In 1996, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program replaced Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) as the new federal welfare program. Since its inception, TANF caseloads have been reduced by nearly half nationwide. Reasons for the decline include a five year lifetime limit for receiving benefits and stricter work and eligibility requirements. In Missouri, the caseload has dropped by 46%, while Illinois has experienced a 78% reduction in its caseload. While child poverty dropped to a 20 year low of 16% in 2001, only 6% of the child population received TANF the same year.