



Washington State
Department of Social
& Health Services

Transforming lives

DSHS Economic Services Administration

ESA Briefing Book

State Fiscal Year 2023

January 2024

A reference for programs, caseloads and expenditures



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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Economic Services Administration
Post Office Box 45070, Olympia WA 98504-5070

January 3, 2024

Dear ESA Partners, Colleagues and Stakeholders:

I am pleased to present the Economic Services Administration (ESA) Briefing Book for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2023. This report serves as a reference guide to our programs and includes client demographics, caseloads, and expenditures. It highlights information for SFY 2023, which covers the period July 2022 through June 2023, and provides historical data on our programs.

You can find the ESA Briefing Book online at the following link:

<http://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/manuals/briefing-book>.

We are committed to providing you with accurate and useful information. If you have any questions about the Briefing Book or suggestions for how to improve it in the future, please feel free to contact Shane Riddle at (360) 790-0017 or Shane.Riddle@dshs.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terry Redmon".

Terry Redmon
Assistant Secretary

DSHS: *Transforming Lives*

The Economic Services Administration's (ESA) Program Briefing Book is a reference guide to the programs, caseload trends, client demographics, and expenditures. The book highlights information for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2023, which is the 12-month period that starts July 1, 2022 and ends June 30, 2023. It also provides historical trends.

The ESA Briefing Book is arranged in the following categories:

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ESA Program Descriptions

Aged, Blind or Disabled (ABD) Cash Assistance Program

Basic Food Programs

Child Support Program

Disability Determination

Domestic Violence Program

Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral Program

Medical Assistance Programs

Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) Program

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2. *Geographic Maps*
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About the Economic Services Administration

In State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2023, more than one in five Washington residents turned to the Economic Services Administration (ESA) within the Department of Social and Health Services for assistance with cash, food, child support, disability determination, support for transitioning to employment, and other services. A customer base of over 1.7 million individuals receive service from over 3,900 ESA employees dedicated to connecting children, adults, and families to resources and opportunities that help them reach their full potential.

Together, the variety of services and supports that ESA provides aim to achieve a unified goal of reducing the number of people living in poverty by 50 percent from 2015 to 2025 in a way that eliminates disparities. This goal cannot be achieved by ESA alone or without significant changes in the way it operates, which is why ESA focuses on collaborating with other state agencies, tribes, and community partners while continuing to transition to a human-centered service delivery model. This goal—along with specific strategic objectives, success measures, and action plans—is part of [ESA's 2023-2025 Strategic Plan](#).

The goal for reducing poverty and inequity is a shared statewide priority. In January 2021, Governor Inslee's [Poverty Reduction Work Group](#) (PRWG) completed a [10-Year Plan to Dismantle Poverty](#), providing a blueprint to build a just and equitable future in Washington state. In December 2021, Governor Inslee issued [Executive Order 21-05](#), creating a new interagency subcabinet explicitly focused on implementing the strategies and recommendations in the 10-Year Plan. The new subcabinet works in collaboration with PRWG, people experiencing poverty, and the [Legislative Executive WorkFirst Poverty Reduction Oversight Task Force](#) to achieve the shared vision for all Washingtonians to have their foundational needs met and access to the opportunities needed to reach their full potential in life.

ESA's core services focus on:

- **Poverty Reduction** – removing barriers that prevent people from achieving their full potential and providing assistance so that people can meet their foundational needs through cash grants, food, medical assistance, and employment and career training-focused services. Major programs include Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and WorkFirst (Washington's welfare-to-work program); Basic Food (Washington's SNAP – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program); Basic Food Employment & Training (BFET); Aged, Blind or Disabled (ABD); Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral; Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA); medical assistance; and child support.
- **Child Support** – providing a pathway for parents and guardians to provide consistent financial and medical support to their children so that families have the resources to thrive.
- **Disability Determination** – determining whether individuals applying for Social Security disability benefits meet the criteria to receive benefits. Under contract with the federal Social Security Administration, ESA's Division of Disability Determination Services determines whether individuals qualify for benefits from the Social Security Administration and for medical assistance.

Community Services Division

ESA's Community Services Division (CSD) provides direct client services to the public through a network of 48 local Community Services Offices (CSOs). Services are also provided through a variety of outstationed staff in different communities, eight fully self-contained and equipped mobile offices which consist of two 40-foot trucks and six smaller 28-foot trucks, and a single statewide Customer Service Contact Center.

- Most client-related services can be provided by phone at 1-877-501-2233, or online at <https://www.washingtonconnection.org>. These services include checking benefit status information, applying for and completing an interview for food or cash benefits, renewing program benefits, reporting changes, and accessing the Answer Phone system.
- Constituent-related services are available by phone at 1-800-865-7801.

Division of Child Support

ESA's Division of Child Support (DCS) assists with establishing parentage, as well as establishing, enforcing, and modifying child support and medical support obligations. Through a family-centered approach, DCS connects families to over 4,800 community resources and partners to help remove barriers and address the needs of the family. Child Support accounts for as much as 40% of income for families living in poverty.

- To locate a local DCS office, get additional information, pay child support, and download or request an application for child support services, go to www.childsupportonline.wa.gov. Customers can also call 1-800-457-6202 or email DCSAppRequest@dshs.wa.gov to have a non-assistance application mailed to them.
- Most client-related services are available by phone at 1-800-442-5437.
- Constituent-related services are available by phone at 1-800-457-6202.
- The DCS Alternative Solutions Program provides connections to government and community groups which help parents remove barriers to getting and keeping jobs. For more information, contact AlternativeSolutions@dshs.wa.gov or 360-664-5028.

ESA Partnerships

ESA works collaboratively with other state agencies and community partners to carry out programs and initiatives that help adults, children, and families access what everyone needs to build a solid foundation in their lives: healthy meals, safe housing, and educational opportunities. Coordinated employment and training services are provided by staff from the Employment Security Department, colleges, community action agencies, and nonprofit organizations.

- ESA staff work with any DSHS client via the Employment Pipeline and Alternative Solutions programs by connecting community-based organizations and employers with clients to help remove employment barriers, thereby helping to increase economic security.

- To ensure eligible individuals are connected to food benefits, local Community Services Offices work with a variety of community-based organizations, such as food banks, Basic Food Outreach contractors, and other organizations that advocate for children and families.
- WorkFirst services are provided through state-level agreements with other agencies and regional or local contracts with community-based organizations, including agencies that offer services to persons with limited English proficiency (LEP). Collaboration for this service array is supported by 26 WorkFirst Local Planning Area teams (LPAs), with CSD providing state level coordination and liaison support.
- Basic Food Employment & Training (BFET) provides employment and training opportunities to Basic Food recipients through contracted community-based organizations, tribal organizations, Employment Security Department, and community and technical colleges.
- ESA clients use their Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card to access their cash and food assistance benefits through ATMs and point of sale (POS) machines at participating retailers/businesses across the state.
- ESA staff work with Indian Tribes on a government-to-government basis consistent with the principles of tribal self-governance embodied in the Centennial Accord and DSHS Administrative Policy 7.01.
- Individuals can apply online for a variety of state and federal benefit programs through the [Washington Connection](#) website, with portal access available at more than 900 community partner sites around the state.
- ESA invests state and federal funding into ethnic community-based organizations, refugee resettlement agencies, community-based organizations, public health departments and health centers, and other organizations to provide culturally responsive and linguistically appropriate service to refugee and immigrant communities. Services focus on health and wellness, employment and training, immigration and naturalization services, and programs to serve the whole family, including the Refugee School Impact Program, Refugee Youth Mentoring, and Refugee Elders Program.

How to Access ESA Services

- A list of services and contact information is available at www.dshs.wa.gov or www.access.wa.gov. To do business in person, locate an office, or get additional contact information, individuals can go to <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/esa-find-office>.

ESA Program Descriptions

SFY

2023

The Economic Services Administration (ESA) provides a wide range of services through a variety of programs. This chapter provides a brief description of ESA programs, as well as the legal authorization for those programs, funding sources, populations served, eligibility to participate, services provided, and linkages to other programs.

ESA
Briefing
Book

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ESA Programs

The Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) transforms lives by connecting children, adults, and families to the resources and opportunities that help them reach their full potential. Although most ESA clients do not receive a cash grant, they may access other foundational supports such as food assistance, work-related support services, assistance with child support, or medical coverage. A family crisis or change in the economy, even a small one, can force families into situations requiring assistance, whether it is the support of a cash grant, help with child support, or temporary assistance to avoid losing housing. The following pages provide a brief description of ESA programs. In order to learn more about a particular program's caseload, client demographics, expenditures, and program details, please see the corresponding full-length chapter.

Additional Requirements – Emergent Needs (AREN)

Brief Description

AREN provides a cash payment, in addition to the household's TANF, SFA, or RCA cash grant, to meet emergent housing or utility needs. Benefits may be authorized multiple times in the recipient's lifetime, but the cumulative total cannot exceed \$750 in a 12-month period. Payments are issued directly to housing and utility vendors.

Legal Authorization

[RCW 74.08.090](#), Rulemaking Authority Enforcement.

[RCW 74.04.050](#), Department to administer public assistance programs.

Funding Source

General Fund State and General Fund Federal [mixture of TANF federal block grant and state Maintenance of Effort (MOE) dollars].

Population Served

Pregnant individuals, families with an eligible minor child, or recent refugee arrivals.

Eligibility

Families must:

1. Receive Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), State Family Assistance (SFA), or Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA);
2. Have an emergency housing or utility need; and
3. Have a good reason for not having enough money to pay for housing or utility costs, such as a domestic violence situation.

Services

Payments may be used to:

1. Prevent eviction or foreclosure;
2. Secure housing if homeless or domestic violence victim;
3. Secure or prevent shut-off of utilities related to health and safety; or
4. Repair damage to a home if it poses a health or safety risk.

Linkages

1. Community or charitable agencies that may help to meet the emergent need
2. Food banks
3. Housing shelters or low-income/emergency housing
4. Other public assistance programs

Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) Cash Assistance

Brief Description

Provides cash assistance, a referral to the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) program, and help accessing federal disability benefits to eligible low-income adults who are age 65 or older, blind, or determined likely to meet federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability criteria.

Legal Authorization

Cash assistance is authorized by [RCW 74.62.030](#).

Funding Source

100% General Fund-State (GF-S) cash benefits, which may, in part, be recovered from retroactive payment (Interim Assistance Reimbursement Authorization) when recipients successfully transition to SSI.

Population Served

Adults 18 years of age or older who are aged, blind, or determined likely to meet federal SSI disability criteria pending a final administrative determination of disability by the Social Security Administration (SSA).

Eligibility

1. Recipients must meet income and resource limits.
2. Recipients must be age 65 or older, blind, civilly committed to Eastern or Western State Hospitals, or determined likely to meet federal SSI disability criteria based on a verified physical, mental, or intellectual impairment.
3. Recipients must follow through with the SSI application and appeal process as a condition of eligibility.
4. A person is ineligible for ABD when disabled primarily due to a substance use disorder. People who have a substance use disorder, in addition to a separate mental or physical impairment, may qualify for ABD.
5. Recipients who are assessed as in need of treatment by a certified substance use disorder professional are required to participate in substance use disorder treatment as a condition of eligibility.

Services

1. Cash assistance.
2. Referral to the Department of Commerce (COM) administered [HEN program](#).
3. SSI Facilitation services to assist clients with the SSI disability application and appeal process.
4. Referral to employment and training services such as Supported Employment through the [Foundational Community Supports](#) program and the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR).
5. Case management and other referral services (e.g., veteran's assistance, crisis resolution, etc.).
6. Access to Ongoing Additional Requirements (OAR) if additional assistance is needed to assist a recipient in continuing to live independently.
7. Access to healthcare through the Medical Care Services (MCS) program for recipients who do not meet requirements to receive federal funded medical assistance.

Linkages

1. Health Care Authority Foundational Community Supports (Supported Employment and Supportive Housing)
2. Health Care Authority (HCA) Office of Medicaid Eligibility & Policy (OMEP) (MCS Medical program)
3. Behavioral Health Organizations
4. Department of Commerce HEN providers
5. Department of Corrections (Transitional Offender Assistance Program)
6. Eastern and Western State Hospitals
7. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
8. Disability Determination Services
9. Social Security Administration
10. Local resources (such as food banks and housing, emergency shelters, etc.)
11. Home and Community Services (e.g. long-term or residential care facilities)
12. Developmental Disability Administration
13. Naturalization assistance services
14. Washington Department of Veterans Affairs
15. Private-practice attorneys who represent ABD recipients in challenging the denial of disability, after the reconsideration stage of the SSI application process

Basic Food - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Brief Description

The SNAP program, known as Food Stamps until 2008, and commonly referred to as Basic Food, provides food assistance to eligible low-income individuals and families.

Legal Authorization

Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, Public Law 110-246 (7 USC 2011-2036).

Funding Source

SNAP food benefits provided to customers are financed with 100% federal funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Services (FNS). The state's administrative cost for the program is funded by both federal and state funds.

Population Served

Households with incomes at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). The federal government sets the income and resources standards. The income standards are updated on October 1 of each year based on the federal poverty level in effect at the time.

Eligibility

1. Must meet USDA Food and Nutrition Services criteria for financial need.
2. Eligible assistance unit (AU) members must:
 - a. Be U.S. citizens or nationals or qualified aliens meeting certain criteria.
 - b. Be residents of Washington state.
 - c. Meet certain eligibility criteria if on strike.
3. An AU is categorically eligible when:
 - a. The household has gross income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level; or
 - b. All members receive or are authorized to receive payments or services from one of the following:
 - i. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) cash assistance.
 - ii. State Family Assistance.
 - iii. Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA) (limited to four months after initial DCA issuance).
 - iv. Supplemental Security Income (SSI).
 - v. Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) assistance.
 - vi. Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)
4. Elderly persons or persons with disabilities only need to meet the net income standard to be entitled to medical deductions.
5. Persons with disabilities have the value of one vehicle exempted entirely when used for medical transportation.
6. Certain students of higher education, Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs), and AUs participating in the food distribution program on or near Indian reservations are not eligible for benefits.
7. The following persons are ineligible for food assistance and must have some of their income and resources considered available to the remaining eligible assistance unit members:
 - a. Fugitive felons including probation and parole violators;

- b. Persons failing to attest to citizenship or immigration status; and
- c. Persons disqualified for (i) intentional program violation, (ii) failure to provide a Social Security Number, (iii) not participating in work requirements, (iv) or a substantial lottery or gambling win;
- d. Persons who are ineligible due to their immigration status.

be used at participating retailers, farmer's markets and farm vendors.

Linkages

1. Nutrition education programs
2. Tribal partners (Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe and others)
3. School lunch programs
4. Low-income housing
5. Food banks
6. Children and family services
7. Community medical centers
8. Senior outreach
9. Charitable agencies
10. Working Family Support

Services

Basic Food clients receive monthly food benefits via Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) to their Washington EBT Quest card. Food benefits may

Effective 10-1-2022 through 9-30-2023				
Column A Number of eligible AU members	Column B Maximum Gross Monthly Income	Column C Maximum Net Monthly Income	Column D Maximum Allotment	Column E 165% of the Poverty Level ¹
1	\$1,473	\$1,133	\$281	\$1,869
2	\$1,984	\$1,526	\$516	\$2,518
3	\$2,495	\$1,920	\$740	\$3,167
4	\$3,007	\$2,313	\$939	\$3,816
5	\$3,518	\$2,706	\$1,116	\$4,465
6	\$4,029	\$3,100	\$1,339	\$5,114
7	\$4,541	\$3,493	\$1,480	\$5,763
8	\$5,052	\$3,886	\$1,691	\$6,412
9	\$5,564	\$4,280	\$1,902	\$7,061
10	\$6,076	\$4,694	\$2,113	\$7,710
Each Additional Member	+\$512	+\$394	+\$211	+\$649

¹ The 165% FPL standard applies to persons who are both elderly and disabled, and cannot cook their own meals. These persons can be in a separate assistance unit if the other people who would normally be in the AU have combined income at or under the 165% standard. The person's spouse must always be in the AU if living with the client.

Exceptions:

1. If the Assistance Unit (AU) is categorically eligible under [WAC 388-414-0001](#), it does not have to meet the gross or net income standards in columns B and C. Staff budget the AU's income to decide the amount of Basic Food the AU will receive.
2. If the AU includes a member who is 60 years of age or older or has a disability, income must be at or below the limit in column C only.
3. If the applicant is 60 years of age or older and cannot buy and cook their own meals because of a permanent disability, staff use column E to decide if the applicant can be a separate AU.
4. If the AU has no income, benefits are issued at the maximum allotment level in Column D based on the number of eligible members in the AU.
5. Categorically eligible AUs with one or two members receive a minimum allotment of \$23.00 if eligible for that amount or less.

Basic Food - Washington Combined Application Program (WASHCAP)

Brief Description

A simplified food assistance program for certain SSI recipients that delivers food benefits through an automated interface between Social Security Administration (SSA) and DSHS. A client's application for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) also acts as the application for food benefits. Clients who receive WASHCAP are certified for up to 36 months.

Legal Authorization

7 CFR 273.23 and 7 CFR 273.2 (b), (c), and (k) and 7 CFR 273.9 (d) and 7 CFR 273.10(d) and (e)

Sections 5(e) and 8(c) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.

RCW [74.04.050](#), [74.04.055](#), [74.04.057](#), [74.04.500](#), [74.04.510](#), [74.08.090](#)

Funding Source

100% Federal - United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service

Population Served

SSI recipients who:

1. Are at least 18 years old; and
2. Live alone or are considered a single household by the Social Security Administration; or
3. Live with others but buy and cook food separately; and
4. Do not have earned income when they apply for SSI.

Eligibility

Must meet criteria listed in "Population Served" above. Clients are ineligible if they:

1. Live in an institution;
2. Are under age 18;
3. Live with their spouse;
4. Are under age 22 and live with their parents who receive Basic Food benefits;
5. Begin working after they are approved for WASHCAP and have earned income for more than three consecutive months;
6. Live with others and do not buy and cook food separately; or
7. Are ineligible for Basic Food under [WAC 388-400-0040](#).

Services

WASHCAP clients receive monthly food benefits via Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) to their Washington EBT Quest card. Food benefits may be used at participating retailers. They also receive Categorically Eligible medical assistance as SSI recipients. This client population is served by the WASHCAP Central Unit within the Community Services Division (CSD).

Linkages

1. Social Security Administration
2. Nutrition education programs
3. Low-income housing
4. Food banks
5. Community medical centers
6. Senior outreach
7. Charitable agencies

Basic Food - Food Assistance Program for Legal Immigrants (FAP)

Brief Description

Provides food assistance for legal immigrants and victims of trafficking who are not eligible for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Legal Authorization

[RCW 74.08A.120](#) Immigrants and victims of human trafficking—food assistance

Funding Source

100% state funded.

Population Served

Legal immigrants ineligible for the federal SNAP program under federal welfare reform enacted in August 1996.

Eligibility

The eligibility rules for FAP are the same as the rules for the federal SNAP program, except for citizenship and immigrant status requirements.

Households can receive a mix of FAP and SNAP benefits depending on the citizenship or alien status of each person in the home.

Services

Same as for federal SNAP:

Basic Food clients receive monthly food benefits via Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) to their Washington EBT Quest card Food benefits may be used at participating retailers.

The amount of the benefit is determined by size of household and net income.

Linkages

Same as for federal SNAP:

1. Nutrition education programs
2. School lunch programs
3. Low-income housing
4. Food banks
5. Children and family services
6. Community medical centers
7. Senior outreach
8. Charitable agencies
9. Working Family Support

Transitional Food Assistance (TFA)

Brief Description

Provides stable food assistance to families leaving the TANF/SFA or Tribal TANF programs while receiving Basic Food. TFA is meant to help meet a family's nutritional needs for five months as they transition to economic stability.

Legal Authorization

[RCW 74.08A.010](#) Transitional food assistance

Funding Source

TFA benefits for SNAP recipients are 100% federal-funded from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Services (FNS). TFA benefits for FAP recipients are state-funded. Funding of the state's administrative cost for the program includes both federal and state funds.

Population Served

Former TANF/SFA and Tribal TANF program recipients who were simultaneously receiving Basic Food benefits.

Eligibility

Households are eligible for up to five consecutive months of TFA benefits if they meet all the following eligibility requirements:

1. The family was receiving Basic Food when determined no longer eligible for TANF or eligible for Transitional Cash Assistance (TCA) which began July 1, 2022
2. After the family stops receiving TANF, no other member of the Basic Food assistance unit continues to receive TANF;
3. The family did not move out of Washington state.
4. The family was not in sanction status when TANF ended.
5. When the TANF grant ended, the Basic Food assistance unit (AU) did not become ineligible because:
 - a. They were applying for recertification of their Basic Food benefits and refused to cooperate with the application process; or
 - b. All members were ineligible for Basic Food for the reasons stated in [WAC 388-489-0025\(3\)](#).
6. There is no limit to the number of times a family may leave TANF and receive transitional food assistance.

Services

Same as for federal SNAP:

1. Basic Food clients receive monthly food benefits via Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) to their Washington EBT Quest card. Food benefits may be used at participating retailers.
2. The TFA benefit amount is based on the regular monthly benefit allotment issued to the Basic Food AU for the last month the AU received TANF or the month the AU qualified for TCA. The last TANF grant payment will not count when the transitional food assistance benefit amount is calculated. For example:
 - a. If the Basic Food assistance unit's only income was TANF, the transitional food assistance benefit will be the amount the household would have received if it had no income.
 - b. If the Basic Food benefit was calculated using TANF plus income from another

source, only the income from the other source is counted when calculating the transitional food assistance amount.

3. TFA benefits are adjusted if:
 - a. An assistance unit member is found eligible to receive Basic Food in another assistance unit. Benefits are adjusted by:
 - i. Reducing the assistance unit size by the number of persons who left the assistance unit; and
 - ii. Removing the income and expenses clearly belonging to the persons who left the assistance unit.
 - b. A change to the maximum allotment for Basic Food under [WAC 388-478-0060](#) results in an increase in benefits for Basic Food assistance units.
 - c. There is an overpayment of Basic Food benefits and adjustments are deducted

from the monthly benefits to repay the overpayment as required in [WAC 388-410-0033](#). This includes:

- i. Starting a new monthly deduction;
- ii. Changing the amount of the monthly deduction; and
- iii. Ending the monthly deduction when the amount owed is paid off.

Linkages

Same as for federal SNAP:

1. Nutrition education programs
2. School lunch programs
3. Low-income housing
4. Food banks
5. Children and family services
6. Community medical centers
7. Senior outreach
8. Charitable agencies
9. Working Family Support

Transitional Cash Assistance (TCA)

Brief Description

Transitional Cash Assistance (TCA) is a one-month cash benefit of \$10 issued in the final month of Basic Food eligibility when an eligible Basic Food household closes due to income or voluntary termination. Households eligible for TCA are then eligible for Transitional Food Assistance (TFA) for five months as they transition to economic stability.

Legal Authorization

RCW [74.04.680](#)

During the 2021 Legislative Session, Substitute House Bill 1151 passed creating the TCA, effective **July 1st, 2022**.

Funding Source

100% General Fund State

Population Served

Households must meet all of the following criteria:

- Not be receiving TANF/SFA at the time of Basic Food closure
- Include a child under the age of 18 and/or a child under the age of 21 [participating full-time](#) in a secondary school program
- Be receiving a Basic Food benefit greater than zero

Eligibility

Households that include an eligible child are issued a one-time payment of \$10 when Basic Food Assistance is terminating due to income over the maximum gross monthly income limit or voluntary termination. TCA is automatically calculated for households to receive the one-

month cash benefit to maintain their Basic Food benefit for an additional five months.

Services

1. Provides a one-time \$10 cash benefit
2. Recipients qualify for TFA)

Linkage

Same as for federal SNAP:

1. Nutrition education programs
2. School lunch programs
3. Low-income housing
4. Food banks
5. Children and family services
6. Community medical centers
7. Senior outreach
8. Charitable agencies
9. Working Family Support
10. TFA

Basic Food Employment and Training Program (BFET)

Brief Description

The Washington State Basic Food Employment and Training (BFET) program provides supervised job search, job search training, educational services and skills training to federally funded Basic Food recipients who are not recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA).

Legal Authorization

Section 6 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, 7 CFR 273.7. The Basic Food Program is Washington State's version of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Funding Source

DSHS program administrative structure is funded using 100% federal funds. Contracted providers receive 50% federal funds and use non-federal funds as match. Tribal entities are eligible for 75% federal funds with 25% non-federal funds as match.

Population Served

BFET is provided on a voluntary basis to Basic Food recipients throughout the state who are over the age of 16 and seek employment-readiness services. BFET is also the preferred activity for Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) who may need to meet work requirements in order to remain eligible for Basic Food.

Eligibility

1. All federally funded Basic Food program recipients who are not receiving TANF or RCA.
2. Individuals receiving benefits under the state-funded Food Assistance Program (FAP) are *not* eligible for BFET.

Services

Employment and training services include:

1. Supervised job search
2. Job search training
3. Basic education
4. Participant reimbursements
5. Job retention services
6. Life skills
7. Vocational education

Linkages

1. Community-based organizations
2. Tribal partners
3. Employment Security Department
4. State Board for Community & Technical Colleges
5. Workforce Development Councils, operating under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
6. Local Planning Areas
7. ORIA contracted providers including community-based employment providers, refugee resettlement agencies, and ethnic community-based organizations

Child Support Services

Brief Description

Provides services for the establishment of parentage and/or the establishment, modification and enforcement of child support orders (financial and medical) to help families become or remain self-sufficient.

Legal Authorization

Title IV-D of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 608-669b and 45 CFR Volume 2, Chapter III, §§300-399); Chapters 26.23 and [RCW 74.20A](#); [WAC 388-14A](#)

Funding Source

Funded by federal matching funds, state funds, and additional annual federal performance incentive award funding. The basic federal matching rate is 66%.

Source of IV-D funds for SFY 2023:

State funds: \$ 53.8 million (31%).

Federal Funds: \$117.8 million (69%).

Population Served

1. Current Assistance: Individuals who are currently receiving benefits under SSA Title IV-A (TANF) or Title IV-E (Foster Care).
2. Former Assistance: Individuals who, in the past, received benefits under SSA Title IV-A (TANF or AFDC) or under Title IV-E (Foster Care).
3. Never Assistance: Individuals who have never received benefits under SSA Title IV-A (TANF or AFDC) or under Title IV-E (Foster Care) and have made application for Title IV-D services. This population may also include individuals who either currently

receive or formerly received state-funded services such as state-only medical, foster care, or child care.

Eligibility

Automatic as a condition of receiving a TANF grant; continuation of services after a TANF grant ends; intergovernmental referral; or upon application for non-assistance services.

Services

1. Establishment or modification of administrative child support orders.
2. Enforcement or modification/adjustment of court orders for child support.
3. Enforcement of court orders for spousal maintenance or post-secondary education support.
4. Responsible parent locate services.
5. Review of support orders for modification or adjustment.
6. Enforcement of medical support obligations, including reimbursement of uninsured medical costs.
7. Free genetic testing to assist parents interested in settling the question of the child's biological father and establishment of parentage by means of an Acknowledgment of Parentage.
8. "Payment Services Only" services, under which DCS receives, records, distributes, and disburses payments.
9. Electronic funds transfer/electronic data interchange for employers.
10. Electronic funds transfer and other payment options for noncustodial parents.

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| 11. Electronic funds transfer and other disbursement options for custodial parents. | 18. Department of Licensing |
| 12. Tribal support services. | 19. Department of Veterans Affairs |
| 13. Employer information and assistance. | 20. Internal Revenue Service |
| 14. Cooperation with the IV-D agencies of other governments, including other states, other countries and Indian tribes. | 21. U.S. Department of Health & Human Services |
| 15. Referral for welfare to work services in conjunction with other parts of DSHS, the Employment Security Department (ESD), and private contractors. | 22. U.S. Department of Justice |
| 16. Referral to the prosecuting attorney for establishment of paternity or parentage. | 23. U.S. Citizenship and Immigrations Services |
| 17. Referral to the prosecuting attorney for contempt proceedings. | 24. U.S. Department of Defense |
| 18. Other services allowed by the state plan and applicable state and federal law. | 25. Hospitals |
| | 26. Community-based organizations |

Linkages

1. TANF/WorkFirst
2. Courts
3. Prosecuting Attorneys
4. Community Services Offices (CSOs)
5. Tribal Partners
6. Recognized American Indian Organizations
7. Office of Administrative Hearings
8. Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF)
9. DSHS Division of Finance and Financial Recovery
10. Washington State Support Registry
11. Department of Early Learning
12. DSHS Office of Indian Policy
13. Department of Health
14. Department of Corrections
15. Employment Security Department
16. Department of Labor and Industries
17. Department of Revenue

Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP) and Disaster Cash Assistance Program (DCAP²)

Brief Description

The Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP) provides benefits to alleviate emergent conditions resulting from insufficient income and resources to provide for food, shelter, clothing, medical care, or other necessary items. Benefits may be authorized for 30 consecutive days only in any consecutive 12-month period.

The Disaster Cash Assistance Program (DCAP) is a cash benefit program made available when an emergency or disaster is declared by the Governor. It is designed to provide cash assistance to individuals and families who have been impacted by the emergency or disaster and do not have the money to meet their basic needs.³ Households must have a specific need for food, shelter, clothing, medical care or other necessary items. Benefits may be authorized for 30 consecutive days in any consecutive 12-month period, or monthly as directed by the governor's emergency proclamation.

Legal Authorization

[RCW 74.04.660](#), Family Emergency Assistance Program

Funding Source

100% state (Non-TANF MOE). Federal emergency assistance funds may be sought to supplement state funds appropriated for the operation of DCAP as long as other programs

are not adversely affected by the receipt of federal funds.

Population Served

CEAP - Pregnant individuals or families with dependent children who face an emergency and do not have the money to meet their basic needs. This includes families whose TANF cash assistance has been terminated due to sanction and those who have already received 60 months of TANF and do not qualify for a time limit Extension.

DCAP - In the event of a disaster, declared by the Governor, individuals or families (with or without children) living in the affected area may be eligible if:

- They are not eligible for other cash assistance programs (e.g., TANF, SFA, PWA, RCA, ABD);
- Are not eligible for other benefit programs (e.g., Unemployment Compensation, Veterans Benefits);
- Otherwise meet eligibility requirements.

Eligibility

1. Must be residents of Washington.
2. Must be in emergent need and have no resources to meet that need.
3. Family net income must be less than 90% of the TANF payment standard for a household.

² DCAP is paid through CEAP.

³ Part of the funding for the CEAP programs was transferred to the Department of Commerce (formerly the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development) in SFY 2000.

4. Payment is limited to payment maximums for individual emergent need items or the TANF payment standard, whichever is lower.
5. DCAP activations for natural disasters require that the individual/family live in specified disaster area and may not return to their home.

Services

Provides for specific emergent needs such as food, shelter, clothing, minor medical care, utilities, household maintenance, job-related transportation or clothing, and transportation for a minor, not in foster care, to the home of a relative or approved caregiver.

Linkages

1. Department of Commerce
2. Low-income emergency housing
3. Food banks
4. Charitable agencies
5. Community medical centers
6. Other public assistance programs

Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA)

Brief Description

Provides an emergency cash benefit of \$1,250, limited to a 30-day period every 12 months, to families that meet eligibility criteria for TANF⁴ or SFA but do not need ongoing monthly cash assistance.

Legal Authorization

[RCW 74.08A.210](#), Diversion Program – Emergency Assistance

Funding Source

100% state – TANF MOE.

Population Served

Low-income families with temporary emergent needs who are not likely to need continued assistance if those needs are met.

Eligibility

1. Must meet TANF eligibility criteria but not be receiving TANF.
2. Have or expect to have enough income or resources to support the family for at least 12 months.
3. Cannot have received DCA within the last 12 months.
4. Cannot have an adult in the family who is ineligible for cash assistance for any reason other than one adult receiving SSI in a two-adult family.
5. Cannot be in WorkFirst sanction or child support non-cooperation status.

6. If the family goes on TANF within 12 months of receiving DCA, a prorated amount of the DCA payment must be repaid to the state by monthly deductions equal to 5% of the cash grant.
7. Benefits may be authorized for only 30 days in a 12 consecutive month period.
8. The total of all payments in a 30-day period is limited to \$1,250 ([WAC 388-432-0005](#)).

Services

1. Payments to cover emergent needs for shelter, transportation, child care, food, medical care, and employment-related expenses.
2. Usually paid directly to vendors.

Linkages

1. Employment
2. Child care
3. Child support services
4. Medical assistance
5. Food assistance
6. Other services to assist low-income families

⁴ See TANF/SFA program description on Pages 41-44.

Domestic Violence Victim Services

Brief Description

Provides statewide services through local community organizations to help people who are hurt or harmed by domestic violence; provides education and information on domestic violence to local communities; supports community-based efforts to prevent domestic violence.

Legal Authorization

Authorized by Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) 42 U.S.C. 10404, Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) 42 U.S.C. 10603, [RCW 70.123](#) Shelters for Victims of Domestic Violence, [WAC 388-61A](#) Domestic Violence Victim Services and Prevention Efforts

Funding Source

Blended federal and state funding sources and an Interlocal Agreement with the Department of Commerce (VOCA funds).

Population Served

Victims of domestic violence and their dependent children; community groups and individuals interested in learning about domestic violence, available services and prevention.

Eligibility

People who have been hurt or harmed by domestic violence ([RCW 70.123.020](#)) are eligible for services provided through contracts with community-based and local government agencies.

Services

Services provided through contracts with community-based nonprofits and agreements with local government agencies and Tribes/tribal organizations include:

Safety planning, crisis intervention and crisis helplines, emergency shelter, individual advocacy, legal advocacy, housing advocacy and assistance with finding and retaining safe housing, culturally and linguistically specific services, support groups, child care assistance during advocacy and support group sessions, age appropriate supportive services and resources for children and youth residing in emergency shelter, transportation and other emergency assistance, information and referral, community education, and prevention activities.

Linkages

1. Community-based domestic violence agencies
2. Culturally specific community-based organizations
3. DV victim services programs operated by Tribes/tribal organizations
4. Domestic violence and crime victims coalitions
5. Local law enforcement and prosecution agencies
6. Courts of various jurisdictions
7. Public assistance programs and organizations providing community resources, such as food banks and utility assistance agencies

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| 8. Homelessness services and housing assistance agencies | 12. Local schools |
| 9. Department of Children, Youth and Families: Child Protective Services | 13. Healthcare providers |
| 10. Civil legal aid providers | 14. Community groups |
| 11. Behavioral health treatment providers | |

Domestic Violence Intervention Treatment Certification (DVIT)

Brief Description

The DVIT program conducts certification for local community organizations and treatment professionals that provide domestic violence perpetrator treatment. The DVIT program monitors and conducts investigations of certified domestic violence perpetrator treatment programs to determine compliance with program standards ([WAC 388-60B](#)).

Legal Authorization

[RCW 43.20A.735](#): Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programs and [WAC 388-60B](#): Domestic Violence Perpetrator Treatment Program Standards

Funding Source

The state's administrative cost for the program is funded by state funds.

Population Served

The DVIT Program serves certified domestic violence perpetrator treatment programs and stakeholders who work directly with perpetrator treatment programs.

Eligibility

To obtain initial certification and to re-certify, domestic violence perpetrator treatment programs must submit policies and procedures, letters of support from stakeholders, identify evidence-based and promising practices, and adhere to staffing, continuing education, facility, and quality management standards.

Services

The Department certifies and re-certifies (every two years) domestic violence perpetrator treatment programs, conducts on-site reviews and investigations of certified programs, and delivers technical assistance, consultation, and trainings for certified programs and stakeholders.

Linkages

1. Domestic violence perpetrator treatment programs
2. Courts of various jurisdictions
3. Probation departments
4. The Department of Children, Youth and Families: Child Protective Services
5. Guardians ad litem
6. Court appointed special advocates
7. Domestic violence victim services programs
8. The Department of Corrections
9. The Department of Health
10. Local law enforcement agencies

Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral Program⁵

Brief Description

Provides a referral to the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) program, which offers potential access to housing supports and essential needs items (e.g., bus passes and personal care items). Eligibility for HEN assistance is determined by the Department of Commerce through a network of local grantees.

Legal Authorization

Authorized by [RCW 74.04.805](#)

Funding Source

Incapacity examinations used by the Department to determine HEN Referral eligibility are 100% General Fund-State (GF-S)

Population Served

1. Adults 18-64 years of age who are unable to work for at least 90 days due to a behavioral health or physical incapacity.
2. Aged, Blind or Disabled (ABD) recipients.
3. Pregnant Women Assistance (PWA) recipients.

Eligibility

1. Recipients must meet income and resource limits.
2. Recipients must be unable to work for at least 90 days due to a mental incapacity, physical incapacity, or substance use disorder.

3. Recipients who are assessed as in need of treatment by a certified substance use disorder professional are required to participate in substance use disorder treatment as a condition of eligibility.
4. Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) recipients.
5. Pregnant Women Assistance (PWA) recipients.

Services

1. Referral to the Department of Commerce administered [HEN program](#).
2. Case management, coaching and other referral services (e.g. veteran's assistance, crisis resolution, etc.).
3. Access to healthcare through the Medical Care Services (MCS) program for recipients who do not meet requirements to receive federal funded medical assistance.

Linkages

1. Department of Commerce HEN providers
2. Health Care Authority Foundational Community Supports (Supported Employment and Supportive Housing)
3. Behavioral Health Organizations
4. Washington Department of Veterans Affairs
5. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
6. Local resources (such as food banks, emergency shelter, housing, etc.)
7. Health Care Authority Office of Medicaid Eligibility & Policy (OMEP) (MCS Medical program)

⁵ During the 2013 legislative session, the Legislature passed Substitute House Bill 2069, which created the HEN Referral program effective January 1, 2014. Up until that point, potential HEN eligibility was linked to the Medical Care Services (MCS) program

Medical Assistance Programs

Brief Description

Includes state and federally funded medical assistance programs providing health care coverage to certain refugees, Medicare recipients, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients, adults who are age 65 or older, blind, have a disability and legally present recipients of Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) cash assistance and Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral programs who are ineligible for Medicaid due to their immigration status.

Legal Authorization

Title XIX Social Security Act

Title IV Immigration & Nationality Act

[RCW 74.09](#) Medical care.

Funding Source

Funded by General Fund State and Title 19 federal medical funds

Population Served

Low-income persons with disabilities, older adults, refugees, and aged federally qualified aliens

Eligibility

In general, most recipients are low-income and have no other medical coverage available. Eligibility requirements for specific programs vary based on program relatability, such as:

1. Disability.
2. Emergency medical for aged immigrants who would qualify for full-scope Medicaid except for their alien status.

3. Aged, blind, and those with a disability who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or who are eligible to receive SSI.
4. Persons with a disability who are working and who do not receive SSI.
5. Refugees who do not qualify for Medicaid assistance.
6. Low-income Medicare beneficiaries.
7. Recipients of ABD cash assistance or HEN Referral.

Services

1. Alien Emergency Medical.
2. SSI Medicaid.
3. SSI-Related Medicaid.
4. Medicare Savings Programs.
5. Refugee Medical Assistance.
6. Medical Care Services.

Linkages

1. DSHS Online Services Application
2. Dental coverage
3. Washington HealthPlanFinder
4. Children and family services
5. Community medical centers
6. Senior outreach
7. Maternity and Infants
8. Health Care Authority Office of Medicaid Eligibility & Policy (OMEP)

Ongoing Additional Requirements (OAR)

Brief Description

Payments to meet a need beyond essential food, clothing, and shelter, necessary to help a person to continue living independently.

Legal Authorization

[RCW 74.08.283](#).

Funding Source

100% General Fund State

Population Served

Aged, blind or disabled clients, pregnant individuals, refugees, and families.

Eligibility

A person must receive cash benefits from one of the following programs: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), including Tribal TANF; State Family Assistance (SFA); Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA); Pregnant Women Assistance (PWA); Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD); or Supplemental Security Income (SSI). A Social Services Specialist must also determine that the person has an essential need for an item or service to live independently.

Services

Cash payments for:

1. Restaurant or home-delivered meals
2. Food for service animals
3. Basic telephone service
4. Laundry

Linkages

1. Community or social services agencies
2. Home and Community Services (HCS) Offices within DSHS's Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (ALTSA)

Pandemic EBT (P-EBT)

Brief Description

P-EBT provides food benefits to children who are eligible for free or reduced-price school meal programs but had limited meal access at their school or child care center due to the COVID-19 pandemic. P-EBT is administered in partnership with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. Due to the end of the Public Health Emergency in May 2023, the 2022-23 school year will be the final year for P-EBT.

Although Washington received approval for Children under Six and Summer P-EBT plans, it did not receive approval for a school plan that met USDA's requirements to validate individual absences, school closures, and remote learning days due to COVID-19 illnesses.

Due to the PHE expiring on May 11, 2023, the 2022-23 school year will be the final year for P-EBT. With the expiration, all P-EBT benefits must be issued by September 30, 2023. Washington received approval for a summer and Children under Six for the 22-23 school year, which will be detailed in next year's briefing book. Current information on P-EBT can also be found at www.dshs.wa.gov/pebt.

Legal Authorization

[RCW 74.04.005](#); [74.04.050](#); [74.04.055](#); [74.04.057](#); [74.04.500](#); [74.04.510](#); [74.08.090](#); [74.08A.120](#); and [Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020](#) as amended by the [Continuing Appropriations Act 2021 and Other Extensions Act](#), the [Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021](#), and the [American Rescue Plan Act of 2021](#)

[H.R. 6201, Families First Coronavirus Response Act \(FFCRA\), Section 1101](#), amended by the [H.R. 1319, American Rescue Plan, Section 1108](#), allows the issuance of P-EBT in any school year or covered summer period following a school session while a federal public health emergency declaration affects school and childcare centers ability to provide onsite meal services. State agencies must submit P-EBT plans to USDA for approval.

Governor Proclamations [20-08](#), [20-09](#) and [20-09.1](#)

Funding Source

Benefits provided to students and children under age six who receive SNAP are 100% federally funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Services (FNS). Benefits provided to children under age of six who receive FAP benefits are 100% state funded.

Population Served

Children who have lost access to free and reduced price meal programs due to COVID-19 related school and childcare closures.

Eligibility

1. Students who are eligible for the Free or reduced price meals under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act but have limited access to school meals due to COVID-19.
2. Children under the age of 6 who are active on SNAP each month in a school year from September through June.

3. Students eligible for free or reduced-price school meals and children under the age of six on food benefits received a standard P-EBT benefit for the summer months as all schools and childcare centers are deemed closed during the summer period.

Services

P-EBT recipients receive food benefits via an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card for any

combination of approved school year months or designated summer period.

Linkages

1. Food assistance
2. Free or Reduced School Lunch Program
3. Early Learning
4. K-12 Education
5. Other services to assist low-income families

Pregnant Women Assistance (PWA)

Brief Description

Provides cash assistance and a referral to the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) program to low-income pregnant individuals who are ineligible for TANF or SFA for a reason other than a failure to cooperate with TANF program rules. Eligibility for HEN assistance is determined by the Department of Commerce through a network of local grantees.

Legal Authorization

[RCW 74.62.030](#), [RCW 74.04.805](#)

Funding Source

100% General Fund State

Population Served

Pregnant individuals who are ineligible for TANF/SFA due to the 60-month time limit, and do not qualify for time limit extension may be eligible for PWA.

Eligibility

1. Recipients must meet income and resource limits.
2. Recipients who are assessed as in need of treatment by a certified chemical dependency professional are required to participate in substance use disorder treatment as a condition of eligibility.

Services

1. Cash assistance
2. Case management
3. Referral services
4. A referral to the HEN program, which remains valid for 24 consecutive months.

Linkages

1. Local resources (such as low-income housing and emergency shelter providers, and food banks)
2. Children and family services
3. Community medical centers
4. Charitable organizations

Refugee Cash and Medical Assistance (RCA/RMA)

Brief Description

Provides up to 12 months of cash assistance for newly arrived refugees and eligible humanitarian immigrants who are single or married adults and ineligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). Provides up to 12 months of medical assistance for newly arrived refugees and eligible humanitarian immigrants who are ineligible for MAGI Medicaid or Classic Medicaid.

Legal Authorization

45 CFR §400.45 – 400.69 and §400.93 – 400.107, Refugee Act of 1980, Public Law 96-212; the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2003 (TVPR), Pub. L. No. 108-193; and the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2010, Pub. L. No. 111-118

Funding Source

100% Federal

Population Served

1. People who have recently resettled in Washington state as refugees. Refugees are authorized by the federal government to immigrate to the U.S., because they are unwilling or unable to return to their country of nationality due to persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution based on race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.
2. Individuals whose immigration status allows them access to refugee benefits under federal law, including Afghan Humanitarian Parolees and Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees.

Eligibility

1. People with the following U.S. immigration status: refugee, asylee, Cubans/Haitian entrant, Amerasian, certified victims of human trafficking and their eligible family members, Iraqi/Afghan Special Immigrants (SIV), Afghan Humanitarian Parolees (AHP) paroled into the U.S. between July 31, 2021 and September 30, 2023, Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees (UHP) paroled into the U.S. between February 24, 2022 and September 30, 2023, spouses and children of AHPs and UHPs paroled after September 30, 2023, and parents or legal guardians of AHPs and UHPs, if determined to be an unaccompanied minor, paroled after September 30, 2023.
2. Applicants must meet the financial need criteria and be ineligible for TANF, because they are without dependent children.
3. Applicants for medical assistance must be ineligible for MAGI Medicaid or Classic Medicaid due to income or resources but still meet certain financial need criteria.
4. Normally, eligibility for refugees expires twelve months after the date of their arrival in the United States. For asylees, victims of human trafficking, Iraqis or Afghans who do not become Special Immigrants until after they enter the U.S., Afghan and Ukrainian Humanitarian parolees, eligibility expires twelve months after the date their status is certified or granted or their status was made eligible for federal benefits.
5. Unless exempt, adults must register for employment and language training services.

6. Refugees must also provide the name of the refugee resettlement agency which helped to bring them into the U.S.

Services

1. Cash assistance for food, clothing, and shelter.
2. Medical assistance.

Linkages

1. Refugee resettlement agencies
2. Ethnic community-based organizations
3. Community employment providers
4. State Colleges
5. Low-income housing providers
6. Food banks
7. Community medical centers
8. Charitable agencies
9. Workforce development councils
10. Public health departments
11. Other local agencies

Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance (ORIA)

Brief Description

Provides statewide services through local community partners to help people who are refugees and immigrants achieve economic stability and integration into Washington communities.

Legal Authorization

[Refugee Act of 1980, Public Law 96-212](#); [45 CFR Part 400, RCW 74.08A](#)

Funding Source

Blended federal and state funding sources, from the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program Employment and Training (SNAP E&T).

Population Served

Refugees, humanitarian entrants, and certain immigrants residing in the U.S.

Eligibility

1. People who have one of the following U.S. immigration statuses: refugee, asylee, Cuban/Haitian entrant, Amerasian, victims of human trafficking and their eligible family members, Iraqi/Afghan Special Immigrants (SIV) and their eligible family members who have had their eligibility for five years or less.
2. People who have special immigration statuses, specifically
3. Afghan Humanitarian Parolees (AHP) paroled into the U.S. between July 31, 2021 and September 30, 2023, and Ukrainian

Humanitarian Parolees (UHP) paroled into the U.S. between February 24, 2022 and September 30, 2023, spouses and children of AHPs and UHPs paroled after September 30, 2023, and parents or legal guardians of AHPs and UHPs, if determined to be an unaccompanied minor, paroled after September 30, 2023.

4. Refugees, humanitarian entrants, and certain immigrants residing in the U.S. who are Limited English Proficient (LEP) and on TANF/SFA or are eligible for BFET activities.
5. All lawful permanent residents who are eligible to become U.S. citizens and are receiving public assistance.
6. Refugee minors under age 18 who are unaccompanied refugees, entrants, asylees, or victims of trafficking.

Services

The following ORIA services are provided through contracts with community-based agencies, refugee resettlement agencies, ethnic community-based organizations, public health departments, community and technical colleges, and other state and local agencies:

1. Employment readiness and job placement services.
2. Job skills training.
3. English language training.
4. Refugee Health Screenings and health management services.
5. Comprehensive case management services.
6. Self-sufficiency education workshops.
7. Immigration assistance.
8. Services for Older Refugees

9. Refugee children and youth programming.
10. Unaccompanied Refugee Minor (URM) foster care services.
11. Mental health services.
12. Naturalization services.
13. Housing Assistance.
14. Community Outreach and Education.

Linkages

1. Community-based employment providers
2. Ethnic community-based organizations
3. Refugee resettlement agencies
4. Public health departments.
5. Community and technical colleges
6. Community-based organizations
7. School Districts
8. Area Agencies on Aging
9. Local employers
10. State and local government agencies
11. Housing Authorities
12. Other organizations providing community resources, such as food banks and utility assistance agencies

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Brief Description

Provides cash assistance to parents/caregivers with children and pregnant individuals to bolster their ability to meet their foundational needs. Persons who are caring for a relative's child, are legal guardians or who are acting in the place of a parent, are also able to apply for TANF benefits on behalf of these children.

Legal Authorization

Title IV-A of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 602-619)

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996, Public Law 104-193

The Balanced Budget Act (BBA) of 1997, Public Law 105-33

The Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005, Public Law 109-171

The Fiscal Responsibility Act (FRA) of 2023, Public Law 118-5

[RCW 74.04](#) (General Provisions Administration)

[RCW 74.08](#) (Eligibility Generally —Standards of Assistance)

[RCW 74.08A](#) (Washington WorkFirst/TANF)

[RCW 74.12](#) (TANF), as amended by the Washington TANF Act, ESHB-3901.

Funding Source

Funded by a federal block grant (Title IV-A of the Social Security Act) and a required MOE expenditure of state funds.

Population Served

1. Children under age 18.
2. Children under age 19 attending high school or a GED program full-time.
3. Parents or needy caretaker relatives of these children.
4. Unmarried teen parents under age 18.
5. Pregnant individuals with no other children.

Eligibility

1. The family or assistance unit must include a child (or a pregnant individual with no other children) who is in financial need. The child and one of the parents of unmarried parent's household can be excluded from recipient assistance units at the option of the parents.
2. Family net monthly income may not exceed the payment standard plus authorized additional requirements. Under TANF, 50% of gross earnings are countable when determining eligibility and payment amount.
3. Families can own a home, household goods, and up to \$6,000 in countable assets. The first \$10,000 in equity value of a vehicle is exempt; equity that exceeds this amount counts towards the \$6,000 asset limit.
4. Teen parents must meet all TANF eligibility requirements, live in an approved living situation, and attend high school. When not living in an approved living situation, the child of the teen is opened on TANF as a child-only case.
5. Families must be Washington state residents and not living in a public institution (with some exceptions).

6. All eligible family members must have a Social Security Number or cooperate in obtaining one.
 7. Families must assign rights to child support and cooperate with the DSHS Division of Child Support by identifying the non-custodial parent of the child(ren) and in obtaining child support with some exceptions.
 8. If TANF or SFA has not been received within the past thirty days, and will be a mandatory WorkFirst participant once approved, WorkFirst orientation must be completed before the application is approved.
 9. Adults and certain teens must participate in WorkFirst program or work activities. There are a few exceptions to participation requirements. If a WorkFirst individual refuses to engage in work or work-related activities required by the state, the state will apply a penalty in the form of grant reduction. The family's grant may be reduced by one person's share or 40%, whichever is more, and may be terminated after a year of non-compliance.
 10. There is no income or resources cap or work participation requirement for non-needy relatives and other non-parent adults applying for or receiving child-only TANF on behalf of needy children.
 11. Benefits have a five-year time limit with some exceptions.
4. SSI Facilitation, providing assistance with completing and monitoring an SSA Title II or Title XVI application.

Linkages

1. Low-income housing
2. Tribal Partners
3. Food banks
4. Children and family services
5. Community medical centers
6. Charitable organizations
7. Childcare assistance (subsidy) through DCYF

Services

1. Cash assistance.
2. WorkFirst services.
3. Additional Requirements-Emergent Need (AREN) payments for special needs, such as

State Family Assistance (SFA)

Brief Description

Provides state-funded cash assistance for legal immigrant families, students ages 19 to 20, and pregnant individuals who are ineligible to receive TANF.

Legal Authorization

[RCW 74.08A.100](#), Immigrants-Eligibility

[RCW 74.12.035](#), Additional Eligibility Requirements (Students)

Funding Source

100% General Fund State (mix of TANF MOE and non-MOE)

Population Served

1. Immigrants ineligible for TANF because of federal citizenship and alien status eligibility requirements.
2. Children under age 21 ineligible for TANF and participating in secondary school or same level of vocational training, or receiving education due to a disability.
3. Needy caretaker relatives of these children.
4. Pregnant individuals with no other children who are ineligible for TANF for a reason other than failure to cooperate with work requirements.
5. At the discretion of the department, some TANF eligible members may receive SFA rather than TANF if:
 - a. They are otherwise eligible for TANF as a parent; and
 - b. Another parent in the assistance unit is eligible for TANF or SFA; and they are

pregnant or their assistance unit has a child less than twelve months of age

Eligibility

1. Recipients must meet all other TANF eligibility criteria.
2. Immigrants must be:
 - a. Qualified aliens ineligible for TANF because of the five-year period of ineligibility; or
 - b. Lawfully present non-qualified aliens residing indefinitely in Washington state, and the Department of Homeland Security is not taking steps to enforce their departure.
3. Children ages 19 and 20 who are in high school or a GED program full-time.
4. If SFA has not been received in the past thirty days, and will be a mandatory WorkFirst participant once approved, WorkFirst orientation must be completed before the application can be approved.
5. Like TANF, benefits have a five-year time limit with some exceptions.

Services

1. Cash assistance.
2. SFA recipients are eligible for WorkFirst services.
3. Additional Requirements for Emergent Need (AREN) payments for special needs, such as rent and utilities if eviction or shut-off notices have been issued.

Linkages

1. Low-income housing
2. Food banks
3. Children and family services

4. Community medical centers

5. Charitable organizations

WorkFirst (WF)

Brief Description

Provides support services and activities to TANF and SFA recipients so they can find and keep jobs to move forward on a pathway to economic stability.

Legal Authorization

Title IV-A of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 602-619), as amended by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996, Public Law 104-193

The Balanced Budget Act (BBA) of 1997, Public Law 105-33

The Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005, Public Law 109-171

The Fiscal Responsibility Act (FRA) of 2023, Public Law 118-5

[RCW 74.04](#) (General Provisions Administration)

[RCW 74.08](#) (Eligibility Generally —Standards of Assistance)

[RCW 74.08A](#) (Washington WorkFirst/TANF)

[RCW 74.12](#) (TANF), as amended by the Washington Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Act, ESHB-3901

Funding Source

Funded by a federal block grant (Title IV-A of the Social Security Act) and a TANF required MOE expenditure of state funds.

Population Served

Low-income families with dependent children and pregnant individuals.

Eligibility

TANF/SFA applicants and recipients.

Services

Case Management and Social Services may include the following:

1. Information about the WorkFirst program.
2. Evaluation and assessment to identify a participant's strengths, needs of their family, participation options, and best pathway to employment.
3. Referrals for services that a family may need including:
 - a. Family Planning for every individual.
 - b. Equal Access (EA) for individuals with a mental, neurological, physical or sensory impairment or other problems that prevent them from program benefits that an unimpaired person would receive.
 - c. Family violence.
 - d. Learning disabilities.
 - e. Substance use disorder.
 - f. Mental health services
 - g. Pregnant or parenting a child under 12 months.
 - h. Home Visiting & Parent Support programs
4. Development of Individual Responsibility Plans (IRP).
5. Intensive social services for those with significant issues and needs.
6. Help for pregnant or parenting minors to find a suitable living arrangement and complete high school, which are both program requirements.
7. Support services that include, but are not limited to, funding for transportation, work clothing, professional fees, and testing.

Services While Working

1. Wage progression and job retention services (e.g., education and training).
2. Re-employment services following job loss.

Services While Looking for Work

1. Employment service supports (e.g., help with transportation).
2. Employment services (e.g., job leads, access to resource rooms, phone banks, and job fairs).
3. Job preparation (e.g., employment competencies, work skills assessment, and employment workshops).
4. Part-time language training for limited-English proficient participants in job search.
5. Customized job skills (short-term training course that leads to an available job at an above-average wage).

Services While Preparing for Work

1. Community Jobs, a paid short-term subsidized employment program, for participants who may benefit from additional support in securing permanent employment.
2. A varying mixture of subsidized or unpaid work, job search, treatment, education, training, and/or other services.

Linkages

1. Employment Security Department
2. Department of Commerce
3. State Board for Community & Technical Colleges
4. Child care subsidy assistance (Working Connections Child Care) through the Department of Children, Youth and Families
5. Workforce Development Councils, operating under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

6. Tribal TANF programs
 - a. Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe – Started October 1998
 - b. Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe – Started October 1998
 - c. Quinault Indian Nation – Started April 2001
 - d. Quileute Tribe – Started May 2001
 - e. Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation – Started November 2001
 - f. Spokane Tribe of Indians – Started March 2003
 - g. South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency (SPIPA), comprised of four tribes: Shoalwater Bay, Nisqually, Skokomish, Squaxin Island, and Puyallup Tribes – Started September 2004
 - h. Tulalip Tribes – Started March 2005
 - i. Nooksack Tribe – Started May 2005
 - j. Lummi Nation - Started July 2007
 - k. Upper Skagit Tribe - Started July 2007
7. Community programs
8. ORIA contracted providers including community-based employment providers, community and technical colleges, refugee resettlement agencies and ethnic community-based organizations
9. Local Planning Areas

State Supplemental Payment (SSP)

Brief Description

Provides a state-funded supplemental cash payment to some recipients of federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability benefits in addition to their regular SSI payment.

Legal Authorization

Title XVI of the Social Security Act

20 CFR 416.2095

[RCW 74.04.600](#)

[RCW 74.04.640](#)

Funding Source

100% General Fund State for the supplement

Population Served

SSP is paid to the following populations:

1. Mandatory Income Level (MIL) – persons who received state aged, blind or disabled cash assistance in 1973 and were converted to receiving federal SSI in January 1974.
2. SSI recipients whose spouse is not eligible for SSI in their own right.
3. Developmentally disabled persons who meet Social Security disability criteria.
4. SSI recipients who are aged or blind.
5. Certain foster children receiving SSI.
6. SSI recipients that receive care in a medical institution or residential setting.

Eligibility

1. Must be eligible for SSI as determined by the Social Security Administration (SSA) and meet the criteria described above.

2. Must meet resource limit of \$2,000 for an individual and \$3,000 for a married couple (not all resources are counted).

Services

1. The MIL SSP varies by individual and federal requirement.
2. The SSP for the aged, blind, or ineligible spouse is \$40 per month.
3. Developmentally disabled SSP varies by individual and client need.
4. Foster child SSP varies by individual need.
5. The SSP for an eligible person who is residing in a medical institution is \$40.00 per month.
6. A person eligible for SSI is automatically eligible for Categorically Needy medical coverage.

Linkages

1. Low-income housing
2. Senior citizens centers
3. Ongoing additional requirements
4. Food banks
5. Developmental disability programs
6. Congregate care facilities
7. Adult family homes
8. Nursing homes
9. Medical facilities
10. Mental health centers
11. Other community charitable and social service agencies

United States Repatriation Program

Brief Description

A federal program providing social services and a cash loan for food, housing, medical, or transportation needs to help a U.S. citizen and/or dependent(s) resettle after emergent conditions require the person to return to the U.S.

Legal Authorization

45 CFR Parts 211 and 212.

Funding Source

Initial expenditures are state funds that are reimbursed from federal funds.

Population Served

U.S. citizens and/or their dependent(s) returning from a foreign country.

Eligibility

The U.S. Department of State determines eligibility and authorizes repatriation based on poverty, mental illness, physical illness, or international crisis.

Services

1. Resettlement assistance for up to 90 days after return to the U.S., unless an extension is granted.
2. Cash loan based on the TANF payment standard for household size to pay for food, shelter, medical care and other emergent needs, or travel costs to the state of residence or final destination.
3. Social services to facilitate connection to social and community programs and services to establish access to housing and other ongoing needs.

Linkages

1. Federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
2. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) or other public assistance programs, if eligible
3. Food assistance
4. Division of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) when the repatriate is an unaccompanied minor
5. U.S. State Department and Administration for Children and Families (ACF) for program policy and coordination
6. International Social Services is contracted by ACF to refer eligible people and process claims for reimbursement

Working Family Support (WFS)

Brief Description

The Working Family Support program is a cash program that provides an additional food benefit to qualifying families receiving Basic Food (SNAP), Food Assistance Program for Legal Immigrants (FAP), or Transitional Food Assistance (TFA) who are working at least 35 hours per week.

Legal Authorization

[WAC 388-493-0010](#).

Funding Source

100% General Fund State

Population Served

Working families with a household income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) that are recipients of Basic Food, FAP, or TFA.

Eligibility

1. Households must be recipients of Basic Food, FAP, or TFA.
2. Receipt of the monthly benefit does not cause the household's countable food assistance income to exceed the 200% FPL.
3. No one in the food assistance unit can be receiving TANF.
4. The household must:
 - a. Include a child who is under the age of 18 that is the parent's child through birth or adoption or is their step child.
 - b. Be residents of Washington State.
 - c. Include the qualifying child's parent, their spouse, or their co-parent that is working 35 hours per week and can

provide verification of the hours of employment.

5. Program is limited to a maximum of 10,000 households.

Services

Monthly food benefit of up to \$10 that can be used on items allowed under Basic Food, FAP, or TFA. This benefit lasts six months and may be extended if the household recertifies and continues to meet the eligibility criteria.

Linkages

1. Nutrition education programs
2. School lunch programs
3. Low-income housing
4. Food banks
5. Children and family services
6. Community medical centers
7. Senior outreach
8. Charitable agencies

Aged,
Blind or
Disabled
(ABD)

SFY

2023

Provides cash assistance and a referral to the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) program for low-income adults who are age 65 or older, blind, or determined likely to meet federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability criteria.

ESA Briefing
Book

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Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) Cash Assistance Program Overview

ABD is a state-funded program for low-income adults who have no dependents and who are age 65 or older, blind, or determined likely to meet SSI disability criteria based on an impairment(s) expected to last at least 12 consecutive months. The ABD program provides cash assistance and a referral to the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) program¹. The Department of Commerce administers the HEN program and determines eligibility for housing assistance and essential needs items through its network of local providers.

Additional information, including the eligibility criteria, funding sources, and services/benefits provided, is available [here](#).

Highlights

The average number of ABD program clients per month in Washington state was **27,365 in SFY 2023**, up from **21,847 in SFY 2022**. The average monthly cash assistance grant per client was **\$354**. The average monthly ABD clients in SFY 2023 included:

- Aged – 5,291 persons
- Disabled – 949 persons
- Pending SSI – 21,123 persons
- Blind – 2 persons
- Institutionalized – 1 person

TECHNICAL NOTES

DATA SOURCES: Data for this chapter was based on the ESA ACES database as of August 2023.

DATA NOTES:

- Percentages may not add up to expected totals due to rounding.
- The monthly counts of cases and clients for the ABD program are nearly identical. Therefore, only client counts are reported.
- All reports of 10-year client trends reflect the monthly average for each state fiscal year (SFY).

¹ [Engrossed Substitute House Bill 2667](#) expanded eligibility for the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) program to include recipients of the Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) program effective March 13, 2018.

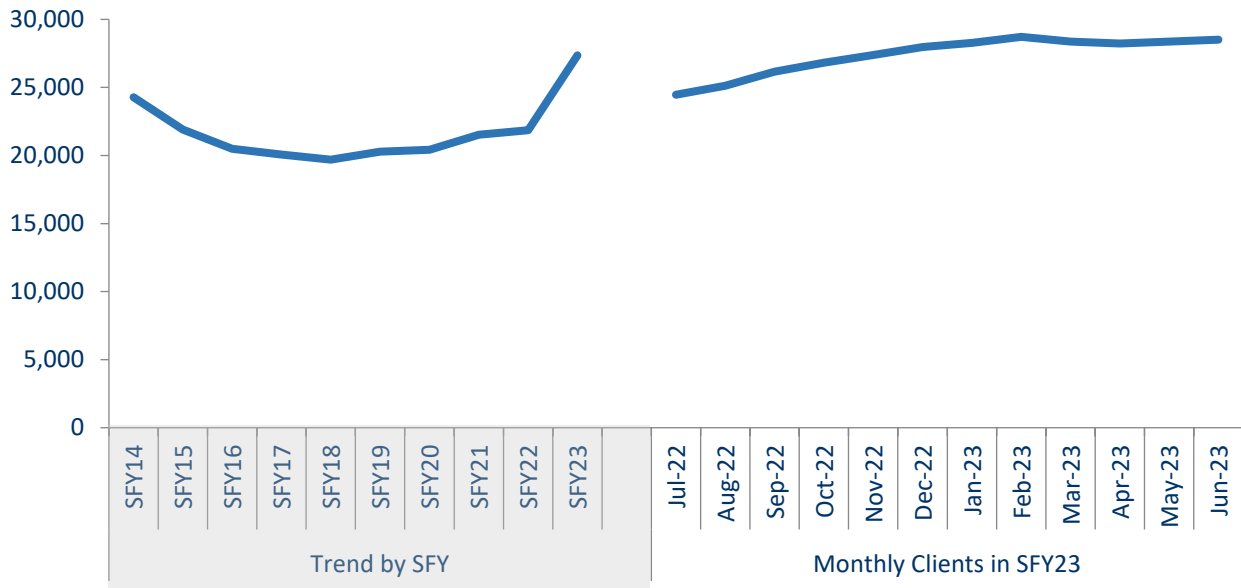
Selected ABD Program Overview, SFY 2022 and SFY 2023

	SFY 2022 (July 2021-June 2022)	SFY 2023 (July 2022-June 2023)	Change	
Average Number of Persons Per Month (Range)	21,847 (20,968 - 23,923)	27,365 (24,459 - 28,717)	25.3% (Increase)	↑
State Population² Age 18 and Over	6,164,228	6,255,743	1.5% (Increase)	↑
Average Monthly Recipients as a Percent of State's Population 18 and Over	0.4%	0.4%	No Change	=
Average Monthly Payment Per Case (Range)³	\$184.76 (\$183.39 - \$185.71)	\$354.02 (\$184.27 - \$388.23)	91.6% (Increase)	↑

²Source: Office of Financial Management (OFM) population estimates

³ Payments not adjusted for refunds. Effective September 1, 2022, the ongoing maximum monthly ABD program payment standards increased to \$417 for a single individual and to \$528 for a married couple. The 2022 Supplemental Operating Budget (Chapter 297, Laws of 2022) includes funding to support this change. The change is the result of a legislative request to better support individuals who are aged, blind, or disabled and to align payment standards with other state cash programs.

ABD Clients, SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY	Monthly Average Clients	SFY	Monthly Average Clients
SFY14	24,268	SFY19	20,281
SFY15	21,904	SFY20	20,429
SFY16	20,499	SFY21	21,522
SFY17	20,064	SFY22	21,847
SFY18	19,694	SFY23	27,365

SFY 2023	Clients	Total Grant Expenditures	Average Payment Per Client
July	24,459	\$4,506,949	\$184.27
August	25,113	\$4,638,166	\$184.69
September	26,163	\$10,038,889	\$383.71
October	26,821	\$10,316,176	\$384.63
November	27,382	\$10,545,329	\$385.12
December	27,974	\$10,860,350	\$388.23
January	28,277	\$10,890,567	\$385.14
February	28,717	\$11,072,912	\$385.59
March	28,361	\$10,815,458	\$381.35
April	28,237	\$10,781,023	\$381.80
May	28,360	\$10,840,844	\$382.26
June	28,520	\$10,946,863	\$383.83
Mo. Avg.	27,365	\$9,687,794	\$354.02
Annual Unduplicated	41,047	\$116,253,524	\$2,832.21

ABD Clients by Program Type, SFY 2023

SFY 2023	ABD Combined					
	Caseload	Aged	Blind	Disabled	Pending SSI	Institutionalized ⁴
July	24,459	4,945	3	543	18,965	3
August	25,113	4,967	1	556	19,587	2
September	26,163	5,084	2	920	20,156	1
October	26,821	5,176	2	973	20,670	0
November	27,382	5,236	2	1,009	21,135	0
December	27,974	5,289	1	1,012	21,672	0
January	28,277	5,315	2	1,042	21,918	0
February	28,717	5,383	1	1,048	22,285	0
March	28,361	5,446	1	1,075	21,839	0
April	28,237	5,499	1	1,078	21,659	0
May	28,360	5,532	1	1,086	21,741	0
June	28,520	5,622	1	1,051	21,846	0
Mo. Avg.	27,365	5,291	2	949	21,123	1

⁴ Effective September 1, 2022, ABD was expanded to individuals between the ages of 21 and 64 who reside in a public mental health institution (e.g. Eastern or Western State Hospital). These newly eligible individuals are reported in the Disabled category within the ABD program.

ABD Clients Exiting to Other Programs, SFY 2023

SFY 2023	Total ABD Clients ⁵	During Subsequent Month							
		Clients Remaining on ABD		Clients Moving from ABD to HEN Referral Program		Clients Moving From ABD to SSI/SSDI		Clients Exiting ABD ⁶	
		# of Clients	Percent	# of Clients	Percent	# of Clients	Percent	# of Clients	Percent
July	24,459	23,639	96.6%	32	0.1%	332	1.4%	456	1.9%
August	25,113	23,989	95.5%	43	0.2%	392	1.6%	689	2.7%
September	26,163	25,268	96.6%	34	0.1%	333	1.3%	528	2.0%
October	26,821	25,807	96.2%	58	0.2%	367	1.4%	589	2.2%
November	27,382	26,473	96.7%	56	0.2%	372	1.4%	481	1.8%
December	27,974	26,770	95.7%	31	0.1%	444	1.6%	729	2.6%
January	28,277	27,169	96.1%	62	0.2%	303	1.1%	743	2.6%
February	28,717	26,501	92.3%	194	0.7%	430	1.5%	1,592	5.5%
March	28,361	26,458	93.3%	119	0.4%	491	1.7%	1,293	4.6%
April	28,237	26,456	93.7%	118	0.4%	486	1.7%	1,177	4.2%
May	28,360	26,856	94.7%	85	0.3%	405	1.4%	1,014	3.6%
June	28,520	26,863	94.2%	113	0.4%	399	1.4%	1,145	4.0%
Mo. Avg.	27,365	26,021	95.1%	79	0.3%	396	1.4%	870	3.2%

⁵ These are clients who received ABD services during the reporting month. Additional columns in the table represent programs the client enrolled/participated in during the subsequent month.

⁶ These are adults who were not enrolled in HEN Referral, SSI/SSDI, or other cash programs in the following month.

ABD Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot

The following pages detail the ABD clients, June 2023 snapshot, by both the CSO of Issuance and CSO of Residence.

