

## Public Assistance Indicators

### I. Definitions

Public assistance indicators are provided for each of 16 program categories:

**Cash Assistance Indicators:** for additional information about Ohio's cash assistance program, see Ohio's [Cash Assistance Manual](#) and [fact sheet](#).

1. Single Parent ADC/TANF: "Regular" or single parent Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (cash assistance), formerly known as Aid to Dependent Children. In Ohio, TANF is also known as Ohio Works First, or OWF.

2. Unemployed Parent ADC/TANF: "Unemployed parent" Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (cash assistance), formerly known as Aid to Dependent Children. In Ohio, TANF is also known as Ohio Works First, or OWF.

3. ADC/TANF-Combined: All categories of TANF combined (includes single parent, unemployed parent, incapacitated parent, and refugee resettlement program).

**Food Stamp Indicators:** see the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services [fact sheet](#) for additional details about food stamp eligibility.

4. Food Stamps

**Medicaid Indicators:** see the State of Ohio's [Medicaid Eligibility Manual](#) for additional details about the various Medicaid programs. See [Ohio Health Plans - Ohio's Health Options](#) for income guidelines for Medicaid.

5. Medicaid for the Aged

6. ADC Medicaid – TANF-related medicaid

7. Disabled Medicaid – Medicaid for the disabled (Federal)

8. GA/DA Medical – State disability assistance

**Note:** The State Disability Medical Assistance program ended in November 1, 2009. Data are not available after October 31, 2009.

9. Home and Community Based Services Medicaid

10. Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Medicaid – Low-income medicare assistance

## Information regarding Public Assistance Indicators in NEO CANDO

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11. ADC Healthy Start/CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program)
12. ADC Less than 21 Medicaid – TANF-related Medicaid for certain individuals under the age of 21.
13. Specified low-income Medicare beneficiary Medicaid – Low-income medicare assistance
14. Transitional Medicaid – Medicaid for individuals no longer eligible for TANF-related Medicaid due to increased earnings from employment.
15. All other Medicaid (includes Medicaid for the Blind, ADC failed due to stepparent income Medicaid, Spouse's Maintenance Need Allowance, Optional State supplement Medicaid, Medical refugee member without other Medicaid assistance, ADC failed due to sibling income Medicaid, Expedited Medicaid)
16. All Medicaid Combined (Individual Level Indicators Only): This is an unduplicated count of individuals eligible for any type of Medicaid. This unduplicated count is preferred over adding up counts over specific Medicaid programs, because the same individual can be eligible for more than one type of Medicaid program.

### **Assistance Groups**

An Assistance Group is a group of persons such as a family receiving benefits under a specific category of assistance, such as Medicaid or food stamps. The Assistance Group indicators include all Assistance Groups that were "Open" (receiving benefits) during the reporting month. Assistance Groups with an address outside of Cuyahoga County are excluded.

### **Assistance Group Indicators**

Number of Assistance Groups

Number of Child-only Assistance Groups: Assistance groups that contain only individuals who are 17 years old or younger.

### **Individuals**

Individual indicators include all individuals eligible for the specific program, who are in an Assistance Group that was "open" (receiving benefits) during the reporting month. Individuals who appear in more than one public assistance program contribute to the individual counts in each program in which they appear. Individuals may have duplicate records for a specific program; in these situations the duplicate records are not included in the counts. Individuals whose address is outside of Cuyahoga County are excluded (note that the address is based on the Assistance Group to which the individual belongs).

### **Individual Indicators**

**Total number of individuals**

**Total number of individuals per 1000 population is calculated as:**

$$\frac{\text{Total number of individuals} \times 1000}{\text{Total population}^*}$$

**\*Total population is an estimate.**

### **Number of Individuals by Age**

Age (as of the 15th of the reporting month) is calculated based on birthdates. A very small number of individuals have invalid birthdates, resulting in a missing age.

Number of individuals under age 5

Number of individuals 5-17 years old

Number of individuals 18-64 years old

Number of individuals 65 years and older

### **Number of Individuals by Education (high school graduation status)**

A very small number of individuals have missing high school graduation status.

Number of individuals who graduated from high school

Number of individuals who did not graduate from high school

### **Number of Individuals by Ethnic Class**

Black, not of Hispanic Origin

White, not of Hispanic Origin

Hispanic Origin

Other (includes Asian or Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Southeast Asian, and Other)

**Note:** Starting with 2003 data, ODJFS modified their classification scheme for Race and Ethnicity in the CRIS-E system. The Case and Individual Extract data files no longer include the necessary information to identify Hispanic individuals. Starting with the January 2003 indicators, Hispanic individuals are included in whichever race category they are identified with (white, black, or other).

## **II. Precautions and Information regarding use of data**

**Client Registry Information System-Enhanced (CRIS-E):** Cuyahoga County public assistance data are "extracted" from the statewide CRIS-E system. This is an on-line computer system that supports the processing of Cash Assistance, Food Stamp, Disability Assistance, Medicaid, and related programs. Each County Department of Job and Family Services enters the data. The state extracts monthly data on the last day of each month and provides the data in electronic tape format to the county. Every third month's data is made available in CANDO.

**History of Cash Assistance Programs:** Prior to welfare reform legislation in 1996, Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) was the cash assistance program for children and families with an absent or incapacitated parent. As a result of the 1996 legislation, the ADC program was revised into a program called Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). TANF is not an entitlement program and states are allowed to develop many of their own rules regarding it. Ohio's TANF program is called Ohio Works First (OWF). Initiated October 1, 1997, the OWF program emphasizes employment, training, education, and support services.

**Cash Assistance Time Limits:** As of October 1, 1997, eligible OWF participants can receive cash benefits for up to three years. After three years, they cannot collect cash benefits for at least two years (unless they qualify for a hardship extension). They may then apply for another two years if they need additional assistance and show good cause. These time limits do not apply to food stamps and Medicaid.

**Medicaid Eligibility:** As Medicaid eligibility requirements have changed over time, the number of Medicaid recipients in a given Medicaid program category may fluctuate and some recipients may move from one program to another.

### III. Data source and suggested citation

**Source of Public Assistance Data:** Cuyahoga County Department of Employment and Family Services. Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Monthly Case and Individual Extract files from the Client Registry Information System-Enhanced (CRIS-E).

**Update Schedule:** Every 3 months, with a 3-month lag (i.e., the January data will be available in April)

**Years Available:** Earliest available – October, 1997

**Geographic Coverage:** Cuyahoga County

**Suggested Citation:** NEO CANDO system, Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development, MSASS, Case Western Reserve University (<http://neocando.case.edu>).

**IV. Links to related web sites**

[Cuyahoga County Employment and Family Services](#)

[Cuyahoga County Employment and Family Services Performance Reports](#)

[Ohio Department of Job and Family Services](#)

[Economic Success Clearinghouse \(formerly Welfare Information Network\)](#)