

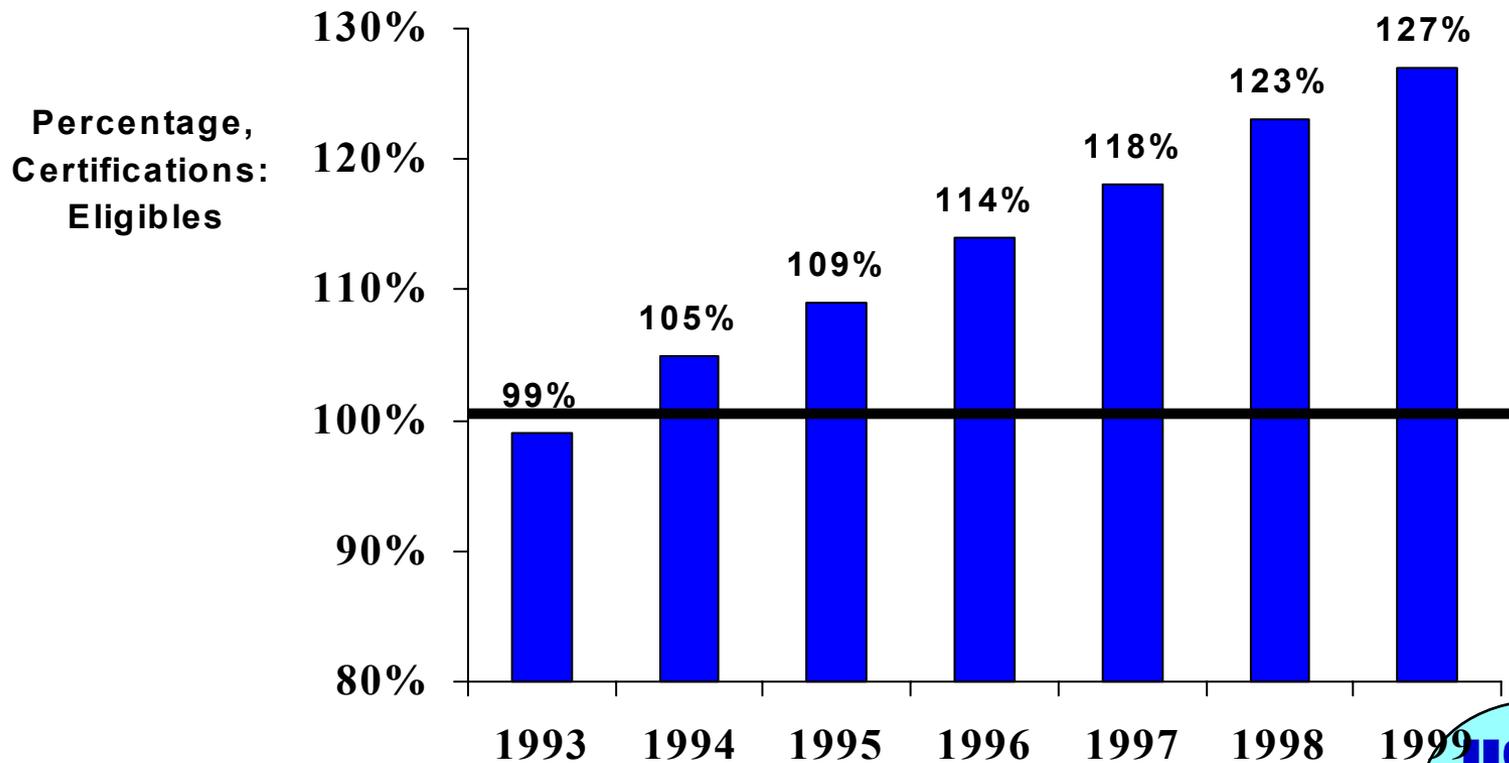
Free & Reduced Price Certification: An Update

