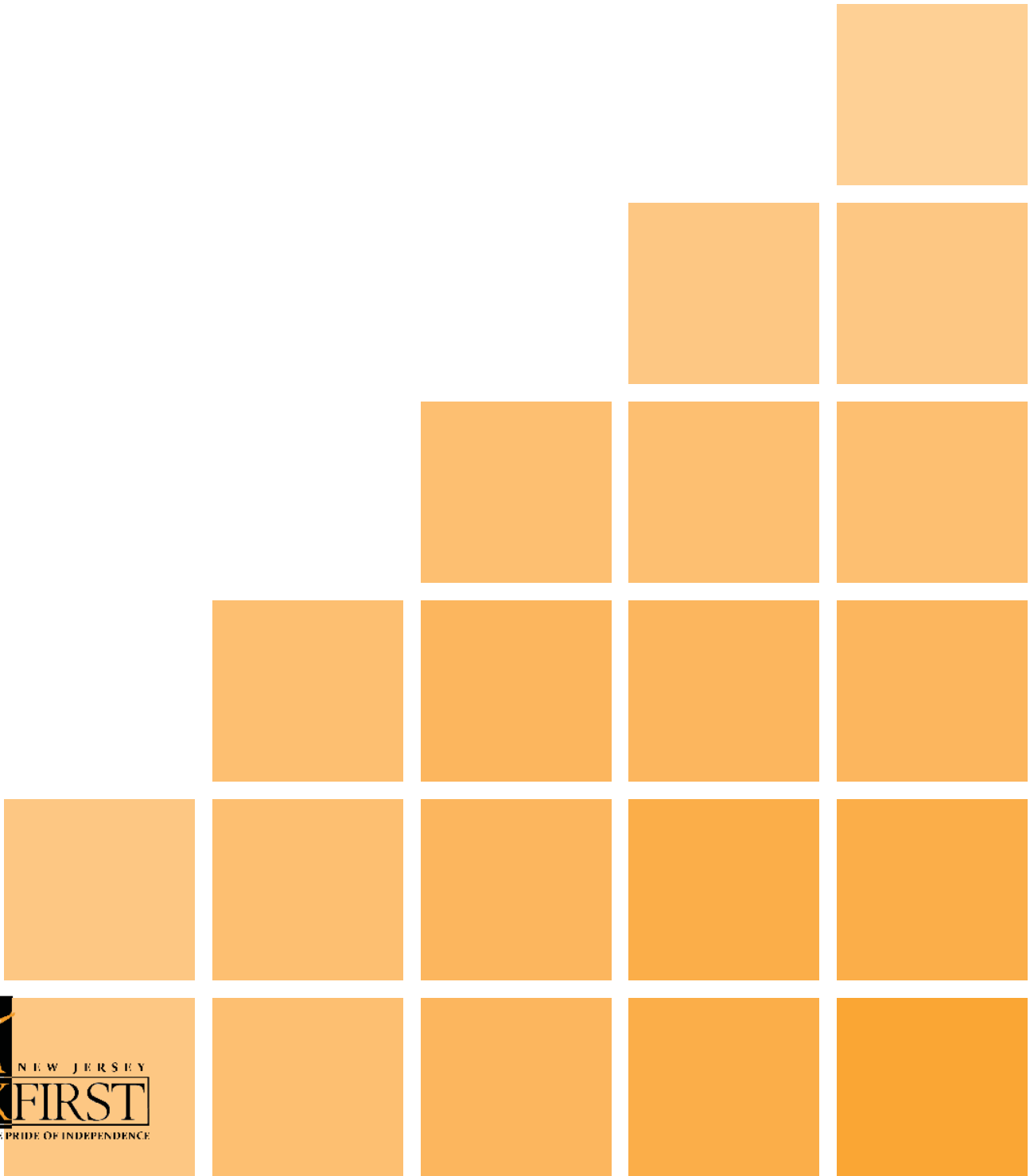


# WORK FIRST NEW JERSEY BIENNIAL REPORT 2011-2014

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## **Section 1**

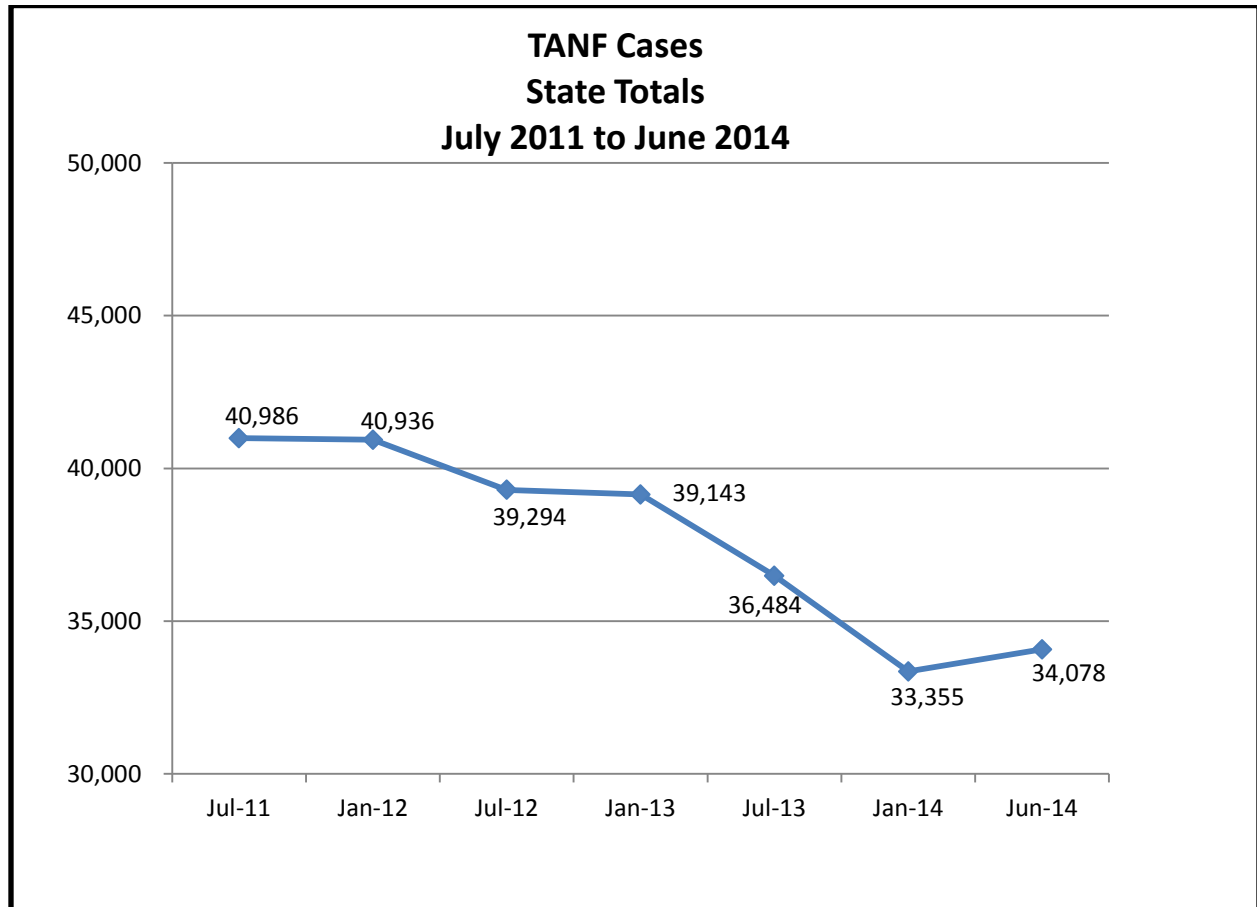
### **Introduction**

During the current reporting period of July 2011 – June 2014, the economic downturn and subsequent path to recovery played a significant role in the use of social services. The Work First New Jersey (WFNJ) welfare program is among the social service programs that make up the safety net for New Jersey residents and accordingly, has been the support for many residents who lost jobs, exhausted unemployment or otherwise found themselves in need during the height of the recession. As the downturn began to reverse, the number of families receiving WFNJ benefits declined steadily, while the number of single people and childless couples receiving benefits decreased dramatically.

