

Meeting Summary  
StateStat website, August 6, 2009

**Agency:** DHR

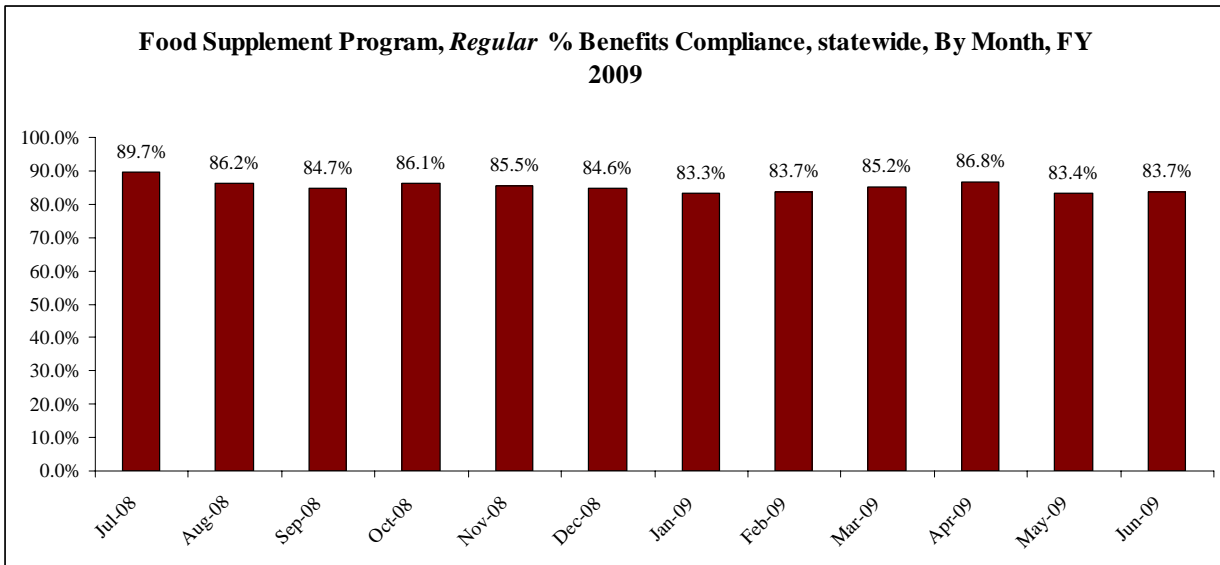
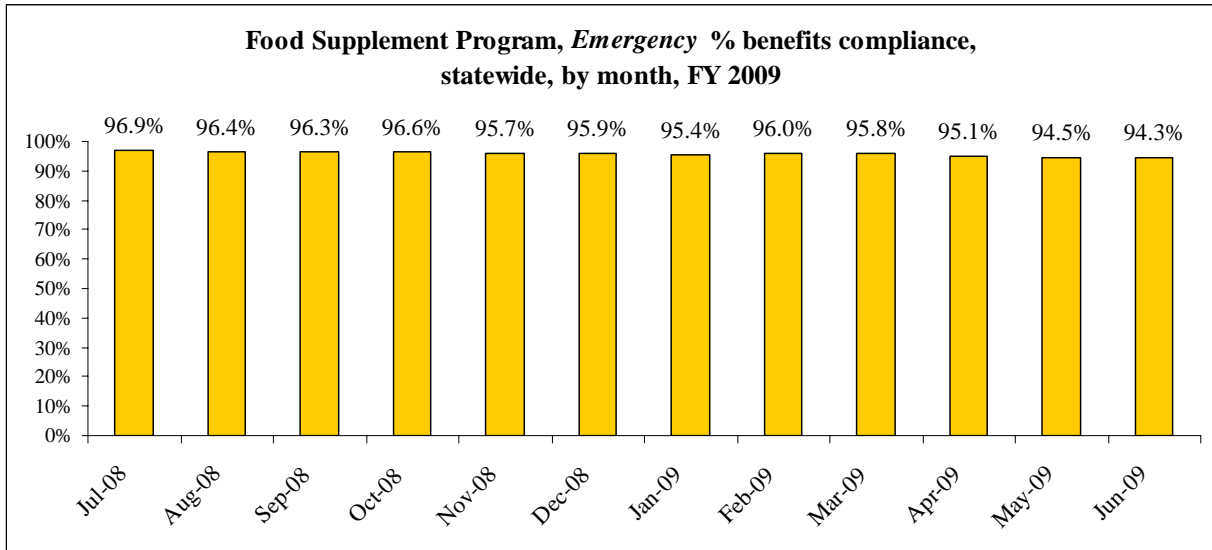
**Date of Meeting:** August 4, 2009

