

Who in CALIFORNIA Will Be Affected By The California Legislature's Welfare Reform Decisions?

Revised April 16, 1998

State lawmakers have adopted a plan to implement the 1996 federal welfare reform law, which made sweeping changes in a wide range of programs. Decisions made in recent weeks will affect California's most vulnerable - children, low income families, the elderly and disabled - for years to come. Who in California will be affected by these choices?

- 1.5 million children in California who receive cash assistance through California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program.
- 643,058 adults in California families receiving CalWORKs who must find employment to support their families.
- 30,730 licensed family child care homes, 8,831 licensed child care centers, and uncounted unlicensed child care providers, who face increased demand, changed funding systems, and for some, reduced meal reimbursement rates.
- Nearly one million unemployed persons, in addition to nearly as many underemployed persons, who face increasing competition in their search for employment.
- An unknown number of aged and disabled legal noncitizens who become elderly or enter the US after August 22, 1996 who will be ineligible for cash assistance through the Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Program (SSI/SSP).
- 2,399,769 Food Stamp recipients whose benefits will be reduced over time.
- As many as 185,901 legal noncitizens between the ages of 18 and 64, working and nonworking, who are ineligible for state and federally funded Food Stamps.
- 124,002 able bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) who receive Food Stamps and are unable to obtain employment for 20 or more hours per week. Loss of Food Stamps was delayed for at least 68% of affected ABAWDs, since California received a waiver for a number of areas with insufficient job opportunities. The waivers however, expire in coming months.
- 141,295 persons receiving General Assistance.
- As many as 16,815 disabled children who will lose or have lost SSI/SSP benefits due to the elimination of certain behavioral conditions as qualified disabilities.

	CALIFORNIA
Poverty Rate (1995-96)	16.8%
Child (Age 5-17) Poverty Rate (1996)	18.9%
Unemployment Rate (1997)	6.3%
Labor Force (1997)	15,971,800
Median Household Income (1995-96)	\$38,457
Total Population (1997)	32,957,000

What Are The Fastest Growing Occupations In California?
What Is The Median Wage For Entry Level Jobs In Those Occupations?

	Absolute Growth 1993-2005	1995 Median Hourly Pay	Pay Reflected For This County	Required Training/Education
Waiters/Waitresses ^a	109,830	\$4.25	Riverside	Short-term on-the-job training
General Managers ^b	109,540	\$13.62	Merced	Work experience + BA or higher
Salespersons, Retail (Non-Vehicle)	104,560	\$5.50	San Francisco	Short-term on-the-job training
Cashiers	75,030	\$5.00	San Diego	Short-term on-the-job training
General Office Clerks	64,100	\$6.00	Riverside	Short-term on-the-job training
Instructional Aides	61,380	\$8.00	Santa Clara	Short-term on-the-job training
Secretaries, General	59,290	\$9.00	Sacramento/Yolo	Post-secondary vocational training
Receptionists	57,540	\$8.00	San Francisco	Short-term on-the-job training
Food Prep Workers	55,960	\$5.00	San Mateo	Short-term on-the-job training
Registered Nurses	45,930	\$16.72	Sacramento/Yolo	Associate degree

Source: Employment Development Department (EDD) and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

^a Survey reflects wage level prior to minimum wage increase.

^b Not entry level, "Experienced".

What Does It Take To Live In California?
Family Budget For A Single Parent With Two Children

Expenditures	Monthly Costs	Annual Costs	Bare Bones^f Monthly	Bare Bones^f Annual
Housing and Utilities ^a	\$787	\$9,444	\$628	\$7,536
Basic Phone Service	\$17	\$204	\$17	\$204
Food At Home ^b	\$342	\$4,104	\$342	\$4,104
Food Away From Home	\$80	\$960		
Clothing	\$25	\$300	\$15	\$180
Medical ^c	\$177	\$2,129	\$177	\$2,129
Savings, Emergency	\$60	\$720		
Transportation ^d	\$65	\$780	\$65	\$780
Child Care ^e	\$829	\$9,943	\$605	\$7,263
Recreation, Education, Reading	\$20	\$240		
Personal Care	\$25	\$300	\$25	\$300
Miscellaneous	\$70	\$840	\$50	\$600
TOTAL COMMODITIES	\$2,497	\$29,964	\$1,924	\$23,096
Sample Earnings and Taxes			Monthly	Annual
Earnings for a full-time worker earning \$6.00/hr			\$1,040	\$12,480
Payroll Tax (FICA & SDI) for full-time worker at \$6.00/hr			(\$85)	(\$1,017)
EITC for full-time worker earning \$6.00/hr with 2 children			\$281	\$3,373
		TOTAL	\$1,236	\$14,836

^a 1996 Fair Market Rent for a 2-bedroom is \$787, a 1-bedroom FMR is \$628. CA FMR is average of Metropolitan FMRs weighted by number of renter households in each area, from Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

^b Food at home based on USDA low-cost plan for parent, child <2 yrs., child between 6-8 yrs. (January 1997).

^c Medical is lowest cost program for medical insurance for one employee plus dependent(s) in the HIPC (N. CA). Does not include copayments for doctor visits or prescriptions.

^d Assumes use of public transport, 1997 Sacramento Regional Transit monthly pass for one adult and one youth.

^e 1996 full-time child care costs for one child <2 yrs. and part-time for one child ≥6 yrs. old in Sacramento County at a child care center, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network (assumes one child in school).

^f Bare bones budget eliminates some expenditures, assumes a 1-bedroom apartment, child care in family day care home.