

Florida's Work and Gain Economic Self-Sufficiency (WAGES) Program

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Don Winstead

Welfare Reform Administrator

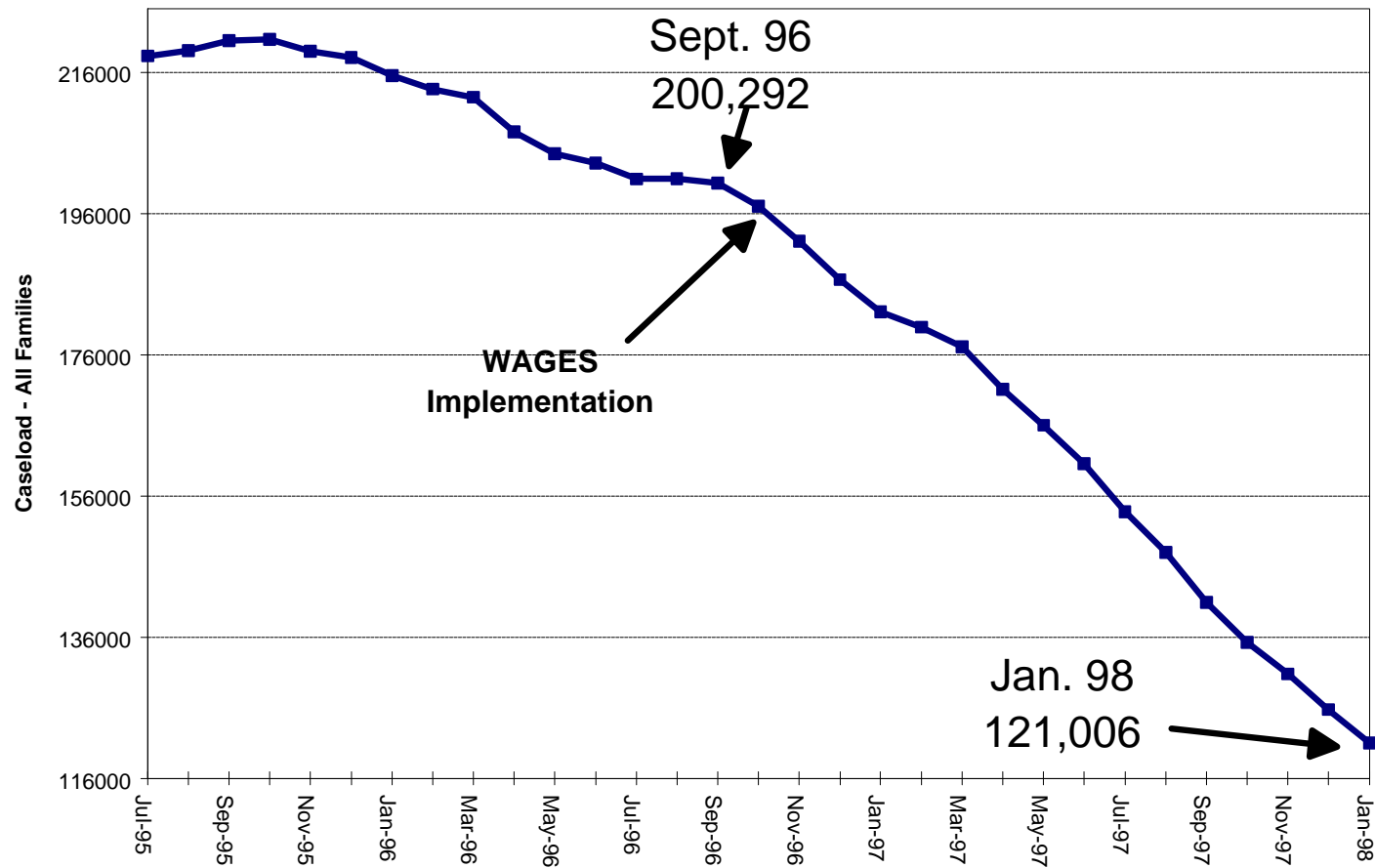
Don_Winstead@dcf.state.fl.us

(850) 921-5567

Caseload Trends

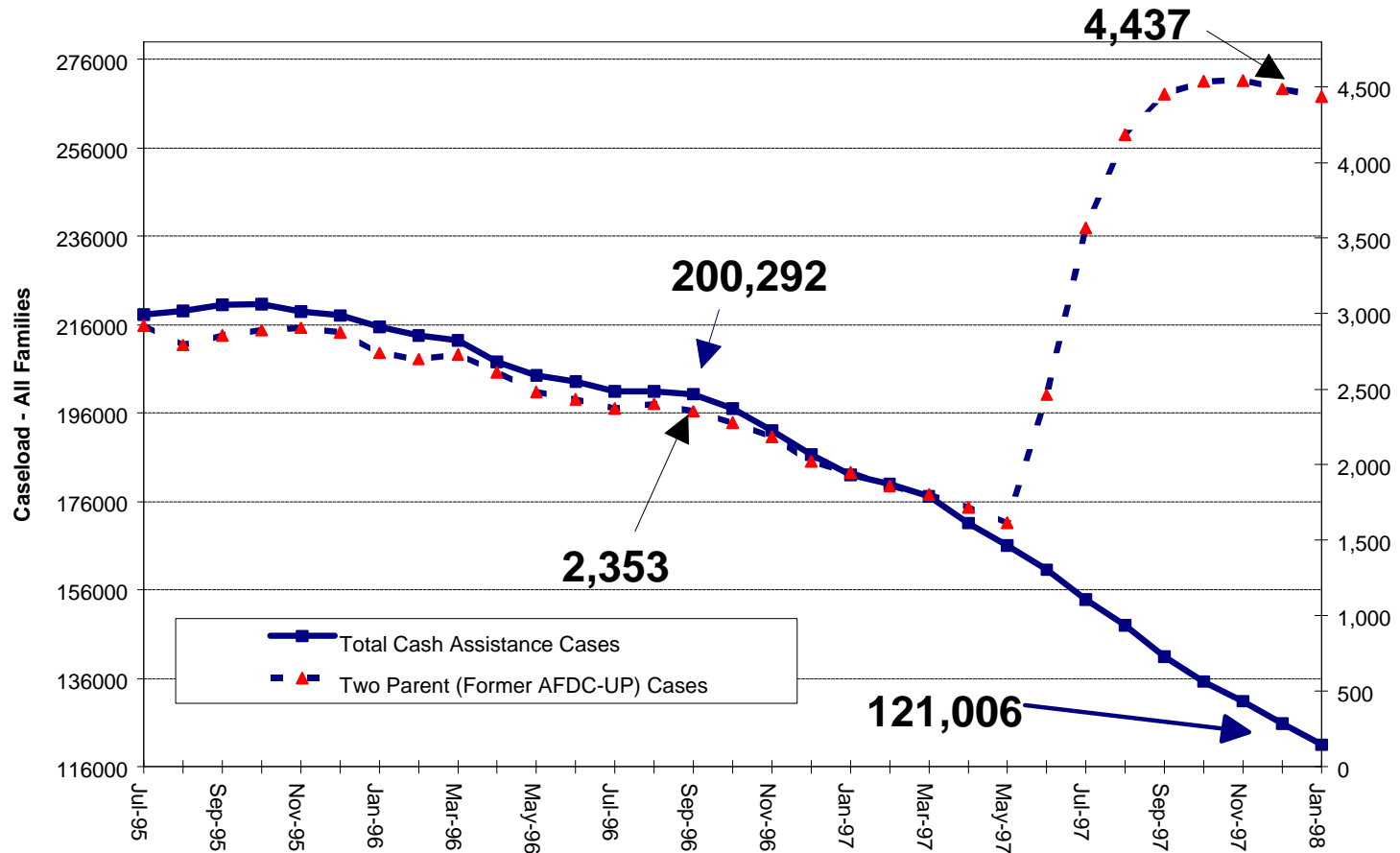
- The following graphs show recent cash assistance caseload trends in Florida.
- The first graph shows the total number of families receiving cash assistance (including two-parent families).
- The second graph shows all families compared to two-parent families. The marked increase in May 1997 coincides with the implementation of policy changes to remove restrictive eligibility penalties on two-parent families; the so-called “marriage penalties”.
- The Flash Report chart compares a number of caseload measures for the month prior to WAGES implementation (9/96) with the two most recent months.

Cash Assistance Caseload Trends July 1995 to January 1998



Caseload Trend

All Families Compared to Two Parent Families



WAGES Monthly Flash Report Caseload Data

Report Month for Cash Assistance Caseload Data: **January 1998**

Note: This report shows cash assistance caseload data for the indicated month. Employment data is reported on a separate flash report by the Department of Labor and Employment Security.