**Template:** Vol IV, No. 3

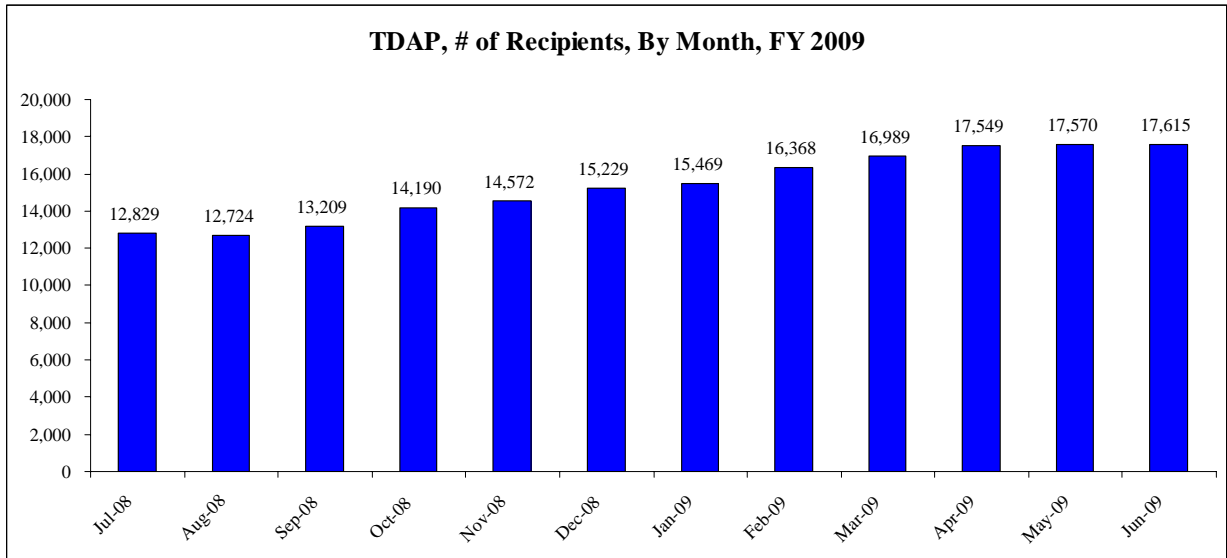
Following is a summary of issues discussed at the DHR Stat on August 4, 2009. Analysis is provided by StateStat and the Governor's Delivery Unit (GDU).

### **General Discussion**

- **SNAP Payment Error Rates.** DHR gave a PowerPoint presentation reporting the variety of methods being utilized in order to reduce the SNAP negative error rate which is being reported to the USDA. The Department is implementing Technology enhancements such as document imaging and Business Process Management Systems in order to be more time efficient. DHR is also using ARRA funds in order to implement workforce initiatives such as Family Investment Aides and Customer Care Centers, with a goal of creating 100 new jobs by March of 2009.
- **Family Investment Administration (FIA).** When DHR was presented the following two charts representing that (1) the statewide compliance in emergency determinations has *decreased* in the month of June 2009 and (2) the statewide totals of regular determinations in the Food Supplement Program have been gradually *decreasing* since April of 2009, they explained that the volume of people coming into the system has increased dramatically over the course of a year. As a result, there is a backlog. However, DHR assures that steps are already being taken to resolve this issue.



- TDAP.** The Department explained the steady increases of individuals needing disability assistance by explaining that the unemployment rate for the disabled is 5% higher than the regular unemployment rate. These numbers are increasing because more disabled people are applying for TDAP until Social Security becomes available for them. The Department reported to StateStat that measures are in place so that cases are closed in a timely fashion.



**Update on GDU Items**

- The GDU has worked with DHR and the Partnership to End Childhood Hunger in Maryland in order to develop a dashboard for ending childhood hunger. DHR has set a goal of increasing the Food Supplement Program participation rate among eligible households with children 18 and younger from 58% to 66% in FY 2010. DHR provided a figure in order to track the federal funding dollars that are received by participants in FSP of \$130.60/individual as well as verified that the SNAP numbers will be reported for children 18 and under.