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March 2002

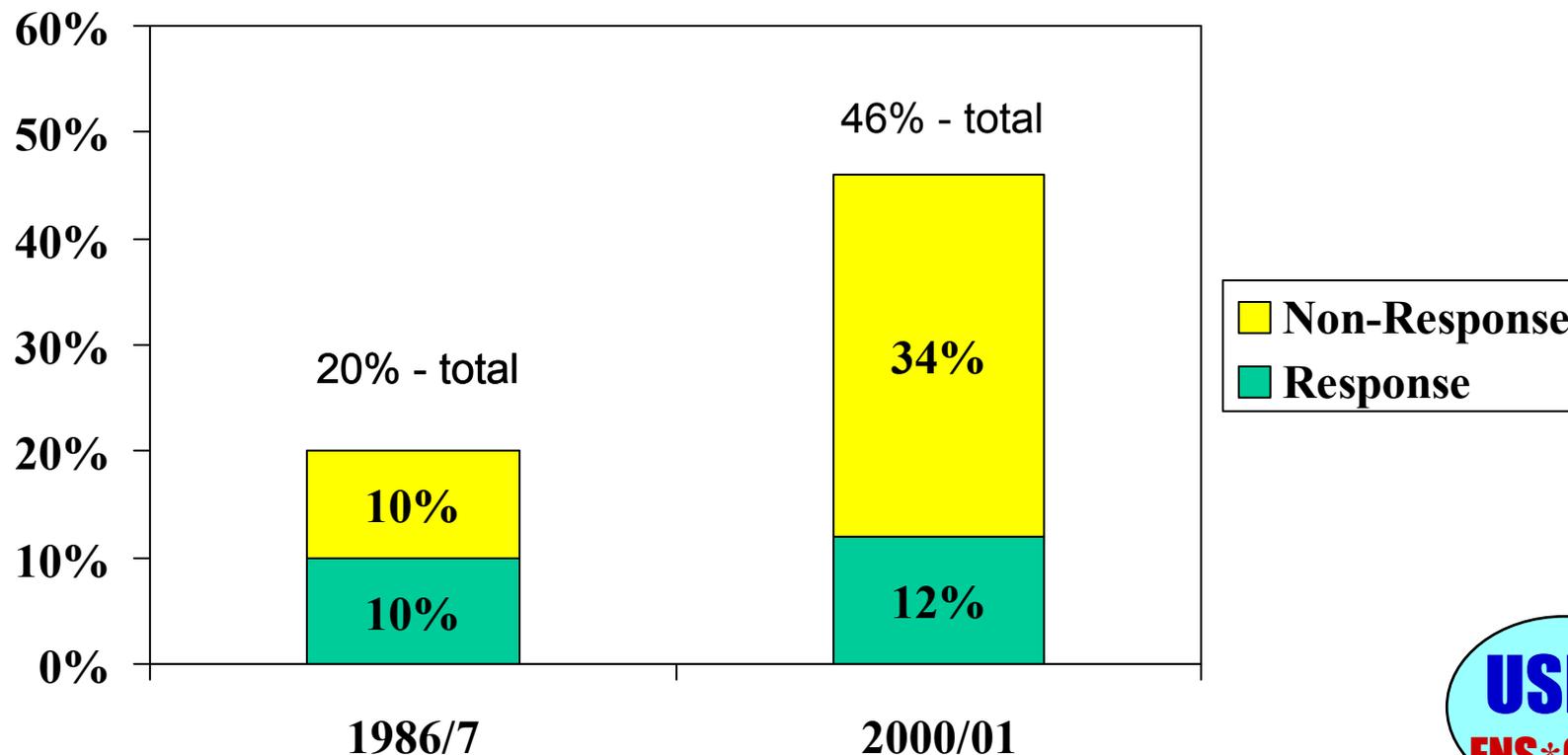


Percentage of NSLP Eligibles Certified Free, 1993-99



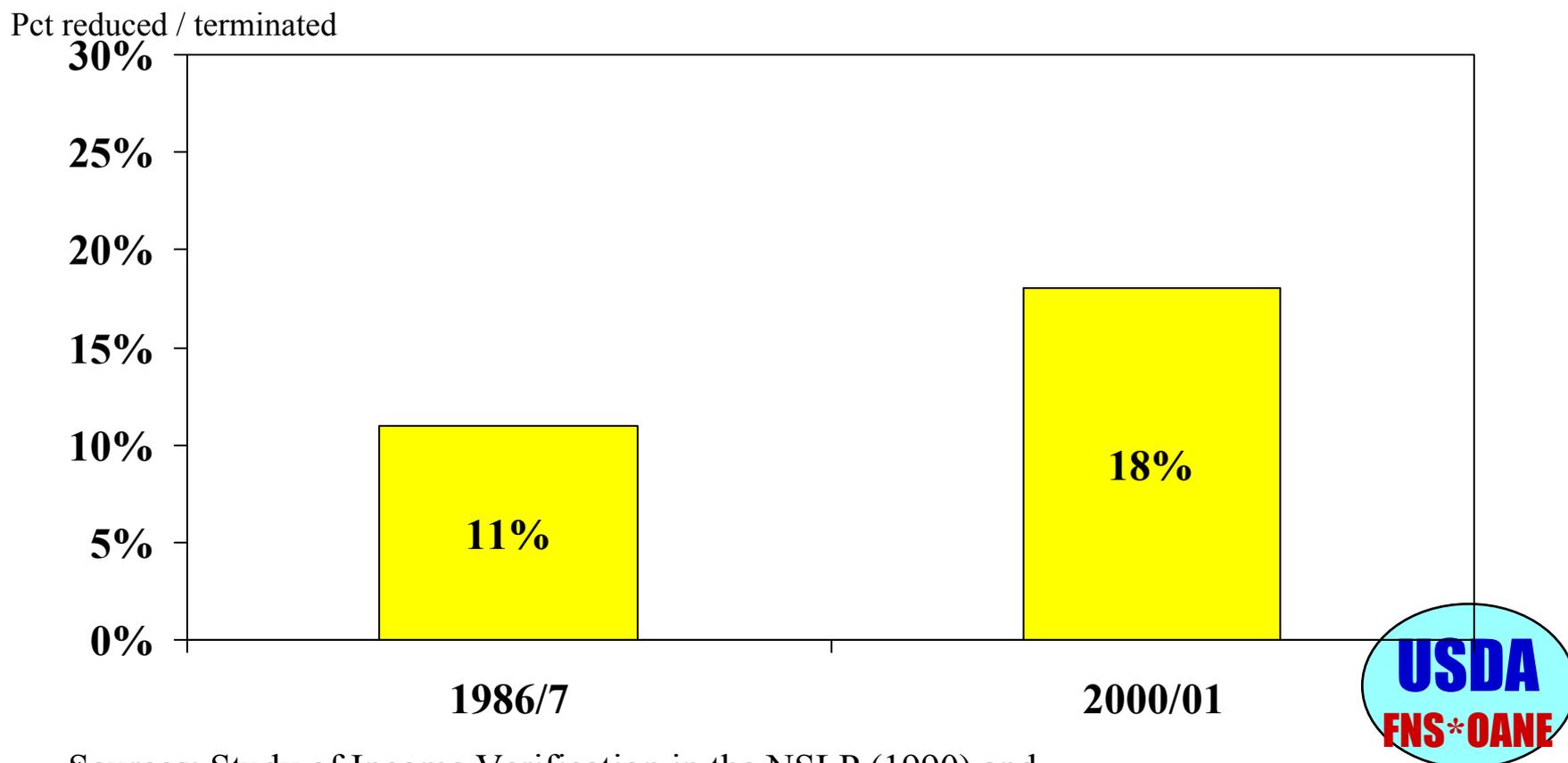
Reduction / Termination increased nationally from 20 to 46 percent

Pct reduced / terminated



Sources: Study of Income Verification in the NSLP (1990) and unpublished data submitted to FNS by State Agencies (2001)

