

# The Outcomes of North Carolina's Work First Program

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by  
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July 24, 2006

# North Carolina's Work First Program

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- ❑ The analysis is based on a project funded by the North Carolina Division of Social Services.
- ❑ It uses a longitudinal database that tracks the experiences of more than 509,543 families and 1,132,383 individuals that have received assistance since January 1995.

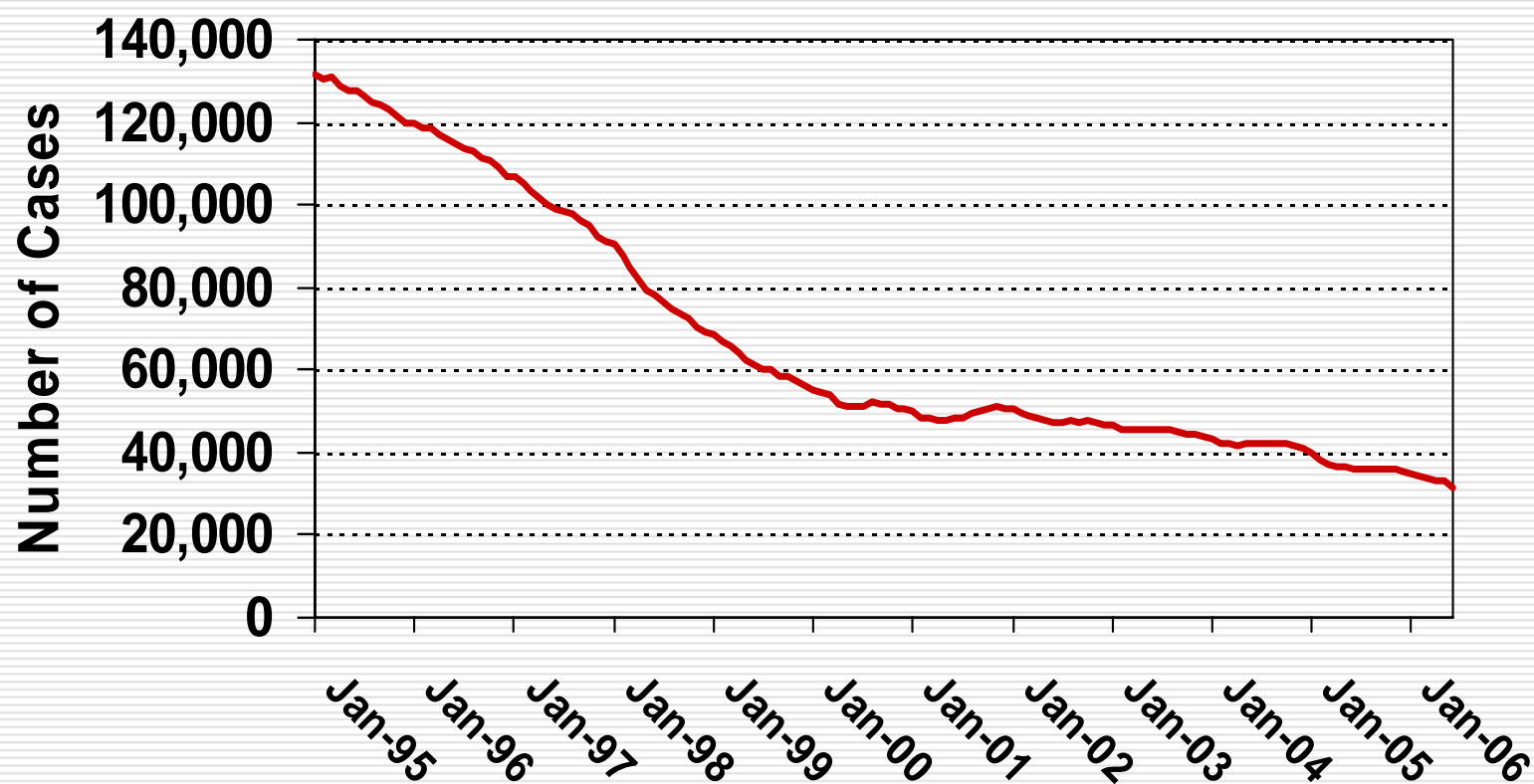


# Changes in the Work First Caseload

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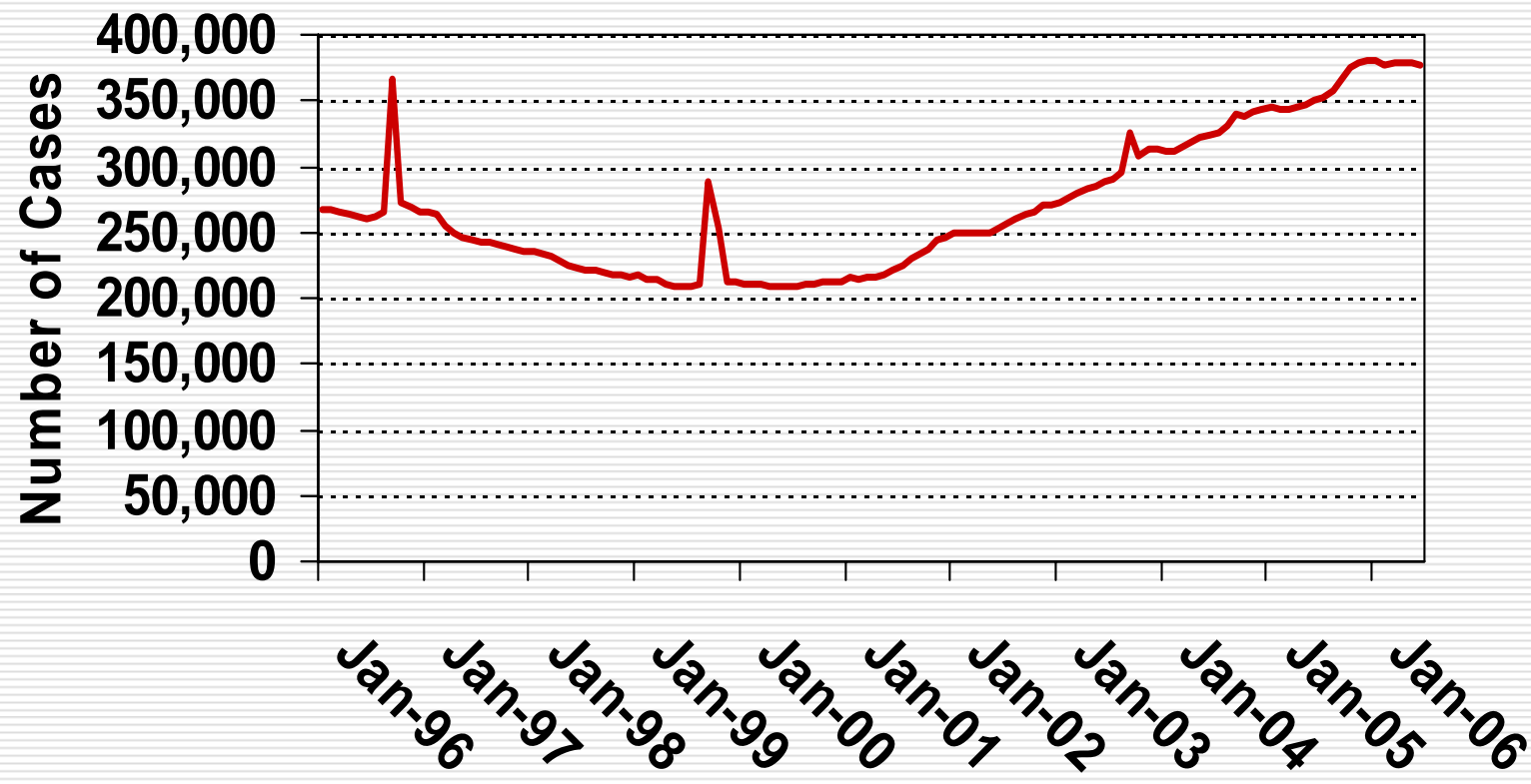
# Changes in the Work First Caseload Since 1995

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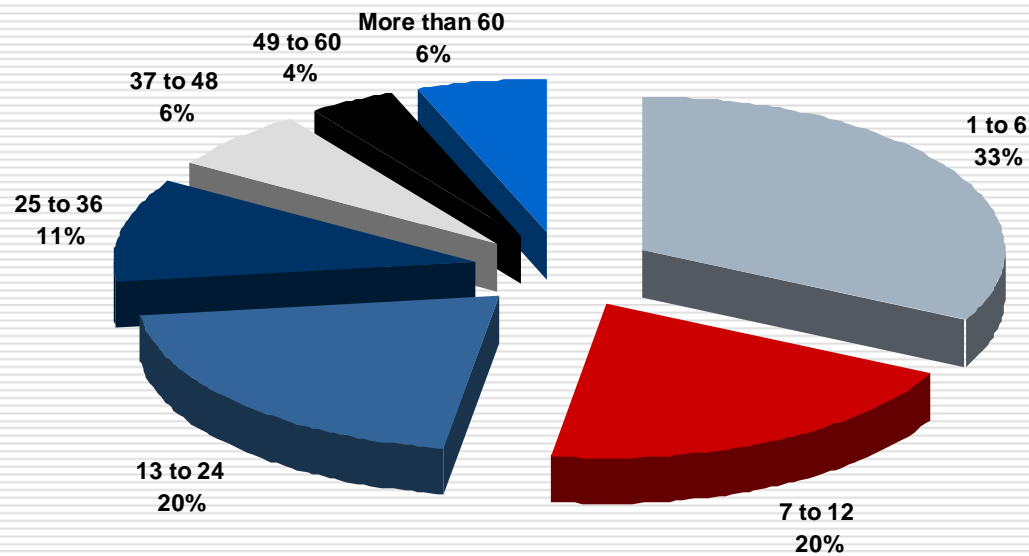
# Changes in the Food Stamp Caseload in North Carolina Since January 1996

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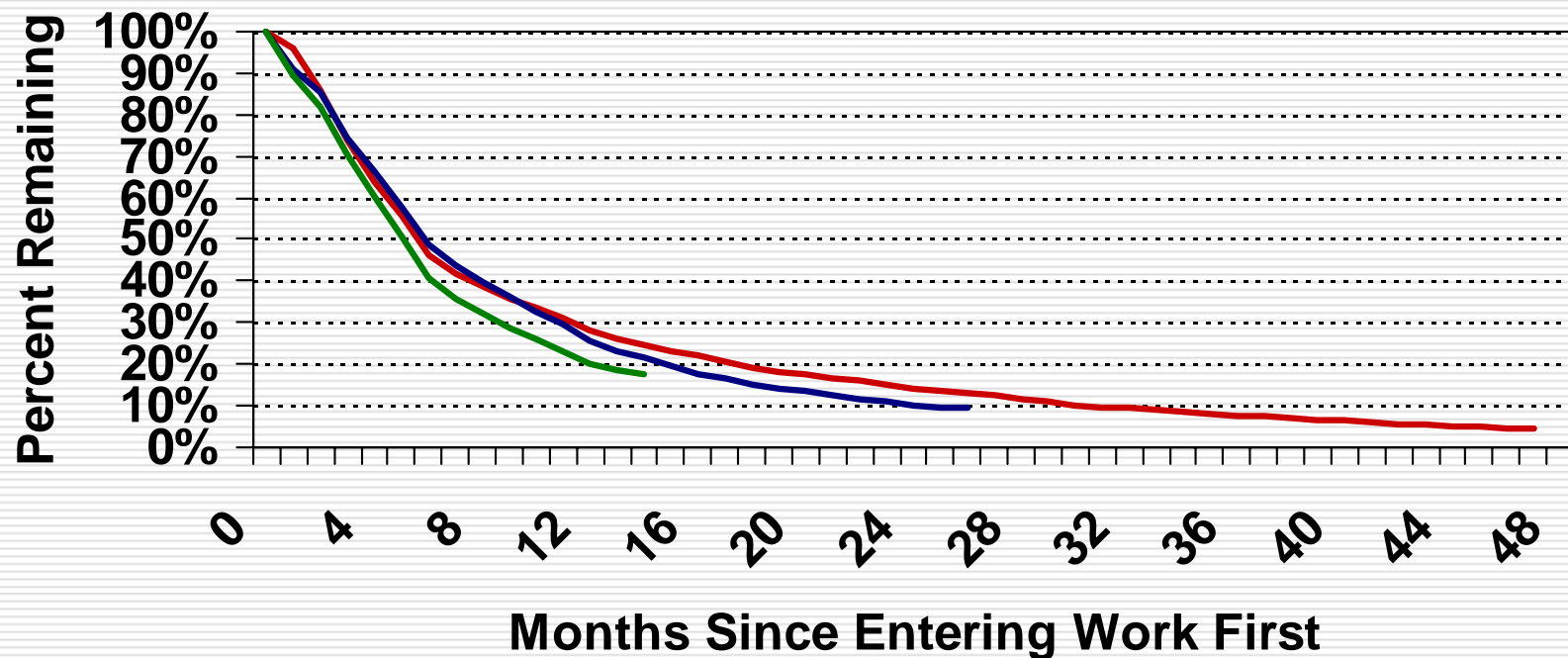


# The Number of Months Families Receive Work First Benefits

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# Changes in the Rate Families Remain on Work First Over Time



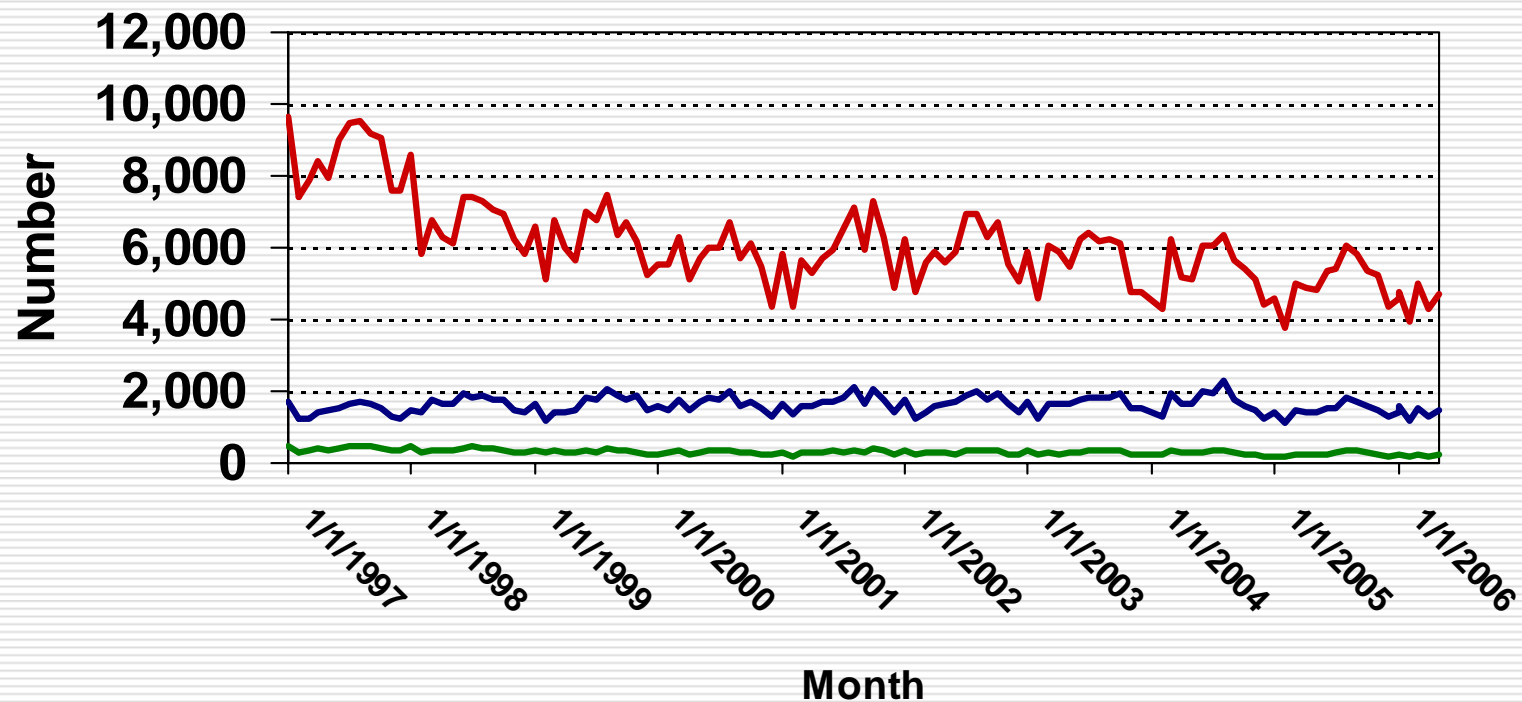
— Families Entering 1995, Qtr. 2 — Families Entering 2003, Qtr. 2  
— Families Entering 2005, Qtr. 2



