

# Children Receiving Cash Benefits: KTAP

## Definition

Children receiving KTAP is the number of children who receive cash assistance at any point during the reported fiscal year. *Percent of child-only cases* is the percent of all KTAP cases with no adult recipients.

## Data in context

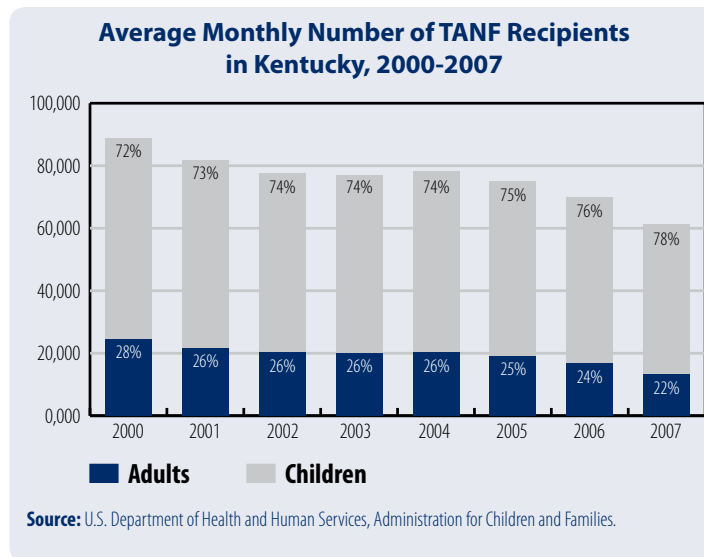
All children benefit when they live in families with adequate resources to meet basic needs. The Kentucky Transitional Assistance Program (KTAP) provides cash assistance to families with children that are unable to meet basic needs, while requiring work activities of parents to move families towards self-sufficiency.

KTAP is Kentucky's program through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant that Congress enacted in 1996 to replace the former welfare program, Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). The Social Security Act of 1935 established AFDC as a grants program to the states to provide welfare payments to needy children.<sup>1</sup>

KTAP provides financial support to assist needy families in caring for their children. In addition to financial help, the program promotes job preparation, work, and marriage to help parents reach self-sufficiency.<sup>2</sup> The program requires work participation by adult recipients and limits the length of time an adult recipient may receive benefits to five years. In Kentucky, the average monthly grant per family in June 2008 was \$240.49.<sup>3</sup>

TANF also sets requirements for states to ensure a certain percentage of families are working and that the state spends an adequate level of state funding, called "maintenance of effort" (MOE), on programs for low-income families. Kentucky's MOE requires the state to spend an amount equal to or greater than 80 percent of FY 1994 expenditures, or \$71.9 million.

Nationally, an average of nearly 3 million children received TANF benefits each month in 2007, and the number has been declining steadily since 1994.<sup>4</sup> A number of factors have contributed to the decline in



child, as well as overall, participation, including increased work supports, such as child care subsidies; an improving economy during much of that time; and welfare-to-work efforts.<sup>5</sup> Increases in the use of sanctions for adults who do not meet work requirements, as well as an overall increase in the number of non-parental caretakers, explain much of the growth in the child-only caseload.<sup>6,7</sup>

Parents need access to education and well-paying jobs to be self-sufficient. Years of "accumulated disadvantages" like unequal work opportunities and barriers to building family assets have contributed to economic disparities by race.<sup>8</sup> The majority of TANF recipients in Kentucky are White, though national data show disproportionately higher rates of TANF usage among non-Hispanic Black and Hispanic families than among non-Hispanic White families.<sup>9,10</sup>

In Kentucky, 37,853 children received KTAP in 2007, a 38 percent drop from the 60,768 child recipients in 2000. Most counties followed the state trend, with a decrease in the number of children enrolled in 107 of 120 counties. The number of children receiving KTAP dropped by 60 percent or more for Floyd, Greenup, Harlan, Knott,

Lawrence, Martin, Magoffin, Perry, and Robertson Counties. In contrast, the number of child recipients increased by more than 50 percent in Boone, Franklin, Oldham, and Scott Counties.

While the overall number of children receiving KTAP declined statewide between 2000 and 2007, the percent of cases that only included child recipients increased from 39 percent in 2000 to 52 percent in 2007.