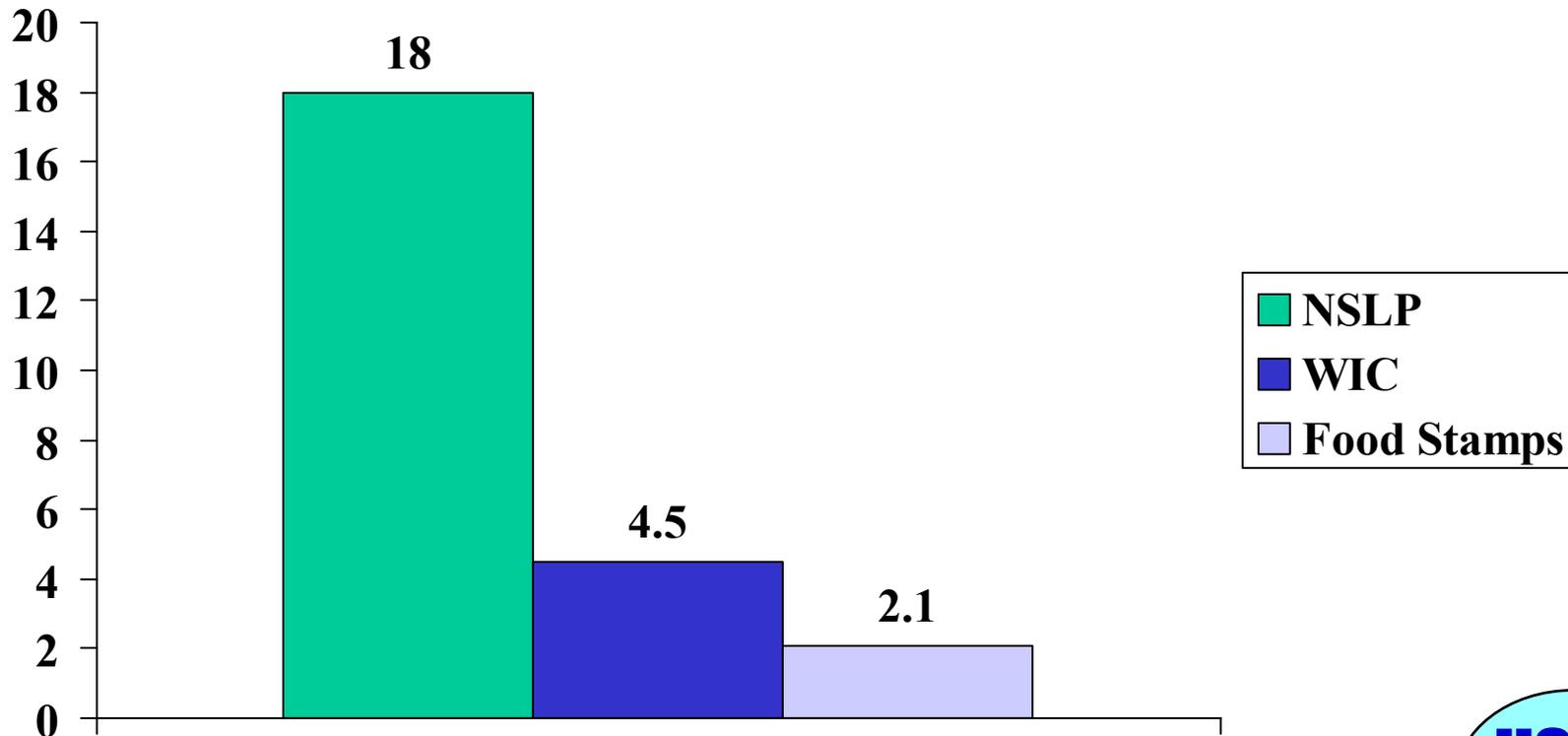
Among Responders, Reduction / Termination Rate Up Dramatically



Sources: Study of Income Verification in the NSLP (1990) and unpublished data submitted to FNS by State Agencies (2001)