- **CSO of Issuance:** Based on the location from which benefits were issued. While most benefits are issued through ESA's Community Service Offices (CSO), benefits may be issued by Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC), Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) within DSHS's Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (ALTSa), Developmental Disability Administration (DDA), or Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe (PGST).
- **CSO of Residence:** Based on the CSO coverage area in which a client lives.

Overview	<u>Office of Issuance</u>		<u>Office of Residence</u>	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
Region 1 CSOs	5,959	20.9%	6,263	22.0%
Region 2 CSOs	12,816	44.9%	13,669	47.9%
Region 3 CSOs	8,322	29.2%	8,582	30.1%
CSCCs	12	<0.1%	N/A	
ALTSa (HCS)	1,408	4.9%		
DDA	3	<0.1%		
Tribal Locations	0	0.0%		
Not Reported / Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	6	<0.1%
State Total	28,520	100.0%	28,520	100.0%

Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 1 CSO	CSO of Issuance		CSO of Residence	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON	89	0.3%	93	0.3%
COLFAX	68	0.2%	75	0.3%
COLVILLE	126	0.4%	133	0.5%
ELLENSBURG	144	0.5%	144	0.5%
GOLDENDALE	73	0.3%	74	0.3%
KENNEWICK	768	2.7%	824	2.9%
MOSES LAKE	490	1.7%	506	1.8%
NEWPORT	63	0.2%	67	0.2%
OKANOGAN	153	0.5%	154	0.5%
REPUBLIC	25	0.1%	23	0.1%
SPOKANE MAPLE	1,355	4.8%	1,475	5.2%
SPOKANE TRENT	1,321	4.6%	1,350	4.7%
SUNNYSIDE	110	0.4%	123	0.4%
TOPPENISH	113	0.4%	120	0.4%
WALLA WALLA	143	0.5%	153	0.5%
WENATCHEE	213	0.7%	224	0.8%
WHITE SALMON	21	0.1%	21	0.1%
YAKIMA	684	2.4%	704	2.5%
Region 1 Total	5,959	20.9%	6,263	22.0%

Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 2 CSO	CSO of Issuance		CSO of Residence	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD	824	2.9%	882	3.1%
AUBURN	696	2.4%	751	2.6%
BELLINGHAM	571	2.0%	586	2.1%
BELLTOWN	1,290	4.5%	1,341	4.7%
CAPITOL HILL	753	2.6%	787	2.8%
EVERETT	1,167	4.1%	1,208	4.2%
FEDERAL WAY	510	1.8%	556	1.9%
KING EASTSIDE	973	3.4%	1,104	3.9%
KING NORTH	1,100	3.9%	1,169	4.1%
KING SOUTH	885	3.1%	984	3.5%
MOUNT VERNON	551	1.9%	539	1.9%
OAK HARBOR	165	0.6%	189	0.7%
RAINIER	629	2.2%	694	2.4%
RENTON	670	2.3%	748	2.6%
SKYKOMISH VALLEY	287	1.0%	300	1.1%
SMOKEY POINT	784	2.7%	812	2.8%
WHITE CENTER	961	3.4%	1,019	3.6%
Region 2 Total	12,816	44.9%	13,669	47.9%

Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 3 CSO	CSO of Issuance		CSO of Residence	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN	546	1.9%	551	1.9%
BREMERTON	764	2.7%	774	2.7%
CHEHALIS	368	1.3%	367	1.3%
COLUMBIA RIVER	1,363	4.8%	1,415	5.0%
FORKS	22	0.1%	24	0.1%
KELSO	614	2.2%	620	2.2%
LAKEWOOD	989	3.5%	1,073	3.8%
LONG BEACH	49	0.2%	50	0.2%
OLYMPIA	821	2.9%	865	3.0%
PIERCE NORTH	709	2.5%	717	2.5%
PIERCE SOUTH	722	2.5%	742	2.6%
PORT ANGELES	282	1.0%	279	1.0%
PORT TOWNSEND	54	0.2%	55	0.2%
PUYALLUP VALLEY	637	2.2%	665	2.3%
SHELTON	290	1.0%	294	1.0%
SOUTH BEND	52	0.2%	52	0.2%
STEVENSON	40	0.1%	39	0.1%
Region 3 Total	8,322	29.2%	8,582	30.1%

ABD Caseload by Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC) and Other Locations, June 2023 Snapshot

Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC)	Office of Issuance	
	Clients	% of State Total
CSCC Central Sound	0	0.0%
CSCC Northeast	0	0.0%
CSCC Northwest	0	0.0%
CSCC South Sound	0	0.0%
CSCC Southeast	0	0.0%
CSCC Southwest	0	0.0%
CSCC Virtual Case Management Center	2	<0.1%
CSCC WASHCAP	10	<0.1%
CSCC and WASHCAP Total	12	<0.1%

DDA Locations	Office of Issuance	
	Clients	% of State Total
DDA Behavioral Health Financial Unit	1	<0.1%
DDA Long-Term Care & Special Programs	2	<0.1%
DDA Locations Total	3	<0.1%

Tribal Locations	Office of Issuance	
	Clients	% of State Total
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe (PGST)	0	0.0%

ABD Clients by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), June 2023 Snapshot

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 1	HCS of Issuance	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON HCS	0	0.0%
COLVILLE HCS	1	<0.1%
ELLENSBURG HCS	2	<0.1%
MEDICAL LAKE HCS	163	0.6%
MOSES LAKE HCS	24	0.1%
OKANOGAN HCS	0	0.0%
SPOKANE HCS	43	0.2%
SUNNYSIDE HCS	26	0.1%
TRI-CITIES HCS	43	0.2%
WALLA WALLA HCS	7	<0.1%
WENATCHEE HCS	0	0.0%
YAKIMA HCS	5	<0.1%
Region 1 Total	314	1.1%

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 2	HCS of Issuance	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD HCS	116	0.4%
BELLINGHAM HCS	27	0.1%
EVERETT HCS	72	0.3%
HOLGATE HCS	558	2.0%
MOUNT VERNON HCS	60	0.2%
SMOKEY POINT HCS	0	0.0%
Region 2 Total	833	2.9%

Clients by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 3	HCS of Issuance	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN HCS	7	<0.1%
BREMERTON HCS	6	<0.1%
CHEHALIS HCS	0	0.0%
KELSO HCS	0	0.0%
OLYMPIA HCS	25	0.1%
PORT ANGELES HCS	0	0.0%
STEILACOOM HCS	90	0.3%
TACOMA HCS	82	0.3%
VANCOUVER HCS	51	0.2%
Region 3 Total	261	0.9%

ABD Clients by County of Residence, June 2023 Snapshot

County	# of Clients	% of Total	County	# of Clients	% of Total
Adams	65	0.2%	Lewis	368	1.3%
Asotin	90	0.3%	Lincoln	32	0.1%
Benton	593	2.1%	Mason	294	1.0%
Chelan	171	0.6%	Okanogan	154	0.5%
Clallam	304	1.1%	Pacific	102	0.4%
Clark	1,414	5.0%	Pend Oreille	67	0.2%
Columbia	12	<0.1%	Pierce	3,197	11.2%
Cowlitz	607	2.1%	San Juan	20	0.1%
Douglas	53	0.2%	Skagit	519	1.8%
Ferry	23	0.1%	Skamania	40	0.1%
Franklin	231	0.8%	Snohomish	3,200	11.2%
Garfield	3	<0.1%	Spokane	2,794	9.8%
Grant	441	1.5%	Stevens	132	0.5%
Grays Harbor	551	1.9%	Thurston	865	3.0%
Island	189	0.7%	Wahkiakum	13	<0.1%
Jefferson	55	0.2%	Walla Walla	141	0.5%
King	9,152	32.1%	Whatcom	586	2.1%
Kitsap	774	2.7%	Whitman	75	0.3%
Kittitas	145	0.5%	Yakima	947	3.3%
Klickitat	95	0.3%	Not Reported/ Unidentifiable	6	<0.1%

	# of Clients	% of Total
State Total	28,520	100.0%

ABD Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot

All Clients		
Characteristic	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Total Clients	28,520	100.0%

All Clients		
Gender		
Female	13,489	47.3%
Male	15,029	52.7%
Unknown	2	<0.1%

All Clients		
Ethnicity and Race		
Hispanic or Latino	3,396	11.9%
Not Hispanic or Latino⁷	25,124	88.1%
White	15,634	54.8%
Black/African American	3,410	12.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	3,618	12.7%
American Indian/Alaska Native	982	3.4%
Two or More Races	573	2.0%
Race Not Reported	907	3.2%

All Clients		
Marital Status		
Separated	2,091	7.3%
Married	3,068	10.8%
Never Married	13,396	47.0%
Divorced	6,945	24.4%
Widowed	2,949	10.3%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	71	0.2%

All Clients		
Citizenship Status		
U.S. Citizen	22,491	78.9%
Resident Noncitizen	5,965	20.9%
U.S. National⁸	62	0.2%
Survivors of Certain Crimes⁹	2	<0.1%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	0	0.0%

⁷ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

⁸ U.S. National: A national of the United States or a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States (e.g., persons born in American Samoa or Swains Island).

⁹ Effective July 1, 2022, the Aged, Blind or Disabled (ABD) cash assistance program and the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) program are available to noncitizens who have been harmed by a crime and have filed or are preparing to file with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services an application for T visa for trafficking victims, U visa for victims of qualifying crimes or asylum status. This population is referred to as survivors of certain crimes (SCCs).

ABD Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

All Clients		
Characteristic	# of Clients	% of Total Clients

Homeless Status		
All Clients		
Homeless ¹⁰	8,388	29.4%

Disability		
All Clients		
Mental	15,861	55.6%
Physical	7,023	24.6%
Aged ¹¹	5,622	19.7%
Other ¹²	14	<0.1%

Education Status		
All Clients		
Less than a High School Diploma	6,539	22.9%
High School Graduate or GED	12,937	45.4%
Some College or College Degree	8,110	28.4%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	934	3.3%

Age		
All Clients		
Under 18 Years Old	N/A	N/A
18 - 24 Years Old	1,228	4.3%
25 - 34 Years Old	4,038	14.2%
35 - 44 Years Old	6,076	21.3%
45 - 54 Years Old	6,756	23.7%
55 - 64 Years Old	4,798	16.8%
65+ Years Old	5,624	19.7%
Average Age of Clients	49.9 Years	

¹⁰ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

¹¹ Clients with a program type code of 'A' regardless of the presence of a disability type code.

¹² These are the clients who had a disability determination made by DSHS Division of Disability Determination Services (DDDS).

ABD Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Average Length of Stay ¹³		All Clients
Average Length of Stay Since November 2011		28.1 Months
Average Length of Stay on ABD-Pending SSI Since November 2011		23.9 Months
Average Length of Stay on ABD-Aged Since November 2011		42.9 Months
Average Length of Stay on ABD-Blind/ Disabled/ Institutionalized Since November 2011 (Average Number of Months on ABD)		15.8 Months

¹³ Length of Stay is based on cumulative months since November 2011 when the ABD program started.

Basic Food

SFY

2023

The Basic Food Program is Washington state's name for the combination of federally-funded Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the state-funded Food Assistance Program for Legal Immigrants (FAP). FAP is for individuals who are legal immigrants and meet all eligibility requirements for SNAP except for citizenship and immigration status. Basic Food helps low-income individuals and families access nutritious foods.

ESA Briefing
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Basic Food Overview

This chapter summarizes the caseload and client data for the Basic Food program in SFY 2023. The following programs are highlighted in this chapter.

- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**, formerly known as Food Stamps until 2008, provides food assistance to eligible low-income individuals and families.
- **Food Assistance Program for Legal Immigrants (FAP)** provides food assistance to legal immigrants who are not eligible for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).
- **Basic Food Employment and Training (BFET)** provides supervised job search assistance, education, skills training, and other support services to individuals over age 16 receiving SNAP who are not participating in the state's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.
- **Washington Combined Application Program (WASHCAP)**, a simplified food benefit program for certain Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients, delivers food benefits through an automated interface between the Social Security Administration (SSA) and the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS). A client's application for SSI also acts as an application for food benefits. Clients who receive WASHCAP are certified for up to 36 months.
- **Transitional Food Assistance (TFA)** is a program for families leaving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Tribal TANF programs while receiving Basic Food, allowing five additional months of food benefits as they transition off public assistance.

Basic Food program caseloads are divided into three types:

- Cases Receiving SSI – recipients who also receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI).
- Cases Receiving Cash Assistance – recipients who also receive a cash assistance grant.
- Cases Not Receiving Cash Assistance or SSI – recipients who only receive food assistance.

Additional information, including the eligibility criteria, funding sources, and services/benefits provided, is available [here](#).

Highlights

The average monthly Basic Food caseload in Washington state increased by 4.9% in SFY 2023 (523,860) from SFY 2022 (499,625). Of the SFY 2023 caseload, a majority (74.1%) did not receive cash assistance or SSI. The percentage of cases in SFY 2023 that received cash assistance averaged 8.8% per month and the percentage of cases that received SSI averaged 17.0% per month. The average monthly number of clients served by the Basic Food Employment and Training (BFET) program in SFY 2023 was 4,276. The average monthly food assistance grant per case was \$418.

TECHNICAL NOTES

DATA SOURCES: The majority of the data covered in this chapter was based on the ESA's Automated Client Eligibility System (ACES) in August 2023. The Basic Food Error Rate was provided by ESA's Division of Program Integrity. BFET data was based on both ACES and the Electronic Jobs Automated System (eJAS).

DATA NOTES:

- Unless otherwise noted, both the federally funded SNAP program and the state-funded FAP program are reported jointly in this chapter.
- Percentages may not add up to expected totals due to rounding.
- All reports of 10-year caseload trends reflect the monthly average for each state fiscal year (SFY).

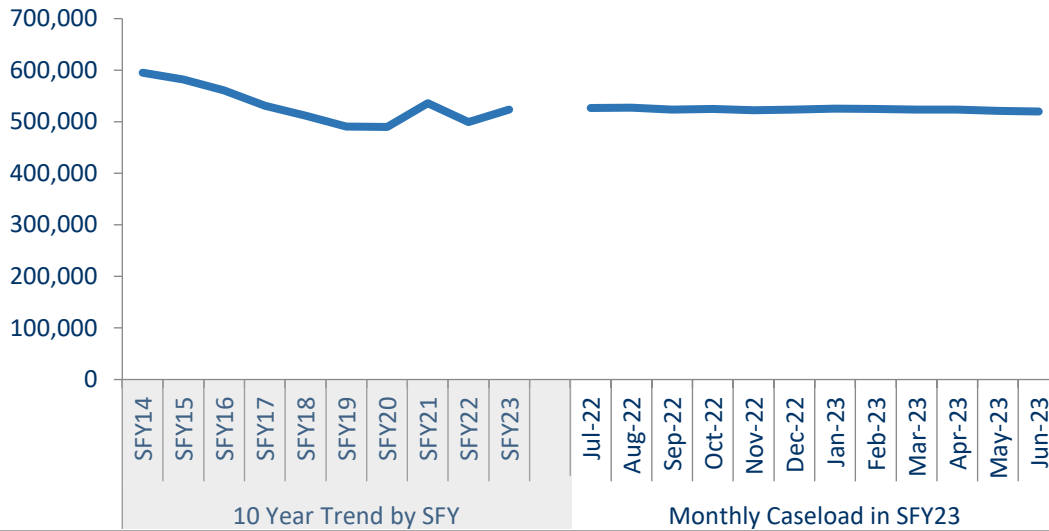
Selected Basic Food Program Overview, SFY 2022 and SFY 2023

	SFY 2022 (July 2021-June 2022)	SFY 2023 (July 2022-June 2023)	Change	
Average Number of Cases Per Month (Range)	499,625 (484,018 - 520,004)	523,860 (519,940 - 527,545)	4.9% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of Persons Per Month (Range)	873,078 (847,922 - 912,436)	924,162 (915,153 - 931,085)	5.9% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of Adults Per Month (Range)	572,268 (554,969 - 596,825)	603,024 (598,636 - 606,052)	5.4% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of Children Per Month (Range)	300,811 (291,119 - 315,611)	321,138 (316,131 - 325,825)	6.8% (Increase)	↑
State Population¹	7,864,400	7,951,150	1.1% (Increase)	↑
Average Monthly Recipients as a Percent of State's Total Population	11.1%	11.6%	0.5% Point (Increase)	↑
Children as Percent of Recipients	34.5%	34.7%	0.2% Point (Increase)	↑
Average Persons Per Case	1.7	1.8	0.1 Point (Increase)	↑
Average Children Per Case	0.6	0.6	No Change	=
Average Children Per Adult	0.5	0.5	No Change	=
Average Monthly Payment Per Case (Range)²	\$434.26 (\$409.71 - \$443.23)	\$418.25 (\$303.28 - \$495.23)	-3.7% (Decrease)	↓

¹ Source: Office of Financial Management (OFM) population estimates

² Payments not adjusted for refunds. From March 2020 to February 2023, the federal government issued temporary emergency funding to provide families with additional food benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic. Food benefit amounts decreased to normal benefit levels in March 2023.

Basic Food Caseload, SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY	Monthly Average Caseload	SFY	Monthly Average Caseload
SFY14	595,115	SFY19	490,545
SFY15	582,192	SFY20	489,893
SFY16	561,095	SFY21	536,010
SFY17	531,134	SFY22 ³	499,625
SFY18	511,760	SFY23	523,860

SFY 2023	Total Caseload	Total Clients	Grant Expenditures	Average Payment Per Case
July	526,920	924,605	\$233,548,667	\$443.23
August	527,545	925,253	\$233,333,409	\$442.30
September	523,487	917,354	\$231,263,043	\$441.77
October	524,605	927,468	\$259,215,249	\$494.12
November	522,263	923,762	\$258,638,321	\$495.23
December	523,876	927,951	\$259,385,063	\$495.13
January	525,228	931,085	\$258,031,714	\$491.28
February	524,821	929,696	\$258,180,082	\$491.94
March ⁴	523,286	925,745	\$158,701,258	\$303.28
April	523,459	923,328	\$159,795,106	\$305.27
May	520,890	918,539	\$159,518,238	\$306.24
June	519,940	915,153	\$159,632,275	\$307.02
Mo. Avg.	523,860	924,162	\$219,103,536	\$418.25
Annual Unduplicated	696,348	1,211,782	\$2,629,242,426	\$3,775.76

³ In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) authorized the state to issue SNAP Emergency Allotments on a month-to-month basis, as outlined in President Biden's *Executive Order on Economic Relief to COVID-19 Pandemic*, issued January 2021. Under this order, eligible households receive the maximum SNAP allotment based on their household size. Households with an allotment over \$0 but Emergency Allotment under \$95 received a minimum of \$95.

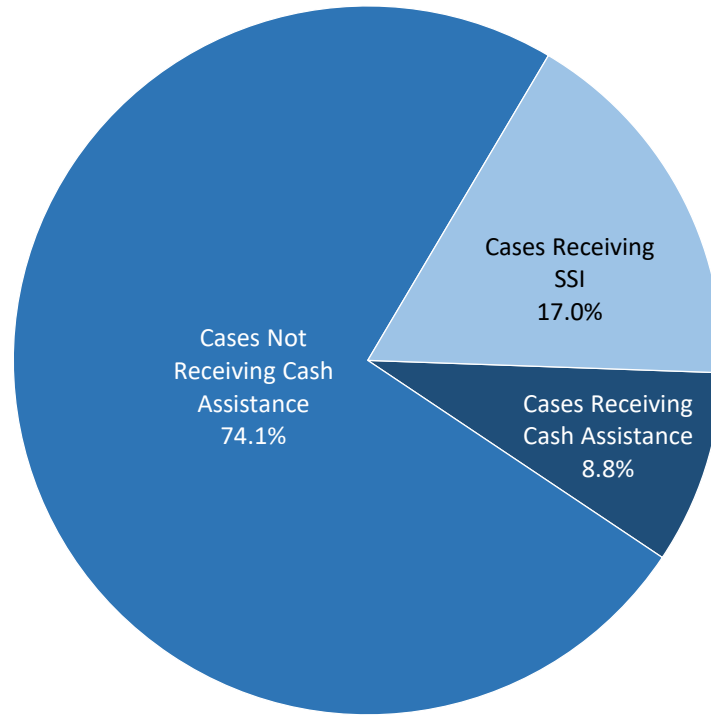
⁴ From March 2020 to February 2023, the federal government issued temporary emergency funding to provide families with additional food benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic. Food benefit amounts decreased to normal benefit levels in March 2023.

Basic Food LIHEAP⁵ Caseload and Issuances, SFY 2023

SFY 2023	Total Basic Food Program Caseload	# of Basic Food Cases Receiving a LIHEAP Issuance	Amount of Grant Expenditures for Cases Receiving a LIHEAP Issuance	# of Basic Food Cases Not Receiving a LIHEAP Issuance	Amount of Grant Expenditures for Cases Not Receiving a LIHEAP Issuance	LIHEAP Dollars Issued
July	526,920	15,029	\$6,113,099	511,891	\$227,435,568	\$300,730
August	527,545	14,054	\$5,626,536	513,491	\$227,706,873	\$281,221
September	523,487	21,800	\$8,812,576	501,687	\$222,450,467	\$436,238
October	524,605	17,768	\$7,837,325	506,837	\$251,377,924	\$355,538
November	522,263	40,671	\$15,416,494	481,592	\$243,221,827	\$813,827
December	523,876	18,269	\$7,897,713	505,607	\$251,487,350	\$365,583
January	525,228	22,293	\$8,992,087	502,935	\$249,039,627	\$446,103
February	524,821	16,521	\$7,226,042	508,300	\$250,954,040	\$330,585
March	523,286	16,665	\$4,559,385	506,621	\$154,141,873	\$333,507
April	523,459	16,868	\$4,693,669	506,591	\$155,101,437	\$337,529
May	520,890	15,378	\$4,329,274	505,512	\$155,188,964	\$307,714
June	519,940	16,256	\$4,681,188	503,684	\$154,951,087	\$325,283
Mo. Avg.	523,860	19,298	\$7,182,116	504,562	\$211,921,420	\$386,155
Annual Unduplicated	696,348	229,978	\$86,185,389	503,952	\$210,628,574	\$4,633,856

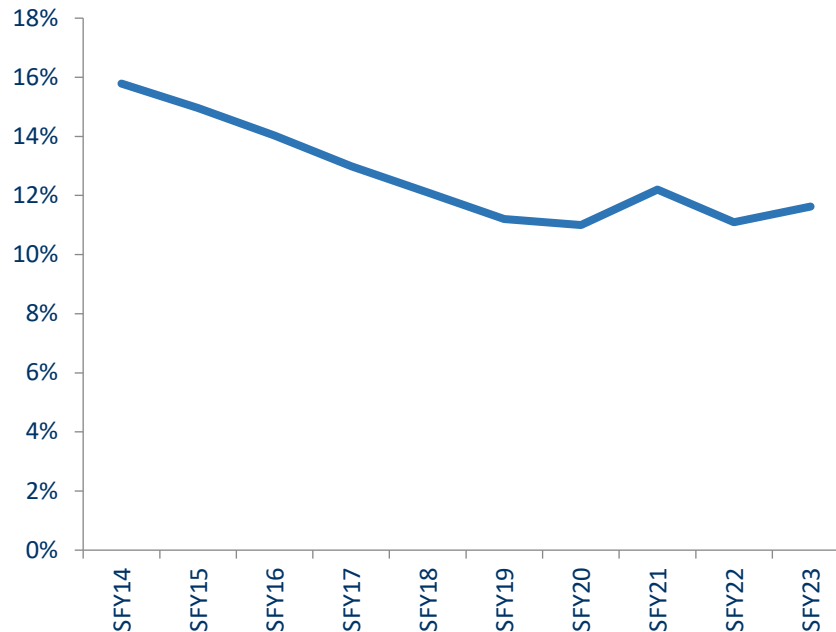
⁵ Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a program administered by Washington State Department of Commerce and provides energy assistance to households in Washington through a network of community action agencies and local partners.

Basic Food Caseload by Type, SFY 2023



SFY 2023	Total Cases	Cases Receiving Cash Assistance		Cases Not Receiving Cash Assistance		Cases Receiving SSI	
		# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total
July	526,920	44,615	8.5%	392,582	74.5%	89,723	17.0%
August	527,545	44,651	8.5%	393,241	74.5%	89,653	17.0%
September	523,487	45,094	8.6%	388,826	74.3%	89,567	17.1%
October	524,605	45,401	8.7%	389,598	74.3%	89,606	17.1%
November	522,263	46,025	8.8%	386,757	74.1%	89,481	17.1%
December	523,876	46,904	9.0%	387,010	73.9%	89,962	17.2%
January	525,228	47,560	9.1%	387,904	73.9%	89,764	17.1%
February	524,821	46,982	9.0%	388,503	74.0%	89,336	17.0%
March	523,286	46,829	8.9%	387,551	74.1%	88,906	17.0%
April	523,459	47,277	9.0%	387,524	74.0%	88,658	16.9%
May	520,890	46,638	9.0%	385,844	74.1%	88,408	17.0%
June	519,940	47,179	9.1%	384,486	73.9%	88,275	17.0%
Mo. Avg.	523,860	46,263	8.8%	388,319	74.1%	89,278	17.0%

Average Monthly Basic Food Participants as a Percent of State Population, SFY 2014 – 2023



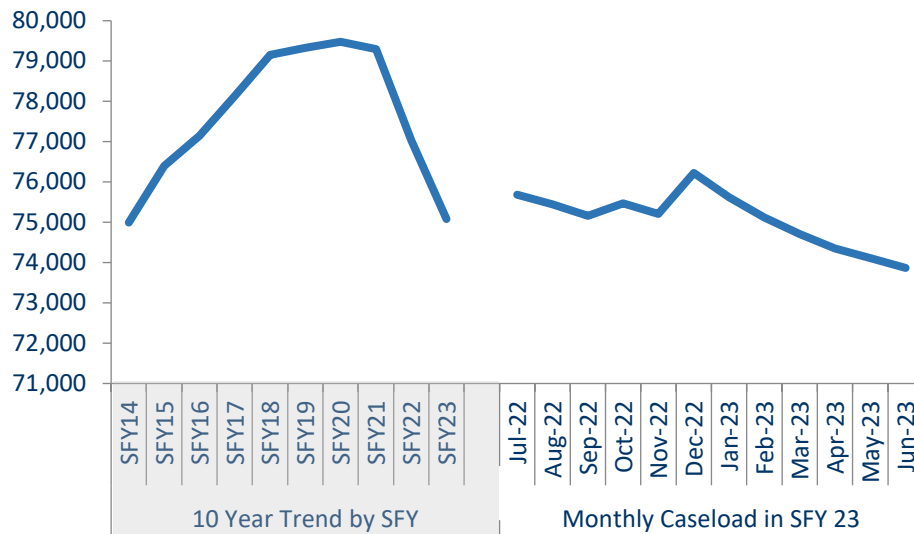
SFY	Average Monthly Participating Persons	State Population ⁶	Percent of State Population	State Population at or Below 125% FPL ⁷	Percent Participating as a % of State Population at or Below 125% FPL ⁸	State Population at or Below 200% FPL	Percent Participating as a % of State Population at or Below 200% FPL
2014	1,100,010	6,968,170	15.8%	1,188,472	92.6%	2,071,216	53.1%
2015	1,056,165	7,061,410	15.0%	1,122,481	94.1%	2,015,651	52.4%
2016	1,007,629	7,183,700	14.0%	1,069,229	94.2%	1,903,213	52.9%
2017	949,975	7,310,300	13.0%	1,051,726	90.3%	1,858,736	51.1%
2018	897,220	7,427,600	12.1%	1,002,777	89.5%	1,816,838	49.4%
2019	841,927	7,546,400	11.2%	964,782	87.3%	1,753,486	48.0%
2020	838,550	7,656,200	11.0%	964,782	86.9%	1,753,486	47.8%
2021	950,592	7,766,925	12.2%	976,710	97.3%	1,721,298	55.2%
2022	873,078	7,864,400	11.1%	990,999	88.1%	1,709,507	51.1%
2023	924,162	7,951,150	11.6%	990,999	93.3%	1,709,507	54.1%

⁶ Source: OFM Forecasting Division

⁷ Based on U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) 2022 1-year estimates. ACS poverty estimates for 2023 are not available at the time of this publication.

⁸ Values can exceed 100% as 125% of the federal poverty level is used to approximate the federal measure of the Program Access Index (PAI) while households can be eligible for Basic Food with income up to 200% of the federal poverty level.

Basic Food Caseload Receiving Assistance through WASHCAP⁹, SFY 2014 – 2023

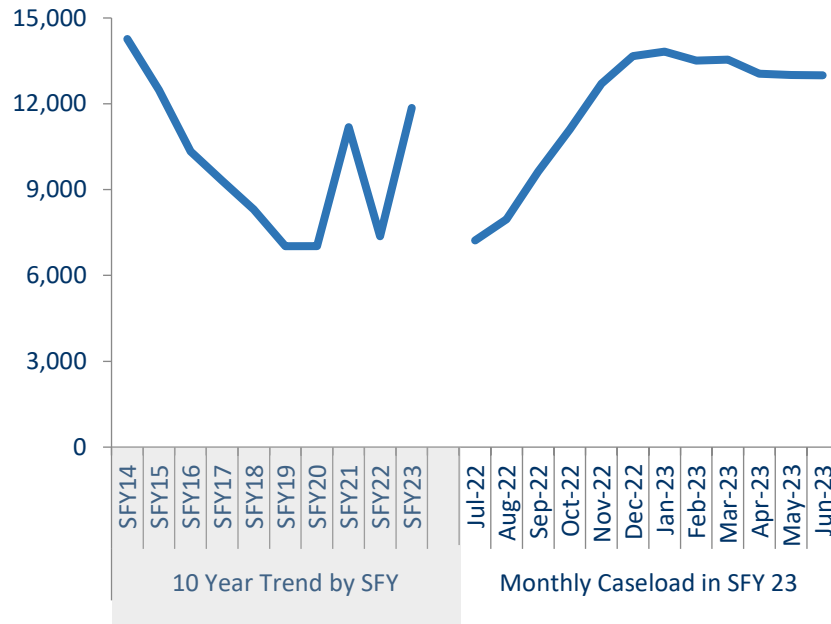


SFY	Mo. Avg. Caseload	SFY	Mo. Avg. Caseload
SFY14	75,063	SFY19	79,326
SFY15	76,401	SFY20	79,477
SFY16	77,144	SFY21	79,295
SFY17	78,132	SFY22	77,029
SFY18	79,152	SFY23	75,080

SFY 2023	Total Basic Food Program Caseload	Cases Receiving WASHCAP	Percent Receiving WASHCAP	WASHCAP Expenditures	WASHCAP Expenditures Per Case
July	526,920	75,680	14.4%	\$21,278,731	\$281.17
August	527,545	75,443	14.3%	\$21,212,368	\$281.17
September	523,487	75,162	14.4%	\$21,132,567	\$281.16
October	524,605	75,470	14.4%	\$23,929,690	\$317.08
November	522,263	75,209	14.4%	\$24,265,816	\$322.65
December	523,876	76,225	14.6%	\$24,191,054	\$317.36
January	525,228	75,621	14.4%	\$22,781,487	\$301.26
February	524,821	75,116	14.3%	\$22,642,536	\$301.43
March	523,286	74,710	14.3%	\$14,008,132	\$187.50
April	523,459	74,348	14.2%	\$13,918,866	\$187.21
May	520,890	74,109	14.2%	\$13,868,676	\$187.14
June	519,940	73,867	14.2%	\$13,815,932	\$187.04
Mo. Avg.	523,860	75,080	14.3%	\$19,753,821	\$263.10
Annual Unduplicated	696,348	85,750	12.3%	\$237,045,855	\$2,764.38

⁹ Washington State Combined Application Program (WASHCAP) is a simplified food benefits program for certain single Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients. Cases consist of one client; therefore, the number of WASHCAP clients is equal to the number of WASHCAP cases.

Basic Food Caseload Receiving Assistance through Transitional Food Assistance (TFA), SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY	Mo. Avg. Caseload	SFY	Mo. Avg. Caseload
SFY14	14,265	SFY19	7,027
SFY15	12,477	SFY20	7,025
SFY16	10,388	SFY21	11,180
SFY17	9,314	SFY22	7,336
SFY18	8,313	SFY23	11,852

SFY 2023	Total Basic Food Program Caseload	# of Cases Receiving TFA	Percent Receiving TFA	TFA Expenditures	TFA Expenditures Per Case
July	526,920	7,221	1.4%	\$5,188,222	\$718.49
August	527,545	7,961	1.5%	\$5,723,909	\$718.99
September	523,487	9,632	1.8%	\$6,942,923	\$720.82
October	524,605	11,111	2.1%	\$8,937,325	\$804.37
November	522,263	12,703	2.4%	\$10,253,249	\$807.15
December	523,876	13,668	2.6%	\$11,093,113	\$811.61
January	525,228	13,819	2.6%	\$11,262,746	\$815.02
February	524,821	13,506	2.6%	\$11,065,148	\$819.28
March	523,286	13,549	2.6%	\$7,828,917	\$577.82
April	523,459	13,050	2.5%	\$7,765,730	\$595.08
May	520,890	13,006	2.5%	\$7,798,972	\$599.64
June	519,940	12,994	2.5%	\$7,910,614	\$608.79
Mo. Avg.	523,860	11,852	2.3%	\$8,480,906	\$715.57
Annual Unduplicated	696,348	40,355	5.8%	\$101,770,868	\$2,521.89

Basic Food Caseload Receiving SNAP and FAP¹⁰, SFY 2023

SFY 2023	Total # of Cases	SNAP Only		Both SNAP & FAP		FAP Only	
		# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total
July	526,920	513,536	97.5%	7,714	1.5%	5,670	1.1%
August	527,545	514,168	97.5%	7,806	1.5%	5,571	1.1%
September	523,487	510,644	97.5%	7,781	1.5%	5,062	1.0%
October	524,605	511,270	97.5%	7,971	1.5%	5,364	1.0%
November	522,263	508,455	97.4%	8,127	1.6%	5,681	1.1%
December	523,876	509,453	97.2%	8,318	1.6%	6,105	1.2%
January	525,228	510,113	97.1%	8,540	1.6%	6,575	1.3%
February	524,821	509,114	97.0%	8,713	1.7%	6,994	1.3%
March	523,286	506,945	96.9%	8,846	1.7%	7,495	1.4%
April	523,459	506,399	96.7%	8,947	1.7%	8,113	1.5%
May	520,890	502,994	96.6%	9,076	1.7%	8,820	1.7%
June	519,940	501,493	96.5%	9,110	1.8%	9,337	1.8%
Mo. Avg.	523,860	508,715	97.1%	8,412	1.6%	6,732	1.3%

SFY 2023	FAP Caseload ¹¹	State Expenditures on FAP Cases ¹²	Federal Expenditures on FAP Cases ¹³	Average State Expenditures Per Case	Total Avg. Expenditures Per Case
July	13,384	\$4,336,663	\$4,327,467	\$324.02	\$647.35
August	13,377	\$4,292,135	\$4,334,785	\$320.86	\$644.91
September	12,843	\$3,894,949	\$4,326,968	\$303.27	\$640.19
October	13,335	\$4,639,918	\$4,930,524	\$347.95	\$717.69
November	13,808	\$4,869,052	\$5,019,818	\$352.63	\$716.17
December	14,423	\$5,115,876	\$5,118,471	\$354.70	\$709.59
January	15,115	\$5,423,662	\$5,229,324	\$358.83	\$704.80
February	15,707	\$5,695,662	\$5,377,542	\$362.62	\$704.99
March	16,341	\$4,393,445	\$3,424,963	\$268.86	\$478.45
April	17,060	\$4,671,438	\$3,512,129	\$273.82	\$479.69
May	17,896	\$4,988,678	\$3,555,942	\$278.76	\$477.46
June	18,447	\$5,232,291	\$3,595,945	\$283.64	\$478.57
Mo. Avg.	15,145	\$4,796,147	\$4,396,157	\$316.69	\$606.97
Annual Unduplicated	27,216	\$57,553,768	\$52,753,879	\$2,114.70	\$4,053.04

¹⁰ SNAP is the federal food assistance program. FAP is the state-funded Food Assistance Program for Legal Immigrants. Some households have a member receiving SNAP assistance and a member receiving state-funded FAP.

¹¹ FAP caseload includes mixed SNAP and FAP cases as well as FAP-only cases.

¹² State expenditures for FAP benefits are established in the biennial Operating Budget and can be changed in the Supplemental Budget.

¹³ These are federal expenditures on mixed SNAP/FAP households in which at least one individual is a recipient of the federal SNAP benefits and at least one individual is a recipient of the state's FAP benefits.

Basic Food Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot

The following pages detail the Basic Food caseload, June 2023 snapshot, by both the CSO of Issuance and CSO of Residence.

- CSO of Issuance: Based on the location from which benefits were issued. While most benefits are issued through ESA's Community Service Offices (CSO), benefits may be issued by Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC), Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) within DSHS's Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (ALSA), Developmental Disability Administration (DDA), or Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe (PGST).
- CSO of Residence: Based on the CSO coverage area in which a client lives.

Overview	Office of Issuance				Office of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
Region 1 CSOs	121,564	23.4%	250,638	27.4%	148,052	28.5%	278,721	30.5%
Region 2 CSOs	151,377	29.1%	282,860	30.9%	190,188	36.6%	324,671	35.5%
Region 3 CSOs	144,642	27.8%	271,542	29.7%	181,155	34.9%	311,460	34.0%
CSCCs & WASHCAP	54,460	10.5%	56,229	6.1%	N/A			
ALSA (HCS)	39,271	7.6%	45,013	4.9%				
DDA	8,560	1.6%	8,722	1.0%				
Tribal Locations	65	<0.1%	148	<0.1%				
Not Reported / Unidentifiable	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%	145	<0.1%	301	<0.1%
State Total	519,940	100.0%	915,153	100.0%	519,940	100.0%	915,153	100.0%

Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 1 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON	2,116	0.4%	3,947	0.4%	2,606	0.5%	4,444	0.5%
COLFAX	2,028	0.4%	3,708	0.4%	2,444	0.5%	4,172	0.5%
COLVILLE	3,497	0.7%	7,080	0.8%	4,401	0.8%	8,015	0.9%
ELLENSBURG	2,425	0.5%	4,195	0.5%	2,882	0.6%	4,639	0.5%
GOLDENDALE	1,068	0.2%	1,970	0.2%	1,328	0.3%	2,221	0.2%
KENNEWICK	19,031	3.7%	43,062	4.7%	22,954	4.4%	47,395	5.2%
MOSES LAKE	9,797	1.9%	22,455	2.5%	11,588	2.2%	24,377	2.7%
NEWPORT	1,209	0.2%	2,330	0.3%	1,583	0.3%	2,733	0.3%
OKANOGAN	4,285	0.8%	8,323	0.9%	5,137	1.0%	9,168	1.0%
REPUBLIC	756	0.1%	1,458	0.2%	911	0.2%	1,614	0.2%
SPOKANE MAPLE	16,616	3.2%	30,292	3.3%	22,539	4.3%	38,213	4.2%
SPOKANE TRENT	22,095	4.2%	44,474	4.9%	26,119	5.0%	47,051	5.1%
SUNNYSIDE	4,811	0.9%	11,519	1.3%	5,343	1.0%	12,018	1.3%
TOPPENISH	5,466	1.1%	12,122	1.3%	6,090	1.2%	12,802	1.4%
WALLA WALLA	4,000	0.8%	7,774	0.8%	5,114	1.0%	8,954	1.0%
WENATCHEE	6,459	1.2%	12,960	1.4%	7,728	1.5%	14,318	1.6%
WHITE SALMON	589	0.1%	1,116	0.1%	734	0.1%	1,288	0.1%
YAKIMA	15,316	2.9%	31,853	3.5%	18,551	3.6%	35,299	3.9%
Region 1 Total	121,564	23.4%	250,638	27.4%	148,052	28.5%	278,721	30.5%

Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 2 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD	9,394	1.8%	18,512	2.0%	11,680	2.2%	21,047	2.3%
AUBURN	10,434	2.0%	22,520	2.5%	12,562	2.4%	24,956	2.7%
BELLINGHAM	12,137	2.3%	21,215	2.3%	15,029	2.9%	24,198	2.6%
BELLTOWN	8,354	1.6%	9,988	1.1%	11,255	2.2%	13,023	1.4%
CAPITOL HILL	5,598	1.1%	7,920	0.9%	7,482	1.4%	9,903	1.1%
EVERETT	12,267	2.4%	23,476	2.6%	15,212	2.9%	26,561	2.9%
FEDERAL WAY	7,393	1.4%	16,429	1.8%	9,123	1.8%	18,325	2.0%
KING EASTSIDE	9,912	1.9%	18,662	2.0%	12,867	2.5%	21,942	2.4%
KING NORTH	10,679	2.1%	16,561	1.8%	14,079	2.7%	20,063	2.2%
KING SOUTH	11,644	2.2%	25,734	2.8%	14,174	2.7%	28,670	3.1%
MOUNT VERNON	8,594	1.7%	15,984	1.7%	9,845	1.9%	16,995	1.9%
OAK HARBOR	2,639	0.5%	4,555	0.5%	3,767	0.7%	6,047	0.7%
RAINIER	6,907	1.3%	13,661	1.5%	9,160	1.8%	16,108	1.8%
RENTON	9,253	1.8%	17,955	2.0%	11,559	2.2%	20,449	2.2%
SKYKOMISH VALLEY	3,840	0.7%	6,739	0.7%	4,530	0.9%	7,471	0.8%
SMOKEY POINT	9,675	1.9%	18,310	2.0%	11,848	2.3%	20,683	2.3%
WHITE CENTER	12,657	2.4%	24,639	2.7%	16,016	3.1%	28,230	3.1%
Region 2 Total	151,377	29.1%	282,860	30.9%	190,188	36.6%	324,671	35.5%

Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 3 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN	7,521	1.4%	13,148	1.4%	9,837	1.9%	15,572	1.7%
BREMERTON	11,971	2.3%	21,236	2.3%	15,127	2.9%	24,589	2.7%
CHEHALIS	6,423	1.2%	11,982	1.3%	8,228	1.6%	13,885	1.5%
COLUMBIA RIVER	25,788	5.0%	52,091	5.7%	31,824	6.1%	58,675	6.4%
FORKS	904	0.2%	1,905	0.2%	1,080	0.2%	2,085	0.2%
KELSO	10,164	2.0%	18,811	2.1%	12,770	2.5%	21,490	2.3%
LAKEWOOD	13,932	2.7%	27,924	3.1%	17,129	3.3%	31,334	3.4%
LONG BEACH	1,041	0.2%	1,669	0.2%	1,337	0.3%	1,986	0.2%
OLYMPIA	15,580	3.0%	27,802	3.0%	20,270	3.9%	33,625	3.7%
PIERCE NORTH	11,185	2.2%	18,249	2.0%	14,201	2.7%	21,204	2.3%
PIERCE SOUTH	13,437	2.6%	25,847	2.8%	16,759	3.2%	29,358	3.2%
PORT ANGELES	4,277	0.8%	7,114	0.8%	5,485	1.1%	8,392	0.9%
PORT TOWNSEND	1,568	0.3%	2,433	0.3%	2,058	0.4%	2,940	0.3%
PUYALLUP VALLEY	14,222	2.7%	29,223	3.2%	17,208	3.3%	32,591	3.6%
SHELTON	5,176	1.0%	9,590	1.0%	6,386	1.2%	10,807	1.2%
SOUTH BEND	781	0.2%	1,385	0.2%	1,051	0.2%	1,661	0.2%
STEVENSON	672	0.1%	1,133	0.1%	805	0.2%	1,266	0.1%
Region 3 Total	144,642	27.8%	271,542	29.7%	181,555	34.9%	311,460	34.0%

Basic Food Caseload by Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC) and Other Locations, June 2023 Snapshot

Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC)	Office of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CSCC Central Sound	358	0.1%	554	0.1%
CSCC Northeast	409	0.1%	649	0.1%
CSCC Northwest	462	0.1%	683	0.1%
CSCC South Sound	321	0.1%	518	0.1%
CSCC Southeast	534	0.1%	876	0.1%
CSCC Southwest	462	0.1%	714	0.1%
CSCC Virtual Case Management Center	519	0.1%	843	0.1%
CSCC WASHCAP	51,395	9.9%	51,392	5.6%
CSCC and WASHCAP Total	54,460	10.5%	56,229	6.1%

DDA Locations	Office of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
DDA Behavioral Health Financial Unit	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
DDA Long-Term Care & Special Programs	8,560	1.6%	8,722	1.0%
DDA Locations Total	8,560	1.6%	8,722	1.0%

Tribal Locations	Office of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
PORT GAMBLE S'KLALLAM TRIBE (PGST)	65	<0.1%	148	<0.1%

Basic Food Caseload by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), June 2023 Snapshot

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 1	HCS of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON HCS	222	<0.1%	246	<0.1%
COLVILLE HCS	411	0.1%	449	<0.1%
ELLENSBURG HCS	198	<0.1%	217	<0.1%
MEDICAL LAKE HCS	198	<0.1%	211	<0.1%
MOSES LAKE HCS	958	0.2%	1,095	0.1%
OKANOGAN HCS	368	0.1%	402	<0.1%
SPOKANE HCS	3,564	0.7%	4,018	0.4%
SUNNYSIDE HCS	656	0.1%	796	0.1%
TRI-CITIES HCS	1,577	0.3%	1,774	0.2%
WALLA WALLA HCS	369	0.1%	410	<0.1%
WENATCHEE HCS	267	0.1%	286	<0.1%
YAKIMA HCS	980	0.2%	1,096	0.1%
Region 1 Total	9,768	1.9%	11,000	1.2%

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 2	HCS of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD HCS	1,811	0.3%	2,100	0.2%
BELLINGHAM HCS	1,574	0.3%	1,784	0.2%
EVERETT HCS	1,395	0.3%	1,675	0.2%
HOLGATE HCS	10,020	1.9%	11,939	1.3%
MOUNT VERNON HCS	1,779	0.3%	2,051	0.2%
SMOKEY POINT HCS	2	<0.1%	2	<0.1%
Region 2 Total	16,581	3.2%	19,551	2.1%

Caseload by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 3	HCS of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN HCS	843	0.2%	924	0.1%
BREMERTON HCS	1,426	0.3%	1,548	0.2%
CHEHALIS HCS	1,651	0.3%	1,827	0.2%
KELSO HCS	3	<0.1%	3	<0.1%
OLYMPIA HCS	1,406	0.3%	1,537	0.2%
PORT ANGELES HCS	2	<0.1%	2	<0.1%
STEILICOOM HCS	7	<0.1%	8	<0.1%
TACOMA HCS	4,634	0.9%	5,217	0.6%
VANCOUVER HCS	2,950	0.6%	3,396	0.4%
Region 3 Total	12,922	2.5%	14,462	1.6%

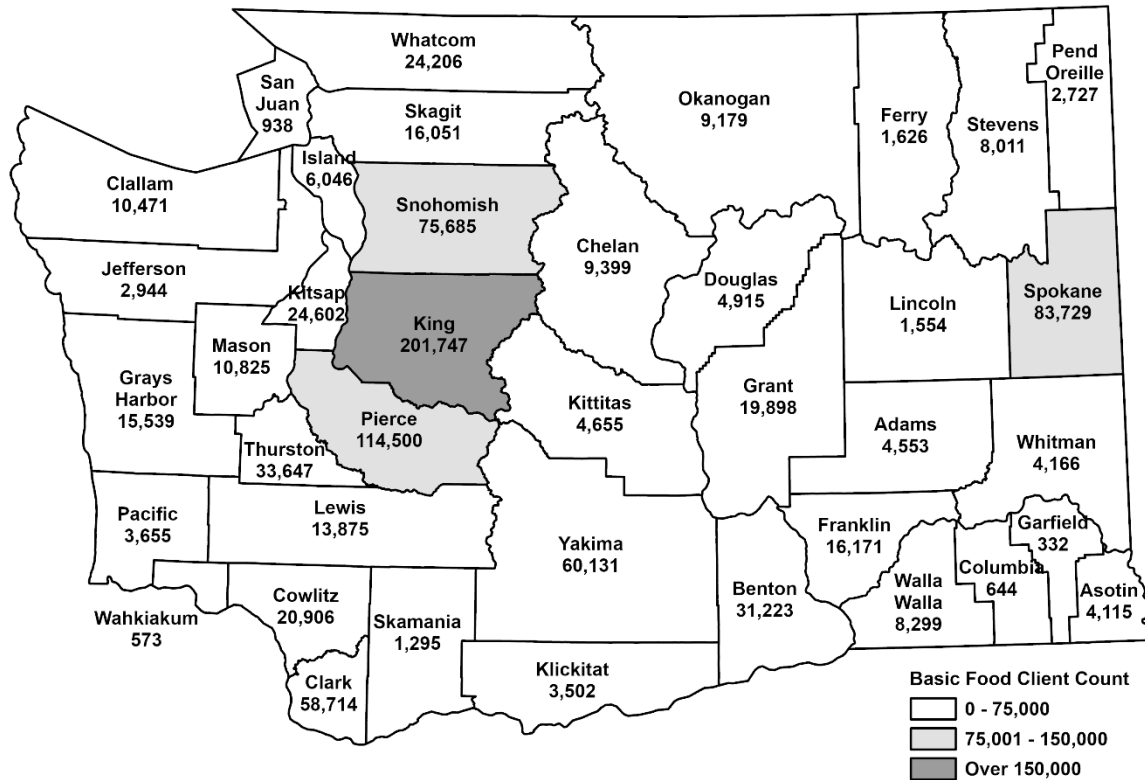
Basic Food Caseload by County of Residence, June 2023 Snapshot

County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total	County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total
Adams	1,903	0.4%	4,553	0.5%	Lewis	8,223	1.6%	13,875	1.5%
Asotin	2,439	0.5%	4,116	0.4%	Lincoln	832	0.2%	1,554	0.2%
Benton	15,653	3.0%	31,224	3.4%	Mason	6,402	1.2%	10,825	1.2%
Chelan	5,232	1.0%	9,399	1.0%	Okanogan	5,140	1.0%	9,179	1.0%
Clallam	6,559	1.3%	10,471	1.1%	Pacific	2,395	0.5%	3,655	0.4%
Clark	31,852	6.1%	58,714	6.4%	Pend Oreille	1,578	0.3%	2,727	0.3%
Columbia	394	0.1%	644	0.1%	Pierce	65,299	12.6%	114,500	12.5%
Cowlitz	12,410	2.4%	20,906	2.3%	San Juan	666	0.1%	938	0.1%
Douglas	2,493	0.5%	4,915	0.5%	Skagit	9,171	1.8%	16,051	1.8%
Ferry	921	0.2%	1,626	0.2%	Skamania	824	0.2%	1,295	0.1%
Franklin	7,303	1.4%	16,169	1.8%	Snohomish	43,216	8.3%	75,685	8.3%
Garfield	168	<0.1%	332	<0.1%	Spokane	47,828	9.2%	83,729	9.1%
Grant	9,719	1.9%	19,898	2.2%	Stevens	4,403	0.8%	8,011	0.9%
Grays Harbor	9,806	1.9%	15,539	1.7%	Thurston	20,285	3.9%	33,647	3.7%
Island	3,765	0.7%	6,046	0.7%	Wahkiakum	356	0.1%	573	0.1%
Jefferson	2,061	0.4%	2,944	0.3%	Walla Walla	4,713	0.9%	8,299	0.9%
King	118,333	22.8%	201,747	22.0%	Whatcom	15,036	2.9%	24,206	2.6%
Kitsap	15,130	2.9%	24,602	2.7%	Whitman	2,440	0.5%	4,166	0.5%
Kittitas	2,890	0.6%	4,655	0.5%	Yakima	29,984	5.8%	60,131	6.6%
Klickitat	2,058	0.4%	3,502	0.4%	Not Reported/ Unidentifiable	60	<0.1%	105	<0.1%

	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total
State Total	519,940	100.0%	915,153	100.0%

Basic Food Client Density Maps, June 2023 Snapshot

Number of Basic Food Clients by Residential County in Washington State: June 2023

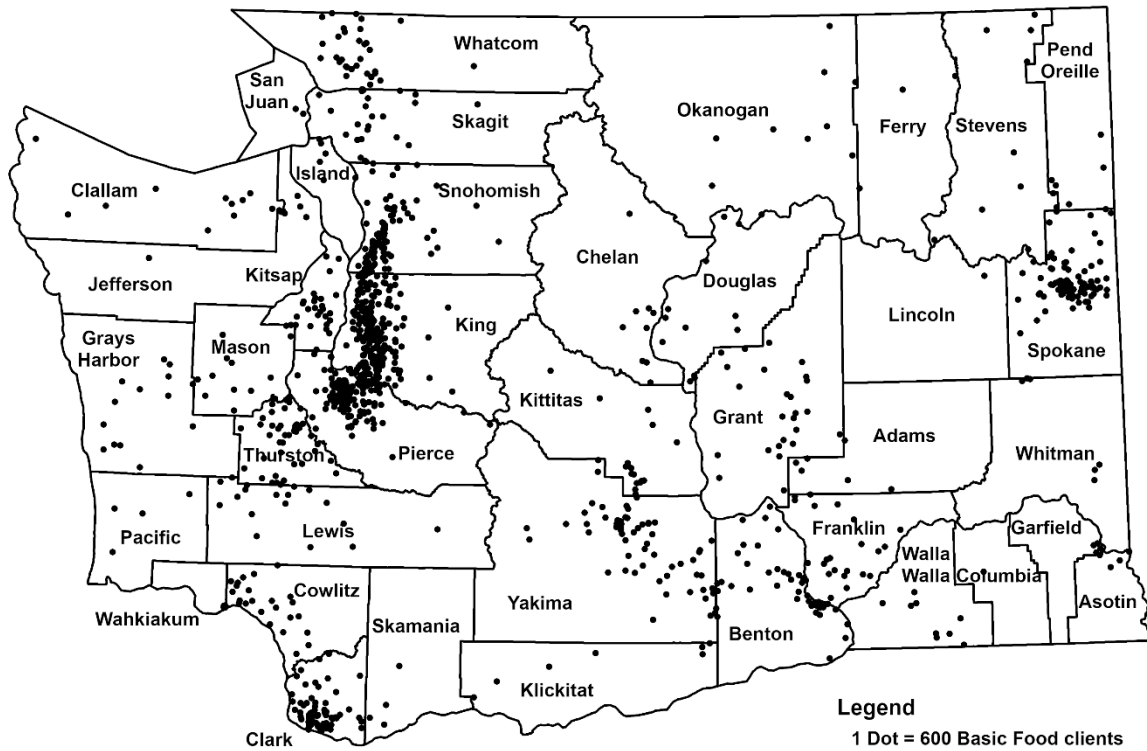


Source: ACES data

Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - Aug. 2023

Basic Food Client Density Maps, June 2023 (continued)

Number of Basic Food Clients by Density of Residential Zip Code in Washington State: June 2023



Source: ACES data

Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - Aug. 2023

Basic Food Error Rate (Federal Fiscal Year October through September), FFY 2013 through FFY 2022¹⁴

Federal Fiscal Year	Error Rate	National Average Error Rate	Federal Error Tolerance ¹⁵
2013	1.71	3.20	3.36
2014	0.77	3.66	3.84
2015 ¹⁶	N/A	N/A	N/A
2016	N/A	N/A	N/A
2017	5.42	6.30	6.62
2018	6.59	6.80	7.14
2019	4.88	7.36	7.73
2020 ¹⁷	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022	9.33	11.54	12.12

Information about the Basic Food Program Error Rate

Each month a number of Basic Food cases are randomly selected for federal quality control review. The findings on all cases are reported monthly to the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), a part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture which administers the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). After 12 months of reviews are reported, the data collected is considered statistically valid. The error rate is determined by our state QC team's work and FNS. The error rates of all states are used to determine the national average payment error rate.

In 2015-2016, FNS redesigned how they determine the state and national error rates. During that time, the U.S. Congress ended the practice of awarding states bonuses. Now, a state will be in sanction status if it exceeds the federal error tolerance level for at least two consecutive years. The USDA Secretary determines if all, or most, of a sanction amount will be waived. If not waived, the Secretary can determine how much of that amount will be used for reinvesting in payment accuracy activities and how much will be "at risk," or eligible to be repaid to FNS if the state is in sanction for a second consecutive year.

¹⁴ Official data is made available nine months after the end of the previous Federal Fiscal Year. Therefore, 2023 data is not yet available.

¹⁵ The Federal Error Tolerance level is a federally determined threshold that states may be sanctioned for exceeding. Prior to 2003, the tolerance level was set at the national average. Beginning in 2003, the tolerance level became 105 percent of the national average.

¹⁶ USDA suspended error rate reporting nationally for 2 years in order to conduct a thorough review of the quality control system. The review created new controls and measurement procedures that improved the accuracy of the data, rather than an actual increase in improper payments. This review created a higher error rate nationally. For FFY 2017, USDA assigned Washington state's official state error rate of 5.42%. The national average payment error rate was 6.30%.

¹⁷ A February 19, 2021 FNS memorandum notified state SNAP agencies that USDA would not issue payment error rates for federal fiscal years 2020 and 2021. Neither of the national or state rates would be released to align with flexibilities provided by Section 4603 (a)(2) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021 and other Extensions Act, allowing suspension of quality control reviews through June 30, 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Basic Food Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot

Characteristic	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults	# of Clients	% of Total Children
Total Clients	915,153	100.0%	598,636	100.0%	316,517	100.0%
Gender	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
Female	491,865	53.7%	337,180	56.3%	154,685	48.9%
Male	423,217	46.2%	261,408	43.7%	161,809	51.1%
Unknown	71	<0.1%	48	<0.1%	23	<0.1%
Ethnicity and Race	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
Hispanic or Latino	202,618	22.1%	93,794	15.7%	108,824	34.4%
Not Hispanic or Latino¹⁸	712,535	77.9%	504,842	84.3%	207,693	65.6%
White	457,325	50.0%	341,225	57.0%	116,100	36.7%
Black/African American	86,921	9.5%	54,722	9.1%	32,199	10.2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	75,212	8.2%	53,160	8.9%	22,052	7.0%
American Indian/Alaska Native	31,496	3.4%	21,259	3.6%	10,237	3.2%
Two or More Races	25,565	2.8%	13,917	2.3%	11,648	3.7%
Race Not Reported	36,016	3.9%	20,559	3.4%	15,457	4.9%
Marital Status	All Adults					
Separated			37,582	6.3%		
Married			116,231	19.4%		
Never Married			280,912	46.9%		
Divorced			127,823	21.4%		
Widowed			34,470	5.8%		
Not Reported/Unidentifiable			1,618	0.3%		
Citizenship Status	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
U.S. Citizen	818,534	89.4%	525,182	87.7%	293,352	92.7%
Resident Noncitizen	93,625	10.2%	71,220	11.9%	22,405	7.1%
U.S. National¹⁹	2,628	0.3%	1,972	0.3%	656	0.2%
Survivors of Certain Crimes²⁰	366	<0.1%	262	<0.1%	104	<0.1%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

¹⁸ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

¹⁹ U.S. National: A national of the United States or a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States (e.g., persons born in American Samoa or Swains Island).

²⁰ Effective February 1, 2022, certain state-funded benefits including Food Assistance Program (FAP), are available to noncitizens who have been harmed by a crime and have filed or are preparing to file with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services an application for T visa for trafficking victims, U visa for victims of qualifying crimes or asylum status. This population is referred to as survivors of certain crimes (SCCs).

Basic Food Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Characteristic	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults	# of Clients	% of Total Children

Homeless Status	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
Homeless ²¹	98,007	10.7%	83,565	14.0%	14,442	4.6%

Education Status	All Adults	
Less than a High School Diploma	123,689	20.7%
High School Graduate or GED	293,455	49.0%
Some College or College Degree	168,382	28.1%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	13,110	2.2%

Age	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
< 1 Year Old	15,703	1.7%	N/A		15,703	5.0%
1 – 5 Years Old	92,136	10.1%			92,136	29.1%
6 – 10 Years Old	93,788	10.2%			93,788	29.6%
11 – 15 Years Old	85,173	9.3%			85,173	26.9%
16 – 17 Years Old	29,717	3.2%			29,717	9.4%
18 – 24 Years Old	65,738	7.2%	65,738	11.0%	N/A	
25 – 34 Years Old	126,175	13.8%	126,175	21.1%		
35 – 44 Years Old	120,853	13.2%	120,853	20.2%		
45 – 54 Years Old	81,794	8.9%	81,794	13.7%		
55 – 64 Years Old	91,235	10.0%	91,235	15.2%		
65+ Years Old	112,841	12.3%	112,841	18.8%		
Average Age of Children	8.3 Years					
Average Age of Adults	46.2 Years					

Length of Stay		
Average Length of Stay ²²	115.0 Months	

²¹ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

²² Average cumulative months an adult received Basic Food since July 1997

FAP Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot

Characteristic	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults	# of Clients	% of Total Children
Total Clients	29,915	100.0%	24,147	100.0%	5,768	100.0%

Gender	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults	# of Clients	% of Total Children
Female	16,616	55.5%	13,784	57.1%	2,832	49.1%
Male	13,290	44.4%	10,356	42.9%	2,934	50.9%
Unknown	9	<0.1%	7	<0.1%	2	<0.1%

Ethnicity and Race	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults	# of Clients	% of Total Children
Hispanic or Latino	10,470	35.0%	8,102	33.6%	2,368	41.1%
Not Hispanic or Latino²³	19,445	65.0%	16,045	66.4%	3,400	58.9%
White	4,633	15.5%	3,691	15.3%	942	16.3%
Black/African American	2,772	9.3%	2,432	10.1%	340	5.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander	9,213	30.8%	7,622	31.6%	1,591	27.6%
American Indian/Alaska Native	23	0.1%	20	0.1%	3	0.1%
Two or More Races	183	0.6%	157	0.7%	26	0.5%
Race Not Reported	2,621	8.8%	2,123	8.8%	498	8.6%

Marital Status	All Adults	
	# of Clients	% of Total Adults
Separated	1,005	4.2%
Married	11,369	47.1%
Never Married	9,449	39.1%
Divorced	999	4.1%
Widowed	1,152	4.8%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	173	0.7%

Citizenship Status	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults	# of Clients	% of Total Children
Resident Noncitizen	29,545	98.8%	23,884	98.9%	5,661	98.1%
Survivors of Certain Crimes²⁴	366	1.2%	262	1.1%	104	1.8%
U.S. National²⁵	4	<0.1%	1	<0.1%	3	0.1%

²³ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

²⁴ Effective February 1, 2022, certain state-funded benefits including Food Assistance Program (FAP), are available to noncitizens who have been harmed by a crime and have filed or are preparing to file with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services an application for T visa for trafficking victims, U visa for victims of qualifying crimes or asylum status. This population is referred to as survivors of certain crimes (SCCs).

²⁵ U.S. National: A national of the United States or a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States (e.g., persons born in American Samoa or Swains Island).

FAP Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Characteristic	<u>All Clients</u>		<u>All Adults</u>		<u>All Children</u>	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults	# of Clients	% of Total Children
Homeless Status	<u>All Clients</u>		<u>All Adults</u>		<u>All Children</u>	
Homeless ²⁶	2,760	9.2%	2,128	8.8%	632	11.0%
Education Status	<u>All Adults</u>					
Less than a High School Diploma			6,727	27.9%		
High School Graduate or GED			10,987	45.5%		
Some College or College Degree			5,293	21.9%		
Not Reported/Unidentifiable			1,140	4.7%		
Age	<u>All Clients</u>		<u>All Adults</u>		<u>All Children</u>	
< 1 Year Old	40	0.1%	N/A		40	0.7%
1 – 5 Years Old	1,233	4.1%			1,233	21.4%
6 – 10 Years Old	1,930	6.5%			1,930	33.5%
11 – 15 Years Old	1,823	6.1%			1,823	31.6%
16 – 17 Years Old	742	2.5%			742	12.9%
18 – 24 Years Old	3,316	11.1%	3,316	13.7%	N/A	
25 – 34 Years Old	8,227	27.5%	8,227	34.1%		
35 – 44 Years Old	6,479	21.7%	6,479	26.8%		
45 – 54 Years Old	2,681	9.0%	2,681	11.1%		
55 – 64 Years Old	1,511	5.1%	1,511	6.3%		
65+ Years Old	1,933	6.5%	1,933	8.0%		
Average Age of Children	9.6 Years					
Average Age of Adults	38.3 Years					

²⁶ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

FAP Clients Top 10 Countries of Origin, June 2023 Snapshot

Country	Total Clients		Adults		Children	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults	# of Clients	% of Total Children
State Total	29,915	100.0%	24,147	100.0%	5,768	100.0%
Mexico	4,957	16.6%	3,998	16.6%	959	16.6%
Marshall Islands	4,835	16.2%	3,781	15.7%	1,054	18.3%
Micronesia	3,448	11.5%	2,874	11.9%	574	10.0%
Russia	2,083	7.0%	1,649	6.8%	434	7.5%
Ukraine	1,594	5.3%	1,308	5.4%	286	5.0%
Venezuela	1,275	4.3%	1,047	4.3%	228	4.0%
Columbia	1,212	4.1%	871	3.6%	341	5.9%
Afghanistan	751	2.5%	576	2.4%	175	3.0%
Nicaragua	646	2.2%	535	2.2%	111	1.9%
Ethiopia	634	2.1%	605	2.5%	29	0.5%
Total Clients from Top 10 Countries	21,435	71.7%	17,244	71.4%	4,191	72.7%
All Other Countries	8,480	28.3%	6,903	28.6%	1,577	27.3%

WASHCAP Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot

All Clients		
Characteristic	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Total Clients	73,867	100.0%

All Clients		
Gender		
Female	40,929	55.4%
Male	32,938	44.6%
Unknown	0	0.0%

All Clients		
Ethnicity and Race		
Hispanic or Latino	5,943	8.0%
Not Hispanic or Latino²⁷	67,924	92.0%
White	46,316	62.7%
Black/African American	6,871	9.3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	6,943	9.4%
American Indian/Alaska Native	2,353	3.2%
Two or More Races	1,022	1.4%
Race Not Reported	4,419	6.0%

All Clients		
Marital Status		
Separated	7,254	9.8%
Married	5	<0.1%
Never Married	36,332	49.2%
Divorced	21,180	28.7%
Widowed	8,427	11.4%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	669	0.9%

All Clients		
Citizenship Status		
U.S. Citizen	69,644	94.3%
Resident Noncitizen	4,113	5.6%
U.S. National²⁸	110	0.1%

²⁷ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

²⁸ U.S. National: A national of the United States or a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States (e.g., persons born in American Samoa or Swains Island).

WASHCAP Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients

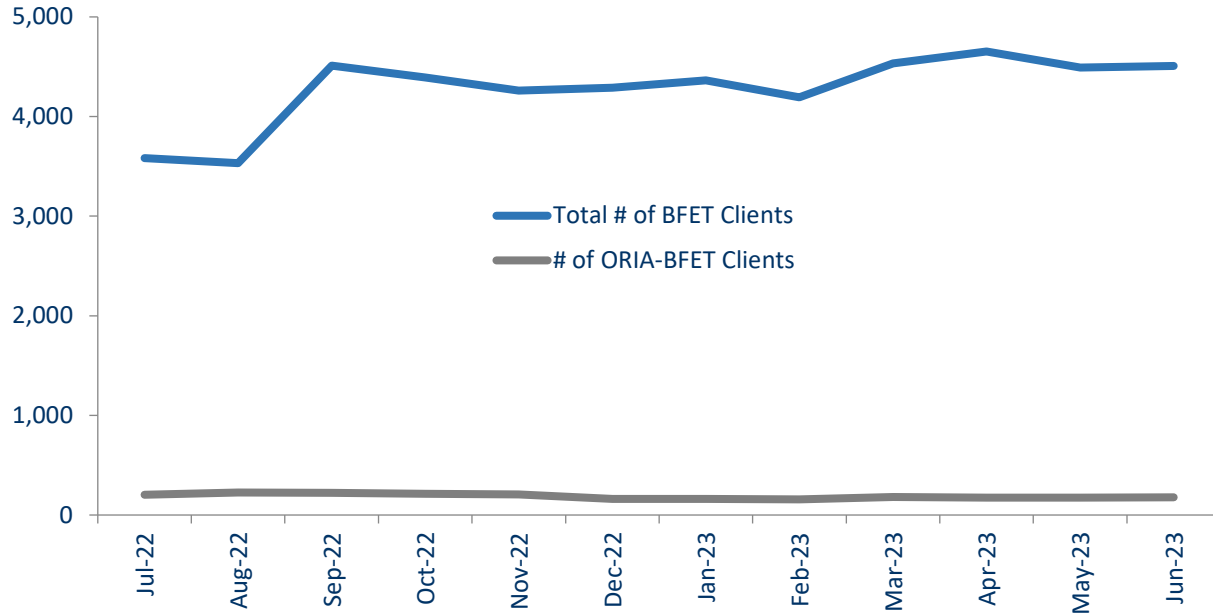
Homeless Status			All Clients	
Homeless ²⁹	6,182	8.4%		

Education Status			All Clients	
Less than a High School Diploma	19,676	26.6%		
High School Graduate or GED	38,722	52.4%		
Some College or College Degree	11,240	15.2%		
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	4,229	5.7%		

Age			All Clients	
18 - 24 Years Old	2,452	3.3%		
25 - 34 Years Old	6,924	9.4%		
35 - 44 Years Old	7,598	10.3%		
45 - 54 Years Old	10,161	13.8%		
55 - 64 Years Old	21,252	28.8%		
65+ Years Old	25,480	34.5%		
Average Age of Clients	57.4 Years			

²⁹ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

Monthly Basic Food Employment & Training (BFET) Clients Served³⁰, SFY 2023



SFY 2023	Total # of BFET Clients	# of ORIA-BFET Clients ³¹
July	3,583	202
August	3,532	226
September	4,511	223
October	4,393	214
November	4,262	208
December	4,289	162
January	4,363	161
February	4,194	157
March	4,532	180
April	4,653	174
May	4,493	173
June	4,509	177
Mo. Avg.	4,276	188
Annual Unduplicated	11,273	587

³⁰ A typical BFET activity lasts over 30 days, so the monthly client counts include duplications.

³¹ Some BFET clients are served by the ESA Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance (ORIA).

BFET Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Total Clients	4,509	100.0%

Gender			All Clients
Female	2,932	65.0%	
Male	1,577	35.0%	
Unknown	0	0.0%	

Ethnicity and Race			All Clients
Hispanic or Latino	659	14.6%	
Not Hispanic or Latino ³²	3,850	85.4%	
White	2,187	48.5%	
Black/African American	861	19.1%	
Asian/Pacific Islander	291	6.5%	
American Indian/Alaska Native	133	2.9%	
Two or More Races	150	3.3%	
Race Not Reported	228	5.1%	

Marital Status			All Clients
Separated	258	5.7%	
Married	907	20.1%	
Never Married	2,445	54.2%	
Divorced	832	18.5%	
Widowed	61	1.4%	
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	6	0.1%	

Citizenship Status			All Clients
U.S. Citizen	3,813	84.6%	
Resident Noncitizen	686	15.2%	
U.S. National ³³	10	0.2%	
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	

³² Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

³³ U.S. National: A national of the United States or a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States (e.g., persons born in American Samoa or Swains Island).