# Work First Applications

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# Work First Applications

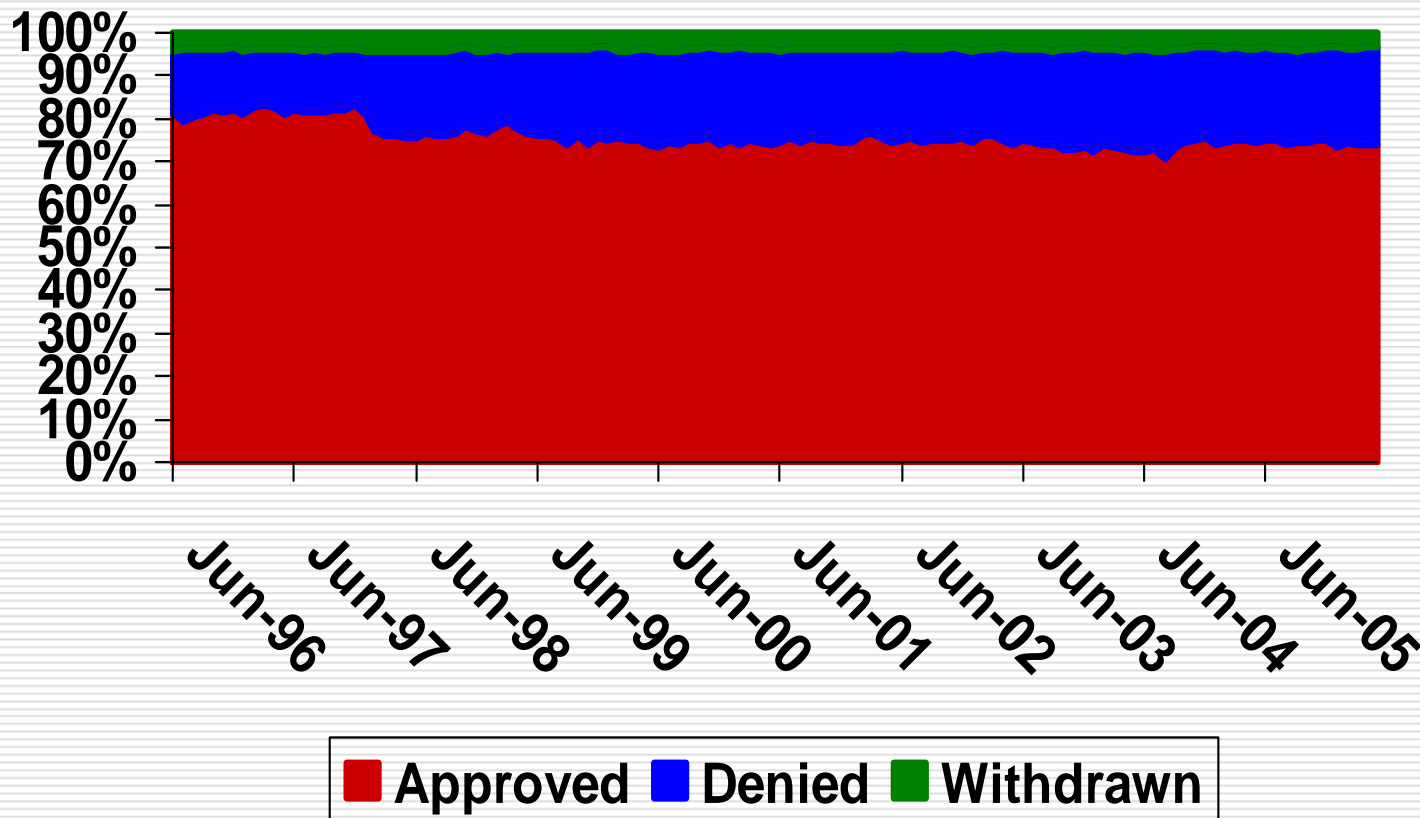


— Approved or Diverted — Denied — Withdrawn



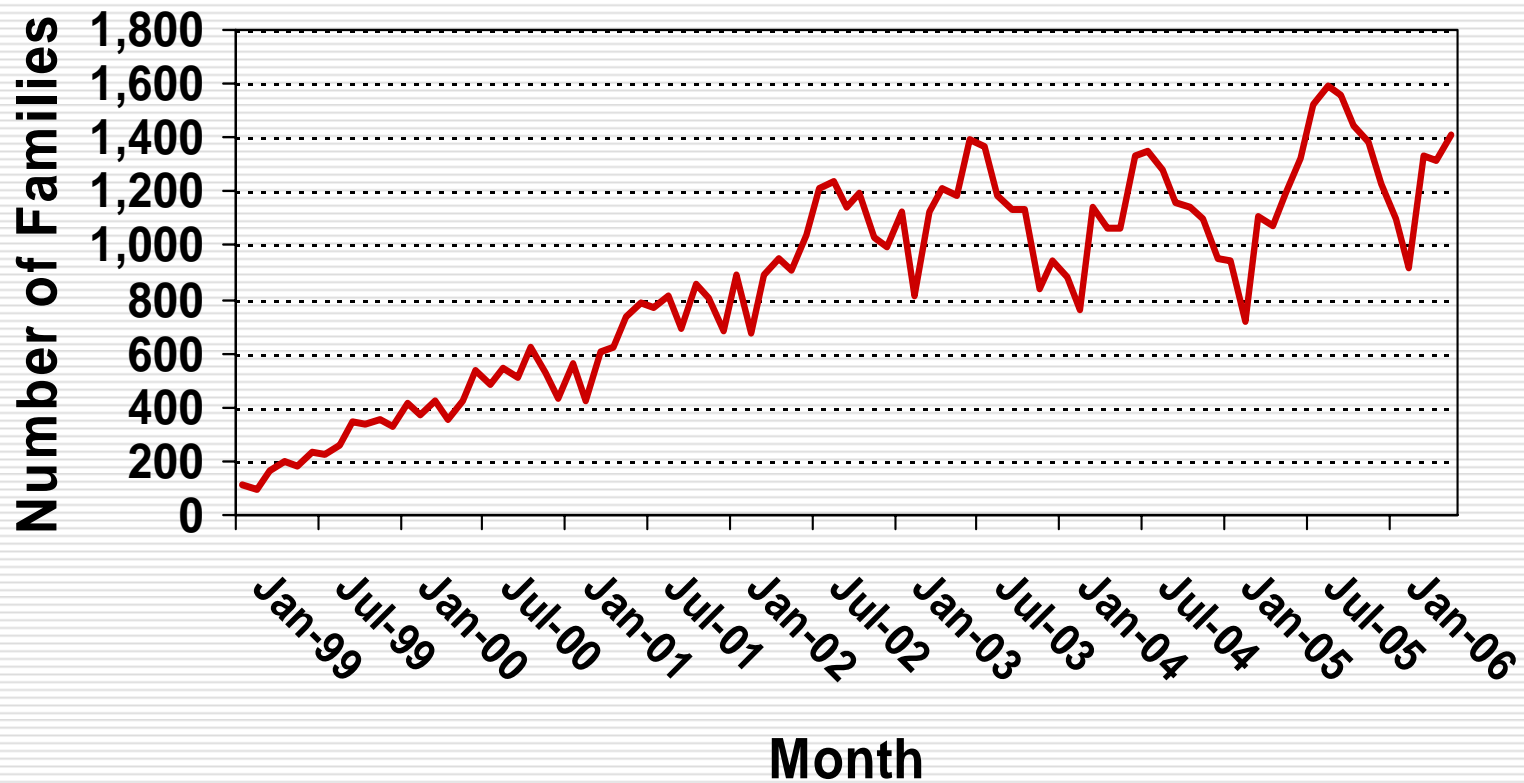
# Disposition of Applications for Work First Over Time

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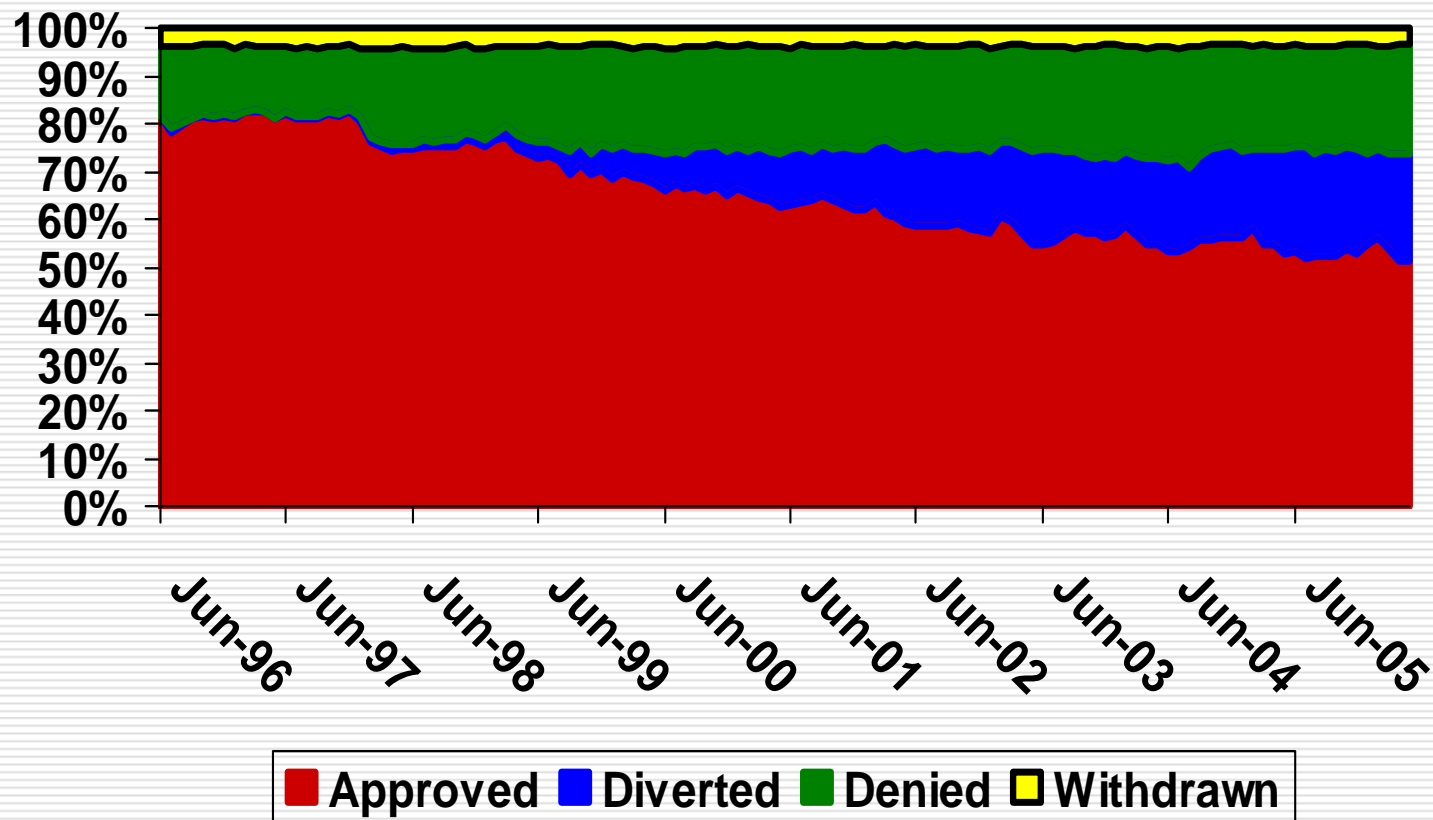
# Families Provided Work First Diversion Assistance

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# Disposition of Applications For Work First Showing Approvals, Diversion, Denied, and Withdrawn

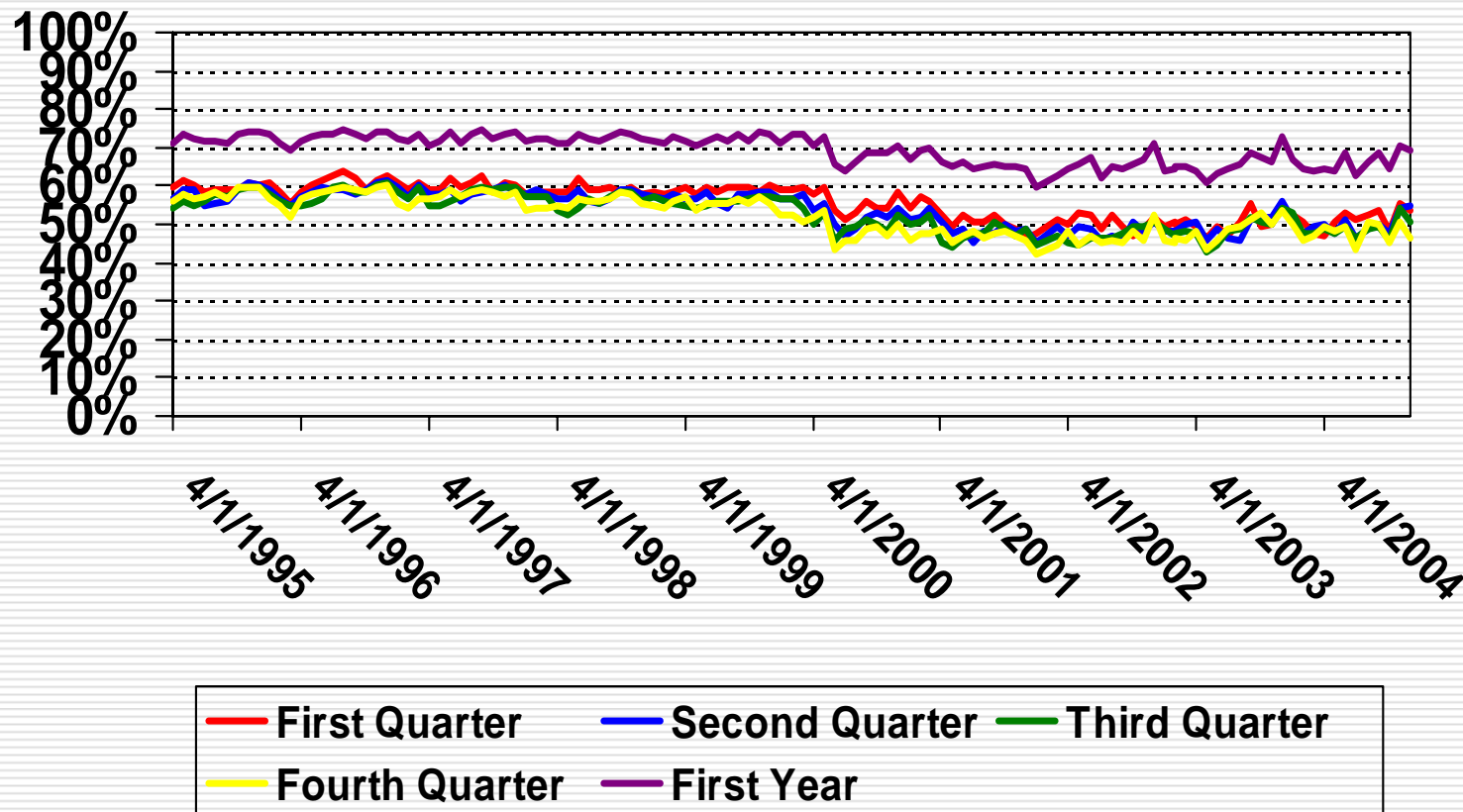
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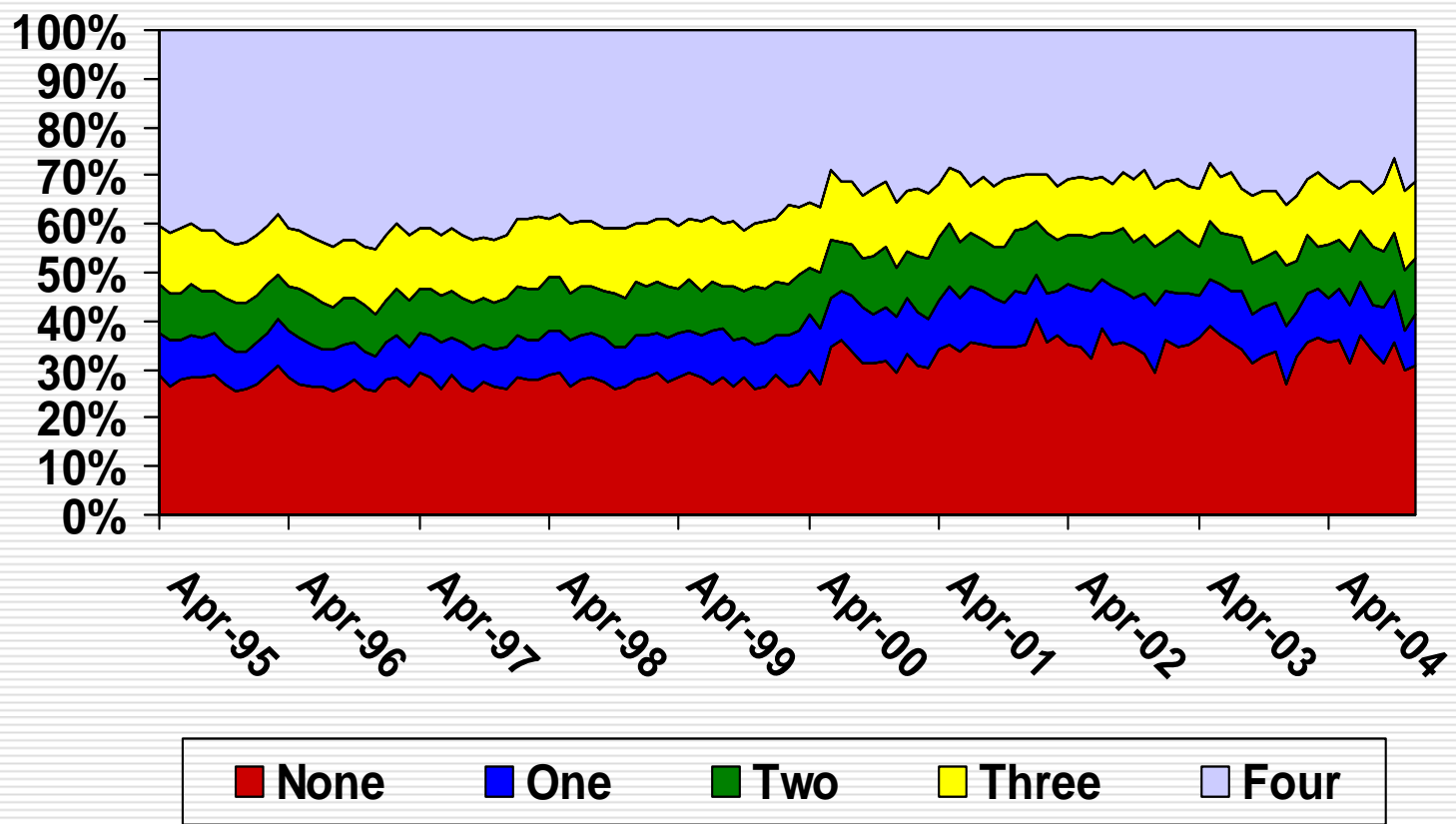
# The Work Experiences of Individuals Leaving Work First

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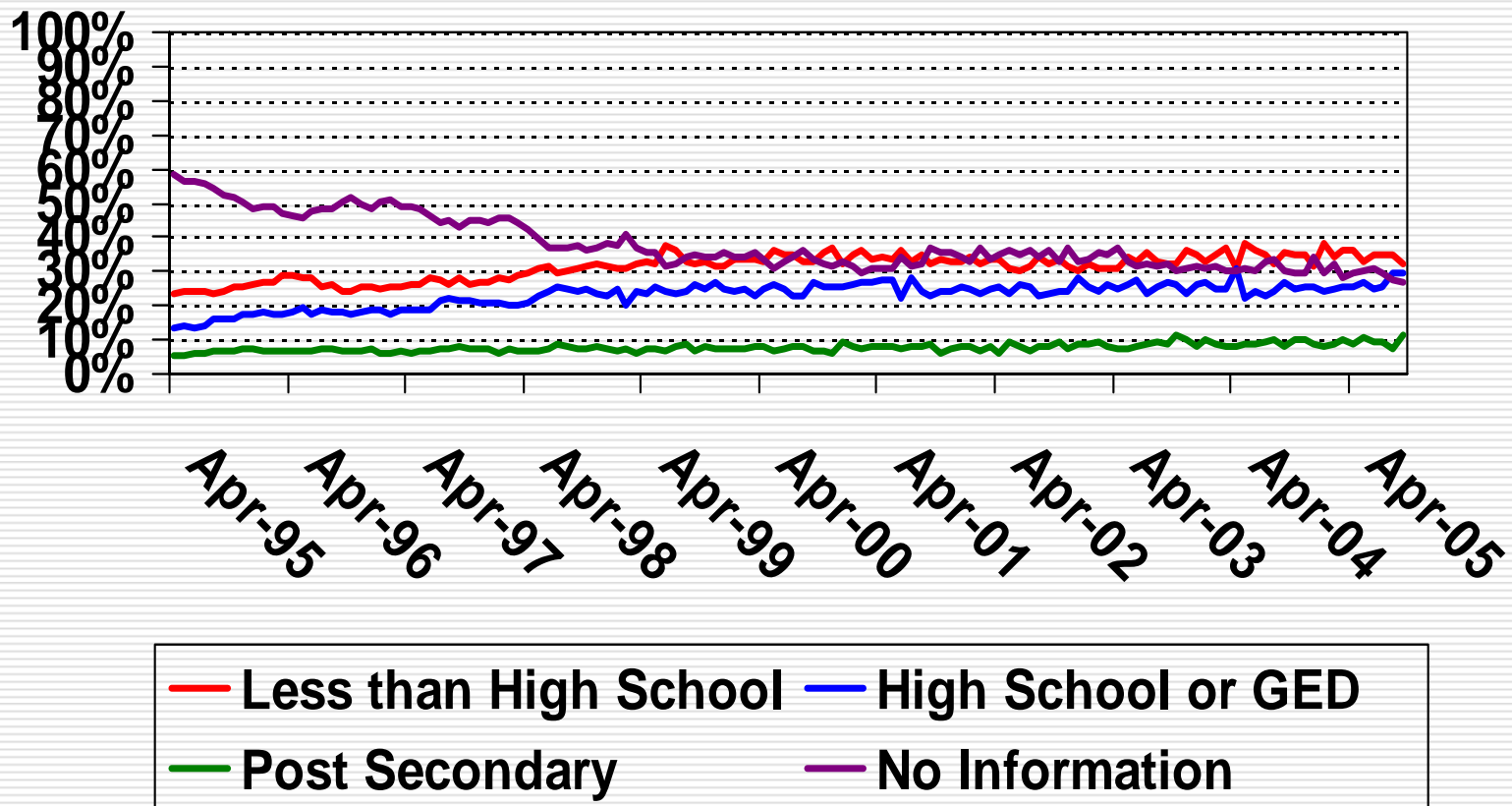
# Percentage of Adults Leaving Work First That Have Earnings



