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# **Child Support**

This section describes the child support caseload. Three types of cases make up the Title IV-D child support cases:

- Current Assistance (individuals receiving TANF or Title IV-E Foster Care)
- Former Assistance (individuals who previously received TANF/AFDC or Title IV-E Foster Care) and
- Never Assistance (individuals who have never received TANF/AFDC or Title IV-E Foster Care. Medicaid, child care only and State Only Foster Care are Never Assistance cases.)

The Child Support Performance and Incentive Act of 1998 awards incentives to states' child support programs based on their performance on five measures:

- 1. Paternity establishment
- 2. Order establishment
- 3. Current support collected
- 4. Cases paying toward arrears
- 5. Cost effectiveness

The Child Support Incentive Scorecard shows DCS outcomes on the five measures over the past two federal fiscal years. Information is presented in federal fiscal years because that is the time frame used for awarding incentives earned by the state's child support program.

Cost avoidance, one of the indirect benefits of child support enforcement program, is referred to as reductions in public expenditures in cash assistance, food stamps, and Medicaid for custodial families. Washington State studies have shown that a dependable stream of child support income for custodial parents and medical insurance coverage for children help custodial families increase levels of financial stability and independence, and consequently, leads to less reliance on public safety net programs and greater family self-sufficiency.

#### **Highlights:**

- Statewide, Child Support served about 1 out of every 9 residents during SFY 2007.
- Child Support served an average of 434,543 children per month during SFY 2007.

# Child Support Continued

- The overall caseload increased from 348,258 open cases at the end of June, 2006 to 351,440 open cases at the end of June 2007, a 0.9% increase.
- Within this caseload, Current Assistance cases decreased 5.5% from 53,647 in June 2006 to 50,687 in June 2007; Former Assistance cases increased 5.1% from 187,641 to 188,598; and Never Assistance cases increased 4.8% from 106,970 to 112,155.
- Most (85.3%) non-custodial parents are male with an average age of 38.3 years, while most (89.4%) custodial parents are female with an average age of 37.2 years.
- Total collections for SFY 2007 reached a record \$682,569,955; \$36 million more than projected.
- In SFY 2006, child support cost avoidance was \$106 million (4.9% increase over SFY 2005) for TANF, Food Stamp, and Medicaid programs. This is about 10% of the \$1,028 million government expenditure on these three programs for DCS custodial parents and children in the same year.

# Child Support Incentive Scorecard FFY2006<sup>1</sup> and FFY2007<sup>2</sup>

Source: Division of Child Support

	GOAL NEEDED TO OBTAIN 100% FUNDING	PERFOR	UAL RMANCE FY	OF MA INCEI REAG	NTAGE XIMUM NTIVE CHED JMN A)	ESTIMATED MAXIMUM VALUE OF INCENTIVE (\$MILLIONS) (COLUMN B)	ESTIMA INCEN PAYN (\$MILL (COLUM	ITIVE IENT IONS)
MEASURE		2006	2007	2006	2007	2007	2006	2007
Paternity Establishment Percentage	80%	98.0%	99.3%	100%	100%	\$3.26	\$3.26	\$3.26
Support Order Establishment	80%	89.9%	90.1%	100%	100%	\$3.26	\$3.26	\$3.26
Current Collections	80%	64.3%	65.7%	74%	75%	\$3.26	\$2.41	\$2.44
Arrearage Collections	80%	67.3%	68.8%	77%	78%	\$2.52	\$1.94	\$1.96
Cost- Effectiveness	\$5.00	\$4.41	\$4.60	80%	90%	\$2.52	\$2.01	\$2.27
INCENTIVE TOTALS				86.2%	88.6%	\$14.81	\$12.77	\$13.12

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> FFY2006 Data is from U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children & Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement 2006 Preliminary Report

#### Incentive Measure Formulas Used by the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement

**PATERNITY ESTABLISHMENT PERCENTAGE:** Number of Children in the Caseload in the FY or as of the End of the FY Who Were Born Out-of-Wedlock (BOW) with Paternity Established or Acknowledged divided by Number of Children BOW in the Caseload as of the End of the preceding FFY.

**SUPPORT ORDER ESTABLISHMENT**: Number of IV-D Cases with Support Orders divided by Number of IV-D Cases.

**CURRENT COLLECTIONS:** Amount Collected for Current Support in IV-D Cases divided by Amount Owed for Current Support in IV-D Cases.