BFET Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients

Homeless Status			All Clients
Homeless ³⁴	508	11.3%	

Education Status			All Clients
Less than a High School Diploma	460	10.2%	
High School Graduate or GED	1,751	38.8%	
Some College or College Degree	2,221	49.3%	
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	77	1.7%	

Age			All Clients
Under 18 Years Old	25	0.6%	
18 - 24 Years Old	628	13.9%	
25 - 34 Years Old	1,520	33.7%	
35 - 44 Years Old	1,281	28.4%	
45 - 54 Years Old	642	14.2%	
55 - 64 Years Old	328	7.3%	
65+ Years Old	85	1.9%	
Average Age of Clients			36.8 Years

³⁴ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

TFA Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot

Characteristic	<u>All Clients</u>	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Total Clients	42,127	100.0%

<u>All Clients</u>		
Gender		
Female	23,857	56.6%
Male	18,270	43.4%
Unknown	0	0.0%

<u>All Clients</u>		
Ethnicity and Race		
Hispanic or Latino	11,510	27.3%
Not Hispanic or Latino³⁵	30,617	72.7%
White	18,407	43.7%
Black/African American	4,485	10.6%
Asian/Pacific Islander	3,268	7.8%
American Indian/Alaska Native	1,166	2.8%
Two or More Races	1,187	2.8%
Race Not Reported	2,104	5.0%

<u>All Adults Only</u>		
Marital Status		
Separated	1,149	6.3%
Married	6,851	37.6%
Never Married	8,055	44.3%
Divorced	1,933	10.6%
Widowed	169	0.9%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	43	0.2%

<u>All Clients</u>		
Citizenship Status		
U.S. Citizen	33,937	80.6%
Resident Noncitizen	8,015	19.0%
U.S. National³⁶	157	0.4%
Survivors of Certain Crimes³⁷	18	<0.1%

³⁵ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

³⁶ U.S. National: A national of the United States or a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States (e.g., persons born in American Samoa or Swains Island).

³⁷ Effective February 1, 2022, certain state-funded benefits are available to noncitizens who have been harmed by a crime and have filed or are preparing to file with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services an application for T visa for trafficking victims, U visa for victims of qualifying crimes or asylum status. This population is referred to as survivors of certain crimes (SCCs).

TFA Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients

Homeless Status			All Clients
Homeless ³⁸	3,505	8.3%	

Education Status		Adults Only	
Less than a High School Diploma	3,556	19.5%	
High School Graduate or GED	8,413	46.2%	
Some College or College Degree	5,932	32.6%	
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	299	1.6%	

Age		All Clients	
< 1 Year Old	1,138	2.7%	
1 – 5 Years Old	7,638	18.1%	
6 – 10 Years Old	6,945	16.5%	
11 – 15 Years Old	6,067	14.4%	
16 – 17 Years Old	2,139	5.1%	
18 - 24 Years Old	3,396	8.1%	
25 - 34 Years Old	6,537	15.5%	
35 - 44 Years Old	5,751	13.7%	
45 - 54 Years Old	1,960	4.7%	
55 - 64 Years Old	443	1.1%	
65+ Years Old	113	0.3%	
Average Age of Clients	19.2 Years		

³⁸ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

Child Support Program

SFY

2023

The Division of Child Support delivers child support services, including the establishment of parentage and the establishment, modification and enforcement of child support orders (financial and medical) so families have the resources they need for children to thrive.

**ESA Briefing
Book**

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Child Support Program Overview

The Child Support program (established under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act) provides services for the establishment of paternity and the establishment, modification and enforcement of child support orders to help families become or remain economically secure.

Three types of cases make up the Title IV-D child support program:

- **Current Assistance** – People receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Title IV-E Foster Care.
- **Former Assistance** – People who previously received TANF or Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) or Title IV-E Foster Care.
- **Never Assistance** – People who have never received TANF/AFDC or Title IV-E Foster Care. Never Assistance cases include Medicaid only, child care only, and state-only foster care cases.

The Child Support Performance and Incentive Act of 1998 awards incentives to state 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 included in this chapter shows Division of Child Support (DCS) outcomes on the five measures over the past two federal fiscal years. Information is presented by federal fiscal year (FFY) because that is the timeframe used for awarding incentives earned by the state's child support program.

Cost avoidance, one of the indirect benefits of the child support enforcement program, is measured by reductions in public expenditures in cash assistance, food assistance and Medicaid for families. Washington state studies have shown that a dependable stream of child support income for custodial parents and medical insurance coverage for children helps families increase their level of financial stability and independence, leading to less reliance on public assistance programs and greater economic security.

Additional information, including the eligibility criteria, funding sources, and services/benefits provided, is available [here](#).

TECHNICAL NOTES

DATA SOURCES: Data for this chapter was based on ESA Division of Child Support's Support Enforcement Management System (SEMS) - September 2023 caseload. Data for incentive payments are provided by DCS.

DATA NOTE:

- Percentages may not add up to expected totals due to rounding.

Child Support Program Highlights, SFY 2023

- The average monthly child support caseload was 256,014 in SFY 2023, representing a 7.3% decrease from 276,267 in SFY 2022. Within this caseload, average monthly Current Assistance cases increased by 6.6% from 28,365 in SFY 2022 to 30,230 in SFY 2023; Former Assistance cases decreased by 3.6% from 141,348 to 136,332; and Never Assistance cases decreased by 16.1% from 106,555 to 89,452.
 - The child support program collected a total of \$633.8 million in SFY 2023.
- The total cost avoidance in SFY 2023 was \$198.4 million. Of the total, \$113.6 million (57.2%) was for the Medicaid program, \$59.0 million (29.7%) was for the Basic Food program, and \$25.9 million (13.0%) was for the TANF program.
- An Acknowledgment of Parentage (AOP) is a legal form that establishes a parent-child relationship or “parentage.” By filing this form, a second parent is added to a child’s birth certificate. The vast majority are signed by unmarried birth mothers/parents and a second parent. On rare occasion, some parents already on a birth certificate through marriage or registered domestic partnership may choose to file an AOP for use outside of Washington to prove parentage. The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) reported 24,991 births to unmarried birth mothers/parents and, of those births, 22,308 (89.3%) of mothers/birth parents and a second parent jointly signed and filed Washington state AOP forms. The vast majority of these acknowledgments were signed at the hospital because of the efforts of the Parentage and Paternity Program.

Child Support Incentive¹ Scorecard, FFY 2022² and FFY 2023³

Measure	Goal Needed to Obtain Maximum Incentive Funding	Actual Performance		Estimated Percentage of Maximum Incentive Reached	
		2022	2023	2022	2023
Paternity Establishment Percentage	80%	95.9%	95.6%	100%	100%
Support Order Establishment	80%	91.3%	91.0%	100%	100%
Current Collections	80%	65.3%	66.1%	75%	76%
Arrearage Collections	80%	62.8%	61.6%	72%	71%
Cost Effectiveness	\$5.00	\$3.29	\$3.86	60%	70%

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

Paternity establishment percentage: Number of children in the caseload in the FFY or as of the end of the FFY 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.

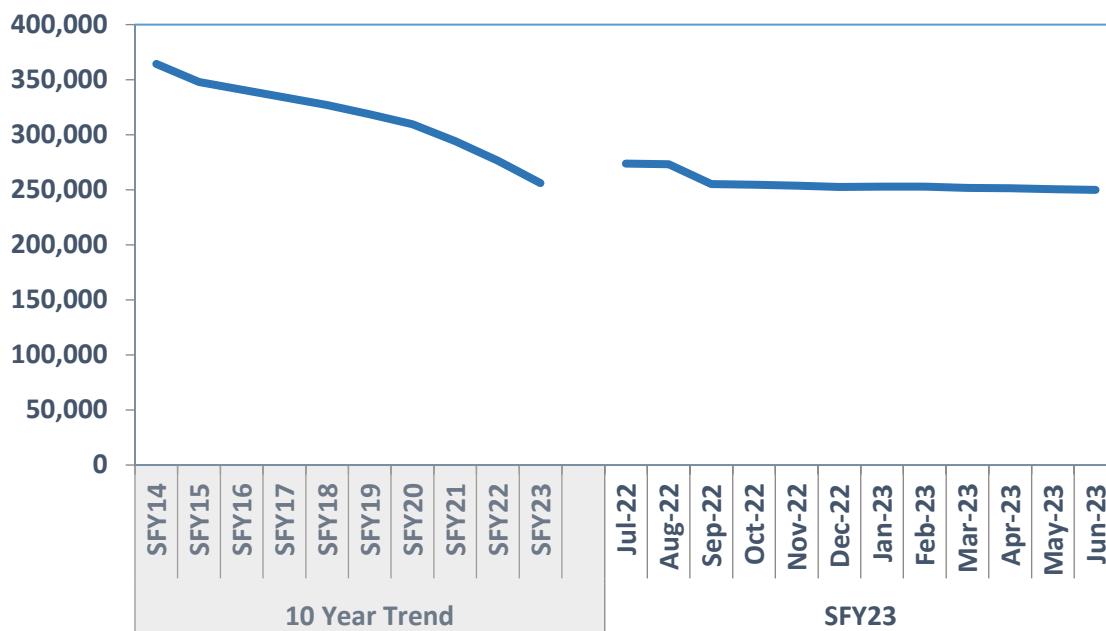
Arrearage collections: Number of IV-D cases paying toward arrears divided by number of IV-D cases with arrears due.

Cost-effectiveness: Total IV-D dollars collected divided by total IV-D dollars expended.

¹ DCS incentive payments for FFY 2022 are based on DCS actual FFY 2022 performance and Office of Child Support Services FFY 2022 preliminary performance results for all other states. DCS incentive payments for FFY 2023 are based on DCS actual FFY 2023 performance and OCSS FFY 2023 preliminary performance results for all other states. Data source: DCS Fiscal Office.

² FFY 2022 data is from U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children & Families, Office of Child Support Services 2021 Preliminary Report.

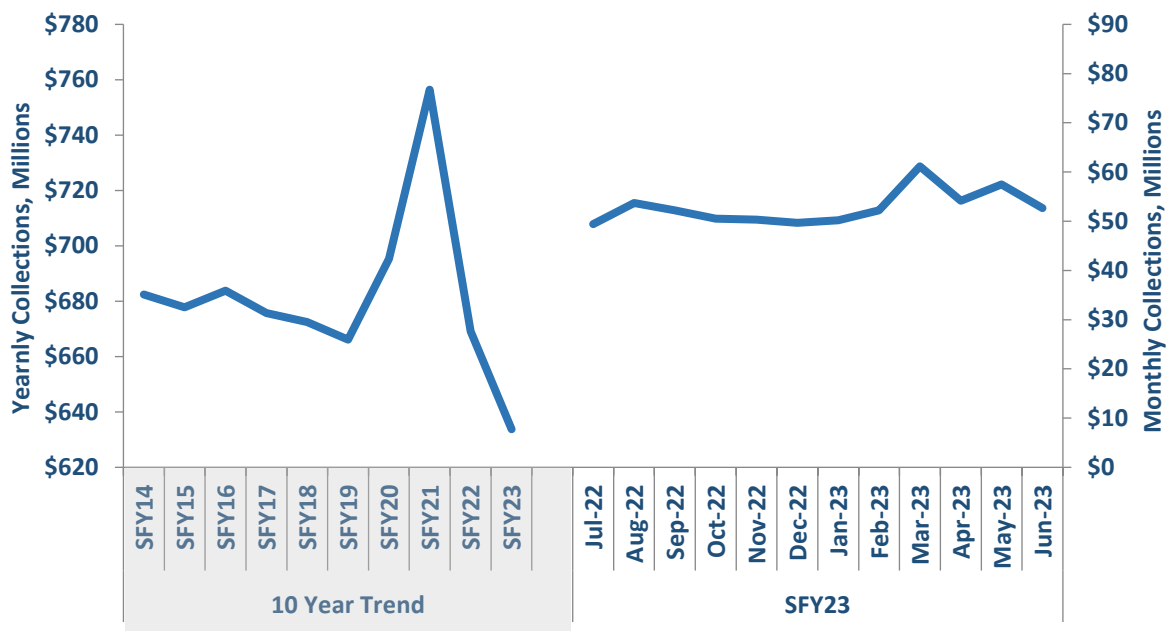
³ FFY 2023 data is preliminary based on unaudited federal reports.

Child Support Caseload, SFY 2014 – SFY 2023

SFY	Monthly Average Caseload	SFY	Monthly Average Caseload
SFY14	364,295	SFY19	318,444
SFY15	347,740	SFY20	309,616
SFY16	340,919	SFY21	294,069
SFY17	334,027	SFY22	276,267
SFY18	326,923	SFY23	256,014

SFY 2023	TANF/Foster Care	Former Assistance	Never Assistance	Total IV-D Caseload
July	30,982	137,623	105,082	273,687
August	30,886	137,988	104,353	273,227
September	30,636	137,301	87,197	255,134
October	30,859	136,933	86,706	254,498
November	30,263	136,855	86,547	253,665
December	30,199	136,120	86,308	252,627
January	30,530	135,883	86,313	252,726
February	30,193	136,119	86,433	252,745
March	30,059	135,531	86,221	251,811
April	29,991	135,376	86,161	251,528
May	29,609	134,929	86,092	250,630
June	28,557	135,323	86,015	249,895
Mo. Avg.	30,230	136,332	89,452	256,014

Child Support Collections, SFY 2014 – SFY 2023



SFY	Collections	SFY	Collections
SFY14	\$682,411,249	SFY19	\$666,175,348
SFY15	\$677,763,250	SFY20	\$695,311,638
SFY16	\$683,807,632	SFY21	\$756,412,192
SFY17	\$675,702,583	SFY22	\$669,143,007
SFY18	\$672,521,073	SFY23	\$633,754,215

SFY 2023	TANF/Foster Care	Former Assistance	Never Assistance	Total IV-D Collections
July	\$1,890,824	\$16,469,039	\$31,055,622	\$49,415,485
August	\$2,139,465	\$18,054,913	\$33,543,383	\$53,737,761
September	\$2,130,603	\$17,517,863	\$32,545,514	\$52,193,980
October	\$1,868,579	\$16,805,967	\$31,855,202	\$50,529,747
November	\$1,922,796	\$16,648,273	\$31,784,981	\$50,356,050
December	\$1,828,457	\$16,322,999	\$31,509,535	\$49,660,991
January	\$1,919,996	\$16,355,702	\$31,929,372	\$50,205,070
February	\$2,102,771	\$17,946,710	\$32,162,264	\$52,211,744
March	\$2,747,628	\$22,143,486	\$36,262,489	\$61,153,604
April	\$2,307,067	\$18,510,358	\$33,339,664	\$54,157,088
May	\$2,273,222	\$19,899,450	\$35,304,942	\$57,477,614
June	\$1,961,840	\$17,729,403	\$32,963,837	\$52,655,079
Total	\$25,093,250	\$214,404,161	\$394,256,804	\$633,754,215

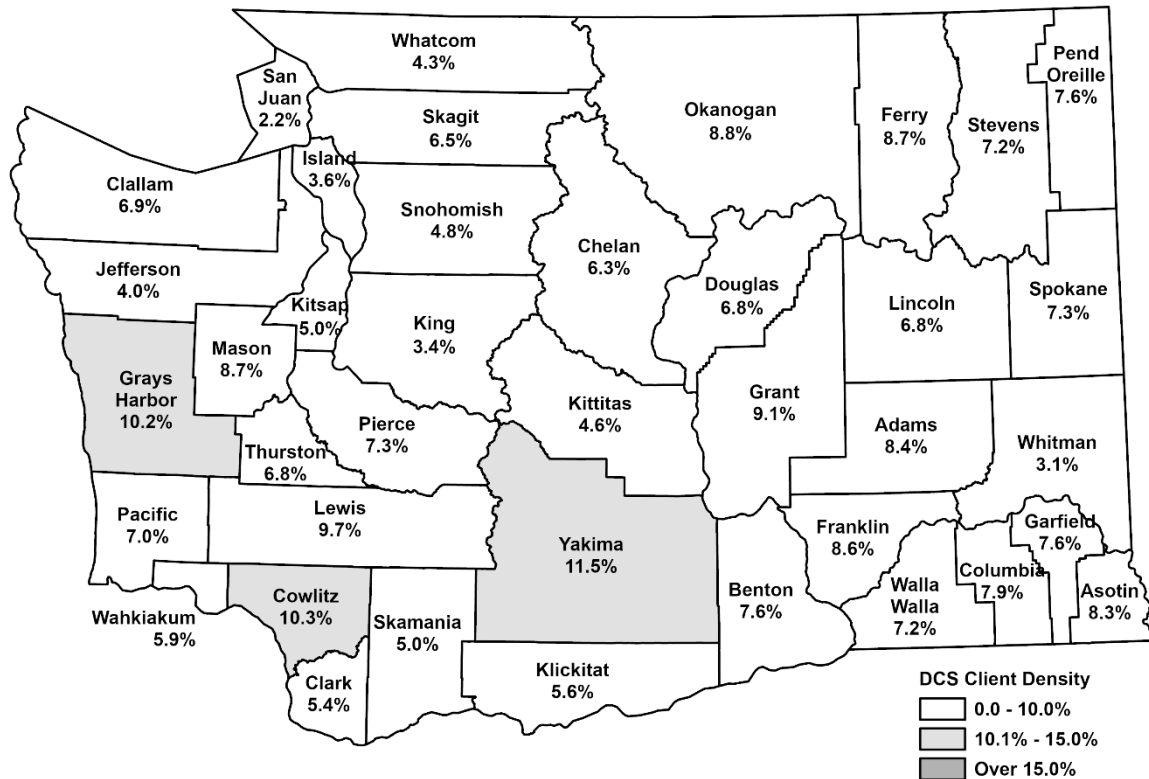
Clients with DCS Cases by County of Residence, June 2023 Snapshot⁴

County	Clients	Population Estimate	% of Residents Served	County	Clients	Population Estimate	% of Residents Served
Adams	1,775	21,200	8.4%	Lewis	8,187	84,075	9.7%
Asotin	1,888	22,650	8.3%	Lincoln	757	11,125	6.8%
Benton	16,402	215,500	7.6%	Mason	5,843	67,000	8.7%
Chelan	5,140	81,500	6.3%	Okanogan	3,791	43,000	8.8%
Clallam	5,398	78,075	6.9%	Pacific	1,654	23,775	7.0%
Clark	28,363	527,400	5.4%	Pend Oreille	1,047	13,725	7.6%
Columbia	311	3,950	7.9%	Pierce	69,494	946,300	7.3%
Cowlitz	11,599	113,000	10.3%	San Juan	402	18,350	2.2%
Douglas	3,014	44,500	6.8%	Skagit	8,585	132,000	6.5%
Ferry	633	7,300	8.7%	Skamania	603	12,000	5.0%
Franklin	8,668	101,100	8.6%	Snohomish	41,653	859,800	4.8%
Garfield	174	2,300	7.6%	Spokane	40,762	554,600	7.3%
Grant	9,445	103,300	9.1%	Stevens	3,420	47,350	7.2%
Grays Harbor	7,841	77,000	10.2%	Thurston	20,749	303,400	6.8%
Island	3,182	88,150	3.6%	Wahkiakum	268	4,550	5.9%
Jefferson	1,321	33,425	4.0%	Walla Walla	4,553	63,100	7.2%
King	78,704	2,347,800	3.4%	Whatcom	10,203	235,800	4.3%
Kitsap	14,032	283,200	5.0%	Whitman	1,475	48,100	3.1%
Kittitas	2,172	47,300	4.6%	Yakima	29,948	261,200	11.5%
Klickitat	1,306	23,250	5.6%				
State Total	454,762	7,951,150	5.7%				

⁴ Population estimate source: Office of Financial Management (OFM) population estimates

Percentage of Total Population with a DCS Case by County, June 2023 Snapshot

Percentage of Residents Served by DCS During June 2023

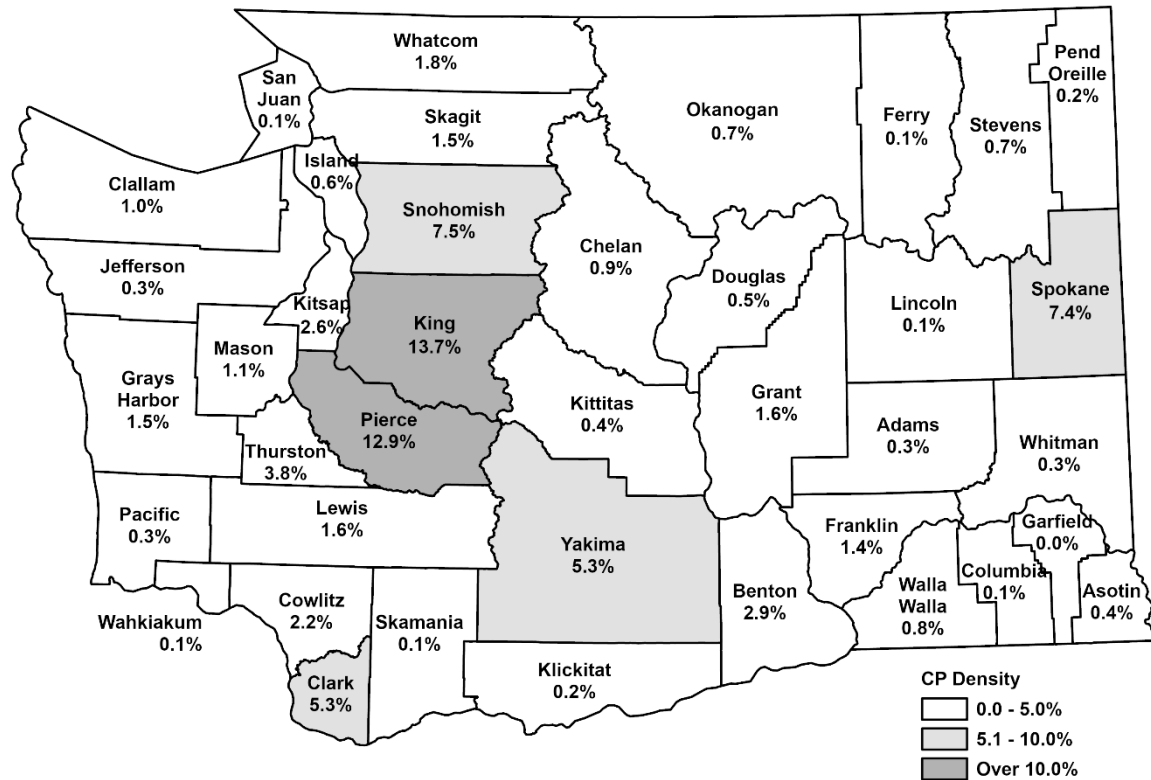


Note: The percentage of residents served is obtained by dividing the number of DCS clients in a county during June 2023 by the OFM 2023 County Population estimate.

Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - Aug. 2023

Percentage of Custodial Parents (CP) by County, June 2023 Snapshot

Percentage of Custodial Parents by County in Washington State: June 2023

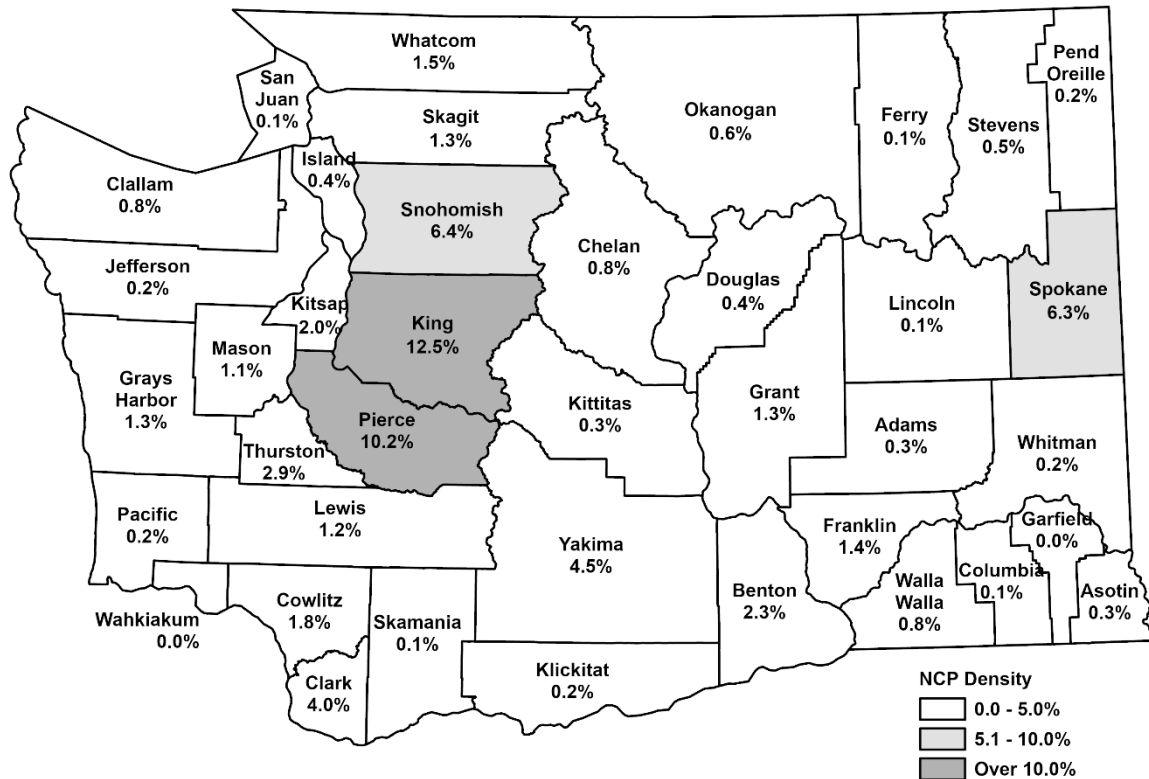


Note: 17.8% of CPs are out of state or do not have valid county address code.

Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - Aug. 2023

Percentage of Noncustodial Parents (NCP) by County, June 2023 Snapshot

Percentage of Noncustodial Parents by County in Washington State: June 2023



Note: 31.4% of NCPs are out of state or do not have valid county address code.

Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - Aug. 2023

Child Support Cost Avoidance by Source, SFY 2023

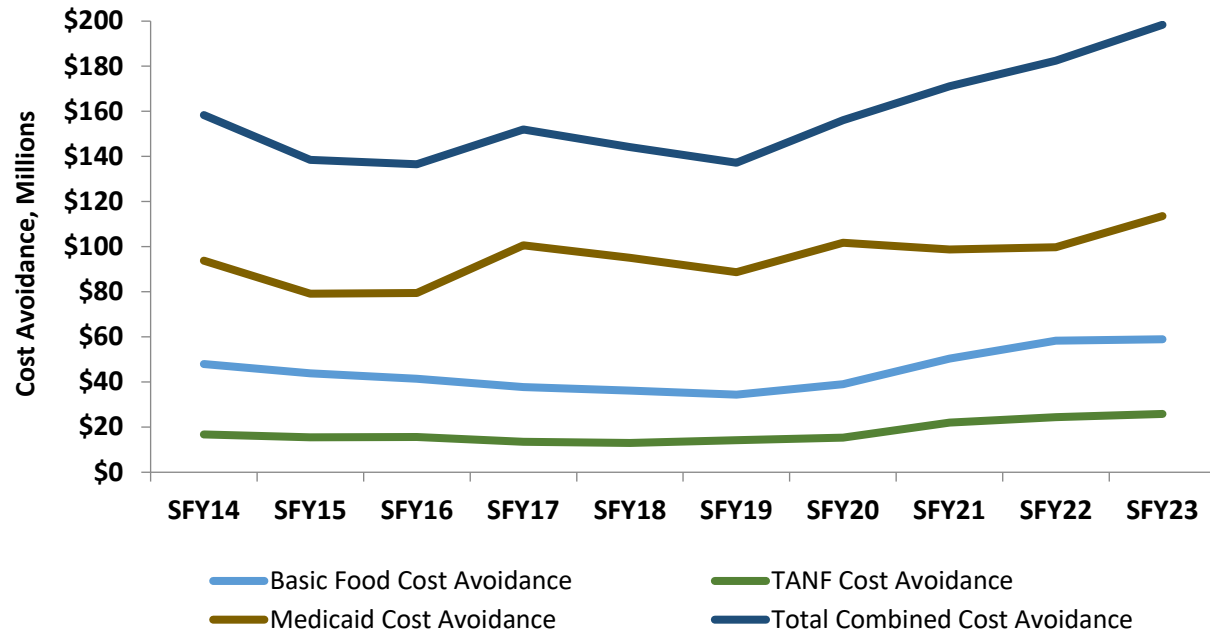
SFY 2023	Basic Food			TANF		
	Average CR ⁵ Basic Food Expenditure	Average CI ⁶ Basic Food Expenditure	Total Basic Food Cost Avoidance	Average CR ⁵ TANF Expenditure	Average CI ⁶ TANF Expenditure	Total TANF Cost Avoidance
July	\$161.87	\$246.64	\$4,732,478	\$11.57	\$50.30	\$2,109,109
August	\$162.32	\$247.03	\$4,718,972	\$12.22	\$51.64	\$2,115,953
September	\$158.04	\$244.31	\$4,786,425	\$11.54	\$51.74	\$2,163,574
October	\$179.08	\$278.31	\$5,546,449	\$11.43	\$52.28	\$2,211,524
November	\$177.68	\$276.54	\$5,505,369	\$11.39	\$52.28	\$2,174,348
December	\$175.38	\$275.97	\$5,596,612	\$11.73	\$52.64	\$2,150,851
January	\$175.19	\$278.05	\$5,775,927	\$11.47	\$52.36	\$2,189,037
February	\$174.49	\$275.65	\$5,665,969	\$11.56	\$52.64	\$2,174,484
March	\$106.66	\$184.58	\$4,173,307	\$11.97	\$51.79	\$2,142,147
April	\$107.58	\$185.71	\$4,180,551	\$11.90	\$52.07	\$2,171,441
May	\$106.42	\$185.39	\$4,185,600	\$11.55	\$52.05	\$2,161,284
June	\$106.13	\$184.32	\$4,089,754	\$11.69	\$51.42	\$2,089,065
Total			\$58,957,413			\$25,852,817

SFY 2023	Medicaid		
	Total Custodial Parent Medicaid Cost Avoidance	Total Child Medicaid Cost Avoidance	Total Medicaid Cost Avoidance
July	\$4,020,201	\$4,397,611	\$8,417,812
August	\$4,713,887	\$4,764,125	\$9,478,012
September	\$4,644,000	\$5,079,585	\$9,723,585
October	\$4,530,768	\$4,792,306	\$9,323,074
November	\$4,355,836	\$4,833,866	\$9,189,702
December	\$4,253,729	\$4,661,442	\$8,915,171
January	\$4,429,544	\$5,732,871	\$10,162,414
February	\$4,568,892	\$5,288,770	\$9,857,662
March	\$4,629,586	\$5,172,139	\$9,801,725
April	\$4,525,812	\$4,819,934	\$9,345,747
May	\$5,370,544	\$4,800,500	\$10,171,044
June	\$4,621,219	\$4,565,083	\$9,186,302
Total	\$54,664,019	\$58,908,231	\$113,572,250

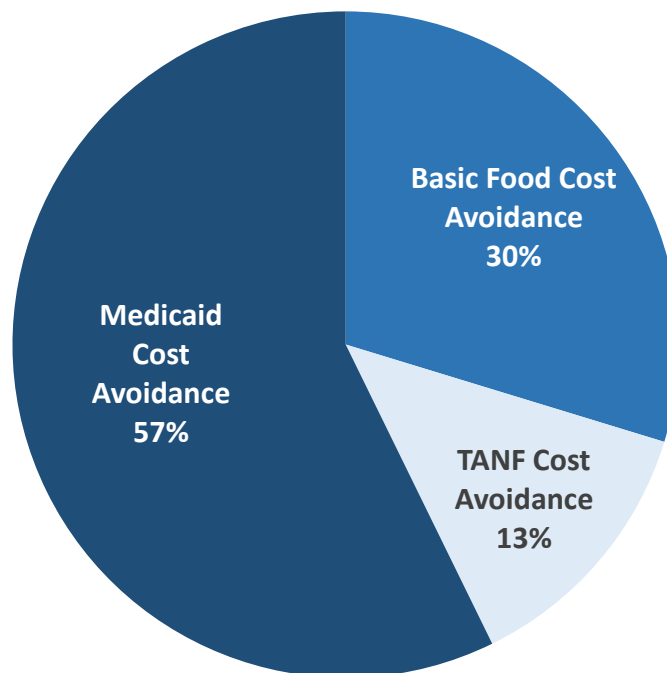
⁵ CR: Custodial parents with regular child support payments. Regular child support payments are defined as summed monthly order amount more than \$0 and summed total arrearage debt less than twice the summed monthly order amount.

⁶ CI: Custodial parents without regular child support payments.

Child Support Cost Avoidance by Source, SFY 2014 – SFY 2023



Sources of \$198.4 Million in Child Support Cost Avoidance, SFY 2023



Child Support Tribal Caseload⁷, SFY 2023

SFY 2023	Total Child Support TANF/Foster Care	Child Support Tribal TANF/Foster Care	% of Child Support Tribal TANF/Foster Care	Total Child Support Former Assistance	Tribal Child Support Former Assistance	% of Tribal Former Assistance
July	30,982	2,007	6.5%	137,623	5,452	4.0%
August	30,886	1,993	6.5%	137,988	5,460	4.0%
September	30,636	1,990	6.5%	137,301	5,431	4.0%
October	30,859	1,994	6.5%	136,933	5,370	3.9%
November	30,263	1,986	6.6%	136,855	5,375	3.9%
December	30,199	1,956	6.5%	136,120	5,359	3.9%
January	30,530	1,967	6.4%	135,883	5,377	4.0%
February	30,193	1,915	6.3%	136,119	5,121	3.8%
March	30,059	1,974	6.6%	135,531	5,341	3.9%
April	29,991	1,989	6.6%	135,376	5,303	3.9%
May	29,609	1,979	6.7%	134,929	5,259	3.9%
June	28,557	1,913	6.7%	135,323	5,280	3.9%
Mo. Avg.	30,230	1,972	6.5%	136,332	5,344	3.9%

SFY 2023	Total Child Support Never Assistance	Child Support Tribal Never Assistance	% of Child Support Tribal Never Assistance	Total Child Support	Total Child Support Tribal	% of Child Support Tribal
July	105,082	2,606	2.5%	273,687	10,065	3.7%
August	104,353	2,574	2.5%	273,227	10,027	3.7%
September	87,197	1,703	2.0%	255,134	9,124	3.6%
October	86,706	1,604	1.8%	254,498	8,968	3.5%
November	86,547	1,618	1.9%	253,665	8,979	3.5%
December	86,308	1,608	1.9%	252,627	8,923	3.5%
January	86,313	1,602	1.9%	252,726	8,946	3.5%
February	86,433	1,566	1.8%	252,745	8,602	3.4%
March	86,221	1,601	1.9%	251,811	8,916	3.5%
April	86,161	1,607	1.9%	251,528	8,899	3.5%
May	86,092	1,618	1.9%	250,630	8,856	3.5%
June	86,015	1,608	1.9%	249,895	8,801	3.5%
Mo. Avg.	89,452	1,776	2.0%	256,014	9,092	3.6%

⁷ Starting in SFY 2023, the methodology used to identify tribal caseloads was adjusted in order to more accurately reflect the entire tribal caseload throughout the year.

Child Support Tribal Collections, SFY 2023

SFY 2023	TANF/Foster Care	Former Assistance	Never Assistance	Total Child Support Collections
July	\$59,514	\$256,973	\$270,357	\$586,844
August	\$74,439	\$325,039	\$310,401	\$709,880
September	\$75,013	\$296,674	\$312,937	\$684,624
October	\$58,748	\$261,955	\$281,293	\$601,995
November	\$59,046	\$261,274	\$290,468	\$610,788
December	\$57,490	\$280,801	\$288,352	\$626,643
January	\$62,385	\$286,104	\$298,681	\$647,170
February	\$78,981	\$320,890	\$328,528	\$728,399
March	\$99,671	\$403,563	\$338,957	\$842,191
April	\$89,436	\$331,497	\$332,807	\$753,740
May	\$76,803	\$367,827	\$319,238	\$763,868
June	\$79,399	\$308,648	\$312,355	\$700,402
Total	\$870,925	\$3,701,244	\$3,684,375	\$8,256,544

Child Support Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot

Characteristic	Noncustodial Parents ⁸		Custodial Parents ⁹		Children	
	# of NCPs	Percent	# of CPs	Percent	# of Children	Percent
Total	190,738	100.0%	212,411	100.0%	213,819	100.0%

Gender	Noncustodial Parents		Custodial Parents		Children	
Female	27,977	14.7%	188,149	88.6%	105,174	49.2%
Male	162,494	85.2%	23,509	11.1%	108,583	50.8%
Unknown¹⁰	267	0.1%	753	0.4%	62	<0.1%

Age of Parent	Noncustodial Parents		Custodial Parents		Children	
<26 Years Old	5,365	2.8%	7,646	3.6%	N/A	
26 – 35 Years Old	48,583	25.5%	55,778	26.3%		
36 – 45 Years Old	78,059	40.9%	82,051	38.6%		
46 – 55 Years Old	41,518	21.8%	42,395	20.0%		
56+ Years Old	14,673	7.7%	23,995	11.3%		
Not Reported/ Unidentifiable	2,540	1.3%	546	0.3%		

Age of Children	Children			
<6 Year Old	N/A		33,185	15.5%
6 – 10 Years Old			58,970	27.6%
11 – 15 Years Old			81,546	38.1%
16 – 18 Years Old			37,428	17.5%
19+ Years Old			2,658	1.2%
Not Reported/ Unidentifiable			32	<0.1%

Years	Noncustodial Parents	Custodial Parents	Children
Mean Age	42.0	42.5	11.4
Median Age	41.2	40.9	12.0

⁸ A noncustodial parent (NCP) may also be a custodial parent (CP) on another case.

⁹ A CP may also be an NCP on another case.

¹⁰ Currently, the SEMS system has a limited gender field capacity, which means that non-binary customers will be included in 'Unknown' as well as customers that do not have clearly identified gender designation.

Special Grants/Projects

Charting a Course for Economic Mobility and Responsible Parenting (EMRP) – The Office of Child Support Services (OCSS) awarded DCS \$1 million dollars to participate in the second cohort of the Charting a Course for Economic Mobility and Responsible Parenting demonstration. The goal of the EMRP project is to provide youth and young adults with opportunities to gain the knowledge, skills, and access to resources that are likely to lead to success in their pursuit of life goals, economic mobility, and responsible parenting. DCS is collaborating with high schools and fatherhood organizations to deliver child support and responsible parenting curriculum to teens and young adults and connect them with resources in their area.

Safe Access for Victims' Economic Security (SAVES) – The SAVES demonstration aims to increase safe access to child support and parenting-time services for domestic violence victims/survivors. Over the course of the five-year project, DCS will work with OCSS, experts, and individuals with lived experience to review policy and procedure, develop outreach materials explaining the safety measures available within the child support program, and pilot the use of specialized case management strategies for victims/survivors.

The Alternative Solutions Program – DCS implemented this statewide program in July 2014 to assist parents struggling to meet their child support obligations. The program connects these parents to community resources that can help them remove barriers to paying child support, such as work-related training, education, and supportive services. Between July 2014 and June 2023, the voluntary program received 7,296 referrals. During SFY 2022, Alternative Solutions served 566 parents. The program maintains a database of more than 4,700 resources with a version available to the public, allowing any Washingtonian to connect with local community resources. Parents, field staff, prosecuting attorney staff, and community partners embrace the program. This cooperative effort generates real-life success stories as parents work through barriers and meet their child support obligations.

Tribal Partnerships – Through mutual respect and trust, DCS and tribes have worked collaboratively for over 30 years to improve and provide child support services to Washington families. Currently, there are eight federally funded tribal child support programs and 11 Tribal TANF programs in the state. Additionally, Urban Indian Organizations (UIOs) provides support to Native people in urban and rural areas. Partnerships are especially vital when the state or a tribe lacks jurisdiction to enforce child support. Intergovernmental and cooperative agreements allow DCS to offer federal enforcement remedies to tribal programs, and for tribal programs to provide remedies that would not otherwise be available to the state. Government-to-government efforts with tribes and tribal organizations promote tribal and state sovereignty and ensure that comprehensive, culturally appropriate services are being delivered to all American Indians and Alaska Natives in Washington state.

Voluntary Acknowledgments and Genetic Testing

Parentage Program Background

The Parentage Program (originally known as the Paternity Affidavit Program) began in July 1989 as a partnership between the DCS and the Washington State Department of Health (DOH). The program provides unmarried parents the opportunity to sign an Acknowledgment of Parentage form at the child's birth or a later date. Most Acknowledgments of Parentage forms are signed at a birthing hospital or midwifery practice. Based on its success of increasing paternity establishment using the voluntary acknowledgment and its cost effectiveness, Washington's program was soon recognized as a national best practice. In the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, Congress required that every state implement a voluntary paternity establishment program based on Washington's model.

Legal Requirements – The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act (PRWORA) created numerous state requirements, including the requirement that states afford all unmarried parents the opportunity to voluntarily acknowledge paternity. Section 45 CFR 303.5 (g) provides the applicable federal regulations; RCW 70.58A.100 and Chapter 26.26A RCW are the applicable state laws.

A hospital, midwifery clinic, or other authorized entity must provide an opportunity for unmarried parents to sign an Acknowledgment of Parentage at the time of the child's birth. The parents are entitled to both a written statement of their rights and responsibilities (this is on the second page of the Acknowledgment form) and oral notice (a short video or 1-800 line). Upon receipt of a properly completed and notarized or witnessed Acknowledgment of Parentage form, the Department of Health must name the father/second parent on the child's birth certificate.

Effects of the Acknowledgment of Parentage – A properly signed and filed Acknowledgment of Parentage creates a legal determination of parentage immediately without the need for a court order. Parentage for a child of unmarried parents must be legally established before the child support order determining the noncustodial parent's financial and medical obligations. The determination of parentage afforded by this simple administrative process also provides other benefits, such as making a child eligible to participate in any available social security, veterans', life insurance, or health insurance benefits.

Results – The signed and filed Acknowledgment of Parentage allows DCS to establish a child support obligation quickly and at low cost. DCS is usually able to obtain a child support order in 90 days or less from the date the Department of Health files the Acknowledgment of Parentage, which is a much quicker and less costly process than establishing parentage through the courts. DCS saves taxpayers millions of dollars each year because of the administrative Parentage Program. In SFY 2023, parentage was established for 11,476 children, 83.8% of them by Acknowledgment of Parentage.

DCS Parentage and Paternity Partner Outreach

DCS published and electronically distributed three editions of the Parentage and Paternity Newsletter in SFY 2023. The purpose of the newsletter is to share information about parentage and paternity with hospitals and other providers. Other DCS partners also subscribe to the newsletter.

In partnership with the Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics staff, DCS co-hosted two virtual “Provider Insider” meetings on the Microsoft Teams platform for staff from the state’s hospitals, midwifery clinics, and birth centers. Offered in September 2022, the presentations covered information about birth filing, the Acknowledgment of Parentage, and the Voluntary Paternity Testing Program. The Provider Insider presentations will be offered annually to the state’s birthing providers.

Voluntary Paternity Testing Program

DCS continues to operate the Voluntary Paternity Testing Program (VPTP). VPTP incorporates two strategies: reimbursement for notaries and no-cost genetic testing. The Acknowledgment of Parentage (AOP), Denial of Parentage (DOP), and Rescission of Parentage (ROP) forms, which have been in effect since January 1, 2019, give parents the option of signing in front of a witness or a notary. Some hospitals have opted to offer only the notary option to parents. DCS reimburses hospitals for the cost to add Notaries Public, which historically increased the opportunity for parents to sign an Acknowledgment. DCS also offers no-cost genetic testing to unmarried parents in a non-judicial setting. Through the VPTP, hospital staff can offer an application for genetic testing to unmarried parents. Completing genetic testing gives parents the ability to confirm they are the child’s biological parents before signing an Acknowledgment of Parentage.

Disability Determination Services

SFY

2023

Within the Department of Social and Health Services' Economic Services Administration, the Division of Disability Determination Services (DDDS) makes determinations for individuals applying for the Title II Social Security Disability, Title XVI Supplemental Security Income benefit and Title XIX State Medical Assistance claims.

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Disability Determination Overview

The Division of Disability Services (DDDS) provides medical eligibility determinations for claims filed to the Social Security Administration for disability benefits by residents of Washington state. The division serves Washington residents of all ages who meet the requirements under Section 221 (b) of Social Security Act. DDDS had an annual budget for Federal Fiscal Year 23 (FFY23) of \$53,772,294 federal dollars. In FFY23, DDDS served 54,354 individuals.

Highlights

- Annual budget for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2021 total costs of \$53,772,294.
- In FFY 2023, DDDS served 54,354 individuals
- In FFY 2023, DDDS processed:
 - 21,247 Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) Title II claims
 - 19,091 Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Title XVI claims
 - 9,739 Concurrent Title II/ Title XVI claims
 - 2,111 Non Grant Medical Assistance (NGMA) Title XIX claims
 - 415 Continuing Disability Review Pre-hearing decisions
 - 422 Disability hearing decisions
- As of September 2023
 - 160,391 Washingtonians receive an average of \$1,364 a month in Social Security Disability Insurance benefits, bringing \$893.9 million per year into communities throughout the state.
 - 134,315 Washingtonians receive an average of \$693 a month in SSI benefits, bringing \$347 million per year into communities throughout the state.

TECHNICAL NOTES

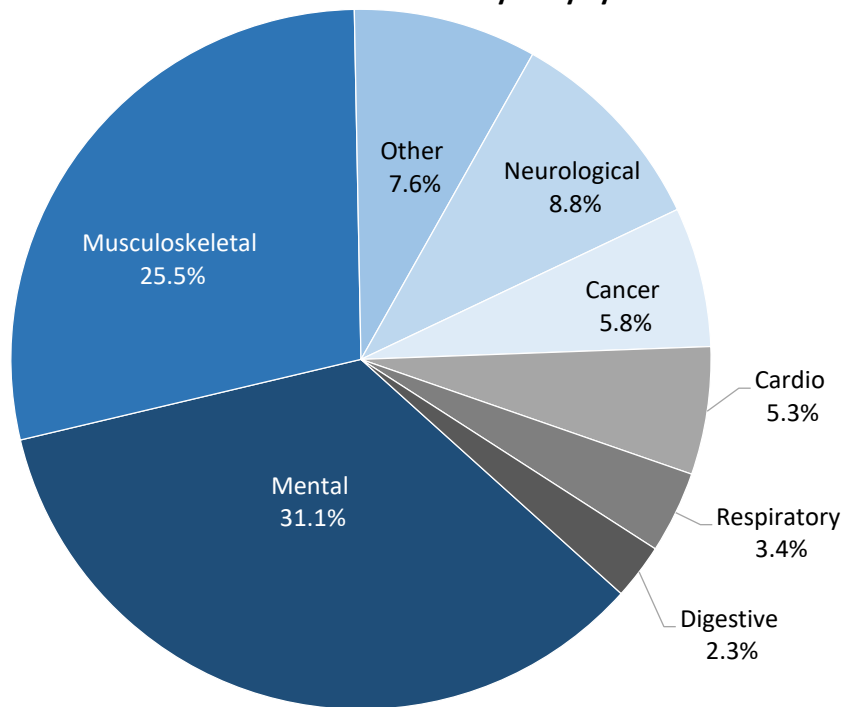
DATA SOURCES:

Data reported in this chapter is partly based on the Office of Disability Determinations (ODD) database maintained by the Social Security Administration as of October 2023.

DATA NOTE: Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023 covers the time period of October 2022 through September 2023

Disability Determination Overview (continued)

FFY 2023 T2 and T16 Initial Decisions by Body System



DDDS T2 and T16 Initial Processing Time Combined (Days)¹

T2 & T16 processing	National average	Washington Average
Sep-2022	153.5	167.0
Dec-2022	159.7	138.0
Mar-2023	169.0	143.5
Jun-2023	172.4	146.8
Sep-2023	173.8	169.6

¹ More restrictive, life-saving measures in Washington state through the COVID-19 pandemic limited the DDDS's ability to obtain medical evidence and examinations in a timely manner. These limitations, in turn, created additional processing delays. Furthermore, Washington DDDS's resource focus on older claims resulted in a larger than average percentage of aged claims being closed, which impacted processing averages.

Domestic Violence Program

SFY

2023

Provides statewide services through local community organizations to help people who are hurt or harmed by domestic violence; provides education and information on domestic violence to local communities.

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Domestic Violence Program Overview

The Domestic Violence (DV) Program provides statewide domestic violence services through contracted local community organizations to help people who are hurt or harmed by domestic violence. DV Program contractors provide education and information on domestic violence to local communities and lead primary prevention efforts to stop domestic violence before it starts.

Highlights

Local domestic violence programs served a total of 17,535 victims and their dependents in SFY 2023. This includes 4,331 clients who received emergency shelter based services and 13,204 clients who received non-shelter based services.

In SFY 2023, the 39 domestic violence shelter programs provided over 173,653 shelter bed nights to victims and their families. Victims stayed in shelter an average of 44 nights in SFY 2023.

Additional information, including the eligibility criteria, funding sources, and services/benefits provided, is available [here](#).

TECHNICAL NOTES

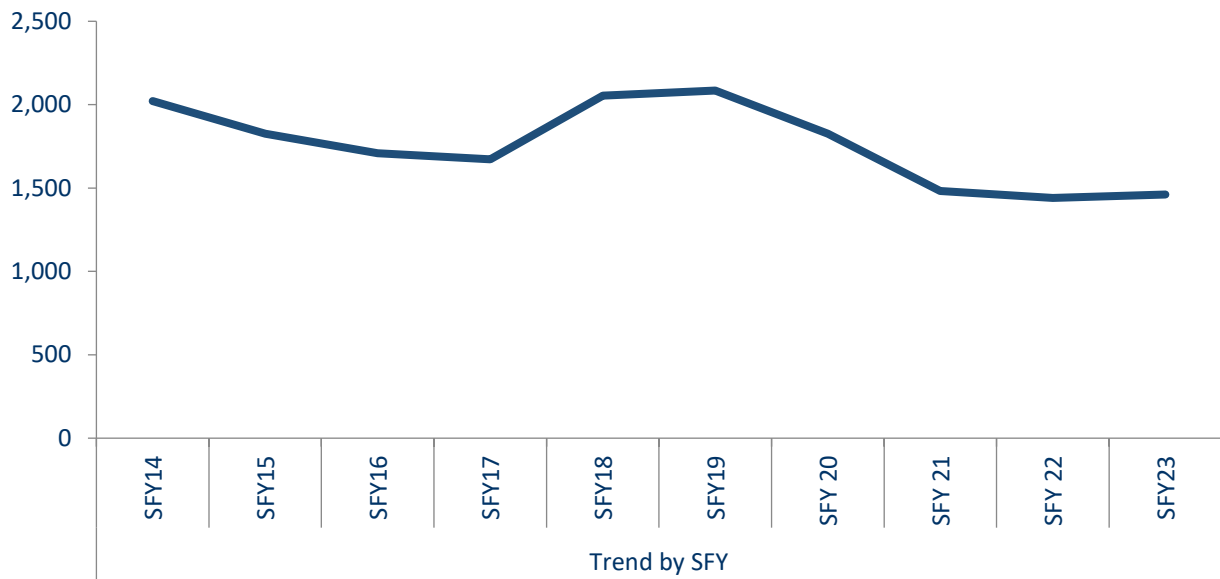
DATA SOURCES: Data reported in this chapter is based on information reported in the InfoNet database maintained by Washington State Department of Commerce as of July 2023.

DATA NOTES:

- Data is collected from 39 domestic violence programs that contract with the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)/Economic Services Administration to provide domestic violence services in all 39 counties within Washington. Contractors provide emergency domestic violence shelter and community-based supportive services
- Service numbers include all data reported into the statewide InfoNet data collection system during SFY 2023.
- Data reflects only the emergency domestic violence shelter and supportive services provided by DSHS domestic violence services contractors.

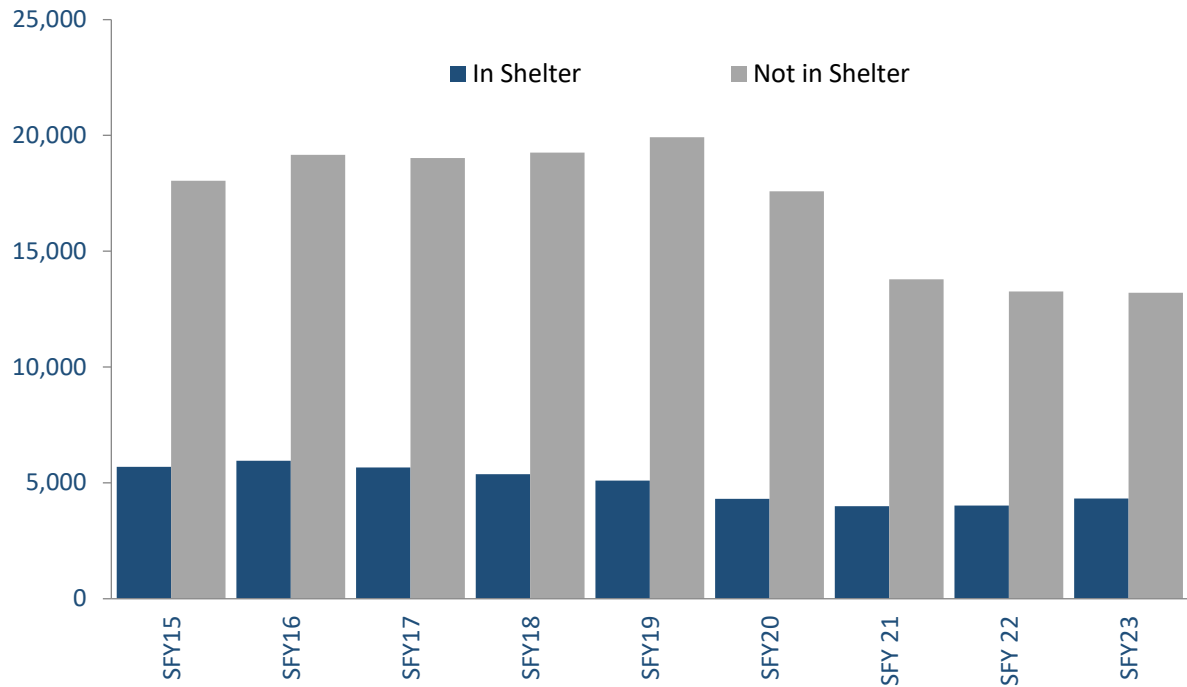
Selected Domestic Violence Program Overview SFY 2022 and SFY 2023

	SFY 2022 (July 2021 – June 2022)	SFY 2023 (July 2022 – June 2023)	Change
Average Number of Domestic Violence Clients Per Month	1,441	1,461	1.4% (Increase) ↑
Average Number of Domestic Violence Children Clients Per Month	249	268	7.6% (Increase) ↑
Average Number of Domestic Violence Adult Clients Per Month	1,192	1,194	0.2% (Increase) ↑
Average Number of Adults and Children Receiving Shelter Based Services Per Month	335	361	7.8% (Increase) ↑
Average Number of Adult and Children Receiving Non-shelter Based Services Per Month	1,106	1,100	-0.5% (Decrease) ↓
Total Clients (Adults and Children) Served in SFY	17,288	17,535	1.4% (Increase) ↑

Domestic Violence Program Clients, SFY 2014 – SFY 2023

SFY	Monthly Average Clients	SFY	Monthly Average Clients
SFY14	2,022	SFY19	2,085
SFY15	1,825	SFY20	1,826
SFY16	1,708	SFY21	1,482
SFY17	1,672	SFY22	1,441
SFY18	2,054	SFY23	1,461

Adults and Children Receiving Shelter and Non-shelter Based Services, SFY 2015 – SFY 2023



SFY	# of Adults and Children Served	
	Shelter Based Services	Non-shelter Based Services
SFY15	5,690	18,038
SFY16	5,957	19,163
SFY17	5,672	19,020
SFY18	5,379	19,263
SFY19	5,096	19,920
SFY20	4,318	17,588
SFY21	3,996	13,787
SFY22	4,018	13,270
SFY23	4,331	13,204

Additional Services Summary, SFY 2023

SFY 2023	
Crisis hotline and information/referral calls received by emergency domestic violence shelter programs	73,642
Adult survivors and children receiving emergency domestic violence shelter services	4,331
Total bed nights for new and returning clients provided by emergency shelter programs	173,653
Unmet requests for emergency shelter services	8,506
Adult survivors and children receiving non-residential domestic violence advocacy services	13,204
Persons reached via training, presentations, and other outreach efforts by the domestic violence programs	103,784
Average length of shelter stays (in days)	44 Days

Client Demographics, SFY 2023

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Total Clients	17,535	100.0%

Gender	All Clients	
Female	14,714	83.9%
Male	2,497	14.2%
Unknown	324	1.8%

Age	All Clients	
< 13 Years Old	2,508	14.3%
13 – 17 Years Old	708	4.0%
18 – 24 Years Old	1,205	6.9%
25 – 59 Years Old	12,187	69.5%
60+ Years Old	927	5.3%

Ethnicity and Race	All Clients	
Hispanic or Latino	4,093	23.3%
Not Hispanic or Latino¹	13,442	76.6%
White	9,258	52.8%
Black/African American	1,399	8.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	450	2.6%
American Indian/Alaska Native	625	3.6%
Two or More Races	820	4.7%
Race Not Reported	890	5.1%

¹ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral

SFY

2023

Provides a referral to the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) program to low-income adults who are unable to work due to a physical incapacity, mental incapacity, or substance use disorder.

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Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral Program Overview

The Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral program¹ provides potential access to essential needs items (e.g., hygiene and cleaning supplies) and housing assistance to low-income adults who have no dependents and are ages 18-64 and are unable to maintain gainful employment for at least 90 days due to a physical incapacity, mental incapacity, or substance use disorder. The Department of Commerce administers the HEN program and determines eligibility for housing assistance and essential needs items through its network of local providers.

Additional information, including the eligibility criteria, funding sources, and services/benefits provided, is available [here](#).

Highlights

In SFY 2023, the HEN Referral program served a monthly average of 2,901 clients, a 9.1% increase from SFY 2022 (2,660 clients). The June 2023 snapshot data shows the majority of HEN Referral recipients are male (63.2%), non-Hispanic white (65.5%), and never married (62.4%). The average age of HEN Referral recipients was 41.5 years.

Technical Notes

DATA SOURCES: Data for this chapter was based on the ESA ACES database as of August 2023.

DATA NOTES:

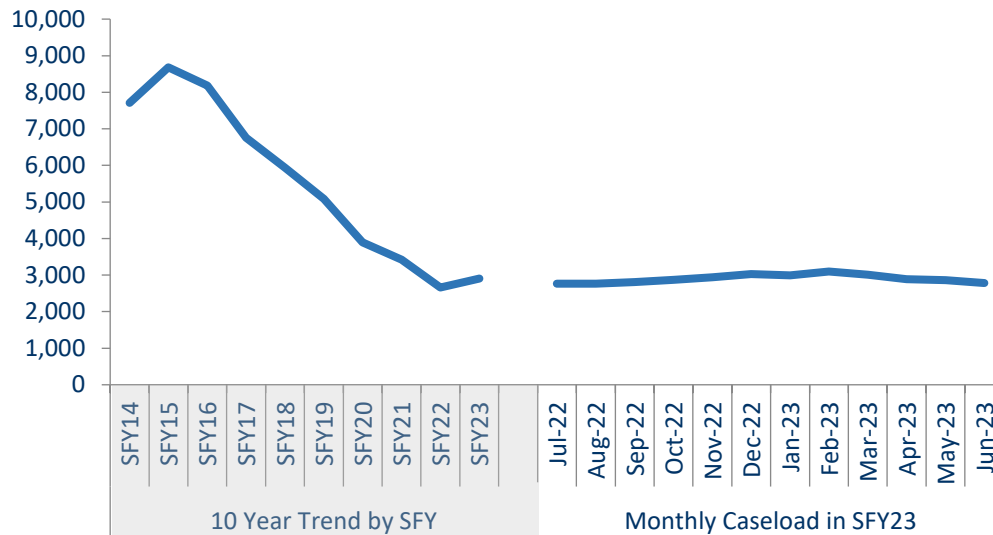
- Percentages may not add up to presented totals due to rounding.
- All reports of 10-year client trends reflect the monthly average for each state fiscal year (SFY).

¹ During the 2013 legislative session, the Legislature passed Substitute House Bill 2069, which created the HEN Referral program effective January 1, 2014. Up until that point, potential HEN eligibility was linked to the Medical Care Services (MCS) program.

Selected HEN Referral Program Overview, SFY 2022 and SFY 2023

	SFY 2022 (July 2021-June 2022)	SFY 2023 (July 2022-June 2023)	Change	
Average Number of Persons per Month (Range)	2,660 (2,582 - 2,776)	2,901 (2,763 - 3,096)	9.1% (Increase)	↑
State Population Age 18 and Over ³	6,164,228	6,255,743	1.5% (Increase)	↑
Average Monthly Recipients as a Percent of State's Population 18 and Over	<0.1%	<0.1%	No Change	=

HEN Referral Clients, SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients	SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients
2014²	7,712	2019	5,083
2015	8,681	2020	3,898
2016	8,181	2021	3,421
2017	6,759	2022	2,660
2018	5,930	2023	2,901

SFY 2023	Clients
July	2,763
August	2,769
September	2,808
October	2,867
November	2,943
December	3,029
January	2,993
February	3,096
March	3,014
April	2,885
May	2,857
June	2,782
Mo. Avg.	2,901
Annual Unduplicated	6,202

² During the 2013 legislative session, the Legislature passed Substitute House Bill 2069, which created the HEN Referral program effective January 1, 2014. SFY 2014 data is, therefore, based on 6 months.

HEN Referral Clients Exiting to Other Programs, SFY 2023

SFY 2023	Total HEN Referral Clients ³	During Subsequent Month									
		Clients Remaining on HEN Referral		Clients Moving to ABD		Clients Moving to SSI		Clients Moving to Other Cash Program		Clients Exiting HEN Referral ⁴	
		# of Clients	Percent	# of Clients	Percent	# of Clients	Percent	# of Clients	Percent	# of Clients	Percent
July	2,763	2,474	89.5%	125	4.5%	7	0.3%	0	0.0%	157	5.7%
August	2,769	2,492	90.0%	125	4.5%	11	0.4%	0	0.0%	141	5.1%
September	2,808	2,533	90.2%	130	4.6%	7	0.2%	0	0.0%	138	4.9%
October	2,867	2,577	89.9%	147	5.1%	5	0.2%	0	0.0%	138	4.8%
November	2,943	2,653	90.1%	150	5.1%	6	0.2%	0	0.0%	134	4.6%
December	3,029	2,643	87.3%	168	5.5%	4	0.1%	0	0.0%	214	7.1%
January	2,993	2,626	87.7%	175	5.8%	8	0.3%	0	0.0%	184	6.1%
February	3,096	2,545	82.2%	186	6.0%	7	0.2%	0	0.0%	358	11.6%
March	3,014	2,464	81.8%	200	6.6%	3	0.1%	0	0.0%	347	11.5%
April	2,885	2,375	82.3%	196	6.8%	11	0.4%	0	0.0%	303	10.5%
May	2,857	2,365	82.8%	218	7.6%	10	0.4%	0	0.0%	264	9.2%
June	2,782	2,356	84.7%	151	5.4%	5	0.2%	0	0.0%	270	9.7%
Mo. Avg.	2,901	2,509	86.5%	164	5.7%	7	0.2%	0	0.0%	221	7.6%

³ These are clients eligible for a referral to the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) program administered by the Department of Commerce. Additional columns in the table represent programs the client received in the subsequent month.

⁴ These are clients who were not enrolled in ABD, SSI, or other cash programs in the following month.

HEN Referral Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot

The following pages detail HEN Referral clients, June 2023 snapshot, by both the CSO of Issuance and CSO of Residence.

- CSO of Issuance: Based on the location from which benefits were issued. While most benefits are issued through ESA's Community Service Offices (CSO), benefits may be issued by Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC), Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) within DSHS's Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (ALTA), Developmental Disability Administration (DDA), or Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe (PGST).
- CSO of Residence: Based on the CSO coverage area in which a client lives.

Overview	Office of Issuance		Office of Residence	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
Region 1 CSOs	698	25.1%	703	25.3%
Region 2 CSOs	984	35.4%	989	35.5%
Region 3 CSOs	1,088	39.1%	1,086	39.0%
CSCCs	11	0.4%	N/A	
ALTA (HCS)	1	<0.1%		
DDA	0	0.0%		
Tribal Locations	0	0.0%		
Not Reported / Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	4	0.1%
State Total	2,782	100.0%	2,782	100.0%

Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 1 CSO	CSO of Issuance		CSO of Residence	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON	8	0.3%	8	0.3%
COLFAX	6	0.2%	6	0.2%
COLVILLE	21	0.8%	20	0.7%
ELLENSBURG	11	0.4%	10	0.4%
GOLDENDALE	4	0.1%	4	0.1%
KENNEWICK	46	1.7%	47	1.7%
MOSES LAKE	35	1.3%	36	1.3%
NEWPORT	6	0.2%	6	0.2%
OKANOGAN	25	0.9%	23	0.8%
REPUBLIC	3	0.1%	3	0.1%
SPOKANE MAPLE	182	6.5%	193	6.9%
SPOKANE TRENT	176	6.3%	173	6.2%
SUNNYSIDE	10	0.4%	8	0.3%
TOPPENISH	17	0.6%	16	0.6%
WALLA WALLA	25	0.9%	25	0.9%
WENATCHEE	43	1.5%	43	1.5%
WHITE SALMON	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%
YAKIMA	79	2.8%	81	2.9%
Region 1 Total	698	25.1%	703	25.3%

Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 2 CSO	CSO of Issuance		CSO of Residence	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD	38	1.4%	40	1.4%
AUBURN	66	2.4%	63	2.3%
BELLINGHAM	108	3.9%	105	3.8%
BELLTOWN	127	4.6%	127	4.6%
CAPITOL HILL	45	1.6%	46	1.7%
EVERETT	117	4.2%	117	4.2%
FEDERAL WAY	36	1.3%	38	1.4%
KING EASTSIDE	34	1.2%	35	1.3%
KING NORTH	65	2.3%	64	2.3%
KING SOUTH	82	2.9%	85	3.1%
MT VERNON	37	1.3%	38	1.4%
OAK HARBOR	17	0.6%	17	0.6%
RAINIER	33	1.2%	35	1.3%
RENTON	49	1.8%	49	1.8%
SKY VALLEY	18	0.6%	17	0.6%
SMOKEY POINT	48	1.7%	49	1.8%
WHITE CENTER	64	2.3%	64	2.3%
Region 2 Total	984	35.4%	989	35.5%

Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 3 CSO	CSO of Issuance		CSO of Residence	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN	85	3.1%	84	3.0%
BREMERTON	98	3.5%	101	3.6%
CHEHALIS	67	2.4%	63	2.3%
COLUMBIA RIVER	122	4.4%	121	4.3%
FORKS	1	<0.1%	2	0.1%
KELSO	97	3.5%	99	3.6%
LAKEWOOD	84	3.0%	83	3.0%
LONG BEACH	4	0.1%	4	0.1%
OLYMPIA	186	6.7%	186	6.7%
PIERCE NORTH	92	3.3%	87	3.1%
PIERCE SOUTH	85	3.1%	89	3.2%
PORT ANGELES	40	1.4%	39	1.4%
PORT TOWNSEND	6	0.2%	6	0.2%
PUYALLUP VALLEY	71	2.6%	73	2.6%
SHELTON	37	1.3%	36	1.3%
SOUTH BEND	7	0.3%	7	0.3%
STEVENSON	6	0.2%	6	0.2%
Region 3 Total	1,088	39.1%	1,086	39.0%

HEN Referral Clients by Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC) and Other Locations, June 2023 Snapshot

Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC)	Office of Issuance	
	Clients	% of State Total
CSCC Central Sound	3	0.1%
CSCC Northeast	1	<0.1%
CSCC Northwest	1	<0.1%
CSCC South Sound	0	0.0%
CSCC Southeast	0	0.0%
CSCC Southwest	2	0.1%
CSCC Virtual Case Management Center	4	0.1%
CSCC WASHCAP	0	0.0%
CSCC and WASHCAP Total	11	0.4%

DDA Locations	Office of Issuance	
	Clients	% of State Total
DDA Behavioral Health Financial Unit	0	0.0%
DDA Long-Term Care & Special Programs	0	0.0%
DDA Locations Total	0	0.0%

Tribal Locations	Office of Issuance	
	Clients	% of State Total
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe (PGST)	0	0.0%

HEN Referral Clients by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), June 2023 Snapshot

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 1	HCS of Issuance	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON HCS OFFICE	0	0.0%
COLVILLE HCS OFFICE	0	0.0%
ELLENSBURG HCS OFFICE	0	0.0%
MEDICAL LAKE HCS	1	<0.1%
MOSES LK HCS OFFICE	0	0.0%
OKANOGAN HCS OFFICE	0	0.0%
SPOKANE HCS OFFICE	0	0.0%
SUNNYSIDE HCS OFFICE	0	0.0%
TRI-CITIES HCS OFC	0	0.0%
WALLA WALLA HCS OFC	0	0.0%
WENATCHEE HCS OFFICE	0	0.0%
YAKIMA HCS OFFICE	0	0.0%
Region 1 Total	1	<0.1%

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 2	HCS of Issuance	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD HCS	0	0.0%
BELLINGHAM HCS	0	0.0%
EVERETT HCS	0	0.0%
HOLGATE HCS	0	0.0%
MOUNT VERNON HCS	0	0.0%
OAK HARBOR HCS	0	0.0%
SKYKOMISH HCS	0	0.0%
SMOKEY POINT HCS	0	0.0%
Region 2 Total	0	0.0%

Clients by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 3	HCS of Issuance	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN HCS	0	0.0%
BREMERTON HCS	0	0.0%
CHEHALIS HCS	0	0.0%
KELSO HCS	0	0.0%
OLYMPIA HCS	0	0.0%
PORT ANGELES HCS	0	0.0%
STEILACOOM HCS	0	0.0%
TACOMA HCS	0	0.0%
VANCOUVER HCS	0	0.0%
Region 3 Total	0	0.0%

HEN Referral Clients by County of Residence, June 2023 Snapshot

County	# of Clients	% of Total	County	# of Clients	% of Total
Adams	7	0.3%	Lewis	63	2.3%
Asotin	7	0.3%	Lincoln	5	0.2%
Benton	30	1.1%	Mason	36	1.3%
Chelan	30	1.1%	Okanogan	23	0.8%
Clallam	41	1.5%	Pacific	11	0.4%
Clark	121	4.3%	Pend Oreille	6	0.2%
Columbia	3	0.1%	Pierce	333	12.0%
Cowlitz	98	3.5%	San Juan	3	0.1%
Douglas	13	0.5%	Skagit	35	1.3%
Ferry	3	0.1%	Skamania	6	0.2%
Franklin	17	0.6%	Snohomish	224	8.1%
Garfield	1	<0.1%	Spokane	361	13.0%
Grant	30	1.1%	Stevens	20	0.7%
Grays Harbor	84	3.0%	Thurston	186	6.7%
Island	17	0.6%	Wahkiakum	1	<0.1%
Jefferson	6	0.2%	Walla Walla	23	0.8%
King	605	21.7%	Whatcom	105	3.8%
Kitsap	101	3.6%	Whitman	6	0.2%
Kittitas	10	0.4%	Yakima	105	3.8%
Klickitat	5	0.2%	Not Reported/ Unidentifiable	1	<0.1%

	Clients	% of Total
State Total	2,782	100.0%

HEN Referral Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot

All Clients		
Characteristic	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Total Clients	2,782	100.0%

All Clients		
Gender		
Female	1,025	36.8%
Male	1,757	63.2%
Unknown	0	0.0%

All Clients		
Ethnicity and Race		
Hispanic or Latino	341	12.3%
Not Hispanic or Latino ⁵	2,441	87.7%
White	1,822	65.5%
Black/African American	257	9.2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	97	3.5%
American Indian/Alaska Native	123	4.4%
Two or More Races	86	3.1%
Race Not Reported	56	2.0%

All Clients		
Marital Status		
Separated	212	7.6%
Married	67	2.4%
Never Married	1,737	62.4%
Divorced	699	25.1%
Widowed	65	2.3%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	2	0.1%

All Clients		
Citizenship Status		
U.S. Citizen	2,698	97.0%
Resident Noncitizen	80	2.9%
U.S. National ⁶	4	0.1%

⁵ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

⁶ U.S. National: A national of the United States or a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States (e.g., persons born in American Samoa or Swains Island).