Indicator	Baseline Month (Sept. 96)	Previous Month (Dec. 97)	Report Month (Jan. 98)	Difference From Baseline	Percentage Change	Comments
Total Number of Cash Assistance Families Containing an Adult	152,436	87,674	83,340	-69,096	-45%	This indicator shows the number of families containing an adult. This number closely corresponds to the number of families subject to the WAGES time limit
Total Number of Families Receiving Cash Assistance	200,292	125,735	121,006	-79,286	-40%	The total number of families receiving cash assistance in Florida.
Total Number of Two Parent Families Receiving Assistance	2,353	4,488	4,437	2,084	89%	The total number of two parent families (formerly AFDC-UP). This is also included in the total above.
Total Number of People Receiving Cash Assistance	531,485	333,933	320,886	-210,599	-40%	The total people in the families who receive cash assistance. This figure includes both children and adults.
Total Number of Adults Receiving Cash Assistance	155,071	91,133	86,761	-68,310	-44%	The number of adults receiving cash assistance.
First of Month Cash Assistance Payroll	\$48,731,324	\$29,376,227	\$28,169,474	(\$20,561,850)	-42%	This is the value of cash assistance authorized for the first of the month.
Supplemental Payrolls (estimated)	\$4,616,290	\$3,407,048	\$3,611,414 (est)	(\$1,004,876)	-22%	This is the estimated value of supplemental payrolls that occur throughout the month. Based on most recent estimating conference.
Total cash assistance expenditures).	\$53,347,614	\$33,971,230	31,780,888	(\$21,566,726)	-40%	This is the sum of the regular and supplemental payrolls.
Total Cash Assistance Budgeted		\$45,418,140	\$44,891,347			This is the amount budgeted in the approved operating budget.

