



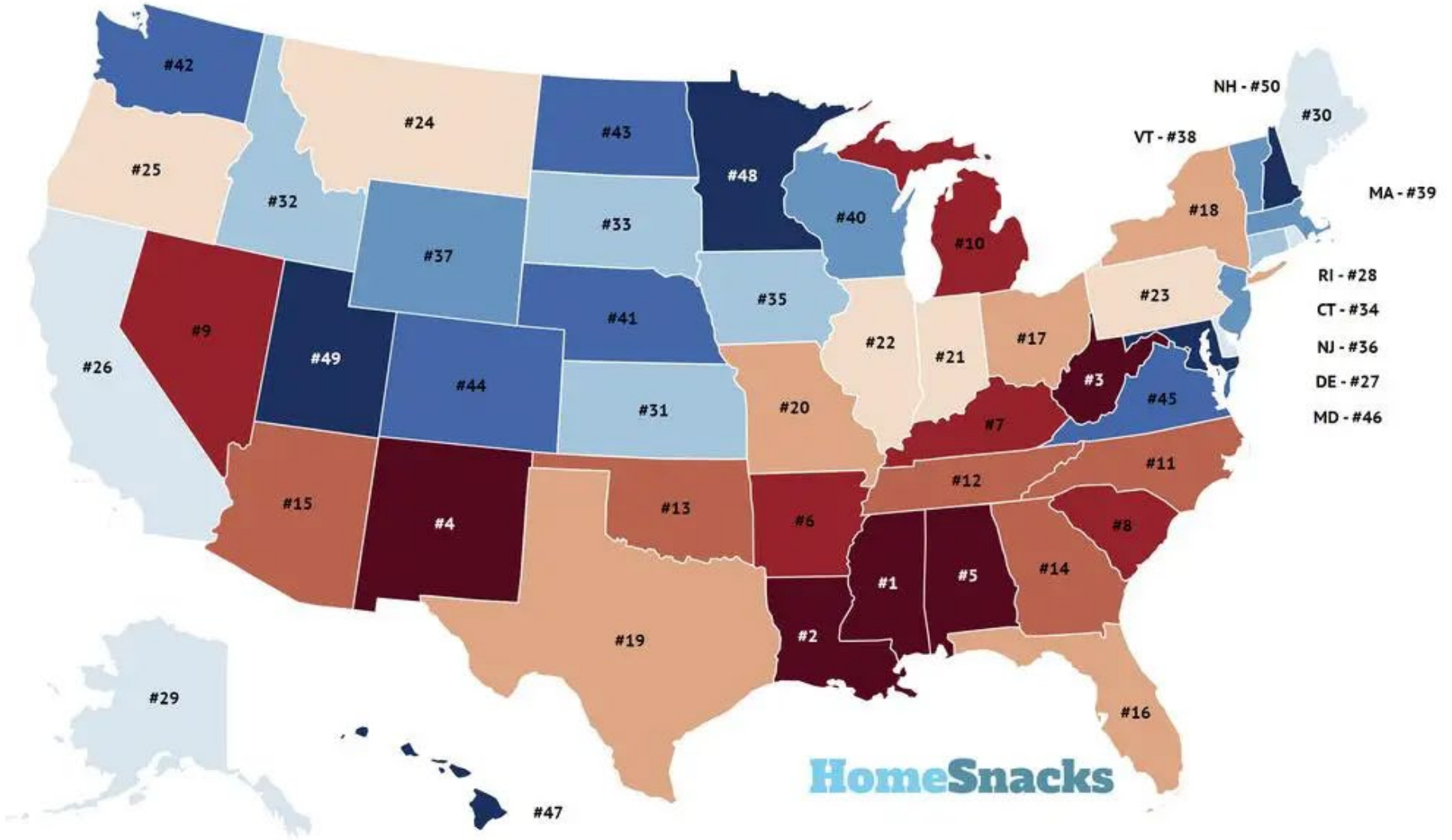
LOUISIANA**WORKS**

**CAREER AND TRAINING ADVANCEMENT PLANNER  
UPLIFTING LOUISIANA'S TALENT(CATAPULT)**

**PATHWAYS TO ECONOMIC MOBILITY  
FOR LOUISIANA'S PUBLIC BENEFITS  
RECIPIENTS**

# Poorest States In America

May 2024



HomeSnacks

# CATAPULT Powered by CLIFF

Case management tool



```
graph TD; A[Case management tool] --> B[Introduces jobs and career avenues]; B --> C[Visualizes how increased earned income impacts public benefits]; C --> D[Creates a timeline to achieve economic independence]; D --> E[Creates a plan to slope out the benefits cliff];
```

Introduces jobs and career avenues

Visualizes how increased earned income impacts public benefits

Creates a timeline to achieve economic independence

Creates a plan to slope out the benefits cliff



(Click on the icons to visit each tool)

**SNAPSHOT**



Identify an immediate path to financial stability

Client is interested in understanding the potential **short-term** financial impact of a new job or income change.