**Data Source:** Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Department for Community Based Services.

**Rate Calculation:**  $((\text{total number of KTAP cases} - \text{number of adult recipients receiving Basic KTAP} - \text{number of cases with an unemployed parent in 2000}) * 100) / (\text{total number of KTAP cases in 2000})$

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## Children receiving KTAP (number of children & percent of cases that are child-only)

	2000		2007	
	Number	Percent child-only cases	Number	Percent child-only cases
<b>Kentucky</b>	<b>60,768</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>37,853</b>	<b>52</b>
Adair	227	58	120	65
Allen	92	84	64	76
Anderson	79	31	67	66
Ballard	91	47	45	65
Barren	479	39	330	51
Bath	242	54	113	70
Bell	761	62	453	74
Boone	242	53	382	48
Bourbon	199	32	183	50
Boyd	912	31	543	53
Boyle	209	47	211	61
Bracken	76	45	74	42
Breathitt	616	62	290	74
Breckinridge	199	45	144	44
Bullitt	268	50	246	50
Butler	174	38	127	59
Caldwell	146	53	105	42
Calloway	335	28	159	56
Campbell	855	37	645	51
Carlisle	51	40	23	87
Carroll	84	69	51	78
Carter	387	47	262	58
Casey	140	70	110	73
Christian	879	32	435	49
Clark	490	40	299	54
Clay	889	70	541	80
Clinton	146	58	66	91
Crittenden	99	43	82	60
Cumberland	145	52	97	67
Daviess	1,121	39	925	47
Edmonson	153	49	87	62
Elliott	302	36	136	48
Estill	380	35	187	66
Fayette	3,068	27	1,571	45
Fleming	204	44	109	54
Floyd	1,782	29	693	59
Franklin	170	55	289	42
Fulton	319	38	177	47
Gallatin	70	56	55	65
Garrard	156	43	111	54

	2000		2007	
	Number	Percent child-only cases	Number	Percent child-only cases
Grant	195	42	191	53
Graves	378	43	185	71
Grayson	229	60	152	64
Green	108	59	60	62
Greenup	368	52	142	77
Hancock	75	36	74	47
Hardin	792	37	412	58
Harlan	1,381	33	555	55
Harrison	111	54	129	44
Hart	204	49	128	60
Henderson	569	29	574	42
Henry	125	52	93	52
Hickman	77	38	33	57
Hopkins	739	29	440	46
Jackson	303	61	127	88
Jefferson	11,265	32	8,004	35
Jessamine	301	42	312	46
Johnson	646	34	333	56
Kenton	1,663	38	1,225	50
Knott	987	29	308	63
Knox	1,418	41	686	63
LaRue	107	43	102	52
Laurel	892	48	474	80
Lawrence	496	35	171	71
Lee	239	44	175	60
Leslie	531	35	269	42
Letcher	912	32	539	41
Lewis	227	56	132	47
Lincoln	251	43	211	53
Livingston	70	49	36	58
Logan	287	47	178	57
Lyon	45	52	29	67
McCracken	1,302	36	647	51
McCreary	731	46	344	68
McLean	115	38	73	50
Madison	768	34	445	53
Magoffin	706	32	268	70
Marion	227	50	141	55
Marshall	193	28	144	48
Martin	870	27	332	54
Mason	251	28	242	34

	2000		2007	
	Number	Percent child-only cases	Number	Percent child-only cases
Meade	123	70	135	49
Menifee	176	29	126	42
Mercer	201	39	128	65
Metcalfe	146	54	63	82
Monroe	145	68	85	67
Montgomery	365	37	239	64
Morgan	346	40	154	63
Muhlenberg	351	48	322	56
Nelson	364	35	265	46
Nicholas	114	36	95	60
Ohio	226	40	179	59
Oldham	62	60	118	55
Owen	67	92	56	83
Owsley	362	46	165	71
Pendleton	138	44	92	62
Perry	1,324	32	521	43
Pike	1,744	36	863	64
Powell	235	47	170	67
Pulaski	760	50	700	49
Robertson	32	61	8	60
Rockcastle	209	55	99	79
Rowan	280	36	168	40
Russell	259	61	221	61
Scott	147	54	241	41
Shelby	205	53	270	51
Simpson	117	51	84	66
Spencer	40	62	43	61
Taylor	329	59	194	63
Todd	129	58	93	58
Trigg	77	59	62	80
Trimble	61	55	73	63
Union	192	33	122	58
Warren	1,099	46	841	55
Washington	81	58	55	47
Wayne	486	45	286	68
Webster	187	31	128	53
Whitley	889	47	423	82
Wolfe	246	64	174	67
Woodford	74	38	76	50