



WORK FIRST NJ

Quarterly Progress Update December 2006

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SERVICES**

Division of Family Development

**Jeanette Page-Hawkins
Director**



***Jon S. Corzine
Governor***



Work First New Jersey (WFNJ) Quarterly Progress Update

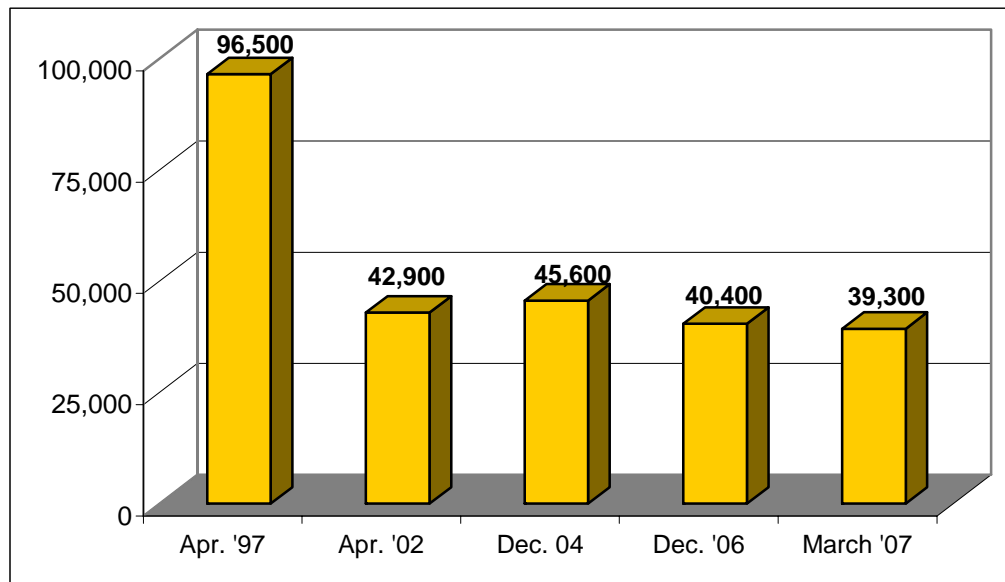
Quarter Ending December 2006

1. Work First NJ Caseload

• Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

The number of families receiving WFNJ/TANF totaled approximately 40,400 as of December 2006, a slight decline from the September 2006 caseload.

WFNJ TANF Caseload



Client Deferrals and Exemptions

A total of about 19,100 TANF cases were exempt or deferred from participating in a work activity:

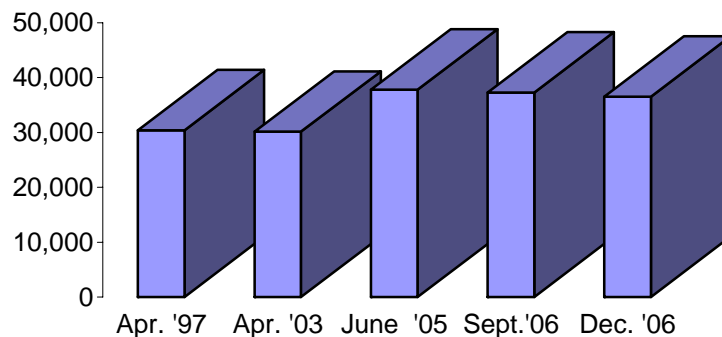
- ⇒ About 4,400 TANF cases were granted a temporary deferral from the requirement to participate in a work activity.
- ⇒ About 11,100 cases had no work requirement because they were designated as “child-only” cases.
- ⇒ An additional 3,600 cases were exempt from participating in a work activity.

Therefore, of the total TANF caseload of 40,400, about 21,300 cases (53 percent) were those with adults in the household who must comply with WFNJ work requirements.

General Assistance (GA)

As of December 2006, there were approximately 36,500 General Assistance (GA) cases, a slight decline from the September 2006 caseload.

