

TDI: Assignment Module

Start of Block: Introduction

Q1 Hello [TANF Director name],

Thank you for your willingness to participate in the **TANF Data Innovation** [hyperlink to website] survey about how TANF agencies use data. The goal of this survey is to collect firsthand information about your capacities, capabilities, and current use of data. Your answers will help HHS to: (1) better understand the challenges and barriers states and territories face in using data and research to inform program decision making and (2) design future technical assistance activities for TANF agencies to address these challenges. We will report a summary of aggregate findings from the project survey back to you.

This survey contains seven modules focusing on different topical areas related to TANF data usage. Each module is intended to be answered by agency staff with expertise in that topical area and will take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. Your participation is voluntary.

Please assign the survey modules to the appropriate staff member based on the descriptions provided below.

The TANF Data Innovation project is sponsored by the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation in collaboration with the Office of Family Assistance in the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The project is led by MDRC, in partnership with Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, Actionable Intelligence for Social Policy (AISP) at the University of Pennsylvania, and New York University.

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End of Block: Introduction

Start of Block: Module List

Q2 The next questions walk you through the staff assignment process.

Please use the Staff Assignment descriptions to identify the best person or person(s) from your agency to complete each module. The modules have been targeted so that assigned staff are positioned to effectively and efficiently complete specific modules, reducing the time burden while capturing the most accurate information.

Only one contact is requested but you may assign up to two people to complete each module. If appropriate, one staff member may be assigned multiple modules. Each assigned staff member will receive an email with a private link to complete his or her assigned survey modules.

All survey responses are private. This survey is being administered by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago and MDRC; your individual responses will not be shared with anyone outside of the research team. Only aggregate state-level analyses will be shared with HHS. In the case of the Federal Reporting module, no state-level data will be shared with HHS. HHS will use the findings from this study for research purposes only and not for corrective action. These data will be used to develop and target technical assistance for TANF agencies. We will also report a summary of aggregate findings across all states back to you. We do not anticipate any risks or direct benefits from participating in this survey.

Page Break

Q3 TANF Data Use and Opportunities

This module seeks information about the overall context of data usage throughout your TANF agency, barriers to data use, and opportunities for technical assistance to increase data use capabilities in TANF agencies. Preview the TANF Data Use and Opportunities survey here [link to survey pdf].

Staff Assignment: This module is intended to be completed by someone in agency executive leadership (i.e. TANF Director). Enter your own information if appropriate.

Name _____

Email _____

Q4 Having trouble deciding who to assign to the TANF Data Use and Opportunities survey?

Check here to assign a **second staff member** to complete this module

Check here if you **are not sure** who should complete this module

Display This Question:

*If Having trouble deciding who to assign to the TANF Data Use and Opportunities survey? = Check here to assign a **second staff member** to complete this module*

Q5

Additional staff assignment for the TANF Data Use and Opportunities survey:

Name _____

Email _____

Display This Question:

If Having trouble deciding who to assign to the TANF Data Use and Opportunities survey? = Check here if you are not sure who should complete this module

Q6 No problem! Leave this one blank for now and continue with the rest of the module assignments.

After you submit your responses, someone from the TDI team will follow up within 2 business days to help you assign the TANF Data Use and Opportunity module.

Q7 Data Collection and Documentation

This module seeks information about the TANF agency's data--what is collected, how, and how it is documented and validated. Preview the Data Collection and Documentation survey here [link to survey pdf].

Staff Assignment: This module is intended to be completed by the agency's "go-to" data person. This person could be in research, IT, or operations. Ideally, the respondent would be someone with good institutional knowledge and perhaps someone who has been in several different roles. The individual would also ideally have direct experience in data collection or in training frontline staff to do data collection.

Name _____

Email _____

Q8 Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Data Collection and Documentation survey?

Check here to assign a **second staff member** to complete this module

Check here if you **are not sure** who should complete this module

Display This Question:

If Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Data Collection and Documentation survey? = Check here to assign a **second staff member** to complete this module

Q9

Additional staff assignment for the Data Collection and Documentation survey:

Name _____

Email _____

Display This Question:

If Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Data Collection and Documentation survey? = Check here if you **are not sure** who should complete this module

Q10 No problem! Leave this one blank for now and continue with the rest of the module assignments.

After you submit your responses, someone from the TDI team will follow up within 2 business days to help you assign the Data Collection and Documentation module.

Q11 Data Infrastructure

This module seeks information about the TANF agency's data infrastructure. Preview the Data Infrastructure survey here [[link to survey pdf](#)].

Staff Assignment: This module is intended to be completed by the agency's IT director or someone in a similar role. This person should be familiar with the hardware and software that underlie the agency's data access and use.

Name _____

Email _____

Q12 Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Data Infrastructure survey?

Check here to assign a **second staff member** to complete this module

Check here if you **are not sure** who should complete this module

Display This Question:

If Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Data Infrastructure survey? = Check here to assign a second staff member</u> to complete this module

Q13

Additional staff assignment for the Data Infrastructure survey:

Name _____

Email _____

Display This Question:

If Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Data Infrastructure survey? = Check here if you are not sure</u> who should complete this module

Q14 No problem! Leave this one blank for now and continue with the rest of the module assignments.

After you submit your responses, someone from the TDI team will follow up within 2 business days to help you assign the Data Infrastructure module.

Q15 Data Sharing

This module seeks information about the status of data sharing practices in your TANF agency. Preview the Data Sharing survey here [link to survey pdf].

Staff Assignment: This module should be completed by the staff member with responsibility for managing data sharing agreements and memoranda of understanding with other state entities and with external partners. If your agency does not have anyone who handles these agreements, this module should be answered by someone in agency leadership who is familiar with data sharing requests or agreements.

Name _____

Email _____

Q16 Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Data Sharing survey?

Check here to assign a **second staff member** to complete this module

Check here if you **are not sure** who should complete this module

Display This Question:

*If Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Data Sharing survey? = Check here to assign a **second staff member** to complete this module*

Q17

Additional staff assignment for the Data Sharing survey:

Name _____

Email _____

Display This Question:

If Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Data Sharing survey? = Check here if you are not sure who should complete this module

Q18 No problem! Leave this one blank for now and continue with the rest of the module assignments.

After you submit your responses, someone from the TDI team will follow up within 2 business days to help you assign the Data Sharing module.

Q19 Research and Analytic Capacity

This module seeks information about capacity to conduct research and analysis using TANF data. Preview the Research and Analytic Capacity survey here [link to survey pdf].

Staff Assignment: If your agency has a research or data analysis team, the leader of that team should complete this module. If not, this module should be completed by someone in your organization who has responsibility for reporting data or policy analysis.

Name _____

Email _____

Q20 Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Research and Analytic Capacity survey?

Check here to assign a **second staff member** to complete this module

Check here if you **are not sure** who should complete this module

Display This Question:

If Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Research and Analytic Capacity survey? = Check here to assign a second staff member to complete this module

Q21

Additional staff assignment for the Research and Analytic Capacity survey:

Name _____

Email _____

Display This Question:

If Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Research and Analytic Capacity survey? = Check here if you are not sure</u> who should complete this module

Q22 No problem! Leave this one blank for now and continue with the rest of the module assignments.

After you submit your responses, someone from the TDI team will follow up within 2 business days to help you assign the Research and Analytic Capacity module.

Q23 Federal Reporting

This module seeks information about the data you prepare to submit to HHS as part of the TANF and SSP-MOE Data Reports (ACF-199 and ACF-209). Preview the Federal Reporting survey here [link to survey pdf].

Staff Assignment: This module should be completed by the staff member with primary responsibility for those reports.

Name _____

Email _____

Q24 Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Federal Reporting survey?

Check here to assign a **second staff member** to complete this module

Check here if you **are not sure** who should complete this module

Display This Question:

*If Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Federal Reporting survey? = Check here to assign a **second staff member** to complete this module*

Q25

Additional staff assignment for the Federal Reporting survey:

Name _____

Email _____

Display This Question:

*If Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Federal Reporting survey? = Check here if you **are not sure** who should complete this module*

Q26 No problem! Leave this one blank for now and continue with the rest of the module assignments.

After you submit your responses, someone from the TDI team will follow up within 2 business days to help you assign the Federal Reporting module.

Q27 Payment Integrity

This module seeks information about how your state uses data to assess payment integrity. Preview the Payment Integrity survey here [link to survey pdf].

Staff Assignment: This module should be completed by the staff member who has primary responsibility for identifying or addressing improper payments.

Name _____

Email _____

Q28 Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Payment Integrity survey?