## Section 2

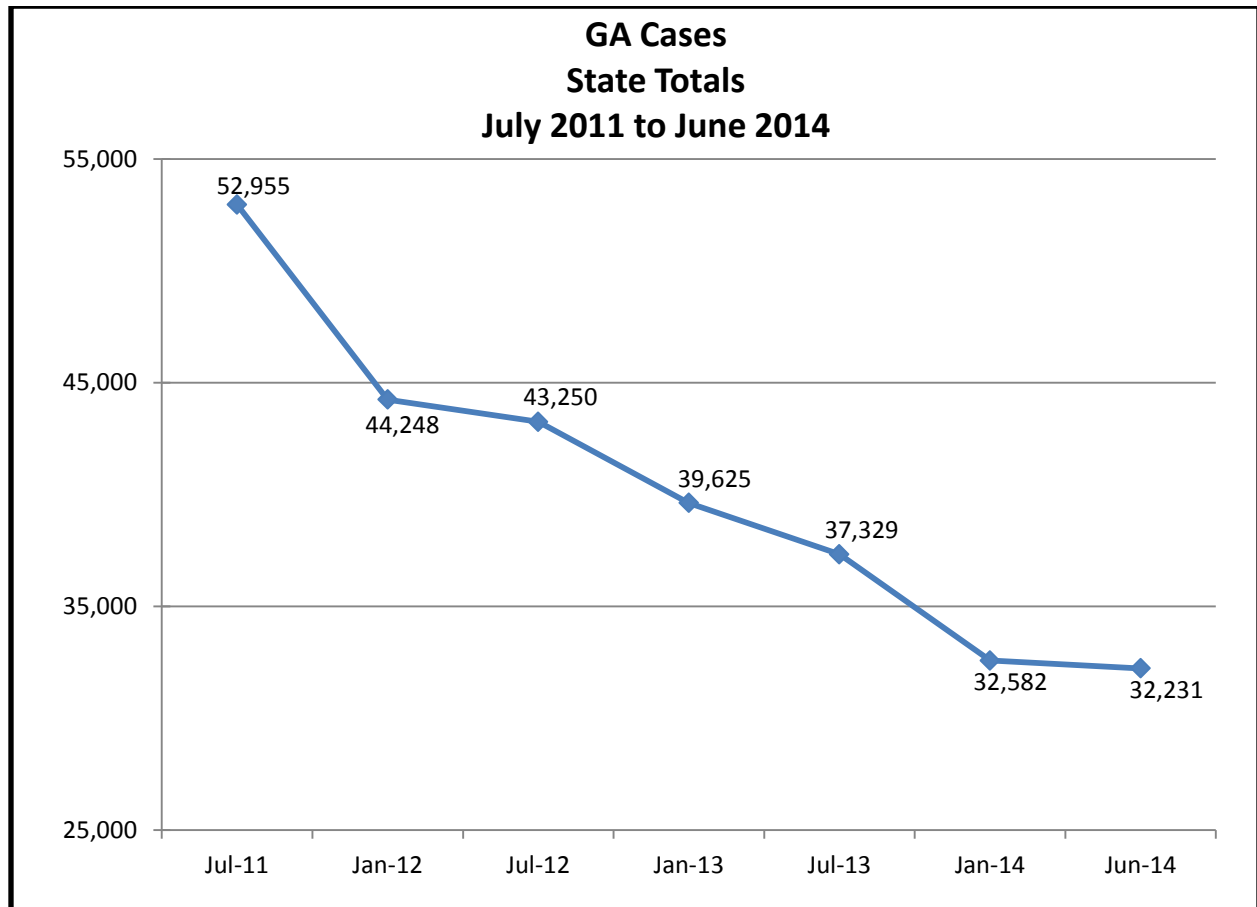
### Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

During the recession, the number of households receiving TANF increased. The previous reporting period was characterized with an overall increase in caseload, ending with a high of 41,010 cases in June 2011. The current reporting period shows the caseload trending downward, ending with a 17 percent decrease in cases to 34,078 in June 2014 and bringing them to a level lower than any during the previous reporting period.



