711 ***	-236 ***	-225 ***	255 *	354 *
\$5,000 or less	1,120	353	396	-141 *	-99	194	192
More than \$5,000	360	81	-332	-176	-98	-141	-379
<b>Grand Rapids LFA</b>							
No earnings	1,527	520 ***	690 **	-788 ***	-790 *** ††	-462 **	-332
\$5,000 or less	1,119	416 *	216	-641 ***	-387 ***	-320	-218
More than \$5,000	366	134	-421	-541 ***	-144	-575	-601
<b>Riverside LFA</b>							
No earnings	4,010	779 ***	643 ***	-699 ***	-681 *** †	-123	-263
\$5,000 or less	1,598	473 *	343	-680 ***	-680 ***	-406	-579 *
More than \$5,000	1,118	-4	-454	-497 ***	-180	-665	-712
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
<b>Riverside GAIN</b>							
No earnings	3,331	1,255 ***	1,156 ***	-649 ***	-564 ***	583 **	564 *
\$5,000 or less	1,419	1,185 ***	1,138 ***	-718 ***	-600 **	377	423
More than \$5,000	758	2,046 ***	2,146 **	-947 ***	-810 **	935	1,184
<b>Portland</b>							
No earnings	3,214	1,566 ***	1,917 ***	-980 ***	-1,127 *** †††	151	268
\$5,000 or less	1,663	601 **	643 *	-488 ***	-542 ***	-89	-103
More than \$5,000	670	504	654	-577 ***	-359 **	-289	223

continued

**Table A.11 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year		
		Years 1-3		Years 1-3		Years 1-3		
		Year 3	Year 3	Year 3	Year 3	Year 3	Year 3	
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>								
<b>Alameda</b>								
No earnings	915	655 **	1,060 **	-154	-303	544	805 *	
\$5,000 or less	226	345	170	-239	-305	94	-98	
More than \$5,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
<b>Butte</b>								
No earnings	652	††	†††	76	82	††	†††	
\$5,000 or less	379	1,172 **	1,655 **	-447	-165	727	1,473 *	
More than \$5,000	198	3,672 **	4,999 ***	153	-369	3,975 ***	4,749 ***	
<b>Los Angeles</b>								
No earnings	3,435	170	253	-446 ***	-390 ***	-380 **	-261	
\$5,000 or less	720	-114	125	-352	-278	-584	-311	
More than \$5,000	241	-1,279	-1,955	30	135	-1,209	-1,702	
<b>San Diego</b>								
No earnings	4,615	521 **	810 ***	-463 ***	-408 **	-9	337	
\$5,000 or less	2,109	437	193	-300	-282	48	-165	
More than \$5,000	1,495	1,569 **	1,786 **	-369	-199	1,131 *	1,516 **	
<b>Tulare</b>								
No earnings	1,294	256	600 **	-15	-150	176	376	
\$5,000 or less	613	-38	53	17	-131	1	-55	
More than \$5,000	327	791	2,502 **	546	424	1,384	3,035 **	

continued

**Table A.11 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)			Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)			Impacts on Average Total Income per Year			
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Year 3	
<b>Education first</b>											
Atlanta HCD											
No earnings	2,398	527 ***	756 ***	-182 ***	-183 ***	291 *	499 **				
\$5,000 or less	1,115	-21	-6	-168 **	-160 *	-212	-243				
More than \$5,000	368	-189	64	-92	54	-181	335				
Grand Rapids HCD											
No earnings	1,489	238	208	-494 ***	-573 ***	-333 *	-519 *				
\$5,000 or less	1,121	340	343	-532 ***	-479 ***	-317	-323				
More than \$5,000	387	967	1,172	-252	-51	632	1,072				
Riverside HCD											
No earnings	2,065	299 **	470 **	-571 ***	-677 ***	-476 **	-476 *				
\$5,000 or less	687	100	481	-461 *	-596 **	-470	-314				
More than \$5,000	383	73	-240	-841 ***	-718 **	-976	-1,179				
Columbus Integrated											
No earnings	2,143	481 ***	677 ***	-349 ***	-423 ***	-111	-40				
\$5,000 or less	1,563	132	202	-394 ***	-363 ***	-493 **	-447				
More than \$5,000	966	274	269	-304 ***	-288 ***	-220	-183				
Columbus Traditional											
No earnings	2,160	583 ***	633 **	-363 ***	-398 ***	2	-9				
\$5,000 or less	1,593	161	154	-246 ***	-229 **	-208	-221				
More than \$5,000	976	-299	-436	-166 *	-150	-631	-712				
Detroit											
No earnings	2,978	176	312	-83	-179 *	31	22				
\$5,000 or less	1,199	352	580	-325 ***	-437 ***	-165	-137				
More than \$5,000	282	1,253	1,931	-282	-326	771	1,251				
Oklahoma City											
No earnings	2,581	34	129	-34	51	25	250				
\$5,000 or less	2,353	60	-110	-130 **	-162 **	-145	-404 **				
More than \$5,000	927	-232	-408	-104	-99	-382	-617 *				

continued

**Table A.11 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Earnings Supplements</b>							
SSP - British Columbia							
No earnings	3,262	1,478 ***	1,915 ***	-742 ***	-876 ***	2,400 ***	4,218 ***
\$5,000 or less	932	884	471	-750 **	-814 **	3,192 ***	4,347 ***
More than \$5,000	1,091	693	1,138	-379	-745 ***	5,182 ***	7,112 ***
SSP - New Brunswick							
No earnings	1,651	††	862 ***	†††	-955 ***	†††	††
\$5,000 or less	595	2,023 ***	1,387 **	-1,723 ***	-1,473 ***	1,238 ***	1,269 ***
More than \$5,000	178	70	-964	-1,840 ***	-1,405 ***	3,390 ***	2,730 ***
MFIP Full Services							
No earnings	2,874	†††	753 ***	485	-358	††	1,381 ***
\$5,000 or less	2,483	114	305	279	-958	961 ***	1,048 ***
More than \$5,000	2,179	-511	-182	945 *	162	631 **	611
MFIP Incentives Only							
No earnings	2,318	-196	-162	2,296 ***	3,368 ***	1,479 ***	1,398 ***
\$5,000 or less	1,942	-571 **	-657 *	2,653 ***	4,331 ***	1,286 ***	1,366 ***
More than \$5,000	1,523	10	72	2,541 ***	4,963 ***	1,218 ***	1,117 *
WRP Full Services							
No earnings	3,564	244	573 **	-210 **	†	36	149
\$5,000 or less	2,103	150	365	-46	-187	99	151
More than \$5,000	1,321	609	834	2	25	618 *	943 **
WRP Incentives Only							
No earnings	1,781	17	195	-64	-35	-11	175
\$5,000 or less	1,025	-152	30	135	20	16	86
More than \$5,000	683	-206	3	201	195	59	346

continued

**Table A.11 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Earnings Supplements (Continued)</b>							
Jobs First							
No earnings	3,136	853 *** ††	1,100 *** ††	153 *** †††	-459 *** †††	1,061 ***	546 **
\$5,000 or less	1,860	532 * †	578	415 ***	-388 ***	1,127 ***	205
More than \$5,000	1,462	-990	-1,107	682 ***	125	21	-761
FTP						†	
No earnings	1,499	351 * †	495 * †	-199 ***	-334 ***	-71	13
\$5,000 or less	923	770 ***	1,147 ***	-27	-259 ***	742 ***	874 **
More than \$5,000	393	721	1,149	-250 ***	-264 ***	177	661

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

n/a = not applicable because sample sizes were too small to reliably calculate impacts.

Individuals were classified based on earnings reported to state UI systems in the four quarters prior to random assignment.

**Table A.12**  
**Impacts on Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income by High School Credential by Program**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Job search first</b>							
<b>SWIM</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	1,408	512 **	534 *	-689 ***	-650 ***	-176	-116
High school diploma/GED	1,802	741 **	764 *	-684 ***	-654 ***	57	110
<b>Atlanta LFA</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	1,454	455 **	463 *	-182 ***	-196 **	257	209
High school diploma/GED	2,379	512 **	577 **	-221 ***	-170 ***	171	263
<b>Grand Rapids LFA</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	1,246	†† 835 ***	†† 1,005 ***	-821 ***	-699 ***	-177	† 134
High school diploma/GED	1,766	139	-66	-617 ***	-466 ***	-607 ***	-647 **
<b>Riverside LFA</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	2,398	633 ***	517 **	-765 ***	-714 ***	-346	-438 *
High school diploma/GED	4,328	545 ***	322	-606 ***	-536 ***	-248	-400 *
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
<b>Riverside GAIN</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	2,613	†† 1,021 ***	1,029 ***	-730 ***	-552 **	† 248	417
High school diploma/GED	2,895	1,767 ***	1,637 ***	-730 ***	-684 ***	964 ***	880 **
<b>Portland</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	1,839	764 ***	1,121 ***	†† -478 ***	-615 ***	145	318
High school diploma/GED	3,708	1,198 ***	1,413 ***	-789 ***	-868 ***	78	217

continued

**Table A.12 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>							
<b>Alameda</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	444	-538	-538	-378	-369	-1,041 **	-992 *
High school diploma/GED	761	1,196 ***	1,673 ***	-112	-297	1,178 ***	1,469 ***
<b>Butte</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	517	1,247 ***	1,463 ***	†	-640	538	827
High school diploma/GED	712	654	843	308	288	1,001 *	1,153
<b>Los Angeles</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	2,873	-36	10	-242 *	-97	-330	-145
High school diploma/GED	1,523	316	429	-546 ***	-599 ***	-382	-343
<b>San Diego</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	3,520	169	300	-431 **	-422 *	-319	-207
High school diploma/GED	4,699	1,021 ***	1,168 ***	-414 ***	-339 **	556 *	802 **
<b>Tulare</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	1,224	96	410 *	-64	-164	47	267
High school diploma/GED	1,010	48	696	142	-112	203	564

continued



**Table A.12 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Education first</b>							
<b>Atlanta HCD</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	1,488	224	335	-166 **	-134	49	196
High school diploma/GED	2,393	381 *	595 **	-180 ***	-175 ***	149	336
<b>Grand Rapids HCD</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	1,204	398 *	722 **	-588 ***	-637 ***	-361	-159
High school diploma/GED	1,793	389	192	-412 ***	-366 ***	-71	-271
<b>Riverside HCD</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	2,423	335 **	495 **	-670 ***	-769 ***	-528 **	-543 **
High school diploma/GED	712	299	471	-460 *	-461	-355	-214
<b>Columbus Integrated</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	1,951	††	†	††	††	6	-25
High school diploma/GED	2,721	805 ***	901 ***	-485 ***	-533 ***	-401 *	-281
<b>Columbus Traditional</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	1,967	291	270	-322 ***	-347 ***	-212	-294
High school diploma/GED	2,762	293	292	-261 ***	-253 ***	-142	-129
<b>Detroit</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	1,897	367 **	649 **	-78	-208	205	276
High school diploma/GED	2,562	393 *	570 *	-264 ***	-343 ***	-15	24
<b>Oklahoma City</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	2,569	148	204	-34	-22	152	193
High school diploma/GED	3,292	-60	-194	-128 **	-91	-263 *	-365 *

continued

**Table A.12 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Earnings Supplements</b>							
SSP - British Columbia							
No high school diploma/GED	1,015	1,649 ***	1,588 ***	††	-1,247 ***	1,718 ***	††
High school diploma/GED	4,270	1,245 ***	1,637 ***		-597 ***	2,924 ***	††
SSP - New Brunswick							
No high school diploma/GED	1,146	980 ***	934 ***		-962 ***	1,319 ***	††
High school diploma/GED	1,278	983 ***	636		-1,230 ***	2,433 ***	††
MFIP Full Services							
No high school diploma/GED	1,931	398 *	771 **		759	1,471 ***	†
High school diploma/GED	5,605	102	210		437	925 ***	††
MFIP Incentives Only							
No high school diploma/GED	1,514	-212	-268		2,098 ***	1,248 ***	††
High school diploma/GED	4,269	-347	-324		2,198 ***	974 ***	††
WRP Full Services							
No high school diploma/GED	1,303	408	744 **		-278 *	122	††
High school diploma/GED	5,685	249	512 **		-83	171	††
WRP Incentives Only							
No high school diploma/GED	623	-87	91		93	58	††
High school diploma/GED	2,866	-59	116		35	13	††

continued

**Table A.12 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Earnings Supplements (Continued)</b>							
Jobs First							
No high school diploma/GED	2,031	360	505	229 **	-458 *** †	750 ***	84
High school diploma/GED	4,427	-1	82	437 ***	-210 ***	606 **	-114
FTP							
No high school diploma/GED	1,076	246 †	359 ††	-231 ***	-359 ***	-269 †††	-176 ††
High school diploma/GED	1,739	831 ***	1,201 ***	-124 **	-280 ***	600 **	825 ***

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

Table A.13

Impacts on Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income by Welfare Status by Program

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Job search first</b>							
<b>SWIM</b>							
Long Term Recipient	2,202	570 ***	526 *	-765 ***	-700 ***	-195	-174
Short Term Recipient	648	603	672	-662 **	-704 **	-59	-32
New Applicant	360	1,073	1,415	-102	-87	971	1,328
<b>Atlanta LFA</b>							
Long Term Recipient	2,495	584 ***	594 ***	-244 ***	-239 ***	254 *	236
Short Term Recipient	1,288	232	336	-97	-39	118	252
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Grand Rapids LFA</b>							
Long Term Recipient	1,791	400 **	339	-765 ***	-694 ***	-520 ***	-514 **
Short Term Recipient	1,219	406	346	-573 ***	-332 **	-304	-79
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Riverside LFA</b>							
Long Term Recipient	3,510	739 ***	676 ***	-806 ***	-796 ***	-288	-366
Short Term Recipient	3,101	426 **	111	-529 ***	-421 ***	-275	-477 *
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
<b>Riverside GAIN</b>							
Long Term Recipient	2,661	1,293 ***	1,155 ***	-744 ***	-561 ***	522 *	576 *
Short Term Recipient	1,979	1,353 ***	1,173 ***	-794 ***	-741 ***	438	301
New Applicant	868	1,678 ***	2,103 ***	-529 *	-545 *	1,115 **	1,466 **
<b>Portland</b>							
Long Term Recipient	3,423	1,293 ***	1,680 ***	-836 ***	-987 ***	74	228
Short Term Recipient	1,999	1,031 ***	1,054 ***	-709 ***	-653 ***	74	199
New Applicant							

continued

**Table A.13 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Year 3		Year 3		Years 1-3	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>							
<b>Alameda</b>							
Long Term Recipient	1,205	542 *	835 **	-201	-315	357	550
Short Term Recipient	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Butte</b>							
Long Term Recipient	558	1,434 ***	1,688 ***	69	261	1,550 ***	2,064 ***
Short Term Recipient	285	877	1,051	-49	-200	891	863
New Applicant	386	179	368	-341	-447	-304	-317
<b>Los Angeles</b>							
Long Term Recipient	4,396	4	71	-396 ***	-335 ***	-489 ***	-379 *
Short Term Recipient	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>San Diego</b>							
Long Term Recipient	3,948	428	462	-511 ***	-392 *	-153	7
Short Term Recipient	3,079	914 ***	1,145 ***	-234	-218	619 **	864 **
New Applicant	1,192	855	1,055	-725 **	-693 **	-22	220
<b>Tulare</b>							
Long Term Recipient	1,397	155	674 *	18	-122	158	547
Short Term Recipient	691	267	719	288	102	528	799
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

continued

**Table A.13 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)			Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)			Impacts on Average Total Income per Year		
		Years 1-3			Years 1-3			Years 1-3		
		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<b>Education first</b>										
<b>Atlanta HCD</b>										
Long Term Recipient	2,543	366 **	497 **	-193 ***	-189 ***	127	236			
Short Term Recipient	1,275	179	400	-120 *	-84	83	332			
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
<b>Grand Rapids HCD</b>										
Long Term Recipient	1,775	283 †††	265 †††	-585 ***	-589 ***	-446 **	††† *			
Short Term Recipient	1,215	570 *	622	-325 ***	-308 **	213	231			
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
<b>Riverside HCD</b>										
Long Term Recipient	1,841	479 ***	697 ***	-581 ***	-639 ***	-280	-156			
Short Term Recipient	1,238	90	198	-675 ***	-820 ***	-795 ***	-952 **			
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
<b>Columbus Integrated</b>										
Long Term Recipient	3,392	511 ***	580 **	-381 ***	-426 ***	-106	-144			
Short Term Recipient	806	-403	-184	-317 ***	-289 ***	-912 **	-654			
New Applicant	448	539	745	-271 **	-185	2	360			
<b>Columbus Traditional</b>										
Long Term Recipient	3,415	349 **	360	-272 ***	-307 ***	-63	-126			
Short Term Recipient	793	67	277	-246 **	-186 *	-380	-37			
New Applicant	497	104	-307	-335 ***	-251 **	-520	-802			
<b>Detroit</b>										
Long Term Recipient	3,313	328 **	462 *	-236 ***	-342 ***	-34	-93			
Short Term Recipient	1,015	552	1,063 **	-34	-141	446	813 *			
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
<b>Oklahoma City</b>										
Long Term Recipient	1,419	177	245	-121	-144	42	89			
Short Term Recipient	1,858	5	-145	-180 **	-159 **	-274	-445 *			
New Applicant	2,530	-53	-110	12	77	-10	2			

continued

**Table A.13 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year		
		Year 3		Year 3		Year 3		
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	
<b>Earnings Supplements</b>								
SSP - British Columbia								
Long Term Recipient	1,804	1,170 ***	830	-977 ***	-844 ***	1,856 ***	1,629 ***	†††
Short Term Recipient	733	1,786 ***	1,962 **	-838 **	-789 *	3,126 ***	3,354 ***	
New Applicant	2,748	1,431 ***	2,191 ***	-626 ***	-1,064 ***	#N/A ###	14,195 ***	
SSP - New Brunswick								
Long Term Recipient	1,967	1,015 ***	852 ***	-1,150 ***	-1,098 ***	1,867 ***	1,748 ***	
Short Term Recipient	457	796 *	331	-838 ***	-773 *	1,942 ***	1,540 **	
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
MFIP Full Services								
Long Term Recipient	3,048	267	115	693 ***	273	1,118 ***	884 ***	
Short Term Recipient	1,344	-120	599	405	-1,173	882 **	1,248 ***	
New Applicant	2,951	178	395	500	-728	1,170 ***	1,141 ***	
MFIP Incentives Only								
Long Term Recipient	2,587	-418 *	-486	1,846 ***	2,500 ***	1,077 ***	1,052 ***	
Short Term Recipient	1,027	-1,459 ***	-1,412 **	3,591 ***	7,053 ***	402	551	
New Applicant	2,015	-149	-272	2,335 ***	4,400 ***	1,069 ***	826 *	
WRP Full Services								
Long Term Recipient	2,650	33	321	-114	-319 **	-57	-21	
Short Term Recipient	1,038	368	339	-304 *	-233	6	89	
New Applicant	3,300	465 **	829 ***	-71	-183 *	395 *	635 **	
WRP Incentives Only								
Long Term Recipient	1,302	-170	49	10	-38	-98	51	
Short Term Recipient	530	-45	-104	17	292	37	368	
New Applicant	1,657	83	322	70	-16	164	313	

continued

**Table A.13 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>Earnings Supplements (Continued)</b>							
Jobs First							
Long Term Recipient	3,234	454 *	493 ††	349 ***	-454 *** ††	964 *** †††	37 ††
Short Term Recipient	1,394	1,178 ***	1,522 ***	370 ***	-264 **	1,671 ***	1,204 **
New Applicant	1,320	-1,051 *	-967	432 ***	-86	-496	-1,077 *
FTP							
Long Term Recipient	1,444	419 **	726 ***	-146 **	-375 *** ††	136	214
Short Term Recipient	956	838 ***	1,196 ***	-103 *	-169 ***	581 *	983 **
New Applicant	334	-412	-643	-87	-157 **	-551	-832

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

n/a = not applicable because sample sizes were too small to reliably calculate impacts.