HEN Referral Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

All Clients		
Characteristic	# of Clients	% of Total Clients

Homeless Status		
All Clients		
Homeless ⁷	1,274	45.8%

Disability		
All Clients		
Mental	2,156	77.5%
Physical	625	22.5%
Other	1	<0.1%

Education Status		
All Clients		
Less than a High School Diploma	553	19.9%
High School Graduate or GED	1,389	49.9%
Some College or College Degree	832	29.9%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	8	0.3%

Age		
All Clients		
Under 18 Years Old	N/A	N/A
18 - 24 Years Old	182	6.5%
25 - 34 Years Old	649	23.3%
35 - 44 Years Old	816	29.3%
45 - 54 Years Old	735	26.4%
55 - 64 Years Old	400	14.4%
Average Age of Clients	41.5 Years	

Length of Stay ⁸		
Average Length of Stay	9.9 Months	

⁷ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

⁸ Average Length of Stay is based on cumulative months since January 2014 when the program was implemented.

Medical Assistance

SFY

2023

Provides state and federally funded medical assistance to low-income individuals with disabilities, older adults, refugees, qualified aliens, and adults receiving Medicare benefits.

ESA Briefing
Book

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Medical Assistance Overview

This chapter summarizes data for clients who receive medical assistance through the Economic Services Administration (ESA) or the Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (ALTSA)¹. Implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) significantly changed ESA activities. Most medical assistance clients previously served by DSHS now apply for medical assistance through the Health Benefit Exchange (HBE).² In SFY 2013 and 2014, Medicaid eligibility determination for all families, pregnant women, and children transitioned to the HBE. This transition accounts for the significant medical assistance caseload decrease in DSHS beginning in SFY 2014. ESA continues to determine eligibility for some medical assistance programs, including medical programs for persons who are aged, blind, or disabled.

In SFY 2014, the Briefing Book reported numbers for clients who received both medical-only and cash-related³ medical assistance. Beginning with SFY 2015, reporting is limited to programs administered by ESA or ALTSA because the ACA-related transition of medical programs was completed before SFY 2015.

Additional information, including the eligibility criteria, funding sources, and services/benefits provided, is available [here](#).

TECHNICAL NOTES:

DATA SOURCES: Data for this chapter is based on the ESA Automated Client Eligibility System (ACES) database as of August 2023.

DATA NOTE:

- If counts of clients and cases served by a medical program are nearly identical, only clients are reported for that program.
- All reports of 10-year client trends reflect the monthly average for each state fiscal year (SFY).

¹ Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (ALTSA) is an ESA partner; therefore, ALTSA clients are included in this report.

² Rules and eligibility processes for determining Medicaid changed significantly effective October 1, 2013 due to implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Under a federal option, Washington state created a state-run Health Benefit Exchange (HBE) portal called the Washington Healthplanfinder (HPF). In addition to providing health insurance access to individuals and employers, the HPF provides eligibility determination for most Medicaid programs through a simplified automated system that is no longer tied to eligibility for ESA-administered public assistance programs. The management of medical assistance eligibility and related IT system processes were moved from ESA and the Automated Client Eligibility System (ACES) to the Health Care Authority (HCA) and the HBE. Families and pregnant women with Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) below the required federal poverty level (FPL) began accessing Medicaid through the HBE on October 1, 2013. Washington state also opted to participate in Medicaid Expansion, which qualifies eligible individuals with MAGI below 138% FPL for Medicaid. These individuals began accessing Medicaid through HBE beginning January 1, 2014.

³ Medical assistance programs historically included coverage that was associated with an ESA-administered cash assistance program such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Aged, Blind or Disabled (ABD) cash assistance, or Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA).

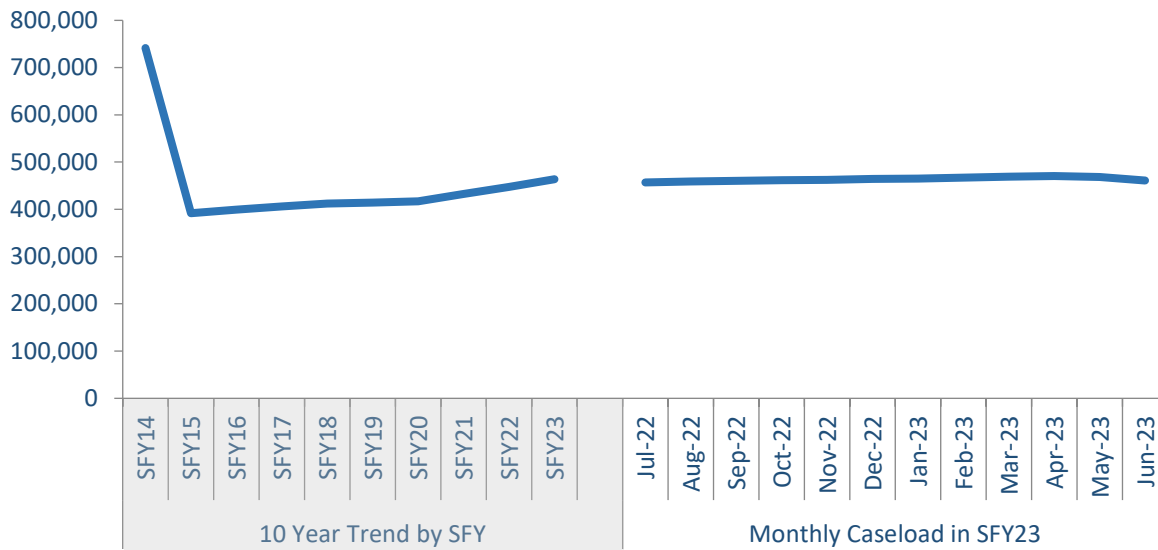
Medical Assistance Clients by Program Type, SFY 2023

Program Type	Description	Avg. Monthly Clients
Alien Emergency Medicaid (AEM)⁴	Federally funded program for immigrants who would qualify for full-scope Medicaid except for their alien status. Coverage is limited to emergency medical conditions.	253
Healthcare for Workers with Disabilities	Medical assistance for disabled persons who are working and do not receive SSI. Premium amounts are based on income.	1,897
Long Term Care	Coverage for people residing in a medical institution, receiving home and community based waiver services, or receiving hospice services.	100,583
Medicare Savings Program	Programs that pay Medicare premiums, coinsurance, and deductibles for low-income Medicare beneficiaries. Income limits vary by program, from 100% to 200% FPL.	206,988
Refugee Medical	Medical assistance for refugees who are ineligible for Medicaid. Eligibility ends after the first twelve months of residency in the U.S.	22
SSI Medicaid	Medical assistance for aged, blind or disabled persons who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI). The Social Security Administration determines eligibility for SSI using income rules based on Title XVI of the Social Security Act.	104,105
SSI Related Medicaid	Medical assistance for low-income aged, blind, or disabled persons who do not receive SSI cash benefits.	48,618
Medical Care Services (MCS)⁵	Medical assistance for adults who are deemed eligible for Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) cash assistance or the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral program but are immigrants under the five-year bar or legally present immigrants who are ineligible for other medical assistance programs.	1,171

⁴ Counts are restricted to clients 65 and older who are served by DSHS (ESA and ALTSA only).

⁵ Under [HB 1748](#) and [TSSB 5164](#), MCS was expanded to survivors of certain crimes (SCC) who receive ABD cash, HEN Referral, or State Family Assistance (SFA).

Total Medical Assistance Caseload, SFY 2014 – 2023



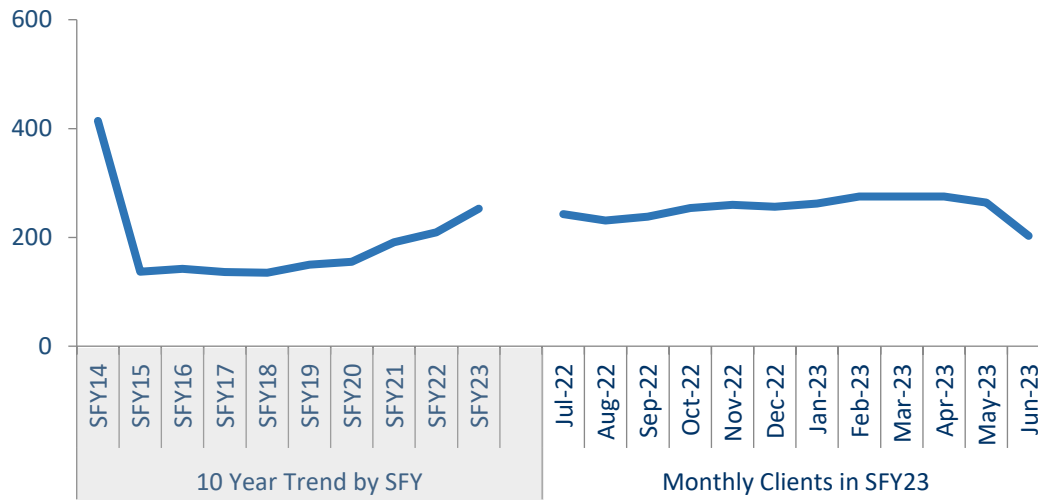
Note: The caseload decline beginning in SFY 2014 is related to implementation of the Affordable Care Act and the associated transition of the administration of most Medicaid programs (including eligibility determination) to the Health Benefit Exchange and the Health Care Authority.

SFY	Mo. Avg. Caseload	SFY	Mo. Avg. Caseload
SFY14	741,457	SFY19	414,320
SFY15	391,828	SFY20	416,950
SFY16	399,159	SFY21	432,653
SFY17	406,260	SFY22	447,487
SFY18	412,042	SFY23	463,873

SFY 2023	# of Cases ⁶	# of Clients
July	457,285	320,460
August	458,765	321,397
September	460,235	322,303
October	461,546	323,237
November	462,598	323,950
December	464,106	324,873
January	465,123	325,687
February	467,272	326,859
March	469,297	328,157
April	470,400	329,028
May	468,641	328,115
June	461,206	323,768
Mo. Avg.	463,873	324,820
Annual Unduplicated	540,381	357,155

⁶ These counts are of unique case numbers. Each client is assigned a case number for each medical program enrolled. A client may be enrolled in more than one medical program during the month (for example, both the Long-Term Care program and the Medicare Savings Program). When this happens, multiple case numbers are assigned—one for each medical program. As a result, the monthly number of medical assistance cases is greater than the number of medical clients.

Alien Emergency Medical Clients⁷, SFY 2014 – 2023



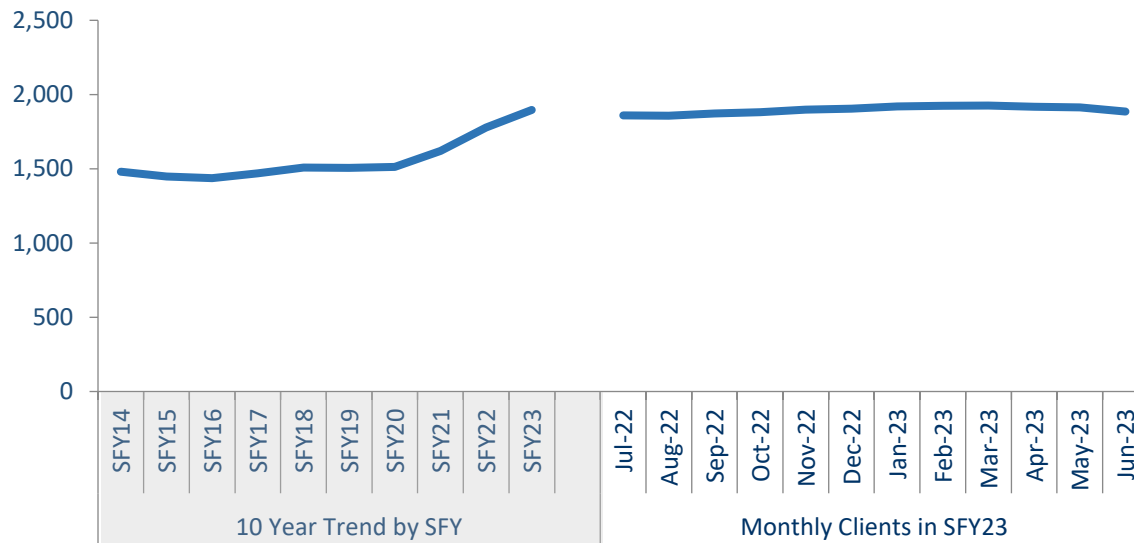
Note: The caseload decline beginning in SFY 2014 is related to implementation of the Affordable Care Act and the associated transition of the administration of most Medicaid programs (including eligibility determination) to the Health Benefit Exchange and the Health Care Authority.

SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients	SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients
SFY14	414	SFY19	150
SFY15	137	SFY20	155
SFY16	142	SFY21	191
SFY17	136	SFY22	209
SFY18	135	SFY23	253

SFY 2023	# of Clients
July	243
August	231
September	238
October	254
November	260
December	256
January	262
February	275
March	275
April	275
May	264
June	203
Mo. Avg.	253
Annual Unduplicated	626

⁷ Counts are restricted to clients 65 and older who are served by DSHS (ESA and ALTSA only).

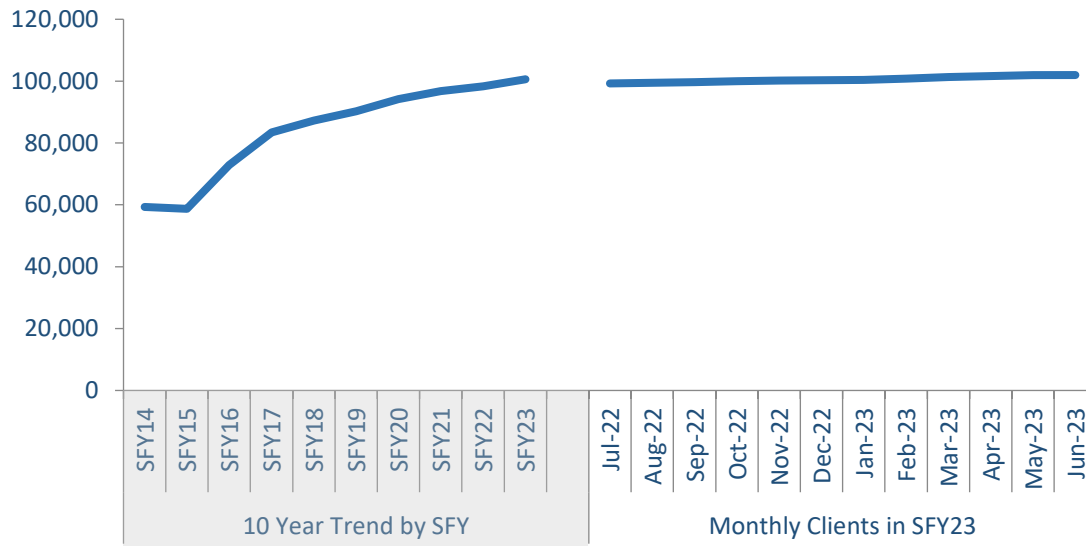
Healthcare for Workers with Disabilities Clients, SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients	SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients
SFY14	1,480	SFY19	1,506
SFY15	1,447	SFY20	1,513
SFY16	1,437	SFY21	1,621
SFY17	1,470	SFY22	1,777
SFY18	1,508	SFY23	1,897

SFY 2023	# of Clients
July	1,859
August	1,858
September	1,873
October	1,881
November	1,898
December	1,906
January	1,919
February	1,925
March	1,926
April	1,918
May	1,914
June	1,885
Mo. Avg.	1,897
Annual Unduplicated	2,047

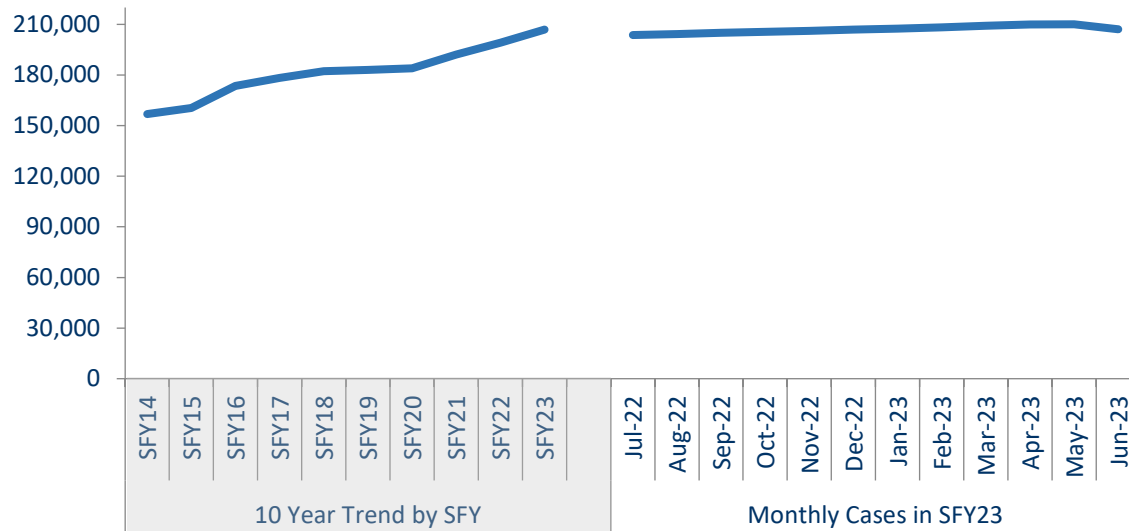
Long-Term Care Medical Clients, SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients	SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients
SFY14	59,328	SFY19	90,257
SFY15	58,724	SFY20	94,185
SFY16	72,875	SFY21	96,734
SFY17	83,409	SFY22	98,296
SFY18	87,219	SFY23	100,583

SFY 2023	# of Clients
July	99,263
August	99,483
September	99,687
October	99,937
November	100,192
December	100,304
January	100,446
February	100,763
March	101,368
April	101,624
May	101,955
June	101,971
Mo. Avg.	100,583
Annual Unduplicated	116,585

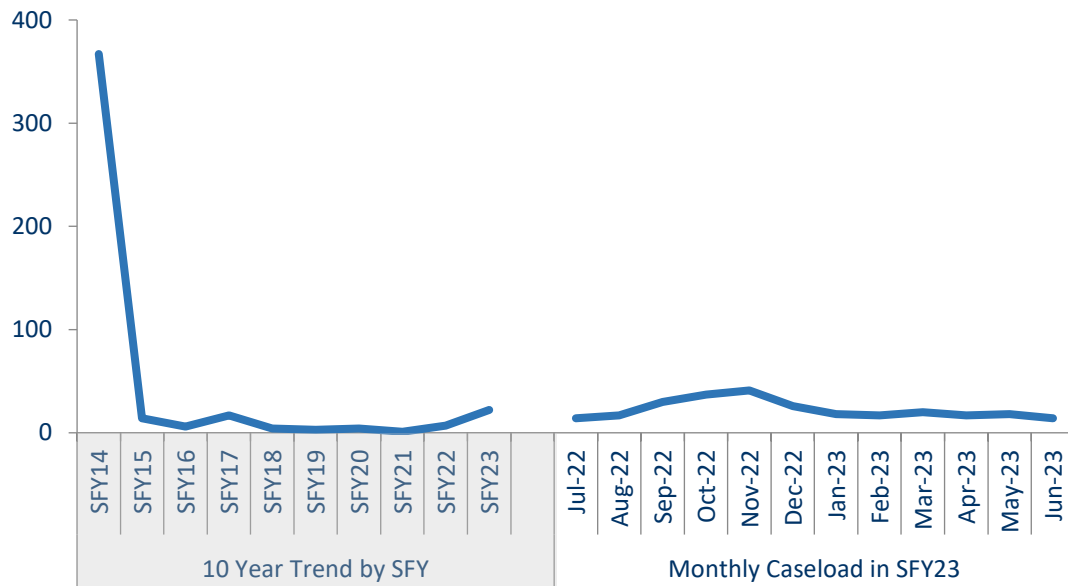
Medicare Savings Program Caseload, SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY	Mo. Avg. Cases	SFY	Mo. Avg. Cases
SFY14	156,855	SFY19	182,956
SFY15	160,438	SFY20	183,978
SFY16	173,520	SFY21	192,165
SFY17	178,338	SFY22	199,133
SFY18	182,238	SFY23	206,988

SFY 2023	# of Cases	# of Clients
July	203,775	209,159
August	204,327	209,734
September	204,977	210,380
October	205,678	211,135
November	206,134	211,616
December	206,964	212,443
January	207,396	212,919
February	208,202	213,751
March	209,197	214,798
April	209,969	215,608
May	210,059	215,694
June	207,180	212,710
Mo. Avg.	206,988	212,496
Annual Unduplicated	232,665	236,591

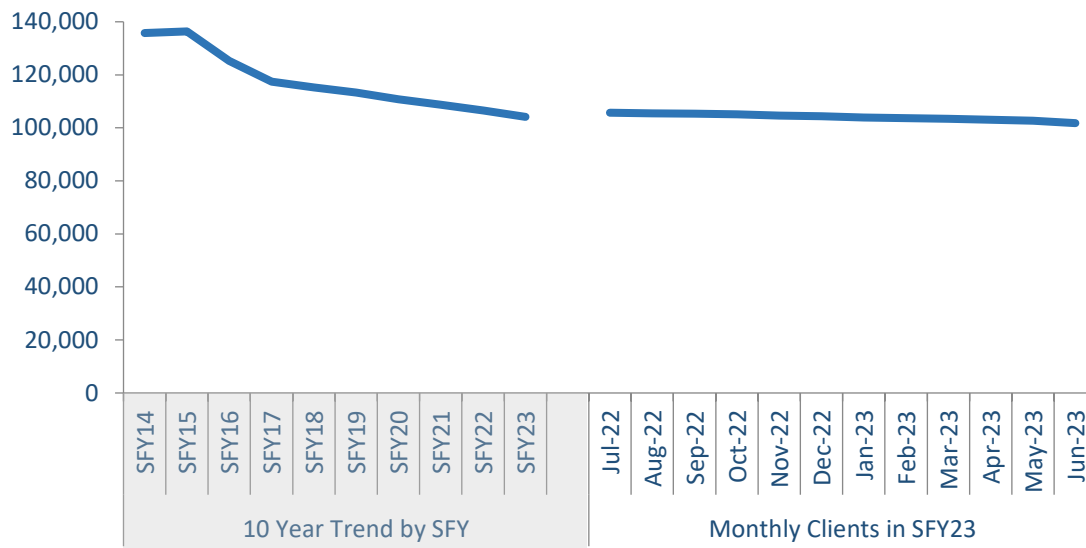
Refugee Medical Assistance Caseload, SFY 2014 – 2023



Note: The caseload decline beginning in SFY 2014 is related to implementation of the Affordable Care Act and the associated transition of the administration of most Medicaid programs (including eligibility determination) to the Health Benefit Exchange and the Health Care Authority.

SFY	Mo. Avg. Cases	SFY	Mo. Avg. Cases
SFY14	367	SFY19	3
SFY15	14	SFY20	4
SFY16	6	SFY21	1
SFY17	17	SFY22	7
SFY18	4	SFY23	22

SFY 2023	# of Cases	# of Clients
July	14	18
August	17	22
September	30	41
October	37	52
November	41	56
December	26	36
January	18	26
February	17	24
March	20	27
April	17	19
May	18	20
June	14	16
Mo. Avg.	22	30
Annual Unduplicated	68	88

SSI Medicaid Clients, SFY 2014 – 2023

SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients	SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients
SFY14	135,730	SFY19	113,251
SFY15	136,374	SFY20	110,739
SFY16	125,278	SFY21	108,752
SFY17	117,461	SFY22	106,512
SFY18	115,279	SFY23	104,105

SFY 2023	# of Clients
July	105,708
August	105,469
September	105,351
October	105,080
November	104,681
December	104,418
January	103,896
February	103,710
March	103,425
April	103,111
May	102,637
June	101,776
Mo. Avg.	104,105
Annual Unduplicated	116,252

SSI Related Medicaid Caseload, SFY 2014 – 2023



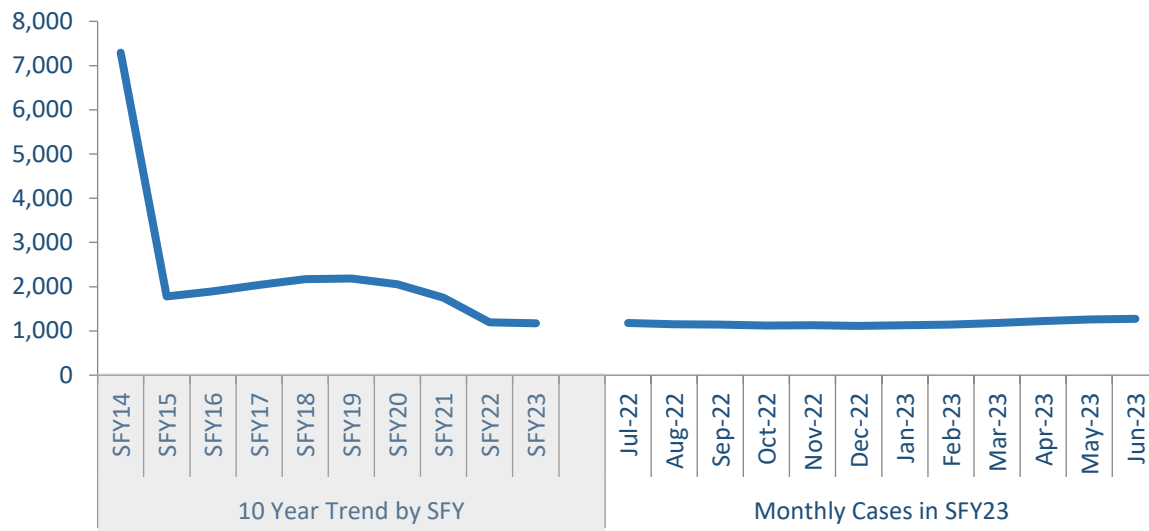
Note: The sharp caseload decline beginning in SFY 2015 is related to implementation of the Affordable Care Act and the associated transition of the administration of most Medicaid programs (including eligibility determination) to the Health Benefit Exchange and the Health Care Authority.

SFY	Mo. Avg. Cases	SFY	Mo. Avg. Cases
SFY14	55,314	SFY19	23,859
SFY15	32,758	SFY20	24,184
SFY16	23,832	SFY21	31,274
SFY17	23,211	SFY22	33,759
SFY18	23,319	SFY23	48,618

SFY 2023	# of Cases	# of Clients
July	45,037	46,950
August	45,951	47,866
September	46,663	48,588
October	47,294	49,270
November	47,984	49,964
December	48,865	50,883
January	49,828	51,889
February	50,956	53,009
March	51,658	53,809
April	52,049	54,245
May	50,366	52,511
June	46,766	48,846
Mo. Avg.	48,618	50,653
Annual Unduplicated	68,155	65,306

⁸ HCA and its partners (including DSHS) suspended all medical terminations as part of the continuous Medicaid enrollment during the COVID pandemic between March 2020 and March 2023. As a result, there was an increase in medical caseload during this time. Beginning April 1, 2023, HCA and DSHS began the medical eligibility redetermination, a requirement of all states by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 passed by the U.S. Congress on December 29, 2023.

Medical Care Services Caseload,⁹ SFY 2014 – 2023



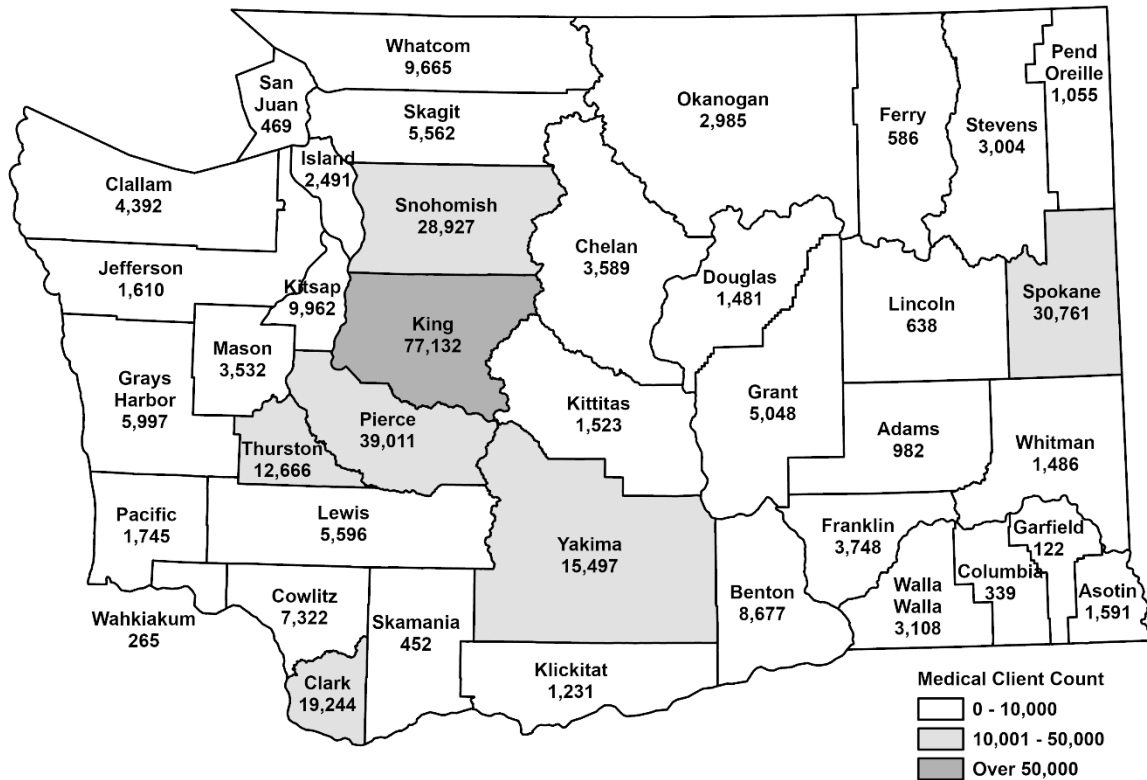
SFY	Mo. Avg. Cases	SFY	Mo. Avg. Cases
SFY14	7,292	SFY19	2,182
SFY15	1,778	SFY20	2,058
SFY16	1,897	SFY21	1,752
SFY17	2,038	SFY22	1,192
SFY18	2,171	SFY23	1,171

SFY 2023	# of Cases	# of Clients
July	1,177	1,177
August	1,153	1,153
September	1,143	1,141
October	1,125	1,123
November	1,128	1,129
December	1,114	1,115
January	1,131	1,134
February	1,143	1,145
March	1,179	1,182
April	1,225	1,226
May	1,256	1,256
June	1,273	1,272
Mo. Avg.	1,171	1,171
Annual Unduplicated	1,966	1,923

⁹ During the 2013 legislative session, the Washington State Legislature passed Substitute House Bill 2069, which narrowed MCS eligibility to include only ABD and HEN recipients who are ineligible for Medicaid expansion. This change maintained MCS coverage for aged, blind, disabled or incapacitated persons who are lawfully present in the U.S. and not eligible for federally funded medical assistance because of immigration status. The effective date for these changes was January 1, 2014.

Medical Assistance Clients by County, June 2023 Snapshot

Number of Medical Clients by Residential County in Washington State: June 2023

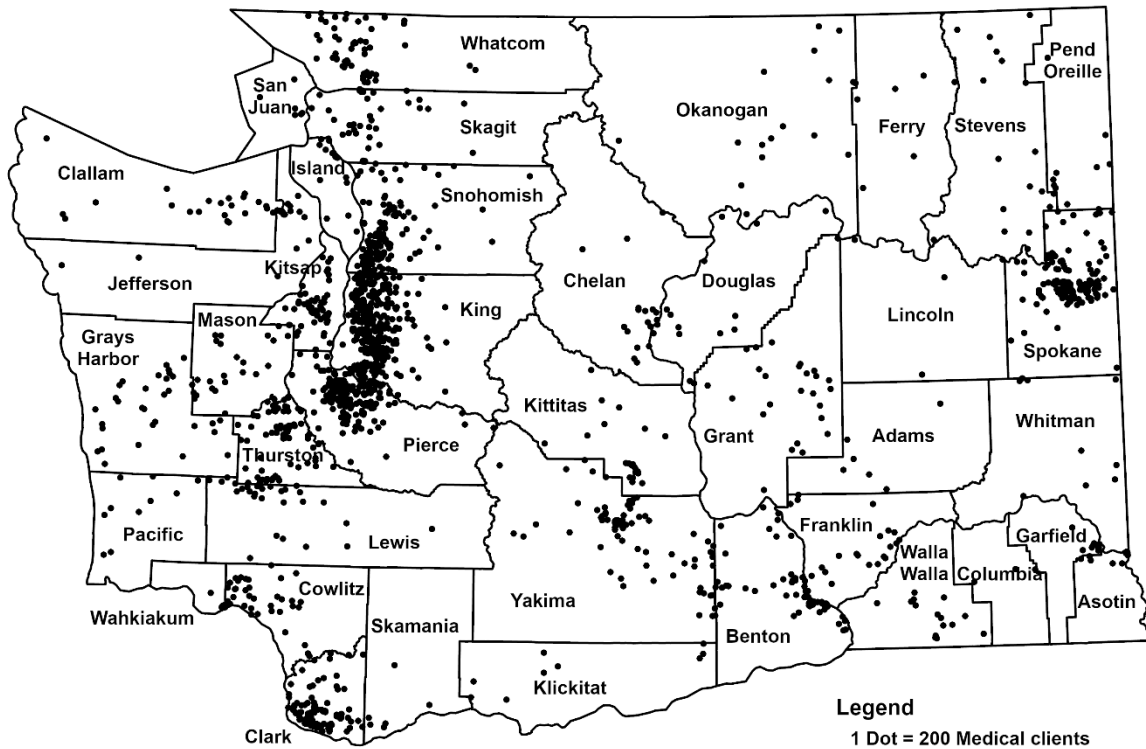


Source: ACES data

Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - Aug. 2023

Medical Assistance Clients by Density of Residential Zip Code, June 2023 Snapshot

Number of Medical Clients by Density of Residential Zip Code in Washington State: June 2023



Source: ACES data

Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - Aug. 2023

Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)

SFY

2023

Provides up to 12 months of cash assistance for newly arrived single and married refugees or humanitarian immigrants who are ineligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

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Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) Program Overview

RCA is a federally-funded program that provides up to 12 months of cash assistance for newly arrived single and married refugees or humanitarian immigrants who are ineligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

Additional information, including the eligibility criteria, funding sources, and services/benefits provided, is available [here](#).

Highlights

The average number of RCA program cases per month in Washington state was **3,779 in SFY 2023**, up from **476 in SFY 2022**. The average monthly cash grant assistance per cases was **\$400**.

In 2021, Congress expanded eligibility for RCA to include certain Afghan humanitarian parolees, and in 2022, Congress expanded eligibility again to include more Afghan humanitarian parolees, as well as Ukrainian humanitarian parolees. With Washington being a top destination state for humanitarian parolees who became eligible for RCA, Washington has seen a large increase in the RCA caseload.

TECHNICAL NOTES

DATA SOURCES: Data for this chapter was based on the ESA ACES database as of August 2023.

DATA NOTES:

- Percentages may not add up to expected totals due to rounding.
- The monthly counts of cases and clients for the ABD program are nearly identical. Therefore, only client counts are reported.
- All reports of 10-year client trends reflect the monthly average for each state fiscal year (SFY).

Selected RCA Program Overview, SFY 2022 and SFY 2023

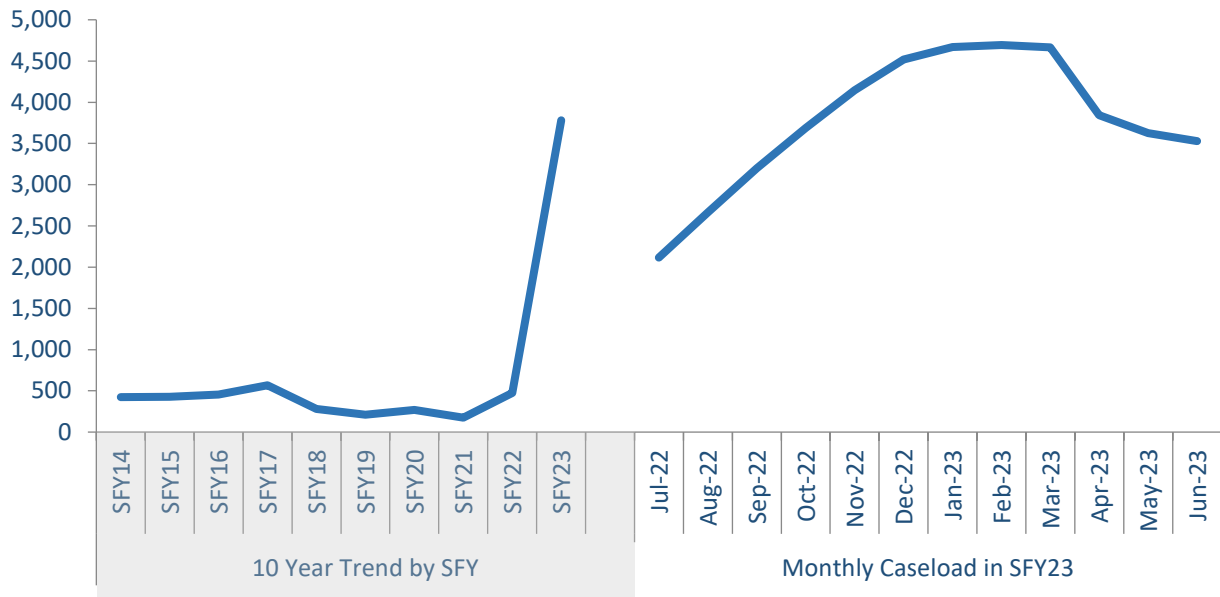
	SFY 2022 (July 2021-June 2022)	SFY 2023 (July 2022-June 2023)	Change	
Average Number of Cases Per Month (Range)¹	476 (74 - 1,279)	3,779 (2,116 - 4,694)	693.9% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of Persons Per Month (Range)	519 (93 - 1,392)	4,275 (2,338 - 5,342)	723.7% (Increase)	↑
State Population² Age 18 and Over	6,164,228	6,255,743	1.5% (Increase)	↑
Monthly Average Recipients as a Percent of State Population 18 and Over	<0.1%	<0.1%	No Change	=
Average Persons Per Case	1.1	1.1	No Change	=
Average Monthly Payment Per Case (Range)³	\$350.17 (\$239.98 - \$415.73)	\$400.24 (\$347.74 - \$415.20)	14.3% (Increase)	↑

¹ Beginning in August 2021, Washington saw an increase in Afghans eligible to receive Refugee Cash Assistance. There was an even larger increase in Ukrainians eligible to receive Refugee Cash Assistance starting in June 2022.

² Source: Office of Financial Management (OFM) population estimates

³ Payments not adjusted for refunds.

RCA Caseload, SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY	Monthly Average Cases	SFY	Monthly Average Cases
SFY14	425	SFY19	211
SFY15	428	SFY20	268
SFY16	454	SFY21	175
SFY17	569	SFY22	476
SFY18	280	SFY23	3,779

SFY 2023	Total # of Cases	Clients	Grant Expenditures	Average Payment Per Case
July	2,116	2,338	\$735,819	\$347.74
August	2,663	2,967	\$984,908	\$369.85
September	3,197	3,585	\$1,224,937	\$383.15
October	3,687	4,166	\$1,449,223	\$393.06
November	4,144	4,694	\$1,657,904	\$400.07
December	4,517	5,126	\$1,828,530	\$404.81
January	4,669	5,315	\$1,904,391	\$407.88
February	4,694	5,342	\$1,948,954	\$415.20
March	4,664	5,292	\$1,926,044	\$412.96
April	3,843	4,366	\$1,584,877	\$412.41
May	3,625	4,113	\$1,477,968	\$407.72
June	3,529	3,992	\$1,426,532	\$404.23
Mo. Avg.	3,779	4,275	\$1,512,507	\$400.24
Annual Undup. ⁴	7,473	8,213	\$18,150,084	\$2,428.75

⁴ Expenditures represent total expenditures in the SFY.

RCA Clients by Country of Origin, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated

Country	# of Clients	% of Statewide Clients
State Total	8,213	100%
Ukraine	6,400	77.9%
Afghanistan	714	8.7%
Cuba	423	5.2%
Russia	141	1.7%
Haiti	109	1.3%
Moldova	60	0.7%
Iran	44	0.5%
Somalia	38	0.5%
Syria	31	0.4%
Iraq	29	0.4%
Congo, Democratic Republic of	28	0.3%
Eritrea	18	0.2%
Sudan	15	0.2%
Columbia	14	0.2%
Ethiopia	13	0.2%
Guatemala	12	0.1%
Belarus (Belorussia)	10	0.1%
Honduras	10	0.1%
Countries with Less than 10 Clients	104	1.3%

RCA Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated

Overview	Office of Issuance				Office of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
Region 1 CSOs	1,092	14.6%	1,194	14.5%	1,093	14.6%	1,196	14.6%
Region 2 CSOs	4,316	57.8%	4,736	57.7%	4,334	58.0%	4,758	57.9%
Region 3 CSOs	2,028	27.1%	2,240	27.3%	2,035	27.2%	2,247	27.4%
CSCCs	2	<0.1%	2	<0.1%	N/A			
ALTSA (HCS)	35	0.5%	41	0.5%				
DDA	0	0.0%	0	0.0%				
Tribal Locations	0	0.0%	0	0.0%				
Not Reported / Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	11	0.1%	12	0.1%
State Total	7,473	100.0%	8,213	100.0%	7,473	100.0%	8,213	100.0%

RCA Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

Region 1 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
COLFAX	6	0.1%	5	0.1%	6	0.1%	5	0.1%
COLVILLE	3	<0.1%	4	<0.1%	3	<0.1%	4	<0.1%
ELLENSBURG	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%
GOLDENDALE	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
KENNEWICK	308	4.1%	326	4.0%	307	4.1%	324	3.9%
MOSES LAKE	104	1.4%	118	1.4%	106	1.4%	120	1.5%
NEWPORT	4	0.1%	4	<0.1%	4	0.1%	4	<0.1%
OKANOGAN	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
REPUBLIC	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
SPOKANE MAPLE	175	2.3%	193	2.3%	186	2.5%	207	2.5%
SPOKANE TRENT	464	6.2%	511	6.2%	454	6.1%	500	6.1%
SUNNYSIDE	2	<0.1%	3	<0.1%	2	<0.1%	3	<0.1%
TOPPENISH	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
WALLA WALLA	4	0.1%	4	<0.1%	4	0.1%	4	<0.1%
WENATCHEE	13	0.2%	16	0.2%	13	0.2%	16	0.2%
WHITE SALMON	7	0.1%	8	0.1%	7	0.1%	8	0.1%
YAKIMA	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Region 1 Total	1,092	14.6%	1,194	14.5%	1,093	14.6%	1,196	14.6%

RCA Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

Region 2 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD	462	6.2%	517	6.3%	476	6.4%	531	6.5%
AUBURN	612	8.2%	680	8.3%	607	8.1%	676	8.2%
BELLINGHAM	137	1.8%	144	1.8%	141	1.9%	149	1.8%
BELLTOWN	46	0.6%	49	0.6%	47	0.6%	50	0.6%
CAPITOL HILL	35	0.5%	36	0.4%	35	0.5%	36	0.4%
EVERETT	599	8.0%	662	8.1%	598	8.0%	663	8.1%
FEDERAL WAY	334	4.5%	361	4.4%	349	4.7%	380	4.6%
KING EASTSIDE	355	4.8%	388	4.7%	347	4.6%	381	4.6%
KING NORTH	96	1.3%	103	1.3%	98	1.3%	105	1.3%
KING SOUTH	739	9.9%	818	10.0%	730	9.8%	806	9.8%
MT VERNON	56	0.7%	59	0.7%	56	0.7%	59	0.7%
OAK HARBOR	2	<0.1%	2	<0.1%	2	<0.1%	2	<0.1%
RAINIER	48	0.6%	50	0.6%	48	0.6%	51	0.6%
RENTON	297	4.0%	326	4.0%	304	4.1%	331	4.0%
SKY VALLEY	90	1.2%	99	1.2%	91	1.2%	99	1.2%
SMOKEY POINT	166	2.2%	181	2.2%	163	2.2%	178	2.2%
WHITE CENTER	242	3.2%	261	3.2%	242	3.2%	261	3.2%
Region 2 Total	4,316	57.8%	4,736	57.7%	4,334	58.0%	4,758	57.9%

RCA Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

Region 3 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%
BREMERTON	30	0.4%	32	0.4%	29	0.4%	30	0.4%
CHEHALIS	7	0.1%	7	0.1%	7	0.1%	7	0.1%
COLUMBIA RIVER	1,068	14.3%	1,176	14.3%	1,077	14.4%	1,187	14.5%
FORKS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
KELSO	7	0.1%	9	0.1%	7	0.1%	9	0.1%
LAKEWOOD	126	1.7%	138	1.7%	129	1.7%	140	1.7%
LONG BEACH	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%
OLYMPIA	34	0.5%	38	0.5%	36	0.5%	40	0.5%
PIERCE NORTH	159	2.1%	181	2.2%	159	2.1%	182	2.2%
PIERCE SOUTH	147	2.0%	160	1.9%	145	1.9%	159	1.9%
PORT ANGELES	4	0.1%	5	0.1%	4	0.1%	5	0.1%
PORT TOWNSEND	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
PUYALLUP VALLEY	444	5.9%	492	6.0%	440	5.9%	486	5.9%
SHELTON	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
SOUTH BEND	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
STEVENSON	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Region 3 Total	2,028	27.1%	2,240	27.3%	2,035	27.2%	2,247	27.4%

RCA Caseload by Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC) and Other Locations, June 2023 Snapshot

Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC)	Office of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CSCC Central Sound	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Northeast	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Northwest	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC South Sound	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Southeast	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Southwest	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Virtual Case Management Center	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC WASHCAP	2	<0.1%	2	<0.1%
CSCC and WASHCAP Total	2	<0.1%	2	<0.1%

DDA Locations	Office of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
DDA Behavioral Health Financial Unit	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
DDA Long-Term Care & Special Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
DDA Locations Total	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

Tribal Locations	Office of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe (PGST)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

RCA Caseload by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 1	HCS of Issuance			
	Cases	% of State Total	Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
COLVILLE HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
ELLENSBURG HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
MEDICAL LAKE HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
MOSES LAKE HCS	3	<0.1%	4	<0.1%
OKANOGAN HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
SPOKANE HCS	2	<0.1%	2	<0.1%
SUNNYSIDE HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
TRI-CITIES HCS	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%
WALLA WALLA HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
WENATCHEE HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
YAKIMA HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Region 1 Total	6	0.1%	7	0.1%

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 2	HCS of Issuance			
	Cases	% of State Total	Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
BELLINGHAM HCS	3	<0.1%	4	<0.1%
EVERETT HCS	3	<0.1%	3	<0.1%
HOLGATE HCS	8	0.1%	8	0.1%
MOUNT VERNON HCS	2	<0.1%	2	<0.1%
SMOKEY POINT HCS	2	<0.1%	2	<0.1%
Region 2 Total	16	0.2%	17	0.2%

RCA Caseload by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 3	HCS of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
BREMERTON HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CHEHALIS HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
KELSO HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OLYMPIA HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
PORT ANGELES HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
STEILACOOM HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
TACOMA HCS	3	<0.1%	4	<0.1%
VANCOUVER HCS	10	0.1%	13	0.2%
Region 3 Total	13	0.2%	17	0.2%

RCA Caseload by County of Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated

County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total	County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total
Adams	3	<0.1%	3	<0.1%	Lewis	7	0.1%	7	0.1%
Asotin	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Lincoln	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Benton	192	2.6%	201	2.4%	Mason	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Chelan	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%	Okanogan	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Clallam	4	0.1%	5	0.1%	Pacific	2	<0.1%	2	<0.1%
Clark	1,077	14.4%	1,187	14.5%	Pend Oreille	4	0.1%	4	<0.1%
Columbia	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Pierce	873	11.7%	967	11.8%
Cowlitz	7	0.1%	9	0.1%	San Juan	3	<0.1%	3	<0.1%
Douglas	12	0.2%	15	0.2%	Skagit	53	0.7%	56	0.7%
Ferry	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Skamania	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Franklin	115	1.5%	123	1.5%	Snohomish	1,328	17.8%	1,471	17.9%
Garfield	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Spokane	640	8.6%	707	8.6%
Grant	106	1.4%	120	1.5%	Stevens	3	<0.1%	4	<0.1%
Grays Harbor	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%	Thurston	36	0.5%	40	0.5%
Island	2	<0.1%	2	<0.1%	Wahkiakum	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Jefferson	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Walla Walla	4	0.1%	4	<0.1%
King	2,807	37.6%	3,077	37.5%	Whatcom	141	1.9%	149	1.8%
Kitsap	29	0.4%	30	0.4%	Whitman	6	0.1%	5	0.1%
Kittitas	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%	Yakima	2	<0.1%	3	<0.1%
Klickitat	7	0.1%	8	0.1%	Not Reported/ Unidentifiable	7	0.1%	8	0.1%

	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total
State Total	7,473	100.0%	8,213	100.0%

RCA Client Demographics, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated

All Clients		
Characteristic	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Total Clients	8,213	100.0%

All Clients		
Gender		
Female	4,229	51.5%
Male	3,983	48.5%
Unknown	1	<0.1%

All Clients		
Ethnicity and Race		
Hispanic or Latino	558	6.8%
Not Hispanic or Latino ⁵	7,655	93.2%
White	6,239	76.0%
Black/African American	196	2.4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	299	3.6%
American Indian/Alaska Native	7	0.1%
Two or More Races	44	0.5%
Race Not Reported	870	10.6%

All Clients		
Marital Status		
Separated	68	0.8%
Married	2,868	34.9%
Never Married	4,221	51.4%
Divorced	543	6.6%
Widowed	476	5.8%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	37	0.5%

All Clients		
Immigration Status		
Refugee ⁶	7,148	87.0%
Not Refugee	900	11.0%
Cuban/Haitian	75	0.9%
Asylee	48	0.6%
Special Immigrant	28	0.3%
Immigration Status Categories with Fewer than 10 Clients	14	0.2%

⁵ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

⁶ Refugees includes Afghan and Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees who did not enter the U.S. with refugee status, but were eligible for all federal benefits available to refugees.

RCA Client Demographics, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients

Homeless Status			All Clients
Homeless ⁷	860	10.5%	

Education Status			All Clients
Less than a High School Diploma	852	10.4%	
High School Graduate or GED	3,481	42.4%	
Some College or College Degree	3,619	44.1%	
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	261	3.2%	

Age			All Clients
Under 18 Years Old	N/A	N/A	
18 – 24 Years Old	2,548	31.0%	
25 – 34 Years Old	2,205	26.8%	
35 – 44 Years Old	819	10.0%	
45 – 54 Years Old	872	10.6%	
55 – 64 Years Old	1,029	12.5%	
65+ Years Old	740	9.0%	
Average Age of Adults			37.3 Years

Length of Stay	
Average Length of Stay ⁸	6.7 Months

⁷ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

⁸ Average cumulative number of months clients received RCA since July 1997. RCA provides cash assistance for newly arrived single and married refugees and humanitarian immigrants in the U.S. who are not eligible for TANF. Effective June 2, 2022, the eligibility period for RCA and RMA expanded from eight to twelve months from date of eligibility, for federally eligible populations whose date of eligibility of refugee assistance was on or after October 1, 2021.

Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance (ORIA)

SFY

2023

Provides services through local government, community and technical colleges, refugee resettlement agencies, ethnic community-based organizations, and other service provider agencies to help people from refugee and immigrant backgrounds achieve economic stability and integrate into local communities.

ESA Briefing
Book

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ORIA Program Overview

The Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance (ORIA) uses federal and state resources to administer 14 different programs across the state that help people who are eligible for federal refugee resettlement services or who are receiving cash or food assistance and are limited English proficient to achieve economic stability and integrate into life in the United States. Data provided in this section highlights four prominent ORIA programs:

- **The Limited English Proficient (LEP) Pathway** – as part of the Washington WorkFirst program, ORIA partners with 16 different organizations to provide employment services and 14 organizations to offer vocational English language programs. Employment services include activities such as job skills training, job search, employment placement, and retention assistance. English as a Second Language (ESL) classes are offered by colleges and community-based organizations and are based on the student’s skill level. Curricula is focused on lessons that help participants gain the vocabulary needed in the workplace and other areas of their lives. Participants eligible for the LEP Pathway program may be recipients of ESA’s cash assistance programs, such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), State Family Assistance (SFA), or Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), or have a refugee or humanitarian immigrant status and have been in the country less than five years.
- **The Naturalization Services (NS) Program** – assists with the application and preparation process to help low-income permanent residents become U.S. citizens. ORIA partners with the City of Seattle’s New Americans Program and 13 community-based organizations. Services include preparing the application and fee waiver requests, assistance in obtaining test exemptions when appropriate, and interview preparation. Providers offer classes in American history and civics, as well as English language training needed for the citizenship test.
- **Promoting Refugee Integration, Mobility and Empowerment (PRIME) Program** – provides people who are eligible for federal refugee resettlement assistance a continuum of integration services that are community-based, comprehensive, and client-centered. The services promote their integration into new communities, and increase their mobility through coaching on how to independently navigate community systems and resources. Participants use the knowledge gained to empower themselves and rebuild their lives as they fulfill their dreams or goals.
- **ORIA Basic Food Employment and Training (BFET) Program** – provides employment services to refugees and immigrants who are not receiving federal cash assistance, such as TANF or Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), but receive federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. Individuals who have active SNAP benefits are eligible for Washington’s Basic Food Employment and Training (BFET) program. Participation is voluntary and may include job search, job search training (soft skills), educational services (adult basic education and ESL), workforce skills training (vocational education), assistance with establishing small businesses, post-employment services, support services, and other employment opportunities.

Additional information, including the eligibility criteria, funding sources, and services/benefits provided, is available [here](#).

Highlights

In SFY 2023, the LEP Pathway Program served a total of 10,027 unduplicated clients. Out of those served, 6,695 clients (66.8%) participated in Employment Services, of which 2,190 (32.7%) successfully entered employment, and 5,032 clients received English as a Second Language (ESL) services.

In SFY 2023, the Naturalization Service Program served a total of 4,322 clients and helped 1,946 people become U.S. citizens.

In SFY 2023, the PRIME Program served a total of 4,397 clients.

In SFY 2023, ESA's Basic Food Employment and Training Program (BFET) served a total of 587 clients through ORIA.

TECHNICAL NOTES

DATA SOURCES: Data reported in this chapter were extracted from the ESA – MyRIA and eJAS databases in October 2023.

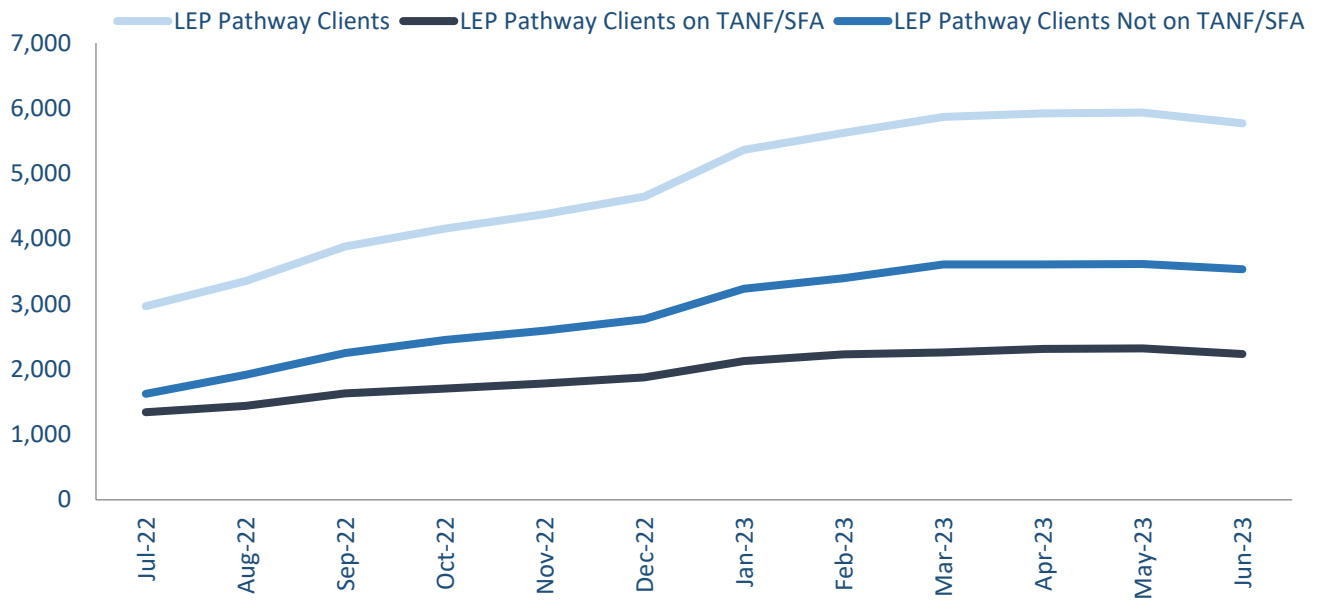
DATA NOTES:

- Percentages may not add up to expected totals due to rounding.
- Regional reports present the number of clients served by ORIA service providers in each DSHS region. A client's residence and service provider are usually in the same region.
- Primary language results are based on the client's self-reported data in ESA's ACES database.
- Primary language is the language in which the client wishes to communicate with DSHS, as indicated on the client's application or eligibility review.

Selected ORIA Program Overview, SFY 2022 and SFY 2023

	SFY 2022 (July 2021-June 2022)	SFY 2023 (July 2022-June 2023)	Change	
Average Number of LEP Pathway Clients Per Month & Range	1,950 (1,188 - 3,103)	4,820 (2,966 - 5,933)	147.2% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of LEP Pathway Clients on TANF/SFA Per Month & Range	560 (217 - 1,207)	1,938 (1,342 - 2,320)	245.8% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of LEP Pathway ESL Clients Per Month & Range	1,250 (683 - 2,020)	2,415 (1,482 - 3,173)	93.1% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of LEP Pathway Clients Who Received Employment Services Per Month & Range	935 (598 - 1,470)	2,918 (1,831 - 3,679)	212.2% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of LEP Pathway Clients Who Received Employment Services and Entered Employment Per Month & Range	105 (50 - 228)	199 (98 - 370)	89.9% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of Clients Receiving Naturalization Services Per Month & Range	563 (458 - 684)	602 (457 - 848)	7.0% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of PRIME Clients Per Month & Range	376 (246 - 644)	707 (589 - 796)	88.2% (Increase)	↑

LEP Pathway Clients, SFY 2023



SFY 2023	Total LEP Pathway Clients	LEP Pathway Clients on TANF/SFA		LEP Pathway Clients Not on TANF/SFA	
		Total	Percent	Total	Percent
July	2,966	1,342	45.2%	1,624	54.8%
August	3,350	1,437	42.9%	1,913	57.1%
September	3,879	1,631	42.0%	2,248	58.0%
October	4,154	1,705	41.0%	2,449	59.0%
November	4,376	1,782	40.7%	2,594	59.3%
December	4,644	1,875	40.4%	2,769	59.6%
January	5,360	2,126	39.7%	3,234	60.3%
February	5,624	2,229	39.6%	3,395	60.4%
March	5,867	2,260	38.5%	3,607	61.5%
April	5,920	2,314	39.1%	3,606	60.9%
May	5,933	2,320	39.1%	3,613	60.9%
June	5,770	2,235	38.7%	3,535	61.3%
Mo. Avg.	4,820	1,938	40.2%	2,882	59.8%
Annual Unduplicated	10,027	4,874	48.6%	5,153	51.4%

LEP Pathway Clients by Primary Language, June 2023 Snapshot

ESA's Community Services Division (CSD) collects information about a client's primary language during the initial application interview for public assistance. The information presented in the chart below reflects the language in which the client preferred to receive communication from DSHS. A number of contributing factors lead to English being selected as the primary language for a client, such as preference for documents to be written in English. LEP Pathway providers test and work with clients in the appropriate language using bilingual-bicultural staff or telephonic interpretation based on the needs of the clients.

Language	# of Clients	% of Total
Total	5,770	100.0%
Ukrainian	1,926	33.4%
Russian	1,509	26.2%
Dari	765	13.3%
English	484	8.4%
Spanish	358	6.2%
Pashto	184	3.2%
Arabic	110	1.9%
Farsi	75	1.3%
Portuguese	43	0.7%
French	42	0.7%
Tigrigna	37	0.6%
Haitian Creole	34	0.6%
Romanian	25	0.4%
Swahili	22	0.4%
Somali	19	0.3%
Amharic	17	0.3%
Vietnamese	17	0.3%
Marshallese	14	0.2%
Burmese	13	0.2%
Turkish	12	0.2%
Other Languages ¹ / Languages with Fewer than 10 Clients	64	1.1%

¹ Any languages not on the ACES language list.

LEP Pathway Clients by DSHS Region, June 2023 Snapshot

ESA's ORIA partners with 16 different employment providers and 14 different ESL providers to offer services in each of DSHS's three regions. Data is based on the DSHS region in which a client's ORIA service provider is located. A client's residence and service provider are usually in the same region. ORIA's services concentrate in areas with the highest numbers of recent refugees arrivals, such as King County in Region 2.

Region ²	# of Clients	% of Total
Region 1	1,003	17.4%
Region 2	3,650	63.3%
Region 3	1,117	19.4%
Total	5,770	100.0%

² Data is based on the DSHS region in which a client's ORIA service provider is located. A client's residence and service provider are usually in the same region.

LEP Pathway Clients by Country of Origin, SFY 2023

Country	# of Clients	Percent
Total	10,027	100.0%
Ukraine	5,405	53.9%
Afghanistan	2,251	22.4%
Russia	508	5.1%
Cuba	206	2.1%
Congo, Democratic Republic of	110	1.1%
Colombia	107	1.1%
Ethiopia	106	1.1%
Iraq	94	0.9%
Eritrea	91	0.9%
Somalia	84	0.8%
Haiti	78	0.8%
Venezuela	73	0.7%
Syria	72	0.7%
Angola	64	0.6%
Mexico	64	0.6%
Moldova	59	0.6%
Iran	54	0.5%
Sudan	53	0.5%
Vietnam	42	0.4%
Myanmar (Burma)	35	0.3%
Honduras	34	0.3%
Marshall Islands	32	0.3%
Guatemala	30	0.3%
Nicaragua	28	0.3%
Romania	26	0.3%
Belarus (Belorussia)	22	0.2%
Micronesia	21	0.2%
Kyrgyzstan	20	0.2%
El Salvador	19	0.2%
Peru	16	0.2%
Turkey	13	0.1%
Uzbekistan	12	0.1%
Armenia	11	0.1%
Kenya	11	0.1%
Turkmenistan	10	0.1%
Countries with Fewer Than 10 Clients	128	1.3%
Unknown/Not Reported	38	0.4%

Demographics of LEP Pathway Clients, June 2023 Snapshot

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Total Clients	5,770	100.0%

Gender	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Female	3,113	54.0%
Male	2,657	46.0%
Unknown	0	0.0%

Time in the U.S.	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Less Than 2 Years	5,238	90.8%
2 – 5 Years	353	6.1%
6 – 10 Years	93	1.6%
>10 Years	61	1.1%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	25	0.4%

Immigrant Status	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Refugee ³	3,960	68.6%
Special Immigrant	783	13.6%
Temporary Residents as Amnesty Beneficiaries	441	7.6%
Parolee Paroled One Year Or More	247	4.3%
Asylee	95	1.6%
Lawful Permanent Resident Nonresident	91	1.6%
Cuban/Haitian Entrants	40	0.7%
Citizen Of Marshall Islands/Micronesia	30	0.5%
Temporary Protected Status Individuals	18	0.3%
Amerasian	11	0.2%
Immigration Status Categories with Fewer than 10 Clients	18	0.3%
Other/Not Reported	36	0.6%

³ Refugees includes Afghan and Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees who did not enter the U.S. with refugee status, but were eligible for all federal benefits available to refugees.

Demographics of LEP Pathway Clients, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

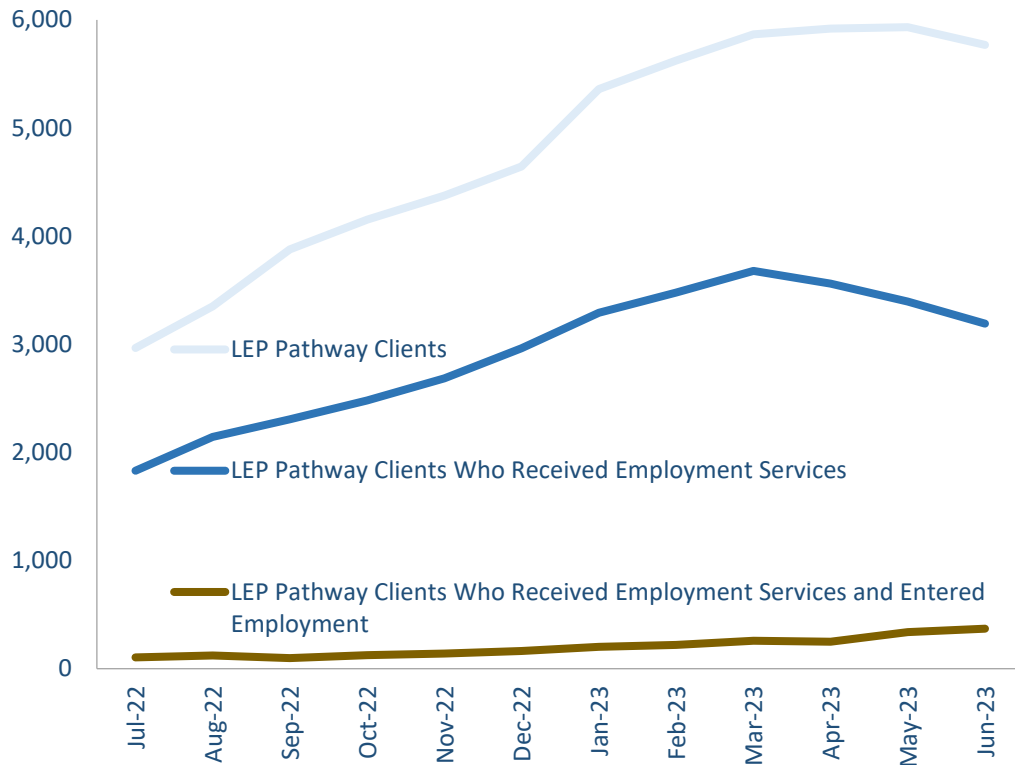
ESL Level ⁴	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Level 1	1,083	18.8%
Level 2	654	11.3%
Level 3	543	9.4%
Level 4	337	5.8%
Level 5	186	3.2%
Level 6	91	1.6%
Other ⁵	2,876	49.8%

Age	All Clients	
16 – 24 Years Old	939	16.3%
25 – 34 Years Old	2,028	35.1%
35 – 44 Years Old	1,698	29.4%
45 – 54 Years Old	763	13.2%
55 – 64 Years Old	300	5.2%
65 and Older	42	0.7%
Avg. Age of Clients	35.3 Years Old	

⁴ English as a Second Language (ESL) proficiency levels are based on Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS) standards. ESL Level 1 indicates the client's English proficiency skills are at the low end of the scale, while higher ESL levels indicate higher English proficiencies.

⁵ Includes LEP Pathway clients who did not receive ESL services.

LEP Pathway Clients Who Received Employment Services, SFY 2023



SFY 2023	# of LEP Pathway Clients	LEP Pathway Clients Who Received Employment Services		LEP Pathway Clients Who Received Employment Services and Entered Employment ⁶	
		# of Clients	Percent	# of Clients	Percent ⁷
July	2,966	1,831	61.7%	104	5.7%
August	3,350	2,143	64.0%	121	5.6%
September	3,879	2,307	59.5%	98	4.2%
October	4,154	2,482	59.7%	126	5.1%
November	4,376	2,685	61.4%	141	5.3%
December	4,644	2,964	63.8%	163	5.5%
January	5,360	3,291	61.4%	201	6.1%
February	5,624	3,479	61.9%	220	6.3%
March	5,867	3,679	62.7%	258	7.0%
April	5,920	3,562	60.2%	249	7.0%
May	5,933	3,396	57.2%	338	10.0%
June	5,770	3,192	55.3%	370	11.6%
Mo. Avg.	4,820	2,918	60.5%	199	6.8%
Annual Unduplicated	10,027	6,695	66.8%	2,190	32.7%

⁶ Entry to employment for LEP Pathway clients is based on the ORIA eJAS database.