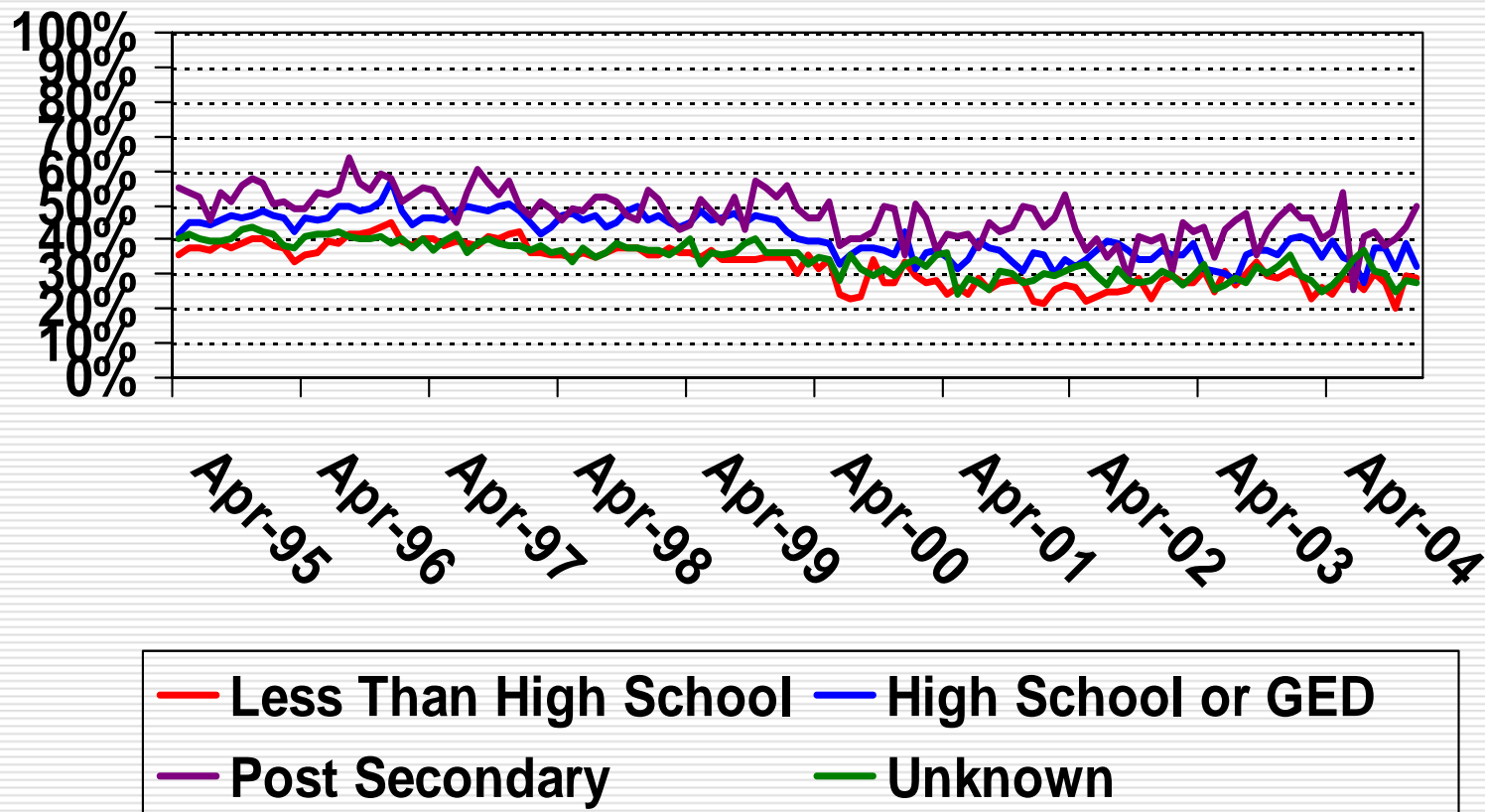
# Percentage of Adults Leaving Work First by the Number of Quarters With Earnings During the First Year



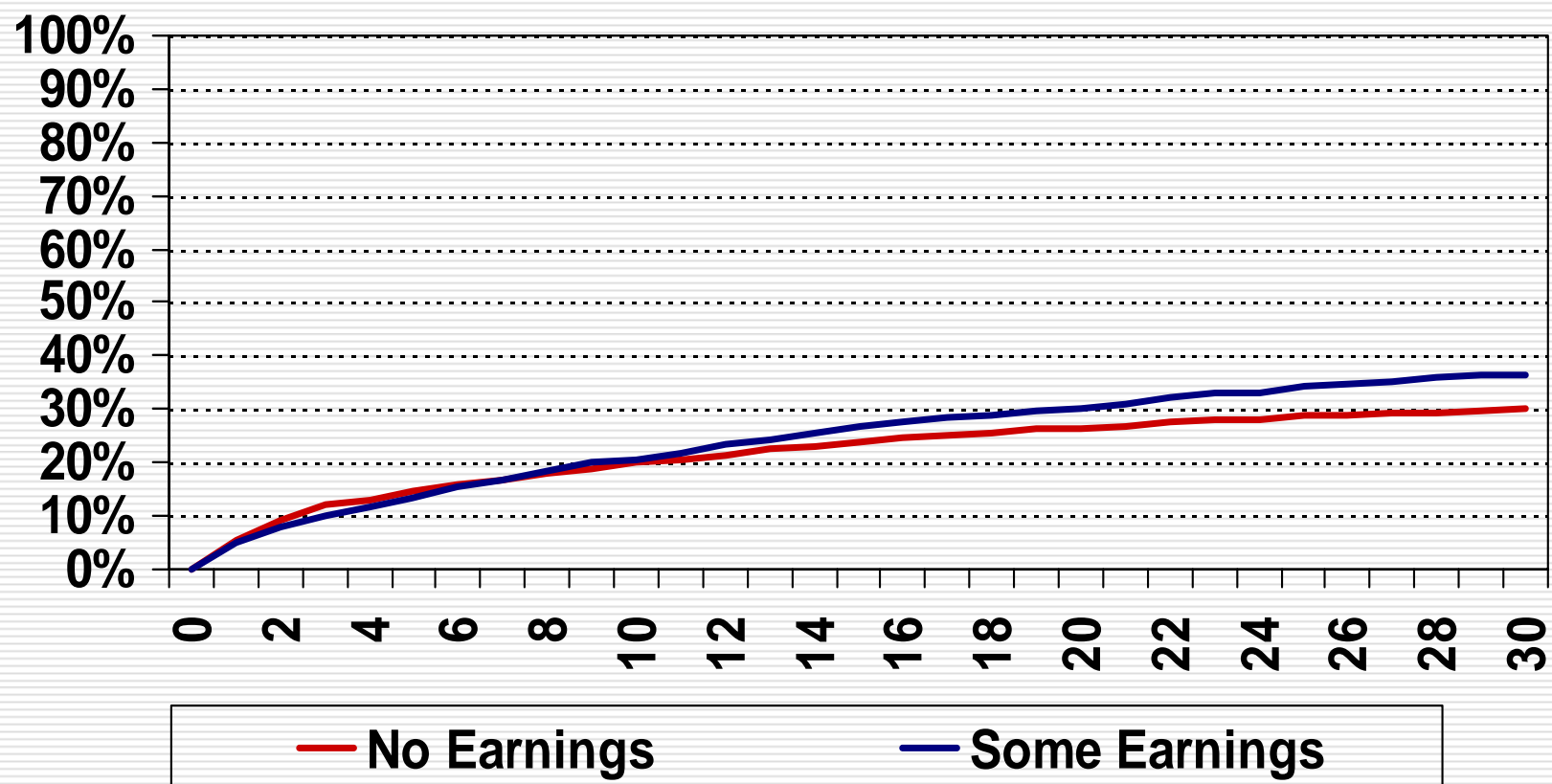
# Educational Attainment of Adults Leaving Work First



# The Percentage of Adults with Earnings in All Four Quarters After Leaving Work First by Educational Attainment



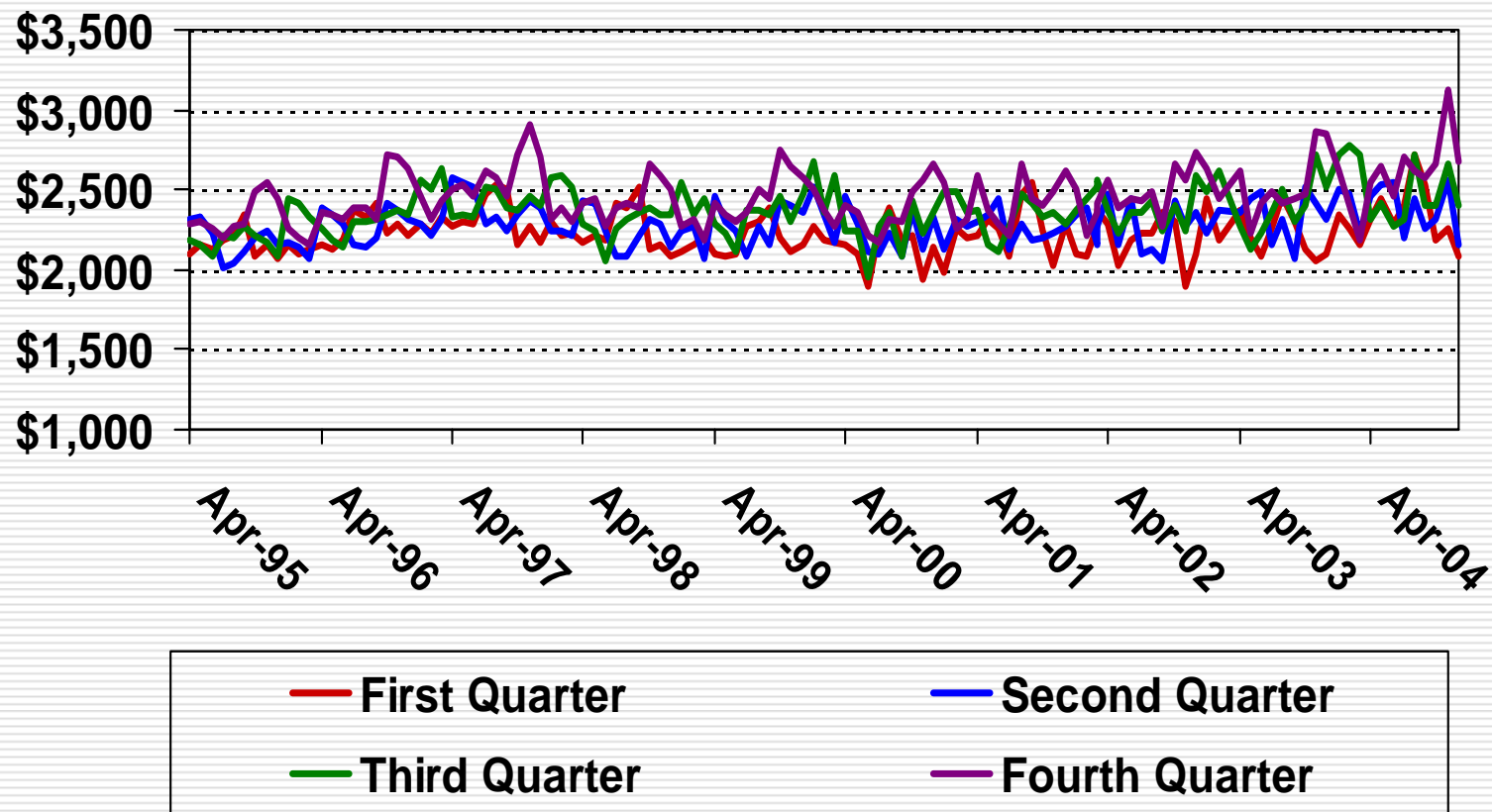
# The Rate of Return to Work First by the Presence of Income in the Last Quarter on the Program for the June 2000 Entry Cohort



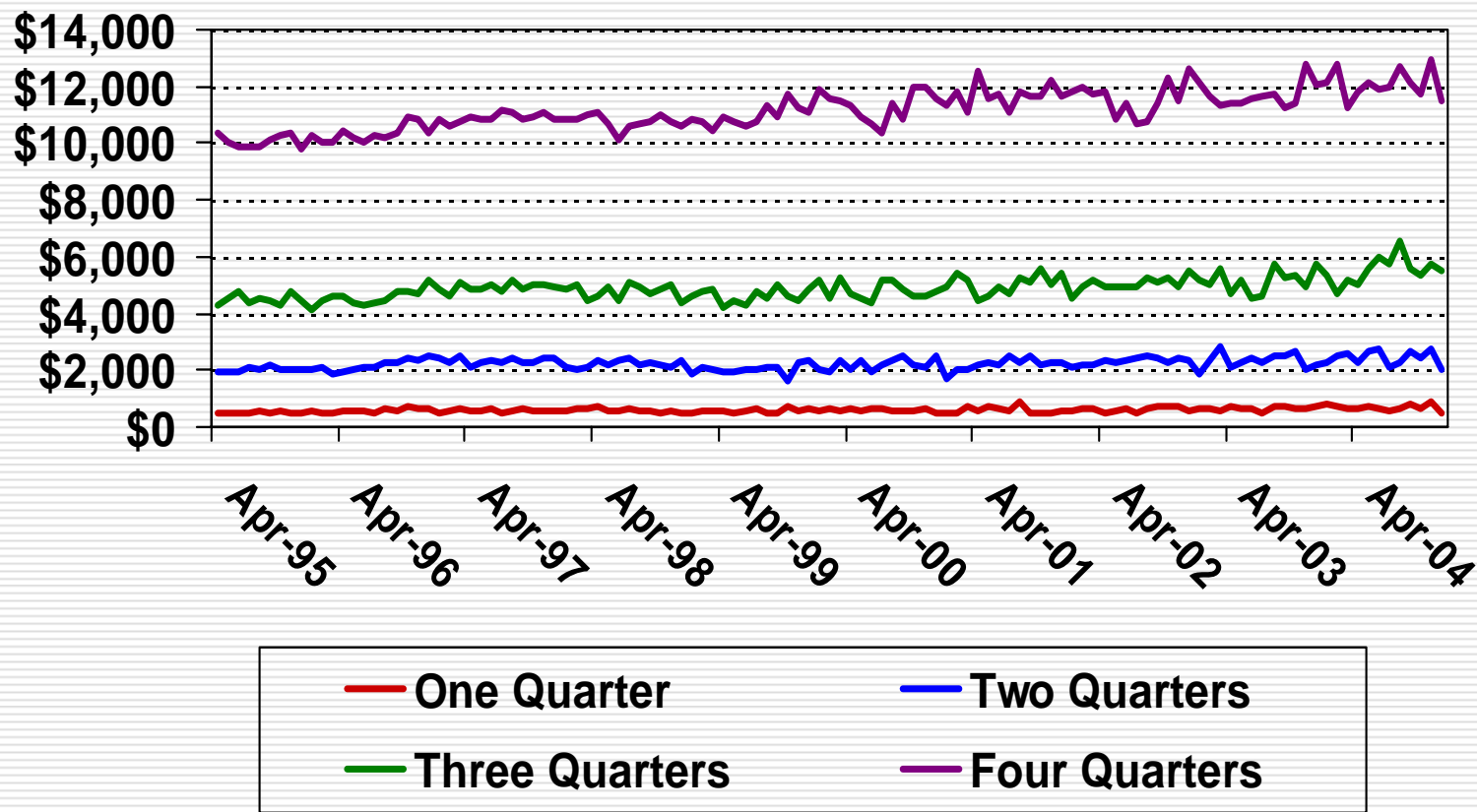
# Amount of Earnings in the First Year After Leaving Work First

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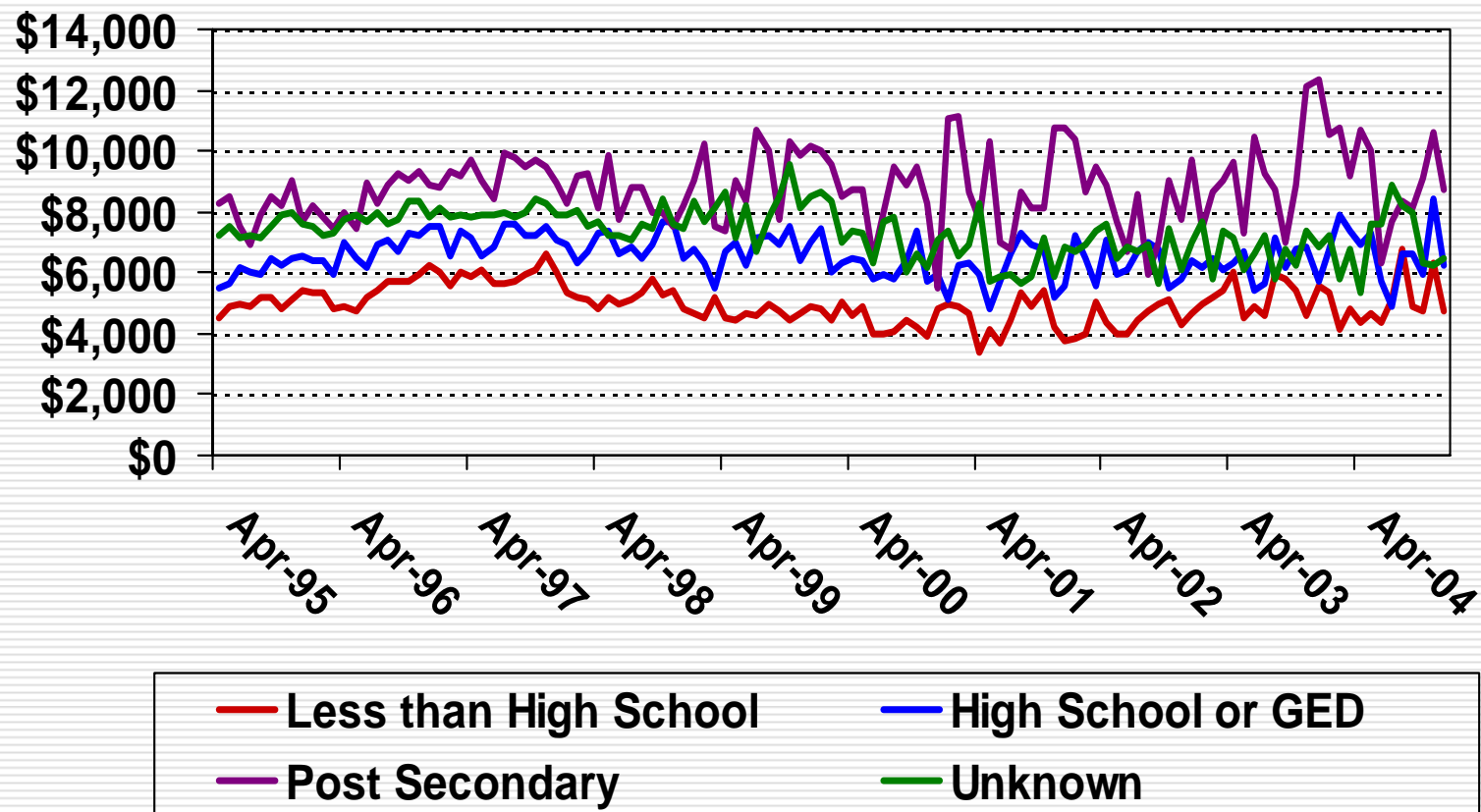
# Earnings by Quarter for Adults Leaving Work First