Check here to assign a **second staff member** to complete this module

Check here if you **are not sure** who should complete this module

Display This Question:

*If Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Payment Integrity survey? = Check here to assign a **second staff member** to complete this module*

Q29

Additional staff assignment for the Payment Integrity survey:

Name _____

Email _____

Display This Question:

*If Having trouble deciding who to assign to the Payment Integrity survey? = Check here if you **are not sure** who should complete this module*

Q30 No problem! Leave this one blank for now and continue with the rest of the module assignments.

After you submit your responses, someone from the TDI team will follow up within 2 business days to help you assign the Payment Integrity module.

End of Block: Module List

Start of Block: Closing



Q31 If you are finished with this survey, click "SUBMIT" below.

Once you submit responses you will not be able to make any changes in the survey platform. Use the survey back button below to return to the assignments page to review and make any desired edits.

If you would like to update your module assignments in the future please reach out to us at [email@address] or [phone number].

End of Block: Closing

TDI: TANF Data Use and Opportunities

Start of Block: Introduction

Q1 Thank you for your willingness to participate in the **TANF Data Innovation** [hyperlink to website] survey about how TANF agencies use data. The goal of this survey is to collect firsthand information about your capacities, capabilities, and current use of data. Your answers will help HHS to: (1) better understand the challenges and barriers states and territories face in using data and research to inform program decision making and (2) design future technical assistance activities for TANF agencies to address these challenges. We will report a summary of aggregate findings from the project survey back to you.

This survey contains seven modules focusing on different components of TANF data usage. Each module is intended to be answered by agency staff with expertise in a given topic. You have been selected to complete the **TANF Data Use and Opportunities** module. This module seeks information about the overall context for data usage throughout your TANF agency, barriers to data use, and seeks to identify opportunities for technical assistance to increase data use capabilities in TANF agencies. It will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. You can preview the survey here [link to survey pdf]. Your participation is voluntary.

Contact [email@address] or [phone number] with any questions or concerns.

Thank you so much for your thoughts and time! Your contributions are important.

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Q2 Answer to the best of your knowledge and make an educated guess if you are unsure.

We encourage you to be as candid as possible. Your responses are private. This survey is being administered by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago and MDRC; your individual responses will not be shared with anyone outside of the research team. Only aggregate state-level analyses will be shared with HHS. We do not anticipate any risks or direct benefits from participating in this survey.

Q3 Please enter your contact information below. This information may be used to follow up with questions, clarifications, or further discussion. We will also report a summary of findings back to you. **Your contact information will not be shared outside the research team.**

Name _____

Job title _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Q4 Which of the following best characterizes your role relative to the TANF program? Select your primary role if you have more than one.

- Executive leadership
 - Reporting or data analysis
 - Research or evaluation
 - Information technology
 - Program staff
 - Legal
 - External consultant
 - Other. Please list: _____
-

Q5 How would you characterize your role relative to the TANF program?

- Working solely or mostly on TANF
 - Working across multiple programs, including TANF
-

Q6

The TDI project aims to improve agencies' ability to use data to inform TANF program decision making. To get a complete picture of agency data use across domains and purposes, we ask this question in every module.

From your perspective, how well does your TANF agency use data to inform program decision making? Rate your response on a scale from 0 (not well at all) to 10 (extremely well).

Not well at all Extremely well

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Agency use of data



Q7 Thinking about all the data activities in your agency, please indicate how **important** you believe each activity is for TANF agencies.

	Very important	Moderately important	Slightly important	Not at all important
Federal reporting	0	0	0	0
Other regular reports (e.g., state mandatory reports)	0	0	0	0
Program integrity	0	0	0	0
Performance management	0	0	0	0
Quality improvement	0	0	0	0
Data visualization	0	0	0	0
Record linkage/data integration	0	0	0	0
Program evaluation	0	0	0	0
Predictive analytics	0	0	0	0

Q8 Among these same activities, please indicate how **effective** your agency is at performing each activity.

	Very effective	Moderately effective	Slightly effective	Not at all effective	N/A, we don't do this
Federal reporting	0	0	0	0	0
Other regular reports (e.g., state mandatory reports)	0	0	0	0	0
Program integrity	0	0	0	0	0
Performance management	0	0	0	0	0
Quality improvement	0	0	0	0	0
Data visualization	0	0	0	0	0
Record linkage/data integration	0	0	0	0	0
Program evaluation	0	0	0	0	0
Predictive analytics	0	0	0	0	0

Page Break

Q9

About how often does the leadership of your agency receive reports (regular or ad hoc) of aggregated administrative data about your TANF program?

- Weekly
 - Monthly
 - Quarterly
 - Yearly
 - Less than once a year
-

Q10

About how often does the leadership of your agency currently receive specific data analyses related to TANF that combine TANF data and data from another program? For example, SNAP data or UI wage data.

- Weekly
 - Monthly
 - Quarterly
 - Yearly
 - Less than once a year
-

Page Break

Q11 Which data points are contained in regular reports of aggregated administrative data submitted to agency leadership? (For example, reports for fiscal tracking purposes.) Check all that apply.

Applications

Case entries

Case closings

Case or family characteristics

Caseloads by family type (e.g. 2-parent, 1-parent, child only)

Time limit clocks

Work participation

Sanctions

Not applicable, no regular reporting

Other data point. Please describe:

Page Break

Q12

About how often does the leadership of your agency request specific data analyses related to TANF that are outside of regular reporting (i.e. ad hoc)? For example, examining caseload dynamics and trends in employment.

- More than once a month
 - Monthly
 - More than once a quarter
 - Quarterly
 - More than once a year
 - Yearly
 - Less than once a year
-

Q13

Please briefly describe a recent leadership request for TANF data analysis outside regular reporting activities.

Q14

In some states, TANF administrative data is available to government analysts or researchers outside the TANF agency. How useful has any research conducted outside the TANF agency with your administrative data been to informing your agency's operations and planning?

	Extremely useful	Very useful	Moderately useful	Slightly useful	Not at all useful	N/A (no research conducted)
Studies by other governmental agencies	0	0	0	0	0	0
Studies by external partners (e.g., academic researchers or research firms)	0	0	0	0	0	0





Page Break

Q15

Within your TANF agency, how would you characterize the level of **activity** around...

Far too little activity Far too much activity

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
0




...use of data overall?	
...data linkage and integration?	
...using data to build evidence about the TANF program?	
...data sharing?	

Q16

Within your TANF agency, how would you characterize the availability of **financial resources**, including personnel availability, for data usage specifically for...

Extremely inadequate Extremely adequate

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
0

... data systems and management?	
... regular reporting?	
... ad hoc analyses and research	

Page Break

Q17 How regularly does anyone from your TANF agency communicate with people from the following entities about using your data? (For example, through working groups, conferences, webinars, phone calls, etc.)

	A great deal	A lot	A moderate amount	A little	None at all
Other entities in your state	0	0	0	0	0
Other states	0	0	0	0	0
Federal government	0	0	0	0	0
External research partnerships (e.g., university researchers or research firms)	0	0	0	0	0
Advocates or media	0	0	0	0	0

Page Break



Q18 The next questions ask about the TANF policy and programmatic issues that are most important in your agency. **Select the top THREE most important topics for your agency by dragging and dropping them into the box.**

Let us know about any important topics that are not listed here!

Top Three Topics

- Work requirements
- Employment outcomes
- Income disregard
- Sanctions
- Redetermination
- Child-only cases
- Time limits
- Subsidized child care (CCDF)
- Early education (pre-K)
- Child welfare
- Improper payments
- Caseload dynamics
- Effectiveness of programs
- Disability
- Special populations such as homeless families, immigrants or refugees, substance abuse, etc. Please specify:
- Other policy or program issue(s). Please list:

Q19 For each of these common TANF policy and programmatic issues, indicate if it is an area of current analytic work for your agency.

	We are currently working on this issue	No current work but interest in pursuing	No current work, no interest
Work requirements	0	0	0
Employment outcomes	0	0	0
Income disregard	0	0	0
Sanctions	0	0	0
Redetermination	0	0	0
Child-only cases	0	0	0
Time limits	0	0	0
Subsidized child care (CCDF)	0	0	0
Early education (pre-K)	0	0	0
Child welfare	0	0	0
Improper payments	0	0	0
Caseload dynamics	0	0	0
Effectiveness of programs	0	0	0
Disability	0	0	0
Special populations (e.g., homeless families, immigrants, substance abuse, etc.). Please specify:	0	0	0
Other policy or program issue. Please list:	0	0	0

Q20 What are the primary barriers to data and analysis that limit the ability of your TANF agency to use data to inform key policy and programmatic issues? Check all that apply.

Information gathered here will inform technical assistance (TA) activities to help state TANF programs overcome barriers to data use and analysis.