**DASHBOARD**



Explore the potential financial returns of different careers

Client is interested in **long-term** career planning AND wants a **general** idea about potential financial barriers to career advancement.

**PLANNER**



Create a detailed budget in support of a career move

Client is interested in **detailed** career planning AND wants to create a **customized budget** that will help them navigate potential financial barriers to career advancement.

	CATAPULT Snapshot	CATAPULT Dashboard	CATAPULT Planner
Time to Complete:	● ○ ○	● ● ○	● ● ●
Customized Work Hours + Wages:	Yes	No	Yes
Career Selection Component:	No	Yes	Yes
Customized Budget:	No	No	Yes
Individualized Public Assistance:	Yes	Yes	Yes
Learn More:	The CATAPULT Snapshot compares a client's current financial situation to possible alternative scenarios. Counselors can help their clients better understand how an increase in wages, additional hours worked, and/or participation in public assistance programs may better position them for financial stability.	The CATAPULT Dashboard details the long-term financial implications of a new career. The Dashboard shows income and public assistance over a 20-year-plus horizon. The Dashboard also includes a self-sufficiency target which identifies the estimated level at which worker's after-tax income will position them to cover their basic expenses.	The CATAPULT Planner helps clients when they're ready to map out the details of their career move. With the Planner's flexibility, counselors can work with their clients to build a customized education plan, career plan, and budget. The Planner produces a much more individualized financial portrait compared to the Dashboard.

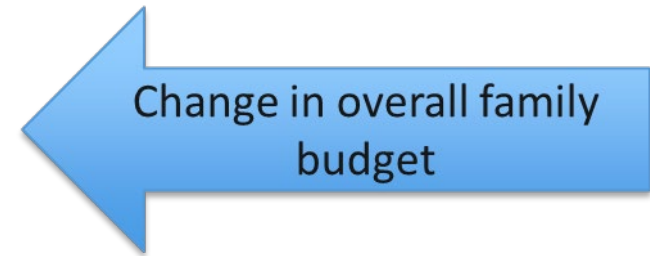
# VISUALIZING A CAREER PATHWAY: SNAPSHOT

## COMPARES HOURS WORKED AND RATE OF PAY

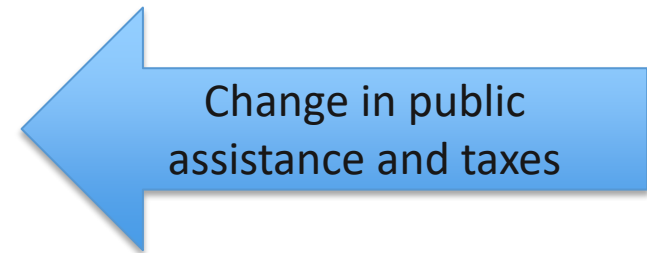
The charts below compare jobs at \$7.25 per hour and 8 hours per week versus \$9 per hour and 12 hours per week.

The total family budget will decrease by \$16 per month (\$192 per year)

	Before the Change	After the Change	Difference
Pre-tax Income	251	468	217
+ Take-Home Pay*	232	432	200
+ Public Assistance	1942	1726	-216
- Living Expenses	5500	5500	0
= Monthly Budget	-3326	-3342	-16



	Before the Change	After the Change	Difference
Medicaid for Adults	404	404	0
Medicaid for Children/CHIP	400	400	0
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	785	785	0
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	353	136	-217
Federal Income Tax	0	0	0
State Income Tax	0	0	0
FICA Tax	19	36	17



Note: Calculations based on a 25 year old single adult with two children ages 4 and 6 receiving TANF, food assistance, and medical insurance assistance.



# VISUALIZING A CAREER PATHWAY: SNAPSHOT

## COMPARES HOURS WORKED AND RATE OF PAY

The charts below compare jobs at \$10 per hour and 25 hours per week versus \$15 per hour and 32 hours per week.

The total family budget will increase by \$485 per month (\$5784 per year)

	Before the Change	After the Change	Difference
+ Take-Home Pay*	980	1821	841
+ Public Assistance	1551	1192	-359
- Living Expenses	4058	4058	0
= Monthly Budget	-1527	-1045	482

Change in overall family budget

	Before the Change	After the Change	Difference
Medicaid for Adults	397	397	0
Medicaid for Children/CHIP	392	392	0
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	762	404	-359
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	0	0	0
Federal Income Tax	0	46	46
State Income Tax	21	54	33
FICA Tax	83	159	76

Change in public assistance and taxes

Note: Calculations based on a 25 year old single adult with two children ages 4 and 6 receiving TANF, food assistance, and medical insurance assistance.



# VISUALIZING A CAREER PATHWAY: SNAPSHOT

## COMPARES HOURS WORKED AND RATE OF PAY

The charts below compare jobs at \$15 per hour and 40 hours per week versus \$20 per hour and 40 hours per week.