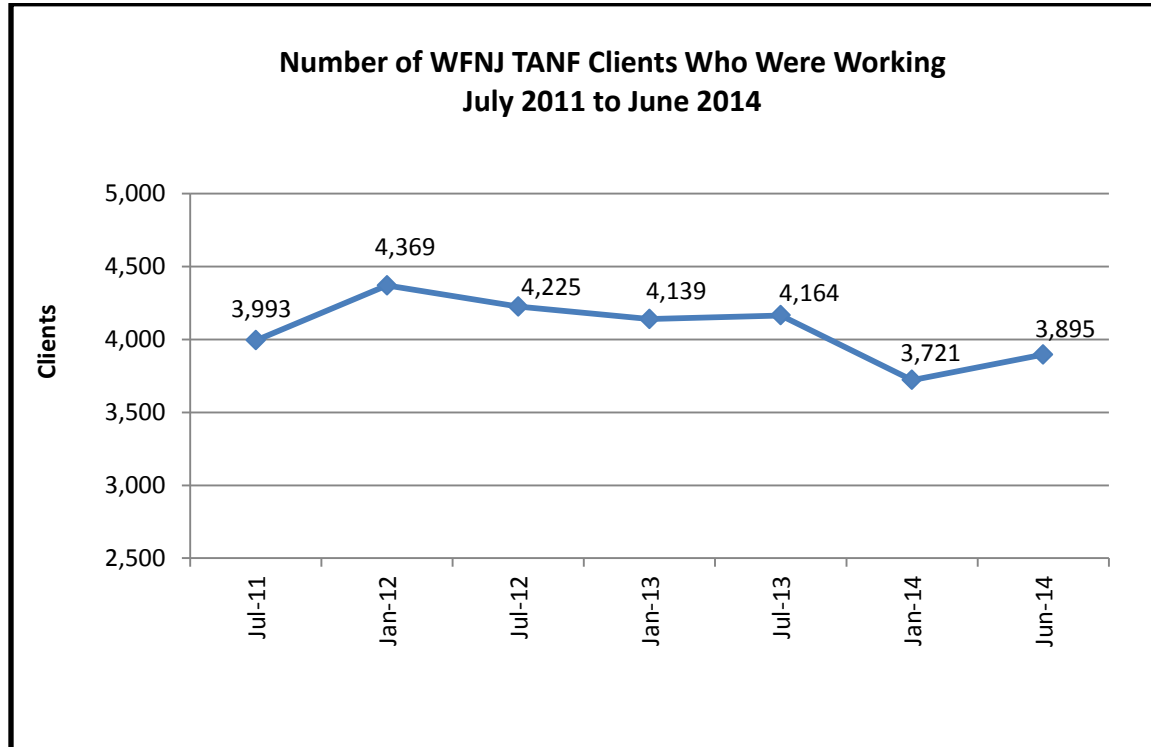
## General Assistance

After hitting a high in April 2011, the caseload for GA – welfare for single people and childless couples – dropped steadily. GA closed the current reporting period with its lowest number of cases, 32,231, in June 2014, representing a 39 percent decline in number of cases. A number of factors may have contributed to the decline, including the recovering economy, efforts to ensure greater program standardization across the state and a change to the program that began in the first month of the reporting period requiring all GA applicants to participate in a work activity for 28 days before being approved to receive benefits, as well as other programmatic changes.