- Accessing TANF data that are formatted for analysis
- Legal issues
- Political issues
- Staff time
- Staff skills
- Availability of technology and data tools
- Communication challenges between IT and policy staff
- Availability of financial resources
- Other barriers. Please describe:

Page Break



Q21

The last few questions ask more specifically about potential technical assistance (TA) offerings to support TANF agency data use.

What topics is your state most interested in receiving TA to address? Rank each topic as being of high, medium, or low priority.

Let us know about any important topics that are not listed here!

	High priority	Medium priority	Low priority
Data documentation/metadata	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Data sharing and legal agreements	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Structuring data for analysis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Data integration and record linkage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Data visualization	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use of software tools (e.g., SAS, R, Python)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Evaluation design (e.g., RCT, rapid cycle tests, quasi experimental)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Predictive analytics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other areas for TA. Please list:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



Q22

Thinking about the top priority areas for technical assistance (TA) you listed in the previous question, indicate the modes of technical assistance that would be most useful for your TANF agency.

	Extremely useful	Very useful	Moderately useful	Slightly useful	Not at all useful
Webinars	0	0	0	0	0
Workshops	0	0	0	0	0
Topical briefs	0	0	0	0	0
In-person TA	0	0	0	0	0
Sample analyses	0	0	0	0	0
Peer learning with other TANF agencies	0	0	0	0	0
One-on-one consultation on a specific project	0	0	0	0	0
On demand distance learning	0	0	0	0	0
Other modes of TA. Please list:	0	0	0	0	0

Page Break

Q23 This concludes the **TANF Data Use and Opportunities** module. Is there anything else you would like us to know about data usage in your TANF agency or state?



Q24

If you are finished with this survey, click "SUBMIT" below.

Once you submit responses you will not be able to make any changes in the survey platform. Use the survey back button below to return to the survey to review and make any desired edits.

If you would like to update your answers in the future please reach out to us at [email@address] or [phone number].

End of Block: Introduction

TDI: Data Collection and Documentation

Start of Block: Introduction

Q1 Thank you for your willingness to participate in the **TANF Data Innovation** [hyperlink to website] survey about how TANF agencies use data. The goal of this survey is to collect first-hand information about your capacities, capabilities, and current use of data. Your answers will help HHS to: (1) better understand the challenges and barriers states and territories face in using data and research to inform program decision making and (2) design future technical assistance activities for TANF agencies to address these challenges. We will report a summary of aggregate findings from the project survey back to you.

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Contact [email@address] or [phone number] with any questions or concerns.

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End of Block: Introduction

Start of Block: Module Specific Intro

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Name _____

Job title _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Q4 Which of the following best characterizes your role relative to the TANF program? Select your primary role if you have more than one.

- Executive leadership
 - Reporting or data analysis
 - Research or evaluation
 - Information technology
 - Program staff
 - Legal
 - External consultant
 - Other. Please list: _____
-

Q5 How would you characterize your role relative to the TANF program?

- Working solely or mostly on TANF
 - Working across multiple programs, including TANF
-

Q6

The TDI project aims to improve TANF agencies' ability to use data to inform program decision making. To get a complete picture of agency data use across domains and purposes, we ask this question in every module.

From your perspective, how well does your TANF agency use data to inform program decision making? Rate your response on a scale from 0 (not well at all) to 10 (extremely well).

Not well at all Extremely well

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



End of Block: Module Specific Intro

Start of Block: Data Collected

Q7 The next three questions ask about what data are collected or otherwise accessible to the TANF agency, and the source of those data.

For each type of information, please indicate the source for that information or if that information is not accessible for TANF program management. If the information is added from multiple sources, check all that apply.



Q8 Information about **eligible individuals in the household:**

	Reported by recipient	Collected or verified by agency staff or contractors	Integrated with TANF data from another data system (periodic match)	Integrated with TANF data from another data system (real time)	Not accessible for TANF program
Name	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SSN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Birthdate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Educational attainment (for adults)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
School information (for children)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Employment status (for adults)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Employer (for adults)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Income (for adults)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability status	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child welfare involvement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q9 Information about the **other benefits** received by some or all of the individuals in the household:

	Reported by recipient	Collected or verified by agency staff or contractors	Integrated with TANF data from another data system (periodic match)	Integrated with TANF data from another data system (real time)	Not accessible for TANF program
Food assistance (SNAP, WIC)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Workforce or economic development services (non-TANF)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing assistance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medical assistance (Medicaid, CHIP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability assistance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Subsidized child care (CCDF)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Early education (pre-K, Head Start)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child support	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Q10 Information about **work activities**:

	Reported by recipient	Collected or verified by agency staff or contractors	Integrated with TANF data from another data system (periodic match)	Integrated with TANF data from another data system (real time)	Not accessible for TANF program
Activity type	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Level of participation completed (hours, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pay, if applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Start and end dates	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q11 If you would like to provide additional detail to clarify any of your answers about what data is collected and accessible to the TANF agency, please use this space to do so:

Q12 For information self-reported by recipients, how are those data collected and entered into the system? Check all that apply.

Recipients complete eligibility forms electronically, and these data populate the system.

Recipients meet with frontline staff to complete eligibility processing, and frontline staff enter the data into the system.

Recipients complete paper eligibility forms; staff enter these into the system but do not directly interact with the recipients.

Other (please explain) _____

Page Break _____

Q13 For which of these data points is **historical information retained** when the data are updated? Check all that apply.

- Household size
 - Personal identifiers for head of household
 - Personal identifiers for other eligible individuals
 - Personal identifiers for individuals who are not eligible
 - Employment information
 - Household income
 - Address
 - Participation in other programs
 - Previous membership in other cases (old case numbers, etc)
 - Payment history
 - Sanction history
-

Q14 Are TANF application data, particularly data about applicants who did not receive benefits, preserved in an electronic form?

- Yes
 - No
-

Q15 When are payment data considered "final" and appropriate for analytical use?

- Data are considered final from the time they are first entered into the system.
 - Data are stable and ready for analytical use within a month.
 - Data are stable and ready for analytical use within 3 months.
 - Data are stable and ready for analytical use after more than 3 months.
-

Q16 When are most eligibility data elements considered "final" and appropriate for analytical use?

- Data are considered final from the time they are first entered into the system.
- Data are stable and ready for analytical use within a month.
- Data are stable and ready for analytical use within 3 months.
- Data are stable and ready for analytical use after more than 3 months.

End of Block: Data Collected

Start of Block: Documentation and Validation

Q17 How frequently do frontline staff collecting data communicate with other data users about the quality of the data?

- Never or rarely
 - Sometimes
 - Frequently
-

Q18 What data documentation is available to users?

	Not consistently documented	Somewhat documented (documentation may be scattered or unhelpful)	Well documented
List of fields	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Data types (character, integer, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Field definitions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Code values	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Limitations of certain fields	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Detail about how data are collected	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



Q19 What strategies are used to maintain or improve data quality? Check all that apply.

- Restrictions on valid values during data entry
- Restrictions on data entry to block null values in certain fields
- Routine data audits (automated)
- Routine data audits (manual)
- Validation of data elements against other databases
- Training for staff doing data entry in appropriate values
- Written data entry manuals
- Aggregate data are shared with staff doing data entry
- Other (please describe) _____

End of Block: Documentation and Validation

Start of Block: Wrap Up

Q20 This concludes the **Data Collection and Documentation** module. Is there anything else you would like us to know about the data in your TANF agency?

Q21

If you are finished with this survey, click "SUBMIT" below.

Once you submit responses you will not be able to make any changes in the survey platform.
Use the survey back button below to return to the survey to review and make any desired edits.

If you would like to update your answers in the future please reach out to us at [email@address]
or [phone number].

End of Block: Wrap Up

TDI: Data Infrastructure

Start of Block: Introduction

Q1 Thank you for your willingness to participate in the **TANF Data Innovation** [hyperlink to website] survey about how TANF agencies use data. The goal of this survey is to collect first-hand information about your capacities, capabilities, and current use of data. Your answers will help HHS to: (1) better understand the challenges and barriers states and territories face in using data and research to inform program decision making and (2) design future technical assistance activities for TANF agencies to address these challenges. We will report a summary of aggregate findings from the TDI survey back to you.

This survey contains seven modules focusing on different components of TANF data usage. Each module is intended to be answered by agency staff with expertise in a given topic. You have been selected to complete the **Data Infrastructure** module. This module seeks information about the TANF agency's data infrastructure. It will take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. You can preview the survey here [link to survey pdf]. Your participation is voluntary.

Contact [email@address] or [phone number] with any questions or concerns.

Thank you so much for your thoughts and time! Your contributions are important.