**ARREARAGE COLLECTIONS:** Number of IV-D Cases Paying Toward Arrears divided by Number of IV-D Cases with Arrears Due.

**COST-EFFECTIVENESS:** Total IV-D Dollars Collected divided by Total IV-D Dollars Expended.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> FFY2007 Data is preliminary based on unaudited federal reports.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Calculations for FFY2007 assume Washington's total and relative incentive base doesn't change, but the federal incentive pool grows from \$458 Million to \$471 Million as set by law.

### Child Support Caseload and Collections SFY2006 to SFY2007

Source: Division of Child Support

	<u>C</u>	HILD SUPPO	RT CASELO	AD TOTAL		UPPORT CTIONS	COLLE	CTIONS BY CAS	SE TYPE
	TANF/ FOSTER CARE <sup>1</sup>	FORMER ASSIST <sup>2</sup>	NEVER ON ASSIST <sup>3</sup>	IV-D CASELO AD	ACTUAL	PROJECTED	TANF/ FOSTER CARE <sup>1</sup>	FORMER ASSIST <sup>2</sup>	NEVER ON ASSIST <sup>3</sup>
Jul-05	57,587	182,868	102,671	343,126	\$50,513,845	\$49,622,977	\$3,272,558	\$21,359,789	\$25,881,499
Aug-05	56,872	183,931	102,434	343,237	\$54,923,913	\$54,230,795	\$3,507,479	\$23,081,810	\$28,334,624
Sep-05	57,145	184,091	102,408	343,644	\$52,652,695	\$52,005,509	\$3,416,322	\$22,168,430	\$27,067,943
Oct-05	57,726	184,517	102,708	344,951	\$50,428,962	\$50,063,882	\$3,180,684	\$20,958,145	\$26,290,133
Nov-05	56,314	186,049	102,761	345,124	\$53,813,860	\$53,510,630	\$3,326,475	\$22,534,699	\$27,952,686
Dec-05	56,508	185,987	102,787	345,282	\$53,061,724	\$52,873,208	\$3,274,101	\$22,155,256	\$27,632,366
Jan-06	57,376	185,767	103,798	346,941	\$52,829,472	\$52,667,916	\$3,294,150	\$21,771,295	\$27,764,026
Feb-06	56,426	186,976	104,558	347,960	\$50,273,545	\$50,007,043	\$3,141,496	\$20,743,179	\$26,388,870
Mar-06	55,883	187,164	105,158	348,205	\$67,189,489	\$62,583,045	\$5,121,693	\$30,413,049	\$31,654,747
Apr-06	56,228	186,784	106,028	349,040	\$55,370,942	\$53,051,321	\$3,520,496	\$24,140,925	\$27,709,521
May-06	54,792	187,078	106,566	348,436	\$62,328,204	\$59,393,413	\$3,986,006	\$27,229,791	\$31,112,406
Jun-06	53,647	187,641	106,970	348,258	\$59,184,573	\$57,996,159	\$3,620,892	\$25,504,050	\$30,059,631
SFY06	56,375	185,738	104,071	346,184	\$662,571,225	\$648,005,898	\$42,662,352	\$282,060,420	\$337,848,453
Jul-06	54,488	186,421	107,707	348,616	\$52,328,998	\$52,879,117	\$3,088,346	\$21,948,082	\$27,292,570
Aug-06	53,261	187,274	107,693	348,228	\$56,715,992	\$52,511,204	\$3,430,626	\$24,085,452	\$29,199,914
Sep-06	54,086	186,509	107,948	348,543	\$53,703,936	\$52,692,959	\$3,207,164	\$22,325,413	\$28,171,359
Oct-06	53,598	187,385	108,612	349,595	\$55,266,425	\$52,301,378	\$3,502,789	\$23,232,956	\$28,530,680
Nov-06	53,015	187,679	108,713	349,407	\$53,552,037	\$52,131,176	\$3,206,069	\$22,415,531	\$27,930,437
Dec-06	53,569	186,948	109,213	349,730	\$53,288,815	\$52,604,971	\$3,239,428	\$22,050,782	\$27,998,605
Jan-07	53,864	186,903	109,742	350,509	\$55,332,654	\$52,155,810	\$3,295,819	\$22,876,923	\$29,159,912
Feb-07	53,050	187,834	110,430	351,314	\$52,169,502	\$52,199,992	\$3,198,787	\$21,486,508	\$27,484,208
Mar-07	53,041	187,555	110,921	351,517	\$69,190,725	\$60,081,367	\$5,324,327	\$31,426,640	\$32,439,758
Apr-07	52,820	187,702	111,410	351,932	\$58,928,683	\$55,287,122	\$3,809,252	\$25,363,213	\$29,756,218
May-07	52,020	187,710	111,916	351,646	\$63,562,606	\$55,887,699	\$4,073,965	\$27,672,736	\$31,815,905
Jun-07	50,687	188,598	112,155	351,440	\$58,529,581	\$55,487,952	\$3,463,287	\$25,054,239	\$30,012,055
SFY07	53,125	187,377	109,705	350,206	\$682,569,955	\$646,220,746	\$42,839,859	\$289,938,476	\$349,791,620