Individuals were classified as new applicants if they had never received welfare prior to random assignment, and as short-term recipients if they had received welfare for less than two years prior to random assignment.



Table A.14

Impacts on Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income  
by Race and Ethnicity by Program

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year (\$)	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
<b>SWIM</b>							
White	877	589	114	-858 ***	-628 **	-269	-514
Black	1,361	442	507	-705 ***	-659 ***	-263	-152
Hispanic	814	687 *	1,044 **	-470 *	-657 **	217	387
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>GAIN Evaluation Programs</b>							
Alameda							
White	216	56	251	36	-169	218	191
Black	844	731 *	937 *	-268	-231	499	779
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Butte							
White	1,061	1,027 **	1,220 **	58	125	1,116 **	1,372 **
Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Los Angeles							
White	512	327	286	-410	-313	-170	-101
Black	1,987	-134	-105	-508 ***	-434 **	-823 ***	-727 **
Hispanic	1,408	192	310	-135	-108	70	178
Other	489	402 **	565 **	-237	-48	197	562
Riverside							
White	2,847	1,698 ***	1,610 ***	-771 ***	-850 ***	839 ***	638 *
Black	862	1,277 **	997	-777 **	-495	407	408
Hispanic	1,510	961 ***	1,120 ***	-733 ***	-504 *	167	568
Other	289	351	-63	19	924	779	1,443

(continued)

**Table A.14 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year (\$)	
		Year 3		Year 3		Year 3	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
San Diego							
White	3,478	1,139 *** <sup>†</sup>	1,315 ***	-347 **	-386 **	768 *** <sup>†</sup>	912 **
Black	1,865	553	606	-442 *	-475 *	42	44
Hispanic	2,094	-278	-21	-377	-204	-707	-264
Other	782	800 *	652	-801 *	-457	-153	59
Tulare							
White	1,165	-42	359	125	-9	169	424
Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hispanic	871	230	756 *	-139	-344	12	339
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>NEWWS Evaluation Programs</b>							
Atlanta LFA							
White	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Black	3,624	458 ***	510 **	-192 ***	-171 ***	200	244
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Atlanta HCD							
White	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Black	3,669	295 *	478 **	-174 ***	-157 ***	94	278
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Grand Rapids LFA							
White	1,470	-10	-226	-600 *** <sup>†</sup>	-431 ***	-756 ***	-782 **
Black	1,214	596 ***	704 **	-758 ***	-629 ***	-264	-10
Hispanic	244	1,349 ***	1,484 **	-1,093 ***	-1,037 ***	-189	42
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

(continued)

**Table A.14 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year (\$)	
		Years 1-3		Year 3		Years 1-3	
		Year 1-3	Year 3	Year 1-3	Year 3	Year 1-3	Year 3
<b>Grand Rapids HCD</b>							
White	1,515	†	306	††	-372 ***	-147	-204
Black	1,158		315	***	-416 ***	-208	-198
Hispanic	249	***	2,051 ***	***	-1,166 ***	125	447
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Riverside LFA</b>							
White	3,464	418 **	126	-660 ***	-558 ***	-435 **	-610 **
Black	1,121	420	249	-526 ***	-273	-248	-121
Hispanic	1,858	938 ***	991 ***	-768 ***	-836 ***	-60	-135
Other	255	447	-140	-33	-424	324	-849
<b>Riverside HCD</b>							
White	1,208	†	371	-616 ***	-529 **	-591 *	-318
Black	510	-239	-64	-278	-494	-640	-755
Hispanic	1,240	728 ***	1,003 ***	-798 ***	-956 ***	-333	-335
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Columbus Integrated</b>							
White	2,161	315	304	-435 ***	-415 ***	-429	-424
Black	2,414	434 *	654 **	-283 ***	-340 ***	2	92
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Columbus Traditional</b>							
White	2,204	154	57	†	-213 ***	-265	-299
Black	2,431	420 *	538 *	***	-328 ***	-33	1
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

(continued)

**Table A.14 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)			Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)			Impacts on Average Total Income per Year (\$)		
		Years 1 to 3			Years 1 to 3			Years 1 to 3		
		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<b>Detroit</b>										
White	481	777 *	783	-328 *	-416 *	231	-20			
Black	3,836	357 **	662 ***	-196 ***	-293 ***	36	190			
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
<b>Oklahoma City</b>										
White	4,095	1	-90	-41	23	-16	-36			
Black	1,996	179	196	-168 **	-175 **	-52	-67			
Hispanic	298	-85	-29	-134	-330	-306	-602			
Other	478	-26	-14	-200	-290 *	-364	-504			
<b>Portland</b>										
White	3,795	1,238 ***	1,634 ***	-753 ***	-847 ***	187	459 **			
Black	1,099	547 *	667	-439 ***	-587 ***	-17	-35			
Hispanic	226	1,624 **	2,067 **	-863 **	-822 *	324	896			
Other	335	1,252 *	854	-1,028 ***	-952 ***	-364	-580			
<b>SSP</b>										
<b>British Columbia</b>										
White	3,626	1,056 ***	1,399 ***	-552 ***	-723 ***	1,953 ***	3,621 ***			
Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
Other	1,156	542	183	-508 **	-500 **	875 ***	1,405 **			
<b>New Brunswick</b>										
White	1,987	867 ***	735 ***	-803 ***	-755 ***	1,642 ***	1,559 ***			
Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
Other	228	-339	-343	-916 ***	-1,001 **	-221	-363			

(continued)

**Table A.14 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year (\$)	
		Years 1 to 3	Year 3	Years 1 to 3	Year 3	Years 1 to 3	Year 3
<b>Vermont</b>							
Full Service							
White	6,655	315 **	555 ***	-155 **	-262 ***	154	272
Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Incentives Only							
White	3,316	25	187	-27	-36	16	176
Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
				††	†		††
<b>MFIP</b>							
Full Service							
White	4,468	-16	159	375	-1,022	873 ***	721 ***
Black	1,876	833 ***	912 **	829 ***	859 ***	1,660 ***	1,768 ***
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	659	-423	-117	1,623 ***	2,270	828 **	1,040 *
Incentives Only							
White	3,216	-91	204	2,637 ***	4,999 ***	1,260 ***	1,456 ***
Black	1,675	-309	-612	1,327 ***	1,461 ***	1,016 ***	848 **
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	523	-946 *	-1,476 **	1,330 ***	2,606 **	-181	-559
				†††	†††	†	††
<b>Connecticut</b>							
White	2,322	730 **	870 **	451 ***	-271 ***	1,453 ***	677
Black	2,216	-169	-150	419 ***	-239 **	450	-298
Hispanic	1,382	159	329	285 **	-365 **	508	-88
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

(continued)

**Table A.14 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year (\$)	
		Years 1 to 3	Year 3	Years 1 to 3	Year 3	Years 1 to 3	Year 3
<b>FTP</b>							
White	1,234	758 ***	1,126 ***	-125 **	-246 ***	505 *	782 **
Black	1,410	392 *	629 **	-178 **	-336 ***	19	162
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

n/a = not applicable because sample sizes were too small to reliably calculate impacts.

**Table A.15**  
**Impacts on Earnings, Welfare Payments, and Income**  
**by Risk of Depression by Program<sup>a</sup>**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)			Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)			Impacts on Average Total Income per Year (\$)		
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Year 3
<b>NEWWS Evaluation Programs</b>										
<b>Atlanta LFA</b>										
High risk	383	707	686	-165	-138	206	617			
Moderate risk	762	216	538	-159	-143	113	339			
Low risk	1,999	586 ***	567 **	-177 ***	-131 *	112	337			
<b>Atlanta HCD</b>										
High risk	400	-20	-442	-155	-149	-152	-457			
Moderate risk	826	392	945 **	-165 *	-155	217	650			
Low risk	1,970	358 *	534 *	-138 **	-94	151 *	454 *			
<b>Grand Rapids LFA</b>										
High risk	319	-15	-511	-797 ***	-624 **	-424	-1,273			
Moderate risk	488	441	508	-838 ***	-681 ***	-113	-339			
Low risk	1,148	510 **	473	-758 ***	-604 ***	-117	-352			
<b>Grand Rapids HCD</b>										
High risk	304	-424	-936	-413 *	-358	-504 *	-1,512 *			
Moderate risk	474	152	260	-500 ***	-491 **	-165	-494			
Low risk	1,164	848 ***	1,036 **	-543 ***	-528 ***	112	335			
<b>Riverside LFA</b>										
High risk	519	428	373	-945 ***	-803 **	-251	-752			
Moderate risk	858	786 **	643	-801 ***	-749 ***	-93	-278			
Low risk	2,425	713 ***	398	-702 ***	-644 ***	-158 *	-474 *			
<b>Riverside HCD</b>										
High risk	270	-217	381	-393	-473	-108	-324			
Moderate risk	444	527	575	-479	-695 *	-84	-252			
Low risk	1,010	515 **	751 **	-651 ***	-711 ***	-79	-238			

(continued)

**Table A.15 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Impacts on Average Total Earnings per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average AFDC Payments per Year (\$)		Impacts on Average Total Income per Year (\$)	
		Year 3		Year 3		Years 1-3	
		Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3	Years 1-3	Year 3
Portland							
High risk	775	731 **	828 *	-278 *	-242	161	482
Moderate risk	1,174	768 **	1,001 **	-435 ***	-585 ***	80	240
Low risk	2,946	1,381 ***	1,749 ***	-987 ***	-1,071 ***	82	247
<b>Self Sufficiency Project</b>							
British Columbia							
High risk	263	1,737 **	1,422	-1,863 ***	-1,552 **	524 *	1,571 *
Moderate risk	482	1,215 **	1,259 **	-1,233 ***	-1,123 **	630 ***	1,891 ***
Low risk	1,782	1,219 ***	957	-640 ***	-560 **	746 ***	2,237 ***
New Brunswick							
High risk	247	549	-142	-1,049 **	-783	318	954
Moderate risk	451	928 **	1,113 **	-860 ***	-910 **	532 ***	1,596 ***
Low risk	1,724	1,032 ***	779 **	-1,149 ***	-1,094 ***	617 ***	1,850 ***

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, Food Stamp, and Private Opinion Survey data.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup> Risk of depression subgroups include sample members from four NEWS sites only: Atlanta, Grand Rapids, Riverside, and Portland.



## Appendix B

### Additional Impacts on Stable Employment

Chapter 3 described results by program by level of disadvantage, as represented by welfare status, work history, and high school credential. It also showed pooled results for several other subgroups. This appendix presents pooled results for a wider range of other subgroups defined based on demographic characteristics or psychosocial characteristics, and it presents results by program for several additional subgroups.

Tables B.1, B.3, B.5, B.6, and B.8 show pooled impacts for the five program models discussed in Chapters 1 and 2 (job search first, employment focused with a mix of initial activities, education focused with a mix of initial activities, education first, and earnings supplements). Each table shows results for several subgroups defined from administrative records or baseline demographic information. These subgroups include welfare history (long-term and short-term welfare recipients, and welfare applicants), earnings in the year prior to random assignment, high school credential, number of children, and age of youngest child.

Tables B.2, B.4, B.7, and B.9 show additional pooled impacts for the four program models for subgroups defined based on the opinion surveys collected at the time of random assignment. (None of the education-focused mixed activity programs had private opinion data.) These subgroups include preference for work, work-related parental concerns, mastery, risk of depression, health or emotional problems, child care problems, and transportation problems. Appendix A of Michalopoulos and Schwartz (2001) describes how these subgroups were defined.

Tables B.10 through B.14 show results by program for several subgroups, including by level of disadvantage (Table B.10), by earnings in the year prior to random assignment (Table B.11), by high school credential (Table B.12), by welfare status (Table B.13), and by race and ethnicity (Table B.14).

**Table B.1**  
**Impacts on Stable Employment**  
**Pooled Across Job-Search-First Welfare-to-Work Programs**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact
		Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group
Full sample	16,781	18.6	4.7 ***	20.2	4.9 ***	24.1	4.2 ***
Total earnings in past 12 months							
No earnings	9,832	9.5	5.5 ***	10.8	5.8 ***	14.7	5.3 ***
\$5,000 or less	4,604	26.0	5.2 ***	28.9	4.8 ***	32.7	4.1 ***
More than \$5,000	2,345	41.6	1.1	42.1	1.7	46.0	0.6
Welfare history <sup>a</sup>							
Long-term recipient	9,998	15.1	5.9 ***	16.7	†	20.0	†††
Short-term recipient	6,256	23.8	3.2 ***	25.6	3.0 **	30.3	6.1 ***
New applicant	440	17.7	9.1	19.0	10.6 *	24.1	1.6
Education credential receipt							
No high school diploma/GED	6,506	11.9	5.6 ***	13.3	5.9 ***	16.5	5.4 ***
High school diploma/GED	10,275	22.8	4.2 ***	24.5	4.2 ***	28.8	3.6 ***
Number of children							
Three or more	4,240	15.5	5.8 ***	16.8	6.0 ***	20.1	6.0 ***
Two	5,390	20.5	3.9 ***	21.9	4.2 ***	26.0	3.5 ***
One	7,150	19.1	4.3 ***	20.9	4.5 ***	25.0	3.6 ***
Age of youngest child							
Under 6	7,735	17.4	††	19.2	††	23.3	††
6 or older	8,956	19.5	6.4 ***	20.8	6.9 ***	24.5	6.7 ***
Gender							
Female	15,465	18.7	5.0 ***	20.3	5.2 ***	24.3	4.6 ***
Male	1,266	16.6	1.8	18.4	1.8	22.1	-1.1

(continued)

### Table B.1 (Continued)

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members were classified as new applicants if they responded on the BIF that they had never received welfare in the past. Sample members were classified as short term recipients if they had received welfare before on their own case or their spouses' case but had received it for a total of less than two years. They were classified as long term recipients if they had received welfare for two years or more prior to random assignment.

**Table B.2**  
**Impacts on Three Stable Employment**  
**Pooled Across Job-Search-First Welfare-to-Work Programs with a POS**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Subsequent Quarters (%)		Control		Control	
		Control	Impact	Group	Impact	Group	Impact
Preference for work							
Low	3,646	18.8	5.0 ***	20.5	5.2 ***	24.6	5.5 ***
Moderate	3,725	20.3	4.8 ***	22.6	5.2 ***	27.5	4.3 ***
High	1,158	23.0	4.9 *	24.9	4.5 *	28.6	2.3
Work-Related Parental Concerns scale							
High	2,002	11.8	5.3 ***	14.1	5.5 ***	18.3	5.3 ***
Low	6,887	22.6	4.6 ***	24.4	4.7 ***	29.0	4.1 ***
Mastery scale							
Low	3,252	16.7	5.2 ***	18.1	6.5 ***	22.2	5.8 ***
High	5,637	22.1	4.8 ***	24.2	4.2 ***	29.0	3.9 ***
Risk of depression							
High	1,221	21.0	2.2	23.7	1.8	28.5	1.1
Moderate	2,108	18.9	4.8 ***	20.7	6.4 ***	25.3	5.6 ***
Low	5,572	20.3	5.5 ***	22.0	5.1 ***	26.5	4.7 ***
<b><u>Barriers to work or participation</u></b>							
Health or emotional problem <sup>a</sup>							
Yes	2,369	13.3	3.8 ***	14.6	4.8 ***	18.2	4.4 ***
No	6,503	22.3	5.7 ***	24.5	5.4 ***	29.3	4.7 ***
Cannot afford/arrange for child care							
Yes	5,586	17.7	5.3 ***	19.6	5.8 ***	24.1	5.2 ***
No	3,157	24.4	4.6 ***	26.2	4.1 ***	30.8	3.5 **
Transportation problem							
Yes	3,107	12.6	6.4 ***	13.9	†	17.1	††
No	5,717	23.8	4.9 ***	26.1	7.5 ***	31.2	7.7 ***
					4.4 ***		3.6 ***

(continued)

**Table B.2 (Continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members in the "yes" category on this measure could have had a health or emotional problem themselves at random assignment or one of their family members could have had such a problem.

**Table B.3**  
**Impacts on Stable Employment**  
**Pooled Across Employment-Focused Mixed-Activity Welfare-to-Work Programs**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Subsequent Quarters (%)		Control		Control	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
Full sample	11,055	16.2	9.0 ***	17.3	9.4 ***	22.0	9.1 ***
Total earnings in past 12 months							
No earnings	6,545	7.9	10.3 ***	8.7	11.0 ***	13.5	11.2 *** ††
\$5,000 or less	3,082	23.2	6.7 ***	24.5	8.0 ***	29.4	6.6 ***
More than \$5,000	1,428	39.1	8.3 ***	41.0	5.8 *	44.8	5.2 *
Welfare history <sup>a</sup>							
Long-term recipient	6,084	13.8	9.6 ***	14.7	††	19.2	†††
Short-term recipient	3,978	18.5	9.4 ***	19.6	10.4 ***	25.1	11.1 ***
New applicant	931	26.0	-2.4	29.7	9.8 ***	34.1	7.9 ***
Education credential receipt							
No high school diploma/GED	4,452	10.6	††	11.2	8.0 ***	14.8	8.3 ***
High school diploma/GED	6,603	20.1	10.6 ***	21.4	10.4 ***	26.6	10.0 ***
Number of children							
Three or more	2,843	13.1	11.7 ***	14.6	11.6 ***	20.0	10.8 ***
Two	3,623	17.3	7.7 ***	17.8	9.0 ***	22.3	9.4 ***
One	4,524	17.6	8.2 ***	18.9	8.3 ***	23.1	7.8 ***
Age of youngest child							
Under 6	4,623	15.3	††	16.8	††	21.8	††
6 or older	6,295	17.3	6.7 ***	18.1	11.9 ***	22.1	12.3 ***
Gender							
Female	9,915	16.2	9.2 ***	17.5	9.6 ***	22.3	9.2 ***
Male	1,033	15.0	7.1 **	15.0	8.0 ***	18.6	8.1 **

(continued)

### Table B.3 (Continued)

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent, \*\* = 5 percent, and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members were classified as new applicants if they responded on the BIF that they had never received welfare in the past. Sample members were classified as short term recipients if they had received welfare before on their own case or their spouses' case but had received it for a total of less than two years. They were classified as long term recipients if they had received welfare for two years or more prior to random assignment.

**Table B.4**  
**Impacts on Stable Employment**  
**Pooled Across Employment-Focused Mixed-Activity Welfare-to-Work Programs with a POS**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact
		Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group
<b>Work-Related Parental Concerns scale</b>							
High	1,423	10.2	10.7 ***	11.0	11.8 ***	15.6	14.2 ***
Low	3,486	24.7	8.0 ***	25.9	9.5 ***	31.3	10.2 ***
<b>Mastery scale</b>							
Low	1,719	18.4	††	20.7	†††	24.5	††
High	3,193	21.5	5.4 ***	22.0	5.4 **	27.8	7.0 ***
<b>Risk of depression</b>							
High	775	18.0	†	19.5	††	24.6	††
Moderate	1,174	23.7	6.3 **	25.2	6.9 **	29.9	6.3 *
Low	2,946	19.9	4.2	20.6	5.2 *	25.9	6.8 **
<b>Barriers to work or participation</b>							
<b>Health or emotional problem<sup>a</sup></b>							
Yes	1,385	11.7	8.9 ***	13.7	9.3 ***	18.9	9.6 ***
No	3,517	23.9	8.7 ***	24.5	10.7 ***	29.7	12.1 ***
<b>Cannot afford/arrange for child care</b>							
Yes	3,371	18.5	8.4 ***	19.3	10.2 ***	25.0	11.1 ***
No	1,475	25.1	9.9 ***	26.3	11.3 ***	30.6	12.8 ***
<b>Transportation problem</b>							
Yes	1,428	17.1	††	17.4	††	21.4	9.8 ***
No	3,447	21.7	4.0 *	23.0	6.6 ***	28.6	12.4 ***
			11.1 ***		12.2 ***		12.4 ***

(continued)



**Table B.4 (Continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members in the "yes" category on this measure could have had a health or emotional problem themselves at random assignment or one of their family members could have had such a problem.