The total family budget will increase by \$10 per month (\$120 per year)

	Before the Change	After the Change	Difference
Pre-tax Income	2600	3467	867
+ Take-Home Pay*	2282	2966	684
+ Public Assistance	1584	917	-667
- Living Expenses	5500	5507	7
= Monthly Budget	-1634	-1624	10

Change in overall family budget

	Before the Change	After the Change	Difference
Medicaid for Adults	404	0	-404
Medicaid for Children/CHIP	400	400	0
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	780	517	-263
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	0	0	0
Federal Income Tax	72	163	91
State Income Tax	47	73	26
FICA Tax	199	265	66

Change in public assistance and taxes

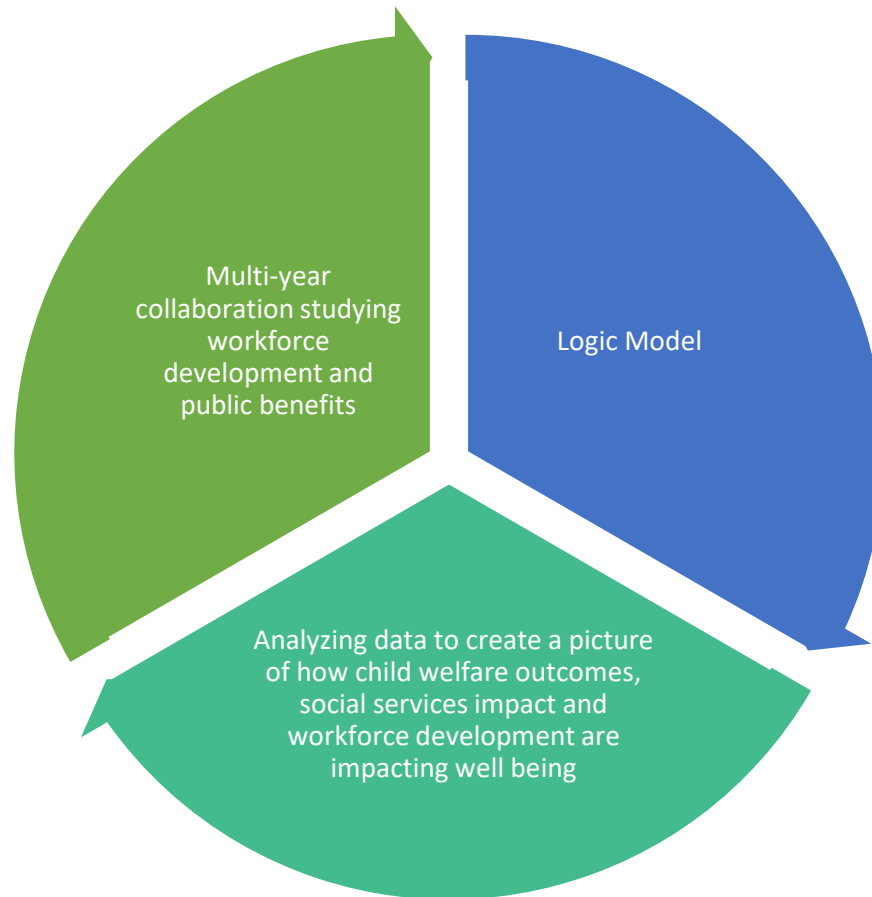
Note: Calculations based on a 25 year old single adult with two children ages 4 and 6 receiving TANF, food assistance, and medical insurance assistance.