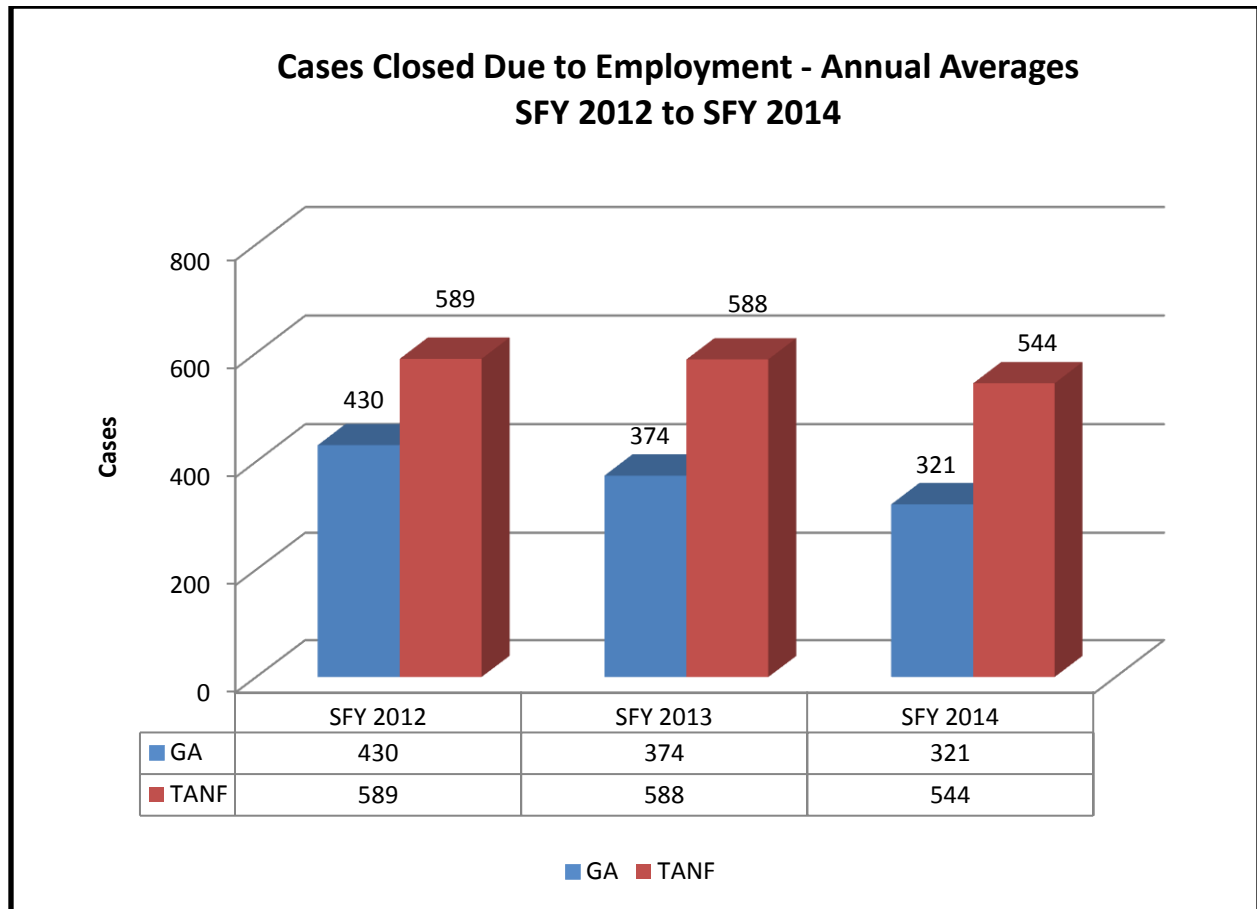


### TANF Clients Who Were Working

During the reporting period, the number of TANF clients who had begun working, but were still receiving a partial cash assistance payment, declined from 4,150 clients in June 2011 to 3,895 clients in June 2014. Although representing a decline in number, the percentage of TANF clients working has stayed consistent at 11% of the total TANF population throughout the reporting period due to the number of TANF cases decreasing for the same period.



## Cases Closed Due to Employment



The chart above represents the state fiscal yearly average of WFNJ TANF and GA clients who left welfare for employment during the reporting period.

For GA, the number of clients whose cases closed due to employment decreased for the reporting period from an annual average of 430 to 321. This decline is in correlation with a 39 percent decrease in caseload, as well as sharp declines in the number of employable GA applicants. So although this number has declined, the percentage of cases closed for employment has increased for the reporting period.

The number of TANF cases closed due to employment decreased slightly for the reporting period from an annual average of 589-544 cases closed per month. From the chart above, it may appear that fewer TANF recipients left welfare for work during the reporting period. However, because the caseload was dropping between 2012 and 2014, the percentage of cases that closed due to employment actually increased each of those years.

**THE DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
**WORK FIRST NEW JERSEY (WFNJ) EXPENDITURES**  
*Biennial Report For The Time Frame July 1, 2011 Thru June 30, 2014*