# Median Earnings For The First Four Quarters After Leaving Work First by the Number of Quarters Worked



# Median Earnings For the First Four Quarters After Leaving Work First by Educational Attainment



# The Child Only Caseload

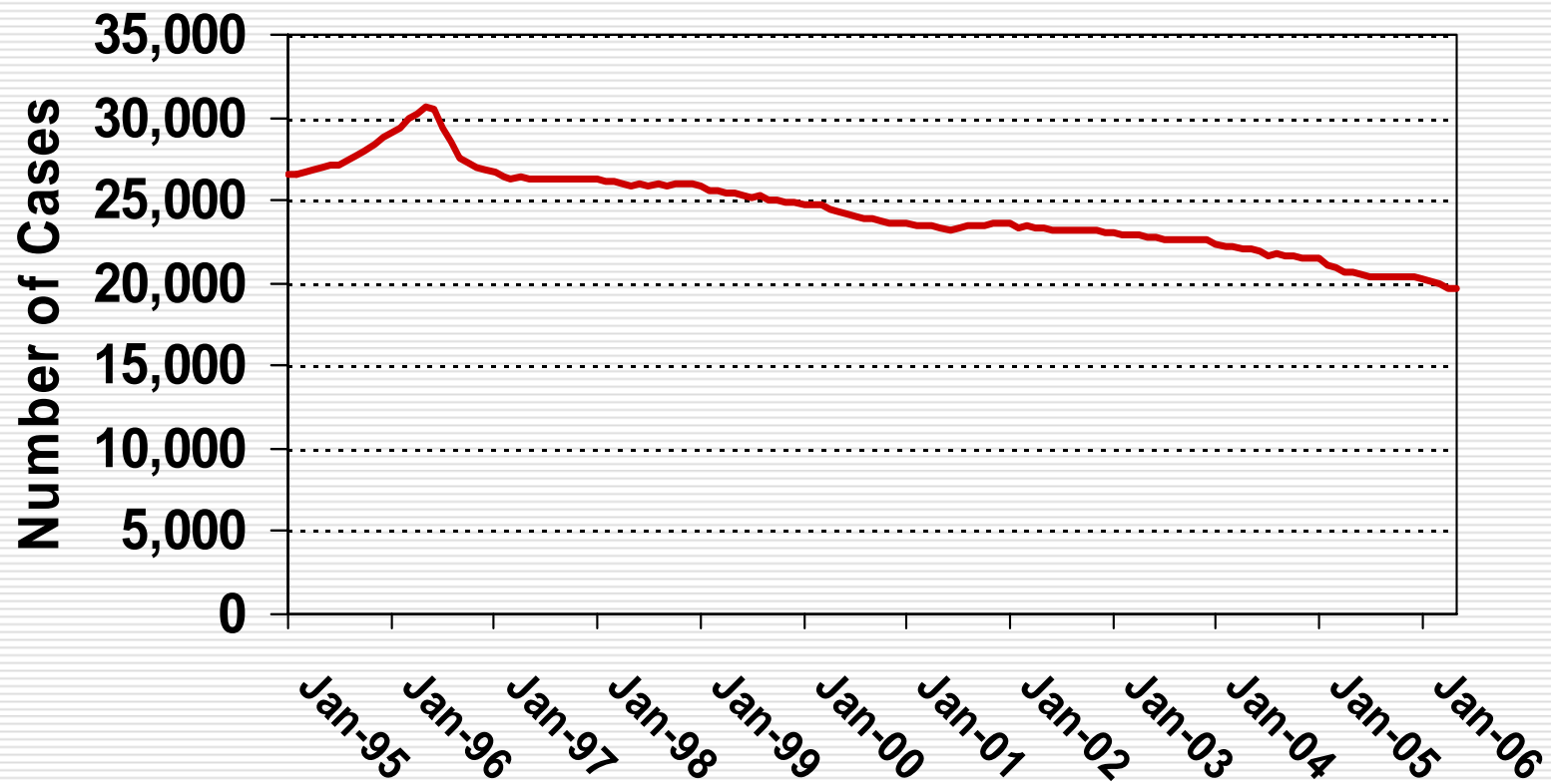
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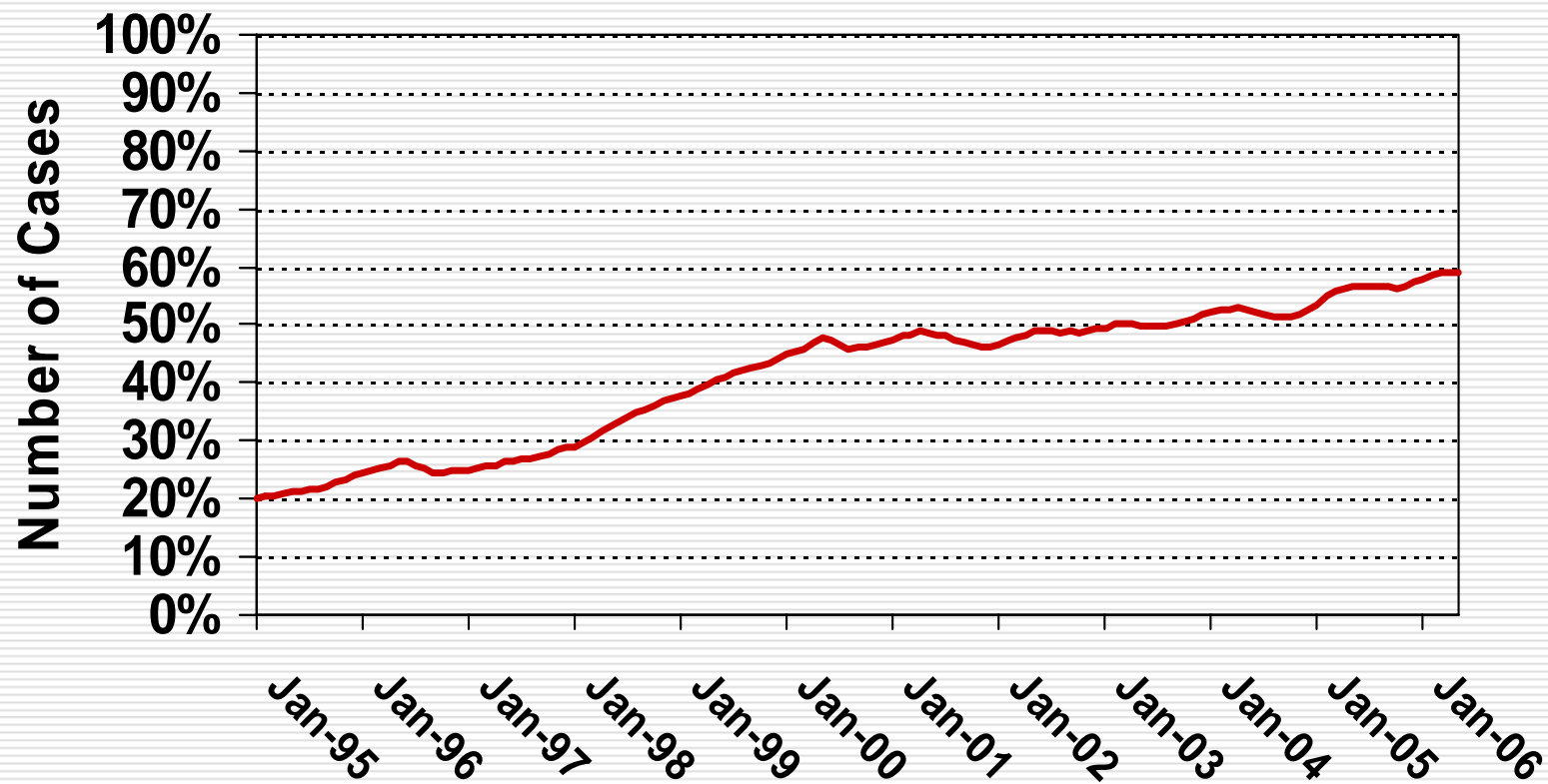
# The Child Only Caseload

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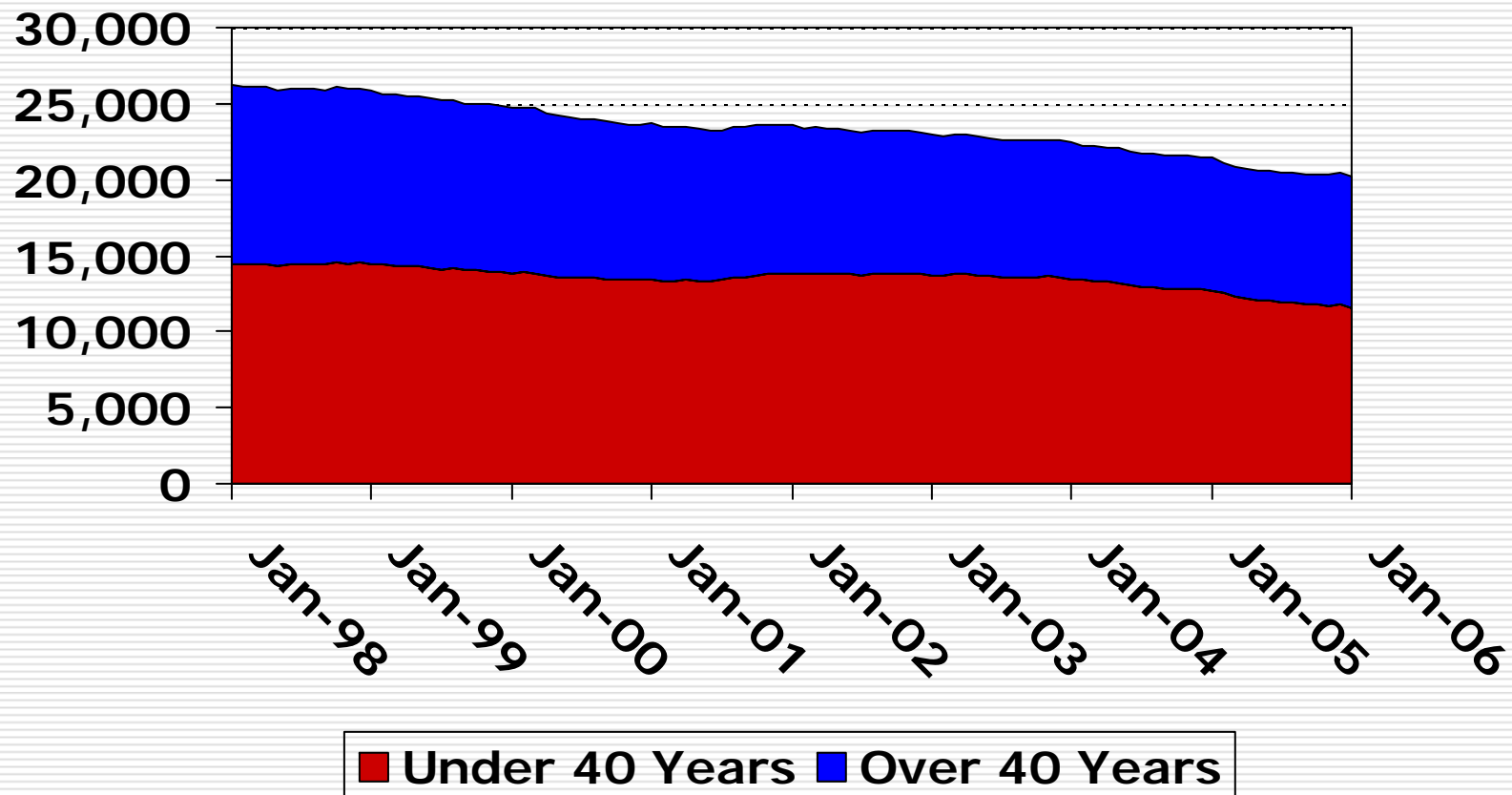
# Percentage of the Caseload Comprised of Child Only Cases

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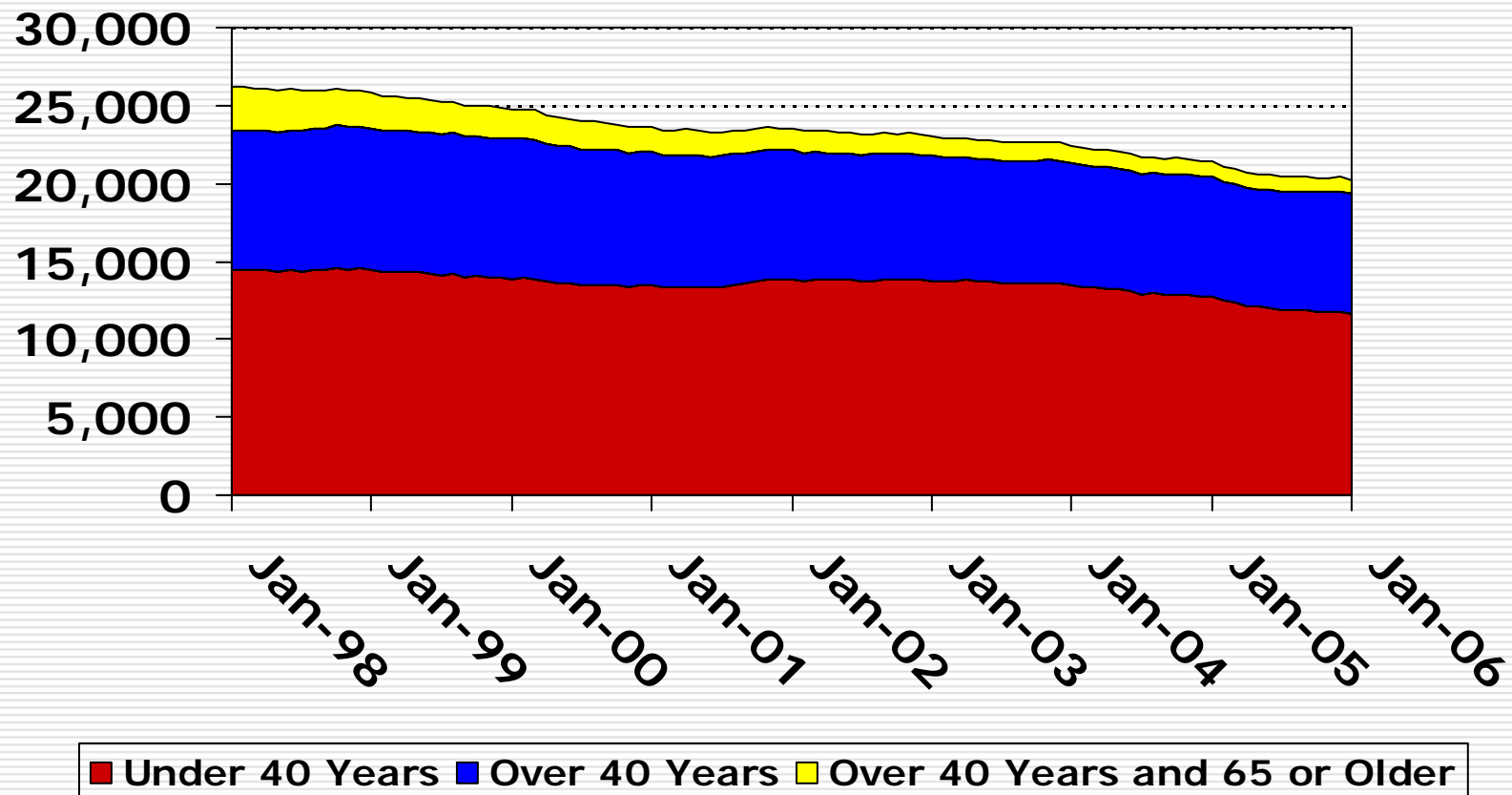


# Difference in Age Between Payee and Youngest Child

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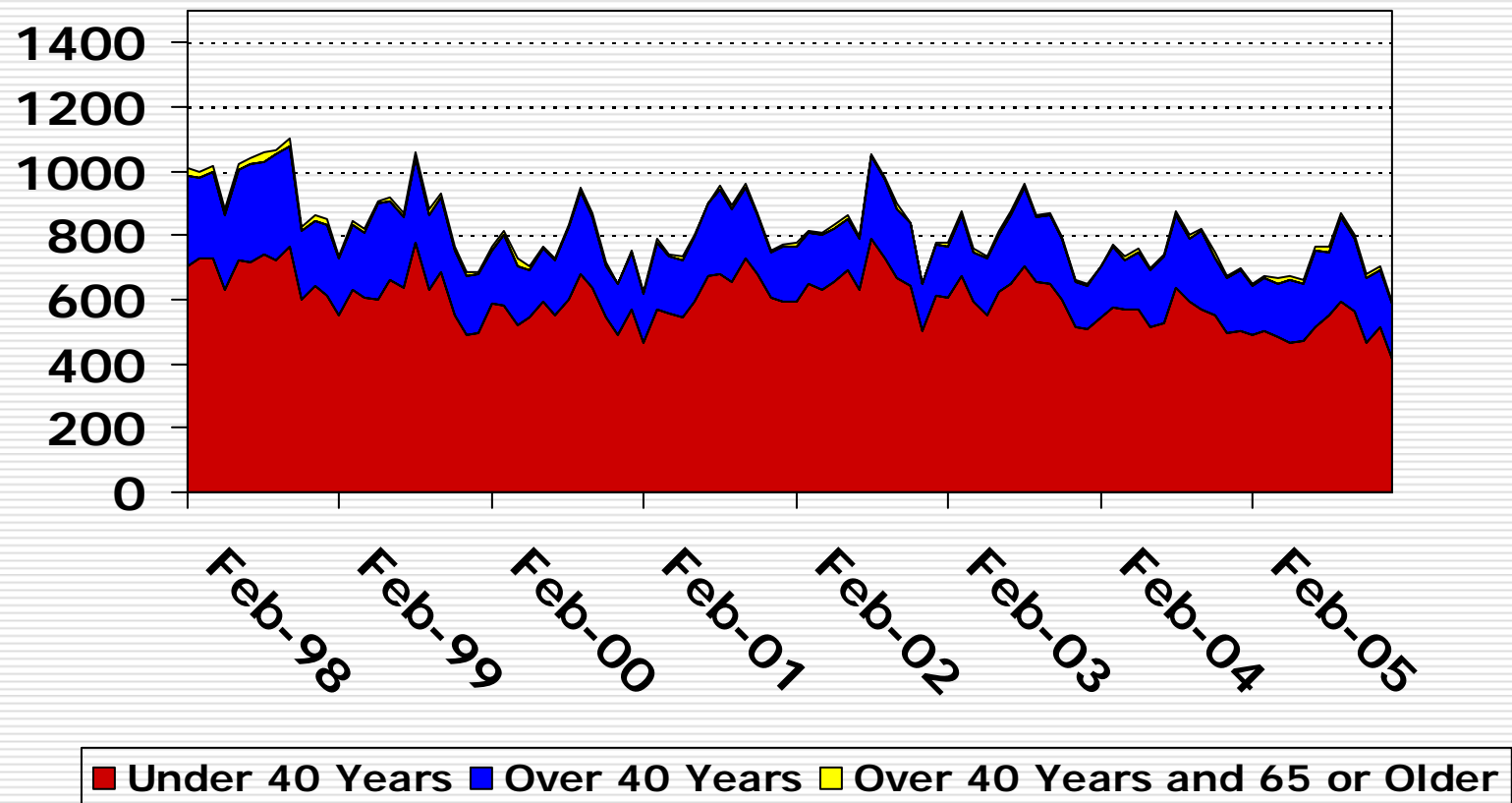