# SLOPING THE CLIFF- POST FITAP



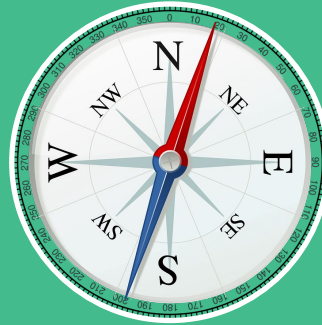
# BLANCO PUBLIC POLICY CENTER



# BARRIER SPECIALISTS



Short intensive interventions to address multiple barriers to work



Barrier reducing services engaged quickly with follow up for true engagement

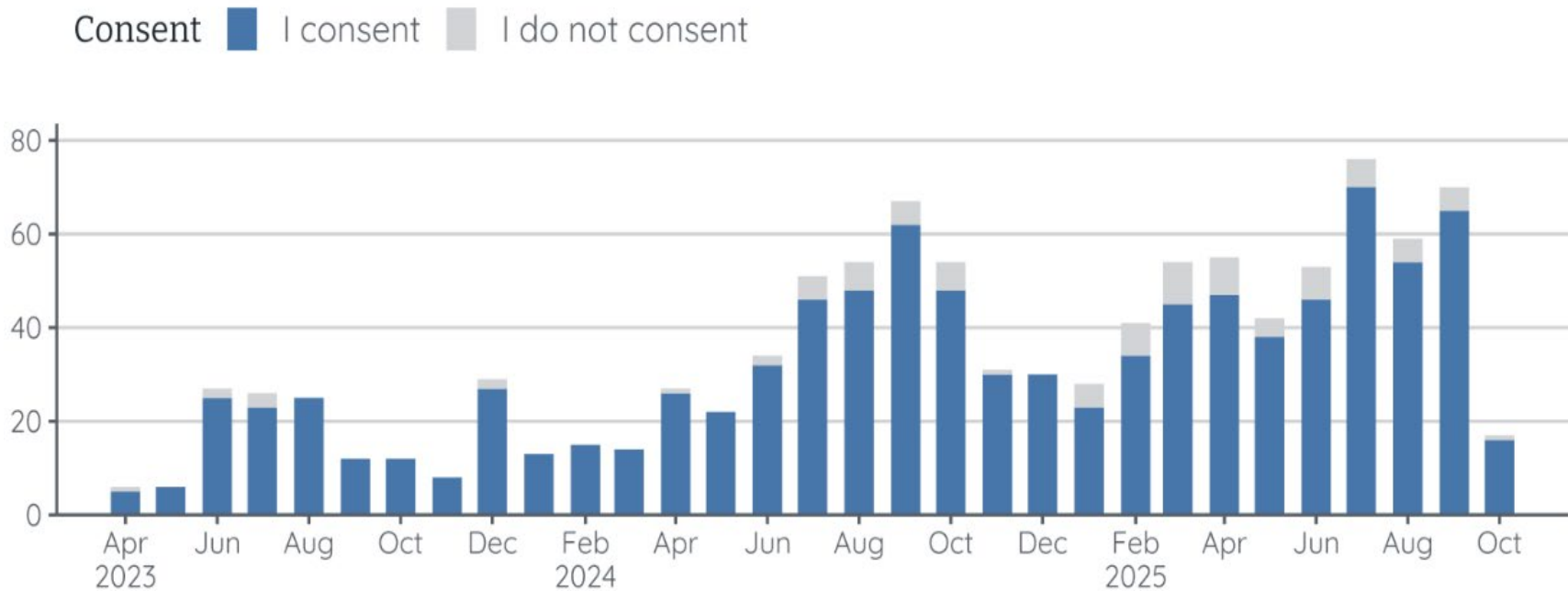


Warm handoff to a coach who will focus on more direct work engagement



# CLIFF CATAPULT survey counts by month

Total number of completed surveys between April 17, 2023 and October 19, 2025: Total = 1058, consent = 967 (91%), non-consent = 91 (9%).



Source: Qualtrics form data collected by the Blanco Center.

## Assistance and barriers

This section provides cumulative responses to a select number of questions regarding public assistance participants are receiving and what barriers they are facing.

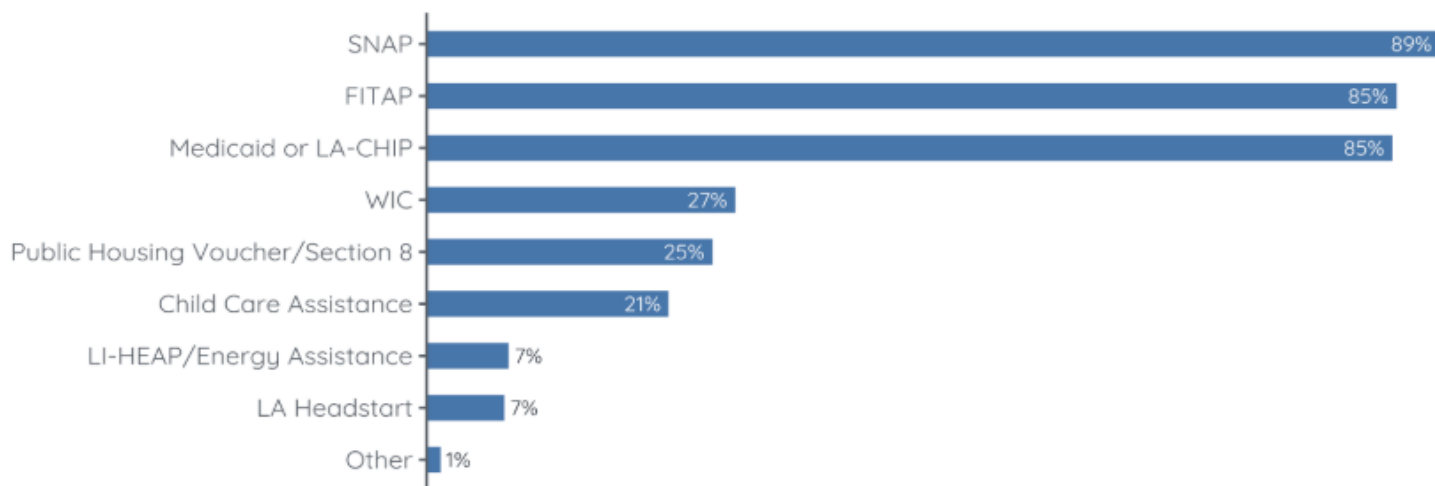
Public assistance

Barriers

Share of participants receiving public assistance benefits.