**Table B.5**  
**Impacts on Stable Employment**  
**Pooled Across Education-Focused Mixed-Activity Welfare-to-Work Programs**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8		Employed in 9 of 12		Employed in 6 of 8	
		Subsequent Quarters (%)		Quarters (%)		Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
Full sample	17,283	14.3	2.0 ***	14.8	2.5 ***	17.4	3.1 ***
Total earnings in past 12 months							
No earnings	10,911	6.6	2.0 ***	7.1	2.5 ***	9.4	3.4 ***
\$5,000 or less	4,047	21.5	0.9	22.0	2.1	25.3	1.6
More than \$5,000	2,325	38.2	3.5	37.8	4.4	40.4	5.7 **
Welfare history <sup>a</sup>							
Long-term recipient	11,504	11.6	2.3 ***	11.7	3.4 ***	13.9	4.1 ***
Short-term recipient	4,055	17.2	3.6 **	18.3	3.2 *	21.5	3.8 **
New applicant	1,724	20.9	2.1	21.8	2.5	26.2	1.6
Education credential receipt			†††		†††		††
No high school diploma/GED	8,578	11.3	0.1	11.9	0.4	13.4	1.4
High school diploma/GED	8,705	17.2	4.0 ***	17.7	4.6 ***	21.3	5.0 ***
Number of children							
Three or more	4,379	12.0	2.3	12.1	3.3 **	13.9	4.2 ***
Two	5,463	14.8	3.6 ***	15.8	3.0 **	18.4	3.7 ***
One	7,266	15.4	0.6	15.7	1.7	18.8	2.2 *
Age of youngest child							
Under 6	2,360	15.5	0.0	16.6	0.2	20.7	0.1
6 or older	14,748	14.3	2.1 ***	14.7	2.7 ***	17.0	3.5 ***
Gender							
Female	14,987	14.2	1.9 **	14.9	2.3 ***	17.3	3.2 ***
Male	2,228	15.0	2.7	14.9	3.9 **	18.6	2.4

(continued)

**Table B.5 (continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members were classified as new applicants if they responded on the BIF that they had never received welfare in the past. Sample members were classified as short term recipients if they had received welfare before on their own case or their spouses' case but had received it for a total of less than two years. They were classified as long term recipients if they had received welfare for two years or more prior to random assignment.

**Table B.6**  
**Impacts on Stable Employment**  
**Pooled Across Education-First Welfare-to-Work Programs**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact
		Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group
Full sample	32,194	20.4	0.5	23.2	0.6	27.3	1.1 **
Total earnings in past 12 months							
No earnings	17,102	10.0	0.9 *	11.8	†	16.2	††
\$5,000 or less	10,487	26.6	-0.1	30.9	1.6 ***	35.1	2.3 ***
More than \$5,000	4,605	45.0	0.0	47.4	-1.0	51.0	-0.7
Welfare history <sup>a</sup>							
Long-term recipient	17,613	19.3	†	22.1	1.5 **	26.0	††
Short-term recipient	9,606	24.4	1.6 **	27.0	-0.5	31.7	2.6 ***
New applicant	4,713	15.6	-1.0	19.0	0.6	23.9	-0.5
Education credential receipt							
No high school diploma/GED	13,838	13.9	1.2 **	16.5	1.4 **	19.9	2.0 ***
High school diploma/GED	18,356	25.1	0.4	27.9	0.6	32.6	1.1
Number of children							
Three or more	7,856	18.0	0.7	20.9	0.8	25.0	2.1 **
Two	10,277	21.2	1.0	23.7	1.3	28.0	1.5 *
One	14,061	21.4	-0.3	24.2	-0.1	28.3	0.1
Age of youngest child							
Under 6	18,207	18.2	1.1 *	21.1	††	25.4	†††
6 or older	13,748	23.5	-0.4	25.9	1.7 ***	29.9	2.4 ***
Gender							
Female	29,981	20.4	0.4	23.3	0.6	27.5	1.1 **
Male	1,995	21.4	1.0	23.1	0.2	27.1	-0.8

(continued)

**Table B.6 (continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members were classified as new applicants if they responded on the BIF that they had never received welfare in the past. Sample members were classified as short term recipients if they had received welfare before on their own case or their spouses' case but had received it for a total of less than two years. They were classified as long term recipients if they had received welfare for two years or more prior to random assignment.

**Table B.7**  
**Impacts on Stable Employment**  
**Pooled Across Education-First Welfare-to-Work Programs with a POS**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8		Employed in 9 of 12		Employed in 6 of 8	
		Subsequent Quarters (%)		Quarters (%)		Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
Preference for work							
Low	3,181	20.1	1.0	22.0	0.5	26.3	1.5
Moderate	3,292	20.9	1.4	23.5	1.8	28.5	2.6
High	1,037	24.9	-2.3	27.0	-3.1	31.0	-2.3
Work-Related Parental Concerns scale							
High	1,801	12.6	2.2	15.2	0.9	19.5	0.9
Low	6,045	23.7	0.1	25.7	0.6	30.5	1.7
Mastery scale							
Low	3,055	17.2	0.9	18.8	1.7	23.2	2.9 *
High	4,793	23.5	0.4	25.9	0.2	30.9	0.9
Risk of depression							
High	1,109	21.7	-3.8	24.5	-3.8	29.6	-2.7
Moderate	1,955	20.2	0.2	22.2	1.0	27.0	0.4
Low	4,808	21.3	1.5	23.2	1.5	28.0	2.7 **
<b><u>Barriers to work or participation</u></b>							
Health or emotional problem <sup>a</sup>							
Yes	2,158	13.8	-1.4	15.2	-0.7	18.9	0.7
No	5,690	23.6	1.4	26.0	1.3	31.1	1.9
Cannot afford/arrange for child care							
Yes	4,909	18.6	1.1	20.7	1.3	25.5	2.0
No	2,801	25.8	-0.5	27.8	-0.4	32.5	0.5
Transportation problem							
Yes	2,802	13.2	1.6	14.6	2.0	17.8	2.5 *
No	4,981	24.9	0.8	27.5	1.0	32.9	2.0

(continued)

**Table B.7 (Continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members in the "yes" category on this measure could have had a health or emotional problem themselves at random assignment or one of their family members could have had such a problem.

**Table B.8**  
**Impacts on Stable Employment**  
**Pooled Across Programs with Earnings Supplements**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
Full sample	35,782	29.9	4.1 ***	31.2	4.4 ***	35.7	4.7 ***
Total earnings in past 12 months							
No earnings	18,333	14.3	5.3 ***	15.6	5.8 ***	20.7	6.5 *** ††
\$5,000 or less	10,036	36.1	4.6 ***	38.1	4.8 ***	42.8	4.4 ***
More than \$5,000	7,413	57.9	3.5 ***	58.2	3.3 ***	61.5	3.4 ***
Welfare history <sup>a</sup>			†††		†††		
Long-term recipient	15,792	25.6	5.2 ***	27.2	5.4 ***	32.6	4.7 ***
Short-term recipient	6,533	29.7	5.7 ***	31.5	5.6 ***	36.2	5.1 ***
New applicant	12,608	36.0	0.5	36.7	1.1	40.6	2.2 **
Education credential receipt							
No high school diploma/GED	9,315	19.2	3.8 ***	20.9	4.1 ***	24.8	4.4 ***
High school diploma/GED	26,467	33.5	4.5 ***	34.6	4.8 ***	39.5	4.9 ***
Number of children							
Three or more	6,495	25.4	6.2 ***	27.0	6.1 ***	31.5	6.1 ***
Two	13,064	29.4	4.1 ***	30.4	4.6 ***	35.3	4.4 ***
One	15,892	31.8	3.7 ***	33.3	3.8 ***	37.9	4.2 ***
Age of youngest child							
Under 6	17,823	28.3	4.6 ***	29.6	5.1 ***	34.4	5.3 ***
6 or older	12,220	32.1	3.9 ***	33.0	3.8 ***	37.4	3.8 ***
Gender							
Female	32,633	29.9	4.2 ***	31.2	4.6 ***	35.9	4.7 ***
Male	2,540	30.6	1.9	31.3	1.5	34.8	2.2

(continued)



**Table B.8 (continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members were classified as new applicants if they responded on the BIF that they had never received welfare in the past. Sample members were classified as short term recipients if they had received welfare before on their own case or their spouses' case but had received it for a total of less than two years. They were classified as long term recipients if they had received welfare for two years or more prior to random assignment.

**Table B.9**  
**Impacts on Stable Employment**  
**Pooled Across Programs with Earnings Supplements with a POS**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Subsequent Quarters (%)		Control		Control	
		Control	Impact	Group	Impact	Group	Impact
Preference for work							
Low	5,109	28.0	3.9 ***	29.5	4.7 ***	35.7	4.4 ***
Moderate	6,003	32.0	2.8 **	34.3	2.4 *	39.0	2.5 *
High	2,598	39.3	3.7	40.0	4.2 *	43.4	3.9 *
Work-Related Parental Concerns scale							
High	3,119	17.6	6.0 ***	19.5	6.2 ***	24.1	7.4 ***
Low	10,840	35.6	3.1 ***	37.4	3.2 ***	42.4	2.7 **
Mastery scale							
Low	7,300	24.4	3.9 ***	25.9	4.5 ***	30.5	4.4 ***
High	11,668	30.9	5.6 ***	32.5	5.8 ***	37.7	5.1 ***
Risk of depression							
High	510	16.2	11.0 ***	18.2	9.0 **	23.0	7.6 *
Moderate	933	12.6	9.7 ***	14.3	10.1 ***	18.9	10.1 ***
Low	3,506	21.5	8.5 ***	21.7	9.9 ***	26.4	8.3 ***
<b><u>Barriers to work or participation</u></b>							
Health or emotional problem <sup>a</sup>							
Yes	3,613	24.0	3.0 *	25.4	3.6 **	29.8	4.5 ***
No	10,248	34.5	3.6 ***	36.4	3.6 ***	41.5	3.2 ***
Cannot afford/arrange for child care							
Yes	5,085	24.5	5.3 ***	25.7	6.4 ***	31.0	6.2 ***
No	8,753	36.1	2.6 **	38.1	2.3 *	42.9	2.2 *
Transportation problem							
Yes	5,015	18.8	†	20.7	†	25.9	†
No	8,827	38.8	5.8 ***	40.5	6.2 ***	45.4	6.6 ***
			2.4 **		2.4 **		2.0 *

(continued)

**Table B.9 (Continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members in the "yes" category on this measure could have had a health or emotional problem themselves at random assignment or one of their family members could have had such a problem.

**Table B.10**  
**Impacts on Stable Employment by Level of Disadvantage by Program**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)			Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)			Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)		
		Control Group		Impact	Control Group		Impact	Control Group		Impact
<b>Job search first</b>										
SWIM										
Most disadvantaged	745	3.3	6.3 ***	4.9	5.5 ***	8.0	4.3 *			
Moderately disadvantaged	2,113	17.2	5.7 ***	18.1	6.7 ***	21.3	6.1 ***			
Least disadvantaged	352	31.8	4.6	32.9	2.9	35.7	3.6			
Atlanta LFA										
Most disadvantaged	828	8.1	3.3	9.5	3.3	12.6	4.7 *			
Moderately disadvantaged	2,401	23.5	3.4 *	24.9	4.5 **	28.6	5.6 ***			
Least disadvantaged	564	50.3	-2.4	53.9	-4.4	59.0	-6.4			
Grand Rapids LFA										
Most disadvantaged	456	4.4	9.7 ***	5.8	11.3 ***	6.6	13.0 ***			
Moderately disadvantaged	2,124	21.3	6.9 ***	26.5	5.1 **	32.7	3.5 *			
Least disadvantaged	432	37.2	6.9	40.9	7.4	44.1	6.9			
Riverside LFA										
Most disadvantaged	1,084	3.8	4.8 ***	4.2	4.9 ***	6.0	4.9 ***			
Moderately disadvantaged	4,374	14.3	5.7 ***	14.8	6.4 ***	19.2	4.8 ***			
Least disadvantaged	1,221	30.7	-1.0	31.6	-0.7	35.7	-2.4			
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>										
Riverside GAIN										
Most disadvantaged	974	1.3	8.9 ***	1.3	10.0 ***	5.8	7.3 ***			
Moderately disadvantaged	3,739	11.8	9.5 ***	13.3	9.0 ***	18.0	7.5 ***			
Least disadvantaged	795	24.5	9.4 **	25.8	8.1 **	29.0	7.5 *			
Portland										
Most disadvantaged	880	7.3	5.8 ***	7.6	7.0 ***	11.2	12.2 ***			
Moderately disadvantaged	3,800	19.1	10.5 ***	20.5	11.9 ***	25.8	12.2 ***			
Least disadvantaged	805	41.6	2.7	43.5	1.8	49.8	-0.7			

continued

**Table B.10 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8			Employed in 9 of 12			Employed in 6 of 8		
	Subsequent Quarters (%)			Quarters (%)			Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)		
	Sample Size	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Control Group	Impact	
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>									
<b>Alameda GAIN</b>									
Most disadvantaged	1,205	10.9	-0.1	10.9	0.5	13.4	13.4	2.3	
Moderately disadvantaged	839	13.5	0.5	13.5	0.9	16.5	16.5	2.4	
Least disadvantaged	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
<b>Butte GAIN</b>									
Most disadvantaged	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Moderately disadvantaged	807	12.1	5.1 *	14.7	4.4	18.5	18.5	4.0	
Least disadvantaged	243	19.9	9.0	23.9	6.6	23.9	23.9	11.2	
<b>Los Angeles GAIN</b>									
Most disadvantaged	4,396	10.6	0.1	10.8	0.9	12.4	12.4	1.4	
Moderately disadvantaged	2,074	16.5	1.0	16.4	2.4	18.6	18.6	2.7	
Least disadvantaged	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
<b>San Diego GAIN</b>									
Most disadvantaged	1,331	5.2	1.9	5.7	2.4	7.5	7.5	3.4	
Moderately disadvantaged	5,405	15.2	4.3 ***	15.7	4.6 ***	18.9	18.9	5.1 ***	
Least disadvantaged	1,483	27.5	5.4 *	27.9	5.7 *	32.4	32.4	5.0	
<b>Tulare GAIN</b>									
Most disadvantaged	554	3.8	-0.2	4.4	0.2	4.4	4.4	2.7	
Moderately disadvantaged	1,423	17.8	0.2	18.3	1.0	21.0	21.0	2.3	
Least disadvantaged	257	29.9	-0.4	32.4	2.0	37.6	37.6	1.8	

continued

**Table B.10 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact
		Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group
<b>Education first</b>							
<b>Atlanta HCD</b>							
Most disadvantaged	860	8.0	-1.9	9.5	-1.9	12.6	0.7 †
Moderately disadvantaged	2,408	23.6	0.9	24.9	2.1	28.6	5.6 ***
Least disadvantaged	562	50.3	-1.1	54.0	-3.0	59.1	-3.2
<b>Grand Rapids HCD</b>							
Most disadvantaged	450	4.5	0.8	5.8	2.1	6.7	5.6 **
Moderately disadvantaged	2,077	21.3	2.5	26.5	1.6	32.7	1.1
Least disadvantaged	466	37.5	9.3 **	41.2	7.6	44.4	10.0 **
<b>Riverside HCD</b>							
Most disadvantaged	1,094	3.8	2.3 *	4.0	3.3 **	5.9	5.6 ***
Moderately disadvantaged	1,865	13.7	2.2	14.3	2.6	18.1	1.6
Least disadvantaged	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Columbus Integrated</b>							
Most disadvantaged	899	8.2	2.0 †	9.1	4.2 **	14.5	5.0 ** †††
Moderately disadvantaged	3,134	32.7	3.7 **	35.3	4.7 ***	39.3	6.1 ***
Least disadvantaged	613	53.4	-6.1	54.5	-6.4	60.7	-8.0 **
<b>Columbus Traditional</b>							
Most disadvantaged	888	8.2	1.8	9.1	2.6	14.5	2.4
Moderately disadvantaged	3,222	32.7	3.3 **	35.3	3.4 **	39.3	4.0 **
Least disadvantaged	595	53.5	-5.0	54.6	-4.3	60.9	-5.0
<b>Detroit</b>							
Most disadvantaged	1,097	7.9	-1.2	8.8	1.5	12.7	2.2
Moderately disadvantaged	3,033	17.1	2.0	21.3	1.9	26.8	3.3 **
Least disadvantaged	324	33.9	-3.0	40.9	-5.9	49.9	-7.1
<b>Oklahoma City</b>							
Most disadvantaged	291	3.1	1.3	5.8	-1.3	6.4	-1.1 †
Moderately disadvantaged	4,057	11.5	0.1	14.6	0.2	17.7	0.7
Least disadvantaged	1,459	21.8	-0.7	28.7	-3.9 *	33.3	-5.8 **

continued

**Table B.10 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Subsequent Quarters (%)		Control Group		Control Group	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Earnings Supplements</b>							
SSP - British Columbia							
Most disadvantaged	611	2.6	1.9	5.0	6.5 ***	7.3	5.1 **
Moderately disadvantaged	3,453	9.2	4.0 ***	12.2	6.9 ***	13.6	7.3 ***
Least disadvantaged	1,855	28.0	1.8	30.3	6.0 ***	31.1	7.9 ***
SSP - New Brunswick							
Most disadvantaged	769	4.1	3.3 **	4.4	6.9 ***	4.9	8.6 ***
Moderately disadvantaged	1,538	19.9	9.6 ***	22.7	11.2 ***	24.1	11.5 ***
Least disadvantaged	117	32.0	9.5	28.3	17.0 *	31.0	16.7 *
MFIP Full Services							
Most disadvantaged	530	7.7	9.5 ***	10.4	9.8 ***	14.7	10.3 ***
Moderately disadvantaged	4,430	30.1	6.5 ***	31.9	6.5 ***	37.4	5.9 ***
Least disadvantaged	2,383	52.1	2.0	53.6	2.7	57.5	3.2
MFIP Incentives Only							
Most disadvantaged	424	7.7	4.1	10.4	4.4	14.5	2.5
Moderately disadvantaged	3,552	30.2	0.3	32.0	-0.3	37.4	-0.8
Least disadvantaged	1,653	52.2	-2.3	53.6	-0.2	57.5	-1.6
WRP Full Services							
Most disadvantaged	414	13.1	0.6	15.0	-1.3	17.7	2.4
Moderately disadvantaged	4,283	23.0	1.1	24.4	1.8	30.1	1.9
Least disadvantaged	2,291	46.5	2.9	48.7	2.1	51.9	1.9
WRP Incentives Only							
Most disadvantaged	201	13.2	-3.5	15.0	-2.2	17.7	1.4
Moderately disadvantaged	2,136	23.0	-1.4	24.4	-1.1	30.2	-1.5
Least disadvantaged	1,152	46.5	-0.4	48.6	-1.3	51.9	-1.1

continued

**Table B.10 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8			Employed in 9 of 12			Employed in 6 of 8		
	Subsequent Quarters (%)			Quarters (%)			Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)		
	Sample Size	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Control Group	Impact	
<b>Earnings Supplements (Continued)</b>									
Jobs First									
Most disadvantaged	806	9.7	9.6 ***	11.5	10.1 ***	16.7	8.9 ***	††	
Moderately disadvantaged	3,960	32.4	6.4 ***	33.7	7.3 ***	38.3	7.6 ***		
Least disadvantaged	1,213	59.5	2.4	60.6	1.2	65.2	-0.1		
FTP									
Most disadvantaged	436	8.9	3.7	12.7	4.0	16.9	6.6 *		
Moderately disadvantaged	1,783	26.6	6.1 ***	28.3	5.9 ***	33.3	6.1 ***		
Least disadvantaged	515	48.9	4.4	50.0	3.2	53.6	3.1		

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

n/a = not applicable because sample sizes were too small to reliably calculate impacts. Individuals were classified as most disadvantaged if they had no earnings in the year prior to random assignment, did not have a high school diploma or GED at random assignment, and had received welfare for two years prior to random assignment. Individuals were classified as least disadvantaged if they had none of these characteristics. All other sample members were classified as moderately disadvantaged.