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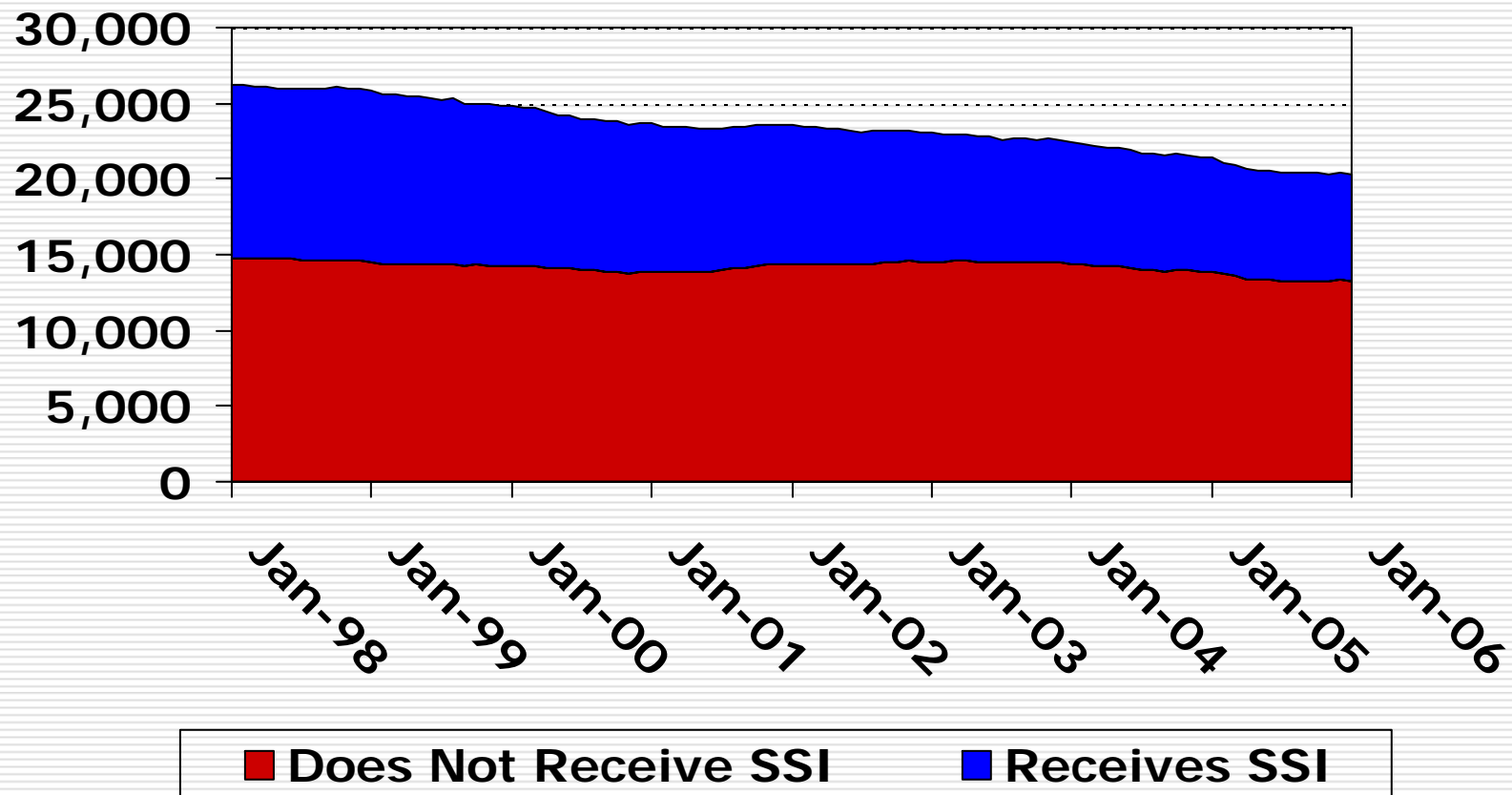


# Difference in Age Between Payee and Youngest Child by Entry Cohorts

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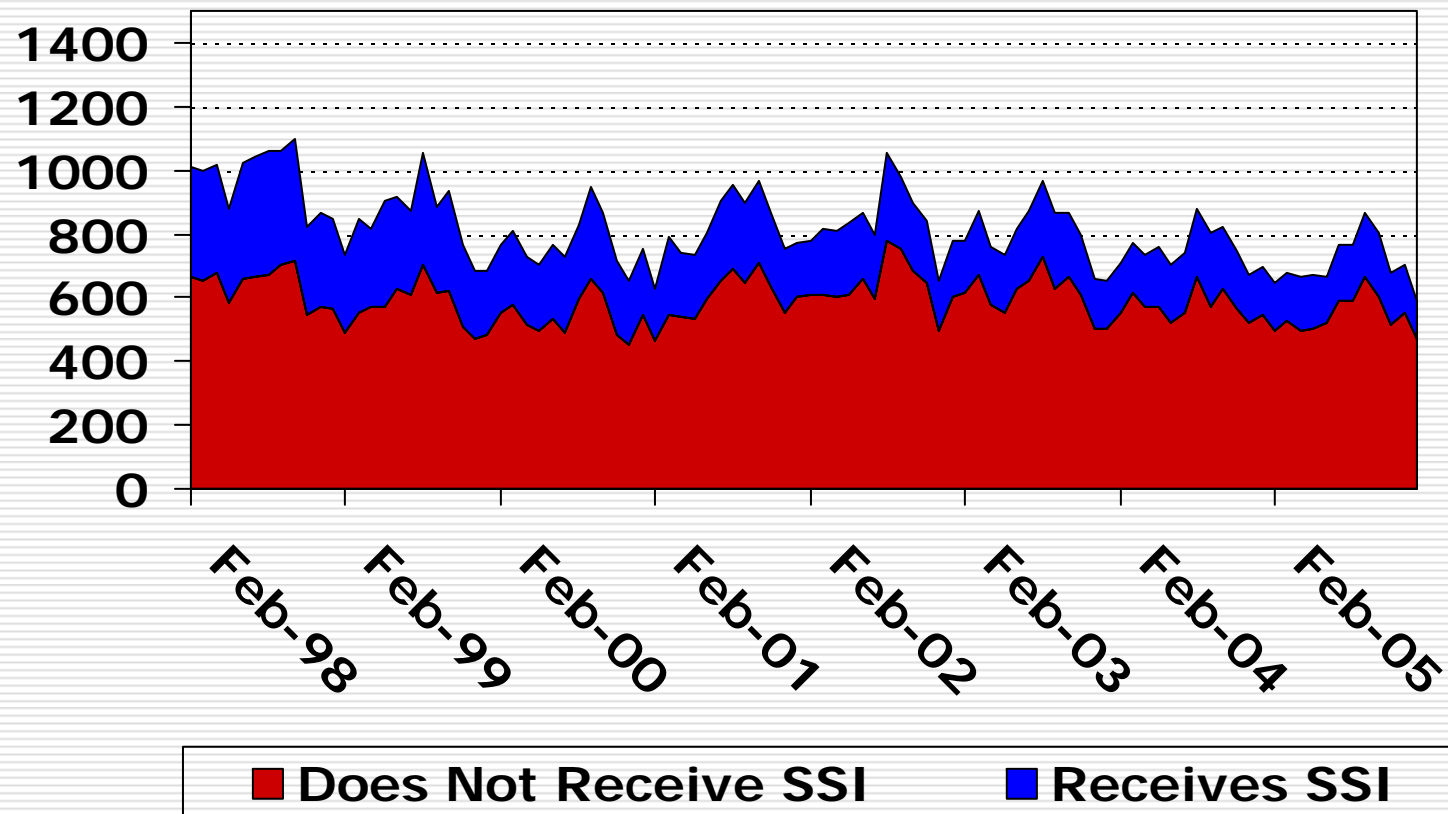


# Receipt of Supplemental Security Income by Payee

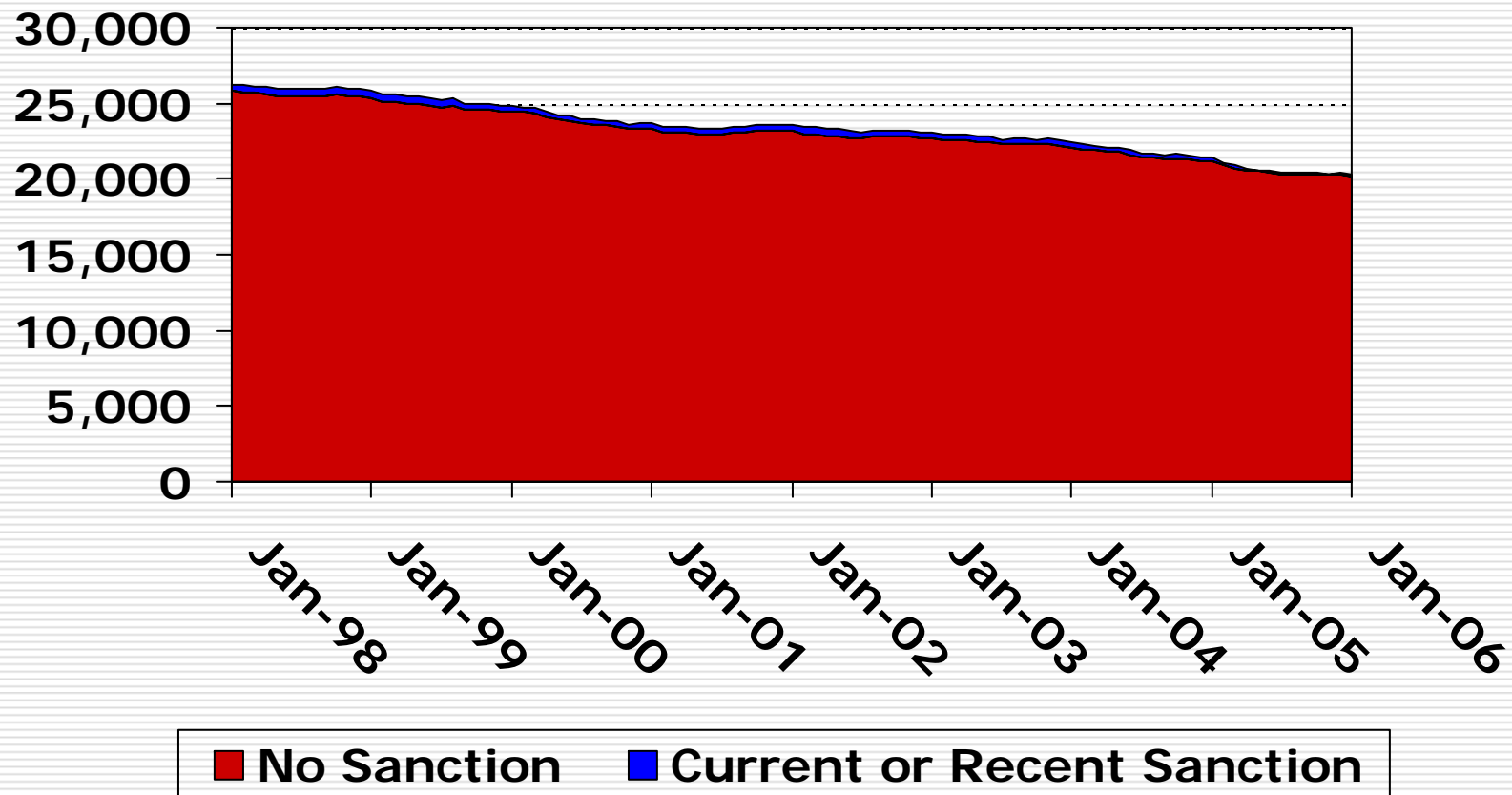


# Receipt of Supplemental Security Income by Payee by Entry Cohort

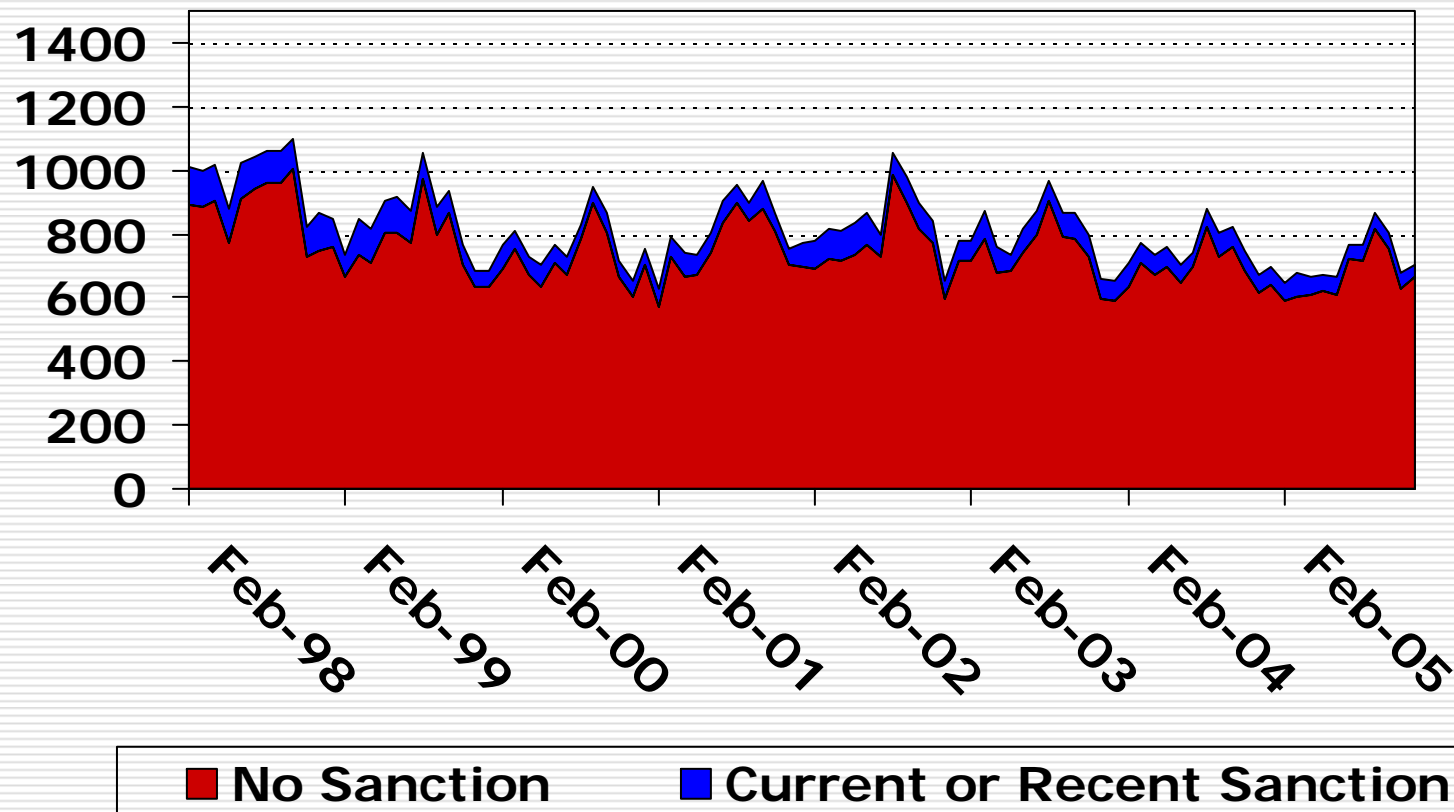
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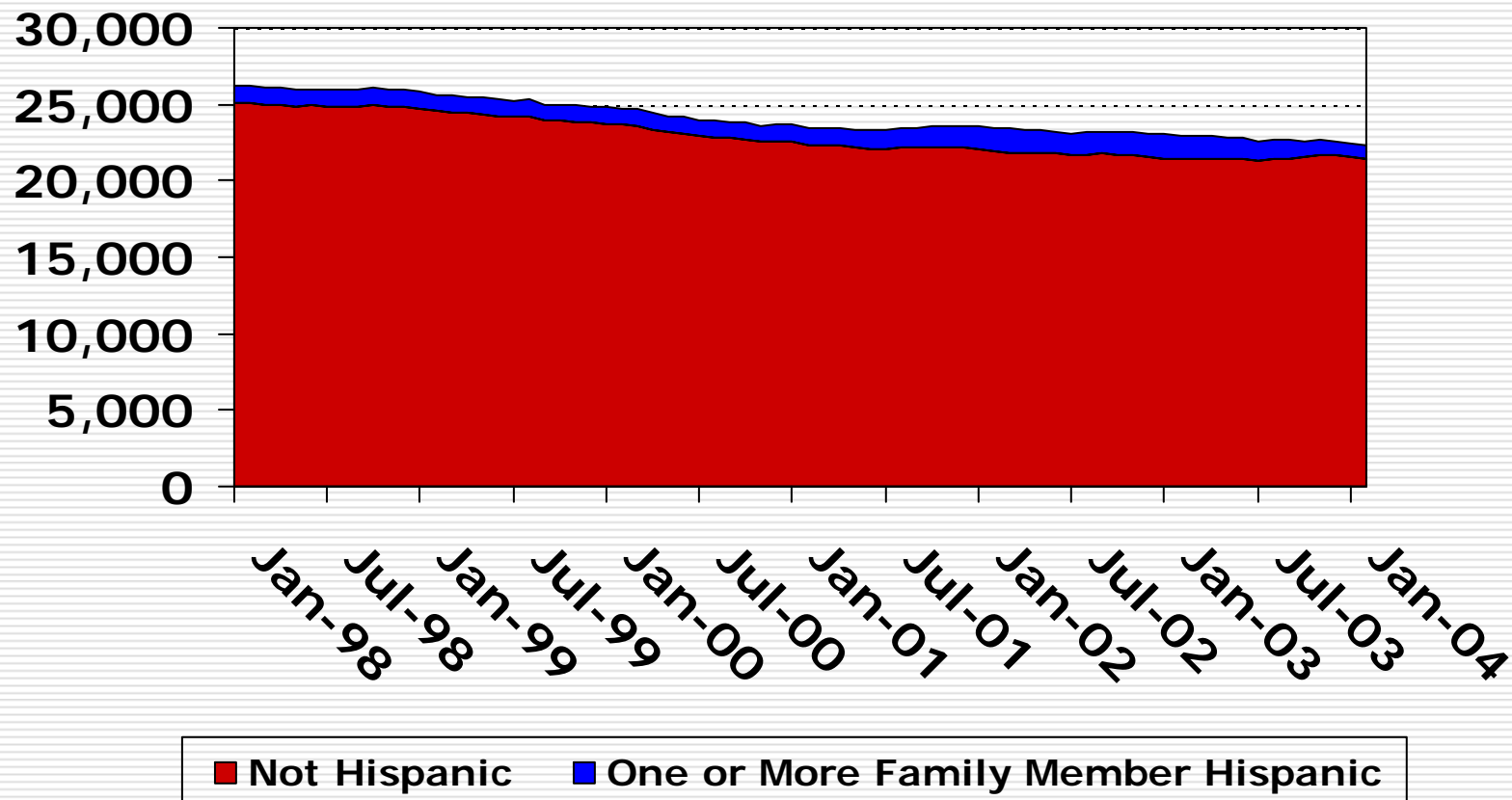
# Presence of a Recent or Current Sanction by Month