The TANF Data Innovation project is sponsored by the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation in collaboration with the Office of Family Assistance in the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The project is led by MDRC, in partnership with Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, Actionable Intelligence for Social Policy (AISP) at the University of Pennsylvania, and New York University.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB number for this information collection is 0970-0XXX and the expiration date is XX/XX/XXXX.

End of Block: Introduction

Start of Block: Module Specific Intro

Q2 Answer to the best of your knowledge and make an educated guess if you are unsure.

We encourage you to be as candid as possible. Your responses are private. This survey is being administered by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago and MDRC; your individual responses will not be shared with anyone outside of the research team. Only aggregate state-level analyses will be shared with HHS. We do not anticipate any risks or direct benefits from participating in this survey.

Q3 Please enter your contact information below. This information may be used to follow up with questions, clarifications, or further discussion. We will also report a summary of findings back to you. **Your contact information will not be shared outside the research team.**

Name _____

Job title _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Q4 Which of the following best characterizes your role relative to the TANF program? Select your primary role if you have more than one.

- Executive leadership
 - Reporting or data analysis
 - Research or evaluation
 - Information technology
 - Program staff
 - Legal
 - External consultant
 - Other. Please list: _____
-

Q5 How would you characterize your role relative to the TANF program?

- Working solely or mostly on TANF
 - Working across multiple programs, including TANF
-

Q6

The TDI project aims to improve TANF agencies' ability to use data to inform program decision making. To get a complete picture of agency data use across domains and purposes we ask this question in every module.

From your perspective, how well does your TANF agency use data to inform program decision making? Rate your response on a scale from 0 (not well at all) to 10 (extremely well).

Not well at all Extremely well

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



End of Block: Module Specific Intro

Start of Block: Data Infrastructure and Security

Q7

First, we will ask some questions about your TANF agency's primary data system. This is the data system that is most used for information about cases, participants, and payments.

Do all counties in your state use the same primary data system to maintain information about cases, participants, and payments?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure. Please describe: _____

Skip To: Q10 If First, we will ask some questions about your TANF agency's primary data system. This is the data... = Yes

Q8 If different counties use different systems, how is that data integrated at the state level?

- There is a central data system that fully integrates the data.
- There is a central data system that integrates some but not all of the data.
- There is no central data system, although individual-level data may be integrated across systems for analytic or reporting purposes.

Q9 For the next series of questions in this module, please answer relative to the **primary data system** that is the most comprehensive source of TANF data on cases, participants, and payments within the state. This might be a central data system that integrates most or all of the data across systems or it might be the data system used by a subset of counties that contains the largest share of the caseload.

Which of the following best characterizes the primary data system you will be thinking of to answer these questions?

- A central, state data system
- A data system used by a subset of counties containing at least 50% of the state's TANF caseload
- A data system used by a subset of counties containing less than 50% of the state's TANF caseload

Page Break

Q10 Which of the following types of data are found in the TANF agency's primary data system?

	Contained entirely in primary data system	Partially contained in primary data system	Entirely contained in another data system	Not tracked
Current eligibility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Historical eligibility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Payment history	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Work activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sanctions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Information about other benefits, such as SNAP	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Referrals to other service providers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q11 Is your primary data system off-the-shelf/previously developed software, previously developed software with some customization, or a completely custom product?

- Off-the-shelf or other previously developed software
- Off-the-shelf or other previously developed software that has been adapted for internal purposes
- Custom (built in-house or by a vendor as a custom product)
- Other (please explain) _____

Q12 Please list the name of the software vendor or developer of your primary data system.

Q13 How long has your department been using the current primary data system?

- Less than 5 years
- 5-10 years
- 10-20 years
- 20+ years

Q14 Is your agency planning to move the primary data system to a new platform, and/or have you recently completed a database conversion?

- We recently converted our primary data system to a new platform (within the last three years).
- Money has been set aside for a database conversion.
- Executive leadership is formally exploring a change in platform (i.e., through a committee or working group).
- We have not recently changed database platforms and there is no active planning to do so.

Display This Question:

If Is your agency planning to move the primary data system to a new platform, and/or have you recent... = Money has been set aside for a database conversion.

Or Is your agency planning to move the primary data system to a new platform, and/or have you recent... = Executive leadership is formally exploring a change in platform (i.e., through a committee or working group).

Q15 Why are you planning to change platforms for your primary data system? Select all that apply.

- Current system is hard to use.
- Current system is hard to maintain or adapt.
- Current system lacks desired quality or validation controls.
- Current system does not integrate well with desired reporting or visualization tools.
- It is difficult to export usable data from current system (limited output options).
- The planned data system will contain a different universe of data than the current system (for example, changing to a system that integrates TANF and SNAP data from one that stores TANF data alone).
- It is difficult to maintain desired level of security with current system.
- There is federal funding available to update data systems.
- There is non-federal funding available to update data systems.
- Department leadership wants a change in data systems.
- Other _____

Display This Question:

If Is your agency planning to move the primary data system to a new platform, and/or have you recent... = We recently converted our primary data system to a new platform (within the last three years).

Q16 Why did you change platforms for your primary data system? Select all that apply.

- Previous system was hard to use.
- Previous system was hard to maintain or adapt.
- Previous system lacked desired quality or validation controls.
- Previous system did not integrate well with desired reporting or visualization tools.
- It was difficult to export usable data from previous system (limited output options).
- The current data system contains a different universe of data than the previous system (for example, changing to a system that integrates TANF and SNAP data from one that stores TANF data alone).
- It was difficult to maintain desired level of security with previous system.
- There was federal funding available to update data systems.
- There was non-federal funding available to update data systems.
- Department leadership wanted a change in data systems.
- Other _____

Page Break

Q17 What query tools are available to access, analyze, or extract data from the primary data system?

	Accessible to IT	Accessible to power users outside IT	Accessible to external developers (consultants)
Direct access with SQL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Direct access with other programming languages (Python, JavaScript, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Direct access through a querying, visualization, or business intelligence tool (Business Objects, Tableau, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Direct access through statistical software (SAS, SPSS, R, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q18 Please list the primary tools and languages the audiences above are using to view, query, manipulate, and analyze these data.

Page Break

Q19 Are any of your agency's TANF data stored in the cloud?

- Yes, including data from the primary data system
- Yes, but not the data in the primary data system
- No

Display This Question:

If Are any of your agency's TANF data stored in the cloud? = Yes, including data from the primary data system

Or Are any of your agency's TANF data stored in the cloud? = Yes, but not the data in the primary data system

Q20 Which service(s) do you use for cloud storage (e.g., GCP, AWS, Azure, etc.)?

Page Break

Q21 In addition to the primary data system discussed above, are there other systems used to store TANF data? Check all that apply.

One or more other database systems

Sharepoint

Excel spreadsheets

Other flat files

Other (please explain) _____

Q22 Are there any tools used to access or analyze data from these other systems that you have not listed previously? If so, please list.

Page Break _____

Q23 What processes exist that integrate data between the primary data system and one or more additional data systems? Check all that apply.

- There is automated, real-time or on-demand integration between at least two systems for front-end viewers.
 - There is automated, real-time integration between at least two systems for reporting and analysis purposes (i.e., it is possible to pull reports of integrated data).
 - There is an automated process that routinely integrates the data between two systems and stores a crosswalk file or integrated dataset. Please indicate frequency of process (daily, monthly, etc.): _____
 - There have been one or more completed manual or ad-hoc projects to integrate data across systems.
 - There is discussion or planning around additional automated integration across systems.
 - There is discussion or planning around additional integration (not automated) across systems.
 - There are data integration or interoperability efforts that are not captured by the above categories (please describe:) _____
 - I am not aware of any current or planned data integration or interoperability efforts.
-

Q24 Thinking about the above processes of data integration, please characterize the types of data contained in the data systems that are integrated with the primary data system:

	Automatically integrated	Integrated manually or on an ad-hoc basis	Planned for integration	No integration
Additional TANF program data (such as work activities or payments)	0	0	0	0
Child welfare	0	0	0	0
Food assistance (SNAP, WIC)	0	0	0	0
Workforce or economic development programs (non-TANF)	0	0	0	0
Employment security (unemployment insurance)	0	0	0	0
Other source of wage data	0	0	0	0
Housing assistance	0	0	0	0
Homelessness (HMIS)	0	0	0	0
Medical assistance (Medicaid, CHIP)	0	0	0	0
Juvenile justice	0	0	0	0
Corrections	0	0	0	0
Disability assistance	0	0	0	0
Early care and education (CCDF, pre-K, Head Start)	0	0	0	0
K-12 education	0	0	0	0
Postsecondary education	0	0	0	0

Child support	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other type of data (please list)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q25 To the best of your knowledge, has your agency discussed, reviewed, or considered implementing the National Human Services Interoperability Architecture (NHSIA)?