⁷ Percent is based on the number of LEP Pathway clients who received Employment Services.

LEP Pathway Clients Who Received Employment Services by Primary Language, June 2023 Snapshot

Language ⁸	# of Clients	% of Total
Total	3,192	100.0%
Ukrainian	1,083	33.9%
Russian	891	27.9%
Dari	303	9.5%
English	275	8.6%
Spanish	233	7.3%
Pashto	80	2.5%
Arabic	57	1.8%
Farsi	42	1.3%
Portuguese	26	0.8%
Haitian Creole	24	0.8%
French	23	0.7%
Tigrigna	22	0.7%
Romanian	20	0.6%
Amharic	14	0.4%
Somali	14	0.4%
Swahili	12	0.4%
Other Languages ⁹ /Languages with Fewer than 10 Clients	73	2.3%

⁸ Client self-reported data from ACES.

⁹ Any languages not on the ACES language list.

LEP Pathway Clients Who Received Employment Services by DSHS Region, June 2023 Snapshot

Region ¹⁰	# of Clients	% of Total
Region 1	291	9.1%
Region 2	1,977	61.9%
Region 3	924	28.9%
Total	3,192	100.0%

¹⁰ Data is based on the DSHS region in which a client's ORIA service provider is located. A client's residence and service provider are usually in the same region.

LEP Pathway Clients Who Received Employment Services by Country of Origin, SFY 2023

Country	# of Clients	Percent
Total	6,695	100.0%
Ukraine	3,608	53.9%
Afghanistan	1,404	21.0%
Russia	347	5.2%
Cuba	159	2.4%
Ethiopia	87	1.3%
Somalia	78	1.2%
Iraq	75	1.1%
Congo, Democratic Republic of	72	1.1%
Eritrea	72	1.1%
Haiti	64	1.0%
Colombia	59	0.9%
Mexico	48	0.7%
Angola	45	0.7%
Iran	45	0.7%
Moldova	38	0.6%
Venezuela	38	0.6%
Sudan	37	0.6%
Syria	35	0.5%
Guatemala	26	0.4%
Honduras	24	0.4%
Romania	24	0.4%
Nicaragua	23	0.3%
Vietnam	23	0.3%
Marshall Islands	18	0.3%
Micronesia	17	0.3%
Belarus (Belorussia)	16	0.2%
El Salvador	13	0.2%
Peru	12	0.2%
Turkey	12	0.2%
Armenia	10	0.1%
Kyrgyzstan	10	0.1%
Myanmar (Burma)	10	0.1%
Countries with Fewer than 10 Clients	114	1.7%
Unknown/Not Reported	32	0.5%

Demographics of LEP Pathway Clients Who Received Employment Services, June 2023 Snapshot

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Total Clients	3,192	100.0%

Gender	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Female	1,432	44.9%
Male	1,760	55.1%
Unknown	0	0.0%

Time in the U.S.	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Less Than 2 Years	2,956	92.6%
2 – 5 Years	98	3.1%
6 – 10 Years	67	2.1%
>10 Years	55	1.7%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	16	0.5%

Immigrant Status	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Refugee ¹¹	2,225	69.7%
Special Immigrant	294	9.2%
Temporary Residents as Amnesty Beneficiaries	287	9.0%
Parolee Paroled One Year Or More	164	5.1%
Lawful Permanent Resident Noncitizen	63	2.0%
Asylee	59	1.8%
Cuban/Haitian Entrants	30	0.9%
Citizen Of Marshall Islands/Micronesia	21	0.7%
Temporary Protected Status Individuals	14	0.4%
Immigration Status Categories with Fewer than 10 Clients	12	0.4%
Other/Not Reported	23	0.7%

¹¹ Refugees includes Afghan and Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees who did not enter the U.S. with refugee status, but were eligible for all federal benefits available to refugees.

Demographics of LEP Pathway Clients Who Received Employment Services, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

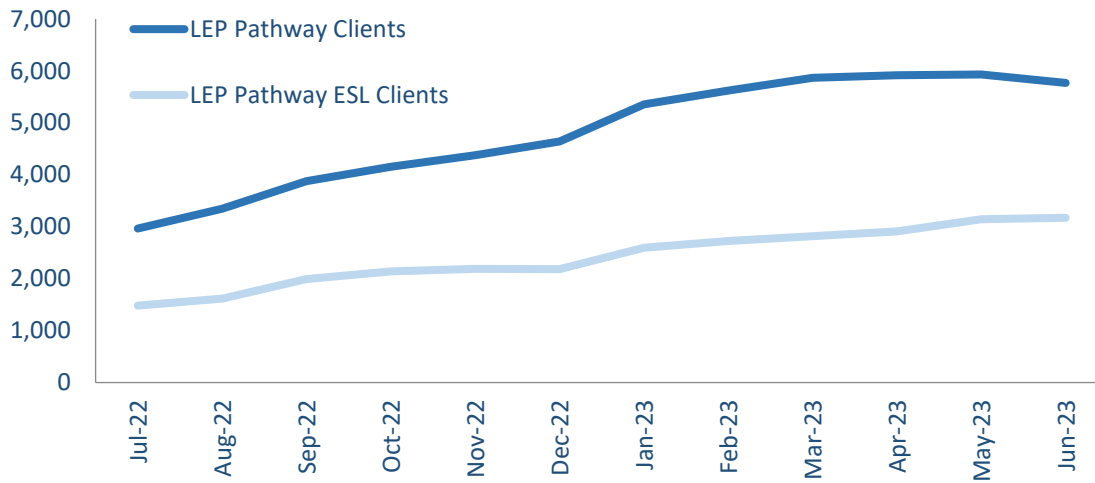
ESL Level ¹²	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Level 1	269	8.4%
Level 2	177	5.5%
Level 3	141	4.4%
Level 4	76	2.4%
Level 5	59	1.8%
Level 6	23	0.7%
Other ¹³	2,447	76.7%

Age	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
16 – 24 Years Old	541	16.9%
25 – 34 Years Old	1,057	33.1%
35 – 44 Years Old	974	30.5%
45 – 54 Years Old	432	13.5%
55 – 64 Years Old	182	5.7%
65 and Older	6	0.2%
Avg. Age of Clients	35.4 Years Old	

¹² English as a Second Language (ESL) proficiency levels are based on Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS) standards. ESL Level 1 indicates the client's English proficiency skills are at the low end of the scale, while higher ESL levels indicate higher English proficiencies.

¹³ Includes LEP Pathway clients who received Employment Services, but did not receive ESL services.

LEP Pathway Clients Who Received ESL Services, SFY 2023



SFY 2023	LEP Pathway Clients	LEP Pathway ESL Clients	
		# of Clients	Percent
July	2,966	1,482	50.0%
August	3,350	1,616	48.2%
September	3,879	1,992	51.4%
October	4,154	2,142	51.6%
November	4,376	2,189	50.0%
December	4,644	2,182	47.0%
January	5,360	2,599	48.5%
February	5,624	2,726	48.5%
March	5,867	2,819	48.0%
April	5,920	2,914	49.2%
May	5,933	3,144	53.0%
June	5,770	3,173	55.0%
Monthly Average	4,820	2,415	50.1%
Annual Unduplicated	10,027	5,032	50.2%

LEP Pathway Clients Who Received ESL Services by Primary Language, June 2023 Snapshot

Language	# of Clients	% of Total
Total	3,173	100.0%
Ukrainian	993	31.3%
Russian	823	25.9%
Dari	518	16.3%
English	257	8.1%
Spanish	163	5.1%
Pashto	124	3.9%
Arabic	75	2.4%
Farsi	44	1.4%
French	29	0.9%
Portuguese	22	0.7%
Tigrigna	18	0.6%
Haitian Creole	16	0.5%
Swahili	12	0.4%
Burmese	11	0.3%
Other Languages ¹⁴ / Languages with Fewer than 10 Clients	68	2.1%

¹⁴ Any languages not on the ACES language list.

LEP Pathway Clients Who Received ESL Services by DSHS Region, June 2023 Snapshot

Region ¹⁵	# of Clients	% of Total
Region 1	867	27.3%
Region 2	1,912	60.3%
Region 3	394	12.4%
Total	3,173	100.0%

¹⁵ Data is based on the DSHS region in which a client's ORIA service provider is located. A client's residence and service provider are usually in the same region.

LEP Pathway Clients Who Received ESL Services by Country of Origin, SFY 2023

Country	# of Clients	% of Total
Total	5,032	100.0%
Ukraine	2,713	53.9%
Afghanistan	1,235	24.5%
Russia	235	4.7%
Cuba	81	1.6%
Congo, Democratic Republic of	65	1.3%
Colombia	61	1.2%
Syria	60	1.2%
Venezuela	44	0.9%
Ethiopia	42	0.8%
Iraq	38	0.8%
Eritrea	35	0.7%
Haiti	34	0.7%
Moldova	34	0.7%
Sudan	33	0.7%
Angola	29	0.6%
Myanmar (Burma)	28	0.6%
Iran	22	0.4%
Mexico	22	0.4%
Vietnam	20	0.4%
Kyrgyzstan	17	0.3%
Marshall Islands	17	0.3%
Somalia	17	0.3%
Guatemala	16	0.3%
Honduras	12	0.2%
Countries with Fewer Than 10 Clients	113	2.2%
Unknown/Not Reported	9	0.2%

Demographics of LEP Pathway Clients Who Received ESL Services, June 2023 Snapshot

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Total Clients	3,173	100.0%

Gender			All Clients
Female	1,999	63.0%	
Male	1,174	37.0%	
Unknown	0	0.0%	

Time in the U.S.			All Clients
Less Than 2 Years	2,845	89.7%	
2 – 5 Years	267	8.4%	
6 – 10 Years	34	1.1%	
>10 Years	15	0.5%	
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	12	0.4%	

Immigrant Status			All Clients
Refugee ¹⁶	2,189	69.0%	
Special Immigrant	549	17.3%	
Temporary Residents as Amnesty Beneficiaries	185	5.8%	
Parolee Paroled One Year Or More	101	3.2%	
Lawful Permanent Resident Noncitizen	44	1.4%	
Asylee	38	1.2%	
Cuban/Haitian Entrants	19	0.6%	
Citizen Of Marshall Islands/Micronesia	11	0.3%	
Immigration Status Categories with Fewer than 10 Clients	22	0.7%	
Other/Not Reported	15	0.5%	

¹⁶ Refugees includes Afghan and Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees who did not enter the U.S. with refugee status, but were eligible for all federal benefits available to refugees.

Demographics of LEP Pathway Clients Who Received ESL Services, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

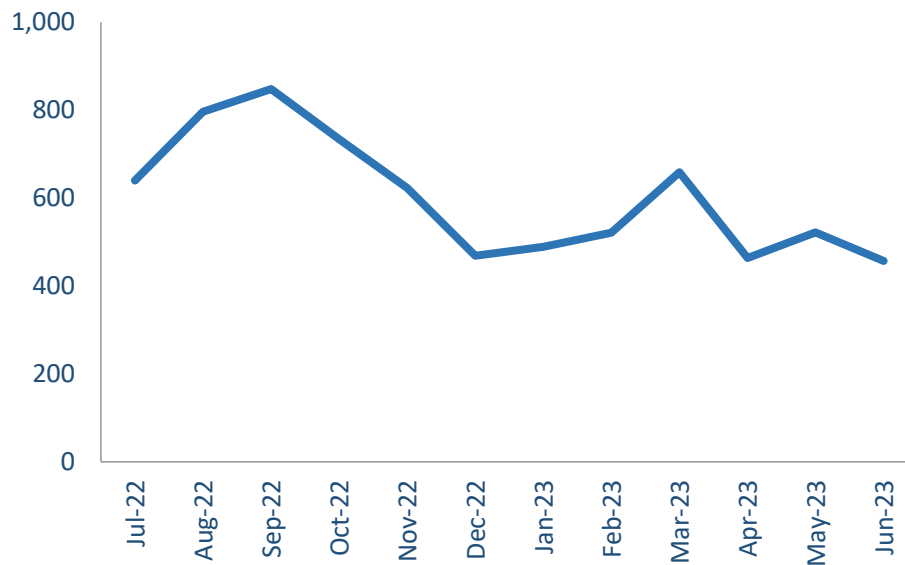
ESL Level ¹⁷	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total
Level 1	995	31.4%
Level 2	604	19.0%
Level 3	516	16.3%
Level 4	321	10.1%
Level 5	169	5.3%
Level 6	82	2.6%
Other ¹⁸	486	15.3%

Age	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total
16 – 24 Years Old	502	15.8%
25 – 34 Years Old	1,169	36.8%
35 – 44 Years Old	887	28.0%
45 – 54 Years Old	425	13.4%
55 – 64 Years Old	154	4.9%
65 and Older	36	1.1%
Avg. Age of Clients	35.3 Years Old	

¹⁷ English as a Second Language (ESL) proficiency levels are based on Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS) standards. ESL Level 1 indicates the client's English proficiency skills are at the low end of the scale. Higher ESL levels indicate higher English proficiencies.

¹⁸ Includes clients receiving ESL instruction who were not tested or whose ESL level was not reported during the reporting period.

Naturalization Services (NS) Clients, SFY 2023¹⁹



SFY 2023	# of Reported NS Clients	# of Naturalization Application Assistance Reported	# of Naturalized Clients Reported by Providers ²⁰
July	640	158	161
August	796	172	223
September	848	196	243
October	734	141	208
November	623	146	192
December	469	122	151
January	489	125	100
February	521	150	119
March	659	165	241
April	464	143	72
May	522	144	130
June	457	115	106
Mo. Avg.	602	148	162
Annual Unduplicated	4,322	1,777	1,946

¹⁹ Monthly counts are based on the service billing report month. Services are provided based on funding available; more services are paid at the start of the fiscal year when funds are available. As funds are depleted towards the end of the year, so are the reports of services provided to clients.

²⁰ Naturalized: U.S. citizenship was conferred.

Naturalization Service Clients by Primary Language, June 2023 Snapshot

Language	# of Clients	% of Total
Total	457	100.0%
English	107	23.4%
Spanish	93	20.4%
Russian	41	9.0%
Ukrainian	31	6.8%
Dari	22	4.8%
Vietnamese	20	4.4%
Arabic	19	4.2%
Farsi	18	3.9%
Burmese	14	3.1%
Korean	12	2.6%
Cambodian (Khmer)	11	2.4%
Tigrigna	11	2.4%
Amharic	10	2.2%
Other Languages ²¹ /Languages with Fewer than 10 Clients	48	10.5%

²¹ Any languages not on the ACES language list.

Naturalization Service Clients by DSHS Region, June 2023 Snapshot

Region ²²	# of Clients	% of Total
Region 1	125	27.4%
Region 2	281	61.5%
Region 3	51	11.2%
Total	457	100.0%

²² Data is based on the DSHS region in which a client's ORIA service provider is located. A client's residence and service provider are usually in the same region.

Naturalization Service Clients by Country of Origin, SFY 2023

Country	# of Clients	% of Total
Total	4,322	100.0%
Afghanistan	803	18.6%
Ukraine	595	13.8%
Mexico	426	9.9%
Iraq	344	8.0%
Somalia	218	5.0%
Vietnam	214	5.0%
Moldova	174	4.0%
Ethiopia	159	3.7%
Russia	148	3.4%
Cambodia Kampuchea	111	2.6%
Iran	104	2.4%
Myanmar (Burma)	93	2.2%
Congo, Democratic Republic of	84	1.9%
Eritrea	81	1.9%
Korea (South)	78	1.8%
Syria	57	1.3%
Philippines	50	1.2%
Sudan	34	0.8%
Bhutan	25	0.6%
Kenya	25	0.6%
India	24	0.6%
Egypt	23	0.5%
Pakistan	23	0.5%
Belarus (Belorussia)	19	0.4%
El Salvador	19	0.4%
Thailand	17	0.4%
China	16	0.4%
Colombia	16	0.4%
Kazakhstan	15	0.3%
Kyrgyzstan	14	0.3%
Gambia, The	13	0.3%
Western Samoa	13	0.3%
Georgia	12	0.3%
Nepal	12	0.3%
Romania	12	0.3%
Cuba	11	0.3%

Naturalization Service Clients by Country of Origin, SFY 2023 (continued)

Country	# of Clients	% of Total
Guatemala	11	0.3%
Ghana	10	0.2%
Honduras	10	0.2%
Peru	10	0.2%
Countries with Fewer than 10 Clients	179	4.1%
Other Countries ²³	20	0.5%

²³ Other countries not on the ACES country of origin list.

Demographics of Naturalization Service Clients, June 2023 Snapshot

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total
Total Clients	457	100.0%

Gender	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total
Female	279	61.1%
Male	178	38.9%
Unknown	0	0.0%

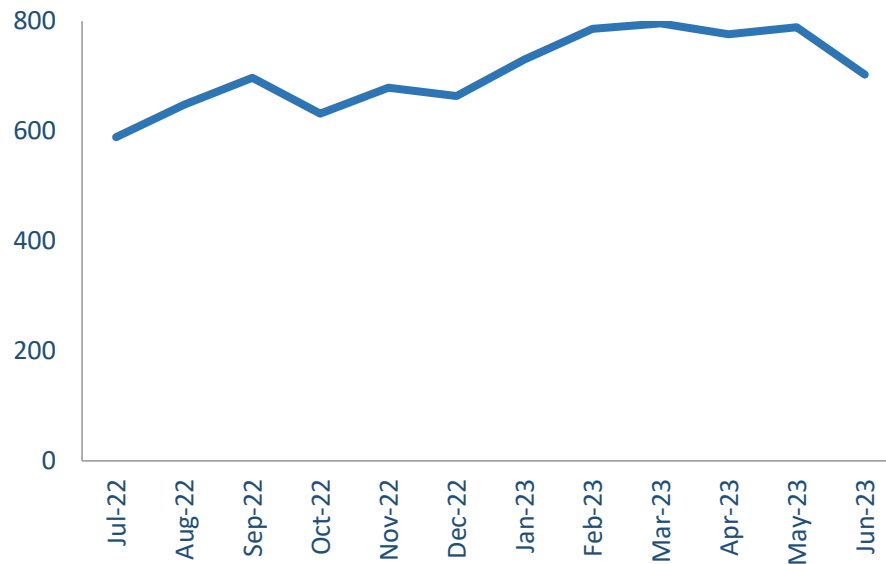
Time in the U.S.	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total
Less Than 2 Years	0	0.0%
2 – 5 Years	125	27.4%
6 – 10 Years	203	44.4%
More Than 10 Years	129	28.2%
Not Reported	0	0.0%

Immigrant Status	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total
Not Refugee	207	45.3%
Refugee ²⁴	184	40.3%
Special Immigrant	44	9.6%
Asylee	15	3.3%
Lawful Permanent Resident Noncitizen	6	1.3%
Cuban/Haitian Entrants	1	0.2%
Other/Not Reported	0	0.0%

Age	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total
15 and Younger	17	3.7%
16 – 24 Years Old	59	12.9%
25 – 34 Years Old	70	15.3%
35 – 44 Years Old	83	18.2%
45 – 54 Years Old	82	17.9%
55 – 64 Years Old	64	14.0%
65 and Older	82	17.9%
Average Age of Clients	45.0 Years Old	

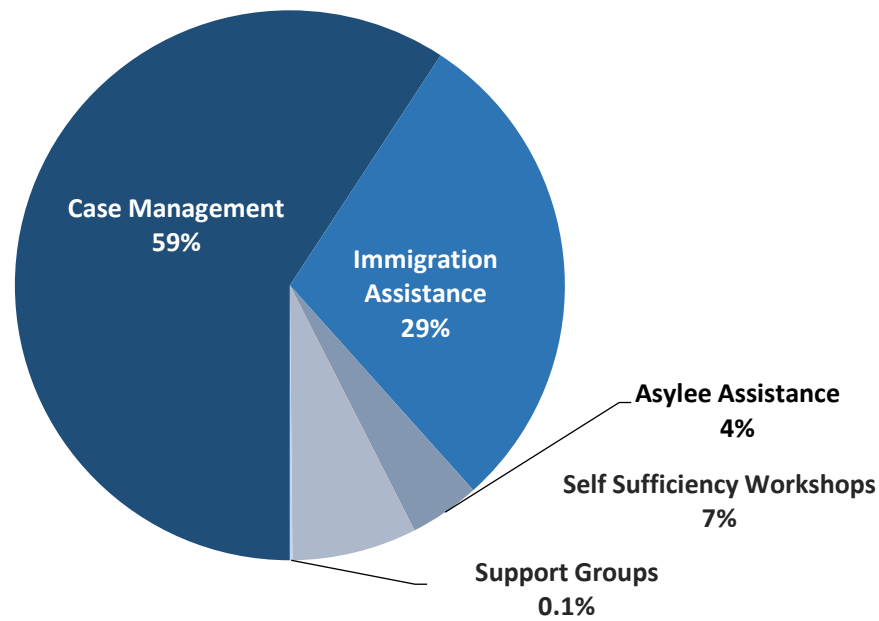
²⁴ Refugees includes Afghan and Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees who did not enter the U.S. with refugee status, but were eligible for all federal benefits available to refugees.

PRIME Clients, SFY 2023



SFY 2023	Total PRIME Clients
July	589
August	648
September	697
October	632
November	679
December	664
January	730
February	786
March	796
April	776
May	789
June	703
Mo. Avg.	707
Annual Unduplicated	4,397

PRIME Services by Category, SFY 2023



PRIME Service Category	# of Services	Percent of Total Services	# of Unduplicated Clients ²⁵
Asylee Assistance	443	4.1%	171
Case Management	6,352	59.2%	1,562
Immigration Assistance	3,125	29.1%	2,209
Support Groups	16	0.1%	16
Self Sufficiency Workshops	787	7.3%	687
Total	10,723	100.0%	

²⁵ Numbers reflect unduplicated clients within each service category. A client may receive more than one type of services in the SFY. In this case, the client is counted in each service category.

PRIME Clients by Primary Language, June 2023 Snapshot

Language	# of Clients	% of Total
Total	703	100.0%
Russian	154	21.9%
Ukrainian	131	18.6%
Dari	123	17.5%
English	113	16.1%
Pashto	55	7.8%
Arabic	36	5.1%
Spanish	25	3.6%
Tigrigna	14	2.0%
Farsi	11	1.6%
Other Languages²⁶ / Languages with Fewer than 10 Clients	41	5.8%

²⁶ Any languages not on the ACES language list.

PRIME Clients by DSHS Region, June 2023 Snapshot

Region ²⁷	# of Clients	% of Total
Region 1	151	21.5%
Region 2	421	59.9%
Region 3	131	18.6%
Total	703	100.0%

²⁷ Data shows the number of clients served by ORIA service providers by region. Clients generally live in the same region as their service provider.

PRIME Clients by Country of Origin, SFY 2023

Country	# of Clients	% of Total
Total	4,397	100.0%
Ukraine	2,208	50.2%
Afghanistan	1,299	29.5%
Eritrea	101	2.3%
Dem. Rep. Congo	65	1.5%
Moldova	63	1.4%
Syria	61	1.4%
Ethiopia	57	1.3%
Iraq	56	1.3%
Russia	54	1.2%
Sudan	44	1.0%
Somalia	43	1.0%
Iran	36	0.8%
Burma	34	0.8%
Honduras	24	0.5%
Guatemala	19	0.4%
Colombia	18	0.4%
El Salvador	16	0.4%
Kenya	16	0.4%
Cuba	14	0.3%
Haiti	14	0.3%
Turkey	14	0.3%
Venezuela	13	0.3%
Pakistan	12	0.3%
Kyrgyzstan	11	0.3%
Other/Countries with Fewer than 10 Clients	105	2.4%

Demographics of PRIME Clients, June 2023 Snapshot

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total
Total Clients	703	100.0%

Gender	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total
Female	340	48.4%
Male	363	51.6%
Unknown	0	0.0%

Time in the U.S.	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total
Less Than 2 Years	619	88.1%
2 – 5 Years	84	11.9%
6 – 10 Years	0	0.0%
Greater Than 10 Years	0	0.0%

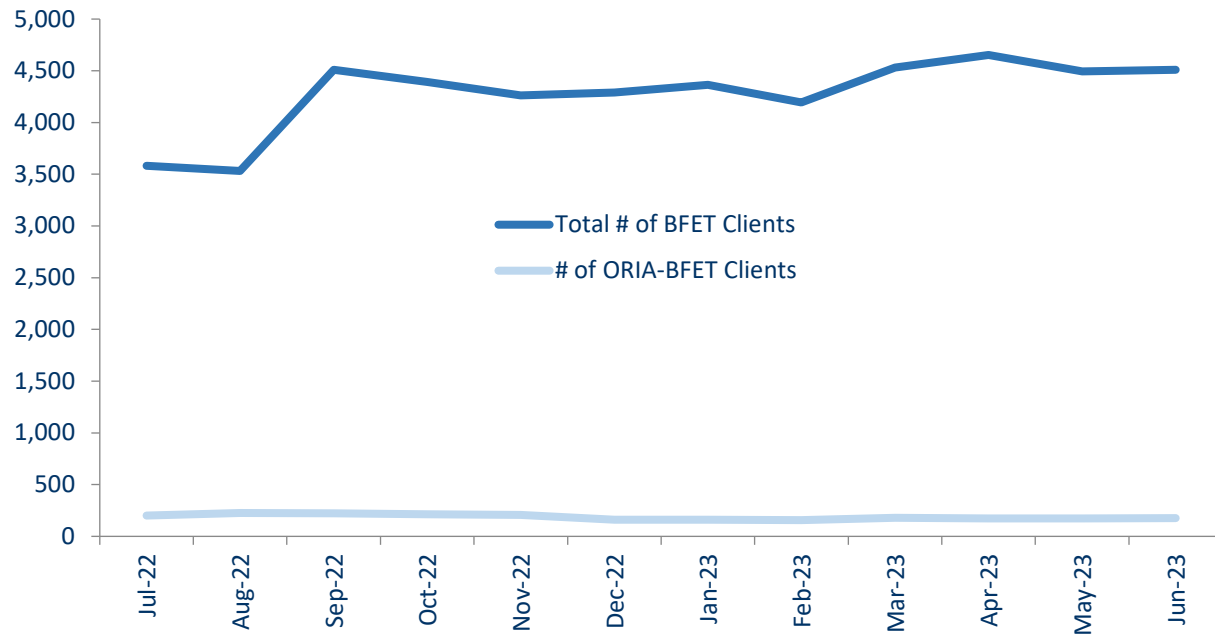
Immigrant Status ²⁸	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total
Parolee Paroled One Year Or More	382	54.3%
Refugee ²⁹	199	28.3%
Special Immigrant	67	9.5%
Asylee	47	6.7%
Amerasian	5	0.7%
Cuban/Haitian Entrants	3	0.4%

Age	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total
< 16 Years Old	1	0.1%
16 – 24 Years Old	109	15.5%
25 – 34 Years Old	254	36.1%
35 – 44 Years Old	183	26.0%
45 – 54 Years Old	78	11.1%
55 – 64 Years Old	53	7.5%
65 and Older	25	3.6%
Avg. Age of Clients	36.5 Years Old	

²⁸ See Glossary at the end of this chapter for definitions.

²⁹ Refugees includes Afghan and Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees who did not enter the U.S. with refugee status, but were eligible for all federal benefits available to refugees.

ORIA Basic Food Employment & Training (BFET) Clients³⁰, SFY 2023



SFY 2023	Total # of BFET Clients	# of ORIA BFET Clients ³¹
July	3,583	202
August	3,532	226
September	4,511	223
October	4,393	214
November	4,262	208
December	4,289	162
January	4,363	161
February	4,194	157
March	4,532	180
April	4,653	174
May	4,493	173
June	4,509	177
Mo. Avg.	4,276	188
Annual Unduplicated	11,273	587

³⁰ A typical BFET activity lasts over 30 days, so the monthly client counts include duplications.

³¹ BFET clients served by DSHS Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance (ORIA).

Demographics of ORIA-BFET Clients, June 2023 Snapshot

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Total Clients	177	100.0%

Gender			All Clients
Female	97	54.8%	
Male	80	45.2%	
Not Reported/ Unidentifiable	0	0%	

Race/Ethnicity			All Clients
Hispanic or Latino	1	0.6%	
Not Hispanic or Latino ³²	176	99.4%	
White	62	35.0%	
Black/African American	48	27.1%	
Asian/Pacific Islander	24	13.6%	
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0.0%	
Two or More Races	1	0.6%	
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	41	23.2%	

Marital Status			All Clients
Separated	5	2.8%	
Married	105	59.3%	
Never Married	46	26.0%	
Divorced	19	10.7%	
Widowed	2	1.1%	
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	

³² Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

Demographics of ORIA-BFET Clients, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Characteristic	<u>All Clients</u>	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Immigrant Status³³		
<u>All Clients</u>		
Refugee ³⁴	111	62.7%
Special Immigrant	35	19.8%
Lawful Permanent Resident Noncitizen	16	9.0%
Asylee	9	5.1%
Amerasian	2	1.1%
Parolee Paroled One Year or More	1	0.6%
Temporary Residents as Amnesty	1	0.6%
Deportation Withheld	0	0.0%
Other/Not Reported	2	1.1%
Homeless Status		
<u>All Clients</u>		
Homeless ³⁵	17	9.6%
Education Status		
<u>All Clients</u>		
Less than a High School Diploma	47	26.6%
High School Graduate or GED	80	45.2%
Some College or College Degree	36	20.3%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	14	7.9%

³³ See Glossary at the end of this chapter for definitions.

³⁴ Refugees includes Afghan and Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees who did not enter the U.S. with refugee status, but were eligible for all federal benefits available to refugees.

³⁵ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

Demographics of ORIA-BFET Clients, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Age		
	All Clients	
Under 18 Years Old	9	5.1%
18 - 24 Years Old	29	16.4%
25 - 34 Years Old	54	30.5%
35 - 44 Years Old	40	22.6%
45 - 54 Years Old	32	18.1%
55 - 64 Years Old	12	6.8%
65+ Years Old	1	0.6%
Average Age of Clients	35.9 Years	

Glossary

Definitions of Immigrant and USCIS Entry Status

Amerasian – U.S. citizen-fathered child born in Korea, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia or Thailand after 1950 and before Oct 22, 1982.

Asylee – A person granted protection from removal from the U.S. by the Department of Homeland Security who is unable or unwilling to return to his or her home country because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution based on race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a social group.

Citizen of Marshall Islands/Micronesia – These individuals are not U.S. citizens or nationals, but they may enter the U.S. as non-immigrants without visas and may stay without a time restriction. They may work, travel and apply for permanent residency status in the U.S. during their stay. Admission to the U.S. is not guaranteed and the U.S. has the right to set terms and conditions on the stay.

Conditional Entrant – An individual who is admitted to the U.S. under a provision of the pre-1980 immigration law because of persecution or fear of persecution in his or her home country.

Cuban/Haitian Entrant – A national of Cuba or Haiti who was paroled in the U.S., whether the parole document expressly stated “Cuban/Haitian entrant” or not, or was granted any other special status. Includes nationals of these countries who are in the U.S. under a variety of circumstances, including persons paroled on any basis, those involved in deportation proceedings, asylum applicants, those granted adjustment to lawful permanent resident status under the Cuban Adjustment Act, Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act, Haitian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act, or those granted “special status” under the Refugee Education Assistance Act.

Lawful Permanent Resident Noncitizen – A noncitizen who has been granted the legal right to live and work in the U.S. and travel outside the U.S. without interference.

Non-Refugee – Immigrants served by the LEP Pathway and Naturalization Services programs who do not meet the definition of refugee (see next page). These persons include: Citizen of Marshall Islands/Micronesia, Conditional Entrant, Lawful Permanent Resident, Parolee Paroled One Year or More, Permanent Residence Under Color of Law, Temporary Resident Ineligible (Not Valid After 10/15/06), Temporary Protected Status Individuals, Temporary Residents as Amnesty Beneficiaries, and the spouse or child of a U.S. citizen whose visa petition has been approved and has a pending application for adjustment of status.

Outreach Participants for Naturalization Services – Individuals who meet one of these criteria: (1) refugees who arrived in the U.S. on or after August 22, 1996, who are currently receiving SSI, have been in the U.S. for at least four years, and have not naturalized; (2) refugees who are currently receiving Aged, Blind or Disabled (ABD) cash assistance; or (3) lawful permanent residents whose only barrier to receiving SSI is naturalization, including those who are currently receiving ABD and unable to meet the federal requirement of 40 work quarters or have been in the U.S. for less than 10 years.

Parolee Paroled One Year or More – A person allowed entry into the U.S. by the Department of Homeland Security for urgent medical or humanitarian reasons or other emergencies.

Permanently Residing Under Color of Law – Noncitizens who are not considered "qualified aliens" under federal law for purposes of determining eligibility for public assistance, who are residing in the U.S. indefinitely, and whose presence USCIS is aware of but is not taking steps to enforce their departure.

Refugee – A noncitizen who has been given permission to live in the U.S. because he or she was persecuted, or has a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, nationality, religion, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group, in his or her home country. Refugee categories under federal law include: persons who enter the U.S. as refugees, Cuban-Haitian Entrants, Amerasians, asylees, Special Immigrant Visa holders, and victims of human trafficking.

Special Immigrant – A person who qualifies for a green card (permanent residence) under the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) due to particular reasons. In recent years, this status has been given to Afghanistan or Iraq nationals who support the U.S. Armed Forces as translators and Iraq nationals who worked for or on behalf of the U.S. Government in Iraq. In order to apply for immigration documents under this status, an individual must fill out a petition documenting his or her circumstances and submit the petition to USCIS.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Individuals – The Secretary of Homeland Security may designate a foreign country for TPS due to conditions in the country that temporarily prevent the country's nationals from returning safely, or in certain circumstances, where the country is unable to handle the return of its nationals adequately. During a designated period, individuals who are TPS beneficiaries or who are found preliminarily eligible for TPS upon initial review of their cases are not removable from the U.S., may obtain work authorization and may be granted authorization to travel. TPS does not lead to permanent residency status but while in TPS individuals may apply for nonimmigrant status, file for an adjustment to his or her immigration status and apply for other immigration benefits or protection which he or she is eligible to receive.

Temporary Residents as Amnesty Beneficiaries – Lawful temporary residents under the amnesty program of the Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA), including those admitted under Sections 210 ("special agricultural workers") and 245A of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).

Victim of Human Trafficking – Individuals who are or were subject to a form of modern-day slavery in which traffickers typically lure victims with false promises of employment and a better life. Traffickers often take advantage of poor, unemployed individuals who lack access to social safety nets. There are two types of immigration relief provided to victims of human trafficking and related crimes: (1) T nonimmigrant status (T visa) and (2) U nonimmigrant status (U visa). Victims of severe forms of human trafficking are eligible for a T visa, which allows victims to remain in the U.S. to assist in the investigation or prosecution of human traffickers. Once a T visa is granted, a victim can apply for permanent residence after three years. The U visa provides immigration protection to crime victims who have suffered substantial mental or physical abuse as a result of trafficking or related crimes and allows victims to remain in the U.S. and assist law enforcement authorities in the investigation or prosecution of the criminal activity.

Withholding of Removal – A special type of order issued by an immigration judge to a person who demonstrates more than a 50 percent chance that they will be persecuted if they return to their home country. The person is permitted to remain in the country.

TANF/SFA/
WorkFirst

SFY

2023

The federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and the State Family Assistance (SFA) programs provide cash grants for eligible low-income families. The state's WorkFirst program provides employment, training, and support services for TANF/SFA clients to help them move forward on a pathway to self-sufficiency.

ESA Briefing
Book

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TANF, SFA, and WorkFirst Overview

This chapter summarizes the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), State Family Assistance (SFA), and WorkFirst caseload and client data for SFY 2023.

TANF provides cash grants for families in need. In addition to needy families, persons who are caring for a child not their own biologically or by adoption (e.g. a relative's child, as a legal guardian, or acting in the place of a parent) are also able to apply for TANF benefits on behalf of that child. Residents of Washington state who are ineligible for TANF solely because of eligibility changes under the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act may be eligible for SFA. Adults in families receiving TANF/SFA participate in the WorkFirst Program, which helps participants resolve barriers and prepare for and find jobs.

Additional information, including the eligibility criteria, funding sources, and services/benefits provided, is available [here](#).

Highlights

In SFY 2023, Washington state's TANF/SFA average monthly caseload increased by 13.2%, from 28,839 households in SFY 2022 to 32,643 households in SFY 2023. Child-only households comprised 31.9% of the total TANF/SFA caseload in SFY 2023, down from 36.1% in SFY 2022. The average monthly cash assistance grant per case was \$542.

TECHNICAL NOTES

DATA SOURCES: Data for this chapter is based on the ESA Automated Client Eligibility System (ACES) database as of August 2023. Quarterly employment and earnings for WorkFirst participants is based on Unemployment Insurance (UI) wage data provided by the Employment Security Department (ESD). Data on concurrent benefits, mental health treatment, and substance abuse disorder treatment comes from DSHS' Research and Data Analysis (RDA). Child support data is based on ESA Division of Child Support's Support Enforcement Management System (SEMS).

DATA NOTES:

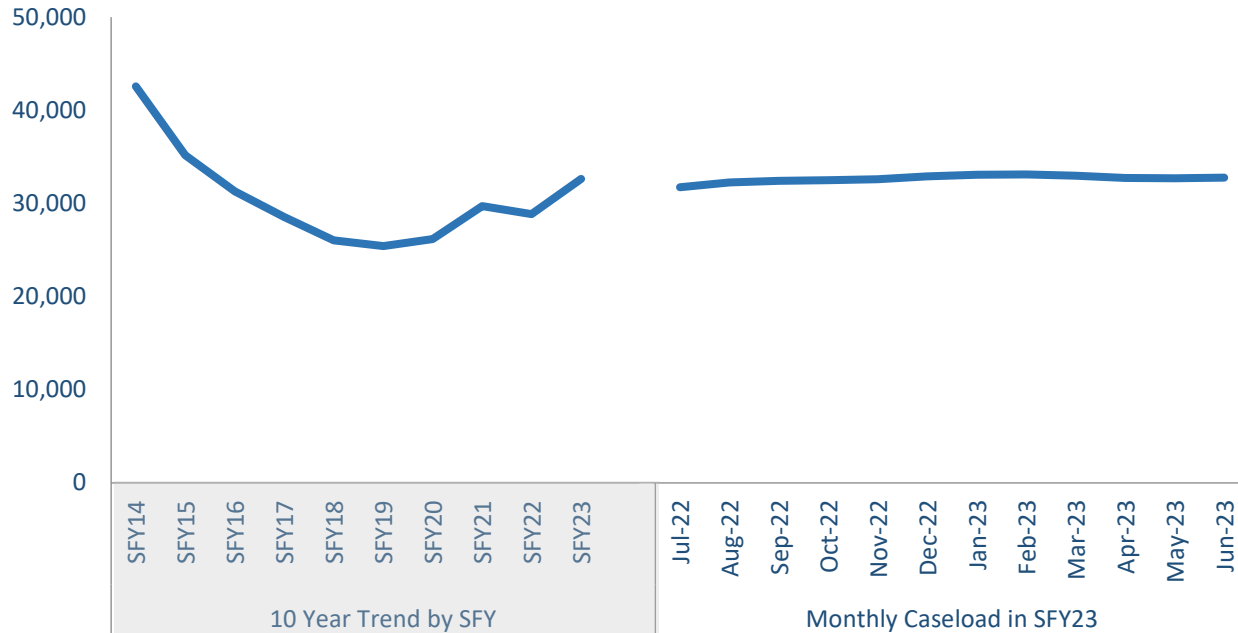
- Unless otherwise noted, both federally-funded TANF and state-funded SFA cases/clients are reported jointly in this section.
- WorkFirst clients are adult clients receiving TANF/SFA benefits. This can include teen parents.
- WorkFirst cases are those in which at least one adult is receiving TANF/SFA assistance.
- Percentages may not add up to expected totals due to rounding.
- All reports of 10-year caseload trends reflect the monthly average for each state fiscal year (SFY).

Selected TANF/SFA Program Overview, SFY 2022 and SFY 2023

	SFY 2022 (July 2021-June 2022)	SFY 2023 (July 2022-June 2023)	Change	
Average Number of Cases Per Month (Range)	28,839 (26,456 - 31,417)	32,643 (31,727 - 33,103)	13.2% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of Persons Per Month (Range)	69,465 (61,496 - 77,881)	82,813 (78,905 - 84,768)	19.2% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of Adults Per Month (Range)	20,929 (17,822 - 24,284)	26,728 (24,889 - 27,516)	27.7% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of Children Per Month (Range)	48,536 (43,674 - 53,597)	56,258 (54,016 - 57,252)	15.6% (Increase)	↑
State Population ¹	7,864,400	7,951,150	1.1% (Increase)	↑
Monthly Average Recipients as a Percent of State's Total Population	0.9%	1.0%	0.1 Point Increase	↑
Children as Percent of Recipients	69.9%	67.7%	-2.2% Point (Decrease)	↓
Average Persons Per Case	2.4	2.5	0.1 Point Increase	↑
Average Children Per Case	1.7	1.7	No Change	=
Average Children Per Adult	2.3	2.1	-0.2 Point (Decrease)	↓
Average Monthly Payment Per Case (Range) ²	\$537.19 (\$530.55 - \$544.00)	\$542.20 (\$533.98 - \$551.65)	0.9% (Increase)	↑

¹ Source: Office of Financial Management (OFM) population estimates² Payments not adjusted for refunds.

TANF/SFA Caseload, SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY	Monthly Average Caseload	SFY	Monthly Average Caseload
SFY14	42,564	SFY19	25,422
SFY15	35,158	SFY20	26,172
SFY16	31,284	SFY21	29,701
SFY17	28,555	SFY22	28,839
SFY18	26,030	SFY23	32,643

SFY 2023	Total Caseload	Clients	Grant Expenditures	Average Payment Per Case
July	31,727	78,905	\$16,996,941	\$535.72
August	32,252	80,534	\$17,222,013	\$533.98
September	32,413	81,386	\$17,381,038	\$536.24
October	32,493	82,119	\$17,511,134	\$538.92
November	32,605	82,696	\$17,649,511	\$541.31
December	32,912	83,944	\$18,080,617	\$549.36
January	33,070	84,546	\$17,988,673	\$543.96
February	33,103	84,768	\$18,261,423	\$551.65
March	32,962	84,290	\$17,977,900	\$545.41
April	32,722	83,425	\$17,813,070	\$544.38
May	32,694	83,457	\$17,734,963	\$542.45
June	32,758	83,688	\$17,770,623	\$542.48
Mo. Avg.	32,643	82,813	\$17,698,992	\$542.20
Annual Unduplicated	55,716	143,864	\$212,387,905	\$3,811.97

TANF/SFA Caseload by Funding Type, SFY 2023³

SFY 2023	Total	TANF Only		Mixed TANF & SFA ⁴		SFA Only	
	Caseload	Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total
July	31,727	29,991	94.5%	769	2.4%	967	3.0%
August	32,252	30,433	94.4%	783	2.4%	1,036	3.2%
September	32,413	30,570	94.3%	806	2.5%	1,037	3.2%
October	32,493	30,515	93.9%	846	2.6%	1,132	3.5%
November	32,605	30,457	93.4%	890	2.7%	1,258	3.9%
December	32,912	30,611	93.0%	931	2.8%	1,370	4.2%
January	33,070	30,639	92.6%	973	2.9%	1,458	4.4%
February	33,103	30,530	92.2%	1,030	3.1%	1,543	4.7%
March	32,962	30,263	91.8%	1,091	3.3%	1,608	4.9%
April	32,722	29,906	91.4%	1,148	3.5%	1,668	5.1%
May	32,694	29,676	90.8%	1,215	3.7%	1,803	5.5%
June	32,758	29,588	90.3%	1,267	3.9%	1,903	5.8%
Mo. Avg.	32,643	30,265	92.7%	979	3.0%	1,399	4.3%

SFY 2023	SFA Caseload	State	Federal	Average State	Total Average
		Expenditures on	Expenditures on	Expenditures Per	Expenditures Per
		SFA Cases	SFA Cases ⁵	Case	Case
July	1,736	\$901,510	\$218,875	\$519.30	\$645.38
August	1,819	\$940,800	\$221,997	\$517.21	\$639.25
September	1,843	\$932,630	\$239,926	\$506.04	\$636.22
October	1,978	\$1,003,537	\$250,828	\$507.35	\$634.16
November	2,148	\$1,091,515	\$267,887	\$508.15	\$632.87
December	2,301	\$1,184,783	\$284,086	\$514.90	\$638.36
January	2,431	\$1,268,866	\$295,050	\$521.95	\$643.32
February	2,573	\$1,353,923	\$310,237	\$526.20	\$646.78
March	2,699	\$1,406,014	\$316,529	\$520.94	\$638.22
April	2,816	\$1,471,934	\$338,085	\$522.70	\$642.76
May	3,018	\$1,552,848	\$354,027	\$514.53	\$631.83
June	3,170	\$1,646,596	\$359,167	\$519.43	\$632.73
Mo. Avg.	2,378	\$1,229,580	\$288,058	\$517.06	\$638.20
Annual Unduplicated	5,431	\$14,754,956	\$3,456,694	\$2,716.80	\$3,353.28

³ The number of newly arrived immigrants, from Ukraine as well as other countries, continued to increase throughout SFY 2023. This caused an increase in the percentage of cases that are mixed TANF & SFA and in the percentage of cases that are SFA.

⁴ The mixed TANF/SFA cases have at least one member in the household receiving federal TANF and at least one member receiving SFA benefits.

⁵ These are federal expenditures on mixed TANF/SFA households.

TANF/SFA Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot

The following pages detail the TANF/SFA caseload, June 2023 snapshot, by both the CSO of Issuance and CSO of Residence.

- CSO of Issuance: Based on the location from which benefits were issued. While most benefits are issued through ESA's Community Service Offices (CSO), benefits may be issued by Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC), Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) within DSHS's Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (ALTSa), Developmental Disability Administration (DDA), or Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe (PGST).
- CSO of Residence: Based on the CSO coverage area in which a client lives.

Overview	Office of Issuance				Office of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
Region 1 CSOs	9,593	29.3%	23,984	28.7%	9,576	29.2%	23,926	28.6%
Region 2 CSOs	11,433	34.9%	30,938	37.0%	11,322	34.6%	30,647	36.6%
Region 3 CSOs	11,706	35.7%	28,713	34.3%	11,852	36.2%	29,091	34.8%
CSCCs	15	<0.1%	38	<0.1%	N/A			
ALTSa (HCS)	9	<0.1%	11	<0.1%				
DDA	2	<0.1%	4	<0.1%				
Tribal Locations ⁶	0	0.0%	0	0.0%				
Not Reported / Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	<0.1%	24	<0.1%
State Total	32,758	100.0%	83,688	100.0%	32,758	100.0%	83,688	100.0%

⁶ Tribal locations do not include Tribal TANF programs that tribal nations operate independently.

TANF/SFA Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 1 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON	156	0.5%	371	0.4%	157	0.5%	376	0.4%
COLFAX	124	0.4%	322	0.4%	125	0.4%	320	0.4%
COLVILLE	247	0.8%	631	0.8%	246	0.8%	630	0.8%
ELLENSBURG	159	0.5%	398	0.5%	157	0.5%	391	0.5%
GOLDENDALE	86	0.3%	210	0.3%	86	0.3%	206	0.2%
KENNEWICK	1,586	4.8%	4,152	5.0%	1,602	4.9%	4,178	5.0%
MOSES LAKE	691	2.1%	1,714	2.0%	698	2.1%	1,740	2.1%
NEWPORT	99	0.3%	256	0.3%	97	0.3%	253	0.3%
OKANOGAN	291	0.9%	685	0.8%	274	0.8%	642	0.8%
REPUBLIC	46	0.1%	111	0.1%	47	0.1%	108	0.1%
SPOKANE MAPLE	1,322	4.0%	3,303	3.9%	1,444	4.4%	3,606	4.3%
SPOKANE TRENT	1,960	6.0%	5,006	6.0%	1,824	5.6%	4,671	5.6%
SUNNYSIDE	395	1.2%	1,076	1.3%	375	1.1%	1,031	1.2%
TOPPENISH	470	1.4%	1,099	1.3%	468	1.4%	1,092	1.3%
WALLA WALLA	337	1.0%	836	1.0%	338	1.0%	842	1.0%
WENATCHEE	378	1.2%	863	1.0%	381	1.2%	867	1.0%
WHITE SALMON	44	0.1%	105	0.1%	45	0.1%	107	0.1%
YAKIMA	1,202	3.7%	2,846	3.4%	1,212	3.7%	2,866	3.4%
Region 1 Total	9,593	29.3%	23,984	28.7%	9,576	29.2%	23,926	28.6%

TANF/SFA Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 2 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD	827	2.5%	2,442	2.9%	818	2.5%	2,414	2.9%
AUBURN	999	3.0%	2,876	3.4%	1,004	3.1%	2,899	3.5%
BELLINGHAM	733	2.2%	1,848	2.2%	729	2.2%	1,834	2.2%
BELLTOWN	270	0.8%	688	0.8%	273	0.8%	691	0.8%
CAPITOL HILL	261	0.8%	641	0.8%	253	0.8%	623	0.7%
EVERETT	1,088	3.3%	3,122	3.7%	1,075	3.3%	3,087	3.7%
FEDERAL WAY	717	2.2%	2,078	2.5%	704	2.1%	2,036	2.4%
KING EASTSIDE	946	2.9%	2,596	3.1%	927	2.8%	2,534	3.0%
KING NORTH	649	2.0%	1,659	2.0%	639	2.0%	1,641	2.0%
KING SOUTH	1,264	3.9%	3,758	4.5%	1,246	3.8%	3,721	4.4%
MT VERNON	515	1.6%	1,227	1.5%	485	1.5%	1,167	1.4%
OAK HARBOR	115	0.4%	231	0.3%	143	0.4%	286	0.3%
RAINIER	532	1.6%	1,379	1.6%	523	1.6%	1,363	1.6%
RENTON	751	2.3%	2,023	2.4%	742	2.3%	1,993	2.4%
SKY VALLEY	244	0.7%	593	0.7%	246	0.8%	592	0.7%
SMOKEY POINT	714	2.2%	1,736	2.1%	709	2.2%	1,734	2.1%
WHITE CENTER	808	2.5%	2,041	2.4%	806	2.5%	2,032	2.4%
Region 2 Total	11,433	34.9%	30,938	37.0%	11,322	34.6%	30,647	36.6%

TANF/SFA Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 3 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN	464	1.4%	1,045	1.2%	476	1.5%	1,078	1.3%
BREMERTON	876	2.7%	2,038	2.4%	871	2.7%	2,026	2.4%
CHEHALIS	533	1.6%	1,212	1.4%	521	1.6%	1,181	1.4%
COLUMBIA RIVER	2,208	6.7%	6,012	7.2%	2,200	6.7%	5,989	7.2%
FORKS	105	0.3%	232	0.3%	105	0.3%	232	0.3%
KELSO	922	2.8%	2,134	2.5%	921	2.8%	2,126	2.5%
LAKEWOOD	1,299	4.0%	3,222	3.9%	1,296	4.0%	3,210	3.8%
LONG BEACH	53	0.2%	108	0.1%	53	0.2%	108	0.1%
OLYMPIA	1,244	3.8%	2,895	3.5%	1,434	4.4%	3,428	4.1%
PIERCE NORTH	789	2.4%	1,904	2.3%	774	2.4%	1,872	2.2%
PIERCE SOUTH	1,248	3.8%	3,187	3.8%	1,248	3.8%	3,181	3.8%
PORT ANGELES	203	0.6%	437	0.5%	202	0.6%	431	0.5%
PORT TOWNSEND	73	0.2%	146	0.2%	72	0.2%	145	0.2%
PUYALLUP VALLEY	1,250	3.8%	3,127	3.7%	1,241	3.8%	3,078	3.7%
SHELTON	335	1.0%	767	0.9%	336	1.0%	762	0.9%
SOUTH BEND	56	0.2%	131	0.2%	55	0.2%	129	0.2%
STEVENSON	48	0.1%	116	0.1%	47	0.1%	115	0.1%
Region 3 Total	11,706	35.7%	28,713	34.3%	11,852	36.2%	29,091	34.8%

TANF/SFA Caseload by Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC) and Other Locations, June 2023 Snapshot

Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC)	Office of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CSCC Central Sound	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Northeast	2	<0.1%	5	<0.1%
CSCC Northwest	3	<0.1%	7	<0.1%
CSCC South Sound	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Southeast	1	<0.1%	4	<0.1%
CSCC Southwest	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Virtual Case Management Center	9	<0.1%	22	<0.1%
CSCC WASHCAP	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC and WASHCAP Total	15	<0.1%	38	<0.1%

DDA Locations	Office of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
DDA Behavioral Health Financial Unit	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
DDA Long-Term Care & Special Programs	2	<0.1%	4	<0.1%
DDA Locations Total	2	<0.1%	4	<0.1%

Tribal Locations	Office of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe (PGST)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

TANF/SFA Caseload by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), June 2023 Snapshot

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 1	HCS of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON HCS	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%
COLVILLE HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
ELLENSBURG HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
MEDICAL LAKE HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
MOSES LAKE HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OKANOGAN HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
SPOKANE HCS	1	<0.1%	3	<0.1%
SUNNYSIDE HCS	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%
TRI-CITIES HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
WALLA WALLA HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
WENATCHEE HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
YAKIMA HCS	3	<0.1%	3	<0.1%
Region 1 Total	6	<0.1%	8	<0.1%

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 2	HCS of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD HCS	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%
BELLINGHAM HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
EVERETT HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
HOLGATE HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
MOUNT VERNON HCS	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%
SMOKEY POINT HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Region 2 Total	2	<0.1%	2	<0.1%

TANF/SFA Caseload by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 3	HCS of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
BREMERTON HCS	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%
CHEHALIS HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
KELSO HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OLYMPIA HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
PORT ANGELES HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
STEILACOOM HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
TACOMA HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
VANCOUVER HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Region 3 Total	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%

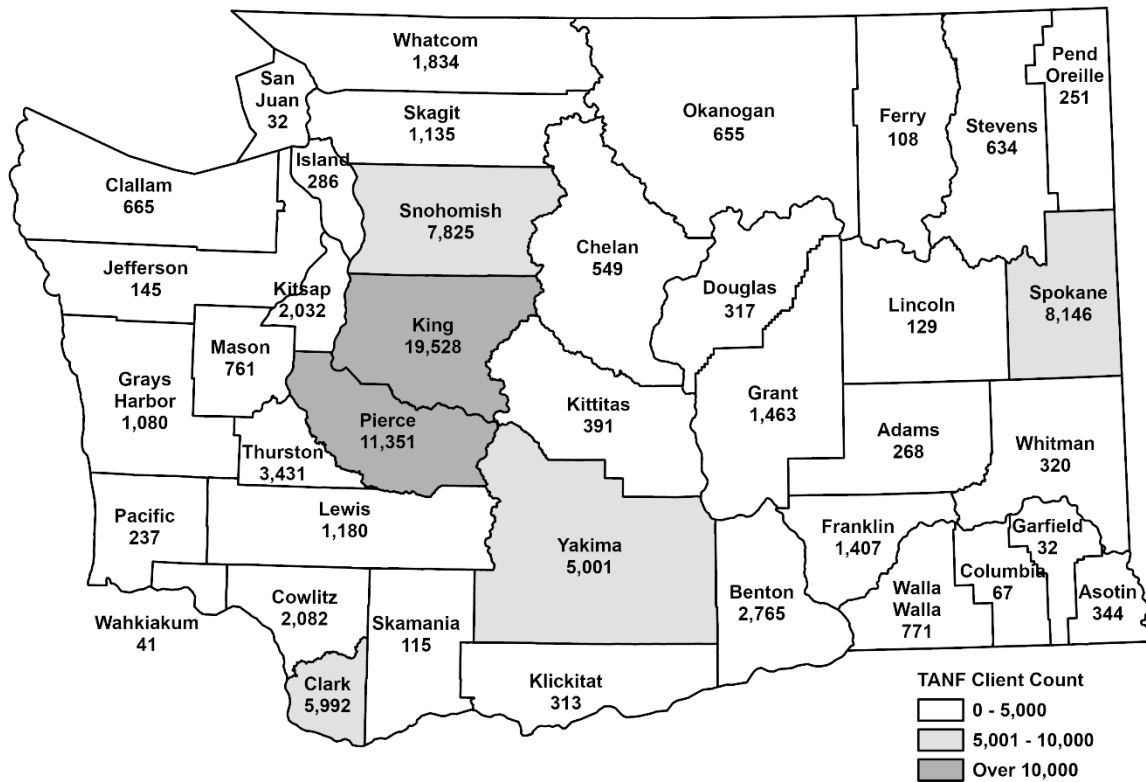
TANF/SFA Caseload by County of Residence, June 2023 Snapshot

County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total	County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total
Adams	116	0.4%	268	0.3%	Lewis	520	1.6%	1,180	1.4%
Asotin	143	0.4%	344	0.4%	Lincoln	51	0.2%	129	0.2%
Benton	1,069	3.3%	2,765	3.3%	Mason	335	1.0%	761	0.9%
Chelan	234	0.7%	549	0.7%	Okanogan	279	0.9%	655	0.8%
Clallam	308	0.9%	665	0.8%	Pacific	108	0.3%	237	0.3%
Clark	2,201	6.7%	5,992	7.2%	Pend Oreille	96	0.3%	251	0.3%
Columbia	29	0.1%	67	0.1%	Pierce	4,561	13.9%	11,351	13.6%
Cowlitz	901	2.8%	2,082	2.5%	San Juan	14	<0.1%	32	<0.1%
Douglas	147	0.4%	317	0.4%	Skagit	471	1.4%	1,135	1.4%
Ferry	47	0.1%	108	0.1%	Skamania	47	0.1%	115	0.1%
Franklin	531	1.6%	1,407	1.7%	Snohomish	2,847	8.7%	7,825	9.4%
Garfield	14	<0.1%	32	<0.1%	Spokane	3,216	9.8%	8,146	9.7%
Grant	578	1.8%	1,463	1.7%	Stevens	248	0.8%	634	0.8%
Grays Harbor	476	1.5%	1,080	1.3%	Thurston	1,436	4.4%	3,431	4.1%
Island	143	0.4%	286	0.3%	Wahkiakum	19	0.1%	41	<0.1%
Jefferson	72	0.2%	145	0.2%	Walla Walla	308	0.9%	771	0.9%
King	7,117	21.7%	19,528	23.3%	Whatcom	729	2.2%	1,834	2.2%
Kitsap	873	2.7%	2,032	2.4%	Whitman	125	0.4%	320	0.4%
Kittitas	157	0.5%	391	0.5%	Yakima	2,059	6.3%	5,001	6.0%
Klickitat	131	0.4%	313	0.4%	Not Reported/ Unidentifiable	2	<0.1%	5	<0.1%

	# of Cases	# of Clients
State Total	32,758	83,688

TANF/SFA Client Density Maps by Residential County, June 2023 Snapshot

Number of TANF Clients by Residential County in Washington State: June 2023

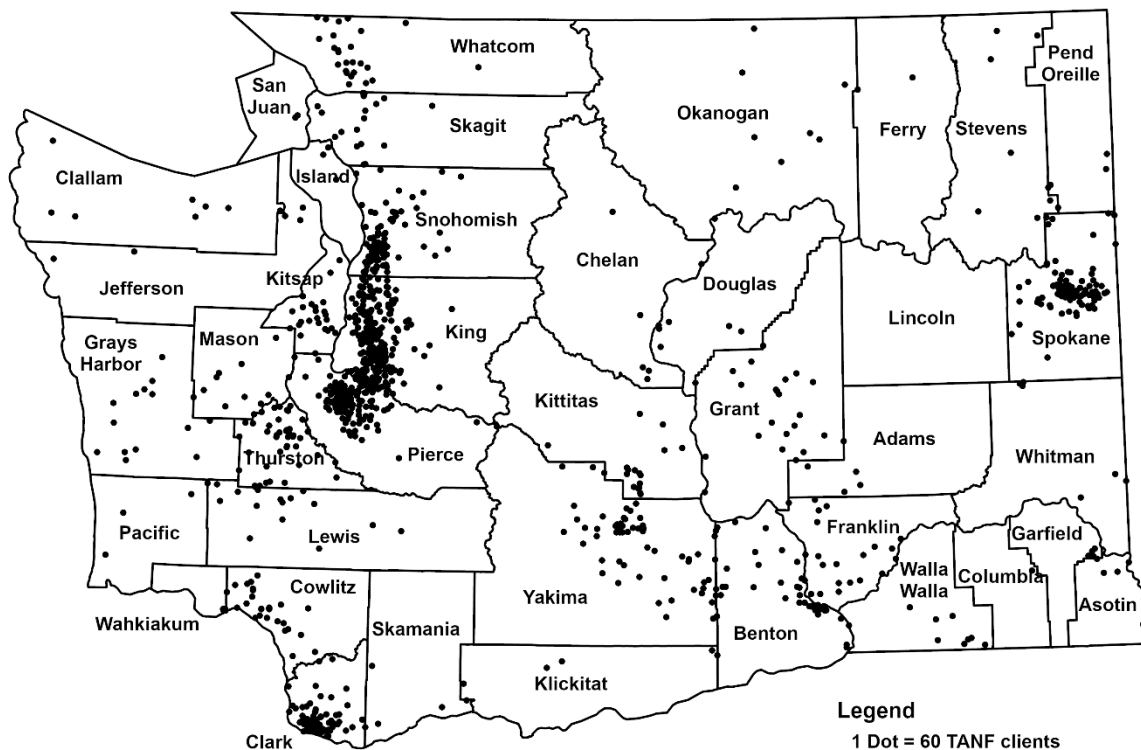


Source: ACES data

Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - Aug. 2023

TANF/SFA Client Density Maps, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

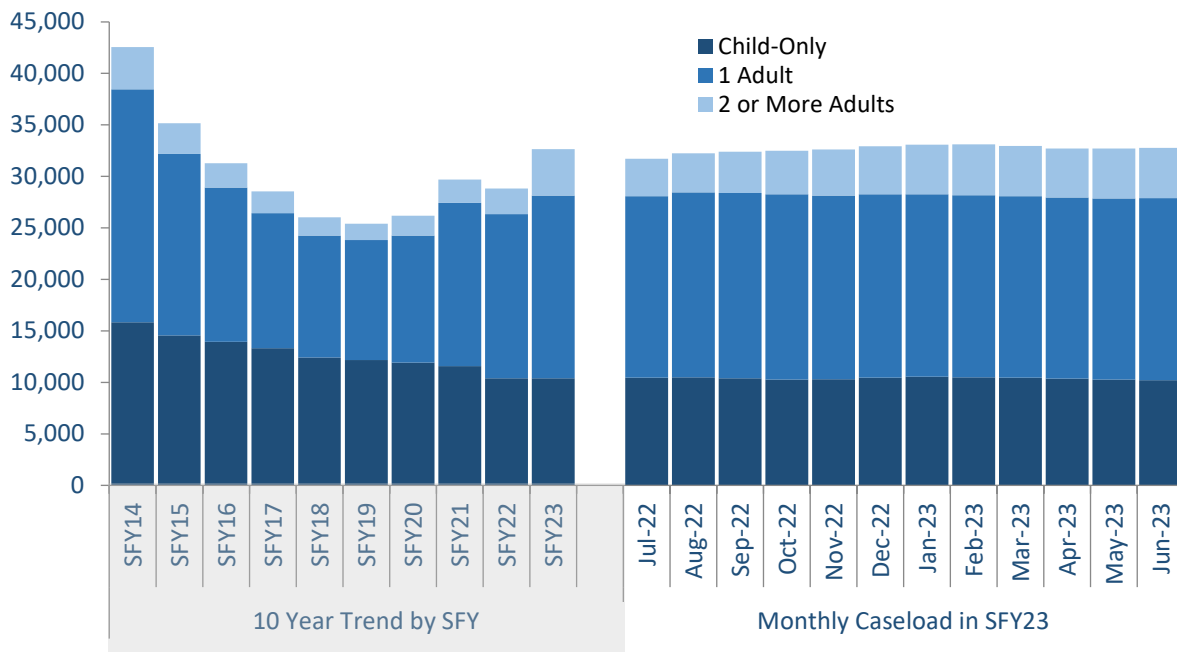
Number of TANF Clients by Density of Residential Zip Code in Washington State: June 2023



Source: ACES data

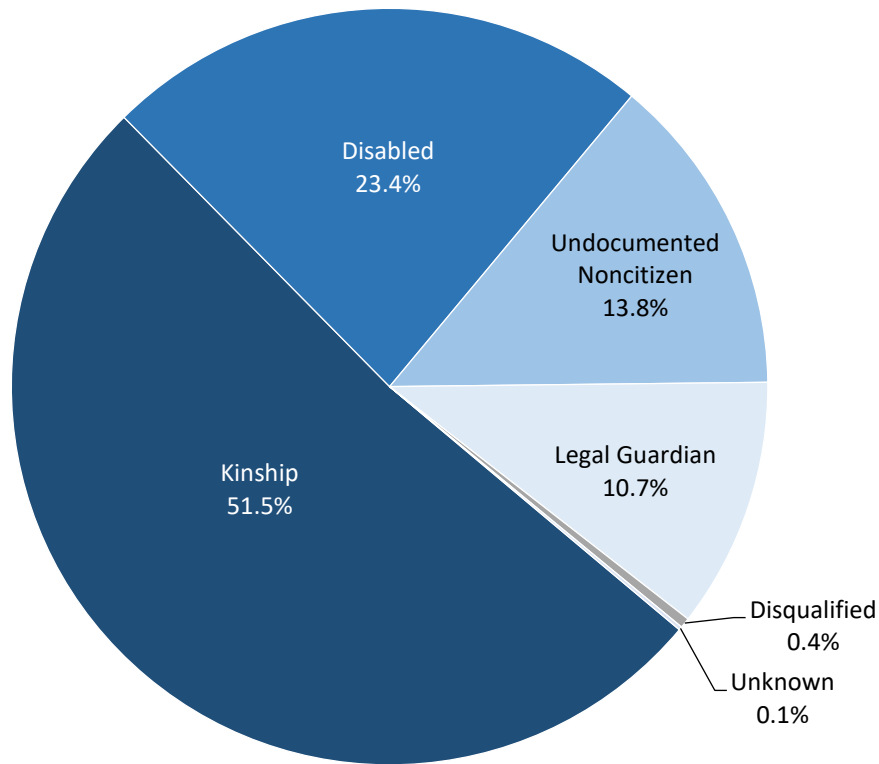
Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - Aug. 2023

TANF/SFA Caseload by Case Type, SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY 2023	Caseload By Case Type						
	Total	Child-Only		1 Adult		2 or More Adults	
	Caseload	Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total
July	31,727	10,475	33.0%	17,613	55.5%	3,639	11.5%
August	32,252	10,497	32.5%	17,955	55.7%	3,800	11.8%
September	32,413	10,388	32.0%	18,005	55.5%	4,020	12.4%
October	32,493	10,274	31.6%	17,986	55.4%	4,233	13.0%
November	32,605	10,309	31.6%	17,846	54.7%	4,450	13.6%
December	32,912	10,462	31.8%	17,815	54.1%	4,635	14.1%
January	33,070	10,539	31.9%	17,718	53.6%	4,813	14.6%
February	33,103	10,503	31.7%	17,682	53.4%	4,918	14.9%
March	32,962	10,471	31.8%	17,619	53.5%	4,872	14.8%
April	32,722	10,379	31.7%	17,572	53.7%	4,771	14.6%
May	32,694	10,268	31.4%	17,585	53.8%	4,841	14.8%
June	32,758	10,210	31.2%	17,691	54.0%	4,857	14.8%
Mo. Avg.	32,643	10,398	31.9%	17,757	54.4%	4,487	13.7%

TANF/SFA Child-Only Caseload by Major Caretaker Groups, June 2023 Snapshot⁷



Non-Parental Child-Only TANF

These are households caring for a minor child not their own biologically or by adoption.

Kinship – Some parents are unable to care for their children due to their own circumstances, such as the impacts of substance use disorder. Grandparents or other relatives often step in to provide the needed care, even though they have no legal responsibility to do so. For those unwilling or unable to get licensed as foster parents, a TANF child-only grant may be the only way they can afford to care for these children. As long as the child has no financially disqualifying income or assets of his/her own, the relative caregiver can receive TANF on the child's behalf (the relative caregiver can do this even if they do not have legal custody of the child). Caregivers need only show that the child lives with them most of the time and that they are currently the child's primary caregiver.

Guardian/*In Loco Parentis* – Sometimes, when a parent is unable to provide care, a relative or other concerned adult will seek guardianship of a child. As with relative caregivers, non-relative guardians may receive TANF on behalf of an otherwise eligible child. In addition, non-relatives who are serving as primary caregiver even without legal status (acting *in loco parentis*) and who pass a criminal history background check may receive TANF on behalf of an otherwise eligible child⁸.

⁷ The chart may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

⁸ Effective May 15, 2023, changes were made to the application process to make it easier for *In Loco Parentis* caregivers to apply for and receive TANF/SFA assistance (WAC 388-454-0006). While caregivers are still required to submit a Background Check Authorization Form as part of the application, approval of TANF/SFA assistance for *In Loco Parentis* cases no longer depends on the results of a background check.

TANF/SFA Child-Only Caseload by Major Caretaker Groups, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Parental Child-Only TANF

These are households where the child lives in the home with their legal parent(s), but the parent(s) are not eligible for a TANF grant for themselves.

