Arizona | TANF Caseload Factsheet
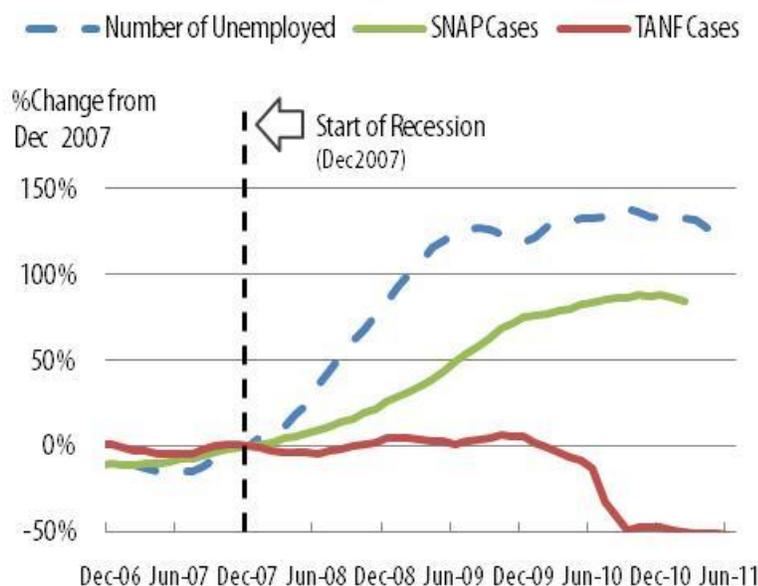
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

The TANF caseload in Arizona increased by 5 percent from Dec 07 to Dec 09.

TANF, SNAP and Unemployment Trends

	Dec 07	Dec 09	Dec 10	% Change Dec 07-09	% Change Dec 09-10
Number of Unemployed	131,000	287,000	304,400	*119%*	6%
SNAP Cases	245,200	429,400	460,300	**75%**	7%
TANF Cases	37,900	39,900	19,800	5%	-50%

- Arizona's TANF caseload was relatively stable prior to the recession and during the first two years of the recession. The caseload began declining in December 2009, with a sharp decline from June 2010 to September 2010 because of policy changes, and has remained relatively stable since September 2010.

- Among all states, Arizona ranked 35th in the amount its caseload increased from December 2007 to December 2009.

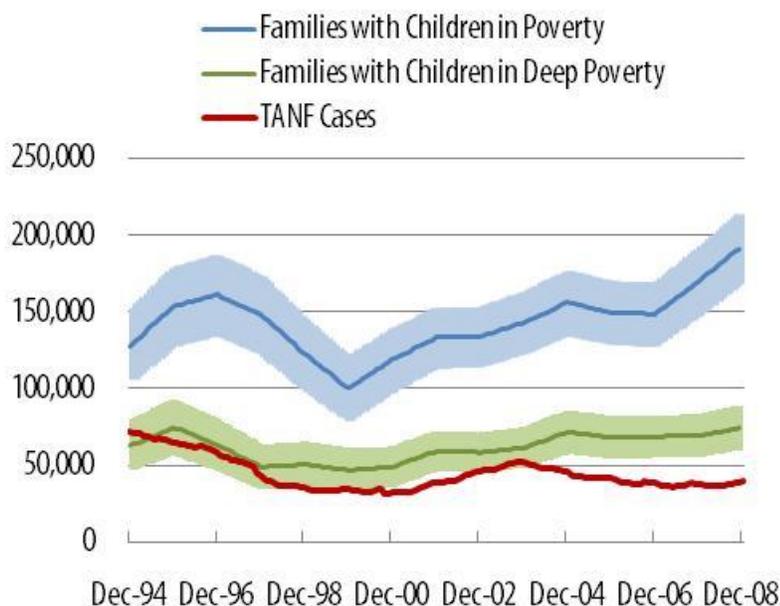### Changes in TANF Cases, SNAP Cases, and the Number of Unemployed Persons

A smaller share of needy families receives TANF now compared to 15 years ago.

TANF and Poverty Trends in Arizona

Families with children:	1994-95	2008-09
... on AFDC/TANF	69,900	38,300
... in Poverty	127,300	192,900
TANF to Poverty Ratio	**55**	**20**
United States TANF to Poverty Ratio	*75*	*28*

- In 1994-95, for every 100 Arizona families in poverty, the AFDC program served 55 families. In 2008-09, only 20 families participated in TANF for every 100 in poverty.

- In 2009, Arizona used 34% of its state and federal TANF funds on Basic Assistance.

- The monthly grant for a family of three in Arizona was $277 in 2010, 43% lower than in 1996 after adjusting for inflation.

Beginning in 2006, this analysis uses TANF caseload data collected directly from state agencies rather than the official data reported by HHS in order to more consistently reflect the number of families receiving cash welfare in each state over time. Unlike the HHS data, these data include solely state-funded programs, and exclude worker supplement programs.

Number of Families with Children in Poverty, Deep Poverty and TANF Cases

Deep Poverty refers to families below half the poverty line. Shading in graph shows the 90% confidence interval (lower and upper bound) of poverty estimates. Two years of Current Population Survey (CPS) data were merged to improve reliability. For example, Dec-08 represents merged CPS poverty data for calendar years 2008 and 2009.