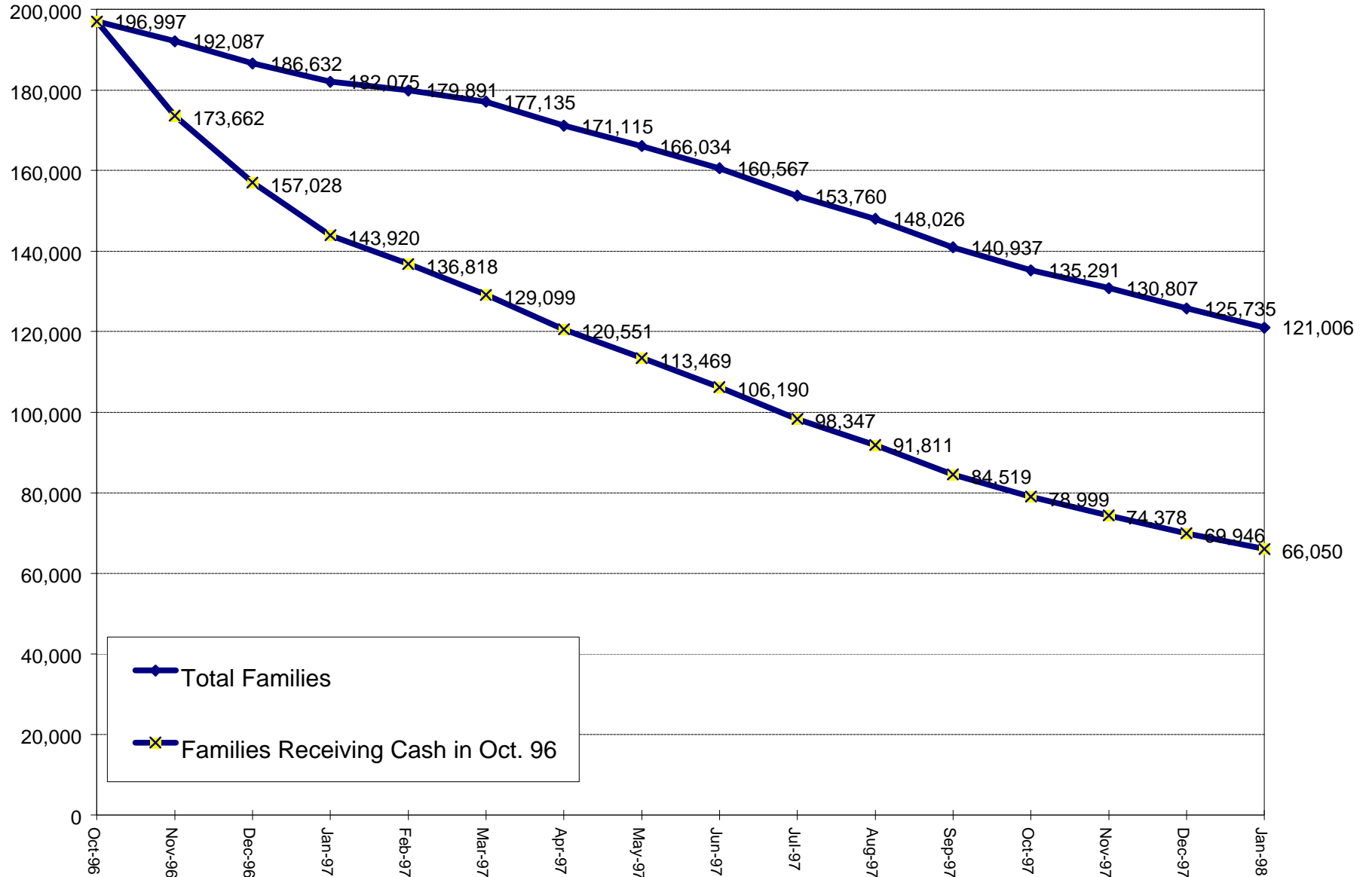
October 1996 Cohort Data

The following graph shows the monthly caseload in comparison with those families who were receiving assistance in October 1996 and who continue to receive assistance for the month shown

This chart gives a sense of the extent to which the monthly caseload is made up of families who have continued on assistance vs families who have entered or returned to assistance since October 1996.

The families on this graph represent both families with a time limit and families with no time limit.