- Have not heard of it
 - Have heard of it, but have not discussed or considered implementing
 - Have discussed but chose not to implement
 - Have discussed but no decision was made
 - Have discussed and are exploring implementation in at least one data system
 - Have implemented in at least one data system that is used by the TANF office for program management purposes
 - Have implemented in the primary TANF data system
-

Q26 To the best of your knowledge, has your agency discussed, reviewed, or considered implementing the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM)?

- Have not heard of it
- Have heard of it, but have not discussed or considered implementing
- Have discussed but chose not to implement
- Have discussed but no decision was made
- Have discussed and are exploring implementation in at least one data system
- Have implemented in at least one data system that is used by the TANF office for program management purposes
- Have implemented in the primary TANF data system

End of Block: Data Infrastructure and Security

Start of Block: Wrap Up

Q27 This concludes the **Data Infrastructure** module. Is there anything else you would like us to know about the data infrastructure in your TANF agency?

Q28

If you are finished with this survey, click "SUBMIT" below.

Once you submit responses you will not be able to make any changes in the survey platform.
Use the survey back button below to return to the survey to review and make any desired edits.

If you would like to update your answers in the future please reach out to us at [email@address]
or [phone number].

End of Block: Wrap Up

TDI: Data Sharing

Q1 Thank you for your willingness to participate in the **TANF Data Innovation** [hyperlink to website] survey about how TANF agencies use data. The goal of this survey is to collect firsthand information about your capacities, capabilities, and current use of data. Your answers will help HHS to: (1) better understand the challenges and barriers states and territories face in using data and research to inform program decision making and (2) design future technical assistance activities for TANF agencies to address these challenges. We will report a summary of aggregate findings from the project survey back to you.

This survey contains seven modules focusing on different components of TANF data usage. Each module is intended to be answered by agency staff with expertise in a given topic. You have been selected to complete the **Data Sharing** module. This module seeks information about the status of data sharing practices in your TANF agency and state. It will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. You can preview the survey here [link to survey pdf]. Your participation is voluntary.

Contact [email@address] or [phone number] with any questions or concerns.

Thank you so much for your thoughts and time! Your contributions are important.

The TANF Data Innovation project is sponsored by the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation in collaboration with the Office of Family Assistance in the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The project is led by MDRC, in partnership with Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, Actionable Intelligence for Social Policy (AISP) at the University of Pennsylvania, and New York University.

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End of Block: Introduction

Start of Block: Block 2

Q2 Answer to the best of your knowledge and make an educated guess if you are unsure.

We encourage you to be as candid as possible. Your responses are private. This survey is being administered by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago and MDRC; your individual responses will not be shared with anyone outside of the research team. Only aggregate state-level analyses will be shared with HHS. We do not anticipate any risks or direct benefits from participating in this survey.

Q3 Please enter your contact information below. This information may be used to follow up with questions, clarifications, or further discussion. We will also report a summary of survey findings back to you. **Your contact information will not be shared outside the research team.**

Name _____

Job title _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Q4 Which of the following best characterizes your role relative to the TANF program? Select your primary role if you have more than one role.

- Executive leadership
 - Reporting or data analysis
 - Research or evaluation
 - Information technology
 - Program staff
 - Legal
 - External consultant
 - Other. Please list: _____
-

Q5 How would you characterize your role relative to the TANF program?

- Working solely or mostly on TANF
 - Working across multiple programs, including TANF
-

Q6

The TDI project aims to improve TANF agencies' ability to use data to inform program decision making. To get a complete picture of agency data use across domains and purposes, we ask this question in every module.

From your perspective, how well does your TANF agency use data to inform program decision making? Rate your response on a scale from 0 (not well at all) to 10 (extremely well).

Not well at all Extremely well

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



Q7 This survey is focused on data sharing in your agency. Does your TANF agency have any agreements (e.g., contracts, DSAs, DULs, MOUs, or DUAs) in place regarding sharing data outside your agency? Check all that apply.

	Agreements to send TANF data to another entity	Agreements to bring data in to the TANF agency
Other state entities (e.g., agencies or programs)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
City or county government agencies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Federal agencies (outside of federal reporting)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
External researchers (e.g., academic institutions or research firms)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contractors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other organizations (e.g., non-profits, foundations, advocacy groups or media)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No data sharing agreements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q8 About how often does your agency receive requests from external entities to access or obtain TANF data?

	Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly	Annually	None in the last three years
Other state entities (e.g., agencies or programs)	0	0	0	0	0
City or county government agencies	0	0	0	0	0
Federal agencies (outside of federal reporting)	0	0	0	0	0
External researchers (e.g., academic institutions or research firms)	0	0	0	0	0
Contractors	0	0	0	0	0
Other organizations (e.g., non-profits, foundations, advocacy groups or media)	0	0	0	0	0

Page Break

Q9 Does your agency have a formal process or processes for handling external requests to access or obtain TANF data?

Yes

No

Display This Question:

If Does your agency have a formal process or processes for handling external requests to access or o... = No

Q10 In the absence of a formal process, please briefly describe what would happen if the agency received an external request for TANF data.

Display This Question:

If Does your agency have a formal process or processes for handling external requests to access or o... = Yes

Q11 Select the responses that best describe how external requests to access or obtain TANF data are handled by the agency. Check all that apply.

Reviewed by a formal committee

Reviewed by agency leadership

Reviewed by designated decision maker outside of agency leadership

Other. Please describe: _____

Display This Question:

If Does your agency have a formal process or processes for handling external requests to access or o... = Yes

Q12 On average, about how long does it take to work through the review process for external data requests?

- Less than one month
 - 1 - 3 months
 - 4 - 6 months
 - 7 - 12 months
 - More than 12 months
-

Display This Question:

If Does your agency have a formal process or processes for handling external requests to access or o... = Yes

Q13 About how long has the current practice for reviewing external data requests been in place?

- Less than a year
 - About 1 - 5 years
 - About 6 - 10 years
 - At least 10 years
-

Page Break

Q14 How many of the following other government agencies or programs has your agency shared data with in the last five years? Please check all that apply.

In some cases, sharing data between the TANF agency and the agencies listed may be a part of regular operations (e.g., within the same department as TANF, sharing a common data system, colocated in an integrated database). Please still select those agencies, even if data sharing is routine and does not require additional agreements or contracts.

Note that generic names are listed. Agencies or programs may have different names in your state.

- No data sharing has occurred
- Employment security (UI, wage data)
- Child welfare
- Food assistance (SNAP, WIC)
- Workforce or economic development (non-TANF)
- Medical assistance (Medicaid, CHIP)
- Juvenile justice
- Corrections
- Housing assistance
- Homelessness (HMIS)
- Disability assistance
- Subsidized child care (CCDF)
- Early education (pre-K, Head Start)

K-12 education

Post-secondary education

Child support

Other agencies or departments. Please list:

Page Break

Q15 Has your agency shared data with external researchers (e.g., academic institutions or research firms) in the last five years?

Yes

No

Don't know

Display This Question:

*If Has your agency shared data with external researchers (e.g., academic institutions or research fi...
= Yes*

Q16 Are external researchers ever given access to data with PII (personally identifiable information, e.g., name or SSN)?

Yes

No

Don't know

Display This Question:



If Has your agency shared data with external researchers (e.g., academic institutions or research fi...
= Yes

Q17 How is data shared with external researchers? Check all that apply.

- Data file is sent to researchers.
- Researchers connect to the agency database directly.
- Data is shared through another agency or organization that centralizes data sharing (such as an integrated database).
- Other method of data sharing. Please describe:

Q18 Overall, how would you characterize your TANF agency's comfort with sharing data outside the agency?

Not at all comfortable Extremely comfortable
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

With other state agencies	
With external researchers (e.g., university or research firm)	

Page Break

Q19 What are the **primary barriers to data sharing** in your TANF agency and state? Check all that apply.

- No interest in data sharing
- Provides limited value to the TANF program
- Technology is not sufficiently advanced
- Concerns about how data are used
- Concerns about maintaining data privacy and security
- Staff availability to oversee and manage data sharing
- Legal issues/statutory limitations
- Political issues (e.g., legislature or governor)
- Availability of financial resources
- Other. Please list: _____

Q20 Please briefly describe a recent example or specific barrier to data sharing in your TANF agency or state.

Page Break

Q21 This concludes the **Data Sharing** module. Is there anything else you would like us to know about data sharing in your TANF agency or state?



Q22

If you are finished with this survey, click "SUBMIT" below.

Once you submit responses you will not be able to make any changes in the survey platform. Use the survey back button below to return to the survey to review and make any desired edits.

If you would like to update your answers in the future please reach out to us at [email@address] or [phone number].