WFNJ GA Caseload



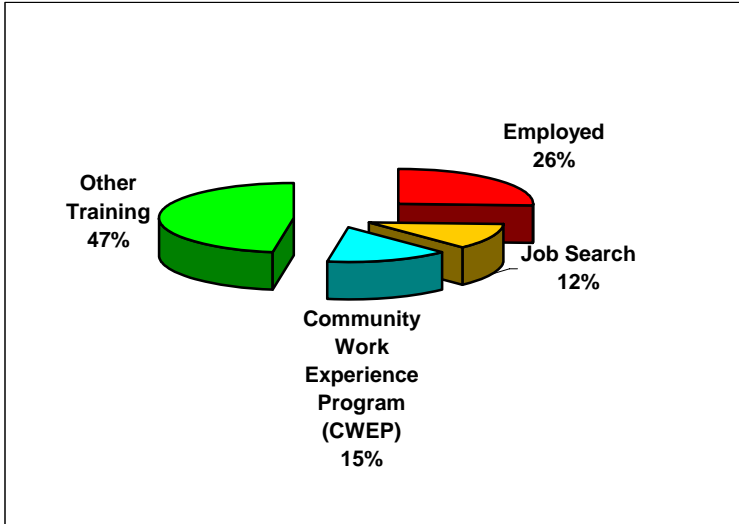
Teenaged Welfare Recipients

Of the TANF population of 40,400 in December 2006, about 1,500 (3.7%) were teenaged recipients, aged 18 and 19, who were heads of their households.

2. Employment & Work Preparation

•Participation of WFNJ TANF Clients in Employment-Directed Activities

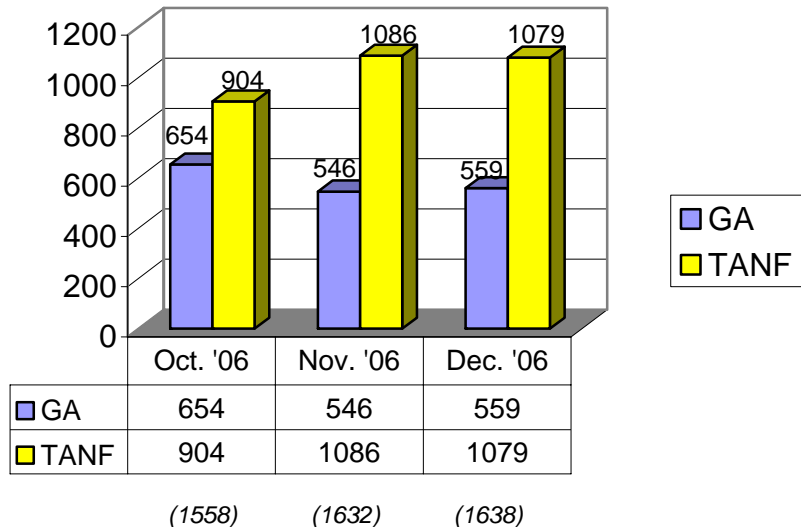
As of December 2006, TANF clients were engaged in approximately 16,000 work activities. About 4,100 (26 percent) of these individuals had begun working but were still receiving a partial cash assistance payment, due to lower levels of income.



Employed	4,127
Job Search	1,954
Community Work Experience Program (CWEP)	2,349
Other Training -Alternative Work Experience (AWE) -Occupational Training -Education -On the Job Training (OJT)	7,625
Total	16,055

•Cases Closed Due to Employment

During the quarter, a combined average of about 1,600 WFNJ TANF and GA clients left welfare for employment each month.



•Major Reasons for TANF Case Closings

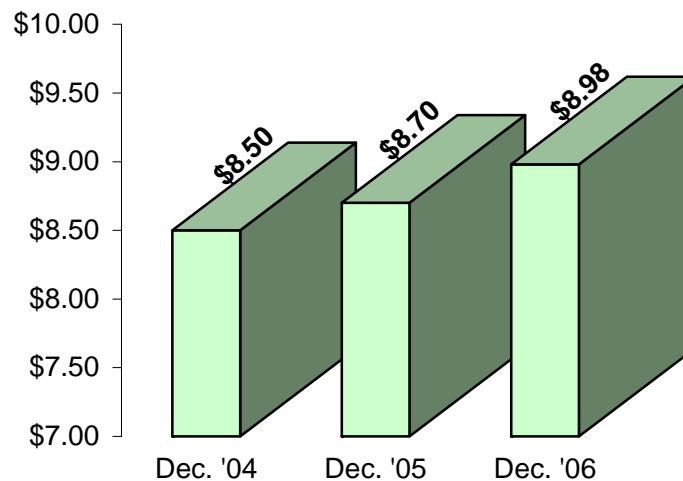
October to December 2006

	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Due to Employment	904	1,086	1,079	3,069
No Eligible Children	241	223	215	679
No Redetermination	388	427	403	1,218
Moved Out of State	153	114	116	383
All Other Closed (see details below)	1,342	1,370	1,435	4,147
<i>Unemployment Ins. Benefits</i>	106	106	101	313
<i>Recipient Withdrawal</i>	181	189	187	557
<i>Recipient Initiative</i>	72	60	66	198
<i>Moved to Another County</i>	57	70	76	203
<i>Unable to Verify Residence</i>	90	100	91	281
<i>Other Closed Cases</i>	836	845	914	2,595
Total Closed Cases	3,028	3,220	3,248	9,496

About 32 percent of all TANF cases closed during the quarter were closed due to employment.