# Presence of a Recent or Current Sanction by Entry Cohort

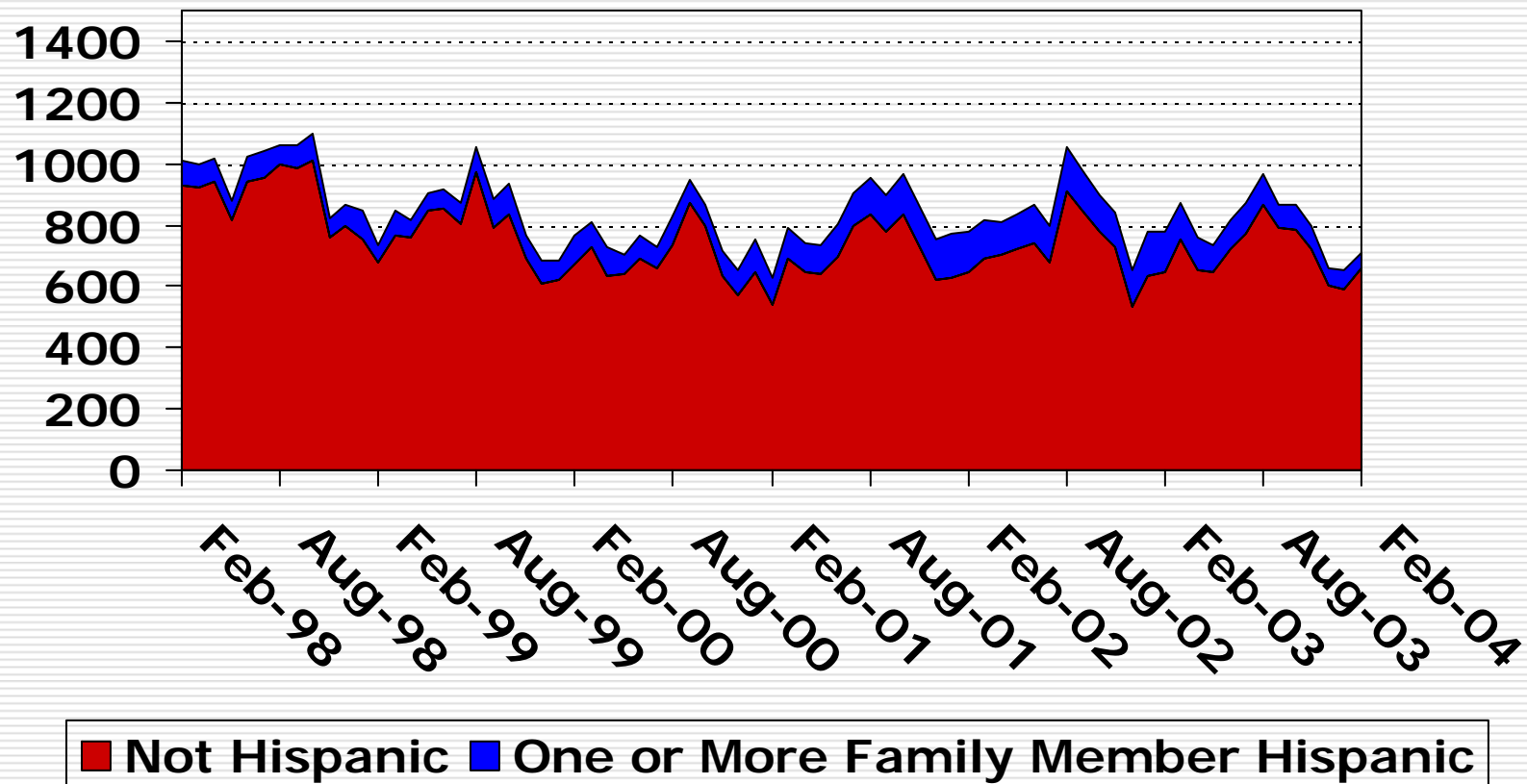


# Some or All Family Members are Hispanic or Latino

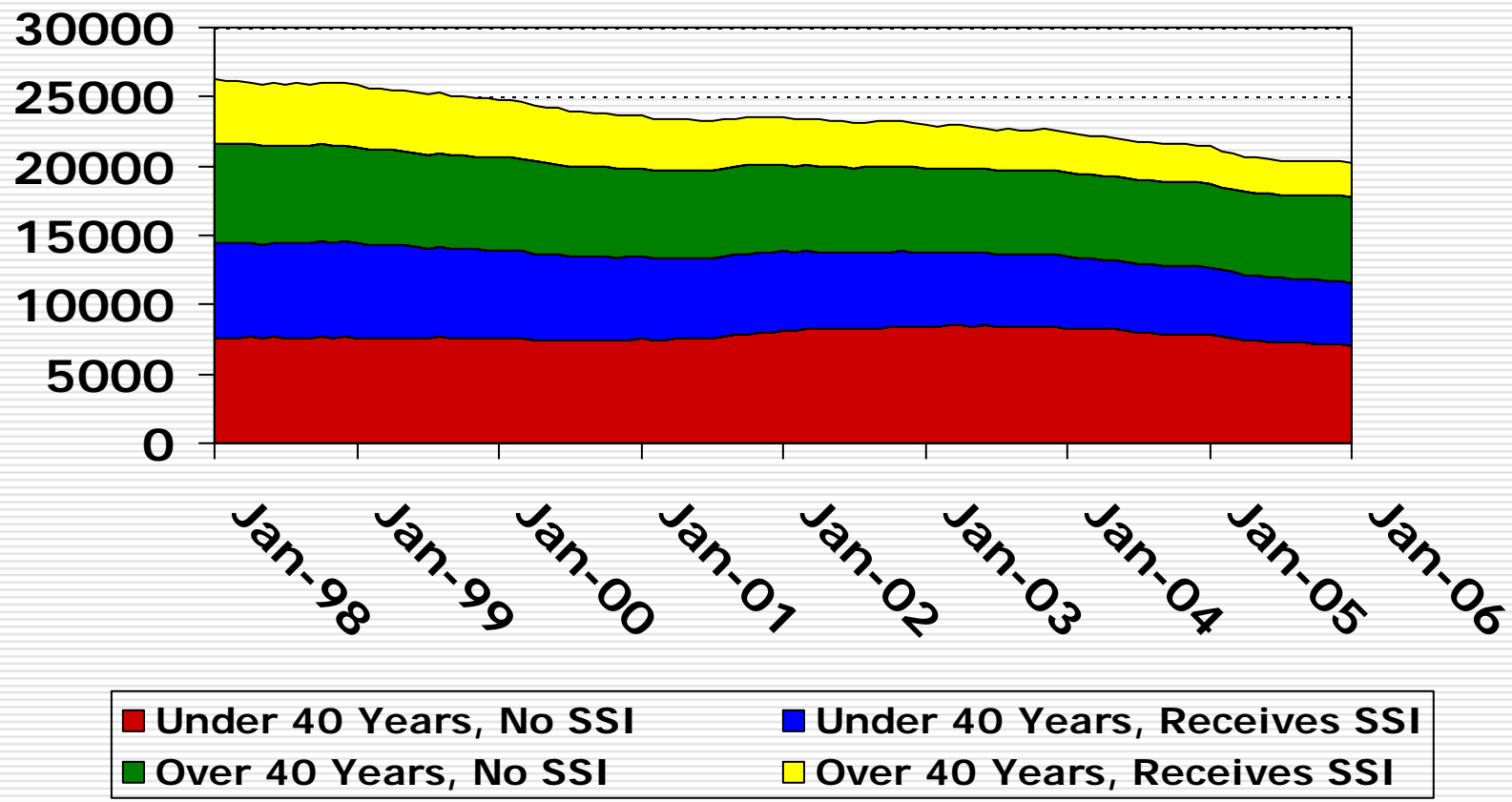


# Some or All Family Members are Hispanic or Latino by Entry Cohort

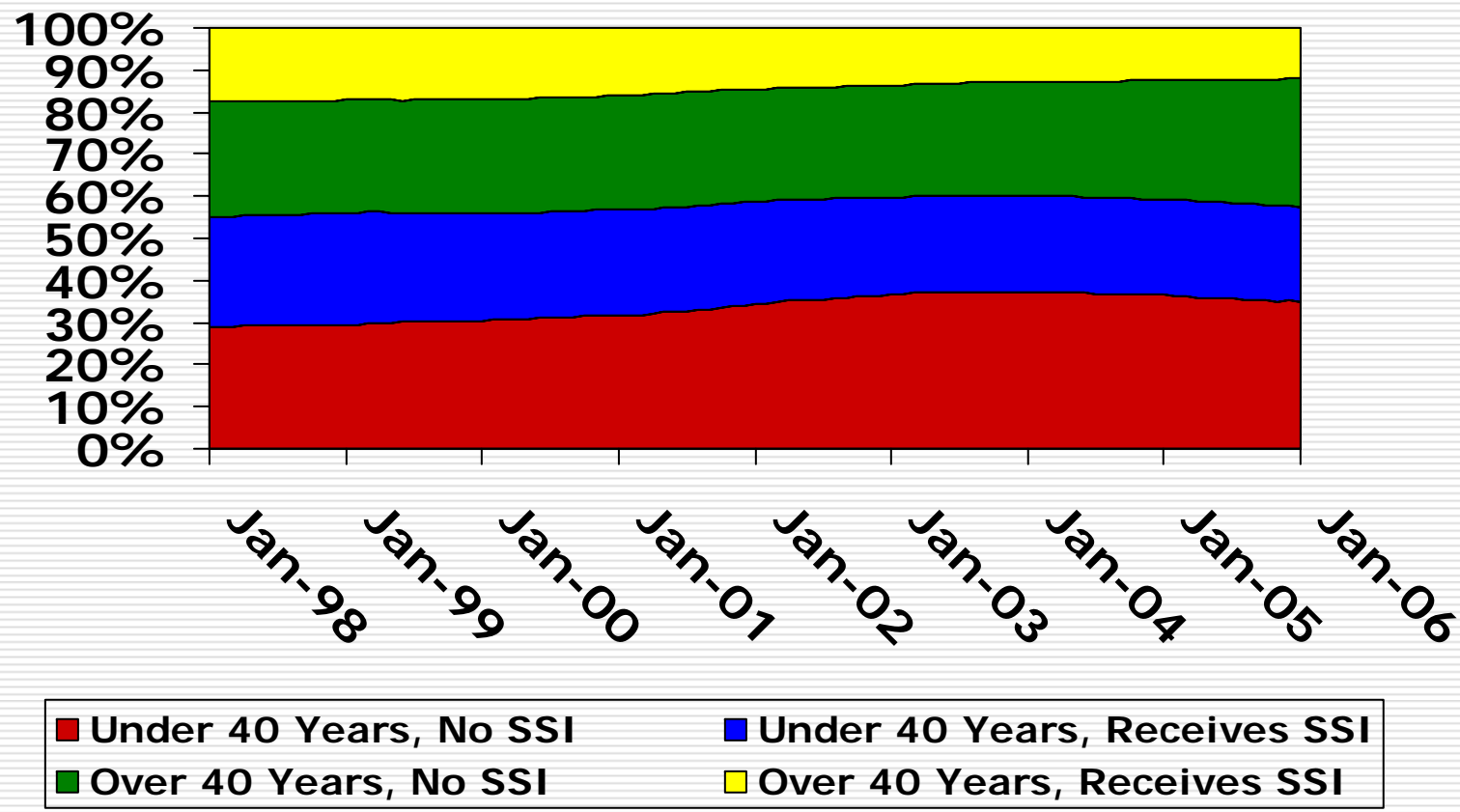
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# Difference in Age Between Payee and Youngest Child and Receipt of SSI



# Difference in Age Between Payee and Youngest Child and Receipt of SSI



# The Impact of Time Limits

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# Findings in Brief

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- ❑ Since the implementation of the five year time limit under PRWORA, 3,014 adults accumulated 60-months (as of 6/06)
- ❑ Of those, 2,546 (about 84%) left TANF cash assistance immediately
- ❑ 468 (about 16%) received an exemption from the limit (“clock stops”)



# Findings in Brief con't

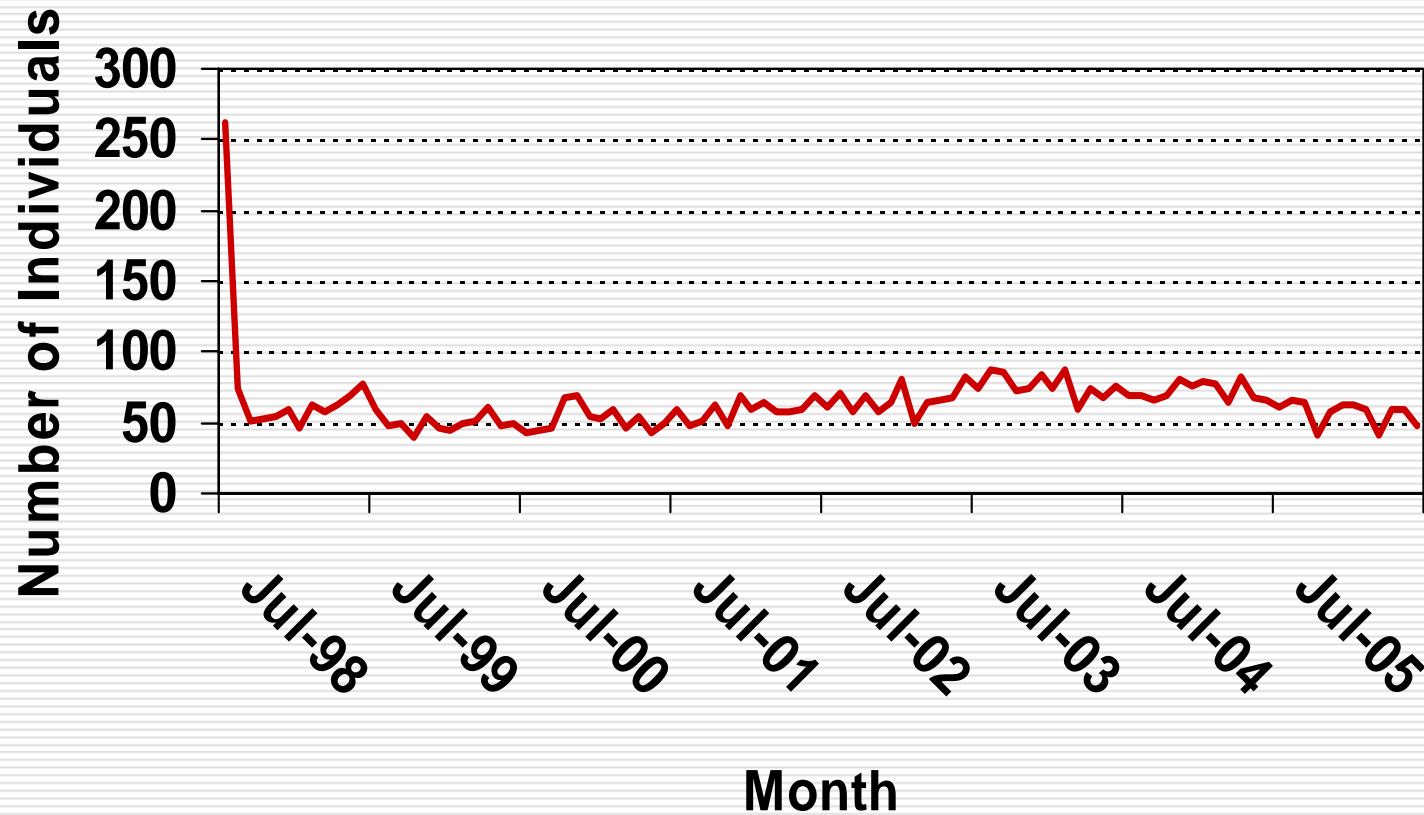
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- ❑ Employment
  - Few 60-month leavers find jobs
  - Of those who do, earnings are low
- ❑ Participation in Medicaid and Food Stamps is high
- ❑ Exemptions only last a maximum of six months
- ❑ Overall, the findings suggest that economic hardship remains a significant issue with implications for child and family well-being