**Table B.11**  
**Impacts on Stable Employment by Year Prior-Year Earnings by Program**

Program and Subgroup	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8			Employed in 9 of 12			Employed in 6 of 8		
	Sample Size	Subsequent Quarters (%)		Control Group	Quarters (%)		Control Group	Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Impact	Control Group		Impact	Control Group		Impact	Control Group
<b>Job search first</b>									
<b>SWIM</b>									
No earnings	1,948	7.5	6.1 ***	8.4	6.7 ***	11.6	6.2 ***		
\$5,000 or less	768	20.4	7.8 **	22.5	7.3 **	25.7	6.4 *		
More than \$5,000	494	37.9	4.8	38.2	5.3	40.9	4.8		
<b>Atlanta LFA</b>									
No earnings	2,353	12.7	†	14.1	4.8 ***	18.3	5.4 ***		
\$5,000 or less	1,120	36.9	0.3	39.8	0.3	42.8	1.5		
More than \$5,000	360	59.0	-5.2	58.9	-1.8	62.7	-2.1		
<b>Grand Rapids LFA</b>									
No earnings	1,527	10.8	6.7 ***	14.4	5.9 ***	19.1	5.9 ***		
\$5,000 or less	1,119	27.9	7.5 ***	33.4	6.8 **	38.9	4.9 *		
More than \$5,000	366	42.4	9.9 *	46.9	7.6	50.8	6.5		
<b>Riverside LFA</b>									
No earnings	4,010	8.2	5.1 ***	8.6	5.9 ***	12.6	4.5 ***		
\$5,000 or less	1,598	20.0	5.3 **	21.3	5.0 **	24.8	4.0 *		
More than \$5,000	1,118	36.7	-0.2	36.3	0.1	40.8	-1.6		
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>									
<b>Riverside GAIN</b>									
No earnings	3,331	4.9	9.6 ***	5.7	9.7 ***	10.2	8.4 ***		
\$5,000 or less	1,419	16.8	8.5 ***	18.2	8.8 ***	23.4	5.9 **		
More than \$5,000	758	33.7	8.3 *	36.5	4.6	39.5	4.4		
<b>Portland</b>									
No earnings	3,214	10.8	††	11.9	†	17.7	††		
\$5,000 or less	1,663	28.8	11.3 ***	30.3	12.2 ***	34.8	13.5 ***		
More than \$5,000	670	45.2	8.2 **	46.5 *	7.0 *	51.1	6.9 ***		

continued

**Table B.11 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8			Employed in 9 of 12			Employed in 6 of 8		
	Subsequent Quarters (%)			Quarters (%)			Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)		
	Sample Size	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Control Group	Impact	
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>									
<b>Alameda GAIN</b>									
No earnings	915	4.3	2.0	4.3	2.0	6.9	4.0	**	
\$5,000 or less	226	25.7	-6.2	26.5	-3.5	28.3	-1.8		
More than \$5,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		
<b>Butte GAIN</b>									
No earnings	652	7.7	-0.2	9.2	-0.2	12.3	-0.8	†	
\$5,000 or less	379	14.3	6.2	16.8	6.3	18.1	9.0	*	
More than \$5,000	198	28.0	16.7	33.5	11.7	36.4	15.1	*	
<b>Los Angeles GAIN</b>									
No earnings	3,435	5.1	1.0	5.6	1.3	7.3	1.8	*	
\$5,000 or less	720	23.9	-2.9	24.3	-1.7	26.5	-1.4		
More than \$5,000	241	51.4	-7.2	46.4	-1.7	46.3	0.2		
<b>San Diego GAIN</b>									
No earnings	4,615	8.2	3.3	8.6	3.9	11.3	4.9	***	
\$5,000 or less	2,109	20.3	3.4	20.6	4.0	25.1	2.7		
More than \$5,000	1,495	33.7	6.6	34.6	5.8	37.8	6.2	*	
<b>Tulare GAIN</b>									
No earnings	1,294	6.0	1.4	6.5	2.1	8.4	4.2	**	
\$5,000 or less	613	21.7	-1.6	22.2	0.4	25.6	-0.6		
More than \$5,000	327	42.3	-1.4	44.3	-2.2	46.4	1.4		

continued

**Table B.11 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8			Employed in 9 of 12			Employed in 6 of 8		
	Subsequent Quarters (%)			Quarters (%)			Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)		
	Sample Size	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Education first</b>									
<b>Atlanta HCD</b>									
No earnings	2,398	12.7	1.6	14.1	2.4	18.3	†	5.6	***
\$5,000 or less	1,115	36.9	-3.5	39.8	-4.6	42.8		-1.9	
More than \$5,000	368	58.9	-0.4	58.9	3.4	62.7		2.9	
<b>Grand Rapids HCD</b>									
No earnings	1,489	10.8	2.2	14.3	2.2	19.1		2.4	
\$5,000 or less	1,121	27.9	3.7	33.4	1.7	38.9		2.0	
More than \$5,000	387	42.7	6.5	47.1	7.4	51.0		9.9	*
<b>Riverside HCD</b>									
No earnings	2,065	5.4	1.6	6.0	2.0	8.9	*	3.0	**
\$5,000 or less	687	15.8	0.4	17.0	1.2	19.7		-0.1	
More than \$5,000	383	37.0	-0.3	35.9	2.3	42.1		-1.7	
<b>Columbus Integrated</b>									
No earnings	2,143	12.2	3.7	12.9	†	19.2	†	7.3	***
\$5,000 or less	1,563	36.9	1.3	41.4	0.2	44.6		2.0	
More than \$5,000	966	61.5	-0.3	62.7	0.9	65.4		0.8	
<b>Columbus Traditional</b>									
No earnings	2,160	12.2	†	12.9	††	19.2	††	6.2	***
\$5,000 or less	1,593	36.9	0.3	41.4	-0.4	44.6		0.6	
More than \$5,000	976	61.5	-1.8	62.7	-2.0	65.4		-1.9	
<b>Detroit</b>									
No earnings	2,978	10.0	-0.6	12.5	0.6	17.3		1.7	
\$5,000 or less	1,199	25.5	2.8	31.7	1.2	38.3		1.0	
More than \$5,000	282	43.4	1.1	46.0	2.3	52.2		7.0	
<b>Oklahoma City</b>									
No earnings	2,581	6.5	0.1	8.7	-0.6	11.6		-0.7	
\$5,000 or less	2,353	16.0	0.9	20.9	0.0	24.1		0.4	
More than \$5,000	927	28.3	-3.6	35.8	-5.3	40.5	*	-6.6	**

continued

**Table B.11 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Subsequent Quarters (%)		Control Group		Control Group	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Earnings Supplements</b>							
<b>SSP - British Columbia</b>							
No earnings	3,552	5.3	3.5 ***	8.5	6.5 ***	10.2	6.7 ***
\$5,000 or less	1,036	22.2	0.9	23.4	5.6 **	23.9	6.0 **
More than \$5,000	1,331	33.4	2.4	35.7	6.2 **	36.9	8.2 ***
<b>SSP - New Brunswick</b>							
No earnings	1,651	5.7	††	7.6	9.1 ***	8.9	10.2 ***
\$5,000 or less	595	30.8	4.8 ***	31.2	12.3 ***	32.5	12.4 ***
More than \$5,000	178	51.7	20.3 ***	56.0	17.4 **	57.0	16.3 **
<b>MFIP Full Services</b>							
No earnings	2,062	18.2	††	20.6	††	26.0	††
\$5,000 or less	1,698	35.7	10.1 ***	38.9	9.3 ***	43.4	9.5 ***
More than \$5,000	1,378	58.2	1.9	59.5	2.1	62.7	2.0
<b>MFIP Incentives Only</b>							
No earnings	1,646	18.3	2.8	20.6	1.3	26.1	1.1
\$5,000 or less	1,296	35.7	-1.2	38.9	-2.2	43.4	-3.7
More than \$5,000	902	58.1	1.1	59.6	-1.2	62.8	-1.5
<b>WRP Full Services</b>							
No earnings	4,367	17.9	0.0	19.3	0.6	24.0	2.3
\$5,000 or less	2,815	39.6	2.3	43.0	1.3	48.3	0.0
More than \$5,000	2,788	66.1	3.7 *	65.7	4.1 **	68.7	3.0
<b>WRP Incentives Only</b>							
No earnings	2,196	17.9	0.0	19.3	0.6	24.0	1.4
\$5,000 or less	1,400	39.6	-0.6	43.0	-2.9	48.3	-5.0 *
More than \$5,000	1,404	66.1	0.5	65.7	1.9	68.7	0.8

continued

**Table B.11 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Earnings Supplements (Continued)</b>							
Jobs First							
No earnings	3,176	14.4	7.9 ***	15.4	8.8 *** ††	20.7	8.5 *** †††
\$5,000 or less	1,860	42.7	7.4 ***	44.4	8.8 ***	49.3	8.6 ***
More than \$5,000	1,463	68.5	2.2	69.3	0.7	71.9	0.4
FTP							
No earnings	1,499	16.0	3.7 *	18.5	4.1 *	23.2	5.6 **
\$5,000 or less	923	33.1	9.5 ***	35.1	8.5 ***	40.3	8.3 **
More than \$5,000	393	58.2	4.3	58.7	2.2	61.2	0.8

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

n/a = not applicable because sample sizes were too small to reliably calculate impacts.

**Table B.12**  
**Impacts on Stable Employment by High School Credential by Program**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact
		Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group
<b>Job search first</b>							
SWIM							
No high school diploma/GED	1,408	9.6	7.4 ***	11.2	6.8 ***	14.6	5.3 ***
High school diploma/GED	1,802	20.1	4.6 **	20.9	5.6 ***	23.8	5.8 ***
Atlanta LFA							
No high school diploma/GED	1,454	15.9	2.5	16.8	3.7 *	19.7	4.9 **
High school diploma/GED	2,379	29.0	2.7	31.2	2.7	35.6	3.0
Grand Rapids LFA							
No high school diploma/GED	1,246	13.0	9.0 ***	15.9	†	19.9	†
High school diploma/GED	1,766	26.7	6.1 ***	32.2	9.9 ***	37.7	9.1 ***
Riverside LFA							
No high school diploma/GED	2,398	10.1	5.0 ***	10.8	4.9 ***	13.9	4.1 ***
High school diploma/GED	4,328	18.8	3.9 ***	19.3	4.7 ***	23.6	3.1 **
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>							
Riverside GAIN							
No high school diploma/GED	2,613	8.7	††	9.8	7.0 ***	14.4	††
High school diploma/GED	2,895	14.7	11.6 ***	16.1	10.6 ***	20.4	10.1 ***
Portland							
No high school diploma/GED	1,839	12.6	6.9 ***	13.4	9.2 ***	17.4	12.0 ***
High school diploma/GED	3,708	24.2	9.9 ***	25.7 ***	10.2 ***	31.6	9.8 ***
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>							
Alameda GAIN							
No high school diploma/GED	444	10.5	-5.2 **	10.1	-3.0	11.0	-0.4
High school diploma/GED	761	11.2	2.9	11.4	2.7	14.8	4.1

continued

**Table B.12 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Education-focused mixed activities (continued)</b>							
<b>Butte GAIN</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	517	8.8	4.4	11.8	3.4	13.7	3.9
High school diploma/GED	712	15.6	5.1	17.7	4.5	20.6	6.1
<b>Los Angeles GAIN</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	2,873	9.8	-1.6	9.9	-0.8	11.3	-0.3
High school diploma/GED	1,523	13.0	2.0	13.2	2.7	15.4	3.4 *
<b>San Diego GAIN</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	3,520	12.0	1.9	12.9	†	14.8	2.9
High school diploma/GED	4,699	19.0	5.2 ***	19.3	5.9 ***	23.4	5.7 ***
<b>Tulare GAIN</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	1,224	12.8	-1.5	13.1	-0.4	14.2	1.1
High school diploma/GED	1,010	19.3	1.7	20.7	2.3	24.4	3.7
<b>Education first</b>							
<b>Atlanta HCD</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	1,488	15.9	-1.2	16.8	-0.6	19.7	1.9
High school diploma/GED	2,393	29.0	0.9	31.2	1.3	35.6	4.2 **
<b>Grand Rapids HCD</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	1,204	13.0	0.6	15.8	2.0	19.8	3.4
High school diploma/GED	1,793	26.7	5.4 **	32.2	3.3	37.8	3.3
<b>Riverside HCD</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	2,423	10.1	2.2 *	10.7	2.7 **	13.8	2.5 *
High school diploma/GED	712	15.1	0.5	15.3	1.9	19.0	2.2
<b>Columbus Integrated</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	1,951	21.4	4.3 **	24.8	4.4 **	29.1	5.6 ***
High school diploma/GED	2,721	37.0	1.2	38.1	3.0	42.8	3.8 **

continued

**Table B.12 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact
		Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group
<b>Education first (continued)</b>							
Columbus Traditional							
No high school diploma/GED	1,967	21.4	3.2 *	24.7	3.0	29.1	2.7
High school diploma/GED	2,762	37.0	1.9	38.1	2.6	42.8	3.2 *
Detroit							
No high school diploma/GED	1,897	11.5	0.8	15.2	0.8	19.6	1.3
High school diploma/GED	2,562	19.4	1.0	22.9	1.7	28.9	3.1 *
Oklahoma City							
No high school diploma/GED	2,569	9.0	1.3	12.2	1.3	14.9	1.7 ††
High school diploma/GED	3,292	17.3	-1.0	22.1	-2.6 *	25.9	-3.0 **
<b>Earnings Supplements</b>							
SSP - British Columbia							
No high school diploma/GED	1,015	5.4	5.9 ***	7.3 ††	10.5 ***	9.3	9.3 ***
High school diploma/GED	4,904	16.2	2.6 **	19.1	5.9 ***	20.3	7.0 ***
SSP - New Brunswick							
No high school diploma/GED	1,146	10.6	4.9 **	11.2	7.8 ***	11.6	9.0 ***
High school diploma/GED	1,278	20.4	8.9 ***	23.0	11.2 ***	25.0	11.5 ***
MFIP Full Services							
No high school diploma/GED	1,278	23.5	2.5	26.5	2.2	29.9	2.5
High school diploma/GED	3,860	38.3	6.9 ***	40.5	6.6 ***	45.3	6.8 ***
MFIP Incentives Only							
No high school diploma/GED	977	23.3	-5.6 **	26.3	-6.4 **	29.6	-7.3 **
High school diploma/GED	2,867	38.3	-0.8	40.5	-2.3	45.4	-2.6
WRP Full Services							
No high school diploma/GED	1,922	28.6	2.2	30.7	1.2	34.5	2.4
High school diploma/GED	8,048	39.4	1.9	40.7	2.3 *	45.2	2.1

continued



**Table B.12 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Earnings Supplements (Continued)</b>							
WRP Incentives Only							
No high school diploma/GED	928	28.7	-2.1	30.8	-2.0	34.5	-1.0
High school diploma/GED	4,072	39.4	0.8	40.7	0.8	45.2	-0.1
Jobs First							
No high school diploma/GED	2,041	23.2	5.8 ***	24.5	7.2 ***	29.3	6.9 ***
High school diploma/GED	4,458	40.8	5.0 ***	41.9	5.2 ***	46.3	5.1 ***
FTP					††		†
No high school diploma/GED	1,076	18.0	4.2 *	22.0	1.4	25.9	2.4
High school diploma/GED	1,739	32.8	7.8 ***	33.7	8.8 ***	38.6	9.2 ***

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent. n/a = not applicable because sample sizes were too small to reliably calculate impacts.

Table B.13

Impacts on Stable Employment by Welfare Status Prior to Random Assignment by Program

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)			Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)			Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)		
		Control Group		Impact	Control Group		Impact	Control Group		Impact
<b>Job search first</b>										
SWIM										
Long Term Recipient	2,202	13.6	5.4 ***	14.9	5.6 ***	17.7	5.3 ***			
Short Term Recipient	648	20.8	6.5 *	21.2	5.2	24.5	4.7			
New Applicant	360	17.8	6.6	19.1	10.1 **	23.8	8.0 *			
Atlanta LFA										
Long Term Recipient	2,495	17.9	4.1 **	19.3	4.9 ***	22.8	6.1 ***			
Short Term Recipient	1,288	36.2	-0.6	38.4	-0.6	42.8	-0.9			
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
Grand Rapids LFA										
Long Term Recipient	1,791	23.1	8.4 ***	28.0	7.1 ***	33.2	6.9 ***			
Short Term Recipient	1,219	97.2	5.5 **	97.4	5.0 *	98.3	3.2			
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
Riverside LFA										
Long Term Recipient	3,510	12.2	6.0 ***	12.7	6.6 ***	15.6	6.0 ***			
Short Term Recipient	3,101	19.1	2.8 *	19.9	3.0 **	24.7	0.9			
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>										
Riverside GAIN										
Long Term Recipient	2,661	9.4	10.9 ***	10.6	10.8 ***	15.2	9.5 ***			
Short Term Recipient	1,979	12.2	8.2 ***	12.8	8.4 ***	17.8	6.2 ***			
New Applicant	868	18.4	6.7 **	21.3	4.5	24.3	3.2			
Portland										
Long Term Recipient	3,423	17.0	8.8 ***	18.0	10.2 ***	22.7	12.3 ***			
Short Term Recipient	1,999	25.0	10.4 ***	26.8	11.0 ***	32.7	9.3 ***			
New Applicant	63	39.2	-14.1	43.3 *	-20.7 *	51.3	-25.7 **			

continued

**Table B.13 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8		Employed in 9 of 12		Employed in 6 of 8	
		Subsequent Quarters (%)		Quarters (%)		Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>							
<b>Alameda GAIN</b>							
Long Term Recipient	1,205	10.9	-0.1	10.9	0.5	13.4	2.3
Short Term Recipient	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Butte GAIN</b>							
Long Term Recipient	558	9.5	6.9 **	10.4	8.4 **	12.3	10.5 ***
Short Term Recipient	285	9.3	7.6 *	11.0	6.5	15.8	4.8
New Applicant	386	20.3	-0.7	25.6	-4.5	27.0	-2.7
<b>Los Angeles GAIN</b>							
Long Term Recipient	4,396	10.9	-0.4	11.1	0.5	12.7	1.0
Short Term Recipient	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>San Diego GAIN</b>							
Long Term Recipient	3,948	13.4	4.3 ***	13.4	5.4 ***	16.7	5.3 ***
Short Term Recipient	3,079	17.6	3.2 *	18.9	2.4	21.4	3.9 *
New Applicant	1,192	21.1	3.3	21.1	4.3	26.1	2.7
<b>Tulare GAIN</b>							
Long Term Recipient	1,397	13.3	0.2	14.0	0.9	15.5	2.9
Short Term Recipient	691	19.4	0.8	20.4	1.6	24.5	1.0
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