Monthly Caseload vs. October 96 Families Remaining on Assistance

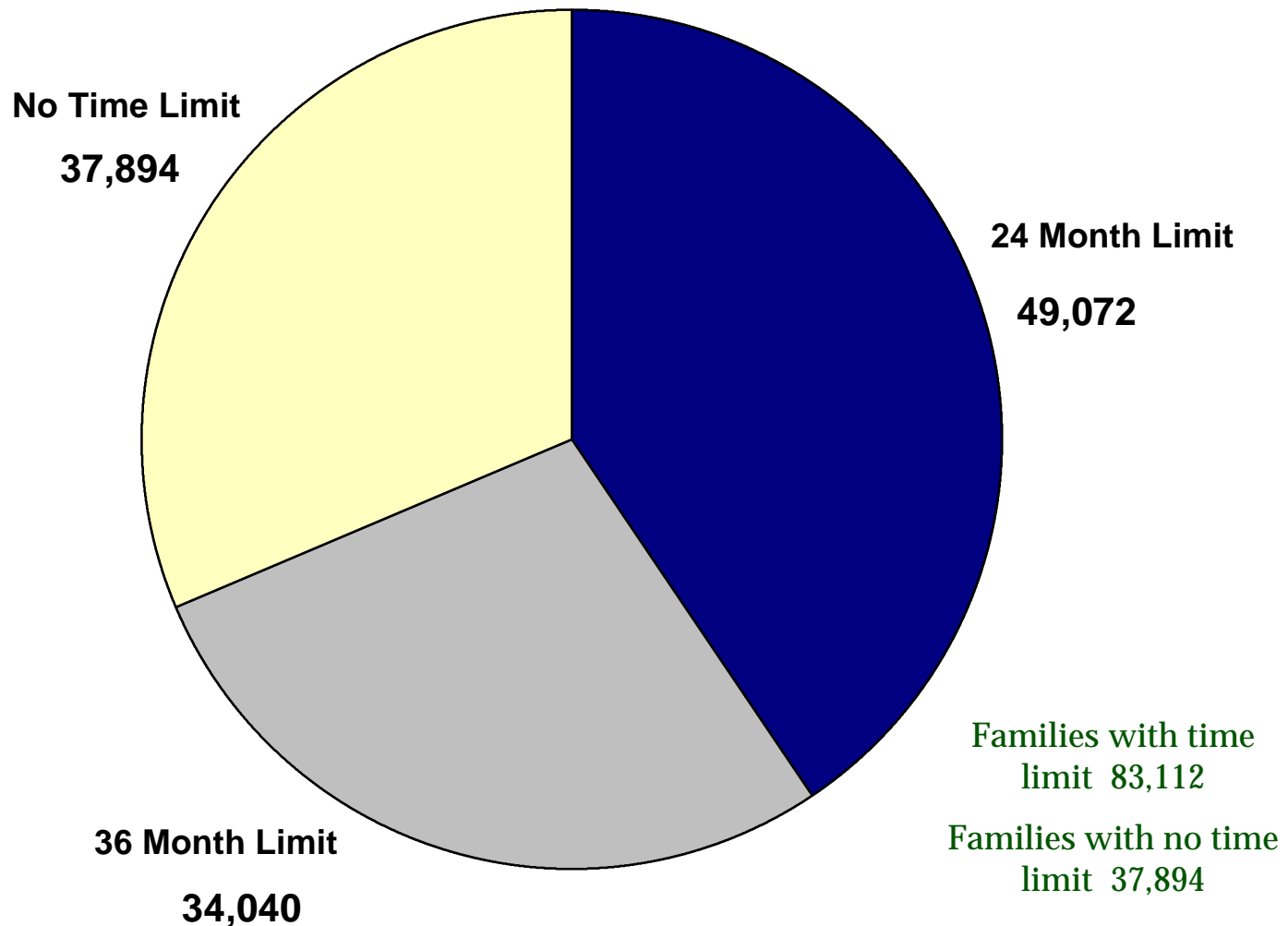


Time Limit Data

The following data shows estimated time limit groupings.

- The standard time limit is 24 months in a 60 month period.
- Families who have already received 36 months of cash assistance when the time limit is established are assigned a 36 month time limit out of 72 months.
- Persons under age 24 lacking high school completion or work experience are also assigned a 36 month limit.
- Child only cases (for example, children being raised by grandparents), families in which the parent receives federal SSI or Social Security Disability, families where the parent is ineligible (for example, some non-citizens and teen parents under age 18 (or 19 if in school) do not have a time limit although teen parents will have a time limit in the future if they continue on assistance.

