

Legal Notice
State of Ohio
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

As Published in the Federal Register, Vol.64, No. 69 on April 12, 1999, Section 407(b)(3) of the Social Security Act (the Act) requires the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to reduce each state's required work activity participation rate for a fiscal year. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services administers federal dollars for the temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program. A key element of this program is that recipients engage in work or activities to prepare them for work. States are required to ensure that a specific percentage of their caseload is engaged in these activities. These requirements are known as work activity participation rates. States must meet these rates or be subject to financial penalty. However, in recognition of the fact that many states have greatly reduced their caseloads in recent years, the required rates are adjusted downward to reflect that caseload reduction when it is not the result of eligibility changes imposed by the state. Pursuant to the provisions of 45 CFR, 261.40-261.44, states must submit methodology and estimates of their caseload reduction attributed to eligibility policy changes, and that part of the reduction, if any exists, would not contribute to the downward adjustment of the required participation rate. As part of this submission process states are required to make available for public comment their estimates and methodology. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services has prepared a report that explains how various eligibility changes have impacted the caseload over time. These are available to the public for review and comment.

Copies of the estimates and methodology are available through a link on the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services website at <http://jfs.ohio.gov/oraa/bre/hsr/index.stm>. Or you may request a hard copy by mail at Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Office of Research, Assessment and Accountability, Bureau of Labor Market Information, 4300 Kimberly Parkway, Columbus, OH 43232. Or you may fax your request to (614) 995-0697. Written comments must be received no later than January 22, 2005, at either the address or fax number provided above.