### What type of public assistance does the participant receive?

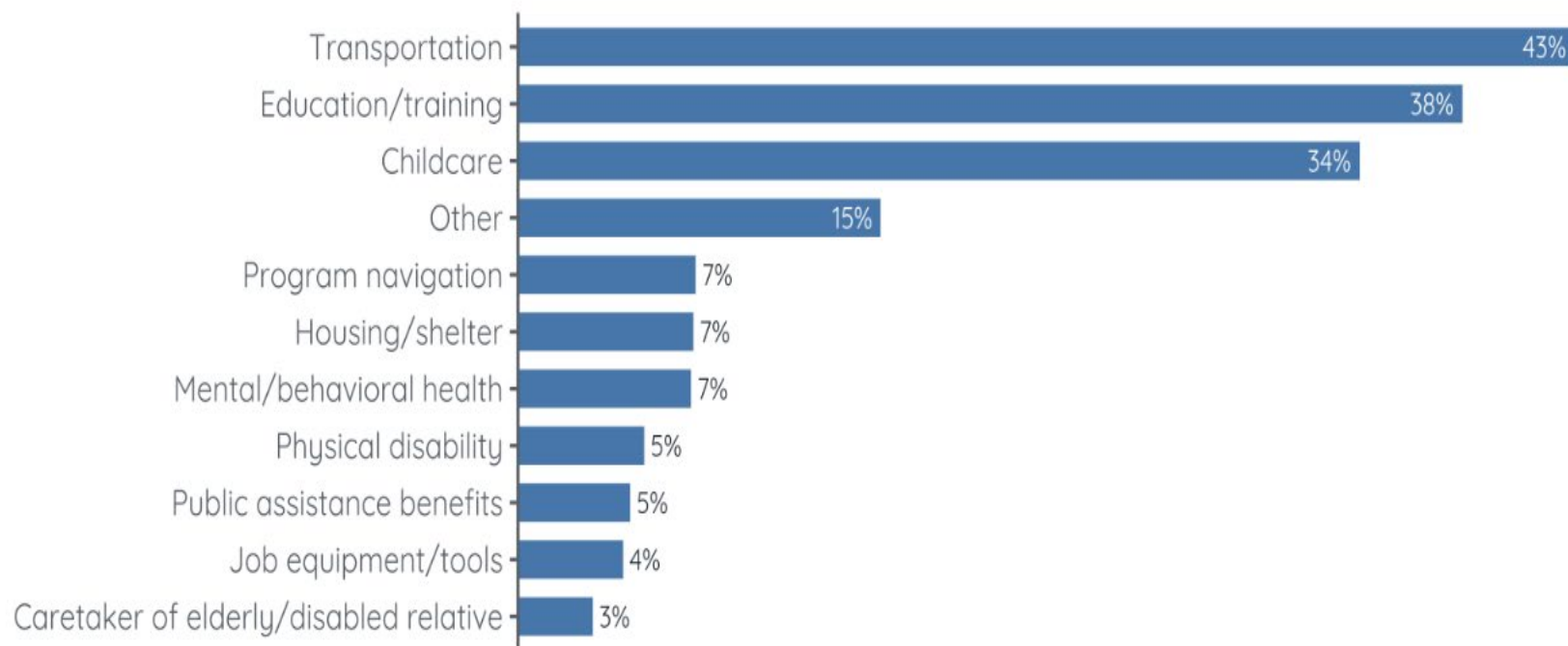
Share of participants (multi-answer multiple choice). Total number of selections: N = 3669. The sum exceeds 100% due to multi-answer selections. Non-consent answers were removed.



Source: Qualtrics form data collected by the Blanco Center.

## What barriers does the participant have that prevent them from finding or maintaining full-time employment?

Share of participants (multi-answer multiple choice). Total number of selections: N = 1775. The sum exceeds 100% due to multi-answer selections. Non-consent answers were removed.



Source: Qualtrics Form data collected by the Disease Center

# Tool use and response

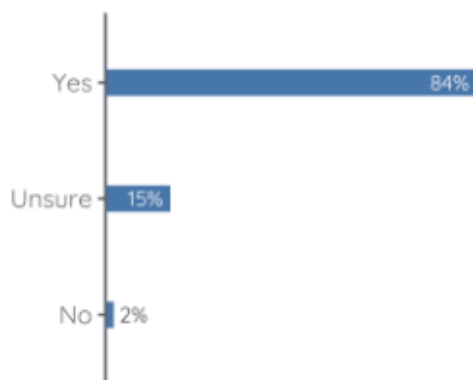
Tool use

Response

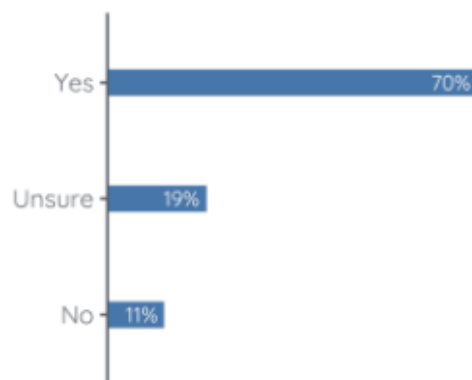
Participant responses to tool use. All tools. See tabs below for responses to individual tools.