Note: Case counts are unduplicated

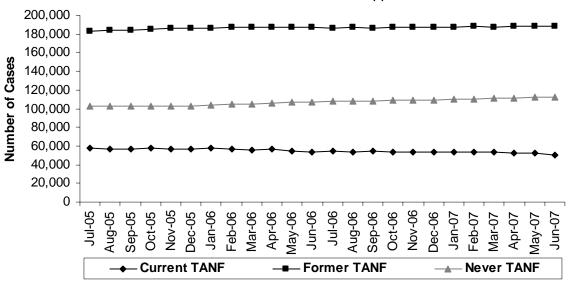
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> TANF/Foster Care or Current Assistance (TANF or Title IV-E Foster Care)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Former Assistance (individuals who have ever received TANF/AFDC or Title IV-E Foster Care); and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Never Assistance (individuals who have never received TANF/AFDC or Title IV-E. Medicaid only, child care only and State Only Foster Care are considered Never Assistance). Payment Service Only and medical and subrogated debt cases are excluded from Title IV-D cases.

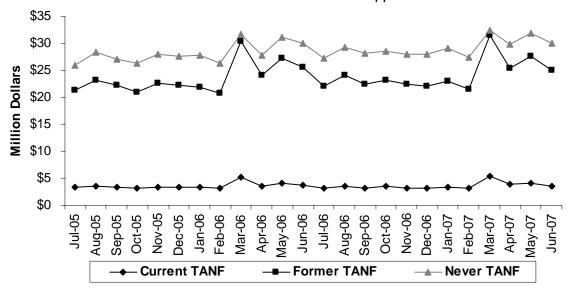
## Child Support Caseload by Type July 2005 to June 2007

Source: Division of Child Support



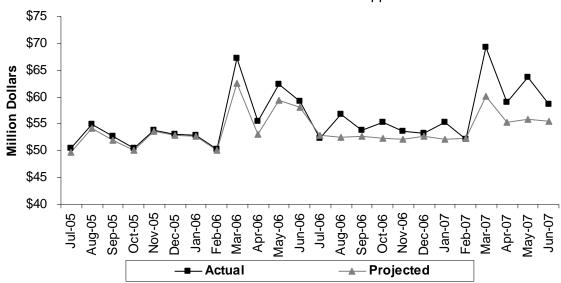
### Child Support Collections by Case Type July 2005 to June 2007

