



Family Investment Program

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<p>Purpose</p>	<p>The goal of Iowa's Family Investment Program (FIP) is to gain self-sufficiency for needy families with children. There is a five-year lifetime limit for receiving FIP benefits, with exceptions in hardship cases. FIP is not an entitlement program.</p>																
<p>Who</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Iowa's FIP caseload has dropped sharply (59 percent) since 1994, when the average monthly caseload was 38,000. The downward trend reversed sharply in SFY 09. At the end of the fiscal year, 16,249 families were receiving benefits, a 7 percent increase in one year. ▪ The FIP caseload is projected to continue to increase during SFY 2010 before stabilizing and starting to decrease again in SFY 2011. ▪ Many families have multiple barriers to self-sufficiency. Current economic conditions have added to the difficulty of finding and keeping a job. ▪ In SFY09, 76 percent of recipients were one-parent families, 6 percent had both parents in the home, and 18 percent were children living with a relative. Many children in this last group were placed with relatives in child welfare cases. 																
<p>What</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adults must work toward self-sufficiency in exchange for payments. They receive employment and training services via the PROMISE JOBS contract with the Iowa Department of Workforce Development. The federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 required increased emphasis on work-related activities. ▪ FIP provides monthly cash payments based on family size and income. The average grant was \$318.87 in SFY09. ▪ The average time a family receives FIP is 20.4 months. ▪ Only families with a hardship preventing them from being self-supporting can get FIP beyond the 60-month lifetime limit. In SFY09, about 220 families were receiving benefits due to the hardship exception. ▪ The earned income disregard, raised in SFY08, provides an increased work incentive. 																
<p>How are We Doing?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 71.2 percent of families that left FIP in July 2008 stayed off FIP for at least one year, which reverses an upward trend and reflects the economy's impact on the ability of former recipients to maintain employment. <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Percentage of Cases that Left FIP and Did Not Return Within One Year</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Percentage of Cases that Left FIP and Did Not Return Within One Year</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>SFY</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>SFY 03</td> <td>64.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SFY 04</td> <td>65.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SFY 05</td> <td>67.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SFY 06</td> <td>69.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SFY 07</td> <td>70.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SFY 08</td> <td>73.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SFY 09</td> <td>71.2%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div>	SFY	Percentage	SFY 03	64.5%	SFY 04	65.5%	SFY 05	67.0%	SFY 06	69.5%	SFY 07	70.5%	SFY 08	73.5%	SFY 09	71.2%
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