

Bulletin

April 26, 2007

Minnesota Department of Human Services □ PO Box 64245 □ St. Paul, MN 55164-0245

OF INTEREST TO

County Agencies

- Directors
- Economic Assistance Supervisors and Staff
- Employment Services Directors and Providers
- Child Care Assistance Supervisors and Staff
- Social Services Supervisors and Staff
- Child Support Supervisors and Staff

Other Interested Parties

- Child Care Resource and Referral Directors
- Tribal Representatives

ACTION/DUE DATE

Please notify agency staff and organizations that may be interested in these reports.

EXPIRATION DATE

April, 2008

DHS Releases First Report in Series Describing MFIP Cases that Reached the 60 Month Time Limit in December 2005

TOPIC

Release of report, *At the Limit: December 2005 Minnesota Family Investment Program Cases that Reached the 60 Month Time Limit*.

PURPOSE

The report focuses on a one-month snapshot of Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) cases at their lifetime limit.

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SIGNED

CHARLES E. JOHNSON
Assistant Commissioner
Children and Family Services

BACKGROUND

Since the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) was enacted in 1996, there has been increasing concern about what happens to families once they can no longer receive cash assistance from the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP). The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) has examined this issue, beginning with the report, *The Welfare Time Limit: A survey of families who lost MFIP eligibility as a result of the five-year time limit* (available at <http://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Legacy/DM-0176-ENG>), which looked at the very first families affected by the lifetime limit. DHS is also conducting a longitudinal study of MFIP-recipients and studied a subset of participants with long-term cash assistance cases, titled *Minnesota Family Investment Program Longitudinal Study: Approaching the 60-Month Time Limit* (available at <http://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Legacy/DHS-4450G-ENG>).

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report is the first in a series of annual reports that focuses on a one-month snapshot of cases at their lifetime limit. It looks at two groups: 1) cases that already have 60 counted months and continue to receive MFIP, and 2) cases that reached their 60th counted month in the report month, December 2005. It identifies the total number of adults made ineligible due to the time limit, compares the characteristics of eligible adults that have reached their lifetime limit to those with less than 60 months, and gives the reasons that those in the first group continue to receive MFIP, the counties where these families reside, what happens to families in relation to MFIP in the month after they reach month 60, and outcomes for these families in their first six months after reaching the time limit.

Input from readers is invited, both reactions to this report and suggestions for indicators in future reports. Feedback, questions or comments on this report series should be forwarded to Dana DeMaster (651) 431-3963 dana.demaster@state.mn.us.

RESOURCES ON THE INTERNET

The report is posted at the DHS Website listed below. Once there, you will need to scroll down to the topic **Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) Reports** and then to the heading **MFIP Sixty-month Time Limit Reports**.

http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=id_004113

FUTURE REPORTS

The next annual report in this series will describe the December 2006 MFIP cases that reached the 60 Month Time Limit.

SPECIAL NEEDS

This information is available in other forms to people with disabilities by contacting us at (651) 431-3936, toll free at 1-800-366-7895 or through the Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TDD), 7-1-1 or 1-877-627-3848 (speech to speech relay service).