continued

**Table B.13 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)		
		Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact	
		Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	
<b>Education first</b>								
<b>Atlanta HCD</b>								
Long Term Recipient	2,543	17.9	0.4 †	19.4	0.9	22.9	4.1 **	
Short Term Recipient	1,275	36.2	-1.0	38.4	-0.6	42.8	1.4	
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
<b>Grand Rapids HCD</b>								
Long Term Recipient	1,775	26.4	2.2	31.3	1.1	36.7	2.2	
Short Term Recipient	1,215	97.1	5.7 **	97.2	5.4 **	97.3	5.2 *	
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
<b>Riverside HCD</b>								
Long Term Recipient	1,841	8.1	3.2 **	8.4	3.8 ***	10.6	5.3 *** †††	
Short Term Recipient	1,238	15.6	-0.3	16.6	0.6	20.7	-1.1	
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
<b>Columbus Integrated</b>								
Long Term Recipient	3,392	27.4	3.6 **	29.7	5.2 ***	33.9	6.5 *** †	
Short Term Recipient	806	41.2	-2.6	42.1	-2.8	46.4	-1.8	
New Applicant	448	34.6	2.1	36.8	1.7	44.4	0.0	
<b>Columbus Traditional</b>								
Long Term Recipient	3,415	27.4	3.7 **	29.7	3.9 **	33.9	4.4 ***	
Short Term Recipient	793	41.3	-2.2	42.1	-1.9	46.4	-0.1	
New Applicant	497	34.7	0.3	36.9	1.7	44.4	-2.5	
<b>Detroit</b>								
Long Term Recipient	3,313	15.8	1.2	19.0	1.7	24.0	2.8 *	
Short Term Recipient	1,015	15.9	1.4	21.2	1.2	27.7	1.6	
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
<b>Oklahoma City</b>								
Long Term Recipient	1,419	14.2	1.8	18.5	-0.3	20.7	0.5	
Short Term Recipient	1,858	16.1	-1.6	20.1	-0.7	23.9	-1.3	
New Applicant	2,530	11.5	0.2	15.5	-1.3	19.1	-1.6	

continued

**Table B.13 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8			Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)			Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)					
		Subsequent Quarters (%)		Impact	Quarters (%)		Impact	Quarters (%)		Impact			
		Control	Group		Control	Group		Control	Group				
<b>Earnings Supplements</b>													
SSP - British Columbia													
Long Term Recipient	1,804	11.4	13.7	2.3	††	13.7	††	6.0	††	15.4	††	5.1	***
Short Term Recipient	733	13.5	13.1	7.5	***	13.1	***	14.6	***	14.9	***	14.2	***
New Applicant	3,382	16.1	19.6	3.0	**	19.6	***	5.5	***	20.7	***	7.3	***
SSP - New Brunswick													
Long Term Recipient	1,967	15.5	17.3	7.6	***	17.3	***	10.4	***	18.5	***	11.2	***
Short Term Recipient	457	17.3	18.6	3.4	n/a	18.6	n/a	5.3	n/a	19.8	n/a	5.4	n/a
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
MFIP Full Services													
Long Term Recipient	2,202	28.6	31.2	9.6	***	31.2	***	8.5	***	37.2	***	6.8	***
Short Term Recipient	959	37.7	39.4	1.9	n/a	39.4	n/a	1.8	n/a	42.3	n/a	3.1	n/a
New Applicant	1,835	40.5	43.0	3.3	n/a	43.0	n/a	4.1	*	46.7	n/a	5.5	**
MFIP Incentives Only													
Long Term Recipient	1,869	28.8	31.3	1.4	n/a	31.3	n/a	-0.2	n/a	37.1	n/a	-1.7	n/a
Short Term Recipient	730	37.7	39.3	-5.5	n/a	39.3	n/a	-7.1	*	42.2	n/a	-7.2	*
New Applicant	1,136	40.9	43.3	-3.8	n/a	43.3	n/a	-2.9	n/a	47.0	n/a	-3.1	n/a
WRP Full Services													
Long Term Recipient	3,407	28.5	30.4	-0.8	n/a	30.4	n/a	-0.5	n/a	35.5	n/a	0.6	n/a
Short Term Recipient	1,369	28.1	31.4	6.1	**	31.4	**	4.6	n/a	36.7	n/a	3.5	n/a
New Applicant	5,194	45.5	46.3	2.6	*	46.3	*	3.0	*	50.0	n/a	2.7	*
WRP Incentives Only													
Long Term Recipient	1,708	28.5	30.4	-0.9	n/a	30.4	n/a	-0.8	n/a	35.5	n/a	-0.8	n/a
Short Term Recipient	693	28.1	31.4	2.2	n/a	31.4	n/a	1.2	n/a	36.6	n/a	-0.2	n/a
New Applicant	2,599	45.5	46.3	0.8	n/a	46.3	n/a	0.9	n/a	50.0	n/a	0.3	n/a

continued

**Table B.13 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact
		Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group
<b>Earnings Supplements (Continued)</b>							
Jobs First			†††		†††		†††
Long Term Recipient	3,258	32.2	7.1 ***	33.9	7.6 ***	38.4	7.3 ***
Short Term Recipient	1,398	34.0	10.8 ***	34.9	12.2 ***	40.3	11.2 ***
New Applicant	1,323	43.5	-3.7	44.3	-4.6 *	48.6	-3.8
FTP			††		†		††
Long Term Recipient	1,444	24.7	6.3 ***	26.5	7.3 ***	32.1	7.5 ***
Short Term Recipient	956	29.6	7.9 ***	32.2	5.2 *	35.8	7.1 **
New Applicant	334	37.7	-6.6	38.3	-5.4	41.9	-7.2

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

n/a = not applicable because sample sizes were too small to reliably calculate impacts.

Sample members were classified as new applicants if they responded on the BIF that they had never received welfare in the past. Sample members were classified as short term recipients if they had received welfare before on their own case or their spouses' case but had received it for a total of less than two years. They were classified as long term recipients if they had received welfare for two years or more prior to random assignment.

**Table B.14**

**Impacts on Stable Employment  
by Race and Ethnicity by Program**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
		Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact
		Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group
<b>SWIM</b>							
White	877	5.5	7.6 ***	5.9	7.7 ***	7.1	6.4 **
Black	1,361	5.1	3.9 *	5.6	2.9	6.5	3.1
Hispanic	814	5.0	6.6 **	5.0	9.0 ***	6.1	8.5 ***
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>GAIN Evaluation Programs</b>							
Alameda							
White	216	4.3	-3.3	4.3	-3.3	6.7	-4.0
Black	844	3.6	1.8	3.6	2.2	4.0	3.7
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Butte							
White	1,061	4.2	5.1 *	5.0	4.1	5.9	4.9 *
Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Los Angeles							
White	512	4.5	-2.7	4.6	-0.9	5.6	0.2
Black	1,987	4.0	-0.2	3.9	1.1	4.3	1.7
Hispanic	1,408	3.0	0.3	3.3	-0.1	4.0	-0.4
Other	489	2.2	3.2	2.0	4.7 *	2.4	6.2 **
Riverside							
White	2,847	3.2	10.6 ***	3.8	10.4 ***	5.6	7.9 ***
Black	862	4.4	9.9 ***	4.2	10.8 ***	5.1	11.2 ***
Hispanic	1,510	5.5	6.8 ***	5.7	6.8 ***	7.2	4.5 *
Other	289	3.8	0.9	4.9	-3.2	5.1	0.0

(continued)

**Table B.14 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8				Employed in 9 of 12				Employed in 6 of 8				
	Subsequent Quarters (%)		Quarters (%)		Quarters (%)		Quarters (%)		Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)		Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)		
	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	
San Diego	Sample Size	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
White	3,478	5.2	5.4 ***	5.6	5.5 ***	6.8	6.0 ***	6.8	6.0 ***	6.8	6.0 ***	6.8	6.0 ***
Black	1,865	5.9	2.3	5.6	3.5	6.6	3.5	6.6	3.5	6.6	3.5	6.6	3.5
Hispanic	2,094	5.8	0.6	6.0	1.4	7.1	1.6	7.1	1.6	7.1	1.6	7.1	1.6
Other	782	3.9	6.9 **	3.9	6.6 *	4.9	6.1	4.9	6.1	4.9	6.1	4.9	6.1
Tulare	1,165	5.7	-2.0	6.4	-2.3	7.6	-2.0	7.6	-2.0	7.6	-2.0	7.6	-2.0
White	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Black	871	5.6	1.3	5.4	3.7	5.8	6.6 **	5.8	6.6 **	5.8	6.6 **	5.8	6.6 **
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>NEWS Evaluation Programs</b>													
Atlanta LFA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
White	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Black	3,624	8.2	2.1	8.8	2.6 *	10.0	3.4 **	10.0	3.4 **	10.0	3.4 **	10.0	3.4 **
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Atlanta HCD	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
White	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Black	3,669	8.2	-0.4	8.8	0.2	10.0	2.9 *	10.0	2.9 *	10.0	2.9 *	10.0	2.9 *
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Grand Rapids LFA	1,470	8.1	4.6 **	9.6	3.9	11.6	2.3	11.6	2.3	11.6	2.3	11.6	2.3
White	1,214	6.1	9.7 ***	7.8	8.4 ***	9.1	8.0 ***	9.1	8.0 ***	9.1	8.0 ***	9.1	8.0 ***
Black	244	5.1	9.3 *	5.9	9.2 *	7.3	8.9	7.3	8.9	7.3	8.9	7.3	8.9
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

(continued)



**Table B.14 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8				Employed in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)				Employed in 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)			
	Sample Size	Subsequent Quarters (%)		Impact	Control Group	Quarters (%)		Impact	Control Group	Quarters (%)		Impact
		Control Group	Impact			Control Group	Impact			Control Group	Impact	
<b>Grand Rapids HCD</b>												
White	1,515	8.1	1.5		9.6	1.2		11.6	0.1	††		
Black	1,158	6.1	5.4	**	7.8	2.9		9.1	4.8	*		
Hispanic	249	5.1	9.9	**	6.0	13.5	**	7.4	16.9	***		
Other	70	8.3	-9.5		8.2	-6.0		8.8	-1.2			
<b>Riverside LFA</b>												
White	3,464	5.0	3.0	**	5.1	4.0	††	6.4	2.4	*		
Black	1,121	5.7	2.4		6.0	0.8		7.6	-1.2			
Hispanic	1,858	5.5	8.3	***	5.8	9.0	***	7.0	7.9	***		
Other	255	4.3	0.6		4.3	2.1		5.2	4.2			
<b>Riverside HCD</b>												
White	1,208	3.4	0.0		3.1	2.2	†	4.0	1.4	††		
Black	510	4.9	-2.5		5.4	-3.8		7.2	-4.9			
Hispanic	1,240	3.8	5.1	***	4.3	5.6	***	5.3	6.6	***		
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a			
<b>Columbus Integrated</b>												
White	2,161	8.4	2.9		9.3	2.6		11.1	3.1			
Black	2,414	11.9	2.1		12.3	4.3	**	13.7	5.5	***		
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a			
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a			
<b>Columbus Traditional</b>												
White	2,204	8.4	1.7		9.3	0.8		11.1	1.2			
Black	2,431	11.9	3.1		12.3	4.4	**	13.7	4.2	**		
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a			
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a			

(continued)

**Table B.14 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8		Employed in 9 of 12		Employed in 6 of 8	
	Subsequent Quarters (%)		Quarters (%)		Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)	
	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
Detroit						
White	481	4.2	4.3	8.6	6.3	6.7 *
Black	3,836	5.5	6.8	0.7	8.5	2.2
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Oklahoma City						
White	4,095	3.7	5.0	-1.5	6.1	-1.6
Black	1,996	6.6	8.2	1.6	9.2	1.2
Hispanic	298	3.4	4.1	1.8	5.9	-0.9
Other	478	4.3	5.6	-2.4	6.5	-2.0
Portland						
White	3,795	6.4	6.6	11.8	8.4	12.5 ***
Black	1,099	7.6	8.4	6.5	10.1	7.0 **
Hispanic	226	7.0	8.3	5.9	9.6	8.9
Other	335	9.2	9.2	5.2	10.0	8.6
<b>SSP</b>						
British Columbia						
White	4,275	7.7	7.6	7.6	8.8	9.9 ***
Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	1,312	5.3	5.5	4.9	6.6	6.9 ***
New Brunswick						
White	2,135	6.8	7.1	12.9	8.8	11.5 ***
Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	245	8.9	8.9	-2.2	10.3	0.3

(continued)

**Table B.14 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8				Employed in 9 of 12				Employed in 6 of 8			
	Subsequent Quarters (%)		Quarters (%)		Quarters (%)		Quarters (%)		Quarters (%)		Quarters (%)	
	Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact
<b>Vermont</b>												
Full Service												
White	6,661	9.7	2.5	*	10.2	2.6	**	11.9	2.7	**	n/a	n/a
Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Incentives Only												
White	3,319	9.7	0.0		10.2	0.1		11.9	-0.2		n/a	n/a
Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>MFIP</b>												
Full Service												
White	4,622	13.6	4.4	††	13.9	5.2	†	15.7	4.8	***	n/a	n/a
Black	1,877	9.4	8.6	***	10.4	7.9	***	11.8	7.9	***	n/a	n/a
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	666	8.0	-3.3		8.8	-2.1		10.1	-1.3		n/a	n/a
Incentives Only												
White	3,286	13.4	-0.1		13.7	1.2		15.6	0.1		n/a	n/a
Black	1,676	9.4	2.5		10.3	1.4		11.7	0.4		n/a	n/a
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	526	7.9	-4.5		8.8	-5.4		10.1	-4.5		n/a	n/a
<b>Connecticut</b>												
White	2,327	12.2	8.4	***	12.2	8.9	***	14.0	7.7	***	n/a	n/a
Black	2,237	12.7	4.5	**	13.5	4.0	*	14.9	4.9	**	n/a	n/a
Hispanic	1,386	9.0	3.4		9.4	5.0	**	10.8	5.1	**	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

(continued)

**Table B.14 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Employed in Year 1 and 6 of 8		Employed in 9 of 12		Employed in 6 of 8		
	Subsequent Quarters (%)		Quarters (%)		Quarters in Years 2 and 3 (%)		
	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	
<b>FTP</b>							
White	1,234	7.8 **	5.8 **	8.0 **	6.0 **	9.4 ***	7.8 ***
Black	1,410	10.8 **	5.7 **	11.7 **	5.5 **	13.4 **	5.3 **
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

n/a = not applicable because sample sizes were too small to reliably calculate impacts.

## Appendix C

### Additional Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits

Chapter 4 described results by program by level of disadvantage, as represented by welfare status, work history, and high school credential. It also showed pooled results for several other subgroups. This appendix presents pooled results for a wider range of other subgroups defined based on demographic characteristics or psychosocial characteristics, and it presents results by program for several additional subgroups.

Tables C.1, C.3, C.5, C.6, and C.8 show pooled impacts for the five program models discussed in Chapters 1 and 2 (job search first, employment focused with a mix of initial activities, education focused with a mix of initial activities, education first, and earnings supplements). Each table shows results for several subgroups defined from administrative records or baseline demographic information. These subgroups include welfare history (long-term and short-term welfare recipients, and welfare applicants), earnings in the year prior to random assignment, high school credential, number of children, and age of youngest child.

Tables C.2, C.4, C.7, and C.9 show additional pooled impacts for the four program models for subgroups defined based on the opinion surveys collected at the time of random assignment. (None of the education-focused mixed activity programs had private opinion data.) These subgroups include preference for work, work-related parental concerns, mastery, risk of depression, health or emotional problems, child care problems, and transportation problems. Appendix A of Michalopoulos and Schwartz (2001) describes how these subgroups were defined.

Tables C.10 through C.14 show results by program for several subgroups, including by level of disadvantage (Table C.10), by earnings in the year prior to random assignment (Table C.11), by high school credential (Table C.12), by welfare status (Table C.13), and by race and ethnicity (Table C.14).

**Table C.1**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits**  
**Pooled Across Job-Search-First Welfare-to-Work Programs**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)	
		Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact
		Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group
Full sample	16,781	21.7	5.5 ***	14.0	3.3 ***	38.5	5.6 ***
Total earnings in past 12 months							
No earnings	9,832	18.5	5.5 ***	15.1	3.8 ***	34.2	5.9 ***
\$5,000 or less	4,604	21.8	5.1 ***	12.3	3.1 ***	39.7	6.9 ***
More than \$5,000	2,345	34.8	6.4 ***	12.8	1.8	55.1	2.3
Welfare history <sup>a</sup>							
Long-term recipient	9,998	15.1	6.0 ***	11.3	3.0 ***	31.4	6.1 ***
Short-term recipient	6,256	30.9	4.6 ***	17.9	3.2 ***	49.0	5.4 ***
New applicant	440	35.0	13.6 **	22.7	6.0	58.9	-0.6
Education credential receipt							
No high school diploma/GED	6,506	17.0	5.4 ***	13.5	3.3 ***	32.1	5.1 ***
High school diploma/GED	10,275	24.6	5.6 ***	14.4	3.3 ***	42.6	5.9 ***
Number of children							
Three or more	4,240	16.2	5.7 ***	12.3	2.7 ***	30.7	4.7 ***
Two	5,390	20.6	5.1 ***	12.9	3.4 ***	38.7	4.8 ***
One	7,150	25.8	5.6 ***	15.9	3.5 ***	43.3	6.4 ***
Age of youngest child							
Under 6	7,735	17.8	5.4 ***	12.0	3.0 ***	34.8	5.6 ***
6 or older	8,956	25.0	5.6 ***	15.7	3.5 ***	41.6	6.0 ***
Gender							
Female	15,465	20.6	5.8 ***	13.2	3.4 ***	38.0	5.3 ***
Male	1,266	35.8	0.8	25.2	0.5	46.4	8.8 ***

(continued)

### Table C.1 (Continued)

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members were classified as new applicants if they had never received welfare in the past. Sample members were classified as short term recipients if they had received welfare before on their own case or their spouses' case but had received it for a total of less than two years. They were classified as long term recipients if they had received welfare for two years or more prior to random assignment.

**Table C.2**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits**  
**Pooled Across Job-Search-First Welfare-to-Work Programs with a POS**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)	
		Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact
		Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group
Preference for work							
Low	3,646	20.2	6.8 ***	14.0	2.7 **	39.5	4.9 ***
Moderate	3,725	19.3	7.0 ***	11.4	5.7 ***	37.1	7.3 ***
High	1,158	19.7	5.5 **	11.8	3.1	37.9	6.9 **
Work-Related Parental Concerns scale							
High	2,002	15.5	7.8 ***	13.4	3.3 **	31.0	7.9 ***
Low	6,887	21.2	6.1 ***	12.5	3.8 ***	40.8	5.4 ***
Mastery scale							
Low	3,252	16.9	5.9 ***	12.4	2.9 **	34.7	3.5 *
High	5,637	21.9	6.6 ***	13.1	3.9 ***	41.1	6.8 ***
Risk of depression							
High	1,221	21.2	8.1 ***	13.2	6.4 ***	40.5	6.6 **
Moderate	2,108	18.3	6.6 ***	12.5	4.5 ***	36.5	6.9 ***
Low	5,572	20.3	6.1 ***	12.8	2.8 ***	38.9	5.3 ***
<b><u>Barriers to work or participation</u></b>							
Health or emotional problem <sup>a</sup>							
Yes	2,369	16.7	7.7 ***	13.5	5.1 ***	34.1	4.0 *
No	6,503	20.9	6.1 ***	12.4	3.1 ***	40.2	6.5 ***
Cannot afford/arrange for child care							
Yes	5,586	18.3	6.0 ***	12.5	3.6 ***	36.1	5.9 ***
No	3,157	22.6	7.7 ***	13.2	4.2 ***	43.1	5.9 ***
Transportation problem							
Yes	3,107	15.2	8.0 ***	12.8	4.6 ***	31.5	6.1 ***
No	5,717	22.0	6.2 ***	12.5	3.4 ***	42.0	6.4 ***

(continued)



**Table C.2 (Continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members in the "yes" category on this measure could have had a health or emotional problem themselves at random assignment or one of their family members could have had such a problem.