•Earnings of Former TANF Recipients

During the fourth quarter of 2006, former WFNJ TANF recipients who were working were earning an average of \$8.98 per hour, an increase of 28 cents per hour over the average wage for the same quarter in 2005.



•Statewide Job Openings

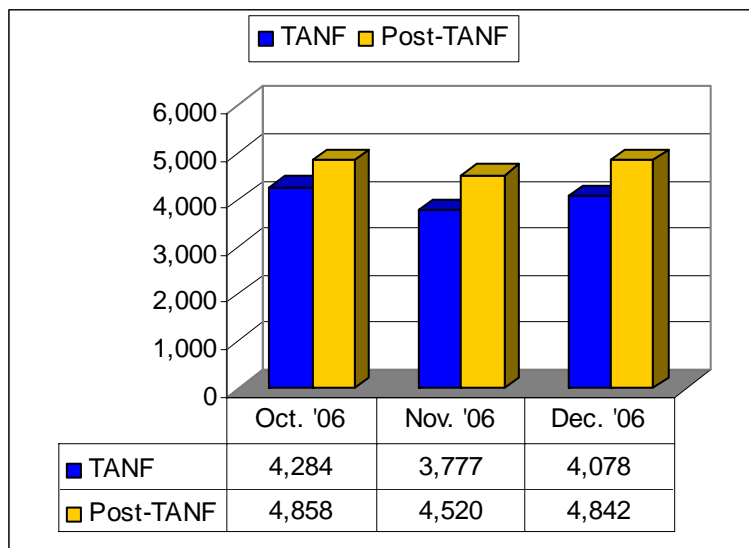
According to the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development, there were about 155,000 job openings statewide during the period of January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006. The majority of positions available were in the Professional, Scientific & Technical Services fields, followed by the Administration and Support, Waste Management and Remediation category and the Retail Trade fields.

LWD statewide job openings	
Occupation	Openings
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	32,347
Admin. & Support, Waste Mgt. & Remediation	24,407
Retail Trade	18,856
Transportation & Warehousing	12,649
Manufacturing	11,564
Public Administration	11,020
Accommodation & Food Services	9,829
Health Care & Social Assistance	8,760
Finance & Insurance	4,290
Other Services	4,122
Information	3,903
Construction	3,565
Wholesale Trade	3,378
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	2,548
Educational Services	1,380
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	675
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting	669
Management of Companies & Enterprises	380
Utilities	230
Mining	67
Total	154,369

3. Child Care

As of December 2006, about 4,100 WFNJ TANF clients were receiving child care benefits. Post-TANF child care benefits were issued to about 4,800 families who had become employed and were no longer receiving cash assistance.

**WFNJ TANF Cases Receiving
Child Care Benefits, Dec. 2006**



4. WFNJ Program Expenditures

The attached Appendix provides a summary of WFNJ program expenditures for the quarter.

**NOTE: ALL CHARTS AND GRAPHS HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED BY
THE DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT.**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING CHARTS AND GRAPHS
OR PROGRAM EXPENDITURES, PLEASE CONTACT
JEANETTE PAGE-HAWKINS, DIRECTOR, AT 609-588-2401.**