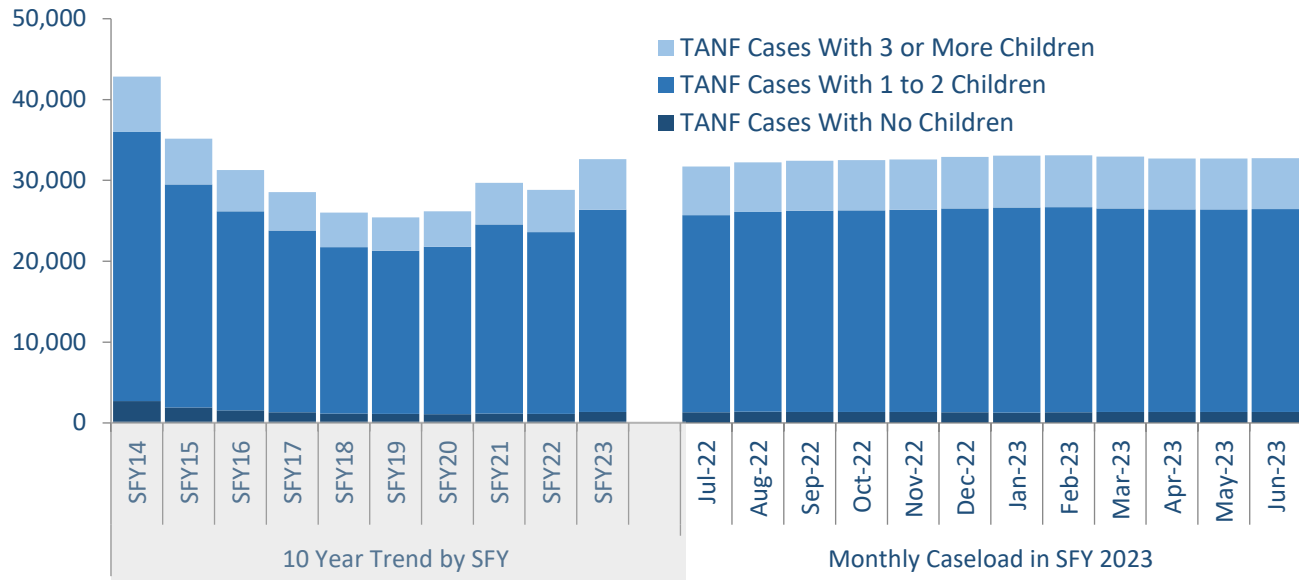
Undocumented Noncitizen – Children in households headed by undocumented noncitizens may be U.S. citizens and therefore eligible for TANF benefits if the household, including non-recipient adults, meets financial eligibility criteria. Undocumented noncitizen parents may apply for TANF on behalf of their citizen (and/or lawfully present or qualified noncitizen) children; the undocumented parents receive no continuing benefits (cash, food, or medical) for themselves.

Disabled – Disabled parents who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) do not qualify for TANF because federal law does not allow them to receive both. Their minor children are still eligible for TANF, as long as the household meets the program's financial eligibility criteria.

Disqualified – Some parents may be disqualified from receiving TANF because of fleeing a felony conviction, a probation or parole violation, or fraudulent receipt of public assistance. Their minor children are still eligible for TANF, as long as the household meets financial eligibility criteria. Fleeing felons and probation or parole violators can restore their TANF eligibility by complying with the law. The court determines the period of ineligibility for those convicted of fraud.

Unknown (or Other) – Caretaker is defined using the child's relationship to the head of household member. 'Other cases' are those in which the head of the household's status is unknown.

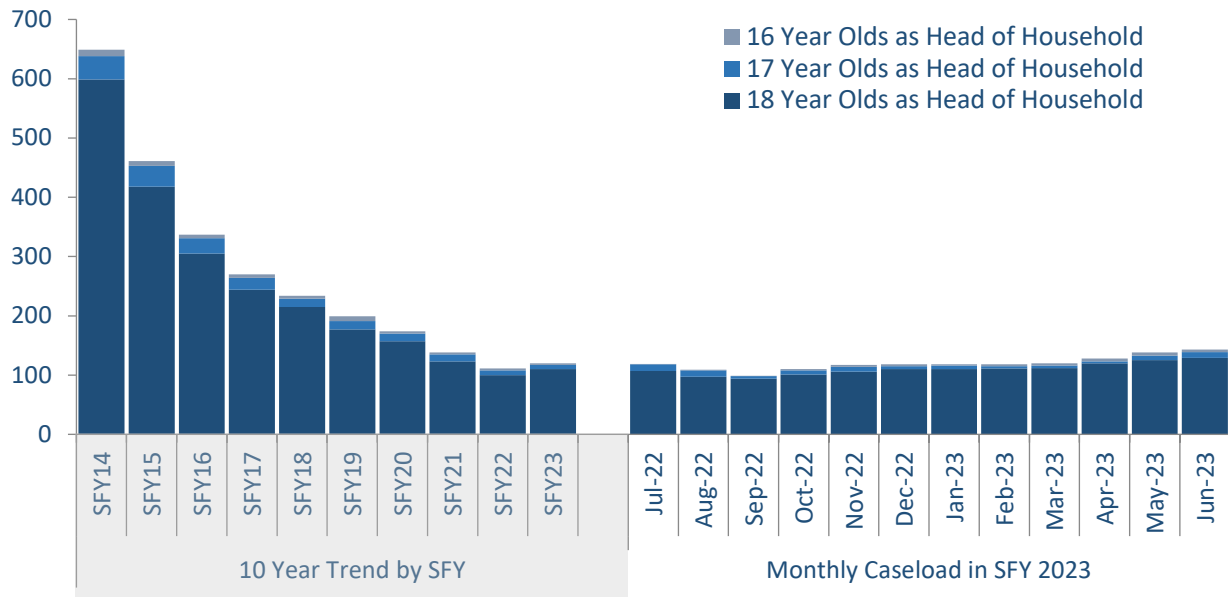
TANF/SFA Caseload by Number of Children⁹, SFY 2014 – 2023



Caseload by Number of Children							
SFY 2023	Total TANF/SFA Caseload	No Children		1 to 2 Children		3 or More Children	
		Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total
July	31,727	1,338	4.2%	24,370	76.8%	6,019	19.0%
August	32,252	1,380	4.3%	24,738	76.7%	6,134	19.0%
September	32,413	1,360	4.2%	24,906	76.8%	6,147	19.0%
October	32,493	1,365	4.2%	24,932	76.7%	6,196	19.1%
November	32,605	1,363	4.2%	25,008	76.7%	6,234	19.1%
December	32,912	1,319	4.0%	25,229	76.7%	6,364	19.3%
January	33,070	1,285	3.9%	25,385	76.8%	6,400	19.4%
February	33,103	1,302	3.9%	25,374	76.7%	6,427	19.4%
March	32,962	1,364	4.1%	25,178	76.4%	6,420	19.5%
April	32,722	1,369	4.2%	25,038	76.5%	6,315	19.3%
May	32,694	1,359	4.2%	25,042	76.6%	6,293	19.2%
June	32,758	1,361	4.2%	25,083	76.6%	6,314	19.3%
Mo. Avg.	32,643	1,347	4.1%	25,024	76.7%	6,272	19.2%

⁹ Some TANF/SFA cases have no children. If the only children eligible for TANF/SFA are receiving SSI, those children will not receive a TANF/SFA payment, but the parents will receive a TANF/SFA payment. Also, pregnant individuals with no children are eligible for TANF/SFA.

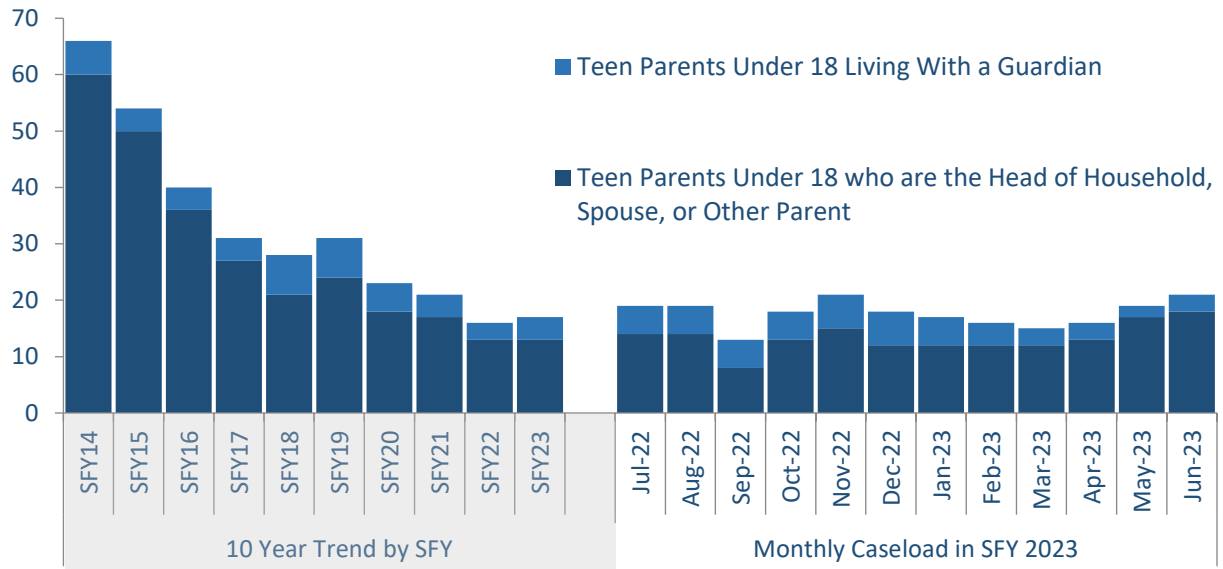
TANF/SFA Teen Head of Household (HOH), SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY 2023	Teen Head of Households ¹⁰						
	Total TANF/SFA Cases with a Teen HOH	16 Years Old or Younger		17 Years Old		18 Years Old	
		Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total
July	119	1	0.8%	11	9.2%	107	89.9%
August	109	1	0.9%	11	10.1%	97	89.0%
September	99	1	1.0%	4	4.0%	94	94.9%
October	110	2	1.8%	7	6.4%	101	91.8%
November	117	3	2.6%	8	6.8%	106	90.6%
December	118	3	2.5%	5	4.2%	110	93.2%
January	118	2	1.7%	6	5.1%	110	93.2%
February	118	3	2.5%	4	3.4%	111	94.1%
March	120	4	3.3%	4	3.3%	112	93.3%
April	128	5	3.9%	3	2.3%	120	93.8%
May	138	5	3.6%	8	5.8%	125	90.6%
June	143	4	2.8%	10	7.0%	129	90.2%
Mo. Avg.	120	3	2.5%	7	5.8%	110	91.7%

¹⁰ Numbers reflect households where the head of household is a teen parent living independently from his/her formal legal guardian.

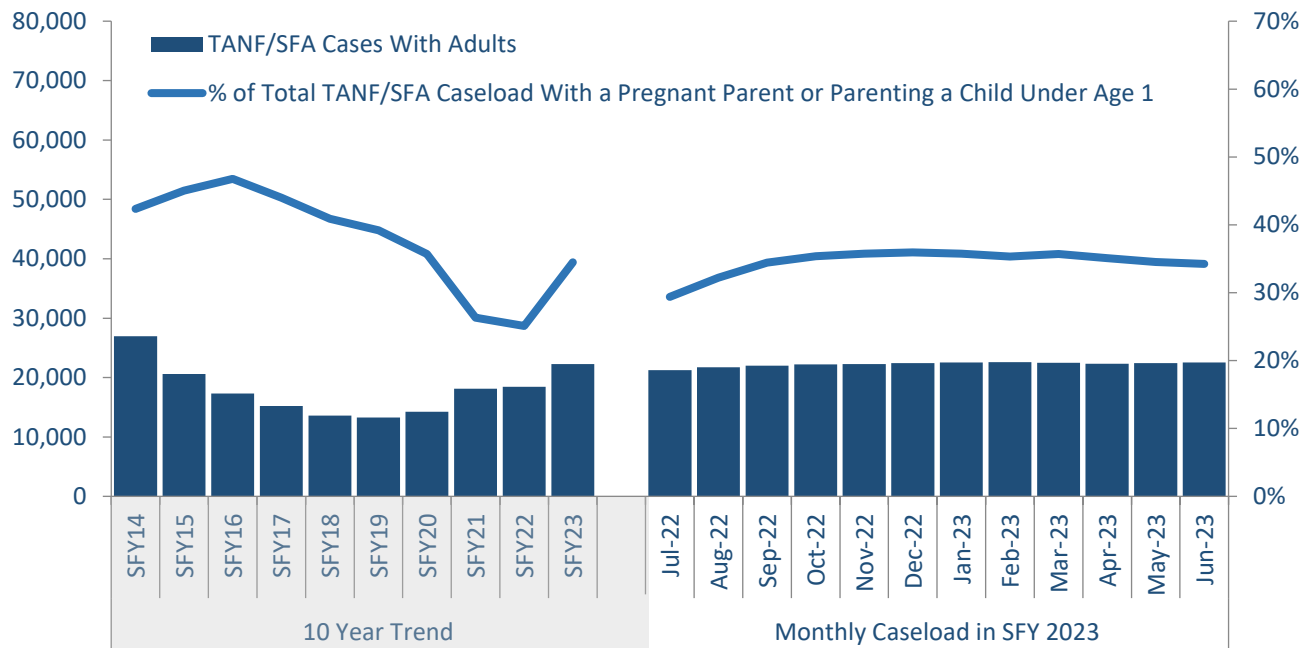
TANF/SFA Teen Parents under Age 18, SFY 2014 – 2023



Teen Parents Under Age 18 ¹¹					
SFY 2023	Total Clients	Living with a Legal Guardian		Head of Household, Spouse or Other Parent	
		# of Clients	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total
July	19	5	26.3%	14	73.7%
August	19	5	26.3%	14	73.7%
September	13	5	38.5%	8	61.5%
October	18	5	27.8%	13	72.2%
November	21	6	28.6%	15	71.4%
December	18	6	33.3%	12	66.7%
January	17	5	29.4%	12	70.6%
February	16	4	25.0%	12	75.0%
March	15	3	20.0%	12	80.0%
April	16	3	18.8%	13	81.3%
May	19	2	10.5%	17	89.5%
June	21	3	14.3%	18	85.7%
Mo. Avg.	18	4	22.2%	13	72.2%

¹¹ Teen Parents are defined based on the client's relationship to the head of household. If the client is coded as "CP" (child parent), the child is considered to be living under legal guardianship while caring for their own child.

TANF/SFA Adult Caseload with Pregnant Individuals Or Children Under Age 1, SFY 2014 – 2023

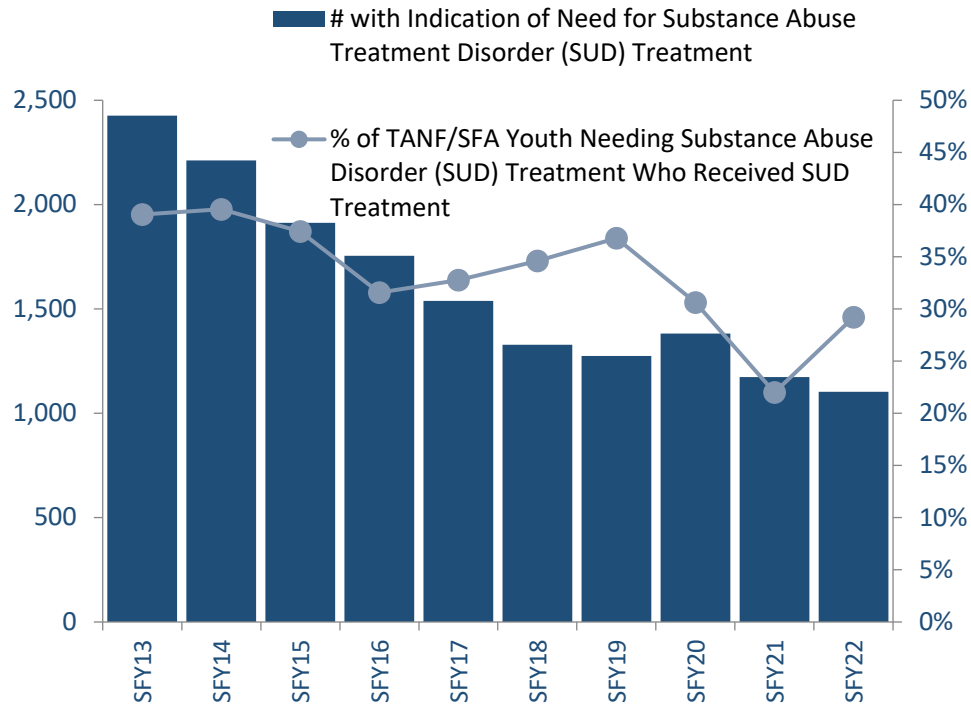


SFY 2023	Total Adult Caseload ¹²	Pregnant ¹³		0 – 3 Months Old		4 – 12 Months Old	
		Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total
July	21,252	2,746	12.9%	1,129	5.3%	2,366	11.1%
August	21,755	3,435	15.8%	1,151	5.3%	2,423	11.1%
September	22,025	3,972	18.0%	1,204	5.5%	2,412	11.0%
October	22,219	4,233	19.1%	1,215	5.5%	2,407	10.8%
November	22,296	4,346	19.5%	1,220	5.5%	2,401	10.8%
December	22,450	4,409	19.6%	1,202	5.4%	2,452	10.9%
January	22,531	4,376	19.4%	1,196	5.3%	2,483	11.0%
February	22,600	4,335	19.2%	1,131	5.0%	2,516	11.1%
March	22,491	4,411	19.6%	1,160	5.2%	2,456	10.9%
April	22,343	4,244	19.0%	1,194	5.3%	2,398	10.7%
May	22,426	4,180	18.6%	1,158	5.2%	2,404	10.7%
June	22,548	4,176	18.5%	1,106	4.9%	2,436	10.8%
Mo. Avg.	22,245	4,072	18.3%	1,172	5.3%	2,430	10.9%

¹² Cases are unduplicated across the sub-groups and are counted using the following rule of hierarchy if the case has individuals belonging to more than one group: pregnant, 0-3 months old, and 4-12 months old.

¹³ Pregnancy status was identified in ACES.

TANF/SFA Youth¹⁴ Receiving Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) Treatment¹⁵, SFY 2013 – 2022

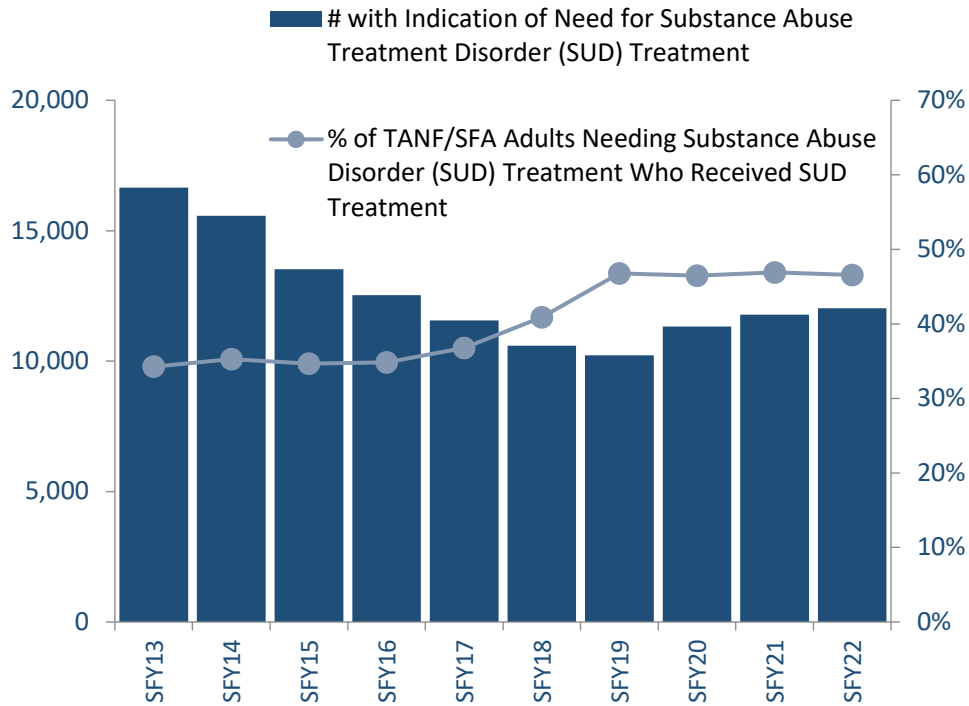


	# with Indication of Need for Substance Abuse Treatment Disorder (SUD) Treatment	# Receiving Publicly Funded Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) Treatment	% of TANF/SFA Youth Needing Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) Treatment Who Received SUD Treatment
SFY13	2,427	948	39.1%
SFY14	2,212	875	39.6%
SFY15	1,913	716	37.4%
SFY16	1,755	554	31.6%
SFY17	1,538	504	32.8%
SFY18	1,329	460	34.6%
SFY19	1,275	469	36.8%
SFY20	1,382	423	30.6%
SFY21	1,173	258	22.0%
SFY22	1,103	322	29.2%

¹⁴ TANF/SFA youth are clients ages 12 – 17. Clients are classified as youth based on age rather than their relationship to the head of household.

¹⁵ Data is from DSHS' Research and Data Analysis (RDA). SUD treatment need is indicated by administrative data that reflect diagnoses, services, medications, or arrests recorded for substance-related problems in the listed or prior fiscal year. Clients are defined as having received SUD services if they received SUD-related services through the state-funded behavioral health system in the listed year.

TANF/SFA Adults¹⁶ Receiving Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) Treatment¹⁷, SFY 2013 – 2022

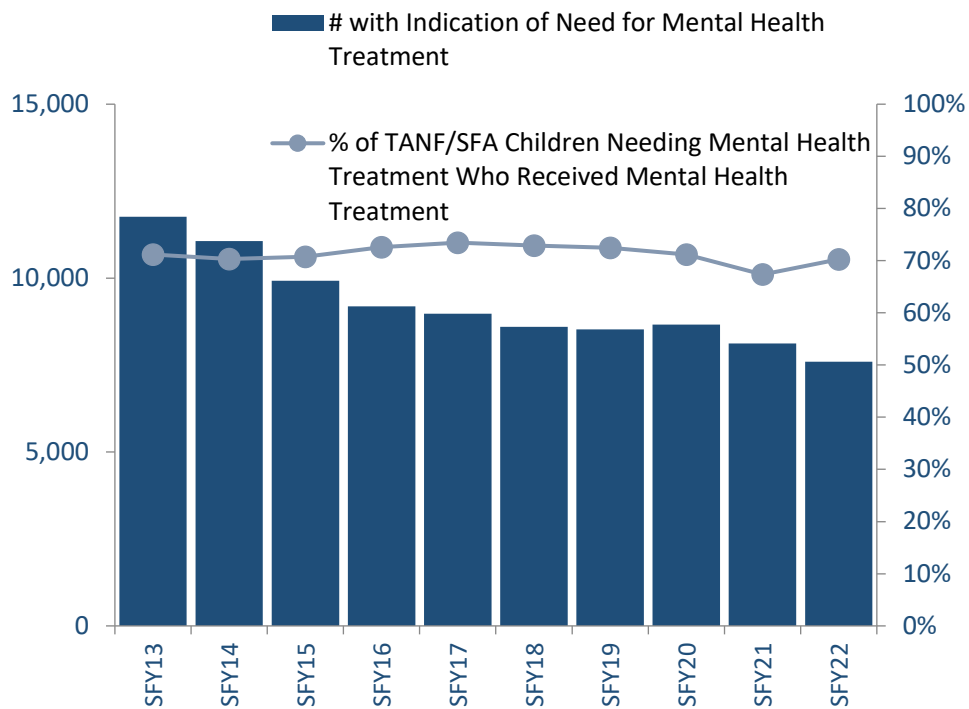


	# with Indication of Need for Substance Abuse Treatment Disorder (SUD) Treatment	# Receiving Publicly Funded Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) Treatment	% of TANF/SFA Adults Needing Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) Treatment Who Received SUD Treatment
SFY13	16,656	5,706	34.3%
SFY14	15,567	5,491	35.3%
SFY15	13,525	4,689	34.7%
SFY16	12,531	4,367	34.8%
SFY17	11,555	4,248	36.8%
SFY18	10,585	4,327	40.9%
SFY19	10,223	4,780	46.8%
SFY20	11,321	5,263	46.5%
SFY21	11,778	5,525	46.9%
SFY22	12,026	5,601	46.6%

¹⁶ TANF/SFA adult clients are ages 18+. Clients are classified as adults based on age rather than their relationship to the head of household.

¹⁷ Data is from DSHS' Research and Data Analysis (RDA). SUD treatment need is indicated by administrative data that reflect diagnoses, services, medications, or arrests recorded for substance-related problems in the listed or prior fiscal year. Clients are defined as having received SUD services if they received SUD-related services through the state-funded behavioral health system in the listed year.

TANF/SFA Children¹⁸ Receiving Mental Health Treatment¹⁹, SFY 2013 – 2022

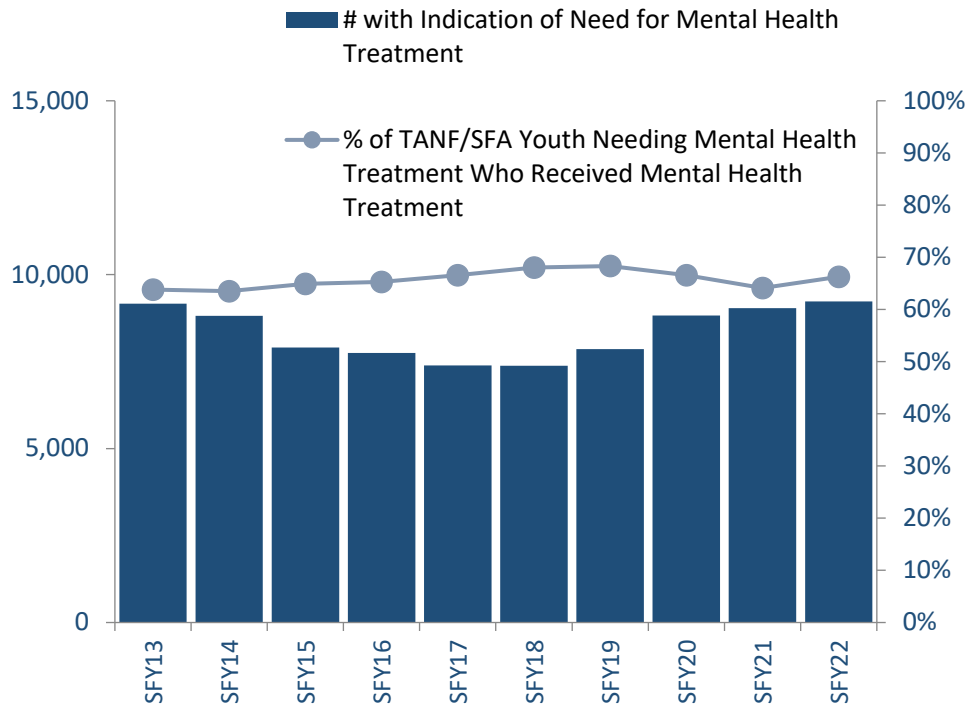


	# with Indication of Need for Mental Health Treatment	# Receiving Mental Health Treatment	% of TANF/SFA Children Needing Mental Health Treatment Who Received Mental Health Treatment
SFY13	11,764	8,371	71.2%
SFY14	11,067	7,780	70.3%
SFY15	9,922	7,020	70.8%
SFY16	9,186	6,668	72.6%
SFY17	8,976	6,594	73.5%
SFY18	8,595	6,265	72.9%
SFY19	8,526	6,179	72.5%
SFY20	8,659	6,165	71.2%
SFY21	8,121	5,470	67.4%
SFY22	7,592	5,333	70.2%

¹⁸ TANF/SFA children are clients ages 5 – 11. Clients are classified as children based on age rather than their relationship to the head of household.

¹⁹ Data is from DSHS' Research and Data Analysis (RDA). Mental health treatment need is identified through receipt of publicly funded mental health services, prescribed psychotropic medications, or mental health diagnoses recorded during the listed or prior fiscal year. Receiving mental health treatment is defined as receiving mental health treatment services through the Washington State Behavioral Health Organizations, the medical mental health benefit, or tribal mental health.

TANF/SFA Youth²⁰ Receiving Mental Health Treatment²¹, SFY 2013 – 2022

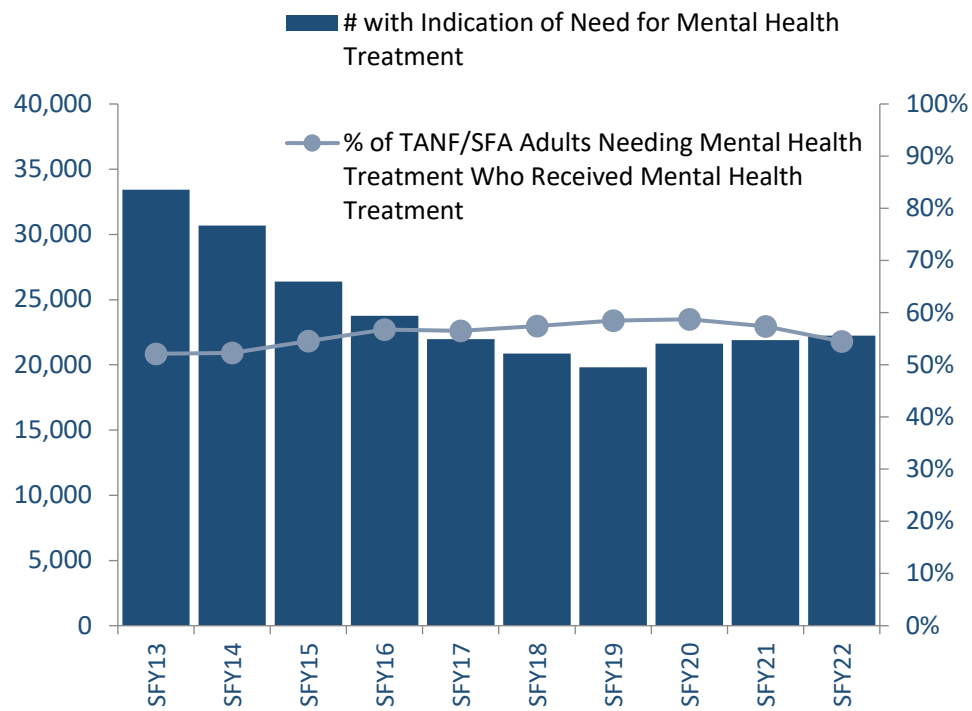


	# with Indication of Need for Mental Health Treatment	# Receiving Mental Health Treatment	% of TANF/SFA Youth Needing Mental Health Treatment Who Received Mental Health Treatment
SFY13	9,163	5,846	63.8%
SFY14	8,815	5,599	63.5%
SFY15	7,904	5,130	64.9%
SFY16	7,750	5,058	65.3%
SFY17	7,389	4,920	66.6%
SFY18	7,379	5,020	68.0%
SFY19	7,861	5,371	68.3%
SFY20	8,828	5,877	66.6%
SFY21	9,034	5,790	64.1%
SFY22	9,231	6,119	66.3%

²⁰ TANF/SFA youth are clients ages 12 – 17. Clients are classified as youth based on age rather than their relationship to the head of household.

²¹ Data is from DSHS' Research and Data Analysis (RDA). Mental health treatment need is identified through receipt of publicly funded mental health services, prescribed psychotropic medications, or mental health diagnoses recorded during the listed or prior fiscal year. Receiving mental health treatment is defined as receiving mental health treatment services through the Washington State Behavioral Health Organizations, the medical mental health benefit, or tribal mental health.

TANF/SFA Adults²² Receiving Mental Health Treatment²³, SFY 2013 – 2022

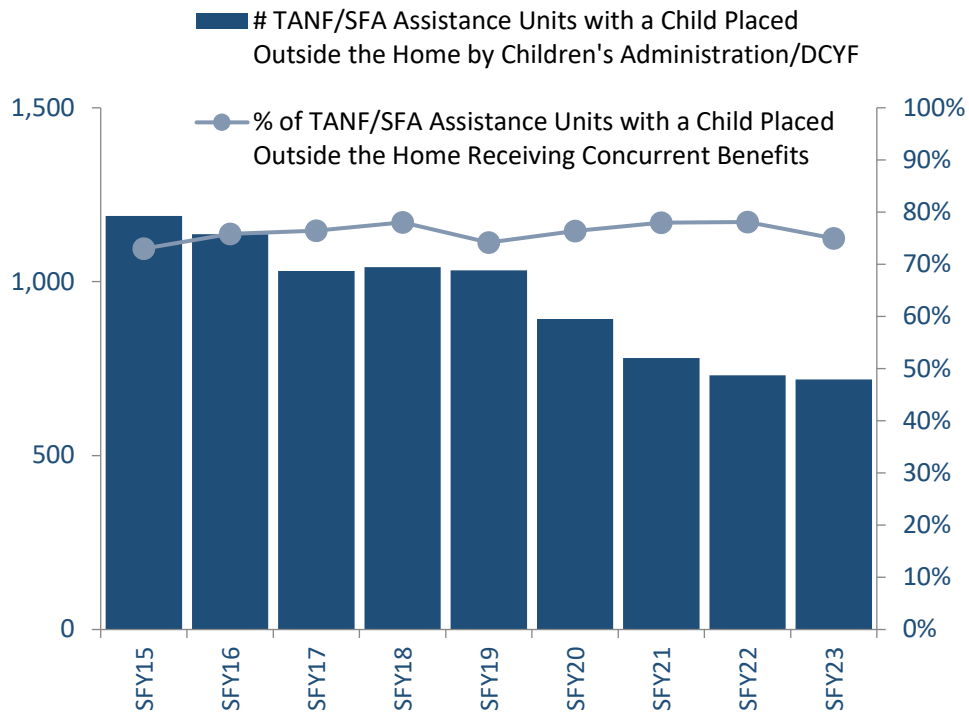


	# with Indication of Need for Mental Health Treatment	# Receiving Mental Health Treatment	% of TANF/SFA Adults Needing Mental Health Treatment Who Received Mental Health Treatment
SFY13	33,416	17,418	52.1%
SFY14	30,670	16,037	52.3%
SFY15	26,387	14,402	54.6%
SFY16	23,768	13,491	56.8%
SFY17	21,976	12,415	56.5%
SFY18	20,867	11,985	57.4%
SFY19	19,800	11,578	58.5%
SFY20	21,622	12,700	58.7%
SFY21	21,888	12,561	57.4%
SFY22	22,245	12,118	54.5%

²² TANF/SFA adults are clients ages 18+. Age is not based on relationship to head of household, but is based on the midpoint of the fiscal year.

²³ Data is from DSHS' Research and Data Analysis (RDA). Mental health treatment need is identified through receipt of publicly funded mental health services, prescribed psychotropic medications, or mental health diagnoses recorded during the listed or prior fiscal year. Receiving mental health treatment is defined as receiving mental health treatment services through the Washington State Behavioral Health Organizations, the medical mental health benefit, or tribal mental health.

TANF/SFA Households Receiving Concurrent Benefits²⁴, SFY 2015 – 2023



	# TANF/SFA Households with a Child Placed Outside the Home by Children's Administration/DCYF	# TANF/SFA Households Receiving Concurrent Benefits	% of TANF/SFA Households with a Child Placed Outside the Home Receiving Concurrent Benefits
SFY15	1,189	868	73.0%
SFY16	1,137	862	75.8%
SFY17	1,031	788	76.4%
SFY18	1,042	813	78.0%
SFY19	1,033	766	74.2%
SFY20	893	682	76.4%
SFY21	781	609	78.0%
SFY22	731	571	78.1%
SFY23	719	539	75.0%

²⁴ Data is from DSHS' Research and Data Analysis (RDA). Reflects out-of-home placements and TANF/SFA issuances through June 2023. Children's Administration transitioned from DSHS to DCYF in July 2018. DSHS allows certain households to receive concurrent benefits, in which two households receive benefits for the same child in the same month. When the Children's Administration/DCYF removes a child from a household receiving TANF/SFA, both the household from which the child is removed and the household where the child is temporarily residing may receive TANF/SFA benefits for a limited time.

WorkFirst Clients Participating in WorkFirst Activities, SFY 2023

The WorkFirst program provides job search assistance, employment, education and skills training, and work supports to TANF recipients. The program also provides referrals to assistance in removing barriers to employment that may include family violence, homelessness, and physical or behavioral health. Families may also be referred to child care subsidies and other sources of parenting support. The goal of WorkFirst is to help these families build a pathway that can lead them out of poverty and toward economic security. Participation in WorkFirst activities is mandatory for most adult TANF recipients.²⁵ Adult clients who fail to meet participation requirements without a good cause are subject to the WorkFirst noncompliance sanction (NCS)²⁶.

SFY 2023	Total WorkFirst Clients Receiving TANF/SFA	Total WorkFirst Clients Exempted from Participation ²⁷	WorkFirst Clients Normally Required to Participate (Non-Exempt)	# Non-Exempt WorkFirst Clients Participating in WorkFirst Activities	% of Non-Exempt WorkFirst Clients Participating in WorkFirst Activities
July	24,889	4,367	20,522	9,223	44.9%
August	25,553	4,496	21,057	9,674	45.9%
September	26,039	4,484	21,555	9,973	46.3%
October	26,448	4,406	22,042	10,283	46.7%
November	26,737	4,314	22,423	10,387	46.3%
December	27,079	4,296	22,783	10,292	45.2%
January	27,339	4,290	23,049	10,729	46.5%
February	27,516	4,166	23,350	10,848	46.5%
March	27,359	4,167	23,192	10,914	47.1%
April	27,110	4,100	23,010	10,739	46.7%
May	27,263	4,109	23,154	10,781	46.6%
June	27,399	4,117	23,282	10,497	45.1%
Mo. Avg.	26,728	4,276	22,452	10,362	46.2%

²⁵ WorkFirst participation may be waived or deferred if the individual meets an exemption criterion as described in WAC 388-310-0350.

²⁶ WorkFirst non-compliance sanction (NCS) – participation in the WorkFirst program is mandatory for adult recipients as a condition of eligibility. Those who do not participate in WorkFirst as required may not qualify for the full grant. Effective July 1, 2021, Substitute House Bill 2441 made changes to WorkFirst NCS policies. Under the new policy, the sanction reduction penalty is applied after two continuous months of non-compliance. Participants are eligible for an additional ten months of reduced grant sanction before the TANF or SFA case is terminated.

²⁷ TANF/SFA adults are required to participate in the WorkFirst program unless they meet one or more of the following exemption criteria: Infant exemption, toddler exemption, postpartum exemption, pursuing SSI, 55 & older caretaker relative, caring for an adult with disabilities who is not a full-time student, caring for a child with special needs who is not a full-time student, or an adult with severe and chronic disabilities.

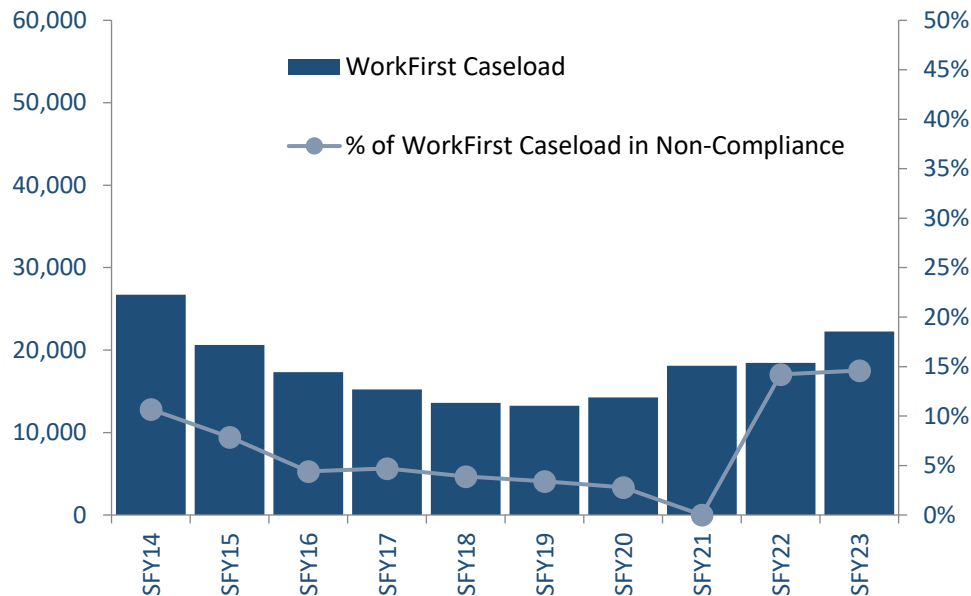
WorkFirst Clients Participating in WorkFirst Activities²⁸, SFY 2023 (continued)

SFY 2023	# of Non-Exempt WorkFirst Clients Participating in WorkFirst Activities	# Working	% Working	# Looking For Work	% Looking For Work
July	9,223	2,372	25.7%	2,348	25.5%
August	9,674	2,355	24.3%	2,549	26.3%
September	9,973	2,386	23.9%	2,587	25.9%
October	10,283	2,479	24.1%	2,613	25.4%
November	10,387	2,404	23.1%	2,682	25.8%
December	10,292	2,395	23.3%	2,696	26.2%
January	10,729	2,563	23.9%	2,871	26.8%
February	10,848	2,560	23.6%	2,962	27.3%
March	10,914	2,563	23.5%	3,052	28.0%
April	10,739	2,556	23.8%	2,959	27.6%
May	10,781	2,605	24.2%	2,919	27.1%
June	10,497	2,552	24.3%	2,725	26.0%
Mo. Avg.	10,362	2,483	24.0%	2,747	26.5%

SFY 2023	# Preparing for Work (Education and Training)	% Preparing for Work (Education and Training)	# Resolving Issues	% Resolving Issues
July	2,899	31.4%	4,215	45.7%
August	2,961	30.6%	4,663	48.2%
September	3,337	33.5%	4,412	44.2%
October	3,601	35.0%	4,484	43.6%
November	3,685	35.5%	4,382	42.2%
December	3,655	35.5%	4,240	41.2%
January	3,948	36.8%	4,426	41.3%
February	3,980	36.7%	4,322	39.8%
March	3,961	36.3%	4,510	41.3%
April	3,913	36.4%	4,475	41.7%
May	3,905	36.2%	4,505	41.8%
June	3,860	36.8%	4,310	41.1%
Mo. Avg.	3,642	35.1%	4,412	42.6%

²⁸ Clients may participate in more than one type of WorkFirst activity in each month.

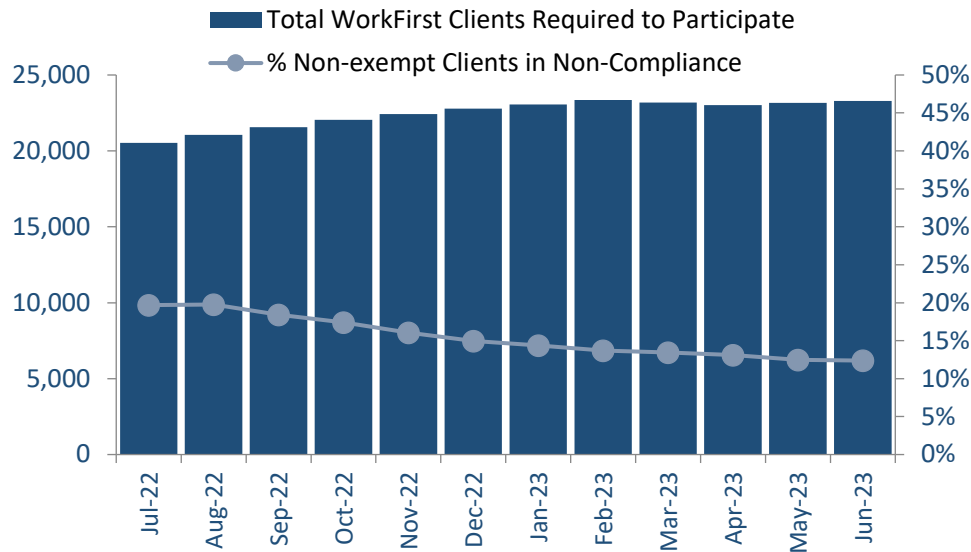
WorkFirst Cases and Clients in Non-Compliance, SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY	Cases (Monthly Average)			Clients (Monthly Average)		
	WorkFirst Caseload	Cases with at Least 1 Adult in Non-Compliance	% of Cases with at least 1 Adult in Non-Compliance	All WorkFirst Clients	Clients in Non-Compliance	% of All WorkFirst Clients in Non-Compliance
SFY14	26,727	2,869	10.7%	30,833	3,038	9.9%
SFY15	20,608	1,619	7.9%	23,588	1,717	7.3%
SFY16	17,336	768	4.4%	19,701	789	4.0%
SFY17	15,223	714	4.7%	17,323	736	4.2%
SFY18	13,602	524	3.9%	15,374	557	3.6%
SFY19	13,266	457	3.4%	14,877	471	3.2%
SFY20 ²⁹	14,249	397	2.8%	16,146	409	2.5%
SFY21	18,118	0	0.0%	18,505	0	0.0%
SFY22	18,434	2,625	14.2%	20,929	2,803	13.4%
SFY23	22,245	3,249	14.6%	26,728	3,454	12.9%

²⁹ Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, DSHS temporarily suspended mandatory participation requirements between March 16, 2020 and August 31, 2021; therefore, monthly averages for SFY 2020 reflect a 9-month average rather than a 12-month average.

WorkFirst Clients in Non-Compliance by Month, SFY 2023

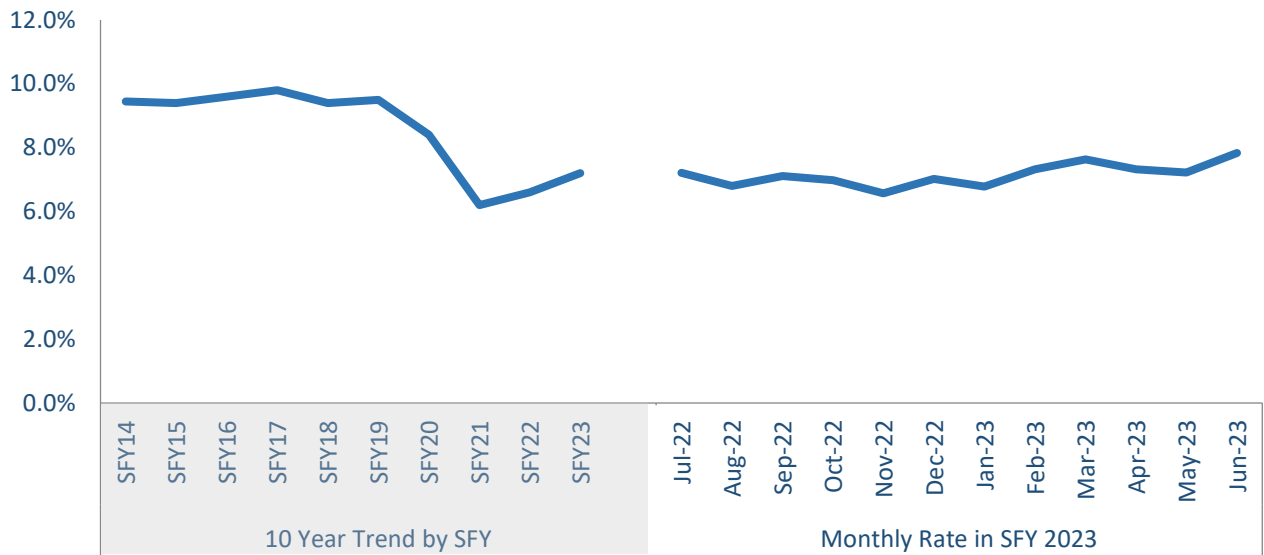


WorkFirst Adult Clients in Non-Compliance					Clients on Cases Terminated Due to Non-Compliance Sanction Effective the Following Month
SFY 2023 ³⁰	Total WorkFirst Clients Required to Participate (Non-exempt ³¹)	Total Non-Exempt Clients in Non-Compliance	% Non-Exempt Clients in Non-Compliance	Clients in Sanction Status with Grant Reduction	
July	20,522	4,040	19.7%	2,116	0
August	21,057	4,162	19.8%	2,191	0
September	21,555	3,975	18.4%	2,181	1
October	22,042	3,834	17.4%	2,102	37
November	22,423	3,605	16.1%	2,037	63
December	22,783	3,408	15.0%	1,872	79
January	23,049	3,309	14.4%	1,765	98
February	23,350	3,202	13.7%	1,656	88
March	23,192	3,121	13.5%	1,574	88
April	23,010	3,016	13.1%	1,507	89
May	23,154	2,892	12.5%	1,481	58
June	23,282	2,882	12.4%	1,478	61
Mo. Avg.	22,452	3,454	15.4%	1,619	73

³⁰ DSHS implemented a new sanction policy starting in October 2021. As a result, no cases were terminated due to non-compliance sanction until September 2022.

³¹ Clients meeting one or more of the following exemption definitions may be exempted from WorkFirst participation: infant exemption, toddler exemption, postpartum exemption, pursuing SSI, 55 & older caretaker relative, caring for an adult with disabilities who is not a full time student, caring for a child with special needs who is not a full time student, or an adult with severe and chronic disabilities.

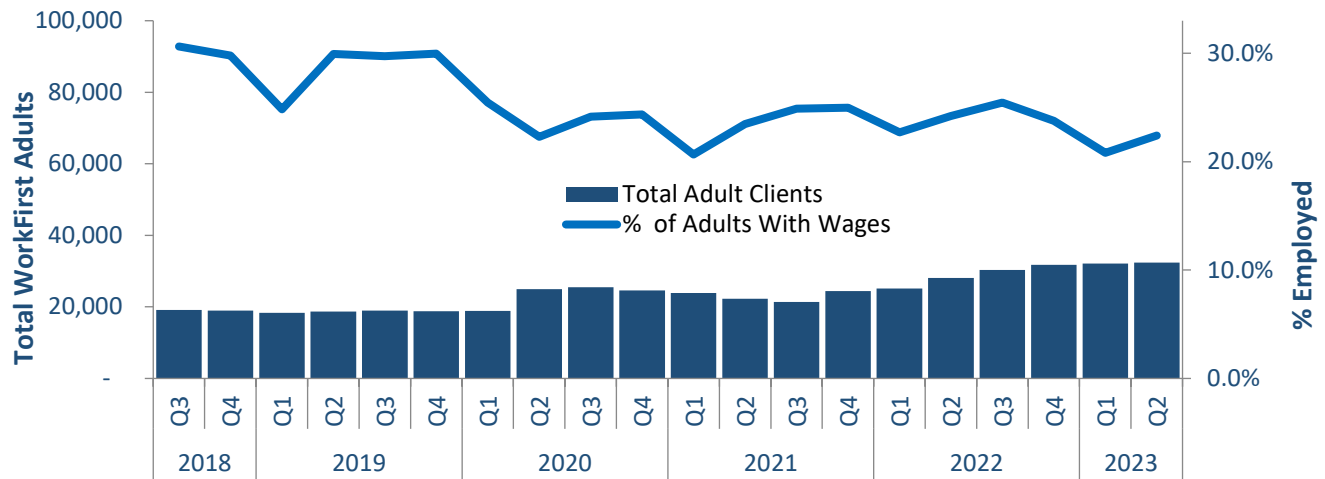
WorkFirst Client Employment Rates³², SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY 2023	# of WorkFirst Clients	# Employed (Earned Income >= \$5.00)	% Employed (Earned Income >= \$5.00)	Avg. Monthly Hours Worked (Among those Employed)
July	24,889	1,795	7.2%	65
August	25,553	1,738	6.8%	65
September	26,039	1,852	7.1%	65
October	26,448	1,847	7.0%	62
November	26,737	1,757	6.6%	63
December	27,079	1,900	7.0%	64
January	27,339	1,854	6.8%	65
February	27,516	2,015	7.3%	68
March	27,359	2,088	7.6%	68
April	27,110	1,986	7.3%	66
May	27,263	1,968	7.2%	68
June	27,399	2,146	7.8%	70
Mo. Avg.	26,728	1,912	7.2%	65.8

³²Employment status is based on the client's self-reported earnings from work as recorded in the ACES database. If the client reported \$5 or more earned income in the month, the client is considered employed.

WorkFirst Clients Receiving Quarterly Wages³³, July 2018 – June 2023



Quarter	Total Adults	Adults with Wages ³⁴		Average Quarterly Wages ³⁵	Average Quarterly Hourly Wages ³⁶
		Number	Percent		
2018Q3	19,182	5,874	30.6%	\$2,677	\$14.56
2018Q4	18,995	5,660	29.8%	\$2,790	\$14.88
2019Q1	18,383	4,566	24.8%	\$2,493	\$15.10
2019Q2	18,726	5,606	29.9%	\$2,749	\$15.15
2019Q3	18,977	5,639	29.7%	\$2,832	\$15.33
2019Q4	18,761	5,622	30.0%	\$2,910	\$15.63
2020Q1	18,866	4,800	25.4%	\$2,800	\$16.33
2020Q2	24,930	5,558	22.3%	\$2,659	\$17.33
2020Q3	25,534	6,166	24.1%	\$3,412	\$16.98
2020Q4	24,601	5,993	24.4%	\$3,536	\$17.17
2021Q1	23,890	4,935	20.7%	\$3,225	\$17.36
2021Q2	22,277	5,227	23.5%	\$3,416	\$17.38
2021Q3	21,415	5,329	24.9%	\$3,532	\$18.08
2021Q4	24,457	6,110	25.0%	\$3,562	\$18.78
2022Q1	25,154	5,713	22.7%	\$3,284	\$18.91
2022Q2	28,071	6,793	24.2%	\$3,719	\$18.99
2022Q3	30,355	7,721	25.4%	\$3,944	\$19.42
2022Q4	31,726	7,544	23.8%	\$3,847	\$20.02
2023Q1	32,148	6,688	20.8%	\$3,945	\$20.25
2023Q2	32,390	7,256	22.4%	\$4,100	\$20.44

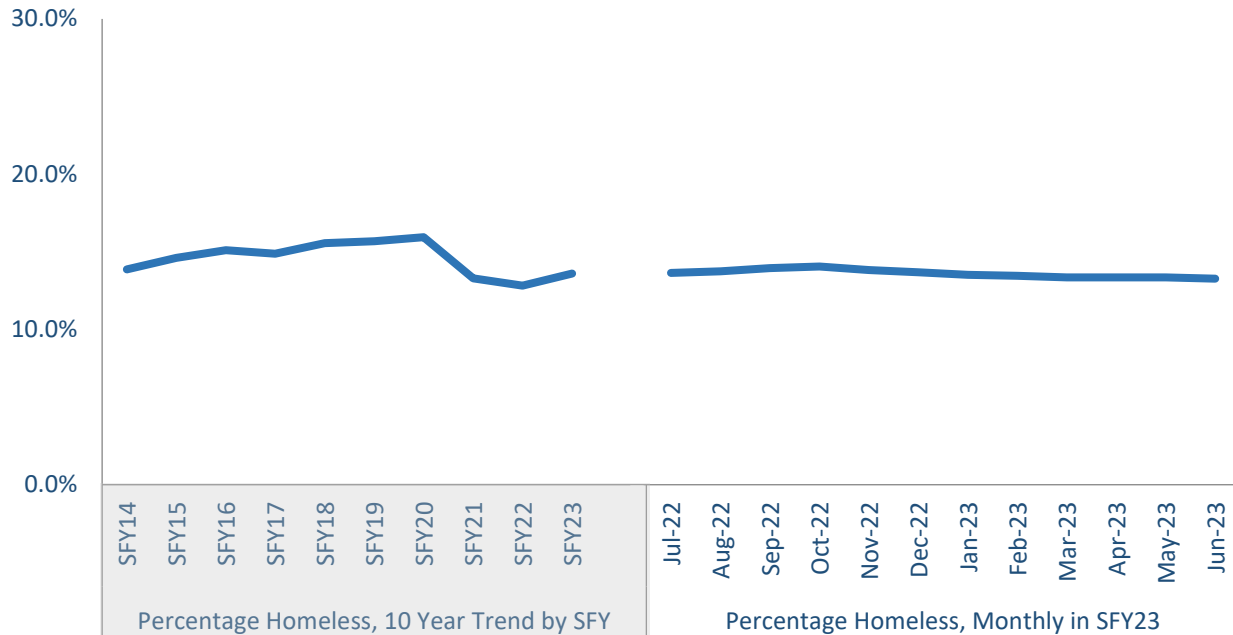
³³ Quarterly wage information is based on the Employment Security Department's (ESD) Unemployment Insurance (UI) wage data.

³⁴ Adults with wages are those adult clients with wages who earned total wages of more than \$5.00 in a quarter.

³⁵ Average quarterly wages per person for those adult clients with wages in a quarter.

³⁶ Jobs without hours or with 1,000 or more hours are excluded. Only includes jobs with an hourly wage rate between \$5 and \$50.

TANF/SFA Households Experiencing Homelessness³⁷, SFY 2023



SFY 2023	Total Caseload	# Homeless Cases	% Homeless	# Homeless without Housing	% Homeless without Housing
July	31,727	4,327	13.6%	890	2.8%
August	32,252	4,436	13.8%	920	2.9%
September	32,413	4,520	13.9%	921	2.8%
October	32,493	4,564	14.0%	929	2.9%
November	32,605	4,508	13.8%	904	2.8%
December	32,912	4,501	13.7%	887	2.7%
January	33,070	4,470	13.5%	869	2.6%
February	33,103	4,452	13.4%	862	2.6%
March	32,962	4,402	13.4%	860	2.6%
April	32,722	4,372	13.4%	870	2.7%
May	32,694	4,365	13.4%	881	2.7%
June	32,758	4,349	13.3%	893	2.7%
Mo. Avg.	32,643	4,439	13.6%	891	2.7%

³⁷ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

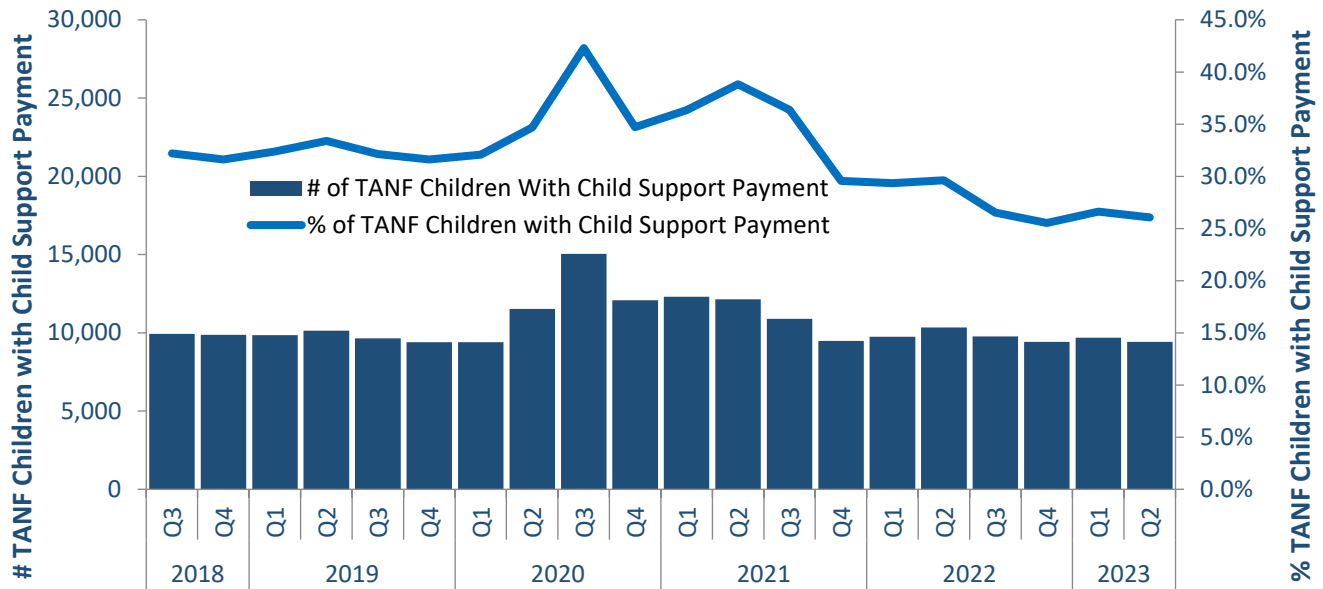
TANF/SFA Adults and Children Experiencing Homelessness³⁸, SFY 2023

SFY 2023	Total # Adults	# Homeless Adults	% Homeless	# Homeless without Housing	% Homeless without Housing
July	24,889	4,655	18.7%	899	3.6%
August	25,553	4,793	18.8%	936	3.7%
September	26,039	4,944	19.0%	934	3.6%
October	26,448	5,060	19.1%	951	3.6%
November	26,737	5,026	18.8%	924	3.5%
December	27,079	5,053	18.7%	904	3.3%
January	27,339	5,037	18.4%	891	3.3%
February	27,516	5,018	18.2%	891	3.2%
March	27,359	4,936	18.0%	880	3.2%
April	27,110	4,901	18.1%	913	3.4%
May	27,263	4,896	18.0%	921	3.4%
June	27,399	4,863	17.7%	933	3.4%
Mo. Avg.	26,728	4,932	18.5%	915	3.4%

SFY 2023	Total # Children	# Homeless Children	% Homeless	# Homeless without Housing	% Homeless without Housing
July	54,016	6,939	12.8%	1,099	2.0%
August	54,981	7,118	12.9%	1,169	2.1%
September	55,347	7,305	13.2%	1,191	2.2%
October	55,671	7,424	13.3%	1,203	2.2%
November	55,959	7,369	13.2%	1,171	2.1%
December	56,865	7,360	12.9%	1,142	2.0%
January	57,207	7,290	12.7%	1,090	1.9%
February	57,252	7,195	12.6%	1,086	1.9%
March	56,931	7,094	12.5%	1,066	1.9%
April	56,316	7,031	12.5%	1,087	1.9%
May	56,194	7,026	12.5%	1,085	1.9%
June	56,289	7,009	12.5%	1,102	2.0%
Mo. Avg.	56,086	7,180	12.8%	1,124	2.0%

³⁸ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

TANF Children With Child Support Payment, By Quarter, July 2018 – June 2023



SFY/Quarter	# of TANF Children with Open Child Support Cases	# of TANF Children With Child Support Payment	% of TANF Children with Child Support Payment
2018Q3	30,840	9,928	32.2%
2018Q4	31,228	9,874	31.6%
2019Q1	30,413	9,846	32.4%
2019Q2	30,336	10,132	33.4%
2019Q3	30,004	9,641	32.1%
2019Q4	29,727	9,394	31.6%
2020Q1	29,316	9,406	32.1%
2020Q2	33,238	11,532	34.7%
2020Q3	35,585	15,049	42.3%
2020Q4	34,769	12,070	34.7%
2021Q1	33,877	12,310	36.3%
2021Q2	31,269	12,137	38.8%
2021Q3	29,941	10,891	36.4%
2021Q4	32,078	9,480	29.6%
2022Q1	33,221	9,751	29.4%
2022Q2	34,889	10,332	29.6%
2022Q3	36,871	9,775	26.5%
2022Q4	36,911	9,422	25.5%
2023Q1	36,390	9,685	26.6%
2023Q2	36,120	9,418	26.1%

TANF/SFA Caseload by Primary Language, June 2023 Snapshot

Primary Language ³⁹	# of Cases	Percent of Cases	Percentage of Non-English Cases
English Language Cases			
English	26,589	81.2%	N/A
Large Print	517	1.6%	N/A
Sign Language	5	<0.1%	N/A
Braille	2	<0.1%	N/A
Total English Languages	27,113	82.8%	N/A
Non-English Language Cases			
Spanish	2,371	7.2%	42.0%
Russian	1,247	3.8%	22.1%
Ukrainian	787	2.4%	13.9%
Dari	256	0.8%	4.5%
Arabic	176	0.5%	3.1%
Other Language	94	0.3%	1.7%
Romanian	90	0.3%	1.6%
Portuguese	85	0.3%	1.5%
Pashto	69	0.2%	1.2%
Trukese	63	0.2%	1.1%
Tigrigna	63	0.2%	1.1%
French	62	0.2%	1.1%
Somali	42	0.1%	0.7%
Farsi	34	0.1%	0.6%
Amharic	33	0.1%	0.6%
Vietnamese	31	0.1%	0.5%
Haitian-Creole	28	0.1%	0.5%
Swahili	22	0.1%	0.4%
Samoan	13	<0.1%	0.2%
Turkish	11	<0.1%	0.2%
Other Languages⁴⁰	68	0.2%	1.2%
Total Non-English Languages	5,645	17.2%	100.0%
Total	32,758	100.0%	

³⁹ Primary Language is based on the language indicated by the head of household during eligibility determination. It is used for letters, notices, and other written communications.

⁴⁰ These are non-English languages with fewer than 10 households each.

TANF/SFA Client Demographics⁴¹, June 2023 Snapshot

Characteristic	<u>All Clients</u>		<u>All Adults</u>		<u>All Children</u>	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults	# of Clients	% of Total Children
Total Clients	83,688	100.0%	27,399	100.0%	56,289	100.0%

Gender	<u>All Clients</u>		<u>All Adults</u>		<u>All Children</u>	
Female	48,822	58.3%	20,777	75.8%	28,045	49.8%
Male	34,856	41.6%	6,620	24.2%	28,236	50.2%
Unknown	10	<0.1%	2	<0.1%	8	<0.1%

Ethnicity and Race	<u>All Clients</u>		<u>All Adults</u>		<u>All Children</u>	
Hispanic or Latino	20,514	24.5%	4,932	18.0%	15,582	27.7%
Not Hispanic or Latino⁴²	63,174	75.5%	22,467	82.0%	40,707	72.3%
White	36,853	44.0%	14,244	52.0%	22,609	40.2%
Black/African American	10,559	12.6%	3,419	12.5%	7,140	12.7%
Asian/Pacific Islander	5,424	6.5%	1,977	7.2%	3,447	6.1%
American Indian/Alaska Native	3,242	3.9%	913	3.3%	2,329	4.1%
Two or More Races	2,706	3.2%	606	2.2%	2,100	3.7%
Race Not Reported	4,390	5.2%	1,308	4.8%	3,082	5.5%

Marital Status	<u>All Adults</u>	
Separated	2,144	7.8%
Married	8,825	32.2%
Never Married	13,073	47.7%
Divorced	3,040	11.1%
Widowed	263	1.0%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	54	0.2%

Citizenship Status	<u>All Clients</u>		<u>All Adults</u>		<u>All Children</u>	
U.S. Citizen	66,691	79.7%	18,992	69.3%	47,699	84.7%
Resident Noncitizen	16,657	19.9%	8,236	30.1%	8,421	15.0%
U.S. National⁴³	263	0.3%	131	0.5%	132	0.2%
Survivors of Certain Crimes⁴⁴	77	0.1%	40	0.1%	37	0.1%

⁴¹ Clients are classified as adults or children based on their relationship to the head of household, rather than age.

⁴² Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

⁴³ U.S. National: A national of the United States or a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States (e.g., persons born in American Samoa or Swains Island).

⁴⁴ Effective February 1, 2022, certain state-funded benefits including State Family Assistance (SFA), are available to noncitizens who have been harmed by a crime and have filed or are preparing to file with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services an application for T visa for trafficking victims, U visa for victims of qualifying crimes or asylum status. This population is referred to as survivors of certain crimes (SCCs).

TANF/SFA Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Characteristic	All Clients		All Adults	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults

Homeless Status	All Clients		All Adults	
Homeless ⁴⁵	11,872	14.2%	4,863	17.7%

Education Status	All Clients		All Adults	
Less than a High School Diploma			5,857	21.4%
High School Graduate or GED			12,105	44.2%
Some College or College Degree			8,948	32.7%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable			489	1.8%

Age	All Clients		All Adults	
< 1 Year Old	3,562	4.3%	N/A	
1 – 5 Years Old	16,675	19.9%		
6 – 10 Years Old	15,629	18.7%		
11 – 15 Years Old	14,252	17.0%		
16 – 17 Years Old ⁴⁶	4,933	5.9%	16	0.1%
18 – 24 Years Old	4,596	5.5%	3,342	12.2%
25 – 34 Years Old	11,098	13.3%	11,098	40.5%
35 – 44 Years Old	9,559	11.4%	9,559	34.9%
45 – 54 Years Old	2,872	3.4%	2,872	10.5%
55 – 64 Years Old	481	0.6%	481	1.8%
65+ Years Old	31	<0.1%	31	0.1%
Average Age of Adults	34.5 Years			

Length of Stay ⁴⁷	
Average	27.8 Months
Median	15.0 Months

⁴⁵ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

⁴⁶ Clients are classified as adults or children based on their relationship to the head of household, rather than age.

⁴⁷ Months on Assistance since July 1997 (All Adults). Does not include child recipient months.

TANF/SFA Child Demographics⁴⁸, June 2023 Snapshot

Characteristic	All Children		Children in Child-Only Cases	
	# of Clients	% of All Children	# of Clients	% of Children in Child-Only Cases
Total Clients	56,289	100.0%	16,068	100.0%

Gender	All Children		Children in Child-Only Cases	
	# of Clients	% of All Children	# of Clients	% of Children in Child-Only Cases
Female	28,045	49.8%	8,242	51.3%
Male	28,236	50.2%	7,826	48.7%
Unknown	8	<0.1%	0	0.0%

Ethnicity and Race	All Children		Children in Child-Only Cases	
	# of Clients	% of All Children	# of Clients	% of Children in Child-Only Cases
Hispanic or Latino	15,582	27.7%	6,056	37.7%
Not Hispanic or Latino⁴⁹	40,707	72.3%	10,012	62.3%
White	22,609	40.2%	5,719	35.6%
Black/African American	7,140	12.7%	1,612	10.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	3,447	6.1%	595	3.7%
American Indian/Alaska Native	2,329	4.1%	1,014	6.3%
Two or More Races	2,100	3.7%	511	3.2%
Race Not Reported	3,082	5.5%	561	3.5%

Citizenship Status	All Children		Children in Child-Only Cases	
	# of Clients	% of All Children	# of Clients	% of Children in Child-Only Cases
U.S. Citizen	47,699	84.7%	15,744	98.0%
Resident Noncitizen	8,421	15.0%	269	1.7%
U.S. National⁵⁰	132	0.2%	50	0.3%
Survivors of Certain Crimes⁵¹	37	0.1%	5	<0.1%

Age	All Children		Children in Child-Only Cases	
	# of Clients	% of All Children	# of Clients	% of Children in Child-Only Cases
< 1 Year Old	3,561	6.3%	488	3.0%
1 – 5 Years Old	16,675	29.6%	3,086	19.2%
6 – 10 Years Old	15,629	27.8%	4,386	27.3%
11 – 15 Years Old	14,252	25.3%	5,347	33.3%
16 – 17 Years Old	4,918	8.7%	2,144	13.3%
18 – 24 Years Old	1,254	2.2%	617	3.8%
Average Age of Children	8.2 Years		10.1 Years	

⁴⁸ Clients are classified as adults or children based on their relationship to the head of household, rather than age.

⁴⁹ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

⁵⁰ U.S. National: A national of the United States or a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States (e.g., persons born in American Samoa or Swains Island).

⁵¹ Effective February 1, 2022, certain state-funded benefits including State Family Assistance (SFA), are available to noncitizens who have been harmed by a crime and have filed or are preparing to file with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services an application for T visa for trafficking victims, U visa for victims of qualifying crimes or asylum status. This population is referred to as survivors of certain crimes (SCCs).

Other Programs

SFY

2023

This chapter describes programs and services not covered in other sections of the Briefing Book. These include: Additional Requirements – Emergent Needs (AREN), Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP), Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA), Ongoing Additional Requirements (OAR), State Supplemental Payment (SSP), and Working Family Support (WFS).

ESA Briefing
Book

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Other Programs Overview

This chapter provides a summary of ESA cases and clients served by programs not covered in other sections of the Briefing Book. A description of each program, including the eligibility criteria, funding sources, and services/benefits provided, is available in the **Program Descriptions** section of the Briefing Book.