End of Block: Block 2

TDI: Research and Analytic Capacity

Start of Block: Introduction

Q1 Thank you for your willingness to participate in the **TANF Data Innovation** [hyperlink to website] survey about how TANF agencies use data. The goal of this survey is to collect firsthand information about your capacities, capabilities, and current use of data. Your answers will help HHS to: (1) better understand the challenges and barriers states and territories face in using data and research to inform program decision making and (2) design future technical assistance activities for TANF agencies to address these challenges. We will report a summary of aggregate findings from the project survey back to you.

This survey contains 7 modules focusing on different components of TANF data usage. Each module is intended to be answered by agency staff with expertise in a given topic. You have been selected to complete the **Research and Analytic Capacity** module. This module seeks information about the TANF agency's current capacity to conduct data analysis and research to inform agency decisions. It will take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. You can preview the survey here [link to survey pdf]. Your participation is voluntary.

Contact [email@address] or [phone number] with any questions or concerns.

Thank you so much for your thoughts and time! Your contributions are important.

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End of Block: Introduction

Start of Block: Module Specific Intro

Q2 Answer to the best of your knowledge and make an educated guess if you are unsure.

We encourage you to be as candid as possible. Your responses are private. This survey is being administered by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago and MDRC; your individual responses will not be shared with anyone outside of the research team. Only aggregate state-level analyses will be shared with HHS. We do not anticipate any risks or direct benefits from participating in this survey.

Q3 Please enter your contact information below. This information may be used to follow up with questions, clarifications, or further discussion. We will also report a summary of findings back to you. **Your contact information will not be shared outside the research team.**

Name _____

Job title _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Q4 Which of the following best characterizes your role relative to the TANF program? Select your primary role if you have more than one.

- Executive leadership
 - Reporting or data analysis
 - Research or evaluation
 - Information technology
 - Program staff
 - Legal
 - External consultant
 - Other. Please list: _____
-

Q5 How would you characterize your role relative to the TANF program?

- Working solely or mostly on TANF
 - Working across multiple programs, including TANF
-

Q6

The TDI project aims to improve TANF agencies' ability to use data to inform program decision making. To get a complete picture of agency data use across domains and purposes we ask this question in every module.

From your perspective, how well does your TANF agency use data to inform program decision making? Rate your response on a scale from 0 (not well at all) to 10 (extremely well).

Not well at all Extremely well

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Agency use of data



Q7 This module begins with questions about staff capacity. Among analytic staff in your TANF agency, please indicate the highest level of knowledge in the following areas:

	Extremely knowledgeable	Moderately knowledgeable	Slightly knowledgeable	Not knowledgeable at all	N/A, we don't do this in-house
Descriptive statistics	0	0	0	0	0
Performance indicators	0	0	0	0	0
Data manipulation	0	0	0	0	0
Record linkage/data integration	0	0	0	0	0
Data visualization	0	0	0	0	0
Program evaluation	0	0	0	0	0
Statistical inference	0	0	0	0	0
Mapping/geospatial	0	0	0	0	0
Predictive analytics	0	0	0	0	0

Q8 Among analytic staff in your agency, indicate the highest level of proficiency with the following programming languages and tools:

	Expert	Advanced	Intermediate	Novice	None, no users
SQL	0	0	0	0	0
SAS	0	0	0	0	0
Stata	0	0	0	0	0
SPSS	0	0	0	0	0
R	0	0	0	0	0
Python	0	0	0	0	0
Microsoft Excel	0	0	0	0	0
Microsoft Access	0	0	0	0	0
ArcGIS/QGIS, etc.	0	0	0	0	0
Tableau/Power BI, etc.	0	0	0	0	0
Spark/Hive/Hadoop, etc.	0	0	0	0	0
Record linkage package or software. Please list:	0	0	0	0	0
Other language or tool. Please list:	0	0	0	0	0

Page Break

Q9

The next questions ask about staff access to and usage of administrative data, specifically **access to case- and individual-level datasets** extracted for report generation or data analysis.

About how frequently do analytical staff access extracted datasets of case- or individual-level data for report generation or data analysis?

- Weekly
 - Monthly
 - Quarterly
 - Annually
 - Every few years
 - Never
-

Q10 How up to date are the case- and individual-level TANF datasets that can be most easily accessed by analytic staff?

- Prior month
 - Prior quarter
 - Prior year/fiscal year
 - More than 1 year old
-

Q11 How do analytic staff access extracted case- and individual-level TANF data? Check all that apply.

Prebuilt reports

Business intelligence software

Direct queries

No access to extracted case- or individual-level data

Other access method. Please describe:

Q12 Besides TANF data, about how frequently do analytic staff access these other sources of administrative data to aid in ad hoc reporting and other analyses (i.e., activities outside of regular reporting procedures)?

	Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly	Annually	Every few years	Never
Wage or earnings data (UI)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child welfare	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food assistance (SNAP, WIC)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Workforce or economic development (non-TANF)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical assistance (Medicaid, CHIP)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juvenile justice	0	0	0	0	0	0
Corrections	0	0	0	0	0	0
Housing assistance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Homelessness (HMIS)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disability assistance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subsidized child care (CCDF)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Early education (pre-K, Head Start)	0	0	0	0	0	0
K-12 education	0	0	0	0	0	0
Post-secondary education	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child support	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other source(s). Please list data source:	0	0	0	0	0	0

Display This Question:

If Besides TANF data, about how frequently do analytic staff access these other sources of administr... = Weekly

Q13 Indicate all sources of wage data that your agency uses for analyses. Check all that apply.

- Unemployment Insurance (UI)
- National Directory of New Hires (NDNH)
- State directory of new hires
- Social Security
- U.S. Census data
- Labor market data (e.g., Department of Labor or Burning Glass)
- Other source(s) of wage data. Please list:

Q14 Which of the other sources of administrative data are integrated with your primary sources of TANF data (i.e., analysts can report on individuals across multiple data sources)?

	Completely integrated (same data system or real-time interoperability)	Integrated for analytic purposes on a regular basis	Integrated for analytic purposes on an occasional basis	Not integrated with TANF data for analytic purposes
Wage or earnings data (UI)	0	0	0	0
Child welfare	0	0	0	0
Food assistance (e.g. SNAP, WIC)	0	0	0	0
Workforce or economic development (non-TANF)	0	0	0	0
Medical assistance (Medicaid, CHIP)	0	0	0	0
Juvenile justice	0	0	0	0
Corrections	0	0	0	0
Homelessness (HMIS)	0	0	0	0
Housing assistance	0	0	0	0
Disability assistance	0	0	0	0
Subsidized child care (CCDF)	0	0	0	0
Early education (pre-K, Head Start)	0	0	0	0
K-12 education	0	0	0	0
Post-secondary education	0	0	0	0
Child support	0	0	0	0
Other source(s). Please list data source:	0	0	0	0

Q15 Who manages access to any integrated data described above? If there are multiple sources of integrated data, select all that apply and describe in your answer to the next question.

- No sources of integrated data
- The agency or department that houses the TANF program
- The governor's office
- A central data or technology department within the state
- Another agency (e.g., education, labor, etc.). Please specify:

- A university or other external research partner
- A private contractor external to the state
- Other. Please specify: _____



Q16 If there are multiple sources of integrated data managed by different organizations or agencies, please explain.

Q17

The last questions in this module ask about production and reporting of research and analyses.

Does your agency make any reports about the TANF caseload publicly available?

Yes

No

Display This Question:

*If The last questions in this module ask about production and reporting of research and analyses.
D... = Yes*

Q18 If possible, please provide citations or hyperlinks to any recent public caseload reports using your TANF administrative data.

Q19 Indicate whether your agency, other organizations, or external researchers have conducted at least one evaluation of TANF or a program component in the last five years.

	Yes	Maybe	No
TANF agency	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Another governmental entity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
External researchers (e.g. university researcher)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Display This Question:

If Indicate whether your agency, other organizations, or external researchers have conducted at least... = TANF agency [Yes]

Q20 Were any evaluation reports by the TANF agency made public?

Yes

No

Display This Question:

If Indicate whether your agency, other organizations, or external researchers have conducted at least... = Another governmental entity [Yes]

Q21 Were any evaluation reports by other governmental entities made public?

Yes

No

Display This Question:

If Indicate whether your agency, other organizations, or external researchers have conducted at least... = External researchers (e.g. university researcher) [Yes]

Q22 Were any evaluation reports by external researchers made public?

Yes

No

Display This Question:

If Indicate whether your agency, other organizations, or external researchers have conducted at least... = TANF agency [Maybe]

Q23 You indicated there might have been a recent TANF evaluation. Please briefly describe what you do know about any such evaluation(s).