January 1998 Families Receiving Assistance By Type of Time Limit



Families with time limit 83,112

Families with no time limit 37,894

Total Families (Jan. 98) 121,006

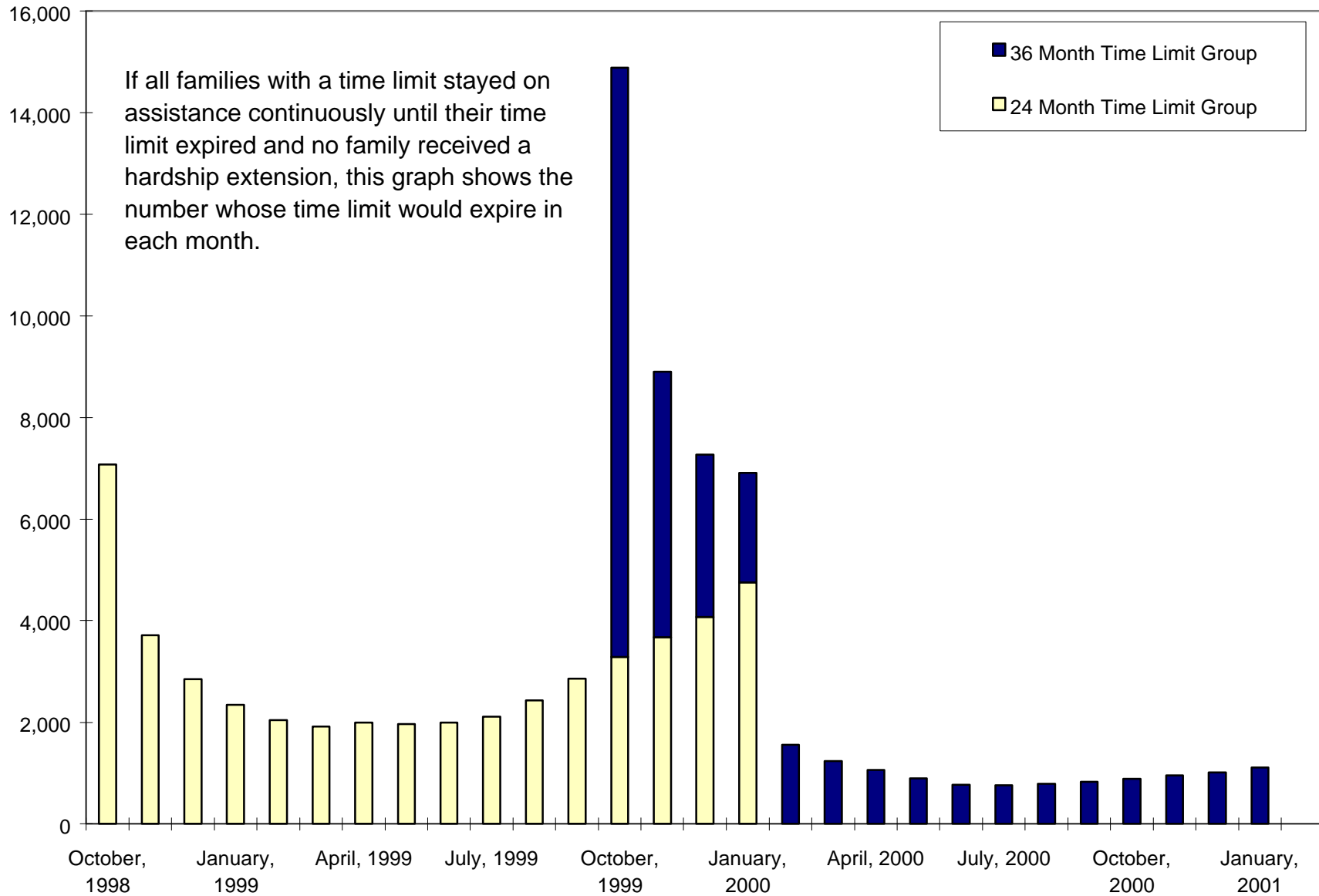
Estimated

Time Limit Expiration

The following graph gives a picture of the theoretical expiration of time limit rate. This chart shows the exit rate by month if all families under a time limit stayed on cash assistance continuously until their time limit expired and no family received any extension of the time limit due to hardship.

The graph shows that families with a 24 month time limit are “spreading out” due to exits from assistance entries onto the rolls. Families with a 36 month time limit are more chronic in their receipt of benefits and a higher proportion may be at risk of reaching the end of their time limit in the first theoretical month (October 1999).

Florida's Theoretical Time Limit Expiration Schedule (as of January 1998)

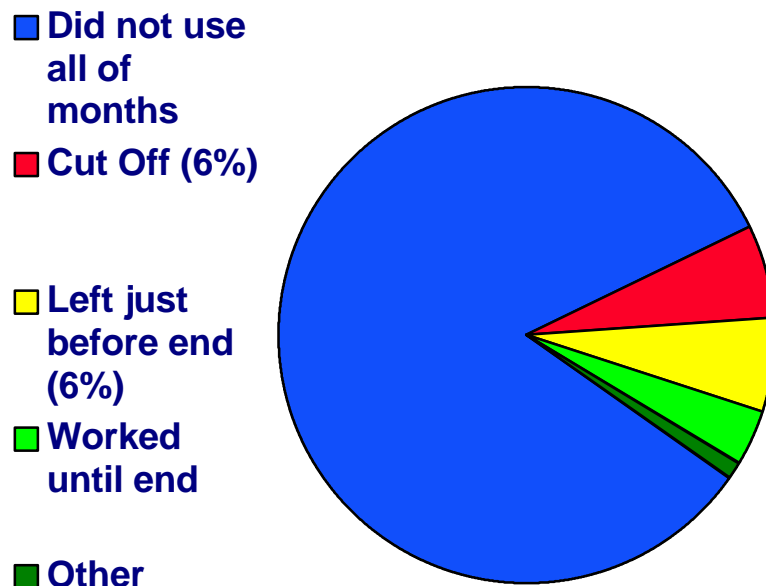


Family Transition End of Time Limit Experience

The attached chart illustrates the end of time limit experience of families participating in the Family Transition Program after about 3 1/2 years of program operation. This data is from state administrative records and more detailed analysis of these issues is anticipated in the upcoming report by MDRC.

Actual Time Limit Experience

Pensacola Family Transition Program



- So far, of about 1,400 families that could have reached time limit, only 87 have been cut off.
- Of 227 children in families cut off, benefits continued for 16.
- No abuse or neglect referrals

Through 8/31/97

Changes in Eligibility Rules To Make Work Pay

While the focus of this session is on penalties and restrictions under welfare reform, it is important to keep in mind that many states have enhanced benefits for participants that work. The attached chart shows the effect on family income of working at various numbers of hours per week and hourly wage.

The chart shows that when net earnings (after payroll taxes and child care copay) are combined with transitional benefits for low income families such as food stamps, the Earned Income Credit and cash assistance (given higher earnings disregards), work increases family income even when the work is part time or at entry level wages.

Effect of Employment on Family Income Under WAGES' Changes to Eligibility Rules