Highlights

Additional Requirements – Emergent Needs (AREN) – The program served an average of 41 cases each month in SFY 2023, an increase of 13.9% compared to SFY 2022 (36 monthly cases).

Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP)¹ – The program served an average of 6 cases each month in SFY 2023, a decrease of 86.4% compared to SFY 2022 (44 monthly cases).

Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA) – The program served an average of 43 cases each month in SFY 2023, an increase of 19.4% compared to SFY 2022 (36 monthly cases).

Ongoing Additional Requirements (OAR) – The program served an average of 471 cases each month in SFY 2023, an increase of 6.8% compared to SFY 2022 (441 monthly cases).

State Supplemental Payment (SSP) – The program served an average of 41,290 cases each month in SFY 2023, an increase of 1.7% compared to SFY 2022 (40,592 monthly cases).

Working Family Support (WFS) – The program served an average of 7,071 cases each month in SFY 2023, an increase of 16.1% compared to SFY 2022 (6,091 monthly cases).

TECHNICAL NOTES:

DATA SOURCES:

- The majority of the data for this chapter was based on the ESA ACES database as of August 2023.
- The state population estimates are provided by OFM Forecasting Division.

DATA NOTES:

- Percentages may not add up to expected totals due to rounding.
- CSO of Issuance: Caseload distribution is based on the location from which benefits were issued. While most benefits are issued through ESA's Community Service Offices (CSO), benefits may be issued by Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC) or Home and Community Services Offices (HCS) within DSHS's Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (AL TSA).
- CSO of Residence: Caseload distribution is based on the CSO coverage area clients live in.
- All reports of 10-year client or caseload trends reflect the monthly average for each state fiscal year (SFY).

¹ Effective November 22, 2021 through December 17, 2021, the Disaster Cash Assistance Program (DCAP), which is an expanded version of CEAP, was activated in response to Governor Inslee's declaration of a state of emergency in certain counties due to the devastating effects of severe weather. CEAP has funding throughout the year and is available exclusively for households with minor dependent children or pregnant women who are not eligible for other cash programs. DCAP was an expanded option for a broader array of households, though is only available per a governor's declared state of emergency.

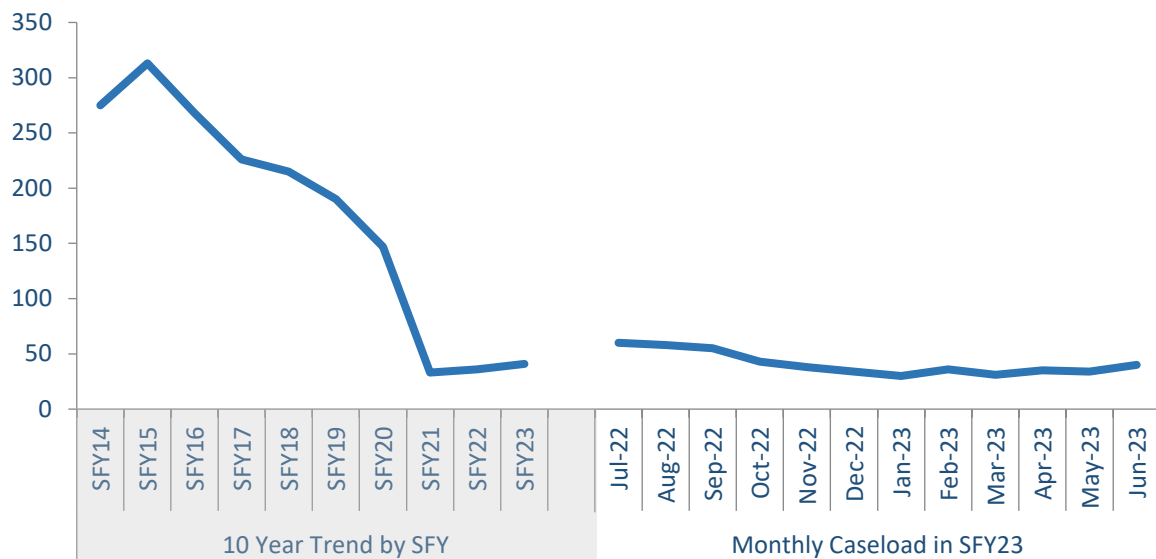
Selected Additional Requirements – Emergent Needs (AREN) Program Characteristics, SFY 2022 and SFY 2023

	SFY 2022	SFY 2023	
	(July 2021-June 2022)	(July 2022-June 2023)	Change
Average Number of Cases Per Month (Range)	36 (12 - 72)	41 (30 - 60)	13.9% (Increase) ↑
Average Number of Persons Per Month (Range)	103 (32 - 202)	114 (66 - 187)	10.7% (Increase) ↑
Average Number of Adults Per Month (Range)	36 (11 - 67)	35 (17 - 58)	-2.8% (Decrease) ↓
Average Number of Children Per Month (Range)	67 (19 - 136)	79 (49 - 129)	17.9% (Increase) ↑
State Population²	7,864,400	7,951,150	1.1% (Increase) ↑
Monthly Average Recipients as a Percent of State Total Population	<0.1%	<0.1%	No Change =
Children as Percent of Recipients	65.0%	69.3%	4.3% Point (Increase) ↑
Average Persons Per Case	2.9	2.8	-0.1 Point (Decrease) ↓
Average Children Per Case	1.9	1.9	No Change =
Average Children Per Adult	1.9	2.3	0.4 Point (Increase) ↑
Average Monthly Payment Per Case (Range)³	\$587.92 (\$522.92 - \$630.35)	\$523.27 (\$479.97 - \$571.35)	-11.0% (Decrease) ↓

² Source: Office of Financial Management (OFM) population estimates

³ Payments not adjusted for refunds

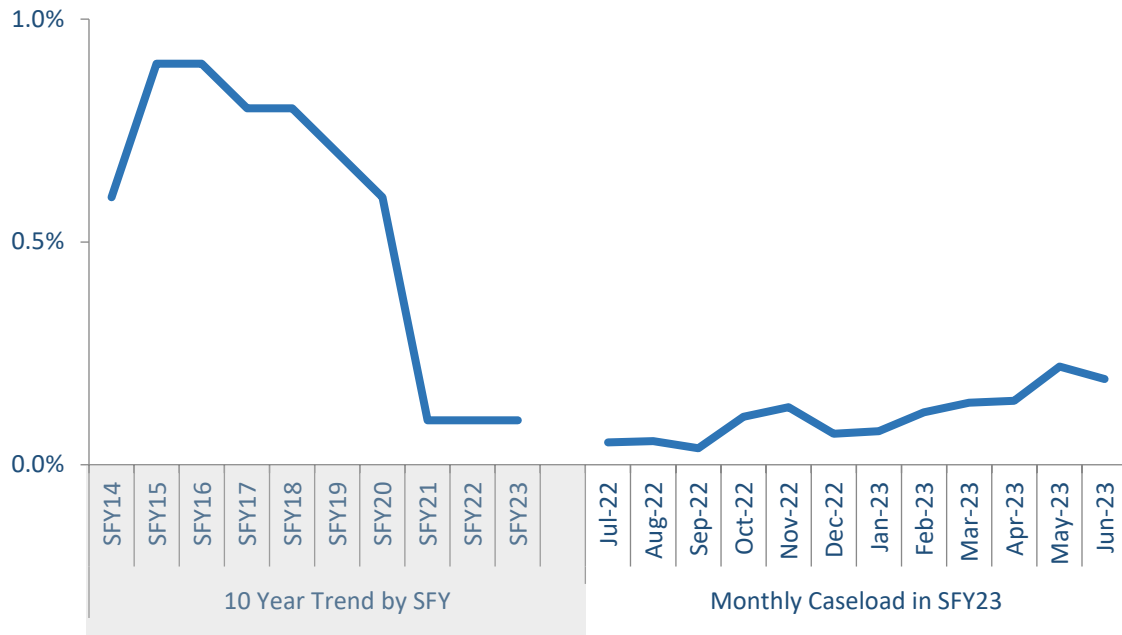
AREN Caseload, SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY	Monthly Average Caseload	SFY	Monthly Average Caseload
SFY14	275	SFY19	190
SFY15	313	SFY20	147
SFY16	268	SFY21	33
SFY17	226	SFY22	36
SFY18	215	SFY23	41

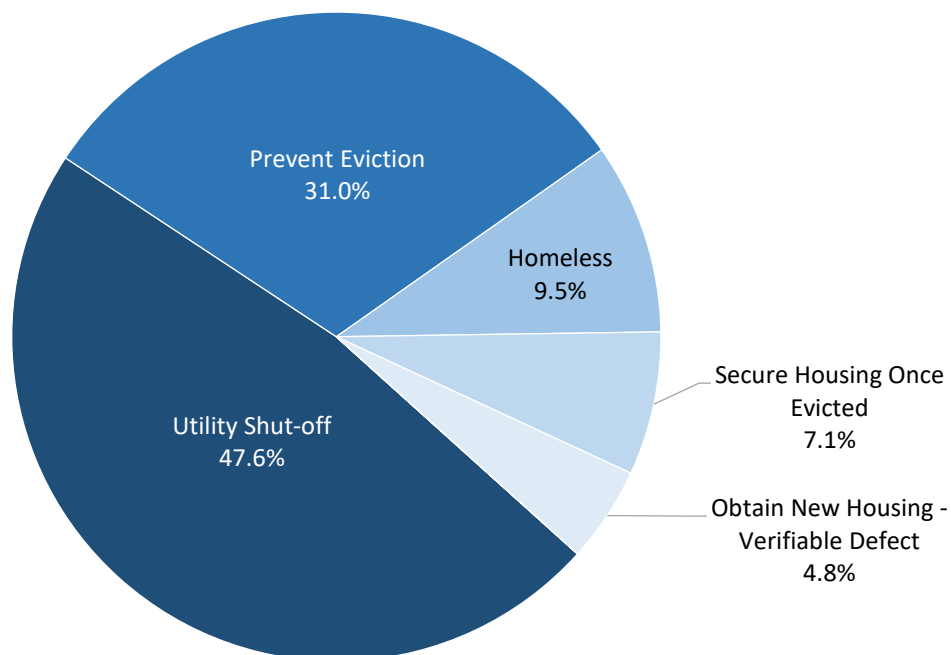
SFY 2023	Total # of Cases	Persons	Grant Expenditures	Average Payment Per Case
July	60	159	\$33,067	\$551.12
August	58	187	\$29,436	\$507.51
September	55	164	\$28,354	\$515.52
October	43	118	\$21,923	\$509.83
November	38	94	\$18,889	\$497.08
December	34	98	\$16,319	\$479.97
January	30	66	\$16,901	\$563.35
February	36	99	\$18,950	\$526.39
March	31	78	\$17,712	\$571.35
April	35	93	\$17,680	\$505.14
May	34	100	\$17,254	\$507.47
June	40	106	\$20,962	\$524.06
Mo. Avg.	41	114	\$21,454	\$523.27
Annual Undup. ⁴	463	1,267	\$257,446	\$556.04

⁴ Expenditures represent total expenditures in the SFY.

AREN Caseload as a Percent of the TANF Caseload, SFY 2014 – 2023

SFY 2023	TANF Caseload	AREN Caseload	% of TANF Caseload
July	31,727	60	0.2%
August	32,252	58	0.2%
September	32,413	55	0.2%
October	32,493	43	0.1%
November	32,605	38	0.1%
December	32,912	34	0.1%
January	33,070	30	0.1%
February	33,103	36	0.1%
March	32,962	31	0.1%
April	32,722	35	0.1%
May	32,694	34	0.1%
June	32,758	40	0.1%
Mo. Avg.	32,643	41	0.1%

Average Monthly AREN Caseload by Service Type, SFY 2023



AREN Case Type ⁵	Average Monthly AREN Caseload	
	# of Cases	% of Total
Utility Shut-off	20	47.6%
Prevent Eviction	13	31.0%
Homeless	4	9.5%
Secure Housing Once Evicted	3	7.1%
Obtain New Housing - Verifiable Defect	2	4.8%
Total Cases	42	100.0%

⁵ Numbers are based on the average monthly caseload by type. A case may receive more than one type of AREN assistance. As a result, the sum of AREN cases by type may exceed the monthly average cases that received AREN in the SFY.

AREN Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated

Overview	Office of Issuance				Office of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
Region 1 CSOs	106	22.9%	297	23.4%	102	22.0%	290	22.9%
Region 2 CSOs	117	25.3%	344	27.2%	113	24.4%	329	26.0%
Region 3 CSOs	239	51.6%	625	49.3%	248	53.6%	648	51.1%
CSCCs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A			
ALTSA (HCS)	1	0.2%	1	0.1%				
DDA	0	0.0%	0	0.0%				
Tribal Locations	0	0.0%	0	0.0%				
Not Reported / Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
State Total	463	100.0%	1,267	100.0%	463	100.0%	1,267	100.0%

AREN Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

Region 1 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON	1	0.2%	3	0.2%	1	0.2%	3	0.2%
COLFAX	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
COLVILLE	3	0.6%	9	0.7%	3	0.6%	9	0.7%
ELLENSBURG	5	1.1%	11	0.9%	5	1.1%	11	0.9%
GOLDENDALE	5	1.1%	14	1.1%	5	1.1%	14	1.1%
KENNEWICK	8	1.7%	20	1.6%	8	1.7%	20	1.6%
MOSES LAKE	3	0.6%	11	0.9%	3	0.6%	11	0.9%
NEWPORT	2	0.4%	6	0.5%	2	0.4%	6	0.5%
OKANOGAN	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
REPUBLIC	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
SPOKANE MAPLE	24	5.2%	67	5.3%	27	5.8%	79	6.2%
SPOKANE TRENT	32	6.9%	98	7.7%	28	6.0%	85	6.7%
SUNNYSIDE	2	0.4%	12	0.9%	3	0.6%	13	1.0%
TOPPENISH	1	0.2%	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
WALLA WALLA	1	0.2%	4	0.3%	1	0.2%	4	0.3%
WENATCHEE	1	0.2%	2	0.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
WHITE SALMON	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
YAKIMA	18	3.9%	39	3.1%	16	3.5%	35	2.8%
Region 1 Total	106	22.9%	297	23.4%	102	22.0%	290	22.9%

AREN Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

Region 2 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD	5	1.1%	15	1.2%	4	0.9%	12	0.9%
AUBURN	13	2.8%	41	3.2%	13	2.8%	41	3.2%
BELLINGHAM	4	0.9%	14	1.1%	4	0.9%	14	1.1%
BELLTOWN	4	0.9%	14	1.1%	3	0.6%	12	0.9%
CAPITOL HILL	3	0.6%	8	0.6%	3	0.6%	8	0.6%
EVERETT	17	3.7%	47	3.7%	16	3.5%	45	3.6%
FEDERAL WAY	3	0.6%	7	0.6%	3	0.6%	6	0.5%
KING EASTSIDE	17	3.7%	48	3.8%	17	3.7%	48	3.8%
KING NORTH	4	0.9%	8	0.6%	4	0.9%	8	0.6%
KING SOUTH	13	2.8%	40	3.2%	10	2.2%	31	2.4%
MOUNT VERNON	2	0.4%	8	0.6%	2	0.4%	8	0.6%
OAK HARBOR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
RAINIER	7	1.5%	18	1.4%	7	1.5%	18	1.4%
RENTON	11	2.4%	34	2.7%	11	2.4%	33	2.6%
SKYKOMISH VALLEY	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	2	0.2%
SMOKEY POINT	4	0.9%	14	1.1%	5	1.1%	15	1.2%
WHITE CENTER	10	2.2%	28	2.2%	10	2.2%	28	2.2%
Region 2 Total	117	25.3%	344	27.2%	113	24.4%	329	26.0%

AREN Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

Region 3 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN	14	3.0%	41	3.2%	14	3.0%	41	3.2%
BREMERTON	6	1.3%	11	0.9%	6	1.3%	11	0.9%
CHEHALIS	3	0.6%	9	0.7%	3	0.6%	9	0.7%
COLUMBIA RIVER	29	6.3%	78	6.2%	29	6.3%	77	6.1%
FORKS	1	0.2%	4	0.3%	1	0.2%	4	0.3%
KELSO	52	11.2%	133	10.5%	52	11.2%	133	10.5%
LAKEWOOD	59	12.7%	156	12.3%	59	12.7%	164	12.9%
LONG BEACH	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OLYMPIA	10	2.2%	27	2.1%	19	4.1%	45	3.6%
PIERCE NORTH	17	3.7%	46	3.6%	17	3.7%	44	3.5%
PIERCE SOUTH	28	6.0%	69	5.4%	30	6.5%	72	5.7%
PORT ANGELES	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
PORT TOWNSEND	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
PUYALLUP VALLEY	14	3.0%	31	2.4%	13	2.8%	29	2.3%
SHELTON	3	0.6%	13	1.0%	3	0.6%	13	1.0%
SOUTH BEND	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
STEVENSON	3	0.6%	7	0.6%	2	0.4%	6	0.5%
Region 3 Total	239	51.6%	625	49.3%	248	53.6%	648	51.1%

AREN Caseload by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 1	HCS Office of Issuance			
	Cases	% of State Total	Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
COLVILLE HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
ELLENSBURG HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
MEDICAL LAKE HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
MOSES LAKE HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OKANOGAN HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
SPOKANE HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
SUNNYSIDE HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
TRI-CITIES HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
WALLA WALLA HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
WENATCHEE HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
YAKIMA HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Region 1 Total	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 2	HCS Office of Issuance			
	Cases	% of State Total	Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
BELLINGHAM HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
EVERETT HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
HOLGATE HCS	1	0.2%	1	0.1%
MOUNT VERNON HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
SMOKEY POINT HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Region 2 Total	1	0.2%	1	0.1%

AREN Caseload by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 3	HCS Office of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
BREMERTON HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CHEHALIS HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
KELSO HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OLYMPIA HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
PORT ANGELES HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
STEILACOOM HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
TACOMA HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
VANCOUVER HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Region 3 Total	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

AREN Caseload by County of Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated

County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total	County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total
Adams	2	0.4%	6	0.5%	Lewis	3	0.6%	9	0.7%
Asotin	1	0.2%	3	0.2%	Lincoln	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Benton	7	1.5%	19	1.5%	Mason	3	0.6%	13	1.0%
Chelan	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Okanogan	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Clallam	1	0.2%	4	0.3%	Pacific	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Clark	29	6.3%	77	6.1%	Pend Oreille	2	0.4%	6	0.5%
Columbia	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Pierce	119	25.7%	309	24.4%
Cowlitz	52	11.2%	133	10.5%	San Juan	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Douglas	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Skagit	2	0.4%	8	0.6%
Ferry	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Skamania	2	0.4%	6	0.5%
Franklin	1	0.2%	1	0.1%	Snohomish	26	5.6%	74	5.8%
Garfield	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Spokane	55	11.9%	164	12.9%
Grant	1	0.2%	5	0.4%	Stevens	3	0.6%	9	0.7%
Grays Harbor	14	3.0%	41	3.2%	Thurston	19	4.1%	45	3.6%
Island	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Wahkiakum	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Jefferson	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Walla Walla	1	0.2%	4	0.3%
King	81	17.5%	233	18.4%	Whatcom	4	0.9%	14	1.1%
Kitsap	6	1.3%	11	0.9%	Whitman	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Kittitas	5	1.1%	11	0.9%	Yakima	19	4.1%	48	3.8%
Klickitat	5	1.1%	14	1.1%	Not Reported/ Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total
State Total	463	100.0%	1,267	100.0%

AREN Client Demographics, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated

Characteristic	All Clients		All Adults	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults
Total Clients	1,267	100.0%	417	100.0%
Gender	All Clients		All Adults	
Female	784	61.9%	345	82.7%
Male	482	38.0%	72	17.3%
Unknown	1	0.1%	0	0.0%
Ethnicity and Race	All Clients		All Adults	
Hispanic or Latino	245	19.3%	54	12.9%
Not Hispanic or Latino⁶	1,022	80.7%	363	87.1%
White	493	38.9%	200	48.0%
Black/African American	329	26.0%	108	25.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander	54	4.3%	19	4.6%
American Indian/Alaska Native	43	3.4%	15	3.6%
Two or More Races	54	4.3%	9	2.2%
Race Not Reported	49	3.9%	12	2.9%
Marital Status	All Adults			
Separated			35	8.4%
Married			70	16.8%
Never Married			244	58.5%
Divorced			63	15.1%
Widowed			5	1.2%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable			0	0.0%
Citizenship Status	All Clients		All Adults	
U.S. Citizen	1,214	95.8%	385	92.3%
Resident Noncitizen	52	4.1%	32	7.7%
U.S. National⁷	1	0.1%	0	0.0%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

⁶ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

⁷ U.S. National: A national of the United States or a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States (e.g., persons born in American Samoa or Swains Island).

AREN Client Demographics, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

Characteristic	<u>All Clients</u>		<u>All Adults</u>	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults
Homeless Status	<u>All Clients</u>		<u>All Adults</u>	
Homeless ⁸	121	9.6%	43	10.3%
Education Status	<u>All Adults</u>			
Less than a High School Diploma	75		18.0%	
High School Graduate or GED	165		39.6%	
Some College or College Degree	176		42.2%	
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	1		0.2%	
Age	<u>All Clients</u>		<u>All Adults</u>	
< 1 Year Old	25	2.0%	N/A	
1 – 5 Years Old	263	20.8%		
6 – 10 Years Old	276	21.8%		
11 – 15 Years Old	216	17.0%		
16 – 17 Years Old	70	5.5%		
18 – 24 Years Old	54	4.3%	54	12.9%
25 – 34 Years Old	164	12.9%	164	39.3%
35 – 44 Years Old	154	12.2%	154	36.9%
45 – 54 Years Old	41	3.2%	41	9.8%
55 – 64 Years Old	4	0.3%	4	1.0%
65+ Years Old	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Average Age of Children	8.1 Years			
Average Age of Adults	34.2 Years			

⁸ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

Selected Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP) Program Characteristics, SFY 2022 and SFY 2023⁹

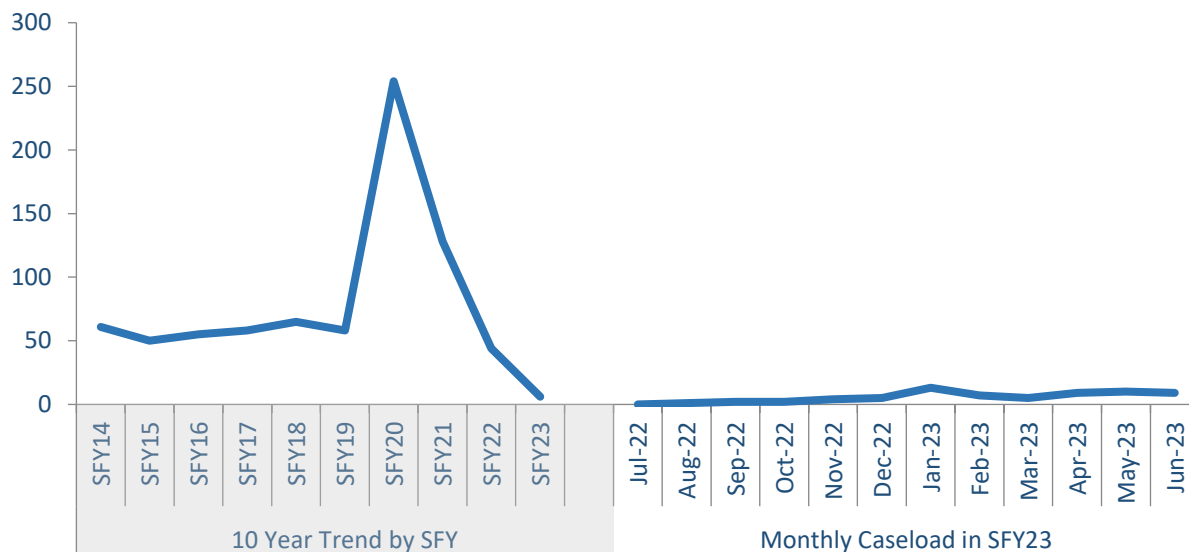
	SFY 2022 (July 2021-June 2022)	SFY 2023 (July 2022-June 2023)	Change	
Average Number of Cases Per Month (Range)	44 (0 - 458)	6 (0 - 13)	-86.4% (Decrease)	↓
Average Number of Persons Per Month (Range)	50 (0 - 482)	16 (0 - 37)	-68.0% (Decrease)	↓
Average Number of Adults Per Month (Range)	46 (0 - 469)	7 (0 - 17)	-84.8% (Decrease)	↓
Average Number of Children Per Month (Range)	4 (0 - 13)	9 (0 - 20)	125.0% (Increase)	↑
State Population ¹⁰	7,864,400	7,951,150	1.1% (Increase)	↑
Monthly Average Recipients as a Percent of State Total Population	<0.1%	<0.1%	No Change	=
Children as Percent of Recipients	8.0%	56.3%	48.3% Point (Increase)	↑
Average Persons Per Case	1.1	2.7	1.6 Point (Increase)	↑
Average Children Per Case	0.1	1.5	1.4 Point (Increase)	↑
Average Children Per Adult	0.1	1.3	1.2 Point (Increase)	↑
Average Monthly Payment Per Case (Range) ¹¹	\$416.55 (\$0 - \$888.00)	\$505.50 (\$0 - \$685.33)	21.4% (Increase)	↑

⁹ The larger number of CEAP cases in SFY 2022 is due to the activation of the Disaster Cash Assistance Program (DCAP) from November 22, 2021 through December 17, 2021. The data in this table reflects only CEAP, which has funding throughout the year and is available exclusively for households with minor dependent children or pregnant individuals who are not eligible for other cash programs. DCAP is an expanded option for a broader array of households, and it is only available per a state of emergency declared by the Governor. When DCAP is activated, some households eligible for CEAP may apply for assistance and receive CEAP instead.

¹⁰ Source: Office of Financial Management (OFM) population estimates

¹¹ Payments not adjusted for refunds.

CEAP Caseload, SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY	Monthly Average Caseload	SFY	Monthly Average Caseload
SFY14	61	SFY19	58
SFY15	50	SFY20	254
SFY16	55	SFY21	128
SFY17	58	SFY22	44
SFY18	65	SFY23	6

SFY 2023	Total # of Cases	Clients	Grant Expenditures	Average Payment Per Case
July	0	0	\$0	\$0.00
August	1	3	\$654	\$654.00
September	2	5	\$1,182	\$591.00
October	2	7	\$1,298	\$649.00
November	4	14	\$2,724	\$681.00
December	5	11	\$2,172	\$434.40
January	13	37	\$7,105	\$546.54
February	7	23	\$3,338	\$476.86
March	5	13	\$2,201	\$440.20
April	9	22	\$3,661	\$406.76
May	10	29	\$5,889	\$588.90
June	9	29	\$6,168	\$685.33
Mo. Avg.	6	16	\$3,033	\$505.50

Annual Undup. ¹²	66	191	\$36,392	\$551.39
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CEAP Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated

Overview	Office of Issuance				Office of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
Region 1 CSOs	16	24.2%	46	24.1%	16	24.2%	46	24.1%
Region 2 CSOs	22	33.3%	63	33.0%	26	39.4%	72	37.7%
Region 3 CSOs	16	24.2%	49	25.7%	24	36.4%	73	38.2%
CSCCs	12	18.2%	33	17.3%	N/A			
AL TSA (HCS)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%				
DDA	0	0.0%	0	0.0%				
Tribal Locations	0	0.0%	0	0.0%				
Not Reported / Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
State Total	66	100.0%	191	100.0%	66	100.0%	191	100.0%

¹² Expenditures represent total expenditures in the SFY.

CEAP Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

Region 1 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
COLFAX	1	1.5%	1	0.5%	1	1.5%	1	0.5%
COLVILLE	1	1.5%	4	2.1%	1	1.5%	4	2.1%
ELLENSBURG	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
GOLDENDALE	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
KENNEWICK	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
MOSES LAKE	5	7.6%	14	7.3%	5	7.6%	14	7.3%
NEWPORT	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OKANOGAN	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
REPUBLIC	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
SPOKANE MAPLE	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
SPOKANE TRENT	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
SUNNYSIDE	3	4.5%	11	5.8%	3	4.5%	11	5.8%
TOPPENISH	2	3.0%	7	3.7%	1	1.5%	4	2.1%
WALLA WALLA	1	1.5%	1	0.5%	1	1.5%	1	0.5%
WENATCHEE	3	4.5%	8	4.2%	3	4.5%	8	4.2%
WHITE SALMON	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
YAKIMA	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.5%	3	1.6%
Region 1 Total	16	24.2%	46	24.1%	16	24.2%	46	24.1%

CEAP Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

Region 2 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD	2	3.0%	5	2.6%	1	1.5%	3	1.6%
AUBURN	1	1.5%	3	1.6%	2	3.0%	6	3.1%
BELLINGHAM	2	3.0%	2	1.0%	1	1.5%	1	0.5%
BELLTOWN	1	1.5%	4	2.1%	1	1.5%	4	2.1%
CAPITOL HILL	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.5%	1	0.5%
EVERETT	5	7.6%	18	9.4%	6	9.1%	20	10.5%
FEDERAL WAY	1	1.5%	3	1.6%	1	1.5%	3	1.6%
KING EASTSIDE	1	1.5%	3	1.6%	2	3.0%	5	2.6%
KING NORTH	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
KING SOUTH	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.5%	2	1.0%
MT VERNON	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OAK HARBOR	1	1.5%	2	1.0%	1	1.5%	2	1.0%
RAINIER	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
RENTON	1	1.5%	2	1.0%	2	3.0%	3	1.6%
SKY VALLEY	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
SMOKEY POINT	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
WHITE CENTER	7	10.6%	21	11.0%	7	10.6%	22	11.5%
Region 2 Total	22	33.3%	63	33.0%	26	39.4%	72	37.7%

CEAP Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

Region 3 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN	3	4.5%	8	4.2%	4	6.1%	10	5.2%
BREMERTON	2	3.0%	7	3.7%	3	4.5%	12	6.3%
CHEHALIS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.5%	4	2.1%
COLUMBIA RIVER	2	3.0%	8	4.2%	3	4.5%	12	6.3%
FORKS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.5%	2	1.0%
KELSO	5	7.6%	13	6.8%	5	7.6%	13	6.8%
LAKEWOOD	1	1.5%	2	1.0%	1	1.5%	2	1.0%
LONG BEACH	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OLYMPIA	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.5%	1	0.5%
PIERCE NORTH	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
PIERCE SOUTH	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
PORT ANGELES	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
PORT TOWNSEND	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
PUYALLUP VALLEY	2	3.0%	8	4.2%	4	6.1%	14	7.3%
SHELTON	1	1.5%	3	1.6%	1	1.5%	3	1.6%
SOUTH BEND	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
STEVENSON	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Region 3 Total	16	24.2%	49	25.7%	24	36.4%	73	38.2%

CEAP Caseload by Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC) and Other Locations, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated

Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC)	# of Cases	Office of Issuance		
		% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CSCC Central Sound	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Northeast	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Northwest	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC South Sound	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Southeast	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Southwest	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Virtual Case Management Center	12	18.2%	33	17.3%
CSCC WASHCAP	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC and WASHCAP Total	12	18.2%	33	17.3%

DDA Locations	# of Cases	Office of Issuance		
		% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
DDA Behavioral Health Financial Unit	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
DDA Long-Term Care & Special Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
DDA Locations Total	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

Tribal Locations	# of Cases	Office of Issuance		
		% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe (PGST)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

CEAP Caseload by County of Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated

County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total	County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total
Adams	2	3.0%	6	3.1%	Lewis	1	1.5%	4	2.1%
Asotin	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Lincoln	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Benton	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Mason	1	1.5%	3	1.6%
Chelan	3	4.5%	8	4.2%	Okanogan	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Clallam	1	1.5%	2	1.0%	Pacific	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Clark	3	4.5%	12	6.3%	Pend Oreille	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Columbia	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Pierce	5	7.6%	16	8.4%
Cowlitz	5	7.6%	13	6.8%	San Juan	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Douglas	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Skagit	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Ferry	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Skamania	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Franklin	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Snohomish	7	10.6%	23	12.0%
Garfield	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Spokane	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Grant	3	4.5%	8	4.2%	Stevens	1	1.5%	4	2.1%
Grays Harbor	4	6.1%	10	5.2%	Thurston	1	1.5%	1	0.5%
Island	1	1.5%	2	1.0%	Wahkiakum	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Jefferson	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Walla Walla	1	1.5%	1	0.5%
King	17	25.8%	46	24.1%	Whatcom	1	1.5%	1	0.5%
Kitsap	3	4.5%	12	6.3%	Whitman	1	1.5%	1	0.5%
Kittitas	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Yakima	5	7.6%	18	9.4%
Klickitat	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Not Reported/ Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total
State Total	66	100.0%	191	100.0%

CEAP Client Demographics, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated

Characteristic	All Clients		All Adults	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults
Total Clients	191	100.0%	85	100.0%

Gender	All Clients		All Adults	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults
Female	104	54.5%	55	64.7%
Male	87	45.5%	30	35.3%
Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

Ethnicity and Race	All Clients		All Adults	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults
Hispanic or Latino	79	41.4%	33	38.8%
Not Hispanic or Latino¹³	112	58.6%	52	61.2%
White	68	35.6%	35	41.2%
Black/African American	18	9.4%	7	8.2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	2.6%	2	2.4%
American Indian/Alaska Native	2	1.0%	1	1.2%
Two or More Races	7	3.7%	2	2.4%
Race Not Reported	12	6.3%	5	5.9%

Marital Status	All Adults	
	# of Clients	% of Total Adults
Separated	5	5.9%
Married	17	20.0%
Never Married	50	58.8%
Divorced	8	9.4%
Widowed	3	3.5%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	2	2.4%

Citizenship Status	All Clients		All Adults	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults
U.S. Citizen	129	67.5%	51	60.0%
Resident Noncitizen	10	5.2%	6	7.1%
U.S. National¹⁴	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Undocumented Noncitizen¹⁵	52	27.2%	28	32.9%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

¹³ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

¹⁴ U.S. National: A national of the United States or a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States (e.g., persons born in American Samoa or Swains Island).

¹⁵ CEAP is one of the few programs that an undocumented noncitizen is qualified to receive.

CEAP Client Demographics, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

Characteristic	All Clients		All Adults	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults

Homeless Status	All Clients		All Adults	
Homeless ¹⁶	35	18.3%	16	18.8%

Education Status	All Adults	
Less than a High School Diploma	41	48.2%
High School Graduate or GED	32	37.6%
Some College or College Degree	11	12.9%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	1	1.2%

Age	All Clients		All Adults	
< 1 Year Old	0	0.0%	N/A	
1 – 5 Years Old	27	14.1%		
6 – 10 Years Old	42	22.0%		
11 – 15 Years Old	24	12.6%		
16 – 17 Years Old	13	6.8%		
18 – 24 Years Old	11	5.8%	11	12.9%
25 – 34 Years Old	31	16.2%	31	36.5%
35 – 44 Years Old	23	12.0%	23	27.1%
45 – 54 Years Old	17	8.9%	17	20.0%
55 – 64 Years Old	1	0.5%	1	1.2%
65+ Years Old	2	1.0%	2	2.4%
Average Age of Children	9.2 Years			
Average Age of Adults	36.1 Years			

Length of Stay	
Average Length of Stay ¹⁷	1.5 Months

¹⁶ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

¹⁷ Average cumulative months adult clients received CEAP since July 1997.

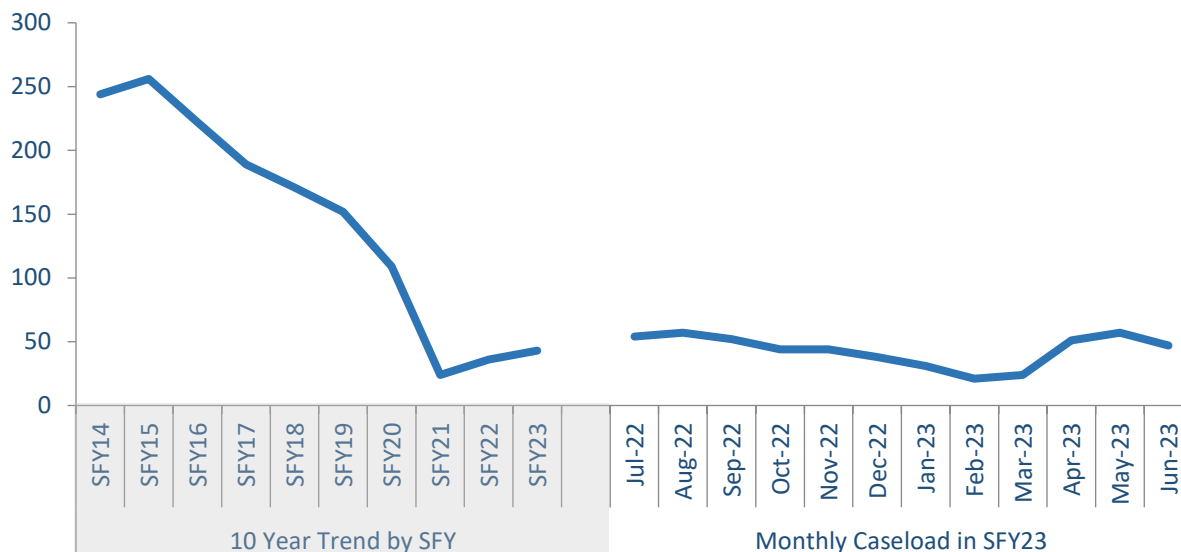
Selected Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA) Program Characteristics, SFY 2022 and SFY 2023

	SFY 2022	SFY 2023		
	(July 2021-June 2022)	(July 2022-June 2023)	Change	
Average Number of Cases Per Month (Range)	36 (15 - 53)	43 (21 - 57)	19.4% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of Persons Per Month (Range)	114 (40 - 178)	147 (67 - 200)	28.9% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of Adults Per Month (Range)	42 (16 - 65)	55 (27 - 72)	31.0% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of Children Per Month (Range)	72 (24 - 113)	93 (40 - 136)	29.2% (Increase)	↑
State Population ¹⁸	7,864,400	7,951,150	1.1% (Increase)	↑
Monthly Average Recipients as a Percent of State Total Population	<0.1%	<0.1%	No Change	=
Children as Percent of Recipients	63.2%	63.3%	0.1% Point (Increase)	↑
Average Persons Per Case	3.2	3.4	0.2 Point (Increase)	↑
Average Children Per Case	2.0	2.2	0.2 Point (Increase)	↑
Average Children Per Adult	1.7	1.7	No Change	=
Average Monthly Payment Per Case (Range) ¹⁹	\$1,155.67 (\$1,081.38 - \$1,219.38)	\$1,189.56 (\$1,122.05 - \$1,231.19)	2.9% (Increase)	↑

¹⁸ Source: Office of Financial Management (OFM) population estimates

¹⁹ Payments not adjusted for refunds

DCA Caseload, SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY	Monthly Average Caseload	SFY	Monthly Average Caseload
SFY14	244	SFY19	152
SFY15	256	SFY20	109
SFY16	222	SFY21	24
SFY17	189	SFY22	36
SFY18	171	SFY23	43

SFY 2023	Total # of Cases	Clients	Grant Expenditures	Average Payment Per Case
July	54	187	\$64,041	\$1,185.95
August	57	196	\$67,723	\$1,188.12
September	52	176	\$58,347	\$1,122.05
October	44	147	\$54,172	\$1,231.19
November	44	164	\$51,788	\$1,177.00
December	38	123	\$46,385	\$1,220.66
January	31	109	\$37,019	\$1,194.16
February	21	67	\$25,814	\$1,229.22
March	24	73	\$28,098	\$1,170.74
April	51	166	\$60,567	\$1,187.59
May	57	200	\$66,251	\$1,162.30
June	47	158	\$53,608	\$1,140.61
Mo. Avg.	43	147	\$51,151	\$1,189.56

Annual Undup. ²⁰	520	1,766	\$613,813	\$1,180.41
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DCA Caseload by DSHS Region of Issuance and Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated

Overview	Office of Issuance				Office of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
Region 1 CSOs	138	26.5%	471	26.7%	138	26.5%	471	26.7%
Region 2 CSOs	165	31.7%	562	31.8%	164	31.5%	561	31.8%
Region 3 CSOs	217	41.7%	733	41.5%	218	41.9%	734	41.6%
CSCCs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A			
ALTSA (HCS)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%				
DDA	0	0.0%	0	0.0%				
Tribal Locations	0	0.0%	0	0.0%				
Not Reported / Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
State Total	520	100.0%	1,766	100.0%	520	100.0%	1,766	100.0%

²⁰ Expenditures represent total expenditures in the SFY.

DCA Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

Region 1 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON	1	0.2%	3	0.2%	1	0.2%	3	0.2%
COLFAX	3	0.6%	8	0.5%	3	0.6%	8	0.5%
COLVILLE	2	0.4%	11	0.6%	2	0.4%	11	0.6%
ELLENSBURG	3	0.6%	7	0.4%	3	0.6%	7	0.4%
GOLDENDALE	2	0.4%	6	0.3%	2	0.4%	6	0.3%
KENNEWICK	35	6.7%	135	7.6%	35	6.7%	135	7.6%
MOSES LAKE	8	1.5%	28	1.6%	8	1.5%	28	1.6%
NEWPORT	1	0.2%	4	0.2%	1	0.2%	4	0.2%
OKANOGAN	2	0.4%	8	0.5%	2	0.4%	8	0.5%
REPUBLIC	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
SPOKANE MAPLE	18	3.5%	56	3.2%	26	5.0%	83	4.7%
SPOKANE TRENT	37	7.1%	123	7.0%	29	5.6%	96	5.4%
SUNNYSIDE	1	0.2%	2	0.1%	1	0.2%	2	0.1%
TOPPENISH	5	1.0%	17	1.0%	5	1.0%	17	1.0%
WALLA WALLA	5	1.0%	15	0.8%	5	1.0%	15	0.8%
WENATCHEE	3	0.6%	14	0.8%	3	0.6%	14	0.8%
WHITE SALMON	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
YAKIMA	12	2.3%	34	1.9%	12	2.3%	34	1.9%
Region 1 Total	138	26.5%	471	26.7%	138	26.5%	471	26.7%

DCA Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

Region 2 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD	10	1.9%	26	1.5%	10	1.9%	26	1.5%
AUBURN	30	5.8%	117	6.6%	30	5.8%	117	6.6%
BELLINGHAM	3	0.6%	9	0.5%	3	0.6%	9	0.5%
BELLTOWN	5	1.0%	17	1.0%	4	0.8%	16	0.9%
CAPITOL HILL	5	1.0%	13	0.7%	5	1.0%	13	0.7%
EVERETT	14	2.7%	49	2.8%	14	2.7%	49	2.8%
FEDERAL WAY	23	4.4%	71	4.0%	22	4.2%	69	3.9%
KING EASTSIDE	11	2.1%	36	2.0%	11	2.1%	36	2.0%
KING NORTH	5	1.0%	11	0.6%	5	1.0%	11	0.6%
KING SOUTH	11	2.1%	41	2.3%	11	2.1%	41	2.3%
MT VERNON	2	0.4%	6	0.3%	2	0.4%	6	0.3%
OAK HARBOR	1	0.2%	4	0.2%	1	0.2%	4	0.2%
RAINIER	5	1.0%	17	1.0%	5	1.0%	17	1.0%
RENTON	14	2.7%	49	2.8%	15	2.9%	51	2.9%
SKY VALLEY	2	0.4%	9	0.5%	2	0.4%	9	0.5%
SMOKEY POINT	13	2.5%	53	3.0%	13	2.5%	53	3.0%
WHITE CENTER	11	2.1%	34	1.9%	11	2.1%	34	1.9%
Region 2 Total	165	31.7%	562	31.8%	164	31.5%	561	31.8%

DCA Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

Region 3 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN	5	1.0%	18	1.0%	5	1.0%	18	1.0%
BREMERTON	10	1.9%	40	2.3%	10	1.9%	40	2.3%
CHEHALIS	9	1.7%	32	1.8%	9	1.7%	32	1.8%
COLUMBIA RIVER	37	7.1%	112	6.3%	37	7.1%	112	6.3%
FORKS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
KELSO	29	5.6%	105	5.9%	29	5.6%	105	5.9%
LAKEWOOD	33	6.3%	111	6.3%	33	6.3%	111	6.3%
LONG BEACH	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OLYMPIA	24	4.6%	71	4.0%	23	4.4%	68	3.9%
PIERCE NORTH	18	3.5%	60	3.4%	18	3.5%	60	3.4%
PIERCE SOUTH	18	3.5%	66	3.7%	19	3.7%	67	3.8%
PORT ANGELES	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
PORT TOWNSEND	2	0.4%	6	0.3%	2	0.4%	6	0.3%
PUYALLUP VALLEY	20	3.8%	66	3.7%	20	3.8%	66	3.7%
SHELTON	7	1.3%	23	1.3%	8	1.5%	26	1.5%
SOUTH BEND	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
STEVENSON	5	1.0%	23	1.3%	5	1.0%	23	1.3%
Region 3 Total	217	41.7%	733	41.5%	218	41.9%	734	41.6%

DCA Caseload by County of Residence, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated

County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total	County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total
Adams	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Lewis	9	1.7%	32	1.8%
Asotin	1	0.2%	3	0.2%	Lincoln	2	0.4%	4	0.2%
Benton	24	4.6%	93	5.3%	Mason	8	1.5%	26	1.5%
Chelan	3	0.6%	14	0.8%	Okanogan	2	0.4%	8	0.5%
Clallam	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Pacific	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Clark	37	7.1%	112	6.3%	Pend Oreille	1	0.2%	4	0.2%
Columbia	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Pierce	90	17.3%	304	17.2%
Cowlitz	29	5.6%	105	5.9%	San Juan	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Douglas	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Skagit	2	0.4%	6	0.3%
Ferry	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Skamania	5	1.0%	23	1.3%
Franklin	11	2.1%	42	2.4%	Snohomish	39	7.5%	137	7.8%
Garfield	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Spokane	53	10.2%	175	9.9%
Grant	8	1.5%	28	1.6%	Stevens	2	0.4%	11	0.6%
Grays Harbor	5	1.0%	18	1.0%	Thurston	23	4.4%	68	3.9%
Island	1	0.2%	4	0.2%	Wahkiakum	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Jefferson	2	0.4%	6	0.3%	Walla Walla	5	1.0%	15	0.8%
King	119	22.9%	405	22.9%	Whatcom	3	0.6%	9	0.5%
Kitsap	10	1.9%	40	2.3%	Whitman	3	0.6%	8	0.5%
Kittitas	3	0.6%	7	0.4%	Yakima	18	3.5%	53	3.0%
Klickitat	2	0.4%	6	0.3%	Not Reported/ Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total
State Total	520	100.0%	1,766	100.0%

DCA Client Demographics, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated

Characteristic	All Clients		All Adults	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults
Total Clients	1,766	100.0%	682	100.0%

Gender	All Clients		All Adults	
Female	1,053	59.6%	506	74.2%
Male	713	40.4%	176	25.8%
Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

Ethnicity and Race	All Clients		All Adults	
Hispanic or Latino	429	24.3%	138	20.2%
Not Hispanic or Latino²¹	1,337	75.7%	544	79.8%
White	658	37.3%	301	44.1%
Black/African American	369	20.9%	139	20.4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	92	5.2%	34	5.0%
American Indian/Alaska Native	73	4.1%	25	3.7%
Two or More Races	67	3.8%	18	2.6%
Race Not Reported	78	4.4%	27	4.0%

Marital Status	All Adults	
Separated	47	6.9%
Married	185	27.1%
Never Married	350	51.3%
Divorced	96	14.1%
Widowed	4	0.6%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	0	0.0%

Citizenship Status	All Clients		All Adults	
U.S. Citizen	1,690	95.7%	626	91.8%
Resident Noncitizen	65	3.7%	50	7.3%
U.S. National²²	11	0.6%	6	0.9%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

²¹ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

²² U.S. National: A national of the United States or a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States (e.g., persons born in American Samoa or Swains Island).

DCA Client Demographics, SFY 2023 Annual Unduplicated (continued)

Characteristic	<u>All Clients</u>		<u>All Adults</u>	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Adults

Homeless Status	<u>All Clients</u>		<u>All Adults</u>	
Homeless ²³	98	5.5%	37	5.4%

Education Status	<u>All Adults</u>	
Less than a High School Diploma	93	13.6%
High School Graduate or GED	292	42.8%
Some College or College Degree	294	43.1%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	3	0.4%

Age	<u>All Clients</u>		<u>All Adults</u>	
< 1 Year Old	46	2.6%	N/A	
1 – 5 Years Old	337	19.1%		
6 – 10 Years Old	340	19.3%		
11 – 15 Years Old	279	15.8%		
16 – 17 Years Old	82	4.6%		
18 – 24 Years Old	90	5.1%	90	13.2%
25 – 34 Years Old	286	16.2%	286	41.9%
35 – 44 Years Old	225	12.7%	225	33.0%
45 – 54 Years Old	77	4.4%	77	11.3%
55 – 64 Years Old	4	0.2%	4	0.6%
65+ Years Old	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Average Age of Children	8.0 Years			
Average Age of Adults	33.9 Years			

Length of Stay	
Average Length of Stay ²⁴	1.7 Months

²³ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

²⁴ Average cumulative number of months adult clients received DCA since July 1997.

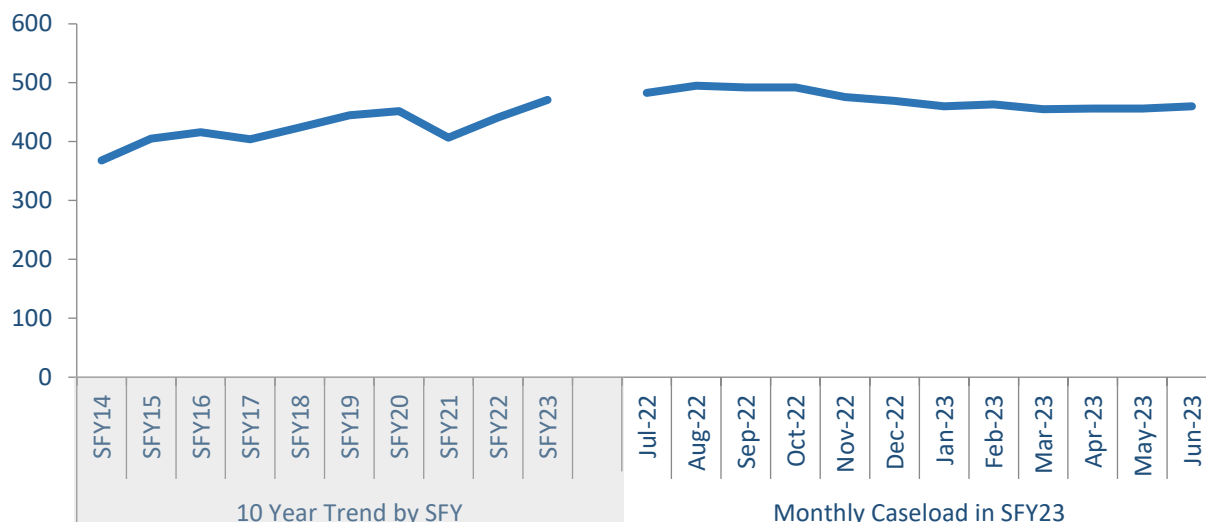
Selected Ongoing Additional Requirements (OAR) Program Characteristics, SFY 2022 and SFY 2023²⁵

	SFY 2022 (July 2021-June 2022)	SFY 2023 (July 2022-June 2023)	Change	
Average Number of Cases Per Month (Range)	441 (422 - 472)	471 (455 - 495)	6.8% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of Persons Per Month (Range)	454 (433 - 489)	482 (462 - 509)	6.2% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of Adults Per Month (Range)	440 (422 - 473)	471 (453 - 494)	7.0% (Increase)	↑
State Population ²⁶	7,864,400	7,951,150	1.1% (Increase)	↑
Monthly Average Recipients as a Percent of State Total Population	<0.1%	<0.1%	No Change	=
Average Persons Per Case	1.0	1.0	No Change	=
Average Monthly Payment Per Case (Range) ²⁷	\$39.37 (\$37.78 - \$43.68)	\$39.19 (\$37.75 - \$40.99)	-0.5% (Decrease)	↓

²⁵ In the 2023 ESA Briefing Book, SSI clients in long-term medical programs served by ALTSA have been added to the OAR population. This results in an additional caseload both for SFY 2023 and in historical years.

²⁶ Source: Office of Financial Management (OFM) population estimates

²⁷ Payments not adjusted for refunds.

OAR Caseload, SFY 2014 – 2023²⁸

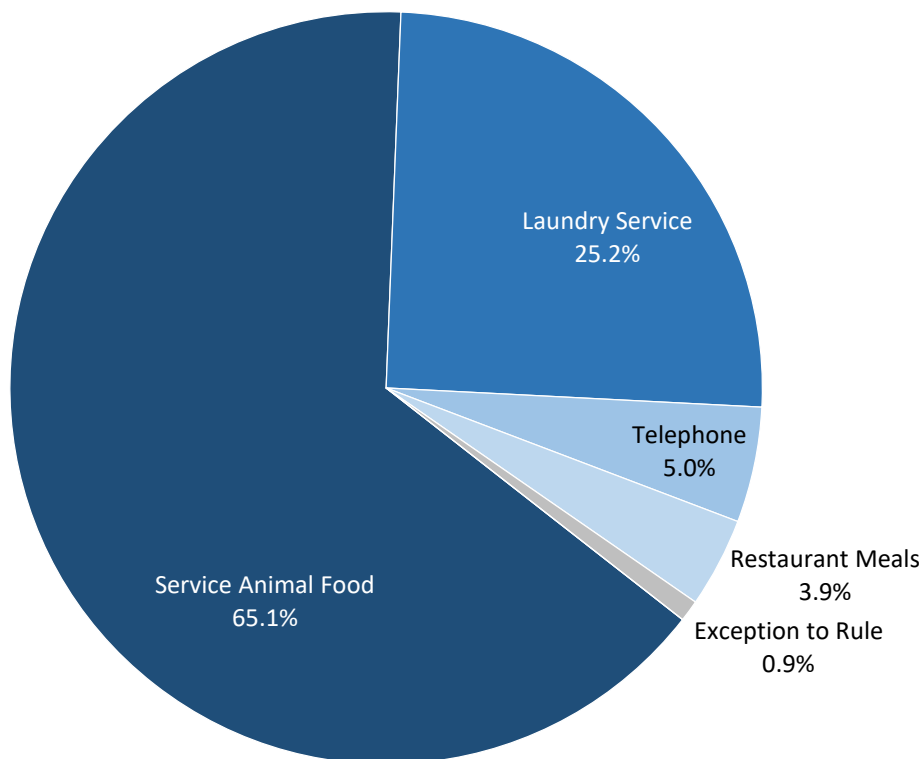
SFY	Monthly Average Caseload	SFY	Monthly Average Caseload
SFY14	368	SFY19	445
SFY15	405	SFY20	452
SFY16	416	SFY21	407
SFY17	404	SFY22	441
SFY18	424	SFY23	471

SFY 2023	Total # of Cases	Clients	Grant Expenditures	Average Payment Per Case
July	483	495	\$18,601	\$38.51
August	495	509	\$20,289	\$40.99
September	492	503	\$18,876	\$38.37
October	492	505	\$19,732	\$40.11
November	476	483	\$17,968	\$37.75
December	469	476	\$17,846	\$38.05
January	460	474	\$18,150	\$39.46
February	463	475	\$18,160	\$39.22
March	455	462	\$17,542	\$38.55
April	456	467	\$18,288	\$40.11
May	456	464	\$17,717	\$38.85
June	460	471	\$18,321	\$39.83
Mo. Avg.	471	482	\$18,458	\$39.19
Annual Undup. ²⁹	651	681	\$221,490	\$340.23

²⁸ In the 2023 ESA Briefing Book, SSI clients in long-term medical programs served by ALTSA have been added to the OAR population. This results in an additional caseload both for SFY 2023 and in historical years.

²⁹ Expenditures represent total expenditures in the SFY.

Average Monthly OAR Caseload by Service Type³⁰, SFY 2023



Average Monthly OAR Caseload		
OAR Case Type	# of Cases	% of Total
Service Animal Food	354	65.1%
Laundry Service	137	25.2%
Telephone	27	5.0%
Restaurant Meals	21	3.9%
Exception to Rule	5	0.9%
Total Cases	544	100.0%

³⁰ Numbers are based on the average monthly caseload by type. A case may receive more than one type of OAR assistance. As a result, the sum of OAR cases by type may exceed the monthly average cases that received OAR in the SFY.

OAR Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot

Overview	Office of Issuance				Office of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
Region 1 CSOs	116	25.2%	120	25.5%	173	37.6%	177	37.6%
Region 2 CSOs	40	8.7%	41	8.7%	194	42.2%	195	41.4%
Region 3 CSOs	22	4.8%	28	5.9%	91	19.8%	97	20.6%
CSCCs	130	28.3%	130	27.6%	N/A			
ALTSA (HCS)	147	32.0%	147	31.2%				
DDA	5	1.1%	5	1.1%				
Tribal Locations	0	0.0%	0	0.0%				
Not Reported / Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.4%	2	0.4%
State Total	460	100.0%	471	100.0%	460	100.0%	471	100.0%

OAR Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 1 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
COLFAX	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	1	0.2%
COLVILLE	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	2	0.4%	2	0.4%
ELLENSBURG	14	3.0%	14	3.0%	15	3.3%	15	3.2%
GOLDENDALE	15	3.3%	19	4.0%	14	3.0%	18	3.8%
KENNEWICK	5	1.1%	5	1.1%	8	1.7%	8	1.7%
MOSES LAKE	54	11.7%	54	11.5%	58	12.6%	58	12.3%
NEWPORT	2	0.4%	2	0.4%	4	0.9%	4	0.8%
OKANOGAN	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	0.9%	4	0.8%
REPUBLIC	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	1	0.2%
SPOKANE MAPLE	12	2.6%	12	2.5%	32	7.0%	32	6.8%
SPOKANE TRENT	11	2.4%	11	2.3%	25	5.4%	25	5.3%
SUNNYSIDE	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
TOPPENISH	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
WALLA WALLA	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
WENATCHEE	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.4%	2	0.4%
WHITE SALMON	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	2	0.4%	2	0.4%
YAKIMA	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	5	1.1%	5	1.1%
Region 1 Total	116	25.2%	120	25.5%	173	37.6%	177	37.6%

OAR Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 2 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD	2	0.4%	2	0.4%	15	3.3%	15	3.2%
AUBURN	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	6	1.3%	6	1.3%
BELLINGHAM	4	0.9%	4	0.8%	35	7.6%	35	7.4%
BELLTOWN	5	1.1%	5	1.1%	7	1.5%	7	1.5%
CAPITOL HILL	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	4	0.9%	4	0.8%
EVERETT	7	1.5%	8	1.7%	52	11.3%	53	11.3%
FEDERAL WAY	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	3	0.7%	3	0.6%
KING EASTSIDE	2	0.4%	2	0.4%	5	1.1%	5	1.1%
KING NORTH	4	0.9%	4	0.8%	8	1.7%	8	1.7%
KING SOUTH	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	1.1%	5	1.1%
MT VERNON	5	1.1%	5	1.1%	21	4.6%	21	4.5%
OAK HARBOR	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	3	0.7%	3	0.6%
RAINIER	2	0.4%	2	0.4%	4	0.9%	4	0.8%
RENTON	2	0.4%	2	0.4%	4	0.9%	4	0.8%
SKY VALLEY	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	3	0.7%	3	0.6%
SMOKEY POINT	2	0.4%	2	0.4%	11	2.4%	11	2.3%
WHITE CENTER	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	1.7%	8	1.7%
Region 2 Total	40	8.7%	41	8.7%	194	42.2%	195	41.4%

OAR Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 3 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN	2	0.4%	5	1.1%	14	3.0%	17	3.6%
BREMERTON	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	7	1.5%	7	1.5%
CHEHALIS	3	0.7%	4	0.8%	8	1.7%	9	1.9%
COLUMBIA RIVER	1	0.2%	3	0.6%	11	2.4%	13	2.8%
FORKS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
KELSO	2	0.4%	2	0.4%	8	1.7%	8	1.7%
LAKEWOOD	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	5	1.1%	5	1.1%
LONG BEACH	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	1	0.2%
OLYMPIA	4	0.9%	4	0.8%	16	3.5%	16	3.4%
PIERCE NORTH	3	0.7%	3	0.6%	10	2.2%	10	2.1%
PIERCE SOUTH	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	2	0.4%	2	0.4%
PORT ANGELES	2	0.4%	2	0.4%	2	0.4%	2	0.4%
PORT TOWNSEND	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	1	0.2%
PUYALLUP VALLEY	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	0.7%	3	0.6%
SHELTON	2	0.4%	2	0.4%	3	0.7%	3	0.6%
SOUTH BEND	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
STEVENSON	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Region 3 Total	22	4.8%	28	5.9%	91	19.8%	97	20.6%

OAR Caseload by Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC) and Other Locations, June 2023 Snapshot

Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC)	Office of Issuance		Office of Residence	
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CSCC Central Sound	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Northeast	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Northwest	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC South Sound	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Southeast	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Southwest	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Virtual Case Management Center	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC WASHCAP	130	28.3%	130	27.6%
CSCC and WASHCAP Total	130	28.3%	130	27.6%

DDA Locations	Office of Issuance		Office of Residence	
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
DDA Behavioral Health Financial Unit	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
DDA Long-Term Care & Special Programs	5	1.1%	5	1.1%
DDA Locations Total	5	1.1%	5	1.1%

Tribal Locations	Office of Issuance		Office of Residence	
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe (PGST)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

OAR Caseload by Home and Community Services Office (HCS), June 2023 Snapshot

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 1	HCS Office of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
COLVILLE HCS	2	0.4%	2	0.4%
ELLENSBURG HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
MEDICAL LAKE HCS	1	0.2%	1	0.2%
MOSES LAKE HCS	2	0.4%	2	0.4%
OKANOGAN HCS	1	0.2%	1	0.2%
SPOKANE HCS	13	2.8%	13	2.8%
SUNNYSIDE HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
TRI-CITIES HCS	1	0.2%	1	0.2%
WALLA WALLA HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
WENATCHEE HCS	1	0.2%	1	0.2%
YAKIMA HCS	1	0.2%	1	0.2%
Region 1 Total	22	4.8%	22	4.7%

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 2	HCS Office of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
BELLINGHAM HCS	33	7.2%	33	7.0%
EVERETT HCS	12	2.6%	12	2.5%
HOLGATE HCS	15	3.3%	15	3.2%
MOUNT VERNON HCS	45	9.8%	45	9.6%
SMOKEY POINT HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Region 2 Total	105	22.8%	105	22.3%

OAR Caseload by Home and Community Services Office (HCS), June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 3	HCS Office of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN HCS	5	1.1%	5	1.1%
BREMERTON HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CHEHALIS HCS	7	1.5%	7	1.5%
KELSO HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OLYMPIA HCS	3	0.7%	3	0.6%
PORT ANGELES HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
STEILACOOM HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
TACOMA HCS	3	0.7%	3	0.6%
VANCOUVER HCS	2	0.4%	2	0.4%
Region 3 Total	20	4.3%	20	4.2%

OAR Caseload by County of Residence, June 2023 Snapshot

County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total	County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total
Adams	5	1.1%	5	1.1%	Lewis	8	1.7%	9	1.9%
Asotin	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Lincoln	3	0.7%	3	0.6%
Benton	6	1.3%	6	1.3%	Mason	3	0.7%	3	0.6%
Chelan	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	Okanogan	4	0.9%	4	0.8%
Clallam	2	0.4%	2	0.4%	Pacific	1	0.2%	1	0.2%
Clark	12	2.6%	14	3.0%	Pend Oreille	4	0.9%	4	0.8%
Columbia	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Pierce	20	4.3%	20	4.2%
Cowlitz	8	1.7%	8	1.7%	San Juan	1	0.2%	1	0.2%
Douglas	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	Skagit	20	4.3%	20	4.2%
Ferry	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	Skamania	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Franklin	2	0.4%	2	0.4%	Snohomish	81	17.6%	82	17.4%
Garfield	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	Spokane	55	12.0%	55	11.7%
Grant	52	11.3%	52	11.0%	Stevens	2	0.4%	2	0.4%
Grays Harbor	14	3.0%	17	3.6%	Thurston	16	3.5%	16	3.4%
Island	3	0.7%	3	0.6%	Wahkiakum	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Jefferson	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	Walla Walla	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
King	54	11.7%	54	11.5%	Whatcom	35	7.6%	35	7.4%
Kitsap	7	1.5%	7	1.5%	Whitman	1	0.2%	1	0.2%
Kittitas	15	3.3%	15	3.2%	Yakima	5	1.1%	5	1.1%
Klickitat	16	3.5%	20	4.2%	Not Reported/ Unidentifiable	1	0.2%	1	0.2%

	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total
State Total	460	100.0%	471	100.0%

OAR Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Total Clients	471	100.0%
Total Adults	460	97.7%

Gender			All Clients
Female	330	70.1%	
Male	141	29.9%	
Unknown	0	0.0%	

Ethnicity and Race			All Clients
Hispanic or Latino	42	8.9%	
Not Hispanic or Latino ³¹	429	91.1%	
White	350	74.3%	
Black/African American	23	4.9%	
Asian/Pacific Islander	16	3.4%	
American Indian/Alaska Native	10	2.1%	
Two or More Races	5	1.1%	
Race Not Reported	25	5.3%	

Marital Status			All Adults
Separated	44	9.6%	
Married	26	5.7%	
Never Married	193	42.0%	
Divorced	162	35.2%	
Widowed	34	7.4%	
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	1	0.2%	

Citizenship Status			All Clients
U.S. Citizen	452	96.0%	
Resident Noncitizen	19	4.0%	
U.S. National ³²	0	0.0%	
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	

³¹ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

³² U.S. National: A national of the United States or a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States (e.g., persons born in American Samoa or Swains Island).

OAR Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

<u>All Clients</u>		
Characteristic	# of Clients	% of Total Clients

<u>All Clients</u>		
Homeless Status		
Homeless ³³	61	13.0%

<u>All Adults</u>		
Education Status		
Less than a High School Diploma	82	17.8%
High School Graduate or GED	247	53.7%
Some College or College Degree	123	26.7%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	8	1.7%

<u>All Clients</u>		
Age		
< 1 Year Old	0	0.0%
1 – 5 Years Old	0	0.0%
6 – 10 Years Old	4	0.8%
11 – 15 Years Old	4	0.8%
16 – 17 Years Old	3	0.6%
18 – 24 Years Old	16	3.4%
25 – 34 Years Old	28	5.9%
35 – 44 Years Old	84	17.8%
45 – 54 Years Old	84	17.8%
55 – 64 Years Old	129	27.4%
65+ Years Old	119	25.3%
Average Age of Clients	53.8 Years	

³³ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

Selected State Supplemental Payment (SSP) Program Characteristics³⁴, SFY 2022 and SFY 2023

	SFY 2022 (July 2021-June 2022)	SFY 2023 (July 2022-June 2023)	Change	
Average Number of Persons Per Month (Range)	40,592 (40,473 - 40,734)	41,290 (40,644 - 41,782)	1.7% (Increase)	↑
State Population³⁵	7,864,400	7,951,150	1.1% (Increase)	↑
Monthly Average Recipients as a Percent of State Total Population	0.5%	0.5%	No Change	=
State Population Age 18 and Over	6,164,228	6,255,743	1.5% (Increase)	↑
Monthly Average Recipients as a Percent of State Population Age 18 and Over	0.7%	0.7%	No Change	=
Average Monthly Payment Per Case (Range)³⁶	\$38.25 (\$38.25 - \$38.26)	\$38.25 (\$38.25 - \$38.26)	No Change	=

³⁴ The Social Security Act requires Washington state to maintain a State Supplemental Program (SSP) because Washington operated a state-funded assistance program prior to the implementation of the federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program in 1974. Washington state is required to inform the Social Security Administration (SSA) each year how the program will be managed through an annual State Plan agreement.

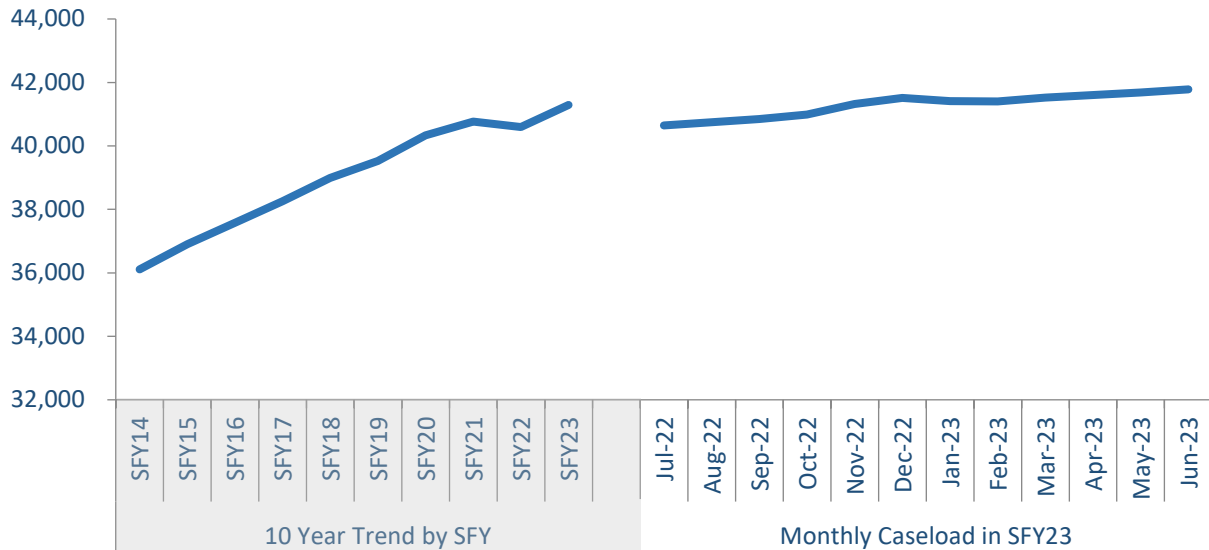
At the inception of the SSP program until 2002, Washington state has paid SSA to administer the program. The 2002 Washington State Legislature redirected the funding for SSP. It was divided between the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), Children's Administration, and the Economic Services Administration (ESA). State administration of SSP began in October 2002.

Currently ESA is allotted maintenance of effort (MOE) money to spend on SSI recipients who meet one or more of these criteria: (1) are grandfathered-in SSI recipients (also called Mandatory Income Level clients by SSI); (2) have an SSI-ineligible spouse; (3) are age 65 or older; (4) are blind; (5) are determined eligible for DSHS SSP by the Developmental Disability Administration; or (6) are receiving SSI as a foster child who receives specific services through the Department of Children, Youth & Families (DCYF) Behavior Rehabilitation Services (BRS) for part or all of a month and are not eligible for foster care reimbursement under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act.