Display This Question:

If Indicate whether your agency, other organizations, or external researchers have conducted at least... = TANF agency [Yes]

Q24 If possible, please provide citations or hyperlinks to any recent public evaluation reports using your TANF administrative data.

Q25 Please briefly describe the **primary barriers** your agency experiences in conducting analytic activities and research.

Q26 This concludes the **Research and Analytic Capacity** module. Is there anything else you would like us to know about the research practices of your TANF agency?



Q27

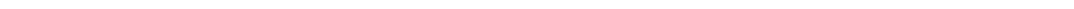
If you are finished with this survey, click "SUBMIT" below.

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If you would like to update your answers in the future please reach out to us at [email@address] or [phone number].



Page Break



TDI: Payment Integrity

Start of Block: Introduction

Q1 Thank you for your willingness to participate in the **TANF Data Innovation** [hyperlink to website] survey about how TANF agencies use data. The goal of this survey is to collect firsthand information about your capacities, capabilities, and current use of data. Your answers will help HHS to: (1) better understand the challenges and barriers states and territories face in using data and research to inform program decision making and (2) design future technical assistance activities for TANF agencies to address these challenges. We will report a summary of aggregate findings from the project survey back to you.

This survey contains seven modules focusing on different components of TANF data usage. Each module is intended to be answered by agency staff with expertise in a given topic. You have been selected to complete the **Payment Integrity** module. This module seeks information about how your agency uses data to support TANF quality assurance efforts focused on payment integrity. It will take approximately 15 minutes to complete. You can preview the survey here [link to survey pdf]. Your participation is voluntary.

Contact [email@address] or [phone number] with any questions or concerns.

Thank you so much for your thoughts and time! Your contributions are important.

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Page Break

Q2 Answer to the best of your knowledge and make an educated guess if you are unsure.

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Q3 Please enter your contact information below. This information may be used to follow up with questions, clarifications, or further discussion. We will also report a summary of findings back to you. **Your contact information will not be shared outside the research team.**

Name _____

Job title _____

Email _____

Phone _____



Q7 This module contains questions concerning payment integrity, based on applicable state and federal requirements.

Payment integrity is the process for preventing, identifying, and addressing improper payments. Improper payments are payments calculated incorrectly, denied incorrectly, or issued without sufficient proof of eligibility.

Q8 How satisfied are you with the **timeliness and efficiency** of your state's TANF payment integrity process?

- Very satisfied
 - Moderately satisfied
 - Slightly satisfied
 - Not satisfied at all
-

Q9 How satisfied are you with the **accuracy** of your state's TANF payment integrity process?

- Very satisfied
 - Moderately satisfied
 - Slightly satisfied
 - Not satisfied at all
-

Q10 Over the years, HHS has suggested a number of strategies to improve the accuracy of TANF eligibility determinations and benefit calculations. Based on your experience:

How effective are each of the following methods for **minimizing initial errors** in eligibility/benefit determinations?

	Decrease incidence of problems	Have little or no effect	Increase the incidence of problems	No experience with that method
Hiring more staff responsible for determining eligibility	0	0	0	0
Training staff to solicit accurate and complete information	0	0	0	0
Including measures of payment integrity in staff performance reviews	0	0	0	0
Designing new ways to remind TANF recipients to provide complete and timely information	0	0	0	0
Creating or accessing integrated databases of multiple assistance programs	0	0	0	0
Changing the frequency of re-determinations to better detect changes in case composition or income	0	0	0	0
Using databases (PARIS, SDNH or NDNH, IEVS, etc.) to collect information on household eligibility status and income	0	0	0	0

Q11 How effective are each of the following methods for **identifying existing errors** in eligibility/benefit determinations?

	Decrease incidence of problems	Have little or no effect	Increase the incidence of problems	No experience with that method
Creating quality control units	0	0	0	0
Assigning more staff to quality control units	0	0	0	0
Conducting quality control reviews	0	0	0	0
Performing quality control checks, using available case file data	0	0	0	0
Using state databases (PARIS, SDNH, etc.) to collect information on household eligibility and income	0	0	0	0
Using predictive analytics to flag cases most likely to have payment integrity issues	0	0	0	0

Page Break



Q12 What are the barriers to **correcting improper payments** once they are discovered?
Choose up to three.

- Staffing levels
- Staff skills and experience
- Funding for payment integrity efforts
- Procedures incorporating new information that affects eligibility or benefit calculations
- Difficulties recouping overpayments from beneficiaries
- Statutory limitations or limitations stemming from state laws
- Restrictions on data matching or use in current data sharing agreements
- Technology challenges
- Other. Please list: _____

Page Break _____

Q13 On average, about how long does it take for a case manager to learn about an increase in a TANF recipient's:

	Less than a month	About 1-4 months	About 5-8 months	About 9-12 months	More than 12 months
Earned income?	0	0	0	0	0
Child support?	0	0	0	0	0
Other income?	0	0	0	0	0

Q14 Which **federal or multistate data systems** does your state access for TANF payment integrity purposes? Check all that apply.

- Public Assistance Reporting Information System (PARIS)
- Income Eligibility Verification System (IEVS)
- National Directory of New Hires (NDNH)
- Social Security
- Don't use any of these data systems
- Don't know/uncertain

Display This Question:

If Which federal or multistate data systems does your state access for TANF payment integrity purpos... = Public Assistance Reporting Information System (PARIS)

Q15 Indicate the specific uses of the PARIS system for payment integrity in your agency. Check all that apply.

Interstate public assistance match

Department of Defense match

Veterans match

Don't know/uncertain

Display This Question:

If Which federal or multistate data systems does your state access for TANF payment integrity purpos... = Income Eligibility Verification System (IEVS)

Q16 Indicate the specific uses of IEVS data for payment integrity in your agency. Check all that apply.

State Wage Information Collection Agency

State Unemployment Compensation Agency

Homeland Security

Internal Revenue Service

Don't know/uncertain

Display This Question:

If Which federal or multistate data systems does your state access for TANF payment integrity purpos... = National Directory of New Hires (NDNH)

Q17 Indicate the specific uses of NDNH data for payment integrity in your agency. Check all that apply.

- W-4 New Hire data
 - Quarterly Earnings data
 - Unemployment Insurance Benefits data
 - Don't know/uncertain
-

Display This Question:

If Which federal or multistate data systems does your state access for TANF payment integrity purposes... = Social Security

Q18 Indicate the specific uses of Social Security data for payment integrity in your agency. Check all that apply.

- Numident
 - Master Beneficiary Record Database
 - Don't know/uncertain
-

Page Break

Q19 Which **state or local data systems** does your state access for TANF payment integrity purposes? Check all that apply.

Unemployment Insurance (UI) wage and benefits

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Medicaid

Child support

Public or subsidized housing

Vital statistics

State or local multiagency integrated database

Don't use any state or local data systems

Other. Please list: _____

Q20 Does your state calculate a TANF payment error rate?

Yes

No

Don't know/uncertain

Display This Question:

If Does your state calculate a TANF payment error rate? = Yes

Q21 About how many cases per year does your state include in the Quality Control sample?

Display This Question:

If Does your state calculate a TANF payment error rate? = Yes

Q22 Where do you report the TANF payment error rate information? Check all that apply.

- In a report to the governor or state legislature
- In a document or tables posted on the agency website
- In an internal or confidential document
- Other. Please describe: _____

Display This Question:

If Does your state calculate a TANF payment error rate? = Yes

Q23 Do you report the TANF payment error rate as...

	Yes	No
A statewide average?	0	0
An average for each county or region?	0	0
An average by program type (federally funded, state funded, mixed federally and state funded)?	0	0

Page Break _____

Q24 One of the goals of the TANF Data Innovation project is to identify and disseminate best practices for improving the accuracy and timeliness of TANF eligibility and benefits data. We would like to learn more about current efforts by state and local human services administrators and other “stakeholders” to share information. In your opinion, which jurisdictions (state, county, or territory), other than your own, use innovative or effective approaches to improving payment integrity that other states should learn about? Name up to three jurisdictions.

State/Jurisdiction 1 _____

State/Jurisdiction 2 _____

State/Jurisdiction 3 _____



Q25 In your opinion, which organizations, if any, are particularly helpful in disseminating best practices for improving payment integrity? Select up to three.

National Governors Association

National Association of Counties

National Association of State TANF Administrators

American Public Human Services Association

National Association for Program Information and Performance Management

American Association of Health and Human Services Attorneys

Other. Please list: _____

Page Break

Q26 We may have a few follow-up questions or clarifications. In case you aren't available, please provide contact information for a colleague in your TANF agency or state that would be another good source of information about payment integrity and quality assurance. **Contact information will not be shared outside the research team.**

If you have no one to recommend, leave these fields blank and skip to the next question.
Thanks!

