

TANF Reauthorization: Framing the Critical Issues

May 30 - June 2, 2006



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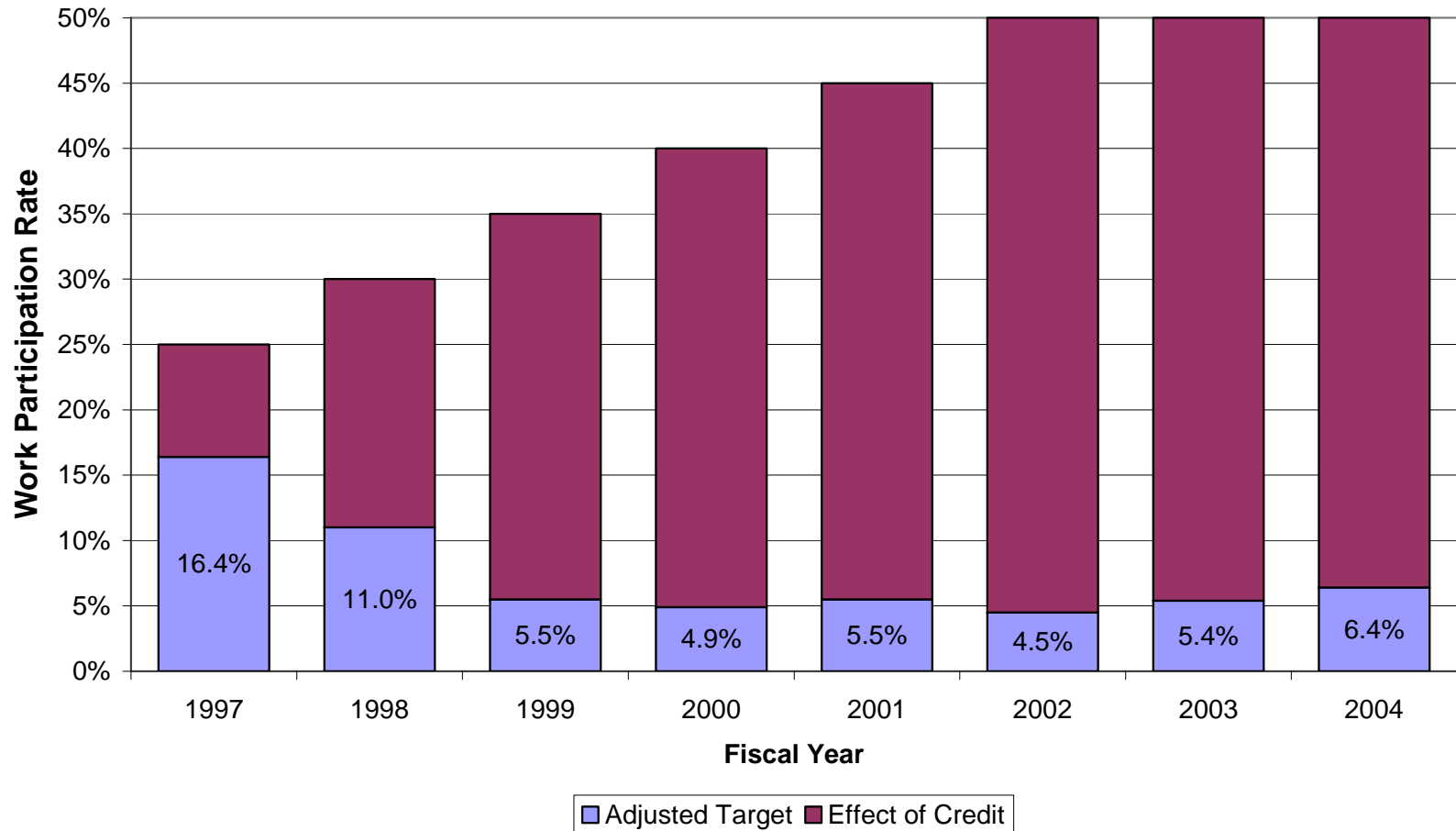
Framing the Critical Issues: Federal Efforts: A Look Back

- ACF/SAMHSA National Conference
- Urban Partnership Initiative/Big Five
- EITC Initiatives
- Work Participation Rate Regional Conferences
- Performance Management

Framing the Critical Issues: TANF Reauthorization Major Provisions

- Maintain 50% All Family Work Participation Rate
- Recalibrate Caseload Reduction Credit (FY 2005)

Effect of the Caseload Reduction Credit FY 1997 – FY 2004



Framing the Critical Issues: TANF Reauthorization Major Provisions

- Maintain 50% All Family Work Participation Rate
- Recalibrate Caseload Reduction Credit (FY 2005)
- Inclusion of Families in Separate State Programs (SSP-MOE)
- Ensure Uniform and Consistent Measurement of WPR
 - Determine What Defines Work Activity
 - Verification Procedures
 - Internal Controls
 - Circumstance Under Which Child Only Cases Should Be Added

Framing the Critical Issues: TANF Reauthorization Timeline

- Allows for Interim Final Rule: June 30, 2006
- 60 Day Comment Period
- Verification Plans: September 30, 2006
- Interim Final Rule in Effect*: October 1, 2006 (FY 2007)

Framing the Critical Issues: GAO: HHS Should Exercise Oversight

- Work Participation Measure Used to Assess Performance
- How States Define Categories of Work Activities
- Whether States Implemented Internal Controls
- HHS Guidance Provided to States

Framing the Critical Issues: What GAO Found

- Ten States Study (CA, GA, KS, MD, NV, NY, OH, PA, WA, WI)
- Inconsistent Measurement of Work Participation Rates
- States Make Significant Changes from Year to Year
- Lack of Internal Controls to Report Hours
- HHS Guidance Lacks Specific Criteria for Determining Hours, Internal Controls, and Definitions

Framing the Critical Issues: Where Are You on Assessing these Factors?

- Does your program require substantial engagement in work activities?
- Does your exception/sanction policy help or prevent full participation?
- Can you identify all employed on the caseload and those leaving with jobs?
- Have you a plan to address those with no hours?
- Does your performance management program inform staff and managers?

Framing the Critical Issues: Where Are You on Assessing these Factors?

- Do you know where your caseload is?
- Can you document what they are doing?

Framing the Critical Issues: GAO: HHS Should Exercise Oversight

Report to the Chairman, Subcommittee on Human Resources, Committee on
Ways and Means, House of Representatives

August 2005 WELFARE REFORM

HHS Should Exercise Oversight to Help Ensure TANF Work
Participation Is Measured Consistently across States

GAO-05-821

www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-05-821

Framing the Critical Issues: Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood

- \$100 Million Healthy Marriage
 - Eight Allowable Activities
 - Couples at Time of Birth of Child
 - Low Income Families
 - Community Healthy Marriage Initiatives

 - \$50 Million Responsible Fatherhood
 - Healthy Marriage
 - Parenting
 - Economic Stability

 - Consultation and Assurances Required
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