## Participant response to tool use

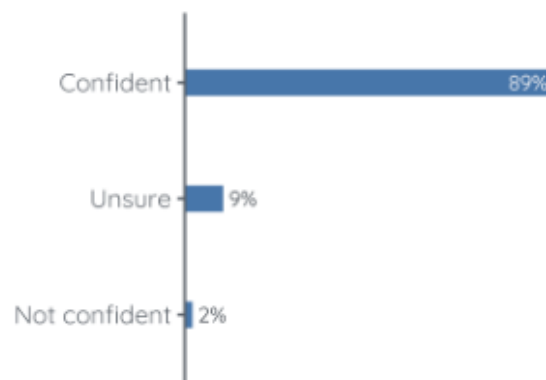
Did the participant find the CLIFF tool to be easy to navigate and use?



Did the CLIFF tool positively change the participant's attitudes toward achieving their goals?



How confident does the participant feel about moving on to the next steps?



Source: Qualtrics form data collected by the Blanco Center.



## Tool use and response

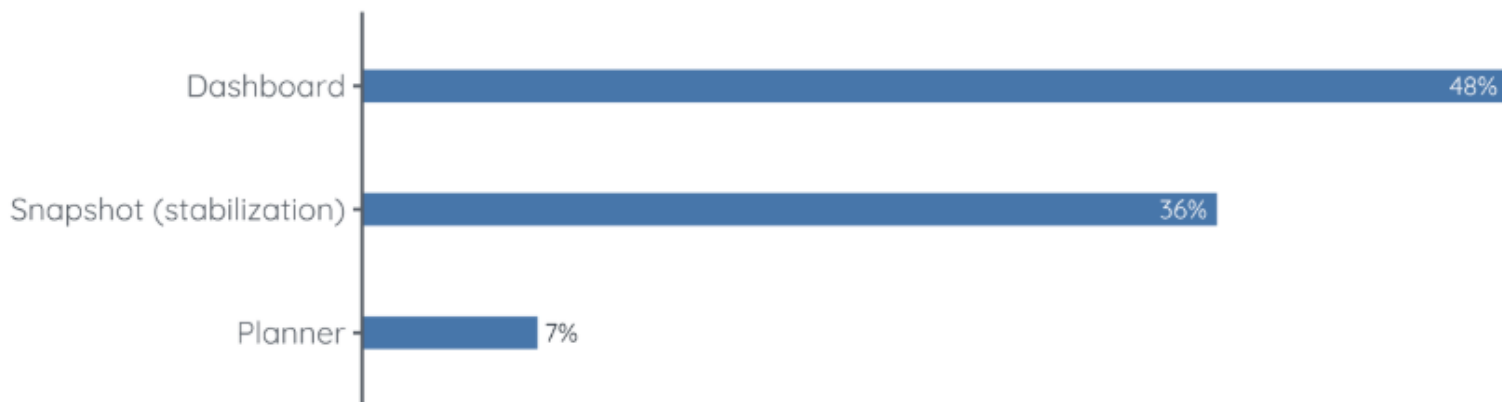
Tool use

Response

Tools coaches used during their meetings.

### Which tool was used in today's meeting?

Share of participants (single-answer). Non-consent answers were removed.



Source: Qualtrics form data collected by the Blanco Center.