Name _____

Email _____



Q27 This concludes the **Payment Integrity** module. Is there anything else you would like us to know about the payment integrity efforts in your TANF agency?



Q28
If you are finished with this survey, click "SUBMIT" below.

Once you submit responses you will not be able to make any changes in the survey platform. Use the survey back button below to return to the survey to review and make any desired edits.

If you would like to update your answers in the future please reach out to us at [email@address] or [phone number].

End of Block: Introduction

TDI: Federal Reporting

Start of Block: Introduction

Q1 Thank you for your willingness to participate in the **TANF Data Innovation** [hyperlink to website] survey about how TANF agencies use data. The goal of this survey is to collect first-hand information about your capacities, capabilities, and current use of data. Your answers will help HHS to: (1) better understand the challenges and barriers states and territories face in using data and research to inform program decision making and (2) design future technical assistance activities for TANF agencies to address these challenges. We will report a summary of aggregate findings from the project survey back to you.

This survey contains seven modules focusing on different components of TANF data usage. Each module is intended to be answered by agency staff with expertise in a given topic. You have been selected to complete the **Federal Reporting** module. This module seeks information about the data you prepare to submit to HHS as part of the TANF and SSP-MOE Data Reports. It will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. You can preview the survey here [link to survey pdf]. Your participation is voluntary.

Contact [email@address] or [phone number] with any questions or concerns.

Thank you so much for your thoughts and time! Your contributions are important.

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End of Block: Introduction

Start of Block: Survey specific intro

Q2 Answer to the best of your knowledge and make an educated guess if you are unsure.

We encourage you to be as candid as possible. This survey is being administered by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago and MDRC; **your responses are private and will only be viewed by the research team.** Although this project is federally sponsored, results will only be shared with HHS in aggregate form that does not identify individual respondents or states. We do not anticipate any risks or direct benefits from participating in this survey.

Q3 Please enter your contact information below. This information may be used to follow up with questions, clarifications, or further discussion. We will also report a summary of findings back to you. **Your contact information will not be shared outside the research team.**

Name _____

Job title _____

Email _____

Phone _____



End of Block: Survey specific intro

Start of Block: Disaggregated Data

Q7 The first set of questions in this module are about the *disaggregated* data (Sections One and Two of the TANF Data Report/ACF-199 and SSP-MOE Data Report/ACF-209) that your state reports to HHS each quarter. This set of questions comprises the majority of the module.

Q8 About how many hours do staff from your state spend preparing the disaggregated data to report federally each quarter? Include time spent extracting, formatting, validating, aggregating, and transmitting the data, as well as any time needed to answer HHS questions or complete requested revisions, but do not include initial set up time (i.e., time spent on report design) that only happens once.

Hours required to prepare the report each quarter:

Q9 Are there any additional costs to preparing these *disaggregated* data to report federally each quarter? Check all that apply.

Paying a consultant to prepare data or run report

Maintaining a software license primarily for use running federal reporting

Paying another state agency to prepare or provide data or run report

Other (please specify) _____

No additional costs to preparing report

Q10 For each of the types of data included in *disaggregated* reporting each quarter, please indicate the level of difficulty (in terms of resources) in preparing those data for federal use.

	Extremely easy	Somewhat easy	Somewhat difficult	Extremely difficult
Information about TANF benefits (months, grant amount, case status)	0	0	0	0
Personal identifiers for individual recipients	0	0	0	0
Case geography (county, zip code)	0	0	0	0
Information about other public benefits received	0	0	0	0
Work participation status for the case	0	0	0	0
Work activity detail for adult recipients	0	0	0	0

Page Break

Q11 Please indicate whether your agency conducts a review, quality control, or validation on any of the following types of data as part of the process of preparing for submission of *disaggregated* data.

	Data is reviewed prior to submission	Data is submitted "as is"
Information about TANF benefit (months, grant amount, case status)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Personal identifiers for individual recipients	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Case geography (county, zip code)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Information about other public benefits received	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Work participation status for the case	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Work activity detail for adult recipients	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q12 For each of the types of data included in *disaggregated* reporting each quarter, please indicate your sense of the accuracy of the data that is ultimately submitted.

	Extremely accurate	Very accurate	Moderately accurate	Slightly accurate	Not accurate at all
Information about TANF benefit (months, grant amount, case status)	0	0	0	0	0
Personal identifiers for individual recipients	0	0	0	0	0
Case geography (county, zip code)	0	0	0	0	0
Work participation status for the case	0	0	0	0	0
Work activity detail for adult recipients	0	0	0	0	0
Receipt of subsidized housing	0	0	0	0	0
Receipt of medical assistance	0	0	0	0	0
Receipt of food stamps	0	0	0	0	0
Receipt of subsidized child care	0	0	0	0	0
Child support amount	0	0	0	0	0

Q13 For your state's submission to HHS of *disaggregated* TANF data, do you submit universe or sample data?

Universe data

Sample data

Skip To: End of Block If For your state's submission to HHS of disaggregated TANF data, do you submit universe or sample d... = Universe data

Q14 Why does your agency submit sample data to HHS? Check all that apply.

Preparing universe data would take more time

Preparing universe data would cost more money

Concerns about the quality of universe data (cannot be quality controlled in the same way as sample data)

Lack of staff capacity to access universe data (build reports, etc.)

Lack of technical capacity to access universe data (reporting infrastructure)

Other difficulties extracting universe data

Other _____

Q15 Please estimate the staff time, in hours, required specifically to sample the data and prepare the stratum file (Section Four of the TANF Data Report and SSP-MOE Data Report) each quarter. Do not include initial set-up time (i.e., time spent on report design) that only happens once.

Hours required to sample data and prepare stratum file:

Page Break

End of Block: Disaggregated Data

Start of Block: Aggregated Data

Q16 The next set of questions are about the *aggregated* data your state reports to HHS each quarter (Section Three of the TANF Data Report and the SSP-MOE Data Report).

Q17 About how many hours do staff from your state spend preparing the aggregated data to report federally each quarter? Include time spent extracting, formatting, validating, aggregating, and transmitting the data, as well as any time needed to answer HHS questions or complete requested revisions, but do not include initial set-up time (i.e., time spent on report design) that only happens once.

Hours required to prepare the report each quarter:

Q18 Please indicate the overall level of difficulty in preparing the aggregated data for federal reporting.

Extremely easy

Somewhat easy

Somewhat difficult

Extremely difficult

Q19 Please indicate your sense of the accuracy of the aggregated data that is ultimately submitted each quarter.

Extremely accurate

Very accurate

Moderately accurate

Slightly accurate

Not accurate at all

End of Block: Aggregated Data

Start of Block: General Questions about Federal Reporting

Q20 This final set of questions asks about the federal reporting process overall.

Q21 Please indicate whether your TANF agency uses the data extracts prepared for federal reporting for any other purposes. Check all that apply.

For routine internal reports and analyses

For ad hoc internal reports and analyses

For another purpose (please list)

None of the above

Q22 Please describe any aspects of the federal guidance for reporting TANF data that are confusing or difficult to follow.

Q23 How would you characterize the process of transmitting data to OFA each quarter?

- Extremely easy
 - Somewhat easy
 - Somewhat difficult
 - Extremely difficult
-

Q24 What are the most significant barriers or challenges your state faces with regard to federal reporting? Check all that apply.

- Required data elements are not tracked in a single state data system
 - Difficult to extract reports from data system in desired format
 - Lack of internal capacity to run or monitor federal reporting
 - Data quality issues in required elements
 - Written guidance is confusing
 - Transmission process is difficult
 - Rejection notes and HHS questions are difficult to address
 - Other - please describe _____
 - State does not experience any challenges with federal reporting
-

Q25 How could HHS improve support for states like yours in preparing these reports for federal submission? Check all that apply.

- Improved written guidance
 - Supplemental guidance documents (FAQ, etc.)
 - Technical assistance hotline or email address to answer questions
 - Connect states with peers with similar data systems
 - Connect states with peers with similar TANF policies or caseload characteristics
 - Improve the process for transmitting data files
 - Hands-on consultation
 - Other ideas or additional detail on any of the above
-
- Improved support is not needed

End of Block: General Questions about Federal Reporting

Start of Block: Wrap Up

Q26 This concludes the **Federal Reporting** module. Is there anything else you would like us to know about the process of federal reporting for your state?

Q27

If you are finished with this survey, click "SUBMIT" below.

Once you submit responses you will not be able to make any changes in the survey platform. Use the survey back button below to return to the survey to review and make any desired edits.

If you would like to update your answers in the future please reach out to us at [email@address] or [phone number].

End of Block: Wrap Up