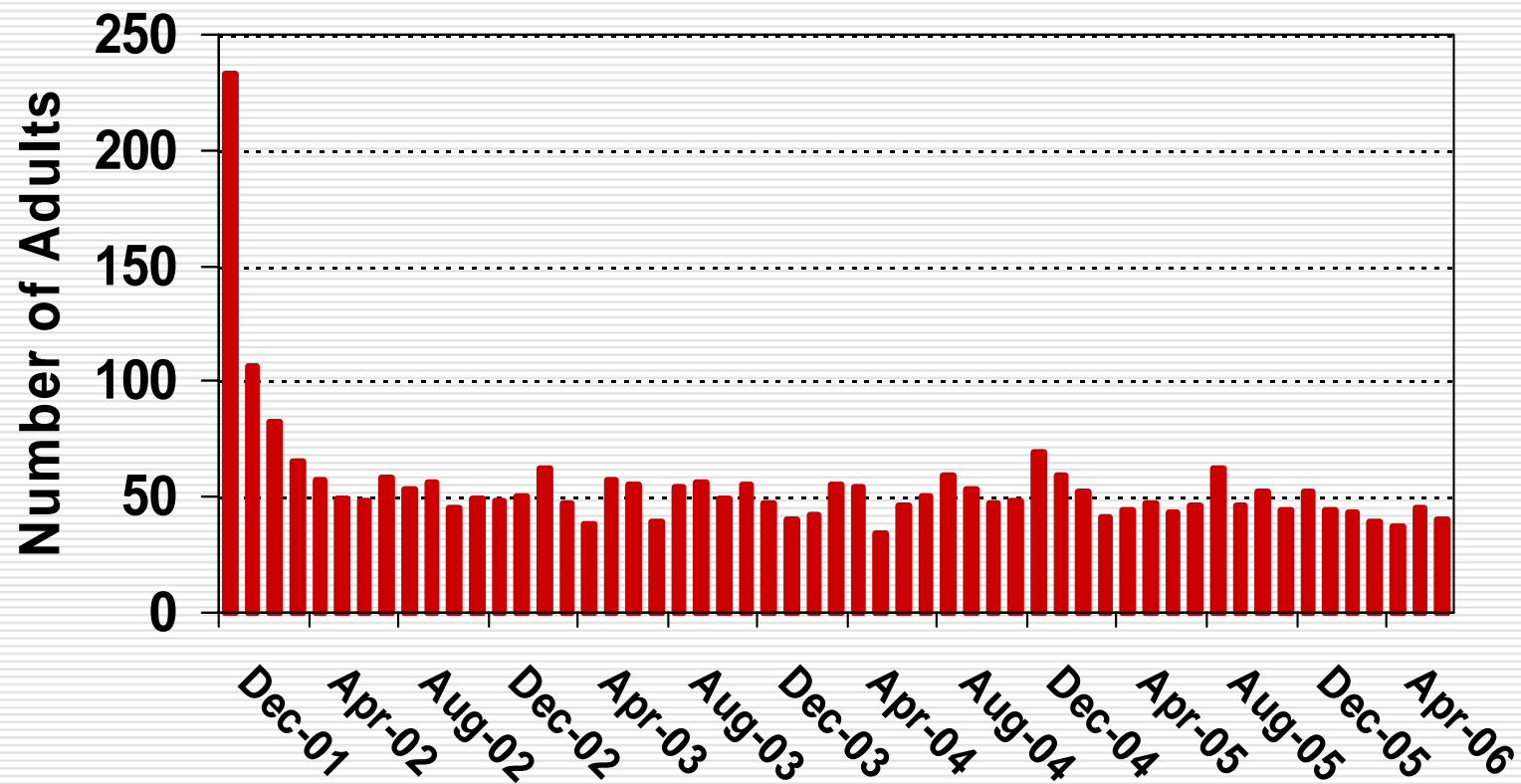


# Individuals Accumulating 24 Months on the Time Clock and Leaving

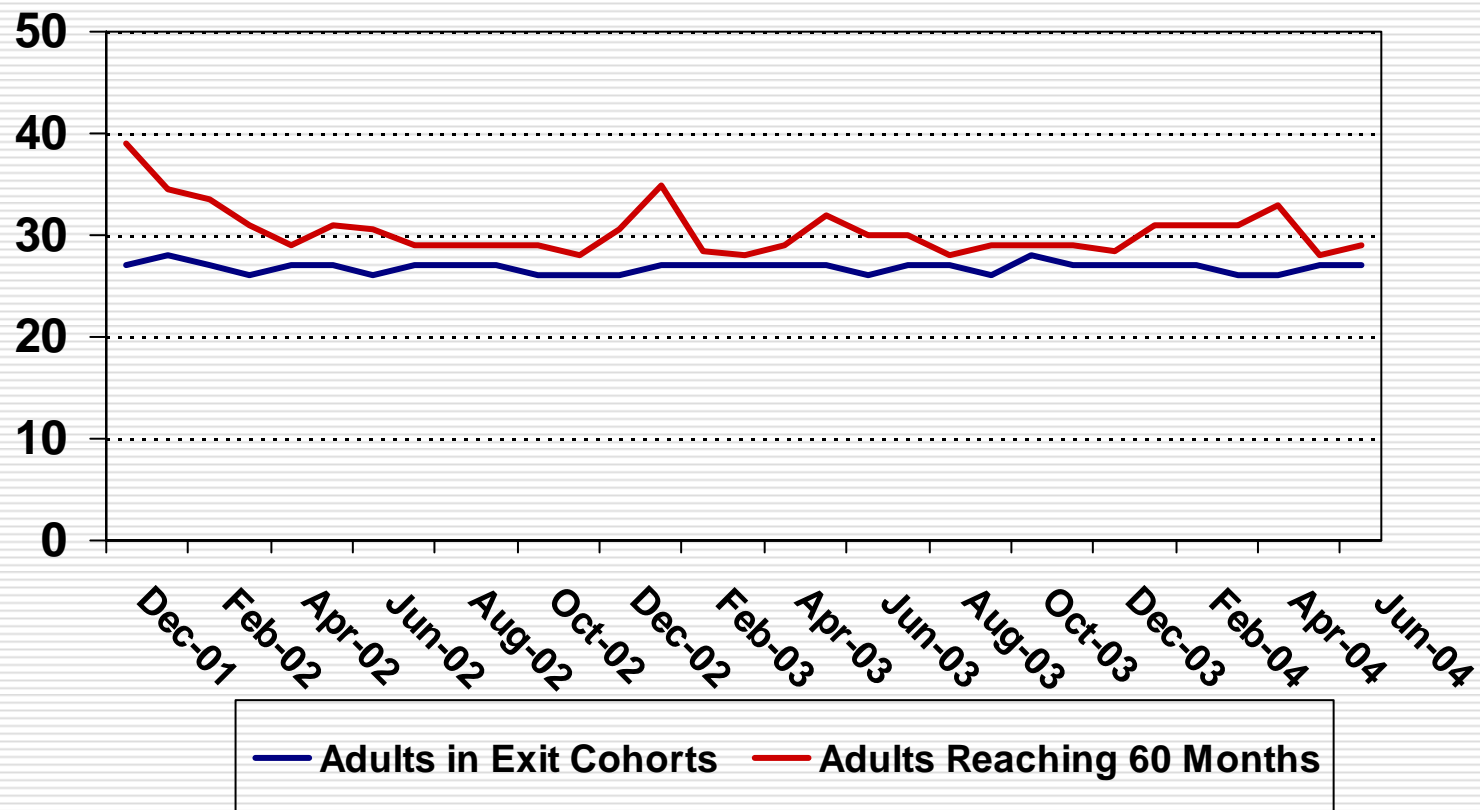
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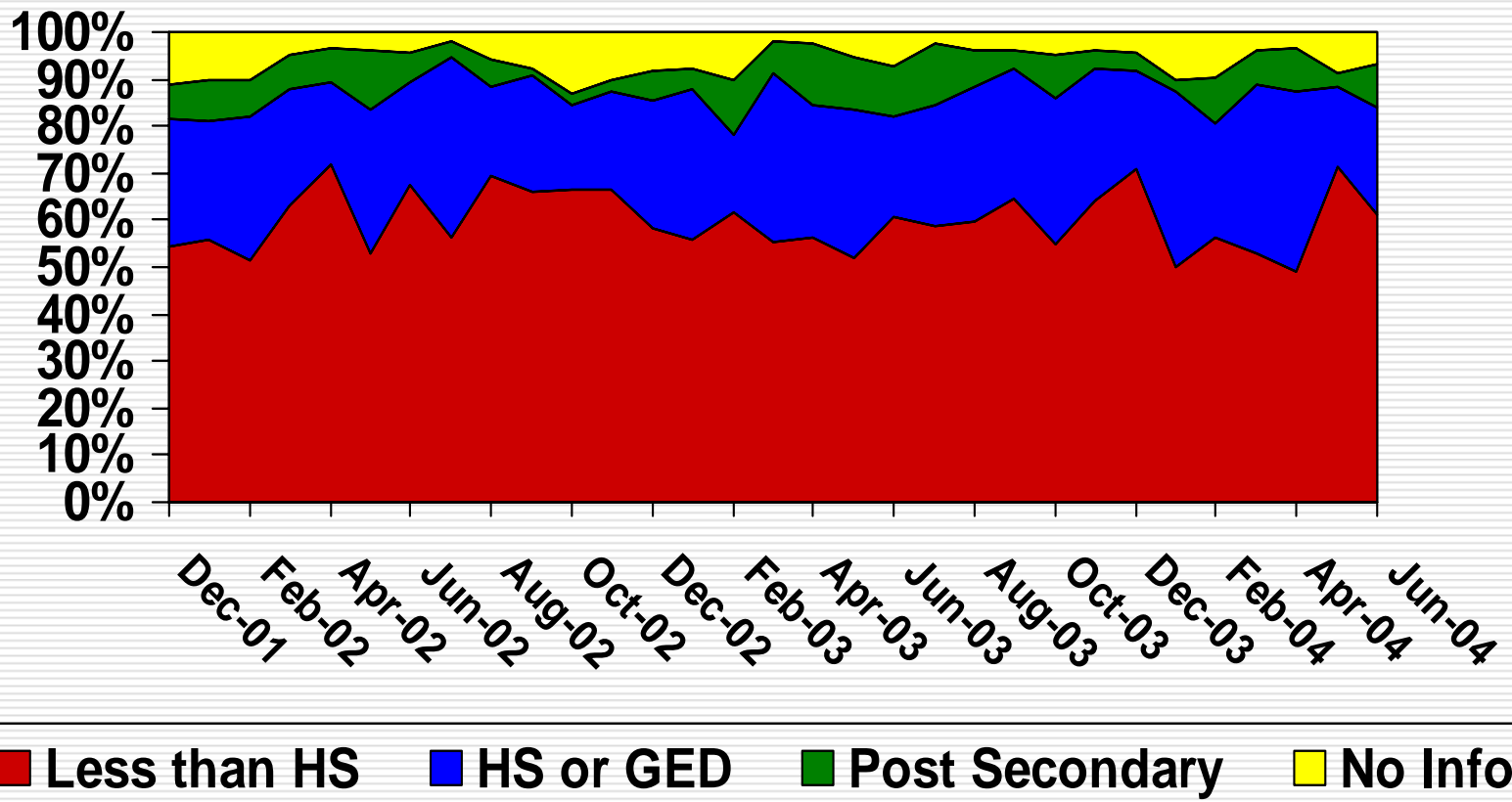
# The Number of Adults Reaching the 60-Month Time Limit



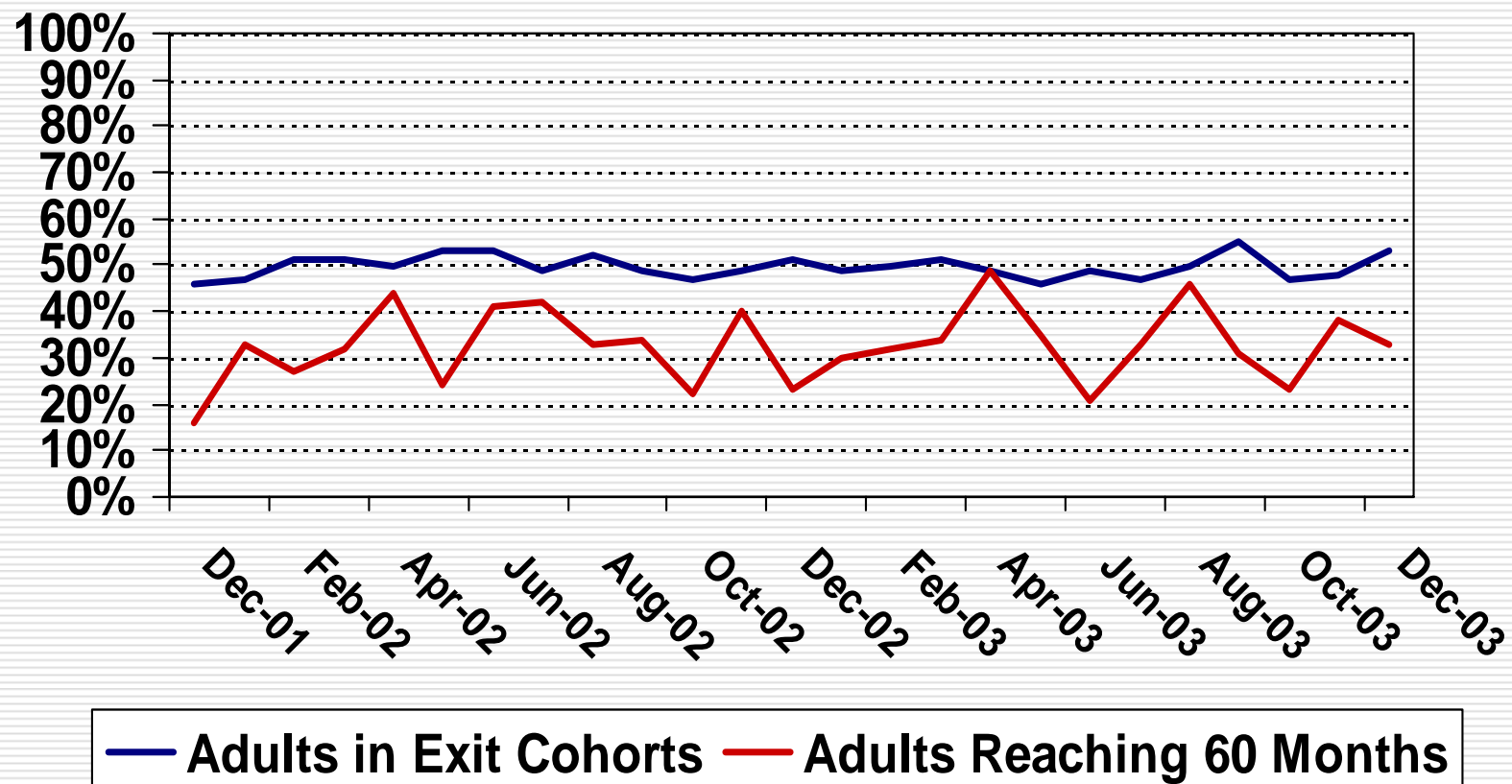
# Median Age of Adults Leaving Work First



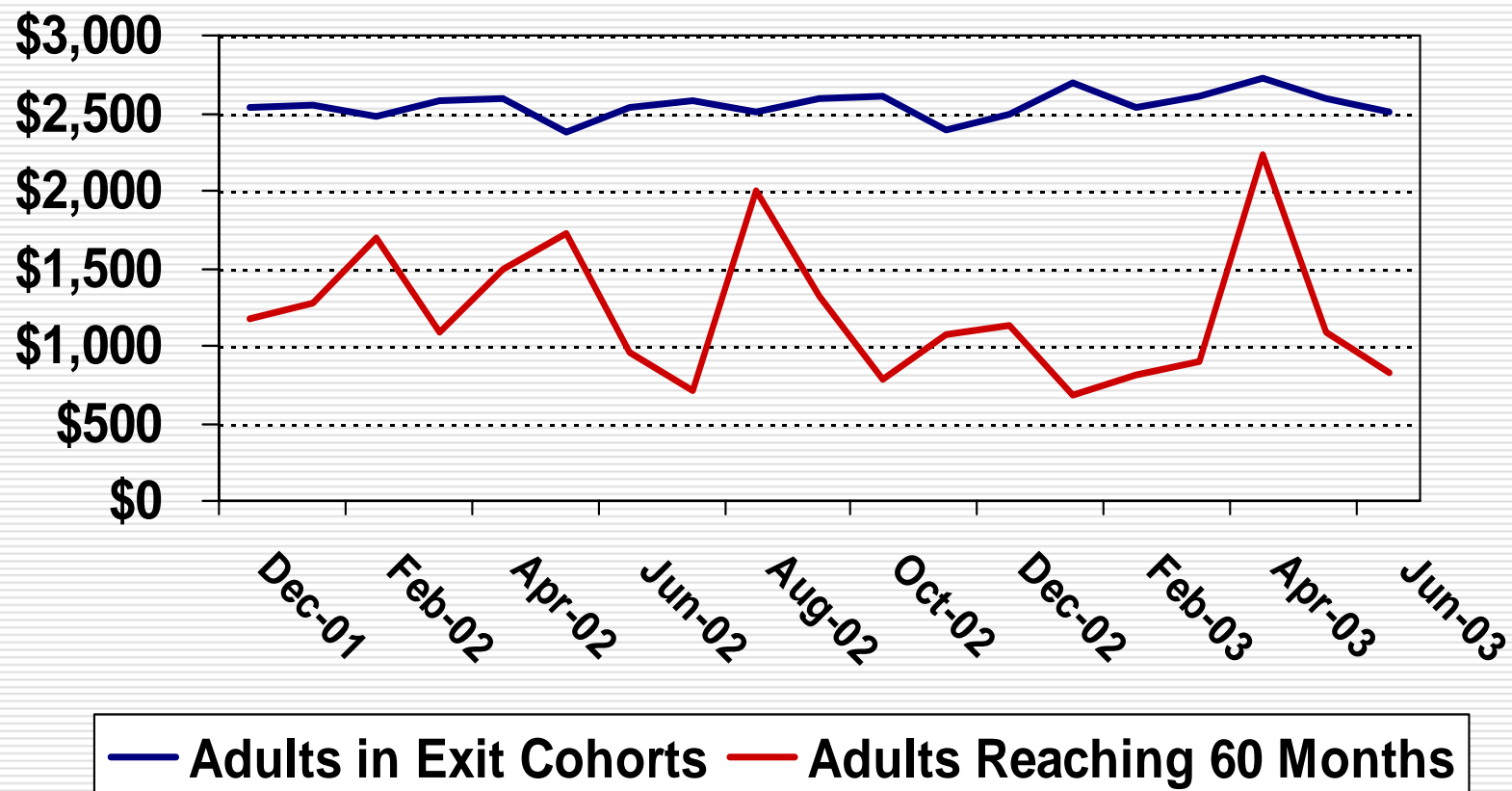
# Educational Attainment of Adults Reaching the 60-Month Time Limit



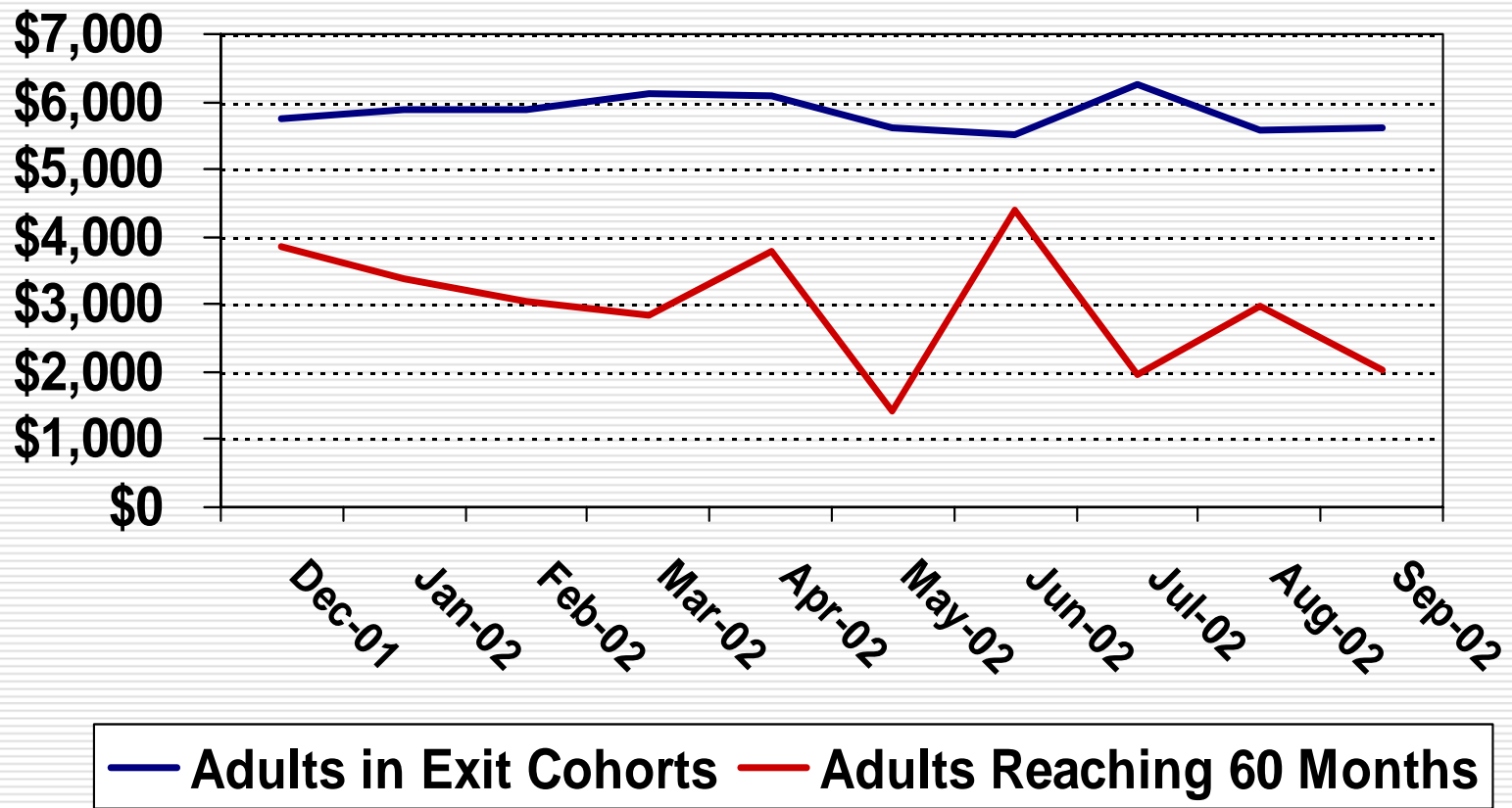
# Percentage with Earnings in the First Quarter After Leaving Work First