# Responses by tool

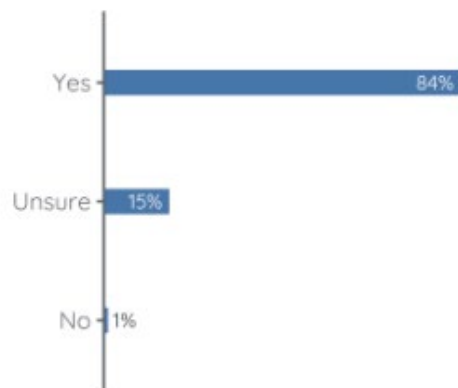
Dashboard

Snapshot

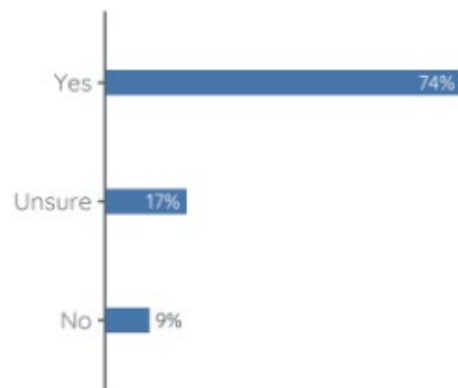
Planner

## Dashboard

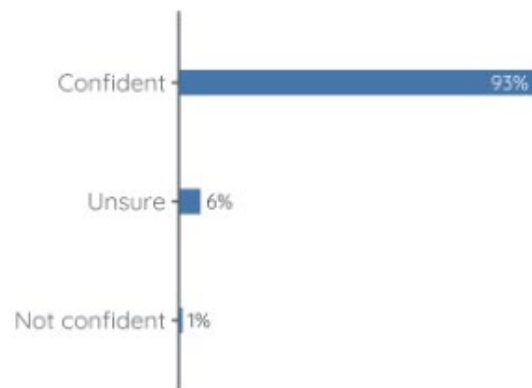
Did the participant find the CLIFF tool to be easy to navigate and use?



Did the CLIFF tool positively change the participant's attitudes toward achieving their goals?



How confident does the participant feel about moving on to the next steps?



Source: Qualtrics form data collected by the Blanco Center.



# Responses by tool

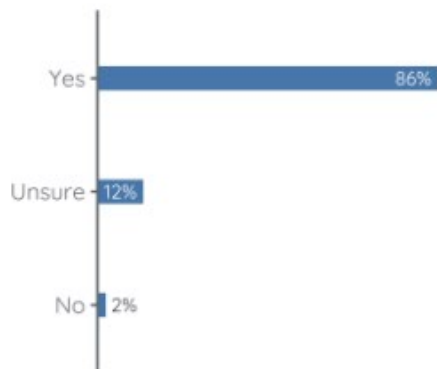
Dashboard

Snapshot

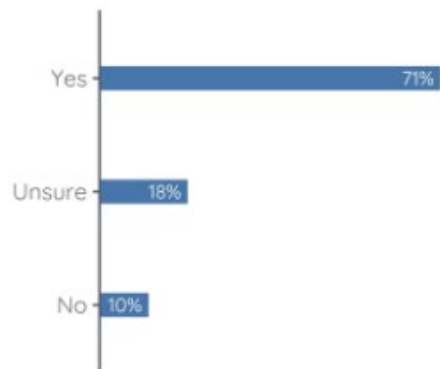
Planner

## Snapshot (stabilization)

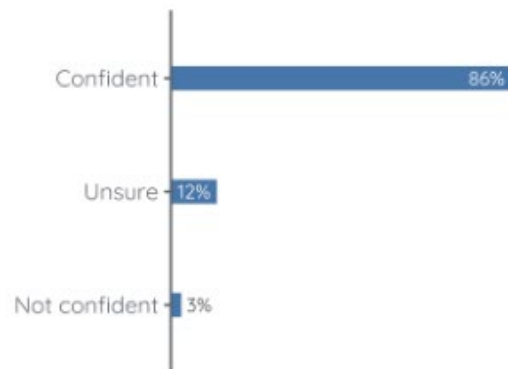
Did the participant find the CLIFF tool to be easy to navigate and use?



Did the CLIFF tool positively change the participant's attitudes toward achieving their goals?



How confident does the participant feel about moving on to the next steps?



Source: Qualtrics form data collected by the Blanco Center.



# Responses by tool

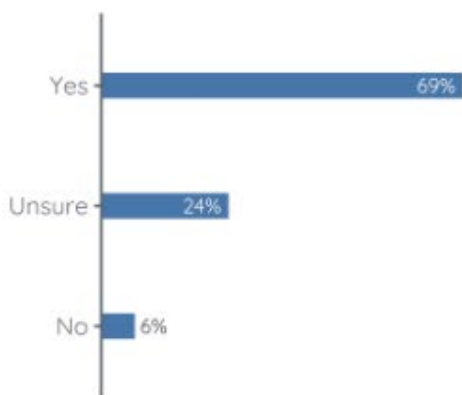
Dashboard

Snapshot

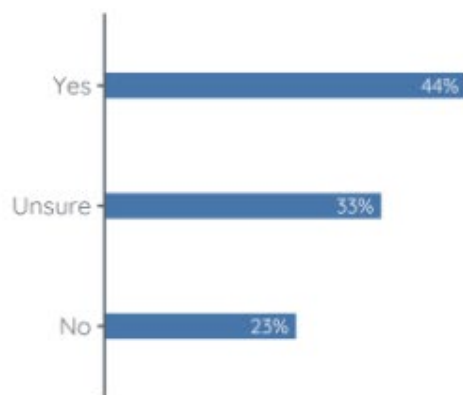
Planner

## Planner

Did the participant find the CLIFF tool to be easy to navigate and use?



Did the CLIFF tool positively change the participant's attitudes toward achieving their goals?



How confident does the participant feel about moving on to the next steps?



Source: Qualtrics form data collected by the Blanco Center.