•Client Deferrals and Exemptions

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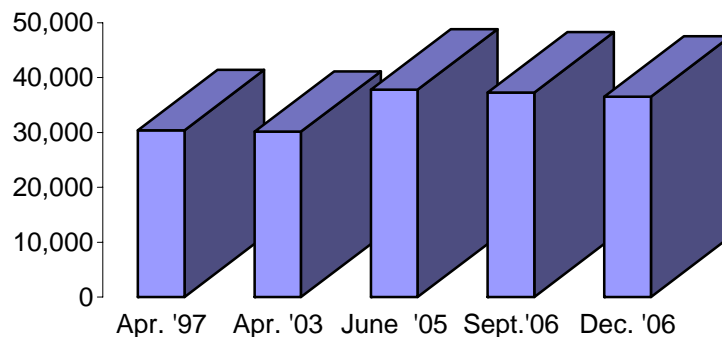
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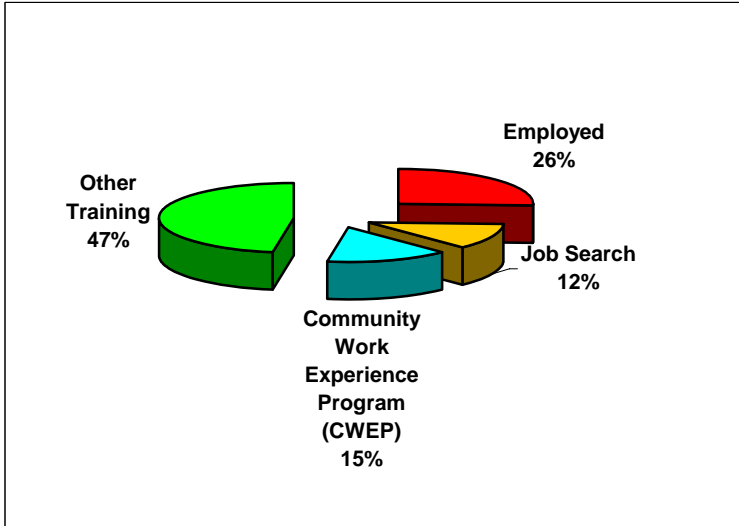
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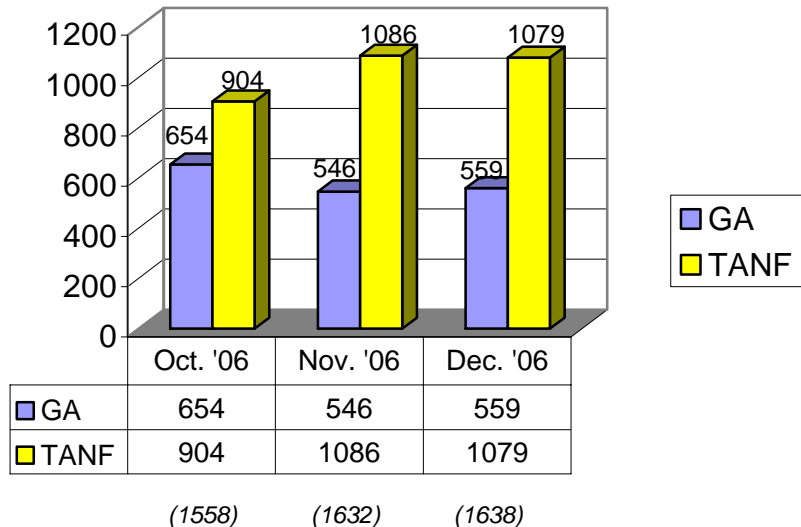
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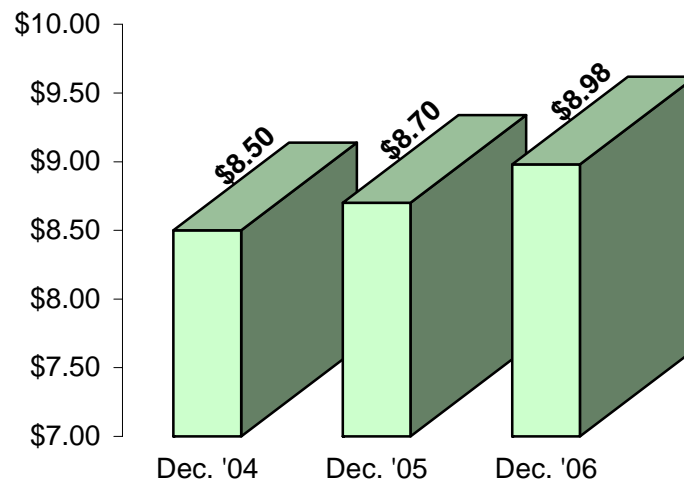
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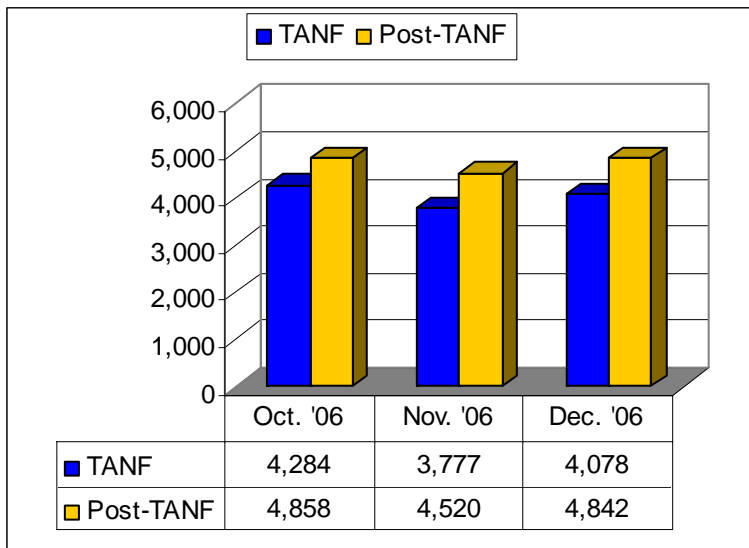
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**THE DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
WORK FIRST NEW JERSEY (WFNJ) EXPENDITURES
Quarter Ending December 31, 2006**