Source: Division of Child Support

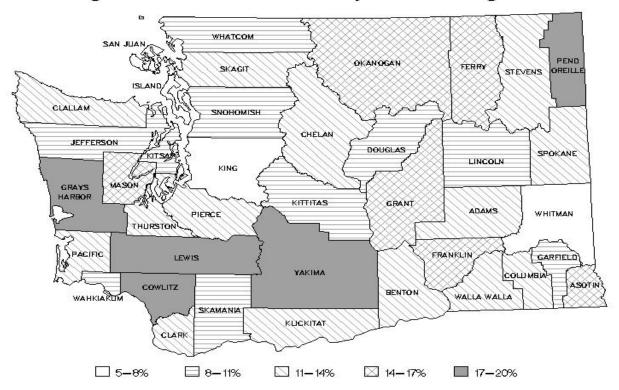


# Child Support Collections Actual and Projected - July 2005 to June 2007

Source: Division of Child Support



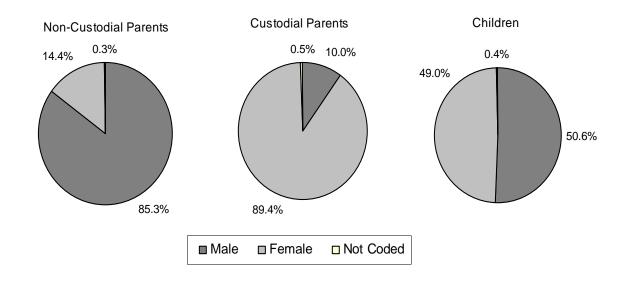
# Percentage of Residents Served by DCS During June 2007



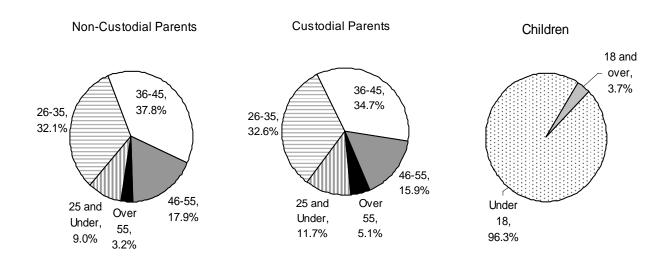
The percentage of residents served is obtained by dividing the number of DCS "clients" in a county during June 2007 by the OFM 2007 County Population estimates.

County	DCS Clients	Population Estimate	% of Residents Served	County	DCS Clients	Population Estimate	% of Residents Served
Adams	2,276	17,600	12.93%	Lewis	12,645	74,100	17.07%
Asotin	3,110	21,300	14.60%	Lincoln	1,027	10,300	9.97%
Benton	20,758	162,900	12.74%	Mason	9,238	54,600	16.92%
Chelan	8,085	71,200	11.36%	Okanogan	6,345	39,800	15.94%
Clallam	9,040	68,500	13.20%	Pacific	2,736	21,600	12.67%
Clark	45,893	415,000	11.06%	Pend Oreille	2,230	12,600	17.70%
Columbia	478	4,100	11.66%	Pierce	100,499	790,500	12.71%
Cowlitz	17,951	97,800	18.36%	San Juan	853	15,900	5.37%
Douglas	3,842	36,300	10.58%	Skagit	13,465	115,300	11.68%
Ferry	1,058	7,550	14.01%	Skamania	880	10,700	8.22%
Franklin	9,741	67,400	14.45%	Snohomish	66,507	686,300	9.69%
Garfield	255	2,350	10.85%	Spokane	63,152	451,200	14.00%
Grant	11,861	82,500	14.38%	Stevens	5,557	43,000	12.92%
Grays Harbor	13,792	70,800	19.48%	Thurston	30,278	238,000	12.72%
Island	5,384	78,400	6.87%	Wahkiakum	440	4,000	11.00%
Jefferson	2,729	28,600	9.54%	Walla Walla	6,706	58,300	11.50%
King	136,187	1,861,300	7.32%	Whatcom	16,681	188,300	8.86%
Kitsap	23,825	244,800	9.73%	Whitman	2,248	42,700	5.27%
Kittitas	3,219	38,300	8.41%	Yakima	41,381	234,200	17.67%
Klickitat	2,713	19,900	13.63%	State Total	705,065	6,488,000	10.87%