	Actual Sept 30, 2011	Actual Dec 31, 2011	Actual Mar 31, 2012	Actual June 30, 2012	Actual Sept 30, 2012	Actual Dec 31, 2012	Actual Mar 31, 2013	Actual June 30, 2013	Actual Sept 30, 2013	Actual Dec 31, 2013	Actual Mar 31, 2014	Actual June 30, 2014	TOTAL COSTS SFY 2012 7/11 - 6/12	TOTAL COSTS SFY 2013 7/12 - 6/13	TOTAL COSTS SFY 2014 7/13 - 6/14
<b>(A) CASE MANAGEMENT</b>															
TANF	\$8,959,397	\$10,438,633	\$8,677,976	\$8,329,073	\$11,020,138	\$9,708,730	\$8,489,796	\$8,878,743	\$11,253,147	\$10,089,537	\$8,900,058	\$9,048,037	\$36,405,079	\$38,097,407	\$39,290,779
Food Stamps/Able Bodied Adults W/O Dependents	\$3,205,035	\$4,572,651	\$3,580,586	\$3,798,171	\$5,128,702	\$4,847,210	\$3,640,557	\$3,994,024	\$4,096,135	\$4,863,674	\$3,831,631	\$4,234,226	\$15,156,442	\$17,610,493	\$17,025,667
GA	\$2,464,291	\$1,735,198	\$1,922,705	\$1,849,302	\$1,957,662	\$1,636,007	\$1,513,534	\$1,708,097	\$1,435,468	\$1,656,817	\$1,279,783	\$1,356,645	\$7,971,497	\$6,815,300	\$5,728,713
<b>(B) SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICE</b>															
Special Initiative	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>(C) CHILD CARE</b>															
	\$24,390,357	\$24,321,899	\$22,533,382	\$21,067,147	\$18,654,196	\$19,998,251	\$21,122,284	\$21,982,409	\$22,360,533	\$22,559,330	\$19,298,085	\$17,989,893	\$92,312,785	\$81,757,140	\$82,207,842
<b>(D) TRAINING RELATED EXPENSE, PARTICIPANT ALLOWANCE AND TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT</b>															
TANF	\$2,580,099	\$2,612,715	\$3,115,063	\$2,460,381	\$2,652,741	\$2,578,060	\$2,899,948	\$2,200,446	\$2,837,070	\$2,470,762	\$2,427,391	\$2,731,138	\$10,768,259	\$10,331,195	\$10,466,362
Food Stamps	\$1,063,518	\$1,077,002	\$1,146,809	\$1,110,484	\$1,154,568	\$1,210,182	\$1,299,227	\$1,328,589	\$1,298,461	\$1,246,050	\$1,059,259	\$1,364,320	\$4,397,813	\$4,992,566	\$4,968,089
GA	\$157,434	\$141,013	\$141,312	\$144,747	\$144,657	\$126,978	\$162,783	\$135,173	\$137,807	\$113,910	\$123,990	\$115,774	\$584,506	\$569,591	\$491,481
<b>(E) DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT - EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING</b>															
TANF	\$10,592,429	\$6,998,498	\$14,689,805	\$13,500,817	\$7,837,550	\$9,535,334	\$12,617,140	\$14,408,195	\$8,793,703	\$10,710,350	\$10,871,795	\$12,920,370	\$45,781,549	\$44,398,219	\$43,296,218
Food Stamps/Able Bodied Adults W/O Dependents	\$3,326,842	\$3,434,772	\$5,414,031	\$3,145,673	\$5,613,982	\$4,084,643	\$5,037,733	\$6,282,117	\$4,295,330	\$5,131,072	\$4,487,054	\$7,255,836	\$15,321,317	\$21,018,475	\$21,169,292
GA	\$2,648,975	\$1,663,619	\$2,537,686	\$1,432,093	\$2,427,430	\$1,508,971	\$1,859,138	\$2,224,556	\$1,363,746	\$1,533,841	\$1,181,935	\$1,823,128	\$8,282,374	\$8,020,095	\$5,902,650
<b>(F) OMEGA SYSTEM</b>															
	\$486,721	\$487,206	\$487,692	\$488,178	\$488,664	\$489,149	\$489,635	\$490,121	\$490,607	\$112,527	\$149,019	\$59,250	\$1,949,797	\$1,957,569	\$811,403
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$59,875,097</b>	<b>\$57,483,207</b>	<b>\$64,247,047</b>	<b>\$57,326,067</b>	<b>\$57,080,288</b>	<b>\$55,723,515</b>	<b>\$59,131,776</b>	<b>\$63,632,470</b>	<b>\$58,362,008</b>	<b>\$60,487,871</b>	<b>\$53,610,000</b>	<b>\$58,898,617</b>	<b>\$238,931,418</b>	<b>\$235,568,050</b>	<b>\$231,358,496</b>

**FOOTNOTES:**  
**ACTUAL** expenditures are subject to subsequent adjustment and reconciliation to be reflected on future reports.  
**ACTUAL** expenditures for **OMEGA SYSTEM** have been revised to reflect actual expenditures.