**Table C.3**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits**  
**Pooled Across Employment-Focused Mixed-Activity Welfare-to-Work Programs**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)			Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)			Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)		
		Control	Group	Impact	Control	Group	Impact	Control	Group	Impact
Full sample	11,055	26.8	7.0 ***	18.5	1.2	43.8	8.0 ***			
Total earnings in past 12 months										
No earnings	6,545	23.5	7.3 ***	20.8	0.8	39.4	9.7 ***			
\$5,000 or less	3,082	29.2	4.7 **	15.4	2.0	48.8	4.5 **			
More than \$5,000	1,428	36.7	10.8 ***	14.9	0.7	54.2	7.4 **			
Welfare history <sup>a</sup>										
Long-term recipient	6,084	21.5	5.3 ***	15.4	0.8	37.9	8.6 ***			
Short-term recipient	3,978	30.1	10.4 ***	19.6	2.2	49.9	7.3 ***			
New applicant	931	50.8	-1.5	26.7	8.8 *	60.9	2.9			
Education credential receipt										
No high school diploma/GED	4,452	24.0	5.5 ***	21.1	0.6	40.2	5.9 ***			
High school diploma/GED	6,603	29.0	7.5 ***	17.1	1.1	46.3	9.2 ***			
Number of children										
Three or more	2,843	21.9	6.0 ***	17.6	0.4	38.0	7.9 ***			
Two	3,623	25.1	7.7 ***	16.5	1.7	42.2	9.6 ***			
One	4,524	31.2	6.9 ***	20.4	1.4	48.9	6.8 ***			
Age of youngest child										
Under 6	4,623	22.1	8.0 ***	14.3	2.3	41.6	8.4 ***			
6 or older	6,295	29.3	7.3 ***	20.9	1.1	46.6	6.3 ***			
Gender										
Female	9,915	25.1	7.6 ***	17.0	2.0 **	42.7	8.6 ***			
Male	1,033	40.3	4.1	29.6	-2.6	54.7	2.2			

(continued)

### Table C.3 (Continued)

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members were classified as new applicants if they had never received welfare in the past. Sample members were classified as short term recipients if they had received welfare before on their own case or their spouses' case but had received it for a total of less than two years. They were classified as long term recipients if they had received welfare for two years or more prior to random assignment.

**Table C.4**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits**  
**Pooled Across Employment-Focused Mixed-Activity Welfare-to-Work Programs with a POS**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)			Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)			Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)		
		Control		Impact	Control		Impact	Control		Impact
		Group	Group		Group	Group				
<b>Work-Related Parental Concerns scale</b>										
High	1,423	19.3	16.8	9.4 ***	0.1	16.8	36.8	13.8 ***		
Low	3,486	26.7	13.1	9.3 ***	2.1	46.5	9.9 ***			
<b>Mastery scale</b>										
Low	1,719	22.1	15.5	7.8 ***	0.0	41.3	10.2 ***			
High	3,193	25.5	13.2	10.8 ***	2.4 *	44.5	12.1 ***			
<b>Risk of depression</b>										
High	775	26.7	16.1	3.9	0.5	46.1	5.4			
Moderate	1,174	28.0	15.3	4.4	-1.2	48.8	4.4			
Low	2,946	22.5	13.2	13.0 ***	2.8 **	41.2	14.7 ***			
<b>Barriers to work or participation</b>										
<b>Health or emotional problem<sup>a</sup></b>										
Yes	1,385	23.2	17.2	5.0 **	-1.1	41.0	8.8 ***			
No	3,517	25.2	12.8	11.2 ***	2.9 **	44.7	11.8 ***			
<b>Cannot afford/arrange for child care</b>										
Yes	3,371	22.4	13.8	8.7 ***	1.9	40.6	12.2 ***			
No	1,475	30.0	14.8	11.0 ***	1.2	51.0	8.6 ***			
<b>Transportation problem</b>										
Yes	1,428	23.1	15.6	1.3	†	42.1	4.2			
No	3,447	25.5	13.8	12.7 ***	2.6 **	44.5	13.9 ***			

(continued)

**Table C.4 (Continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members in the "yes" category on this measure could have had a health or emotional problem themselves at random assignment or one of their family members could have had such a problem.

**Table C.5**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits**  
**Pooled Across Education-Focused Mixed-Activity Welfare-to-Work Programs**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)	
		Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact
		Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group
Full sample	17,283	19.7	1.5 *	12.8	1.7 **	33.6	2.5 ***
Total earnings in past 12 months							
No earnings	10,911	17.0	1.0	13.5	1.5	29.4	2.9 **
\$5,000 or less	4,047	21.3	1.4	11.5	2.3 *	37.9	2.3
More than \$5,000	2,325	30.3	3.1	11.4	1.5	47.1	0.5
Welfare history <sup>a</sup>							
Long-term recipient	11,504	14.0	1.3	9.5	1.5 *	27.1	2.3 *
Short-term recipient	4,055	27.6	1.0	17.8	1.2	43.3	3.3
New applicant	1,724	37.6	6.1 *	22.2	5.4 *	51.5	9.5 **
Education credential receipt							
No high school diploma/GED	8,578	15.5	2.0 *	11.5	2.9 ***	28.4	1.8
High school diploma/GED	8,705	23.6	1.3	13.6	1.0	38.4	3.8 ***
Number of children							
Three or more	4,379	14.2	0.0	11.1	0.0	25.7	0.0
Two	5,463	17.0	2.5 *	10.1	3.0 ***	29.3	5.3 ***
One	7,266	24.8	2.0	15.5	2.1 *	41.5	2.3
Age of youngest child							
Under 6	2,360	18.4	-1.6	12.7	††	30.9	0.7
6 or older	14,748	20.0	1.9 **	12.7	2.3 ***	34.0	2.8 ***
Gender							
Female	14,987	19.3	1.3	12.5	1.4 *	32.8	2.8 ***
Male	2,228	22.8	2.5	14.4	4.0 **	38.6	1.5

(continued)

**Table C.5 (continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members were classified as new applicants if they had never received welfare in the past. Sample members were classified as short term recipients if they had received welfare before on their own case or their spouses' case but had received it for a total of less than two years. They were classified as long term recipients if they had received welfare for two years or more prior to random assignment.

**Table C.6**  
**Impacts on Three Measures of Stable Welfare Exits**  
**Pooled Across Education-First Welfare-to-Work Programs**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)			Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)			Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)		
		Control	Impact	Control	Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact
		Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group
Full sample	32,194	25.3	2.2 ***	16.1	1.9 ***	40.9	3.3 ***			
Total earnings in past 12 months										
No earnings	17,102	22.9	1.4 **	18.9	1.8 ***	36.3	3.2 ***			
\$5,000 or less	10,487	24.9	2.8 ***	13.6	2.0 ***	42.6	3.8 ***			
More than \$5,000	4,605	35.0	4.0 ***	10.7	3.0 ***	55.1	2.4			
Welfare history <sup>a</sup>										
Long-term recipient	17,613	16.6	2.6 ***	10.3	1.7 ***	33.4	4.6 ***	†		
Short-term recipient	9,606	31.1	2.1 **	18.1	2.5 ***	49.3	2.3 *			
New applicant	4,713	42.6	5.9	32.2	3.0	58.9	-4.5			
Education credential receipt										
No high school diploma/GED	13,838	21.0	2.6 ***	16.7	1.6 ***	35.4	3.4 ***			
High school diploma/GED	18,356	28.4	2.1 ***	15.6	2.3 ***	45.1	3.3 ***			
Number of children										
Three or more	7,856	19.6	2.3 **	12.8	2.5 ***	33.3	3.8 ***			
Two	10,277	25.0	1.7 *	15.6	1.4 **	40.1	4.7 ***			
One	14,061	28.8	2.4 ***	18.2	2.1 ***	45.9	2.2 **			
Age of youngest child										
Under 6	18,207	22.9	††	16.0	††	37.2	2.5 ***			
6 or older	13,748	28.2	1.4 **	16.0	1.1 **	45.7	4.4 ***			
Gender										
Female	29,981	24.2	2.2 ***	15.3	2.2 ***	40.0	3.5 ***			
Male	1,995	40.7	2.1	25.6	-0.7	55.2	0.0			

(continued)



**Table C.6 (continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members were classified as new applicants if they had never received welfare in the past. Sample members were classified as short term recipients if they had received welfare before on their own case or their spouses' case but had received it for a total of less than two years. They were classified as long term recipients if they had received welfare for two years or more prior to random assignment.

**Table C.7**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits**  
**Pooled Across Education-First Welfare-to-Work Programs with a POS**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)			Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)			Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)				
		Control Group		Impact	Control Group		Impact	Control Group		Impact		
Preference for work												
Low	3,181	19.7	19.7	1.7	13.1	13.1	-0.4 †	39.5	39.5	2.6		
Moderate	3,292	18.9	18.9	2.0	10.5	10.5	2.8 **	37.0	37.0	3.5 *		
High	1,037	19.4	19.4	4.1	10.7	10.7	4.7 *	38.6	38.6	2.0		
Work-Related Parental Concerns scale												
High	1,801	15.3	15.3	1.6	12.6	12.6	1.1	31.2	31.2	4.3 *		
Low	6,045	20.6	20.6	1.9	11.4	11.4	1.9 *	40.4	40.4	2.5 *		
Mastery scale												
Low	3,055	16.7	16.7	1.4	11.8	11.8	0.9	34.7	34.7	2.6		
High	4,793	21.3	21.3	2.1	11.8	11.8	2.0 *	40.8	40.8	3.3 **		
Risk of depression												
High	1,109	21.1	21.1	-0.7	12.6	12.6	1.2	40.8	40.8	1.8		
Moderate	1,955	17.8	17.8	4.1 **	11.5	11.5	2.8 *	36.3	36.3	5.3 **		
Low	4,808	19.7	19.7	1.9	11.5	11.5	1.9 *	38.7	38.7	2.0		
<b><u>Barriers to work or participation</u></b>												
Health or emotional problem <sup>a</sup>												
Yes	2,158	16.6	16.6	1.0	13.0	13.0	1.5	34.2	34.2	-0.6 †		
No	5,690	20.4	20.4	2.0 *	11.2	11.2	1.5	40.0	40.0	3.9 ***		
Cannot afford/arrange for child care												
Yes	4,909	17.8	17.8	1.7	11.6	11.6	1.9 *	35.9	35.9	2.7 *		
No	2,801	22.3	22.3	2.0	12.1	12.1	1.1	43.2	43.2	2.3		
Transportation problem												
Yes	2,802	14.8	14.8	4.0 ***	12.0	12.0	3.5 ***	31.2	31.2	4.7 **		
No	4,981	21.6	21.6	1.1	11.4	11.4	0.8	42.0	42.0	2.6 *		

(continued)

**Table C.7 (Continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members in the "yes" category on this measure could have had a health or emotional problem themselves at random assignment or one of their family members could have had such a problem.

**Table C.8**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits**  
**Pooled Across Programs with Earnings Supplements**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)			Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)			Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)			
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
Full sample	35,107	29.3	-4.2 ***	14.2	-1.3 ***	41.0	0.9				
Total earnings in past 12 months											
No earnings	17,915	23.2	-3.0 ***	18.0	-2.2 ***	35.8	1.3				
\$5,000 or less	9,971	25.2	-2.7 ***	10.4	-0.8	40.5	2.5 **				
More than \$5,000	7,221	47.6	-5.5 ***	10.5	-0.6	56.8	-1.0				
Welfare history <sup>a</sup>											
Long-term recipient	15,768	19.2	-2.5 *** ††	9.6	-0.5	32.9	0.6				
Short-term recipient	6,529	31.7	-4.3 ***	16.0	-1.9 **	47.4	-1.5				
New applicant	11,971	39.8	-5.8 ***	17.8	-1.0	50.1	1.5				
Education credential receipt											
No high school diploma/GED	9,305	20.9	-2.4 *** ††	14.4	-0.8	31.4	0.5				
High school diploma/GED	25,802	32.1	-4.6 ***	14.1	-1.4 ***	44.8	1.0				
Number of children											
Three or more	6,409	24.6	-5.0 ***	13.5	-1.7 *	35.6	1.2				
Two	12,860	28.7	-3.6 ***	13.4	-0.4	41.8	-0.1				
One	15,582	31.2	-4.2 ***	14.9	-1.8 ***	42.6	1.4				
Age of youngest child											
Under 6	17,542	26.5	-4.3 ***	13.7	-1.6 ***	38.9	0.8				
6 or older	11,836	31.0	-3.9 ***	13.9	-0.7	42.7	1.7				
Gender											
Female	32,099	27.8	-4.1 ***	13.4	-1.2 ***	40.1	0.9				
Male	2,474	44.3	-4.0 *	22.2	-2.1	53.8	1.1				

(continued)

**Table C.8 (continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members were classified as new applicants if they had never received welfare in the past. Sample members were classified as short term recipients if they had received welfare before on their own case or their spouses' case but had received it for a total of less than two years. They were classified as long term recipients if they had received welfare for two years or more prior to random assignment.

**Table C.9**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits**  
**Pooled Across Programs with Earnings Supplements with a POS**  
**by Selected Characteristics at the Time of Random Assignment**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)			Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Subsequent Quarters (%)			Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)				
		Control		Impact	Control		Impact	Control		Impact		
		Group	Group		Group	Group		Group	Group			
Preference for work												
Low	5,109	24.8	24.8	-4.0 ***	12.1	12.1	-1.4	40.5	40.5	-3.9 **		
Moderate	6,003	31.3	31.3	-6.0 ***	13.9	13.9	-1.1	44.4	44.4	-2.6 *		
High	2,598	43.3	43.3	-8.1 ***	15.7	15.7	0.9	54.6	54.6	-6.3 **		
Work-Related Parental Concerns scale												
High	3,119	22.9	22.9	-3.0 *	15.8	15.8	-2.1	36.0	36.0	-2.1		
Low	10,840	33.1	33.1	-6.0 ***	13.0	13.0	-0.6	46.8	46.8	-3.8 ***		
Mastery scale												
Low	7,300	20.7	20.7	-1.6	10.2	10.2	0.7	32.5	32.5	-0.8		
High	11,668	28.1	28.1	-2.3 ***	12.3	12.3	-0.9	41.4	41.4	0.1		
Risk of depression												
High	510	7.5	7.5	10.0 ***	6.0	6.0	0.2	18.3	18.3	7.1 *		
Moderate	933	7.3	7.3	5.2 ***	5.0	5.0	0.0	15.6	15.6	9.3 ***		
Low	3,506	10.8	10.8	8.1 ***	5.3	5.3	1.6 *	23.3	23.3	9.6 ***		
<b><u>Barriers to work or participation</u></b>												
Health or emotional problem <sup>a</sup>												
Yes	3,613	26.8	26.8	-4.7 ***	15.5	15.5	-1.0	41.2	41.2	-3.0		
No	10,248	32.4	32.4	-5.7 ***	13.0	13.0	-0.8	45.6	45.6	-3.3 ***		
Cannot afford/arrange for child care												
Yes	5,085	26.2	26.2	-4.9 ***	14.8	14.8	-1.9 *	40.6	40.6	-4.0 **		
No	8,753	33.9	33.9	-6.0 ***	13.0	13.0	-0.3	47.1	47.1	-3.3 **		
Transportation problem												
Yes	5,015	22.3	22.3	†	15.1	15.1	-2.0 *	37.6	37.6	-4.1 ***		
No	8,827	35.4	35.4	-6.3 ***	12.7	12.7	-0.2	48.3	48.3	-2.9 **		

(continued)

**Table C.9 (Continued)**

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

<sup>a</sup>Sample members in the "yes" category on this measure could have had a health or emotional problem themselves at random assignment or one of their family members could have had such a problem.

**Table C.10**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits by Level of Disadvantage by Program**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off Welfare in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)			Off Welfare in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2-3 (%)			Off Welfare 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)		
		Control Group		Impact	Control Group		Impact	Control Group		Impact
<b>Job search first</b>										
<b>SWIM</b>										
Most disadvantaged	745	13.3	4.4	4.4	14.3	4.1	31.8	5.2	8.8	4.5
Moderately disadvantaged	2,113	24.5	5.8 ***	2.7	25.2	6.5 ***	43.7	8.8 ***	8.8	4.5
Least disadvantaged	352	45.2	2.7	2.7	46.9	3.4	64.2	4.5	4.5	4.5
<b>Atlanta LFA</b>										
Most disadvantaged	826	6.4	2.7	2.7	6.9	2.2	19.0	5.2	3.8	2.8
Moderately disadvantaged	2,402	14.4	3.9 ***	3.3	15.5	3.7 **	35.0	3.8 *	3.8	2.8
Least disadvantaged	565	31.1	3.3	3.3	33.0	4.6	57.7	2.8	2.8	2.8
<b>Grand Rapids LFA</b>										
Most disadvantaged	456	4.9	10.1 ***	7.7 *	4.9	12.2 ***	22.8	9.3 **	9.3	4.7
Moderately disadvantaged	2,124	16.6	7.3 ***	7.7 *	18.7	7.9 ***	40.0	3.9 *	3.9	4.7
Least disadvantaged	432	29.8	7.7 *	7.7 *	32.1	5.9	55.7	4.7	4.7	4.7
<b>Riverside LFA</b>										
Most disadvantaged	1,084	15.6	10.0 ***	7.0 **	16.8	10.3 ***	32.9	8.4 ***	8.4	6.0
Moderately disadvantaged	4,374	26.2	4.2 ***	7.0 **	27.1	4.8 ***	44.9	5.4 ***	5.4	6.0
Least disadvantaged	1,221	36.2	7.0 **	7.0 **	38.2	6.9 **	56.5	6.0 **	6.0	6.0
<b>Employment-focused mixed activities</b>										
<b>Riverside GAIN</b>										
Most disadvantaged	974	21.9	1.5	6.8 ***	21.9	2.6	41.9	1.4	7.3	1.9
Moderately disadvantaged	3,739	28.4	6.8 ***	5.1	29.4	7.3 ***	47.3	7.3 ***	7.3	1.9
Least disadvantaged	795	39.0	5.1	5.1	40.9	5.5	60.6	1.9	1.9	1.9
<b>Portland</b>										
Most disadvantaged	880	15.1	3.0	3.0	17.6	1.4	35.3	4.8	4.8	4.8
Moderately disadvantaged	3,800	24.0	9.7 ***	8.6 **	25.8	10.3 ***	45.9	12.5 ***	12.5	4.1
Least disadvantaged	805	40.3	8.6 **	8.6 **	42.0 ***	11.8 ***	67.2	-4.1	-4.1	-4.1