#### Gender of Client Types, June 2007



#### Age Distribution of Client Types, June 2007



### Child Support Cost Avoidance for Food Stamps and TANF SFY 2007

		Food Stamps			<u>TANF</u>	
SFY07	Average CR <sup>1</sup> Food Stamp	Average Cl <sup>2</sup> Food Stamp	Total Food Stamp	Average CR <sup>1</sup> TANF	Average Cl <sup>2</sup> TANF	Total TANF
	Expenditure	Expenditure	Savings	Expenditure	Expenditure	Savings
July	\$39.98	\$82.81	\$1,694,898	\$14.40	\$46.59	\$1,238,069
August	\$39.19	\$83.38	\$1,743,410	\$14.20	\$47.67	\$1,278,358
September	\$38.58	\$83.12	\$1,750,184	\$13.77	\$47.10	\$1,274,689
October	\$40.12	\$85.58	\$1,791,134	\$13.86	\$47.56	\$1,312,912
November	\$39.19	\$84.99	\$1,778,051	\$13.33	\$46.13	\$1,247,471
December	\$39.46	\$86.78	\$1,837,808	\$13.15	\$46.51	\$1,272,567
January	\$38.85	\$84.74	\$1,770,323	\$13.12	\$46.94	\$1,286,073
February	\$39.84	\$84.19	\$1,720,022	\$13.77	\$46.53	\$1,238,887
March	\$41.16	\$83.36	\$1,702,431	\$15.05	\$46.10	\$1,221,821
April	\$41.40	\$83.51	\$1,706,217	\$14.84	\$46.36	\$1,264,568
May	\$41.50	\$83.30	\$1,721,432	\$14.74	\$45.59	\$1,248,911
June	\$40.95	\$81.80	\$1,669,815	\$14.16	\$42.94	\$1,157,568
Total	-	-	\$20,885,725	-	-	\$15,041,894

**Notes**: Data sources of cost avoidance estimates include DCS SEMS data, ESA-ACES data, ESD wage data <sup>1</sup> CR: Custodial parents with regular child support payments. Regular child support payments are defined as summed monthly order amount more than \$0 and summed total arrearage debt less than twice the summed monthly order amount.

# Child Support Cost Avoidance for Medicaid SFY 2006<sup>1</sup>

Total CP <sup>2</sup>	Total Child	Total
Medicaid Savings	Medicaid Savings	Medicaid Savings
\$2,379,718	\$3,854,021	\$6,233,739
\$2,169,507	\$4,487,807	\$6,657,314
\$2,200,361	\$3,928,009	\$6,128,370
\$2,272,814	\$3,437,328	\$5,710,141
\$1,942,382	\$3,446,473	\$5,388,855
\$2,138,980	\$3,289,200	\$5,428,180
\$2,390,848	\$3,238,625	\$5,629,473
\$1,954,670	\$3,822,562	\$5,777,232
\$2,244,369	\$4,329,239	\$6,573,608
\$2,055,990	\$4,221,274	\$6,277,265
\$2,134,181	\$4,217,119	\$6,351,300
\$1,875,073	\$3,871,852	\$5,746,925
\$25,758,893	\$46,143,509	\$71,902,402
	\$2,379,718 \$2,169,507 \$2,200,361 \$2,272,814 \$1,942,382 \$2,138,980 \$2,390,848 \$1,954,670 \$2,244,369 \$2,055,990 \$2,134,181 \$1,875,073	Medicaid Savings         Medicaid Savings           \$2,379,718         \$3,854,021           \$2,169,507         \$4,487,807           \$2,200,361         \$3,928,009           \$2,272,814         \$3,437,328           \$1,942,382         \$3,446,473           \$2,138,980         \$3,289,200           \$2,390,848         \$3,238,625           \$1,954,670         \$3,822,562           \$2,244,369         \$4,329,239           \$2,055,990         \$4,221,274           \$2,134,181         \$4,217,119           \$1,875,073         \$3,871,852

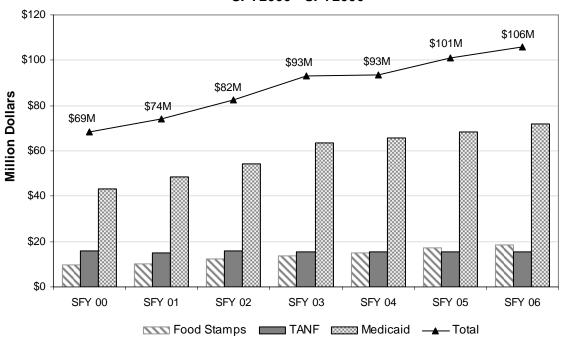
Notes: Data sources of cost avoidance estimates include DCS SEMS data, CSDB data, and ESD wage data

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> CI: Custodial parents without regular child support payments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Medicaid expenditure data of SFY 2007 is not available until 2008

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> CP: custodial parents

#### Child Support Cost Avoidance, Millions SFY2000 - SFY2006



# Sources of \$106 Million in Child Support Cost Avoidance SFY 2006