	Actual Dec 31, 2005	Actual Mar 31, 2006	Actual Jun 30, 2006	Actual Sep 30, 2006	Estimated Dec 31, 2006	TOTAL COSTS SFY 2005 7/04 - 6/05	TOTAL COSTS CY 2005 1/05 - 12/05	TOTAL COSTS SFY 2006 7/05 - 6/06	TOTAL COSTS CY 2006 1/06 - 12/06
(A) CASE MANAGEMENT									
TANF	\$8,100,367	\$6,963,905	\$8,175,947	\$7,208,842	\$7,612,265	\$30,855,542	\$30,826,434	\$31,001,416	\$29,960,960
Food Stamps/Able Bodied Adults W/O Dependents	\$3,031,581	\$2,437,019	\$2,874,980	\$2,764,140	\$2,776,930	\$9,660,109	\$10,677,138	\$11,228,862	\$10,853,068
GA	\$2,540,427	\$1,978,996	\$2,126,735	\$2,094,311	\$2,185,117	\$9,115,985	\$9,038,969	\$8,932,309	\$8,385,158
(B) SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPORT SERVICES	\$1,791,434	\$1,890,529	\$2,504,054	\$1,888,269	\$2,018,572	\$7,502,143	\$8,569,270	\$8,618,971	\$8,301,424
(C) CHILD CARE	\$23,072,708	\$23,454,796	\$23,824,650	\$24,320,976	\$23,668,282	\$91,643,314	\$93,744,043	\$94,669,042	\$95,268,704
(D) TRAINING RELATED EXPENSE, PARTICIPANT ALLOWANCE AND TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT									
TANF	\$2,450,998	\$2,091,195	\$2,474,370	\$1,593,796	\$2,152,590	\$9,860,946	\$9,889,076	\$9,571,023	\$8,311,951
Food Stamps	\$657,507	\$689,878	\$641,620	\$607,835	\$649,210	\$3,267,169	\$3,003,954	\$2,698,684	\$2,588,544
GA	\$364,709	\$328,979	\$387,384	\$395,781	\$369,213	\$1,424,282	\$1,461,642	\$1,427,366	\$1,481,357
(E) DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING									
TANF	\$10,876,780	\$10,747,941	\$11,645,661	\$9,990,339	\$10,815,180	\$39,536,473	\$38,638,015	\$42,589,586	\$43,199,121
Food Stamps/Able Bodied Adults W/O Dependents	\$2,501,505	\$2,488,184	\$3,203,962	\$2,060,731	\$2,563,595	\$11,431,668	\$9,496,434	\$10,121,479	\$10,316,472
GA	\$1,750,450	\$1,773,965	\$2,380,919	\$1,459,994	\$1,841,332	\$5,662,940	\$5,295,806	\$7,360,696	\$7,456,210
(F) OMEGA SYSTEM	\$370,875	\$404,461	\$470,397	\$415,244	\$415,244	\$2,236,405	\$1,915,543	\$1,629,196	\$1,705,347
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$57,509,342	\$55,249,848	\$60,710,679	\$54,800,257	\$57,067,531	\$222,196,975	\$222,556,324	\$229,848,630	\$227,828,315

FOOTNOTES:

ACTUAL expenditures are subject to subsequent adjustment and reconciliation to be reflected on future reports.