

Online Appendix for
Did Welfare Reform End the Safety Net as We Knew It? The Record since 1996
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Figure 1 sources: expenditure data source varies by program and by year.

AFDC/TANF: 1965-1970 from the 2005 Annual Statistical Supplement from the Social Security Office of Policy; 1970-2008 from the Annual Report to Congress 2008; 2010-2022 from Annual TANF Financial Data sets from the Office of Family Assistance.

EITC: 1975-2021 from Tax Policy Center
<https://www.taxpolicycenter.org/statistics/eitc-recipients>. Data originally from “Table A: Selected Income and Tax Items for Selected Years” and “Table 2.5: Returns with Earned Income Credit” in IRS SOI Tax Stats reports. 2022 from table “Earned Income Tax statistics from 1999 forward” in the Earned Income Tax Credit statistics from the IRS.

CTC: 1998-2022 from Table 1. Individual Income Tax Returns: Selected Income and Tax Returns, <https://www.irs.gov/statistics/soi-tax-stats-individual-income-tax-returns#prelim>
Food Stamps/SNAP: 1964-1969 from Annual Statistical Supplement from the USDA; 1969-2023 from column “Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Participation and Costs” table from the USDA.

Medicaid: 1966-1974 estimated using CMS Statistical Supplement 2013; 1975-2011 - CMS Statistical Supplement 2013 (2013 Edition | CMS); 2012-2013 - 2015/2016 *MACStats*, *MACPAC Reports to the Congress on Medicaid and CHIP* (MACStats Archive - MACPAC); 2015-2017 - Estimated using CMS 2016-2018 Actuarial Report (Actuarial Report on the Financial Outlook for Medicaid | CMS); 2018-2021 – 2020/2023 *MACStats* (2023 *MACStats* - MACPAC), 2022 estimated from 2023 *MACStats*.

Population counts in thousands from US Bureau of Economic Analysis, retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (<https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/B230RC0A052NBEA>).

All figures adjusted to 2022 dollars using the Consumer Price Index from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, retrieved from the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis (<https://www.minneapolisfed.org/about-us/monetary-policy/inflation-calculator/consumer-price-index-1913->)

Monthly Recession Indicators, from the National Bureau of Economic Research, retrieved from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (<https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/USRECM>)

For details on Figures 2-5, see Data Repository

Appendix Table 1: Key Policy Changes 1997-2022

Program	Year	Policy Change
TANF	All years	State-level changes to eligibility requirements and benefit formulas. In some states, the real value of benefits erodes, while other states increase benefits.
TANF	2005	Deficit Reduction Act reauthorizes block grant and modifies to strengthen work requirements; expands states ability to count towards Maintenance of Effort requirements spending towards TANF goals regardless of composition and financial need of the families benefiting from those expenditures.
TANF	2009	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act creates \$5 billion Emergency Contingency Fund to provide additional TANF funding to eligible states.
EITC	All years	States made changes to existing state-level earned income tax credits and enacted new ones.
EITC	2002	Separate EITC schedules were introduced for married couples vs single parents, leading to a small increase in federal EITC expenditures
EITC	2009	The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act created a new larger Earned Income Tax Credit for families with three or more children.
EITC	2021	American Rescue Plan temporarily expands EITC for workers without children. Rules revert after tax year 2021.
CTC	1998	The Taxpayer Relief Act enacted a nonrefundable \$400 per child tax credit in 1998, \$500 thereafter.

CTC	2001	The Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 temporarily increased the per-child credit amount to \$600 with scheduled increases thereafter and made it available as a refundable tax credit to low-income families with more than \$10,000 of earned income.
CTC	2002-2004	The scheduled increases were accelerated by the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act and the Working Families Tax Relief Act so that by 2004, the credit was \$1,000 per child, with the credit amount phasing in for low-income families at 15 percent of earned income above \$10,000.
CTC	2009	The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act reduced the refundability threshold to \$3,000 per family in 2009-2010 for the CTC.
CTC	2017	Tax Cuts and Jobs Act doubles maximum CTC from \$1000 to \$2000 per child and increases the eligibility thresholds.
CTC	2021	American Rescue Plan temporarily increases CTC to \$3600 per child under age 6 and \$3000 per child ages 6-17. The phase-in was eliminated so families. Advance payments of a portion of the credit were paid on a monthly basis to most families from July to December. Rules revert after tax year 2021.
SNAP	Early 2000s	Encouragement of state policy options to reduce administrative burden (e.g. simplified reporting of income, longer recertification periods, removal of face-to-face interview requirement)
SNAP	2008	Food Stamp Program renamed to SNAP
SNAP	2009	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act increased benefit levels, and imposed nationwide waiver of ABAWD rules
SNAP	2013	Sunset of enhanced benefits from ARRA.

SNAP	2020-2023	2020 Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) and other changes temporarily expand state flexibility in application and recertification procedures and suspends ABAWD work requirements. Some of these flexibilities are still in place. Emergency Allotments temporarily supplement benefits for SNAP recipients up to the maximum amount; these were phased out by 2023 depending on the state. A further 15 percent increase to the maximum benefit is implemented; it phased out in September 2021.
SNAP	2021	Thrifty Food Plan is re-evaluated, leading to a permanent increase in benefit levels. (Earlier updates in 1999 and 2006 did not change benefit levels.) The 2018 Farm Bill directed USDA to re-evaluate the Thrifty Food Plan by 2022 and every five years thereafter.
Medicaid and CHIP	1996	The PRWORA severed the automatic link between cash welfare and Medicaid. It mandated coverage of families who met the eligibility standards of the previous welfare program (Aid to Families with Dependent Children) in effect as of July 1996.
Medicaid and CHIP	1997	The Balanced Budget Act established the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP/CHIP) which allowed states to cover uninsured children in families with incomes below 200 percent of FPL who were ineligible for Medicaid, with levels set at state option.
Medicaid and CHIP	2009	The Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act reauthorized CHIP through 2013 and established an upper income limit of 300 percent of the FPL for some states to receive more generous federal CHIP matching rate.
Medicaid and CHIP	2014	The 2010 Affordable Care Act expanded Medicaid to include everyone under age 65 in families with income below 138 percent of the FPL starting in 2014. The Supreme Court ruling in 2012 made this coverage expansion optional for states. As of 2024, 41 states have adopted the Medicaid expansion.
Medicaid and CHIP	2020	The Families First Coronavirus Recovery Act increases the federal share of Medicaid funding to states if states maintain continuous coverage for Medicaid beneficiaries, temporarily eliminating eligibility redeterminations and disenrollments. Continuous enrollment condition ends March 31, 2023.

Notes: For additional detail on these programs, see Ziliak (2016) on AFDC/TANF; Nichols and Rothstein (2016) on tax credits; Hoynes and Schanzenbach (2016) on SNAP; and Buchmueller, Ham, and Shore-Sheppard (2016) on Medicaid and CHIP.