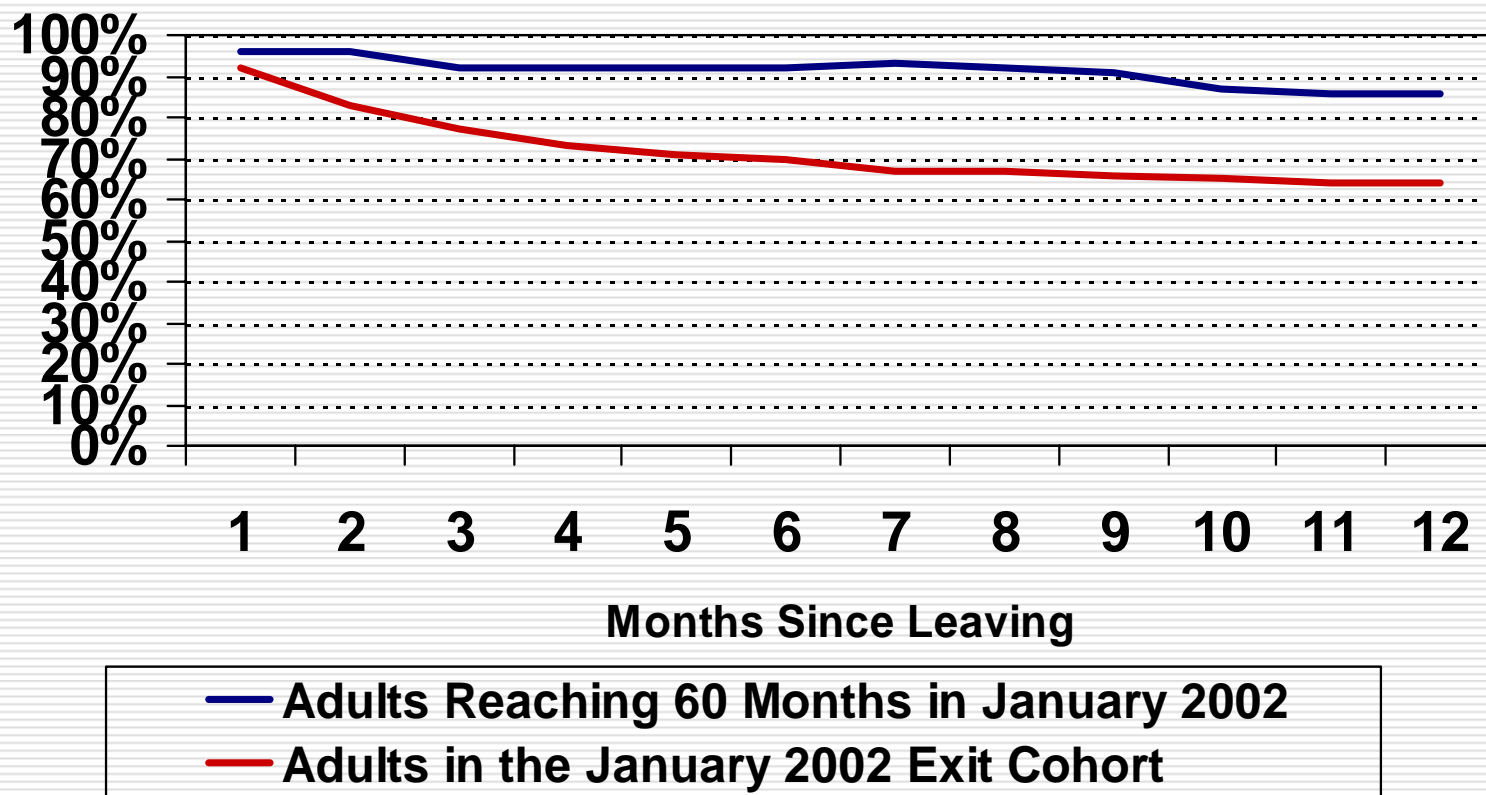
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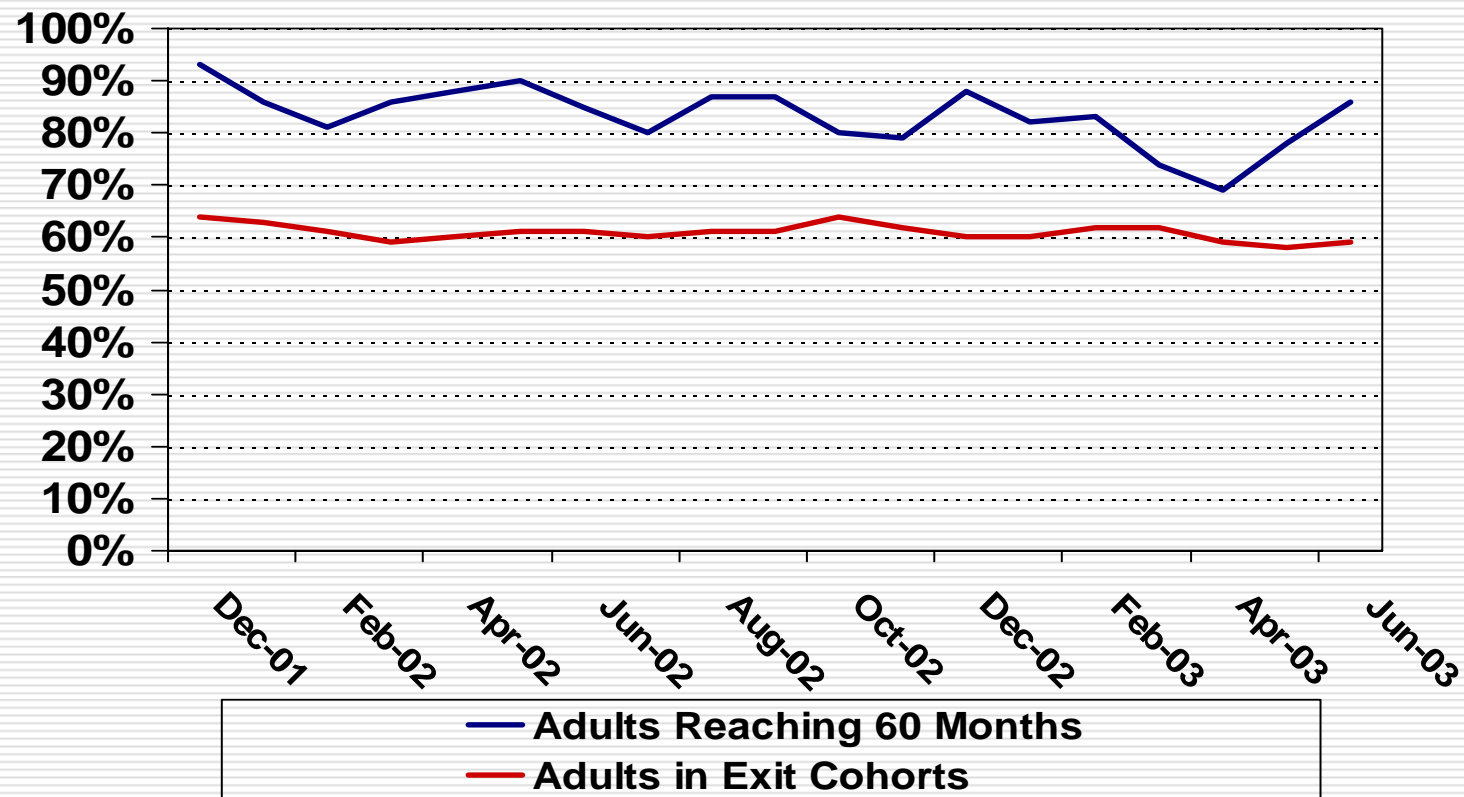
# Median Earnings in the First Four Quarters After Leaving Work First



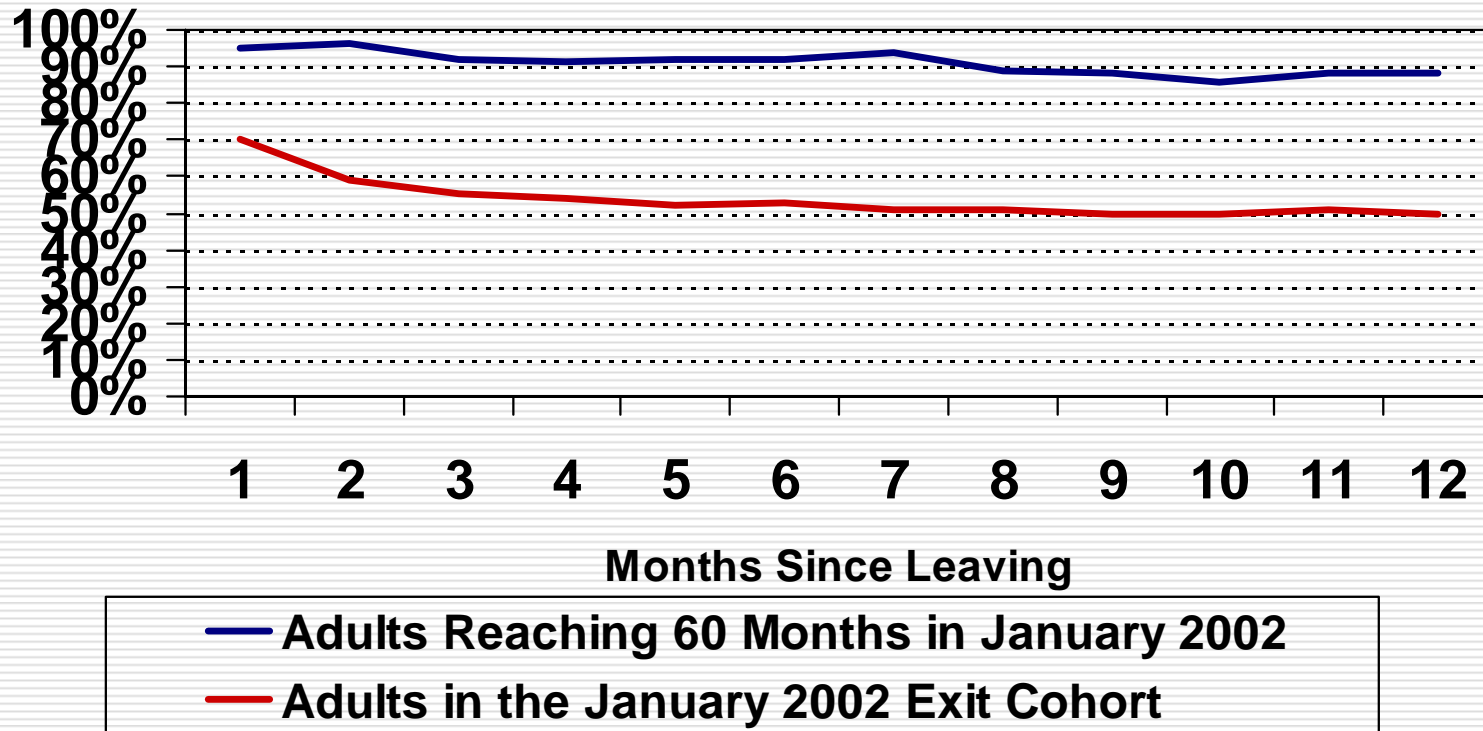
# Percentage of Adults Continuing to Receive Medicaid



# Percentage of Adults on Medicaid Twelve Months After Exit



# Percentage of Adults Continuing to Receive Food Stamps



# Special Caseloads/Situations

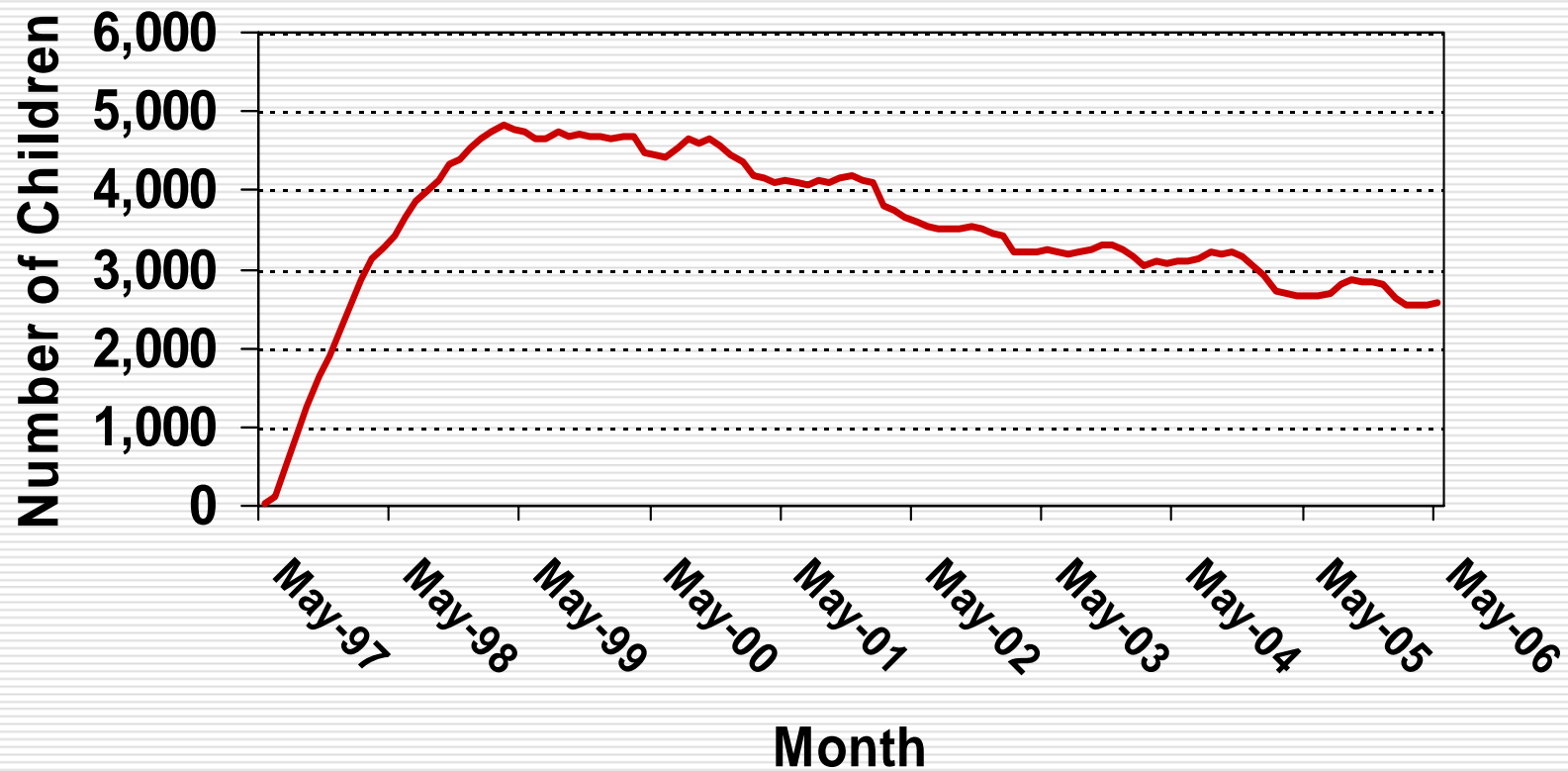
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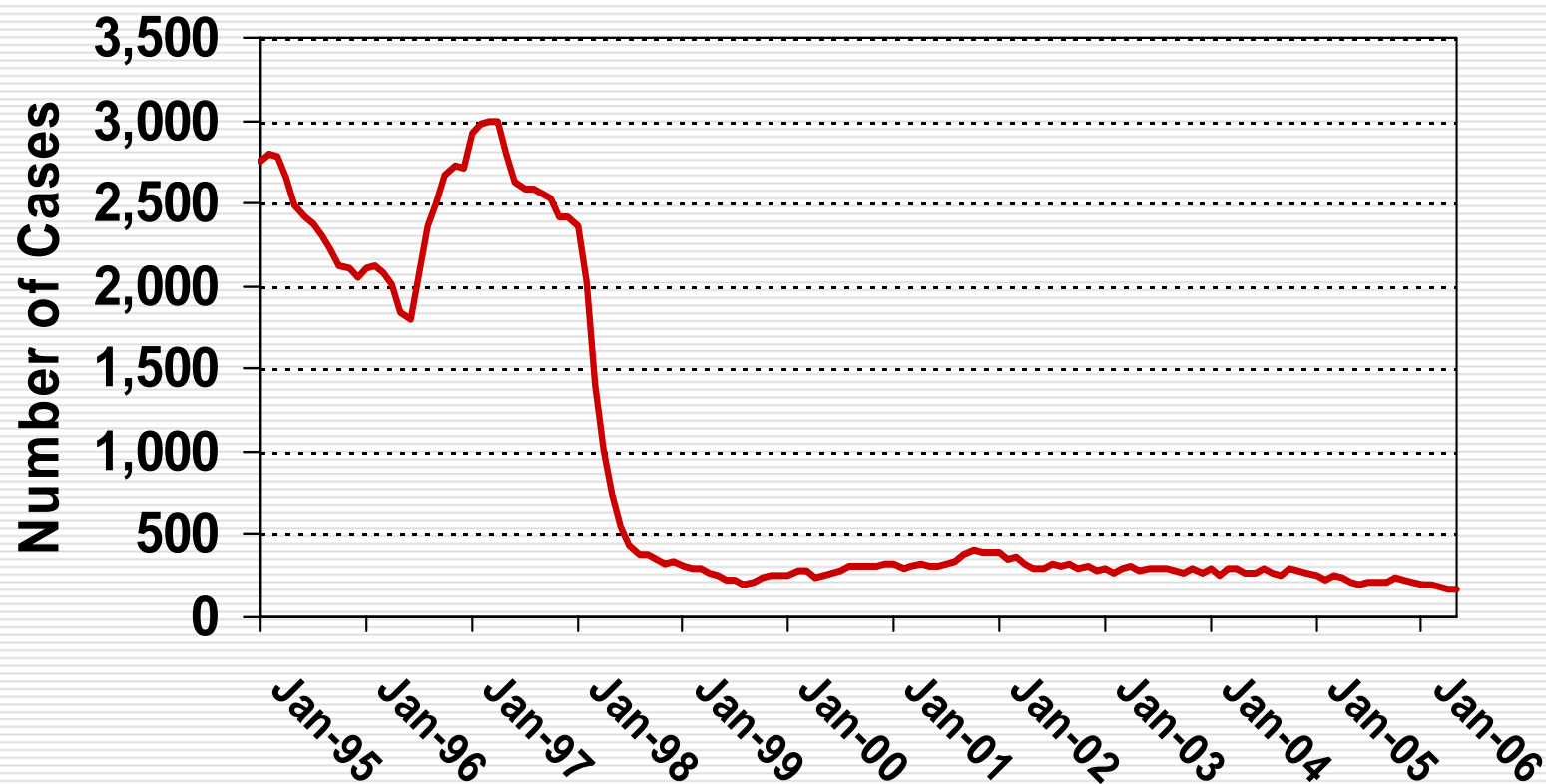
# The Number of Family Cap Children in Work First Families

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# Changes in the Two Parent Caseload

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# The Outcomes of North Carolina's Work First Program

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For additional information, contact:

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