continued



**Table C.10 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off Welfare in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Impact	Off Welfare in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2-3 (%)		Impact	Off Welfare 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)		Impact	
		Control Group	Impact		Control Group	Impact		Control Group	Impact		
<b>Education-focused mixed activities</b>											
<b>Alameda GAIN</b>											
Most disadvantaged	1,205	10.1	0.7		10.1	1.5		25.2	-0.8		
Moderately disadvantaged	839	10.6	2.8		10.6	3.5		27.2	0.0		
Least disadvantaged	n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a		
<b>Butte GAIN</b>											
Most disadvantaged	n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a		
Moderately disadvantaged	807	31.2	-1.7		31.8	-0.2		50.3	0.6		
Least disadvantaged	243	36.0	-0.2		36.0	1.3		62.0	-0.3		
<b>Los Angeles GAIN</b>											
Most disadvantaged	4,396	10.9	2.6	**	11.3	2.4	**	25.4	2.3		
Moderately disadvantaged	2,074	11.2	3.6	**	11.8	3.3	**	26.5	3.8		
Least disadvantaged	n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a		
<b>San Diego GAIN</b>											
Most disadvantaged	1,331	12.5	2.4		12.5	2.6		23.0	4.2		
Moderately disadvantaged	5,405	24.8	0.9		25.8	0.7		41.6	4.9		
Least disadvantaged	1,483	31.2	7.1	**	34.0	5.4		53.6	5.1		
<b>Tulare GAIN</b>											
Most disadvantaged	554	12.4	-0.7		12.4	-0.5		26.5	-0.2		
Moderately disadvantaged	1,423	18.8	0.7		19.4	1.7		37.0	-0.4		
Least disadvantaged	257	41.7	-7.2		46.6	-10.3		54.7	2.4		

continued

**Table C.10 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off Welfare in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)			Off Welfare in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2-3 (%)			Off Welfare 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)		
		Control	Group	Impact	Control	Group	Impact	Control	Group	Impact
<b>Education first</b>										
Atlanta HCD										
Most disadvantaged	857	6.4	0.9	0.9	6.9	0.2	19.0	0.3		
Moderately disadvantaged	2,410	14.4	1.8	1.8	15.5	1.8	35.0	3.8 *		
Least disadvantaged	563	31.1	2.2	2.2	32.9	1.4	57.7	2.2		
Grand Rapids HCD										
Most disadvantaged	450	4.9	7.0 ***	7.0 ***	4.9	7.8 ***	22.8	6.6		
Moderately disadvantaged	2,077	16.5	3.1 *	3.1 *	18.6	2.8	40.0	4.5 **		
Least disadvantaged	466	30.0	1.4	1.4	32.3	1.1	55.8	2.1		
Riverside HCD										
Most disadvantaged	1,094	15.6	2.4	2.4	16.7	2.3	32.9	5.5 *		
Moderately disadvantaged	1,865	26.6	2.1	2.1	28.1	2.0	43.9	4.9 **		
Least disadvantaged	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		
Columbus Integrated										
Most disadvantaged	899	14.7	4.1 *	4.1 *	14.9	5.4 **	36.4	7.1 **		
Moderately disadvantaged	3,134	23.6	4.2 ***	4.2 ***	25.0	4.0 **	47.2	4.1 **		
Least disadvantaged	613	37.4	5.4	5.4	38.5	6.0	65.5	7.5 **		
Columbus Traditional										
Most disadvantaged	888	14.7	0.9	0.9	15.0	0.8	36.4	4.7		
Moderately disadvantaged	3,222	23.8	2.8 *	2.8 *	25.2	2.9 *	47.5	3.2 *		
Least disadvantaged	595	37.4	11.2 ***	11.2 ***	38.6	11.0 ***	65.4	6.1		
Detroit										
Most disadvantaged	1,097	7.2	2.3	2.3	7.7	1.9	18.7	5.7 **		
Moderately disadvantaged	3,033	10.9	0.8	0.8	11.2	1.1	28.3	5.0 ***		
Least disadvantaged	324	18.0	5.3	5.3	18.7	7.6 *	47.4	-2.8		
Oklahoma City										
Most disadvantaged	354	34.5	1.0	1.0	33.9	4.0	52.9	0.5		
Moderately disadvantaged	4,797	38.6	1.7	1.7	40.4	1.8	56.5	2.1		
Least disadvantaged	1,684	43.9	3.7	3.7	45.1	3.6	62.3	4.8 **		

continued

**Table C.10 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off Welfare in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)			Off Welfare in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2-3 (%)			Off Welfare 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)		
		Control Group	Impact		Control Group	Impact		Control Group	Impact	
<b>Earnings Supplements</b>										
SSP - British Columbia										
Most disadvantaged	619	2.6	2.9 *	2.9	†	4.2 **	†	9.7	5.8 **	
Moderately disadvantaged	3,472	11.1	1.8	18.0		1.3		31.6	7.9 ***	
Least disadvantaged	1,652	23.8	-2.3	37.8		-2.8		49.0	9.6 ***	
SSP - New Brunswick										
Most disadvantaged	781	4.8	†††	5.1	†††	6.7 ***	†††	12.3	8.3 ***	
Moderately disadvantaged	1,539	13.1	15.6 ***	14.3		16.3 ***		30.0	16.3 ***	
Least disadvantaged	104	24.2	24.8 **	25.0		28.9 ***		44.1	19.6 *	
MFIP Full Services										
Most disadvantaged	530	15.3	†††	16.9	†††	-5.3 *	†††	27.4	-6.1 *	
Moderately disadvantaged	4,430	25.4	-6.6 ***	26.9		-6.8 ***		45.0	-8.5 ***	
Least disadvantaged	2,383	45.3	-12.9 ***	46.9		-13.4 ***		64.5	-10.1 ***	
MFIP Incentives Only										
Most disadvantaged	424	14.1	†	15.7	†	-6.9 **	†	26.1	-7.8 *	
Moderately disadvantaged	3,552	24.2	-7.2 ***	25.7		-7.5 ***		43.9	-10.0 ***	
Least disadvantaged	1,653	45.6	-13.3 ***	47.2		-13.8 ***		64.8	-13.1 ***	
WRP Full Services										
Most disadvantaged	414	12.2	-1.7	15.0		-4.5		32.8	-5.7	
Moderately disadvantaged	4,283	23.3	0.4	24.8		0.3		44.0	1.1	
Least disadvantaged	2,291	42.9	-1.8	44.5		-1.2		61.6	-2.4	
WRP Incentives Only										
Most disadvantaged	201	12.2	-2.6	15.1		-4.3		32.9	-7.2	
Moderately disadvantaged	2,136	23.4	-2.0	24.8		-2.3		44.0	0.4	
Least disadvantaged	1,152	42.9	-2.6	44.5		-2.8		61.5	-2.9	

continued

**Table C.10 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off Welfare in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Impact	Off Welfare in Year 1 and 6 of 8 Quarters in Years 2-3 (%)		Impact	Off Welfare 4 Consecutive Quarters (%)		Impact
		Control Group	Group		Control Group	Group		Control Group	Group	
<b>Earnings Supplements (Continued)</b>										
Jobs First				†						
Most disadvantaged	796	26.8		-3.8	27.0		-4.3	41.7		7.3 **
Moderately disadvantaged	3,940	37.8		-11.5 ***	39.1		-11.8 ***	55.6		4.5 ***
Least disadvantaged	1,212	55.1		-9.7 ***	58.2		-12.0 ***	68.8		2.8
FTP										
Most disadvantaged	436	19.1		3.5	21.5		3.8	41.1		4.0
Moderately disadvantaged	1,783	37.7		-2.6	40.3		-2.2	60.1		1.2
Least disadvantaged	515	62.6		-6.0	62.6		-4.1	76.6		3.7

SOURCE: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTE: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

n/a = not applicable because sample sizes were too small to reliably calculate impacts.

Individuals were classified as most disadvantaged if they had no earnings in the year prior to random assignment, did not have a high school diploma or GED at random assignment, and had received welfare continuously for two years prior to random assignment. Individuals were classified as least disadvantaged if they had none of these characteristics. All other sample members were classified as moderately disadvantaged.

Table C.11

Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits by Prior-Year Earnings by Program

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters in Years 1-3		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the next 8 Quarters		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>SWIM</b>							
No earnings	1,948	20.4	6.2 ***	16.9	3.9 **	32.6	7.2 ***
\$5,000 or less	768	25.2	5.9 *	18.3	0.0	37.1	10.1 ***
More than \$5,000	494	36.1	1.5	15.3	-2.2	43.0	-0.5
<b>GAIN Evaluation Programs</b>							
<b>Alameda</b>							
No earnings	915	9.3	-0.8	7.6	-0.7	21.6	-0.8
\$5,000 or less	226	15.0	3.5	8.0	1.8	29.2	-3.5
More than \$5,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Butte</b>							
No earnings	652	28.5	-1.8	22.3	0.9	37.7	-1.1
\$5,000 or less	379	25.9	7.1	10.3	9.8 **	45.5	0.6
More than \$5,000	198	44.2	-16.7 *	22.0	-13.6 *	36.2	2.8
<b>Los Angeles</b>							
No earnings	3,435	10.5	2.9 **	9.0	2.0 *	21.6	2.5 *
\$5,000 or less	720	12.6	-1.4	5.6	3.5 *	24.3	2.4
More than \$5,000	241	15.7	4.9	4.8	1.4	35.6	-9.6
<b>Riverside</b>							
No earnings	3,331	25.9	5.8 ***	25.0	1.6	37.7	4.4 **
\$5,000 or less	1,419	30.8	3.2	18.9	0.8	42.4	3.1
More than \$5,000	758	38.0	8.1 *	18.2	-0.2	40.3	12.5 ***

(continued)

**Table C.11 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters in Years 1-3			Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the next 8 Quarters			Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters		
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	
<b>GAIN Evaluation Programs (Continued)</b>										
San Diego										
No earnings	4,615	21.8	1.0	16.8	1.7	33.4	3.9	*		
\$5,000 or less	2,109	24.8	0.8	14.5	0.9	39.0	2.9			
More than \$5,000	1,495	30.6	6.7 **	11.7	3.4	41.9	5.5			
Tulare										
No earnings	1,294	17.1	-1.4	14.6	-0.3	26.3	2.0			
\$5,000 or less	613	18.3	2.7	10.6	0.8	32.2	2.4			
More than \$5,000	327	35.1	-5.1	12.4	-2.8	48.5	-8.5			
<b>NEWWS Evaluation Programs</b>										
Atlanta LFA										
No earnings	2,353	11.0	3.7 ***	7.9	1.4	25.9	4.2	**		
\$5,000 or less	1,120	18.7	3.4	5.9	2.1	37.5	2.0			
More than \$5,000	360	31.3	5.2	7.0	0.4	52.9	4.7			
Atlanta HCD										
No earnings	2,398	11.0	2.3 *	7.9	-0.3	25.9	2.7			
\$5,000 or less	1,115	18.6	0.9	5.9	2.7 *	37.5	3.5			
More than \$5,000	368	31.3	2.0	7.0	-1.0	53.0	-1.6			
Grand Rapids LFA										
No earnings	1,527	14.6	7.8 ***	8.8	6.4 ***	32.7	4.5	*		
\$5,000 or less	1,119	15.5	7.2 ***	7.4	3.0 *	36.3	3.0			
More than \$5,000	366	29.2	9.6 *	7.7	4.7	56.4	-7.7			
Grand Rapids HCD										
No earnings	1,489	14.6	2.7	8.7	5.7 ***	32.6	5.0	**		
\$5,000 or less	1,121	15.5	4.7 **	7.4	1.3	36.4	5.6	*		
More than \$5,000	387	29.3	3.2	7.7	0.5	56.3	-5.4			

(continued)

**Table C.11 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters in Years 1-3		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the next 8 Quarters		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>NEWS Evaluation Programs (Continued)</b>							
Riverside LFA							
No earnings	4,010	23.4	5.1 ***	21.0	4.0 ***	36.3	4.7 ***
\$5,000 or less	1,598	26.9	4.6 **	17.3	5.1 **	37.5	8.5 ***
More than \$5,000	1,118	36.6	9.0 ***	15.2	3.2	45.7	3.4
Riverside HCD							
No earnings	2,065	20.8	1.6	20.0	3.5 *	32.3	4.7 **
\$5,000 or less	687	24.2	1.7	17.0	4.6	34.6	6.0
More than \$5,000	383	34.4	7.3	11.9	8.4 **	44.5	-0.2
Columbus Integrated							
No earnings	2,143	20.7	1.8	13.4	0.6	38.9	6.2 ***
\$5,000 or less	1,563	21.8	7.4 ***	8.4	0.6	44.9	2.2
More than \$5,000	966	34.0	4.4	5.0	1.1	54.5	3.9
Columbus Traditional							
No earnings	2,160	20.7	3.1 †	13.4	0.4 †	38.9	6.6 ***
\$5,000 or less	1,593	21.8	2.0	8.4	-1.0	44.9	-1.2
More than \$5,000	976	34.0	7.6 **	5.0	2.9 *	54.5	4.7
Detroit							
No earnings	2,978	9.6	0.1	7.1	0.1	22.1	4.2 ***
\$5,000 or less	1,199	11.7	1.9	3.7	0.5	28.1	5.0 *
More than \$5,000	282	17.4	9.9 **	1.1	4.1 **	41.1	3.0
Oklahoma City							
No earnings	2,581	44.0	0.9 †††	42.5	1.9 †††	37.8	-3.8 **
\$5,000 or less	2,353	34.2	1.8	24.7	2.5	35.3	4.3 **
More than \$5,000	927	43.4	-1.5	19.5	6.6 **	36.1	-2.7

(continued)

**Table C.11 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters in Years 1-3		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the next 8 Quarters		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>NEWS Evaluation Programs (Continued)</b>							
Portland			†††		†††		†††
No earnings	3,214	20.0	10.6 ***	15.7	1.0	34.6	14.8 ***
\$5,000 or less	1,663	27.3	7.1 ***	12.1	3.8 **	44.7	6.7 ***
More than \$5,000	670	35.5	14.1 ***	11.5	1.6	50.6	-0.5
<b>SSP</b>							
British Columbia							
No earnings	3,262	9.2	1.1	12.1	-1.0	23.2	8.1 ***
\$5,000 or less	932	15.2	2.1	11.5	0.0	29.8	8.6 ***
More than \$5,000	1,091	24.9	-1.7	15.2	-2.4	32.9	10.0 ***
New Brunswick			†		†		†
No earnings	1,651	7.2	7.0 ***	7.4	1.9	18.0	8.4 ***
\$5,000 or less	595	16.8	21.0 ***	9.4	1.5	30.8	16.5 ***
More than \$5,000	178	26.3	36.4 ***	6.2	0.0	45.6	19.0 **
<b>MFIP</b>							
Full Services							
No earnings	2,874	25.5	-6.5 ***	19.4	-4.3 ***	33.5	-5.0 ***
\$5,000 or less	2,483	22.8	-4.8 ***	8.1	-0.5	33.5	-2.0
More than \$5,000	2,179	48.2	-15.7 ***	9.9	-2.4 **	44.0	-6.4 ***
Incentives Only							
No earnings	2,318	25.2	-11.0 ***	19.1	-7.2 ***	33.3	-7.2 ***
\$5,000 or less	1,942	22.7	-10.9 ***	8.1	-1.9	33.4	-9.9 ***
More than \$5,000	1,523	49.0	-13.4 ***	10.0	-1.4	44.3	-3.9

(continued)



**Table C.11 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters in Years 1-3		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the next 8 Quarters		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>WRP</b>							
Full Services							
No earnings	3,564	21.5	0.6	14.2	0.5	35.5	1.4
\$5,000 or less	2,103	26.7	-0.7	10.7	1.4	41.9	0.7
More than \$5,000	1,321	51.9	-1.3	11.3	-0.2	40.0	-0.9
Incentives Only							
No earnings	1,781	21.5	-0.2	14.2	2.0	35.5	0.3
\$5,000 or less	1,025	26.7	-1.6	10.7	1.5	41.9	-1.0
More than \$5,000	683	51.9	-6.8 *	11.3	0.2	40.0	1.4
<b>Jobs First</b>							
No earnings	3,136	37.2	†† -7.6 ***	29.7	†† -4.2 ***	33.2	†† 9.6 ***
\$5,000 or less	1,860	32.0	-9.0 ***	11.3	-1.9	36.0	12.9 ***
More than \$5,000	1,462	63.0	-15.5 ***	9.9	0.0	35.4	4.4 *
<b>FTP</b>							
No earnings	1,499	35.0	0.1	26.9	-0.1	42.3	0.7
\$5,000 or less	923	38.8	-8.1 **	19.2	-6.6 ***	40.2	4.8
More than \$5,000	393	57.7	4.8	13.4	0.6	39.7	6.0

**SOURCE:** MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

**NOTE:** A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent. An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent. n/a = not applicable because sample sizes were too small to reliably calculate impacts.

Table C.12

Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits by High School Credential by Program

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters in Years 1-3		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the next 8 Quarters		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>SWIM</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	1,408	19.7	3.6	15.6	2.1	31.8	6.3 **
High school diploma/GED	1,802	27.6	6.4 ***	18.0	2.0	38.1	6.9 ***
<b>GAIN Evaluation Programs</b>							
Alameda							
No high school diploma/GED	444	10.1	-3.5	7.3	1.1	22.0	-3.0
High school diploma/GED	761	10.1	3.2	7.3	-0.4	23.9	-0.2
Butte							
No high school diploma/GED	517	25.5	2.7	16.7	6.2	36.3	1.6
High school diploma/GED	712	33.3	-4.1	19.9	-2.2	42.6	-1.2
Los Angeles							
No high school diploma/GED	2,873	10.8	1.5	8.3	2.1 *	22.8	-0.2
High school diploma/GED	1,523	11.1	4.5 **	7.3	3.5 **	23.7	4.6 *
Riverside							
No high school diploma/GED	2,613	25.5	6.5 ***	22.9	3.1	37.6	2.5
High school diploma/GED	2,895	31.8	4.7 **	22.1	-0.5	41.0	7.5 ***
<b>GAIN Evaluation Programs (Continued)</b>							
San Diego							
No high school diploma/GED	3,520	18.7	2.8	13.5	3.6 **	30.2	3.1
High school diploma/GED	4,699	28.0	1.7	16.4	0.7	40.6	5.0 **
Tulare							
No high school diploma/GED	1,224	14.4	2.6	13.0	1.0	27.2	0.5
High school diploma/GED	1,010	26.8	-4.8	12.6	-0.8	35.4	1.4

(continued)

**Table C.12 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters in Years 1-3		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the next 8 Quarters		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>NEWS Evaluation Programs</b>							
Atlanta LFA							
No high school diploma/GED	1,454	10.4	2.4	7.3	-0.5	25.6	0.9
High school diploma/GED	2,379	17.9	4.7 ***	7.2	2.7 **	35.6	5.5 ***
Atlanta HCD							
No high school diploma/GED	1,488	10.5	1.1	7.3	0.1	25.6	0.2
High school diploma/GED	2,393	17.9	2.5	7.2	0.7	35.6	4.1 **
Grand Rapids LFA							
No high school diploma/GED	1,246	11.0	9.6 ***	8.6	5.8 ***	28.8	3.7
High school diploma/GED	1,766	20.8	6.5 ***	7.8	4.3 ***	42.6	1.6
Grand Rapids HCD							
No high school diploma/GED	1,204	10.9	5.1 ***	8.5	4.9 ***	28.8	4.7 *
High school diploma/GED	1,793	20.8	2.5	7.8	2.3 *	42.6	3.4
Riverside LFA							
No high school diploma/GED	2,398	22.6	6.2 ***	18.7	4.9 ***	32.8	5.3 ***
High school diploma/GED	4,328	28.6	5.3 ***	19.4	3.7 ***	41.0	5.4 ***
Riverside HCD							
No high school diploma/GED	2,423	22.6	3.0 *	18.7	3.7 **	32.9	6.0 ***
High school diploma/GED	712	24.6	1.4	17.2	6.1 **	38.5	-0.1
Columbus Integrated							
No high school diploma/GED	1,951	18.4	7.3 ***	10.8	0.3	38.3	5.2 **
High school diploma/GED	2,721	27.6	2.1	9.5	0.9	48.3	3.9 **
Columbus Traditional							
No high school diploma/GED	1,967	18.4	3.5 *	10.8	0.0	38.3	3.9 *
High school diploma/GED	2,762	27.6	3.8 **	9.5	0.6	48.3	3.4 *

