

## EMPLOYMENT RATES OF COUNTY CalWORKs CASES

### Employment Measure #1

#### DESCRIPTION:

This chart presents each county's status starting with state fiscal year 2005-06 on Measure #1 of the Pay for Performance program, a program that enables counties to earn incentive funds based on their improvement on several key outcome measures from one year to the next. Measure #1 includes CalWORKs cases with earnings as reported to the Employment Development Department (EDD), adjusted for cases reported as being exempt on the WTW 25 report, and self-employed and work study participants reported on both the WTW 25 and WTW 25A reports.

#### METHODOLOGY:

The following methodology and resources were used in these measurements:

The annual employment rates are developed from three data sources: EDD Employer-Reported Quarterly Earnings, Medi-Cal Eligibility Data Base and CalWORKs WTW 25 & 25A reports.

1. Medi-Cal Eligibility Data Base (MEDS). The MEDS is maintained by the Department of Health Services in order to identify individuals who are eligible for Medi-Cal. The database contains monthly program eligibility for CalWORKs recipients. This data source has county identifiers as well as individual (Social Security Numbers) and case identifiers. This permits the construction of CalWORKs case counts for each county. For purposes of Measure #1, cases with adults are identified to be on aid in the calendar quarter if the adult or adults are aided all three months of the quarter. Complete quarterly data are available four months after the end of the state fiscal quarter.
2. EDD Base Wage File. The Employment Development Department base wage file contains employer-reported earnings for nearly 95 percent of all California employment. The significant exceptions are self-employment, Federal government employment and some casual employment. Employers are required to report total quarterly earnings for all employees with quarterly earnings over \$50. A Social Security Number match is made with the Base Wage file to acquire the earnings. The earnings data are available approximately five months after the end of the quarter.
3. CalWORKs WTW 25 & 25A. These monthly reports, submitted by counties to the California Department of Social Services and compiled by CDSS, include the number of All (Other) Families and two-parent adults who are enrolled in mandatory welfare-to-work activities. It also includes those enrollees who have been exempted from these employment requirements, those who have been

sanctioned for noncompliance with the mandates, and those who have been discontinued from employment components due to time limits and due to employment obtained during the month.

#### Employment Measure #1 (Cases with Earnings):

Each county's annual year measure is the average of the four quarterly measures throughout the state fiscal year. Each quarterly measure is calculated by the following ratio/percentage formula.

**Numerator:** All cases in the county with at least one aided adult recipient who has received CalWORKs cash aid for all three months of the state fiscal quarter and had employer-reported quarterly earnings of over \$50 in the quarter. Adult recipients are persons who are age 19 or over. The average annual number of Self-Employed and Work Study from the WTW 25 and WTW 25A is added.

**Denominator:** All cases in the county with at least one aided adult recipient who has received CalWORKs cash aid for all three months of the state fiscal year. The average annual number of exempt adults from the WTW 25 is subtracted.

#### FREQUENCY:

The data is collected annually.

#### CONTACT:

Questions regarding this chart are to be directed to the CDSS Estimates Branch at (916) 657-1688.