# PATHWAYS TO EMPLOYMENT

Time limited,  
individualized  
career guidance  
and direct  
connections to  
hiring businesses

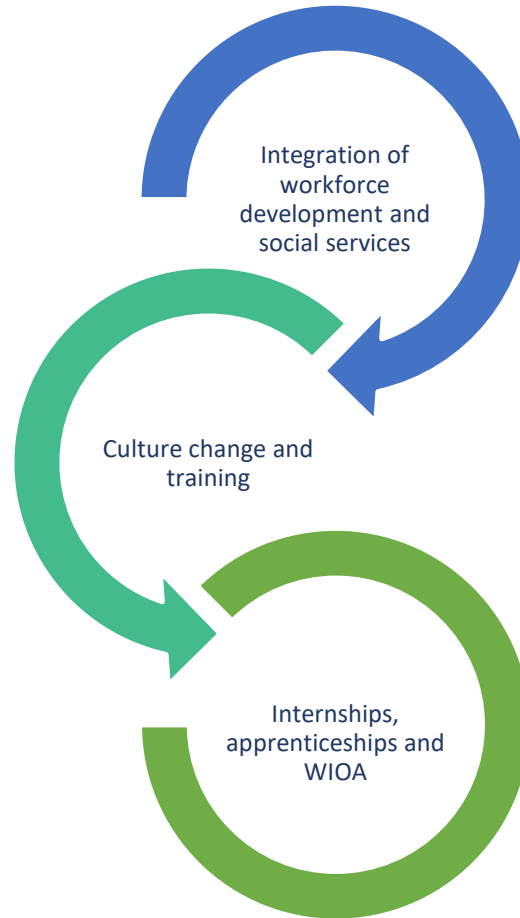
Interview  
preparation and  
onboarding into  
employment

Bridge between  
the business and  
employment  
coach to  
strengthen  
retention

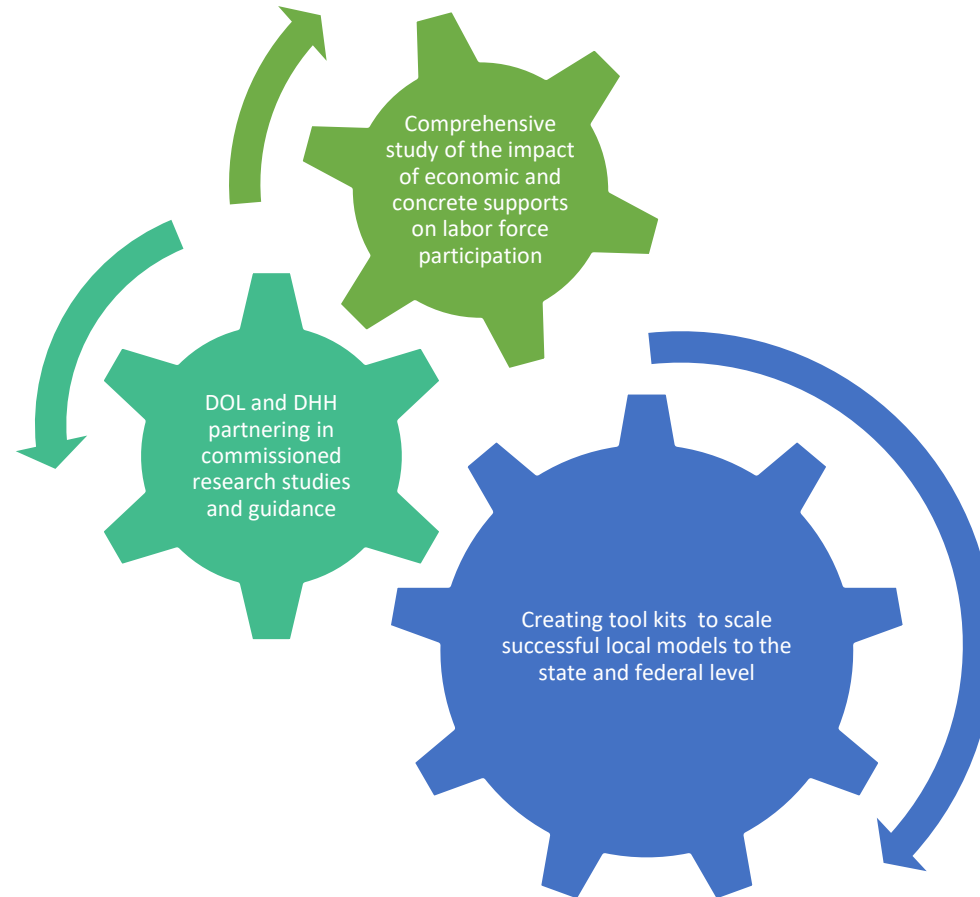
Second Chance  
CLIFF planning



# THE PRESENT



# QUESTIONS FOR THE FUTURE





# THANK YOU

**Lorrie Briggs, Deputy Assistant Secretary**

1001 North 23rd St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
**LAWORKS.NET**