NSLP Application Error Rate Higher than WIC and Food Stamps

Estimated ineligibility rate
among approved applicants

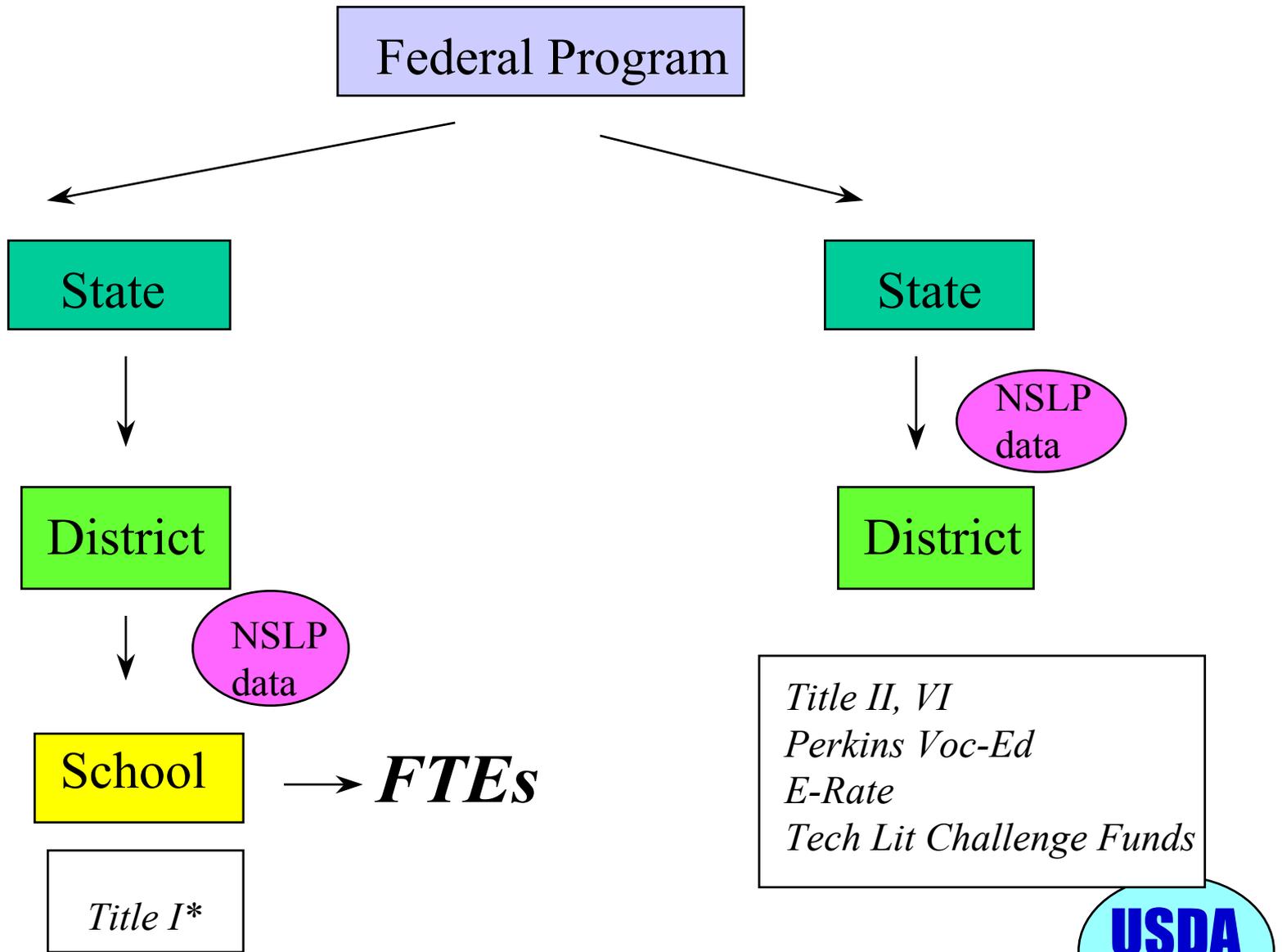


Sources: NSLP: Estimate based on unpublished data from school year 2000-01 and results from NSLP Income Verification Study, 1990, 1986-87 data