(continued)

**Table C.12 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters in Years 1-3		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the next 8 Quarters		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>NEWWS Evaluation Programs (Continued)</b>							
Detroit							
No high school diploma/GED	1,897	8.9	0.8	6.0	0.3	19.5	3.9 **
High school diploma/GED	2,562	11.8	1.9	5.7	0.5	28.7	5.2 ***
Oklahoma City							
No high school diploma/GED	2,569	34.3	-1.3	32.8	-0.2	34.8	-2.0
High school diploma/GED	3,292	44.2	2.9 *	30.9	5.3 ***	37.8	0.8
Portland							
No high school diploma/GED	1,839	21.3	4.5 **	17.2	-1.8	36.6	7.0 ***
High school diploma/GED	3,708	27.0	10.3 ***	13.4	2.5 **	42.8	9.5 ***
<b>SSP</b>							
British Columbia							
No high school diploma/GED	1,015	4.2	4.8 ***	4.0	1.8	12.0	5.5 **
High school diploma/GED	4,270	15.6	0.0	14.5	-1.7 *	29.4	9.6 ***
New Brunswick							
No high school diploma/GED	1,146	7.1	8.5 ***	8.1	1.2	15.6	10.0 ***
High school diploma/GED	1,278	14.9	15.2 ***	7.5	2.0	30.3	11.4 ***
<b>MFIP</b>							
Full Services							
No high school diploma/GED	1,931	21.9	-6.6 ***	14.3	-2.7 *	29.3	-5.3 ***
High school diploma/GED	5,605	34.3	-9.1 ***	12.4	-2.3 ***	39.0	-4.0 ***
Incentives Only							
No high school diploma/GED	1,514	21.0	-7.1 ***	13.9	-2.9 *	29.0	-8.7 ***
High school diploma/GED	4,269	32.9	-9.7 ***	12.1	-2.2 **	38.6	-6.3 ***

(continued)

**Table C.12 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters in Years 1-3		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the next 8 Quarters		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>WRP</b>							
Full Services							
No high school diploma/GED	1,303	19.4	2.2	12.5	1.1	35.3	-0.6
High school diploma/GED	5,685	31.1	-0.8	12.6	0.5	38.9	1.1
Incentives Only							
No high school diploma/GED	623	19.6	-3.8	12.4	2.2	35.4	-3.6
High school diploma/GED	2,866	31.1	-1.5	12.7	1.3	38.9	0.8
<b>Jobs First</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	2,031	32.3	-8.2	20.5	-2.1	29.9	10.7
High school diploma/GED	4,427	46.0	-11.1	19.3	-2.1	36.6	8.8
<b>FTP</b>							
No high school diploma/GED	1,076	30.2	-0.1	22.9	1.1	36.5	1.8
High school diploma/GED	1,739	44.9	-2.7	22.5	-4.6	44.1	3.8

**SOURCE:** MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

**NOTE:** A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

Table C.13

Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits by Welfare Status Prior to Random Assignment by Program

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters in Years 1-3		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the next 8 Quarters		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>SWIM</b>							
Long Term Recipient	2,202	17.2	6.1 ***	12.7	3.1 **	31.2	6.6 ***
Short Term Recipient	648	37.7	4.5	27.0	-1.2	44.8	6.8 *
New Applicant	360	42.9	-1.4	25.3	0.5	43.7	5.9
<b>GAIN Evaluation Programs</b>							
Alameda							
Long Term Recipient	1,205	10.1	0.7	7.3	0.2	23.2	-1.3
Short Term Recipient	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Butte							
Long Term Recipient	558	20.7	-0.8	13.2	-0.4	34.9	-1.3
Short Term Recipient	285	27.0	-2.7	15.8	2.1	42.9	-0.1
New Applicant	386	45.9	-1.1	28.4	3.0	44.6	2.2
Los Angeles							
Long Term Recipient	4,396	10.9	2.6 **	8.0	2.6 ***	23.1	1.5
Short Term Recipient	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Riverside							
Long Term Recipient	2,661	24.7	3.0	19.3	0.6	35.1	4.6 *
Short Term Recipient	1,979	26.3	9.9 ***	20.7	3.5	40.7	5.7 **
New Applicant	868	46.2	4.7	35.3	-1.3	48.5	6.4

(continued)

**Table C.13 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters in Years 1-3		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the next 8 Quarters		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>GAIN Evaluation Programs (Continued)</b>							
San Diego							
Long Term Recipient	3,948	16.8	2.1	10.3	2.2	29.8	3.6 *
Short Term Recipient	3,079	28.5	0.3	18.7	0.7	40.5	3.4
New Applicant	1,192	34.9	8.8 **	20.5	6.2 *	45.5	8.9 **
Tulare							
Long Term Recipient	1,397	15.7	-2.4	11.6	-1.5	25.6	0.8
Short Term Recipient	691	26.0	2.3	15.3	2.1	41.3	-2.5
New Applicant	146	34.9	-2.8	18.6	-0.2	39.5	10.0
<b>NEWWS Evaluation Programs</b>							
Atlanta LFA							
Long Term Recipient	2,495	9.4	4.6 ***	10.3	1.5	23.9	3.9 **
Short Term Recipient	1,288	26.3	1.5	-0.7	1.4	46.8	2.5
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Atlanta HCD							
Long Term Recipient	2,543	26.2	1.8	5.6	0.9	24.0	2.5
Short Term Recipient	1,275	-0.9	1.7	10.4	-0.6	46.8	2.2
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Grand Rapids LFA							
Long Term Recipient	1,791	25.4	7.4 ***	11.9	4.0 ***	42.4	2.9
Short Term Recipient	1,219	46.0	7.8 ***	-3.2	6.2 ***	99.3	1.4
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Grand Rapids HCD							
Long Term Recipient	1,775	11.1	5.1 ***	9.9	3.9 ***	43.6	3.7
Short Term Recipient	1,215	25.2	1.0	-1.2	2.3	97.7	4.5
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

(continued)

**Table C.13 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters in Years 1-3		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the next 8 Quarters		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>NEWS Evaluation Programs (Continued)</b>							
Riverside LFA							
Long Term Recipient	3,510	19.8	6.2 ***	17.1	3.3 **	32.0	6.7 ***
Short Term Recipient	3,101	33.4	5.2 ***	21.3	5.0 ***	44.4	4.8 ***
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Riverside HCD							
Long Term Recipient	1,841	18.2	0.4	17.3	1.1	29.8	4.0 *
Short Term Recipient	1,238	30.0	5.6 **	20.0	8.3 ***	39.9	5.6 **
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Columbus Integrated							
Long Term Recipient	3,392	18.7	4.2 ***	8.6	0.0	38.9	4.5 ***
Short Term Recipient	806	35.8	5.5	12.1	4.5 *	59.3	1.2
New Applicant	448	39.9	3.0	16.9	-0.3	56.1	9.5 **
Columbus Traditional							
Long Term Recipient	3,415	18.7	2.4	8.6	-0.1	38.9	3.6 **
Short Term Recipient	793	35.7	5.6	12.0	3.4	59.2	-1.3
New Applicant	497	40.0	7.4 *	16.9	-1.8	56.5	9.7 **
Detroit							
Long Term Recipient	3,313	8.7	2.8 ††	4.2	1.9 **	22.5	6.5 ***
Short Term Recipient	1,015	15.4	-2.3	10.1	-3.7 **	32.6	-0.4
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Oklahoma City							
Long Term Recipient	1,419	31.4	2.1 †††	26.6	1.6 †††	35.0	6.3 **
Short Term Recipient	1,858	37.6	2.0	28.2	4.6 **	37.7	-0.7
New Applicant	2,530	46.0	0.1	36.9	2.8	36.8	-4.3 **

(continued)



**Table C.13 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters in Years 1-3		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the next 8 Quarters		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>NEWWS Evaluation Programs (Continued)</b>							
<b>Portland</b>							
Long Term Recipient	3,423	18.1	9.1 ***	12.2	1.5	34.4	12.6 ***
Short Term Recipient	1,999	33.3	11.9 ***	17.7	2.1	48.6	7.0 ***
New Applicant	63	50.3	-6.8	6.9	16.6 *	46.0	2.5
<b>SSP</b>							
<b>British Columbia</b>							
Long Term Recipient	1,804	5.8	5.1 ***	3.7	2.6 ***	15.0	6.8 ***
Short Term Recipient	733	14.6	1.0	7.4	-1.3	26.0	7.4 **
New Applicant	2,748	17.9	-1.5	18.7	-2.8 **	32.2	11.1 ***
<b>New Brunswick</b>							
Long Term Recipient	1,967	9.9	11.7 ***	6.2	1.7	20.8	11.8 ***
Short Term Recipient	457	17.2	12.9 ***	14.4	1.9	34.7	5.5
New Applicant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>MFIP</b>							
<b>Full Services</b>							
Long Term Recipient	3,048	18.2	-6.2 †††	9.3	-1.5 †††	32.2	-7.7 †††
Short Term Recipient	1,344	33.6	-10.4 ***	14.6	-3.5 *	43.6	-6.9 ***
New Applicant	2,951	43.6	-10.5 ***	15.9	-3.2 **	37.9	0.2
<b>Incentives Only</b>							
Long Term Recipient	2,587	17.7	-7.9 ††	9.1	-2.3 ††	31.6	-9.1 ††
Short Term Recipient	1,027	33.6	-14.0 ***	14.6	-3.3	43.6	-12.4 ***
New Applicant	2,015	44.5	-12.1 ***	16.1	-2.3	38.1	-2.3

(continued)

**Table C.13 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters in Years 1-3		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the next 8 Quarters		Off AFDC in 4 Consecutive Quarters	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>WRP</b>							
Full Services							
Long Term Recipient	2,650	16.8	-1.0	6.9	0.0	35.3	-0.3
Short Term Recipient	1,038	20.0	1.2	12.4	0.3	42.4	-2.3
New Applicant	3,300	41.3	0.1	17.3	1.1	39.3	2.6
Incentives Only							
Long Term Recipient	1,302	16.8	-0.4	6.8	1.1	35.3	-0.1
Short Term Recipient	530	20.0	1.1	12.5	3.0	42.2	-6.3
New Applicant	1,657	41.3	-3.7	17.3	1.1	39.4	2.3
<b>Jobs First</b>							
Long Term Recipient	3,234	31.8	-9.0	15.5	-1.4	32.7	9.4
Short Term Recipient	1,394	42.9	-11.8	21.9	-6.0	39.8	10.6
New Applicant	1,320	56.5	-10.7	22.8	0.4	35.8	10.5
<b>FTP</b>							
Long Term Recipient	1,444	26.6	-3.5	17.0	-2.1	39.5	1.5
Short Term Recipient	956	47.9	-1.2	25.4	-2.7	47.1	3.7
New Applicant	334	71.9	-2.4	35.9	-1.8	35.3	3.6

**SOURCE:** MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

**NOTE:** A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent. n/a = not applicable because sample sizes were too small to reliably calculate impacts.

Sample members were classified as new applicants if they responded on the BIF that they had never received welfare in the past. Sample members were classified as short term recipients if they had received welfare before on their own case or their spouses' case but had received it for a total of less than two years. They were classified as long term recipients if they had received welfare for two years or more prior to random assignment.

**Table C.14**  
**Impacts on Stable Welfare Exits by Race and Ethnicity by Program**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)			Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the Next 8 Quarters (%)			Off AFDC in Four Consecutive Quarters (%)		
		Control	Impact		Control	Impact		Control	Impact	
		Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group
<b>SWIM</b>										
White	877	10.2	9.5 ***	7.2	2.6	15.7	10.1 ***			
Black	1,361	6.9	4.6 **	5.0	3.2	12.2	6.6 **			
Hispanic	814	7.4	1.1	5.2	-1.0	11.7	6.2 *			
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
<b>GAIN Evaluation Programs</b>										
<b>Alameda</b>										
White	216	6.1	-5.9 ††	2.7	3.1	9.9	2.2			
Black	844	2.4	3.8 *	2.1	0.4	7.6	-3.7			
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
<b>Butte</b>										
White	1,061	10.4	-2.1	6.4	0.7	15.5	-2.2			
Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
<b>Los Angeles</b>										
White	512	4.6	6.5 †	2.2	6.7 **	9.7	6.7			
Black	1,987	2.7	4.8 ***	2.3	3.2 **	6.8	3.0			
Hispanic	1,408	4.8	-1.2	3.0	1.4	8.8	0.2			
Other	489	3.5	0.1	3.4	-1.2	8.5	-3.6			
<b>Riverside</b>										
White	2,847	10.1	6.8 ***	8.4	0.5	16.1	6.5 ***			
Black	862	8.7	3.9	6.6	-0.1	12.3	10.5 **			
Hispanic	1,510	8.4	4.4	5.1	2.9	13.5	1.8			
Other	289	13.8	3.4	12.4	5.7	14.2	2.9			

(continued)

**Table C.14 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the Next 8 Quarters (%)		Off AFDC in Four Consecutive Quarters (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>San Diego</b>							
White	3,478	10.4	0.2	6.7	-0.6	14.5	7.6 ***
Black	1,865	6.6	3.9	4.3	3.4	12.3	3.4
Hispanic	2,094	6.6	1.6	3.5	4.6 **	11.4	1.2
Other	782	4.2	8.3 **	3.5	4.0	10.2	2.6
<b>Tulare</b>							
White	1,165	7.6	-2.0	5.1	-1.1	12.4	2.2
Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hispanic	871	5.2	1.9	3.1	1.2	9.5	-1.8
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>NEWWS Evaluation Programs</b>							
<b>Atlanta LFA</b>							
White	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Black	3,624	5.0	3.3 ***	2.3	1.6 *	10.9	4.5 ***
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Atlanta HCD</b>							
White	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Black	3,669	5.0	2.0 *	2.3	0.8	10.9	2.8 *
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Grand Rapids LFA</b>							
White	1,470	7.3	7.5 ***	2.6	6.4 ***	15.5	4.8 *
Black	1,214	3.6	6.7 ***	2.6	2.5	9.6	3.3
Hispanic	244	4.8	13.4 ***	3.7	6.4	13.2	1.1
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

(continued)

**Table C.14 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the Next 8 Quarters (%)		Off AFDC in Four Consecutive Quarters (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>Grand Rapids HCD</b>							
White	1,515	7.3	2.0	2.7	3.1 **	15.5	4.7 *
Black	1,158	3.5	4.2 **	2.6	1.8	9.6	3.7
Hispanic	249	4.8	8.5 *	3.7	11.1 **	13.2	4.6
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Riverside LFA</b>							
White	3,464	9.6	5.3 ***	7.1	3.8 ***	15.2	6.9 ***
Black	1,121	7.2	8.1 ***	4.9	6.4 ***	12.9	1.3
Hispanic	1,858	8.0	4.7 **	5.5	3.7 **	11.9	7.8 ***
Other	255	11.6	-1.6	9.8	-0.5	14.8	3.6
<b>Riverside HCD</b>							
White	1,208	8.0	5.7 **	6.5	8.3 ***	13.8	4.6
Black	510	7.2	0.4	4.9	3.9	11.6	2.8
Hispanic	1,240	7.2	1.2	5.7	1.8	10.9	7.8 ***
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Columbus Integrated</b>							
White	2,161	9.4	5.0 **	4.2	2.3	17.0	6.7 ***
Black	2,414	6.6	3.4 **	2.6	-0.8	13.9	3.8 *
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Columbus Traditional</b>							
White	2,204	9.4	3.3 *	4.2	0.9	17.1	3.2
Black	2,431	6.6	3.6 **	2.6	-0.3	13.9	4.6 **
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

(continued)

**Table C.14 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the Next 8 Quarters (%)		Off AFDC in Four Consecutive Quarters (%)	
		Control	Impact	Control	Impact	Control	Impact
		Group	Group	Group	Group	Group	Group
Detroit							
White	481	4.4	2.1	2.7	2.8	10.7	11.6 ***
Black	3,836	3.4	1.5	1.8	0.4	8.1	4.2 ***
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Oklahoma City							
White	4,095	14.8	-0.2	11.6	2.9 *	18.2	-0.2
Black	1,996	10.6	3.2	8.2	1.5	14.2	6.1 **
Hispanic	298	14.0	9.4	12.4	5.5	18.2	1.7
Other	478	12.0	6.5	11.3	3.4	16.9	6.4
Portland							
White	3,795	8.6	9.8 ††	5.0	1.2	15.0	12.5 ***
Black	1,099	7.4	2.3	4.2	-0.1	13.4	2.4
Hispanic	226	7.4	14.9 **	3.3	8.3 *	17.4	5.8
Other	335	8.1	14.3 ***	5.0	5.4	12.9	16.3 **
<b>SSP</b>							
British Columbia							
White	3,762	4.7	1.0	3.7	-0.6	10.8	10.0 ***
Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	1,216	3.7	0.1	3.2	-1.9	8.6	6.9 ***
New Brunswick							
White	2,135	3.8	12.1 ***	3.4	0.7	7.9	11.8 ***
Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	245	4.1	7.5	-0.8	5.0	8.0	15.1 **

(continued)

**Table C.14 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)			Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the Next 8 Quarters (%)			Off AFDC in Four Consecutive Quarters (%)		
	Sample Size	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Control Group	Impact	
<b>Vermont</b>									
Full Service									
White	6,661	9.2	0.2	4.1	0.6	14.7	0.1		
Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		
Incentives Only									
White	3,319	9.2	-0.8	4.1	1.6	14.7	-0.7		
Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		
<b>MFIP</b>									
Full Service									
White	4,622	11.4	-10.1	3.6	-2.0	15.7	-7.9		
Black	1,877	9.0	-5.6	6.0	-3.1	13.2	-8.1		
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		
Other	666	7.3	-7.4	3.6	-2.9	11.6	-5.9		
Incentives Only									
White	3,286	11.3	-10.4	3.6	-2.4	15.6	-11.9		
Black	1,676	8.2	-8.3	5.6	-5.3	12.4	-9.3		
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		
Other	526	7.0	-1.9	3.4	4.5	11.4	-3.6		
<b>Connecticut</b>									
Full Service									
White	2,321	15.2	-13.2	6.9	-4.9	18.3	7.5		
Black	2,215	11.8	-8.4	4.8	0.2	13.3	6.6		
Hispanic	1,382	13.6	-9.8	8.1	-2.5	15.5	8.0		
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		

(continued)

**Table C.14 (continued)**

Program and Subgroup	Sample Size	Off AFDC in 9 of 12 Quarters (%)		Off AFDC in Year 1 and 6 of the Next 8 Quarters (%)		Off AFDC in Four Consecutive Quarters (%)	
		Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact	Control Group	Impact
<b>FTP</b>							
White	1,234	16.8	-3.8	10.2	-4.7	20.6	4.8
Black	1,410	9.7	0.1	5.0	-0.3	15.7	0.6
Hispanic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

SOURCES: MDRC calculations from unemployment insurance (UI) earnings records, AFDC records, and Baseline Information Forms.

NOTES: A two-tailed t-test was applied to differences between outcomes for the program and control groups. Statistical significance levels are indicated as: \* = 10 percent; \*\* = 5 percent; and \*\*\* = 1 percent.

An F-test was applied to differences among subgroups for each characteristic. Statistical significance levels are indicated as † = 10 percent; †† = 5 percent; and ††† = 1 percent.

n/a = not applicable because sample sizes were too small to reliably calculate impacts.



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