WIC: National Survey of WIC Participants, 2001, 1998 data

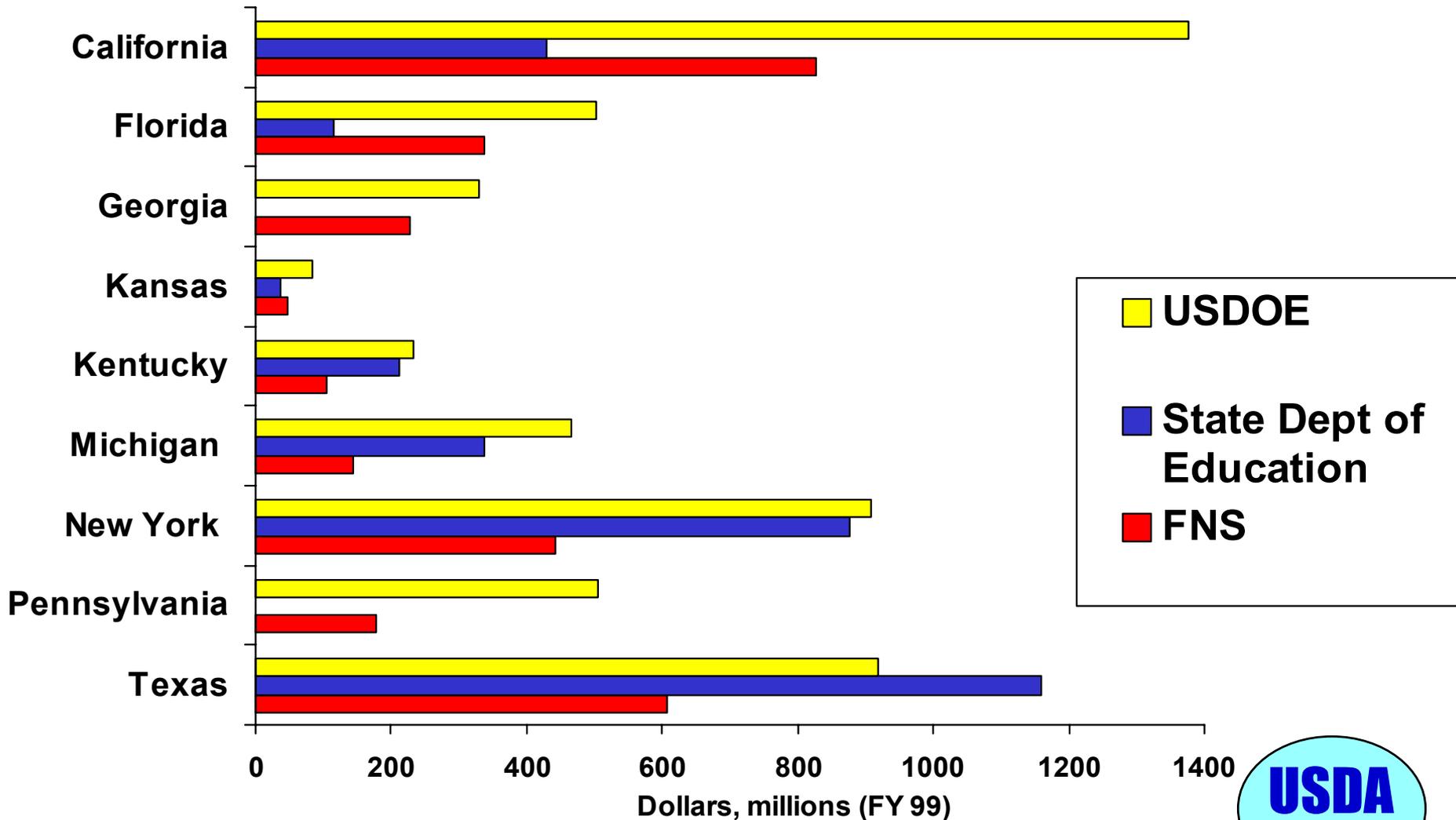
5 FSP: Tabulations of Food Stamp Quality Control Data, 1998.





Note: 9 of 51 states currently use alternative data sources for Title I for small districts (Conversation with Office of Undersecretary of Education for Elementary and Secondary Education)

Programs Linked to NSLP F/RP Data - Preliminary Findings



Note: Excludes Job Training Partnership Act, US Department of Labor.



Action Plan: Pilot Projects

- 22 Districts in Second Year of Pilot Projects:
 - Up-Front Documentation (11)
 - Graduated Verification (4)
 - Verify Direct Cert (7)
- Interim Year One Report Coming Spring 02
- Full Scale Evaluation Award Spring 02



Action Plan: Pilot Projects

Preliminary Findings, Year One:

- Free Certifications fall substantially in Up Front Documentation and Graduated Verification Sites
- Direct Certs found to be highly accurate



Action Plan:

Working w/ State CN Agencies

- Work with State Child Nutrition Agencies to implement methods within current regulations
- Encourage States to monitor current verification results
- State Directors Task Force (2 meetings in FY2001)



Action Plan: Work with Education Community

- Letter to Chief State School Officers (March 2001)
- OMB Inter-Agency Task Force (US Dept of Education, HHS, Census)
- Ongoing Policy Level Discussions with Dept of Education