³⁵ Source: Office of Financial Management (OFM) population estimates

³⁶ Payments not adjusted for refunds.

SSP Clients, SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY	Monthly Average Clients	SFY	Monthly Average Clients
SFY14	36,110	SFY19	39,522
SFY15	36,908	SFY20	40,331
SFY16	37,577	SFY21	40,764
SFY17	38,254	SFY22	40,592
SFY18	38,996	SFY23	41,290

SFY 2023	Clients	Grant Expenditures	Average Payment Per Client
July	40,644	\$1,554,922	\$38.26
August	40,751	\$1,558,823	\$38.25
September	40,849	\$1,562,739	\$38.26
October	40,986	\$1,567,865	\$38.25
November	41,319	\$1,580,640	\$38.25
December	41,517	\$1,588,252	\$38.26
January	41,415	\$1,584,197	\$38.25
February	41,406	\$1,583,891	\$38.25
March	41,523	\$1,588,443	\$38.25
April	41,606	\$1,591,503	\$38.25
May	41,683	\$1,594,410	\$38.25
June	41,782	\$1,598,464	\$38.26
Mo. Avg.	41,290	\$1,579,512	\$38.25
Annual Undup. ³⁷	46,217	\$18,954,147	\$410.11

³⁷ Expenditures represent total expenditures in the SFY.

SSP Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot

Overview	Office of Issuance		Office of Residence	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
Region 1 CSOs	1,903	4.6%	8,342	20.0%
Region 2 CSOs	4,499	10.8%	21,146	50.6%
Region 3 CSOs	2,594	6.2%	12,287	29.4%
CSCCs	15,105	36.2%	N/A	
ALTSA (HCS)	17,222	41.2%		
DDA	458	1.1%		
Tribal Locations	0	0.0%		
Not Reported / Unidentifiable	1	<0.1%	7	<0.1%
State Total	41,782	100.0%	41,782	100.0%

SSP Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 1 CSO	CSO of Issuance		CSO of Residence	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON	32	0.1%	128	0.3%
COLFAX	29	0.1%	106	0.3%
COLVILLE	85	0.2%	310	0.7%
ELLENSBURG	19	<0.1%	108	0.3%
GOLDENDALE	20	<0.1%	83	0.2%
KENNEWICK	307	0.7%	1,268	3.0%
MOSES LAKE	136	0.3%	536	1.3%
NEWPORT	39	0.1%	139	0.3%
OKANOGAN	76	0.2%	308	0.7%
REPUBLIC	19	<0.1%	71	0.2%
SPOKANE MAPLE	195	0.5%	1,208	2.9%
SPOKANE TRENT	400	1.0%	1,789	4.3%
SUNNYSIDE	75	0.2%	268	0.6%
TOPPENISH	74	0.2%	273	0.7%
WALLA WALLA	68	0.2%	317	0.8%
WENATCHEE	114	0.3%	445	1.1%
WHITE SALMON	9	<0.1%	47	0.1%
YAKIMA	206	0.5%	938	2.2%
Region 1 Total	1,903	4.6%	8,342	20.0%

SSP Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 2 CSO	CSO of Issuance		CSO of Residence	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD	469	1.1%	1,726	4.1%
AUBURN	211	0.5%	1,077	2.6%
BELLINGHAM	307	0.7%	1,162	2.8%
BELLTOWN	177	0.4%	1,466	3.5%
CAPITOL HILL	194	0.5%	1,132	2.7%
EVERETT	270	0.6%	1,410	3.4%
FEDERAL WAY	171	0.4%	946	2.3%
KING EASTSIDE	583	1.4%	2,090	5.0%
KING NORTH	288	0.7%	1,602	3.8%
KING SOUTH	330	0.8%	1,602	3.8%
MT VERNON	128	0.3%	598	1.4%
OAK HARBOR	46	0.1%	202	0.5%
RAINIER	302	0.7%	1,615	3.9%
RENTON	381	0.9%	1,571	3.8%
SKY VALLEY	109	0.3%	323	0.8%
SMOKEY POINT	157	0.4%	707	1.7%
WHITE CENTER	376	0.9%	1,917	4.6%
Region 2 Total	4,499	10.8%	21,146	50.6%

SSP Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 3 CSO	CSO of Issuance		CSO of Residence	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN	130	0.3%	587	1.4%
BREMERTON	217	0.5%	916	2.2%
CHEHALIS	108	0.3%	515	1.2%
COLUMBIA RIVER	486	1.2%	2,433	5.8%
FORKS	15	<0.1%	71	0.2%
KELSO	145	0.3%	635	1.5%
LAKEWOOD	256	0.6%	1,118	2.7%
LONG BEACH	20	<0.1%	79	0.2%
OLYMPIA	274	0.7%	1,223	2.9%
PIERCE NORTH	236	0.6%	1,288	3.1%
PIERCE SOUTH	279	0.7%	1,425	3.4%
PORT ANGELES	52	0.1%	347	0.8%
PORT TOWNSEND	35	0.1%	190	0.5%
PUYALLUP VALLEY	262	0.6%	1,031	2.5%
SHELTON	58	0.1%	303	0.7%
SOUTH BEND	15	<0.1%	92	0.2%
STEVENSON	6	<0.1%	34	0.1%
Region 3 Total	2,594	6.2%	12,287	29.4%

SSP Caseload by Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC) and Other Locations, June 2023 Snapshot

Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC)	Office of Issuance	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
CSCC Central Sound	0	0.0%
CSCC Northeast	0	0.0%
CSCC Northwest	0	0.0%
CSCC South Sound	0	0.0%
CSCC Southeast	0	0.0%
CSCC Southwest	0	0.0%
CSCC Virtual Case Management Center	0	0.0%
CSCC WASHCAP	15,105	36.2%
CSCC and WASHCAP Total	15,105	36.2%

DDA Locations	Office of Issuance	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
DDA Behavioral Health Financial Unit	0	0.0%
DDA Long-Term Care & Special Programs	458	1.1%
DDA Locations Total	458	1.1%

Tribal Locations	Office of Issuance	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe (PGST)	0	0.0%

SSP Clients by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), June 2023 Snapshot

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 1	HCS Office of Issuance	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON HCS	50	0.1%
COLVILLE HCS	107	0.3%
ELLENSBURG HCS	31	0.1%
MEDICAL LAKE HCS	13	<0.1%
MOSES LAKE HCS	257	0.6%
OKANOGAN HCS	81	0.2%
SPOKANE HCS	1,269	3.0%
SUNNYSIDE HCS	251	0.6%
TRI-CITIES HCS	523	1.3%
WALLA WALLA HCS	87	0.2%
WENATCHEE HCS	76	0.2%
YAKIMA HCS	218	0.5%
Region 1 Total	2,963	7.1%

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 2	HCS Office of Issuance	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD HCS	1,223	2.9%
BELLINGHAM HCS	506	1.2%
EVERETT HCS	970	2.3%
HOLGATE HCS	6,266	15.0%
MOUNT VERNON HCS	752	1.8%
SMOKEY POINT HCS	0	0.0%
Region 2 Total	9,717	23.3%

SSP Clients by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

ALTSA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 3	<u>HCS Office of Issuance</u>	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN HCS	177	0.4%
BREMERTON HCS	363	0.9%
CHEHALIS HCS	345	0.8%
KELSO HCS	0	0.0%
OLYMPIA HCS	362	0.9%
PORT ANGELES HCS	0	0.0%
STEILACOOM HCS	0	0.0%
TACOMA HCS	1,993	4.8%
VANCOUVER HCS	1,302	3.1%
Region 3 Total	4,542	10.9%

SSP Clients by County of Residence, June 2023 Snapshot

County	# of Clients	% of Total	County	# of Clients	% of Total
Adams	86	0.2%	Lewis	513	1.2%
Asotin	121	0.3%	Lincoln	53	0.1%
Benton	832	2.0%	Mason	304	0.7%
Chelan	313	0.7%	Okanogan	308	0.7%
Clallam	417	1.0%	Pacific	170	0.4%
Clark	2,446	5.9%	Pend Oreille	135	0.3%
Columbia	31	0.1%	Pierce	4,858	11.6%
Cowlitz	618	1.5%	San Juan	48	0.1%
Douglas	130	0.3%	Skagit	545	1.3%
Ferry	76	0.2%	Skamania	34	0.1%
Franklin	439	1.1%	Snohomish	4,151	9.9%
Garfield	9	<0.1%	Spokane	2,945	7.0%
Grant	456	1.1%	Stevens	305	0.7%
Grays Harbor	584	1.4%	Thurston	1,224	2.9%
Island	202	0.5%	Wahkiakum	18	<0.1%
Jefferson	189	0.5%	Walla Walla	284	0.7%
King	15,019	35.9%	Whatcom	1,161	2.8%
Kitsap	917	2.2%	Whitman	106	0.3%
Kittitas	108	0.3%	Yakima	1,474	3.5%
Klickitat	128	0.3%	Not Reported/ Unidentifiable	25	0.1%

	# of Clients	% of Total
State Total	41,782	100.0%

SSP Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Total Clients	41,782	100.0%
Total Adults	41,711	99.8%

Gender			All Clients
Female	26,781	64.1%	
Male	15,001	35.9%	
Unknown	0	0.0%	

Ethnicity and Race			All Clients
Hispanic or Latino	3,464	8.3%	
Not Hispanic or Latino ³⁸	38,318	91.7%	
White	20,084	48.1%	
Black/African American	3,100	7.4%	
Asian/Pacific Islander	10,458	25.0%	
American Indian/Alaska Native	845	2.0%	
Two or More Races	403	1.0%	
Race Not Reported	3,428	8.2%	

Marital Status			All Adults
Separated	3,253	7.8%	
Married	10,212	24.5%	
Never Married	9,101	21.8%	
Divorced	10,277	24.6%	
Widowed	8,369	20.1%	
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	499	1.2%	

Citizenship Status			All Clients
U.S. Citizen	36,117	86.4%	
Resident Noncitizen	5,531	13.2%	
U.S. National ³⁹	134	0.3%	
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	

³⁸ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

³⁹ U.S. National: A national of the United States or a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States (e.g., persons born in American Samoa or Swains Island).

SSP Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients

Homeless Status			All Clients
Homeless ⁴⁰	1,030	2.5%	

Education Status			All Adults
Less than a High School Diploma	11,206	26.9%	
High School Graduate or GED	20,564	49.3%	
Some College or College Degree	6,230	14.9%	
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	3,711	8.9%	

Age			All Clients
< 1 Year Old	0	0.0%	
1 – 5 Years Old	10	<0.1%	
6 – 10 Years Old	26	0.1%	
11 – 15 Years Old	29	0.1%	
16 – 17 Years Old	6	<0.1%	
18 – 24 Years Old	111	0.3%	
25 – 34 Years Old	266	0.6%	
35 – 44 Years Old	373	0.9%	
45 – 54 Years Old	463	1.1%	
55 – 64 Years Old	899	2.2%	
65+ Years Old	39,599	94.8%	
Average Age of Recipients			73.5 Years

Length of Stay	
Average Length of Stay ⁴¹	93.6 Months

⁴⁰ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

⁴¹ Average cumulative number of months adult clients received SSP since July 1997

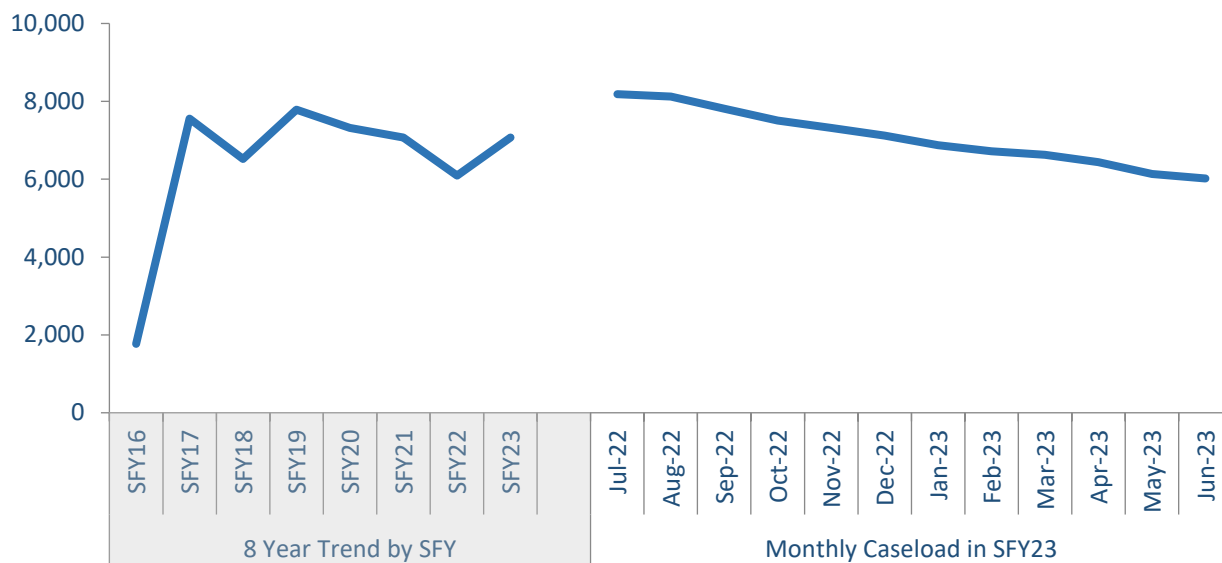
Selected Working Family Support (WFS) Program Characteristics, SFY 2022 and SFY 2023

	SFY 2022 (July 2021-June 2022)	SFY 2023 (July 2022-June 2023)	Change	
Average Number of Cases Per Month (Range)	6,091 (5,365 - 7,710)	7,071 (6,019 - 8,184)	16.1% (Increase)	↑
Average Number of Persons Per Month (Range)	21,526 (18,832 - 27,289)	25,316 (21,884 - 28,960)	17.6% (Increase)	↑
State Population⁴²	7,864,400	7,951,150	1.1% (Increase)	↑
Monthly Average Recipients as a Percent of State Population	0.4%	0.4%	No Change	=
Average Persons Per Case	3.5	3.6	0.1 Point (Increase)	↑
Average Monthly Payment Per Case (Range)⁴³	\$10.00 (\$10.00)	\$10.00 (\$10.00)	No Change	=

⁴² Source: Office of Financial Management (OFM) population estimates

⁴³ Payments not adjusted for refunds.

WFS Caseload, SFY 2014 – 2023



SFY	Monthly Average Caseload	SFY	Monthly Average Caseload
SFY14	N/A	SFY19	7,788
SFY15	N/A	SFY20	7,316
SFY16 ⁴⁴	1,770	SFY21	7,068
SFY17	7,559	SFY22	6,091
SFY18	6,524	SFY23	7,071

SFY 2023	Total # of Cases	Clients	Grant Expenditures	Average Payment Per Case
July	8,184	28,960	\$81,840	\$10.00
August	8,125	28,778	\$81,250	\$10.00
September	7,807	27,545	\$78,070	\$10.00
October	7,504	26,579	\$75,040	\$10.00
November	7,321	26,088	\$73,210	\$10.00
December	7,118	25,454	\$71,180	\$10.00
January	6,870	24,670	\$68,700	\$10.00
February	6,715	24,234	\$67,150	\$10.00
March	6,627	24,002	\$66,270	\$10.00
April	6,436	23,322	\$64,360	\$10.00
May	6,130	22,274	\$61,300	\$10.00
June	6,019	21,884	\$60,190	\$10.00
Mo. Avg.	7,071	25,316	\$70,713	\$10.00

⁴⁴ The Working Family Support program began on May 1, 2016; therefore, data for SFY 2016 is for a partial year.

Annual Undup.⁴⁵	15,675	55,139	\$848,560	\$54.13
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⁴⁵ Expenditures represent total expenditures in the SFY.

WFS Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot

Overview	Office of Issuance				Office of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
Region 1 CSOs	2,058	34.2%	7,433	34.0%	2,056	34.2%	7,424	33.9%
Region 2 CSOs	1,760	29.2%	6,619	30.2%	1,761	29.3%	6,620	30.3%
Region 3 CSOs	2,198	36.5%	7,816	35.7%	2,196	36.5%	7,811	35.7%
CSCCs	3	<0.1%	16	0.1%	N/A			
ALTSA (HCS)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%				
DDA	0	0.0%	0	0.0%				
Tribal Locations	0	0.0%	0	0.0%				
Not Reported / Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	0.1%	29	0.1%
State Total	6,019	100.0%	21,884	100.0%	6,019	100.0%	21,884	100.0%

WFS Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 1 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON	36	0.6%	110	0.5%	36	0.6%	110	0.5%
COLFAX	29	0.5%	89	0.4%	30	0.5%	92	0.4%
COLVILLE	42	0.7%	166	0.8%	40	0.7%	158	0.7%
ELLENSBURG	29	0.5%	94	0.4%	29	0.5%	94	0.4%
GOLDENDALE	8	0.1%	30	0.1%	8	0.1%	30	0.1%
KENNEWICK	405	6.7%	1,480	6.8%	402	6.7%	1,468	6.7%
MOSES LAKE	181	3.0%	647	3.0%	182	3.0%	649	3.0%
NEWPORT	15	0.2%	60	0.3%	15	0.2%	60	0.3%
OKANOGAN	72	1.2%	238	1.1%	71	1.2%	235	1.1%
REPUBLIC	7	0.1%	28	0.1%	8	0.1%	32	0.1%
SPOKANE MAPLE	218	3.6%	796	3.6%	253	4.2%	916	4.2%
SPOKANE TRENT	398	6.6%	1,454	6.6%	363	6.0%	1,335	6.1%
SUNNYSIDE	95	1.6%	362	1.7%	95	1.6%	362	1.7%
TOPPENISH	87	1.4%	316	1.4%	86	1.4%	313	1.4%
WALLA WALLA	48	0.8%	169	0.8%	49	0.8%	173	0.8%
WENATCHEE	115	1.9%	411	1.9%	115	1.9%	411	1.9%
WHITE SALMON	5	0.1%	15	0.1%	5	0.1%	15	0.1%
YAKIMA	268	4.5%	968	4.4%	269	4.5%	971	4.4%
Region 1 Total	2,058	34.2%	7,433	34.0%	2,056	34.2%	7,424	33.9%

WFS Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 2 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD	102	1.7%	369	1.7%	101	1.7%	364	1.7%
AUBURN	185	3.1%	756	3.5%	187	3.1%	763	3.5%
BELLINGHAM	120	2.0%	437	2.0%	119	2.0%	434	2.0%
BELLTOWN	8	0.1%	27	0.1%	9	0.1%	30	0.1%
CAPITOL HILL	17	0.3%	58	0.3%	17	0.3%	58	0.3%
EVERETT	182	3.0%	646	3.0%	181	3.0%	641	2.9%
FEDERAL WAY	166	2.8%	644	2.9%	166	2.8%	640	2.9%
KING EASTSIDE	93	1.5%	340	1.6%	92	1.5%	336	1.5%
KING NORTH	51	0.8%	188	0.9%	54	0.9%	204	0.9%
KING SOUTH	183	3.0%	719	3.3%	184	3.1%	722	3.3%
MT VERNON	117	1.9%	420	1.9%	108	1.8%	386	1.8%
OAK HARBOR	69	1.1%	222	1.0%	78	1.3%	256	1.2%
RAINIER	59	1.0%	243	1.1%	59	1.0%	243	1.1%
RENTON	80	1.3%	290	1.3%	79	1.3%	287	1.3%
SKY VALLEY	26	0.4%	101	0.5%	25	0.4%	92	0.4%
SMOKEY POINT	119	2.0%	433	2.0%	122	2.0%	452	2.1%
WHITE CENTER	183	3.0%	726	3.3%	180	3.0%	712	3.3%
Region 2 Total	1,760	29.2%	6,619	30.2%	1,761	29.3%	6,620	30.3%

WFS Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Region 3 CSO	CSO of Issuance				CSO of Residence			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN	84	1.4%	298	1.4%	82	1.4%	286	1.3%
BREMERTON	198	3.3%	686	3.1%	198	3.3%	686	3.1%
CHEHALIS	83	1.4%	286	1.3%	83	1.4%	286	1.3%
COLUMBIA RIVER	499	8.3%	1,763	8.1%	498	8.3%	1,757	8.0%
FORKS	14	0.2%	52	0.2%	14	0.2%	52	0.2%
KELSO	170	2.8%	597	2.7%	169	2.8%	595	2.7%
LAKEWOOD	270	4.5%	970	4.4%	272	4.5%	979	4.5%
LONG BEACH	7	0.1%	23	0.1%	7	0.1%	23	0.1%
OLYMPIA	222	3.7%	758	3.5%	229	3.8%	790	3.6%
PIERCE NORTH	103	1.7%	357	1.6%	98	1.6%	339	1.5%
PIERCE SOUTH	192	3.2%	722	3.3%	195	3.2%	727	3.3%
PORT ANGELES	32	0.5%	118	0.5%	32	0.5%	118	0.5%
PORT TOWNSEND	8	0.1%	25	0.1%	9	0.1%	28	0.1%
PUYALLUP VALLEY	251	4.2%	942	4.3%	245	4.1%	926	4.2%
SHELTON	47	0.8%	162	0.7%	47	0.8%	162	0.7%
SOUTH BEND	7	0.1%	26	0.1%	7	0.1%	26	0.1%
STEVENSON	11	0.2%	31	0.1%	11	0.2%	31	0.1%
Region 3 Total	2,198	36.5%	7,816	35.7%	2,196	36.5%	7,811	35.7%

WFS Caseload by Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC) and Other Locations, June 2023 Snapshot

Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC)	Office of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CSCC Central Sound	1	<0.1%	7	<0.1%
CSCC Northeast	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Northwest	1	<0.1%	5	<0.1%
CSCC South Sound	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Southeast	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Southwest	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC Virtual Case Management Center	1	<0.1%	4	<0.1%
CSCC WASHCAP	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
CSCC and WASHCAP Total	3	<0.1%	16	0.1%

DDA Locations	Office of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
DDA Behavioral Health Financial Unit	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
DDA Long-Term Care & Special Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
DDA Locations Total	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

Tribal Locations	Office of Issuance			
	# of Cases	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe (PGST)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

WFS Caseload by County of Residence, June 2023 Snapshot

County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total	County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total
Adams	32	0.5%	123	0.6%	Lewis	83	1.4%	286	1.3%
Asotin	34	0.6%	104	0.5%	Lincoln	10	0.2%	40	0.2%
Benton	256	4.3%	910	4.2%	Mason	47	0.8%	162	0.7%
Chelan	76	1.3%	282	1.3%	Okanogan	71	1.2%	235	1.1%
Clallam	46	0.8%	170	0.8%	Pacific	14	0.2%	49	0.2%
Clark	498	8.3%	1,757	8.0%	Pend Oreille	15	0.2%	60	0.3%
Columbia	5	0.1%	18	0.1%	Pierce	810	13.5%	2,971	13.6%
Cowlitz	165	2.7%	585	2.7%	San Juan	7	0.1%	25	0.1%
Douglas	39	0.6%	129	0.6%	Skagit	101	1.7%	361	1.6%
Ferry	8	0.1%	32	0.1%	Skamania	11	0.2%	31	0.1%
Franklin	146	2.4%	558	2.5%	Snohomish	428	7.1%	1,545	7.1%
Garfield	2	<0.1%	6	<0.1%	Spokane	608	10.1%	2,220	10.1%
Grant	152	2.5%	539	2.5%	Stevens	40	0.7%	158	0.7%
Grays Harbor	82	1.4%	286	1.3%	Thurston	229	3.8%	790	3.6%
Island	78	1.3%	256	1.2%	Wahkiakum	4	0.1%	10	<0.1%
Jefferson	9	0.1%	28	0.1%	Walla Walla	44	0.7%	155	0.7%
King	1,028	17.1%	3,999	18.3%	Whatcom	119	2.0%	434	2.0%
Kitsap	199	3.3%	690	3.2%	Whitman	30	0.5%	92	0.4%
Kittitas	30	0.5%	97	0.4%	Yakima	450	7.5%	1,646	7.5%
Klickitat	13	0.2%	45	0.2%	Not Reported/ Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

	Cases	% of Total	Clients	% of Total
State Total	6,019	100.0%	21,884	100.0%

WFS Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot

Characteristic	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Total Clients	21,884	100.0%	6,087	100.0%	15,797	100.0%
Gender	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
Female	11,096	50.7%	3,278	53.9%	7,818	49.5%
Male	10,786	49.3%	2,809	46.1%	7,977	50.5%
Unknown	2	<0.1%	0	0.0%	2	<0.1%
Ethnicity and Race	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
Hispanic or Latino	5,840	26.7%	1,500	24.6%	4,340	27.5%
Not Hispanic or Latino⁴⁶	16,044	73.3%	4,587	75.4%	11,457	72.5%
White	9,177	41.9%	2,845	46.7%	6,332	40.1%
Black/African American	2,166	9.9%	587	9.6%	1,579	10.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2,307	10.5%	648	10.6%	1,659	10.5%
American Indian/Alaska Native	521	2.4%	146	2.4%	375	2.4%
Two or More Races	793	3.6%	158	2.6%	635	4.0%
Race Not Reported	1,080	4.9%	203	3.3%	877	5.6%
Marital Status	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
Separated			438	7.2%		
Married			2,750	45.2%		
Never Married			2,153	35.4%		
Divorced			700	11.5%		
Widowed			40	0.7%		
Not Reported/Unidentifiable			6	0.1%		
Citizenship Status	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
U.S. Citizen	19,453	88.9%	4,971	81.7%	14,482	91.7%
Resident Noncitizen	2,339	10.7%	1,072	17.6%	1,267	8.0%
U.S. National⁴⁷	92	0.4%	44	0.7%	48	0.3%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

⁴⁶ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

⁴⁷ U.S. National: A national of the United States or a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States (e.g., persons born in American Samoa or Swains Island).

WFS Client Demographics, June 2023 Snapshot (continued)

Characteristic	<u>All Clients</u>		<u>All Adults</u>		<u>All Children</u>	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Clients	# of Clients	% of Total Clients

Homeless Status	<u>All Clients</u>		<u>All Adults</u>		<u>All Children</u>	
Homeless ⁴⁸	342	1.6%	111	1.8%	231	1.5%

Education Status	<u>All Adults</u>	
Less than a High School Diploma	953	15.7%
High School Graduate or GED	3,070	50.4%
Some College or College Degree	1,990	32.7%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	74	1.2%

Age	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
Under 1 Year Old	480	2.2%	N/A		480	3.0%
1 - 5 Years Old	4,730	21.6%			4,730	29.9%
6 - 10 Years Old	5,085	23.2%			5,085	32.2%
11 - 15 Years Old	4,243	19.4%			4,243	26.9%
16 - 17 Years Old	1,259	5.8%			1,259	8.0%
18 – 24 Years Old	308	1.4%	308	5.1%	N/A	
25 – 34 Years Old	2,462	11.3%	2,462	40.4%		
35 – 44 Years Old	2,514	11.5%	2,514	41.3%		
45 – 54 Years Old	693	3.2%	693	11.4%		
55 – 64 Years Old	107	0.5%	107	1.8%		
65+ Years Old	3	<0.1%	3	<0.1%		
Average Age of Adults	36.0 Years					
Average Age of Children	8.3 Years					

Length of Stay		
Average Length of Stay ⁴⁹	11.9 Months	

⁴⁸ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

⁴⁹ Average cumulative number of months adult clients received WFS since May 2016 when the program was implemented.

Expenditures

SFY 2023

This chapter summarizes ESA expenditure data for the 2021-2023 Biennium and projections for the 2023-2025 Biennium. This information is divided into three sub-sections: Cash Grant Assistance, WorkFirst, and Administrative.

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Expenditures Overview

State expenditures for programs such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and most child care assistance, are affected by block grants. Block grants place a “lid” on the amount of federal funding available.

Federal law requires states to maintain “historic levels of spending” for the programs consolidated in the TANF block grant. This state spending is known as Maintenance of Effort (MOE). Failure to spend state dollars at that level can result in a reduced federal block grant payment and require increases in state spending. Because Washington state meets the federal Work Participation Rate targets, it must spend 75% of what was spent historically on these programs, based on 1994 spending levels. Other states who do not meet the targets must spend 80% of what they spent historically.

This chapter summarizes ESA expenditure data for the 2021-23 Biennium and projections for the 2023-25 Biennium. The information is in three sub-sections:

- Cash Grant Assistance
- WorkFirst
- Administrative

TECHNICAL NOTES

DATA SOURCE: Data for this chapter was provided by the ESA Division of Finance and Financial Resources (DFFR)

DATA NOTES:

- 2021-23 Actuals reflect expenditure data for State Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023.
- 2023-25 Projections reflect expenditure data for State Fiscal 2023, and reflect projection (allotment) data for State Fiscal Year 2024.

Actual and Projected Program and Administrative Expenditures, for Selected Biennia (in thousands of dollars)

Program	Biennium		Change from 2021-23 to 2023-25	
	Actuals 2021-23	Projections 2023-25	Amount	Percent
Client Benefits & Supports (J90, X14, X19, X24, X25, X32)				
State	\$104,792	\$101,707	(\$3,085)	-2.9%
Total	\$569,193	\$265,711	(\$303,482)	-53.3%
Forecasted Programs (J90, X15, X16, X30, X31)				
State	\$187,958	\$278,387	\$90,429	48.1%
Total	\$199,470	\$276,346	\$76,876	38.5%
WorkFirst Program (M02, X10, X18, X22, X23, X33)				
State	\$175,028	\$333,634	\$158,606	90.6%
Total	\$1,085,464	\$1,187,411	\$101,947	9.4%
Administrative (B41, M01, M02, V50)				
State	\$516,839	\$585,685	\$68,846	13.3%
Total	\$1,179,300	\$1,243,187	\$63,887	5.4%
Total Expenditures				
State	\$984,617	\$1,299,413	\$314,796	32.0%
Total	\$3,033,427	\$2,972,655	(\$60,772)	-2.0%

Actual and Projected Client Benefits and Supports (in thousands of dollars)

Program	Biennium		Change from 2021-23 to 2023-25	
	Actuals 2021-23	Projections 2023-25	Amount	Percent
Refugee & Immigration Assistance, Contracted Services (J90) (C2000)				
State	\$38,781	\$14,844	(\$23,937)	-61.7%
Total	\$87,828	\$92,186	\$4,358	5.0%
State Supplemental Payments (SSP) (X14)				
State	\$38,213	\$37,750	(\$463)	-1.2%
Total	\$38,213	\$37,750	(\$463)	-1.2%
Ongoing Additional Requirements (OAR) (X19)				
State	\$326	\$1,270	\$944	289.6%
Total	\$326	\$1,270	\$944	289.6%
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs (SNAP) (X24)				
State	\$495	\$5,337	\$4,842	978.2%
Total	\$62,669	\$77,637	\$14,968	23.9%
Repatriated US Nationals (X25)				
State	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Total	\$0	\$120	\$120	
Other Client Services (X32)				
State	\$26,977	\$42,506	\$15,529	57.6%
Total	\$380,157	\$56,748	(\$323,409)	-85.1%
Total Expenditures				
State	\$104,792	\$101,707	(\$3,085)	-2.9%
Total	\$569,193	\$265,711	(\$303,482)	-53.3%

Actual and Projected Forecasted Programs (in thousands of dollars)

Program	Biennium		Change from 2021-23 to 2023-25	
	Actuals 2021-23	Projections 2023-25	Amount	Percent
Refugee & Immigration Assitane (Cash Assistance) (J90) (C1000)				
State	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Total	\$20,484	\$26,440	\$5,956	29.1%
Aged Blind or Disabled / Pregnant Woment Assistance (ABD) / (PWA) (X15)				
State	\$164,427	\$283,146	\$118,719	72.2%
Total	\$164,427	\$283,146	\$118,719	72.2%
Aged Blind or Disabled Recoveries (ABD) (X16)				
State	(\$34,084)	(\$60,865)	(\$26,781)	78.6%
Total	(\$34,084)	(\$60,865)	(\$26,781)	78.6%
Child Support Recoveries (X30)				
State	(\$19,591)	(\$27,935)	(\$8,344)	42.6%
Total	(\$44,433)	(\$56,416)	(\$11,983)	27.0%
Food Assistance Program (FAP) (X31)				
State	\$77,206	\$84,041	\$6,835	8.9%
Total	\$93,076	\$84,041	(\$9,035)	-9.7%
Total Expenditures				
State	\$187,958	\$278,387	\$90,429	48.1%
Total	\$199,470	\$276,346	\$76,876	38.5%

Actual and Projected WorkFirst Program Expenditures¹, for Selected Biennia (in thousands of dollars)

Program	Biennium		Change from 2021-23 to 2023-25	
	Actuals 2021-23	Projections 2023-25	Amount	Percent
WorkFirst Operations/Staffing (M02)				
State	\$75,488	\$98,300	\$22,812	30.2%
Total	\$149,119	\$146,714	(\$2,405)	-1.6%
TANF/SFA Assistance (X10)				
State	\$52,468	\$179,097	\$126,629	241.3%
Total	\$422,634	\$445,798	\$23,164	5.5%
Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA) (X18)				
State	\$1,155	\$4,974	\$3,819	330.6%
Total	\$1,155	\$4,974	\$3,819	330.6%
Child Care (X22)				
State	\$1	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	\$307,085	\$353,402	\$46,317	15.1%
WorkFirst Employment & Training (X23)				
State	\$45,916	\$51,263	\$5,347	11.6%
Total	\$136,975	\$168,027	\$31,052	22.7%
DCYF TANF (X33)				
State	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Total	\$68,496	\$68,496	\$0	0.00%
Total Expenditures				
State	\$175,028	\$333,634	\$158,606	90.6%
Total	\$1,085,464	\$1,187,411	\$101,947	9.4%

¹ This table includes M02 which is considered to be WorkFirst dollars

Actual and Projected Administrative Expenditures², for Selected Biennia (in thousands of dollars)

Program	Biennium		Change from 2021-23 to 2023-25	
	Actuals 2021-23	Projections 2023-25	Amount	Percent
Community Services Division				
State	\$310,501	\$353,194	\$42,693	13.7%
Total	\$555,160	\$555,351	\$191	0.0%
Division of Child Support				
State	\$97,123	\$117,286	\$20,163	20.8%
Total	\$323,338	\$361,117	\$37,779	11.7%
Division of Program Integrity				
State	\$7,464	\$9,906	\$2,442	32.7%
Total	\$14,015	\$17,400	\$3,385	24.2%
Division of Finance & Financial Resources				
State	\$6,398	\$7,893	\$1,495	23.4%
Total	\$12,661	\$17,078	\$4,417	34.9%
Division of Disability Determination Services				
State	\$1,456	\$6,027	\$4,571	313.9%
Total	\$95,814	\$127,182	\$31,368	32.7%
Division of IT Solutions				
State	\$79,201	\$74,394	(\$4,807)	-6.1%
Total	\$150,211	\$134,677	(\$15,534)	-10.3%
Office of the Assistant Secretary				
State	\$14,696	\$16,985	\$2,289	15.6%
Total	\$28,101	\$30,382	\$2,281	8.1%
Total Expenditures				
State	\$516,839	\$585,685	\$68,846	13.3%
Total	\$1,179,300	\$1,243,187	\$63,887	5.4%

² This table includes M02 which is considered to be admin dollars.

Annual Unduplicated Clients

SFY

2023

This chapter provides the unduplicated number of clients served by ESA (all programs) as well as the unduplicated number of clients served by each ESA program in SFY 2023.

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Overview

In other sections of the ESA Briefing Book, data is presented on the number of monthly clients and State Fiscal Year (SFY) monthly averages of clients served by each ESA program. Data in those sections do not address a question that is frequently asked by various stakeholders: “How many total clients are served by ESA and by each program?” Many ESA clients receive services from more than one program; furthermore, clients can receive services within a single program that span multiple months in the course of the SFY. For example, a TANF family typically receives Basic Food assistance at the same time and also receives monthly benefits over multiple months in the same fiscal year.

This chapter presents data on the number of unduplicated clients served annually by ESA in SFY 2023 compared to SFY 2022, both overall (for all programs) and by each program. In addition, annual unduplicated clients by state legislative district for selected programs are reported in this section. The number of unduplicated clients served by ESA annually is obtained by counting the number of unique clients served by each ESA program covered in the Briefing Book so that an individual receiving services from more than one program (or services that span multiple months in the SFY) is counted only once. Similarly, annual total clients served by each program are calculated by counting the number of unique clients served by the program in the SFY.

In SFY 2023, ESA served over 1.7 million individuals, or more than one out of every five Washington state residents. When including clients served by ESA offices and Home and Community Services (HCS) offices, in partnership with DSHS’s Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (ALISA), this number comes to over 1.8 million individuals. These figures count each client once, regardless of the number of services received or the number of months those services were received.

TECHNICAL NOTES:

DATA SOURCES:

- The majority of the data in this chapter was based on the ESA – Automated Client Eligibility System (ACES) as of August 2023.
- Data for the Child Support program was based on the ESA - Support Enforcement Management System (SEMS) as of October 2023.
- Data for the Refugee and Immigrant Assistance program was based on the ESA MyRIA, ACES and eJAS databases as of October 2023.

Annual Unduplicated Clients Served, SFY 2022 and SFY 2023

	SFY 2022		SFY 2023	
	ESA Only ¹	DSHS Offices (ESA, DDA, & ALTSA) ²	ESA Only ¹	DSHS Offices (ESA, DDA, & ALTSA) ²
All Programs³	1,703,651	1,780,943	1,738,645	1,841,032
Aged, Blind or Disabled (ABD)	32,107	33,341	39,561	41,047
Additional Requirements-Emergent Needs (AREN)	1,157	1,157	1,266	1,267
Basic Food Employment and Training (BFET)	10,110	10,199	11,091	11,222
Basic Food (SNAP/FAP)⁴	1,114,332	1,157,347	1,158,276	1,211,614
Consolidated Emergency Assistance (CEAP)	600	600	191	191
Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA)	1,364	1,365	1,766	1,766
Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral	4,956	4,959	6,199	6,202
Medical Assistance (Non-Cash Related)⁵	239,426	319,221	248,932	357,153
Ongoing Additional Requirements (OAR)	456	460	491	681
Pregnant Women Assistance (PWA)	-	-	-	-

¹ ESA Offices Only is based on CSO of issuance and includes all ESA-CSD offices in Regions 1, 2, and 3, plus the following statewide call centers: 128 (CSCC Southeast), 130 (WASHCAP), 132 (CSCC Central Sound), 151 (CSCC Northeast), 152 (CSCC Virtual Command Center), 153 (CSCC Northwest), 155 (CSCC South Sound), and 156 (CSCC Southwest).

² DSHS Offices include all ESA-CSD offices plus Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (ALTSA)-Home and Community Services (HCS) offices and DDA offices. Does not include HCA or PGST offices.

³ Pandemic-EBT is not included in these counts. ESA coordinated with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and a third party vendor, Accenture, to validate eligibility and issue benefits.

⁴ Pandemic-EBT is not included in these counts. ESA coordinated with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and a third party vendor, Accenture, to validate eligibility and issue benefits.

⁵ Includes clients age 65+, disabled, or in long-term care administered by ESA. Does not include clients administered by the Health Care Authority (HCA).

Annual Unduplicated Clients Served, SFY 2022 and SFY 2023 (continued)

	SFY 2022		SFY 2023	
	ESA Only ⁶	DSHS Offices (ESA, DDA, & ALTSA) ⁷	ESA Only ⁶	DSHS Offices (ESA, DDA, & ALTSA) ⁷
Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)	1,967	1,967	8,212	8,213
Refugee and Immigrant Assistance (RIA) ⁸	9,363	9,363	16,522	16,522
State Supplemental Payment (SSP)	27,753	45,322	28,546	46,216
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families / State Family Assistance (TANF/SFA)	122,824	122,824	143,854	143,861
Washington State Combined Application Project (WASHCAP)	63,692	82,010	61,439	84,694
Transitional Food Assistance (TFA)	78,455	78,604	126,506	126,696
Working Family Support (WFS)	46,797	46,808	55,131	55,139
Child Support	823,377	823,377	807,942	807,942
Disaster Cash Assistance Program (DCAP) ⁹	5,859	5,859	-	-

⁶ ESA Offices Only is based on CSO of issuance and includes all ESA-CSD offices in Regions 1, 2, and 3, plus the following statewide call centers: 128 (CSCC Southeast), 130 (WASHCAP), 132 (CSCC Central Sound), 151 (CSCC Northeast), 152 (CSCC Virtual Case Management Center), 153 (CSCC Northwest), 155 (CSCC South Sound), and 156 (CSCC Southwest).

⁷ DSHS Offices include all ESA-CSD offices plus Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (ALTSA)-Home and Community Services (HCS) offices and DDA offices. Does not include HCA or PGST offices.

⁸ This number includes clients served by these ORIA programs: Mobility and Empowerment (PRIME), LEP Pathway, and Naturalization Services.

⁹ Effective November 22, 2021 through December 17, 2021, the Disaster Cash Assistance Program (DCAP), which is an expanded version of CEAP, was activated in response to Governor Inslee's declaration of a state of emergency in certain counties due to the devastating effects of severe weather. CEAP has funding throughout the year and is available exclusively for households with minor dependent children or pregnant women who are not eligible for other cash programs. DCAP was an expanded option for a broader array of households, though is only available per a governor's declared state of emergency. DCAP was not authorized during SFY23 and no DCAP clients were served during this time period.

Annual Unduplicated Clients¹⁰ Served, Adults and Children, by ESA Division¹¹, SFY 2023

SFY 2023					
	DSHS Offices (All ESA & HCS) ¹²	ESA Only ¹³	CSD & HCS	CSD Only	DCS Only
Total	1,841,032	1,738,645	1,334,063	1,228,356	807,942
Adults	1,292,031	1,193,517	910,666	809,460	554,798
Children	544,368	540,495	423,345	418,844	248,563
Age Unknown ¹⁴	4,633	4,633	52	52	4,581

¹⁰ Age of client is based on age as of July 1, 2023.

¹¹ Community Services Division (CSD) and the Division of Child Support (DCS).

¹² DSHS Offices include all ESA-CSD offices plus Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (ALISA)-Home and Community Services (HCS) offices and DDA offices. Does not include HCA or PGST offices.

¹³ ESA Offices Only is based on CSO of issuance and includes all ESA-CSD offices in Regions 1, 2, and 3, plus the following statewide call centers: 128 (CSCC Southeast), 130 (WASHCAP), 132 (CSCC Central Sound), 151 (CSCC Northeast), 152 (CSCC Virtual Case Management Center), 153 (CSCC Northwest), 155 (CSCC South Sound), and 156 (CSCC Southwest).

¹⁴ These are DCS clients whose birth date information is not available.

Annual Unduplicated Clients Served in Select ESA Programs, By Legislative District¹⁵, SFY 2023

State Legislative District	TANF/SFA	SNAP/FAP	ABD	HEN Referral
	# of Clients	# of Clients	# of Clients	# of Clients
Statewide Total	143,864	1,211,782	41,047	6,202
State Legislative District 1	1,157	9,273	432	26
State Legislative District 2	2,518	23,692	537	101
State Legislative District 3	5,840	45,792	2,180	490
State Legislative District 4	3,446	28,650	955	144
State Legislative District 5	1,202	8,240	298	27
State Legislative District 6	3,458	26,365	828	131
State Legislative District 7	3,119	31,996	672	130
State Legislative District 8	3,981	33,750	726	69
State Legislative District 9	2,766	25,982	436	48
State Legislative District 10	1,231	14,518	465	55
State Legislative District 11	3,117	24,295	994	101
State Legislative District 12	2,038	25,149	477	103
State Legislative District 13	3,333	32,451	803	85
State Legislative District 14	4,201	37,653	947	161
State Legislative District 15	5,066	46,091	648	88
State Legislative District 16	3,301	32,843	599	106
State Legislative District 17	3,858	27,196	638	69
State Legislative District 18	1,685	14,518	332	43
State Legislative District 19	4,476	37,996	1,457	350
State Legislative District 20	3,077	28,830	761	212
State Legislative District 21	3,469	20,231	728	45
State Legislative District 22	3,700	28,193	957	268
State Legislative District 23	1,408	14,533	460	64
State Legislative District 24	2,268	26,786	805	169
State Legislative District 25	3,241	25,723	667	120
State Legislative District 26	1,694	17,014	625	117
State Legislative District 27	3,935	31,714	1,308	234
State Legislative District 28	2,436	20,006	759	92
State Legislative District 29	6,283	44,708	1,328	240
State Legislative District 30	5,501	34,864	1,107	129
State Legislative District 31	2,656	20,166	626	111
State Legislative District 32	1,928	18,036	1,013	76
State Legislative District 33	5,264	35,039	1,228	136

¹⁵ Data is based on clients served by both ESA-CSD offices and ALTSA-HCS offices. The legislative district designation is based on the client's most recent residential address in the state fiscal year

Annual Unduplicated Clients Served in Select ESA Programs, By Legislative District¹⁶, SFY 2023 (continued)

State Legislative District	TANF/SFA	SNAP/FAP	ABD	HEN Referral
	# of Clients	# of Clients	# of Clients	# of Clients
State Legislative District 34	1,718	19,016	772	86
State Legislative District 35	2,220	22,948	731	166
State Legislative District 36	850	9,748	865	98
State Legislative District 37	3,187	33,152	2,314	273
State Legislative District 38	4,018	31,701	1,730	259
State Legislative District 39	1,984	21,287	763	87
State Legislative District 40	1,785	18,832	635	104
State Legislative District 41	946	6,179	338	20
State Legislative District 42	2,616	25,897	699	179
State Legislative District 43	818	12,461	1,125	123
State Legislative District 44	1,736	13,262	452	39
State Legislative District 45	832	5,952	256	21
State Legislative District 46	1,217	10,400	511	44
State Legislative District 47	5,414	32,329	1,238	136
State Legislative District 48	1,417	9,006	493	23
State Legislative District 49	5,097	36,372	1,114	170
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	1,356	10,947	215	34

¹⁶ Data is based on clients served by both ESA-CSD offices and ALTSA-HCS offices. The legislative district designation is based on the client's most recent residential address in the state fiscal year

Appendix 1: Contacts

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DSHS/ESA Contacts	
DSHS Secretary	Jilma Meneses (360) 902-7800 Jilma.Meneses@dshs.wa.gov
ESA Assistant Secretary	Terry Redmon (564) 669-9340 Terry.Redmon@dshs.wa.gov
Deputy Assistant Secretary	Nicole Ross (360) 515-8576 Nicole.Ross@dshs.wa.gov
ESA Divisions	
Division of Child Support	Sharon Redmond, Director (360) 664-5440 Sharon.Redmond@dshs.wa.gov
Community Services Division	Babs Roberts, Director (360) 725-4888 Babette.Roberts@dshs.wa.gov
Disability Determination Services	Harry Wakefield, Director (360) 664-7350 Leann.Campbell@ssa.gov
Division of Finance and Financial Resources	Anmarie Aylward, Director (360) 725-4787 Anmarie.Aylward@dshs.wa.gov
Division of Program Integrity	Deborah Doyle, Director (206) 459-8743 Deborah.Doyle@dshs.wa.gov
ESA Data Resources	
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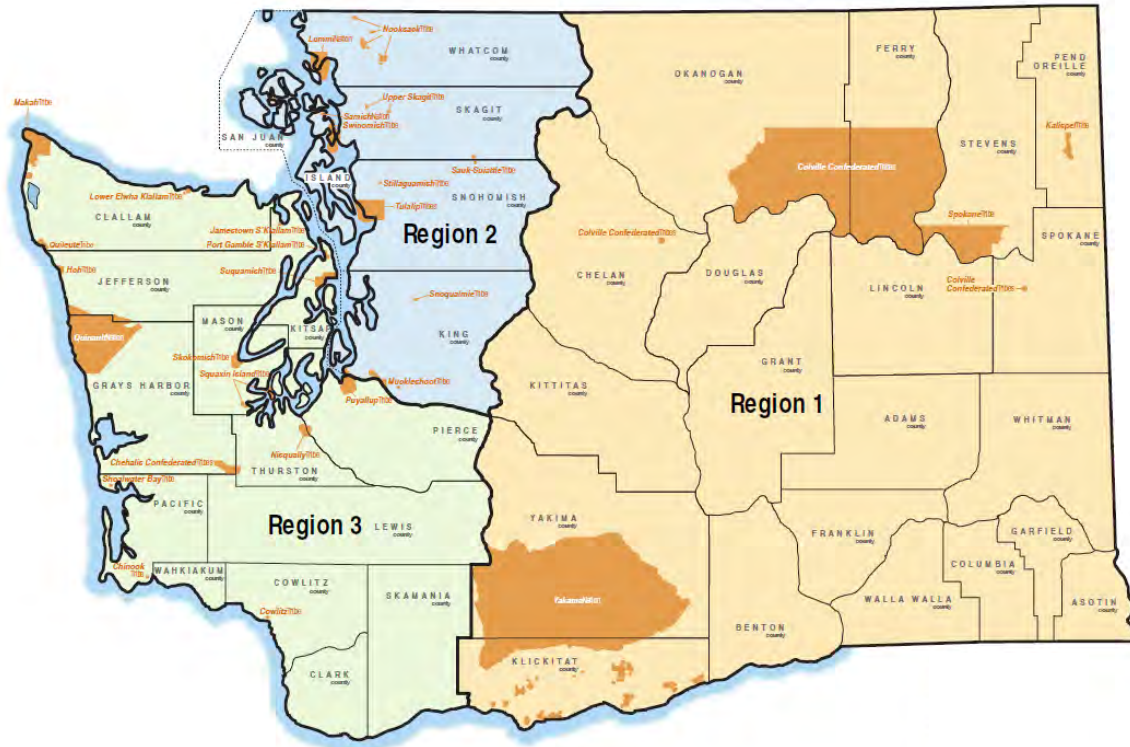
Appendix 2: Geographical Maps

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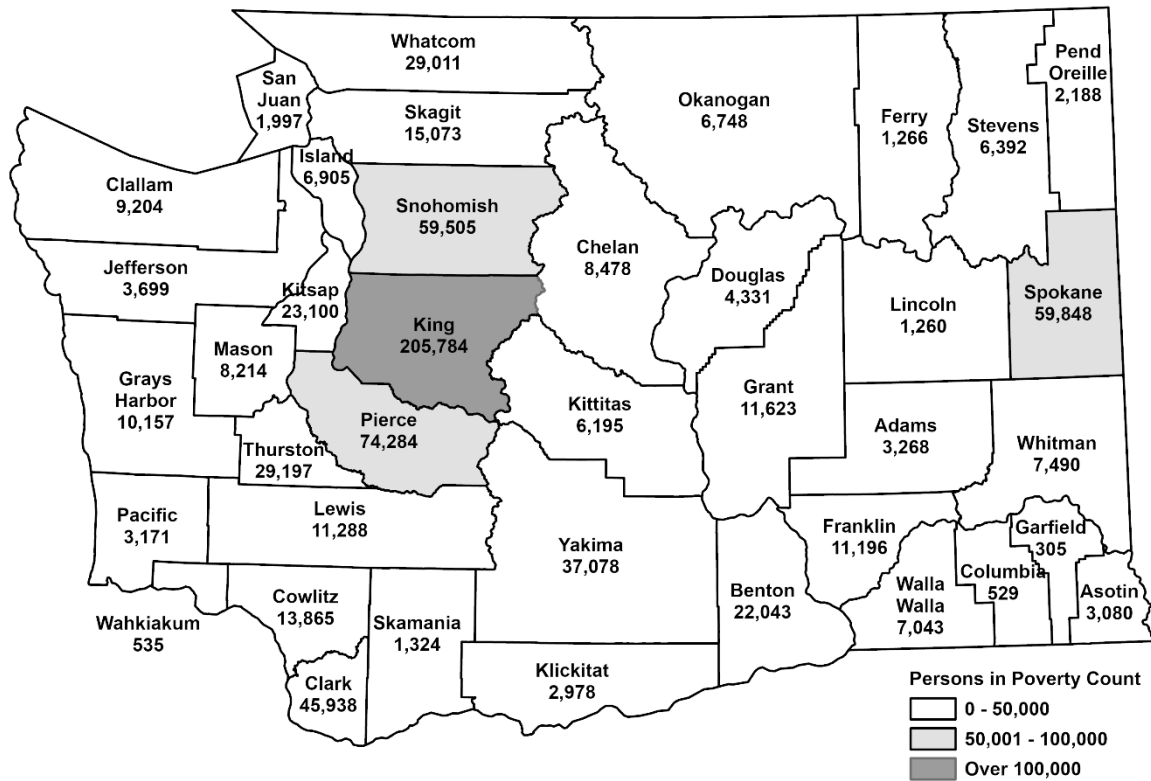
ESA Briefing Book

ESA provides services through its local Community Services Offices (CSOs) and local Division of Child Support Offices located in three regions. The counties within each DSHS region are as follows:



Region	Counties in Each DSHS Region
Region 1	Adams, Asotin, Benton, Chelan, Columbia, Douglas, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Kittitas, Klickitat, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla, Whitman, and Yakima
Region 2	Island, King, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom
Region 3	Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, Skamania, Thurston, and Wahkiakum

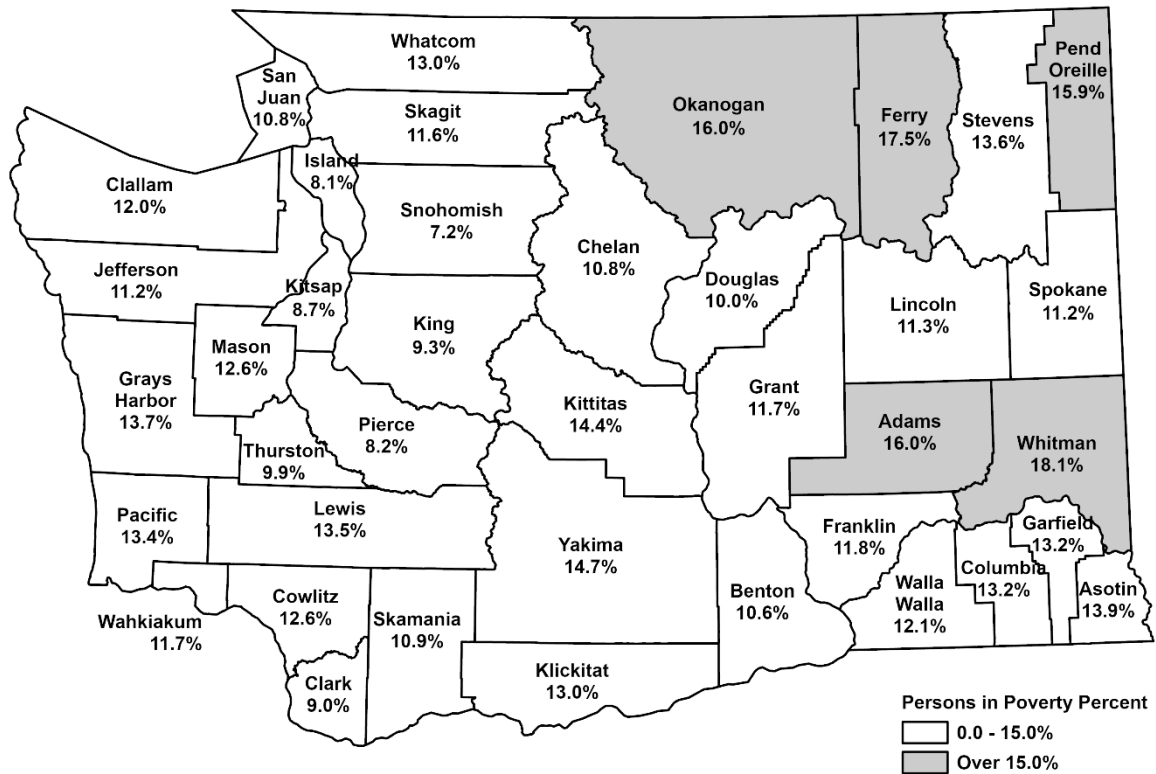
Number of Persons of All Ages Below the 100% Poverty Level by County in Washington State: 2021



Source: Estimated 2021 Poverty Population (100% Poverty Level) per U.S. Census Bureau at <https://www.census.gov/data/datasets/2021/demo/saife/2021-state-and-county.html>

Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - Aug. 2023

Percentage of Persons of All Ages Below the 100% Poverty Level by County in Washington State: 2021



Note: State Percentage in Poverty = 9.9%

Source: Estimated 2021 Poverty Population (100% Poverty Level) per U.S. Census Bureau at <https://www.census.gov/data/datasets/2021/demo/sa/pe/2021-state-and-county.html>

Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - Aug. 2023

Appendix 3: Abbreviations

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ESA Briefing Book

Abbreviation	Description
ABAWD	Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents
ABD	Aged, Blind or Disabled Cash Assistance Program
ACA	Affordable Care Act
ACES	Automated Client Eligibility System
AREN	Additional Requirements for Emergent Needs
AU	Assistance Unit (<i>i.e., group of people who live together and whose income or resources may be counted in determining eligibility and benefit amounts</i>)
BFET	Basic Food Employment and Training
BF or BFP	Basic Food Program
CARD	Caseload Analysis and Reporting Database
CE	Comprehensive Evaluation
CEAP	Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program
CN	Categorically Needy
CC	Contact Center
CSCC	Customer Service Contact Center
CSD	Community Services Division
CSO	Community Services Office
DCA	Diversion Cash Assistance
DCAP	Disaster Cash Assistance Program
DCS	Division of Child Support
DCYF	Department of Children, Youth, and Families
DDDS	Division of Disability Determination Services
DEL	Department of Early Learning
DFFR	Division of Finance and Financial Recovery
DL-U	Disability Lifeline – Unemployable (<i>formerly General Assistance – Unemployable</i>)
DL-X	Disability Lifeline – Expedited Medicaid (<i>formerly General Assistance-Expedited Medicaid</i>)
DPI	Division of Program Integrity
DRP	Diaper-Related Payment
DSHS	Department of Social and Health Services
ESA	Economic Services Administration
ESD	Employment Security Department
ESL	English as a Second Language
EBT	Electronic Benefits Transfer
EFT	Electronic Funds Transfer (<i>direct deposit</i>)
FAP	Food Assistance Program for Legal Immigrants
FCS	Food and Consumer Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture
FNS	Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture
FFY	Federal Fiscal Year (<i>October 1 through September 30</i>)
FOI	Frontiers of Innovation
FRS	Financial Reporting System
FSP	Federal Food Stamp Program (<i>formally renamed the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program</i>)
FTE	Full-time Equivalent (<i>the equivalent of one full-time staff</i>)
FY	Fiscal Year (<i>used in reference to state and federal fiscal years</i>)
GA-U	General Assistance-Unemployable (<i>replaced by Disability Lifeline</i>)
GA-X	General Assistance – Expedited Medicaid (<i>replaced by Disability Lifeline</i>)

HBE	Health Benefit Exchange
HCS	Home and Community Services
HEN	Housing and Essential Needs
eJAS	Electronic JOBS Automated System
LEP	Limited English Proficiency
LPA	Local Planning Areas
MAGI	Modified Adjusted Gross Income
MOE	Maintenance of Effort
MCS	Medical Care Services
OAR	Ongoing Additional Requirements
OBRA	Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990
OFR	Office of Financial Recovery
ORIA	Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance
P-EBT	Pandemic EBT
PEAF	Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund
PRISM	Predictive Risk Intelligence System
PWA	Pregnant Women Assistance
RCA	Refugee Cash Assistance
RCW	Revised Code of Washington
RISE	Resources to Initiate Successful Employment
RRA	Refugee Resettlement Assistance
SBCTC	State Board for Community and Technical Colleges
SFY	State Fiscal Year (<i>July 1 through June 30</i>)
SNAP	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
SSA	Social Security Administration
SSI/SSP	Supplemental Security Income/State Supplement Program
TANF	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
TFA	Transitional Food Assistance
Title IV-A	Title of the Social Security Act, which contains regulations for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program
Title IV-D	Title of the Social Security Act, which contains regulations regarding child support collection and enforcement
Title IV-E	Title of the Social Security Act, which contains regulations regarding children's services, including some foster care programs
TMA	Transitional Medical Assistance
TRO	Temporary Restraining Order
USDA	U. S. Department of Agriculture
WAC	Washington Administrative Code
WCAP	Working Connections Automated Program
WASHCAP	Washington State Combined Application Project
WCCC	Working Connections Child Care
WFS	Working Family Support
WDC	Workforce Development Councils (<i>formerly Private Investment Councils or PICs</i>)

Appendix 4: Electronic Benefits & Funds Transfer

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ESA Briefing Book

EBT—Electronic Benefit Transfer

What EBT does

- Delivers cash and food assistance benefits through a magnetic stripe debit card.
- Enables clients to access food benefits through Point of Sale (POS) devices and cash benefits through Automated Teller Machines (ATM) and at retailers.

Who EBT Serves

Clients who receive food assistance through the Basic Food program and/or cash assistance through Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD), Pregnant Women Assistance (PWA), State Supplemental Payment (SSP), Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), Working Family Support (WFS), and the Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP). [RCW 74.04.050](#), Department to administer public assistance programs.

How EBT evolved

- In 1996, Washington joined the Western States Electronic Benefits Transfer Alliance (WSEA) comprised of Washington, Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, and Idaho to conduct a joint competitive procurement for EBT services. Nevada later joined the Alliance.
- In 1996, Citibank EBT Services was selected as the successful vendor for WSEA.
- In 1997, Washington stakeholders participated in EBT workgroups to solicit their input. Stakeholders included food retailers, client advocates, tribal members, the disability community, financial institutions, federal agencies, and state staff representing the union, field operations, and headquarters.

- In 1998, business and technical requirements for Washington's EBT system were developed in association with Citicorp, ACES and stakeholders.

EBT Time Frames

- April 1998 – Washington signed an EBT contract with Citicorp, Inc.
- March 1999 – EBT started pilot programs in Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Clark, Klickitat, Pacific, Skamania, and Wahkiakum counties.
- June 1999 – the first of six regional rollouts began in Region 1.
- November 1999 – the statewide implementation of EBT was completed.
- October 2002 – Federal Food Stamp rules required EBT in all states.
- June 2004 – the nationwide implementation of EBT was completed.
- March 2014 – an instructional memo was issued reminding staff of the changes to the Basic Food trafficking rules and excess EBT replacement policy.

Who Belongs to the Western States EBT Alliance (WSEA)

- In 1996, Washington joined the Western States Electronic Benefits Transfer Alliance (WSEA) comprised of six (6) states: Washington, Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, and Idaho to conduct a joint competitive procurement for EBT services. The Territory of Guam, Nevada, Wyoming, and Nebraska later joined the Alliance.
- In July 2013, Nevada officially withdrew from the WSEA Coalition, leaving eight (8) states and the Territory of Guam to begin procurement for EBT-4 service in 2014.

- In August 2013, Utah officially joined the WSEA Coalition, increasing the number again to nine (9) states and the Territory of Guam. Utah procured EBT-4 services in 2014 with the Coalition.
- In March 2014, Washington withdrew from WSEA.
- In July 2018, Washington rejoined WSEA. The current WSEA membership includes Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Nebraska, Washington, and Wyoming.

Reprocurement of EBT Services

- In December 2001, the Western States EBT Alliance (WSEA) developed and published a second-tier Request for Proposal to ensure EBT services continued without interruption. The Territory of Guam, unable to attract a bidder due to its small caseload, joined the WSEA in this procurement.
- In May 2002, Citicorp Electronic Financial Services (CEFS) was announced as the successful second-tier vendor.
- On April 28, 2003, Washington's first tier contract expired. Washington exercised the two one-year extension options under the initial contract.
- In January 2004, CEFS was sold to J. P. Morgan Electronic Financial Services (EFS).
- In April 2009, WSEA awarded the EBT Request for Proposal to the successful bidder, J. P. Morgan EFS.
- In April 2014, Washington awarded the EBT Request for Proposal to the successful bidder, J. P. Morgan EFS. The contract provided for a two-year term through April 29, 2016 with options for two extensions, one six-month and one three-month. The short contract term was due to J. P. Morgan

EFS' November 2013 announcement to exit the EBT and pre-paid card business.

- In July 2015, Washington awarded the EBT Request for Proposal to the successful bidder, Fidelity Information Services. The contract provided for a five-year term with options for two one-year extensions. EBT services were successfully converted from J. P. Morgan EFS to Fidelity Information Services in July 2016.
- In November 2019, Washington and WSEA began reprocurement activities to solicit a consultant to create the next EBT services Request for Proposal.
- In October 2020, WSEA selected Maximus as the Request for Proposal consultant through a competitive procurement.
- In July 2021, the Request for Proposal for EBT services was posted nationwide and Fidelity Information Services was selected as the winning bidder.
- In June 2022, Washington began negotiations with Fidelity Information Services to execute the fifth iteration of EBT services, which resulted in a seven year contract with two optional one-year extensions.

Contract History with J.P. Morgan Electronic Financial Services (EFS)

- In March 2005, Washington signed a new seven-year contract with J. P. Morgan EFS through April 2012. An Internet Web Browser application was made available to clients for obtaining their own EBT account information at www.ebtaccount.jpmorgan.com.
- In June 2008, an amendment to the March 2005 contract was signed by J. P. Morgan EFS and the State of Washington for an

additional two-year contract extension, from May 2012 through April 2014.

- In April 2012, an amendment to the March 2005 contract was signed by J. P. Morgan EFS and the State of Washington to provide implementation and support for the Washington State Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children (SEBTC) pilot program for the summer of 2012.
- In August 2012, an amendment to the March 2005 contract was signed by J. P. Morgan EFS and the State of Washington to eliminate the \$0.85 cent ATM withdrawal charge from client EBT accounts.
- In December 2013, J. P. Morgan announced they would be exiting the business of EBT and other prepaid cards; Washington was in the middle of contract negotiations at the time of the announcement and J. P. Morgan agreed to a short-term contract.
- In April 2014, Washington signed a new, limited two-year contract with J. P. Morgan.

Contract History with Fidelity Information Services (FIS)

- In July 2015, Washington awarded the EBT Request for Proposal to the successful bidder, Fidelity Information Services. The contract provided for a five-year term with options for two one-year extensions. EBT services were successfully converted from J. P. Morgan EFS to Fidelity Information Services.
- In October 2015, Washington and Fidelity Information Services agreed to and signed a five-year contract.
- In July 2016, EBT services were successfully converted from J. P. Morgan EFS to Fidelity Information Services.

- In February 2017, Basic Food monthly distribution was expanded from the first ten days of the month to the first twenty days.
- In April 2017, certain retailer MCC codes were blocked, preventing POS transactions at prohibited retailer locations.
- In July 2019, FIS launched an EBT mobile application for smartphones which allows Washington EBT cardholders to view benefit deposits and transactions from their mobile device.
- In January 2020, Washington became the 2nd state in the nation (after New York) to offer online EBT purchases for delivery. This accomplishment was made possible due to a two-year federal demonstration project with FNS and FIS to test the feasibility of internet purchased made by EBT cardholders. Amazon and Walmart were the pilot merchants.
- In February 2020, FIS activated Card Authentication Validation (CAV) for all Washington EBT cards. CAV protects EBT cards from being cloned.
- In April 2020, FIS' mobile application was updated to allow EBT cardholders to report cards as being lost, stolen, or damaged, and to request a replacement card to be sent via the US Post Office. EBT cardholders can also use the app to change their Personal Identification Number (PIN) for an existing EBT card or add a PIN to new cards.
- In June 2020, FIS rolled out a new Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) benefit type and began distributing benefits through a unique P-EBT card issued to eligible children statewide.
- In October 2021, FIS implemented security enhancements to the ebtEDGE Cardholder portal and mobile app where customers

have the ability to limit unauthorized benefit use and “Freeze Card.” This feature temporarily disables the card from being used for purchases and PIN inquiries.

- In June 2022, FIS implemented *Protect My Account* where cardholders can instantly protect their benefits by enabling features to block out-of-state and internet transactions. Clients can log in to their ebtEDGE web account or mobile application to turn these features on or off when traveling.
- In May 2023, FIS implemented a healthy eating incentive option for identified retailers to offer produce rewards directly on the EBT card. This feature changed a paper-based farmer’s market coupon to an electronic deposit that can be used on any SNAP eligible item at any retailer that accepts SNAP.
- In June 2023, FIS enhanced security for staff by adding Multifactor Authentication to the agency portal. The state began participating in FNS sponsored listening sessions to learn more about the new 2024 Summer EBT program.

EFT—Electronic Funds Transfer

What EFT Does

- At the client's request, cash benefits are deposited directly into their personal checking/savings account instead of being deposited into an EBT cash account.

Who EFT Serves

- Clients who receive federal or state-funded cash assistance, such as Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD), Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), State Supplemental Payment (SSP), and those who have or are willing to open a savings or checking account. EFT is an optional method that clients may choose to receive their cash benefits.

How EFT evolved

- EBT Steering Committee pursued EFT through the State Treasurer's Office as more cost effective than procuring the service from Citicorp, Inc.
- In June 1999, a workgroup with staff from the EBT Unit, ACES, and State Treasurer's Office met to determine business and technical requirements.

EFT Timeframes

- In January 2000, the EFT pilot program started in two Pierce County offices: Pierce West Community Services Office and Pierce North Community Services Office.
- In May 2000, all EBT cash assistance clients statewide were given the option to use EFT.

Appendix 5:
Federal &
State
Welfare
Legislative
History

SFY

2023

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Passed During the 2023 Legislative Session, but not Implemented During SFY 2023 (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023)

HB 1262 Lump Sum Reporting System (Chapter 248, Laws of 2023) Effective July 23, 2023, this agency request legislation adopts a model act that requires employers to report lump sum payments like bonuses, commissions, or other one-time payments greater than \$500 to the Division of Child Support (DCS) at least 14 days before payment. This reporting requirement only applies for employees with an outstanding income withholding order for child support arrears. DCS will then notify the employer whether any portion of the lump sum payment should be withheld and remitted to the Washington State Child Support Registry.

SB 5187 Biennium 23-25 Operating Budget (Chapter 475, Laws of 2023)

Effective July 1, 2023 the budget provides funding for the following:

- 8% payment standard increase for all ESA cash programs (beginning January 1, 2024).
- A benefit specifically targeted at mitigating diaper-related costs for TANF families with a child under the age of three (beginning November 1, 2023).
- Extending Ongoing Additional Requirements (OAR) benefits to Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral recipients, and adding services such as transportation, internet, veterinary costs for service animals, dentures, eye glasses and optometrist visits, hearing aids and boarding for animals (beginning April 1, 2024).

- A culturally and linguistically appropriate outreach campaign to raise awareness around EBT fraud.
- Unaccompanied children sponsorship stabilization and a study to assess needs and develop recommendations for ongoing supports for this population.
- Increased ongoing support for naturalization services.
- Increased ongoing support for domestic violence victim services.

2SHB 1447 Strengthening the ability of assistance programs to meet foundational needs of children, adults, and families (Chapter 418, Laws of 2023)

- Abolishes the TANF time limit for households headed by a parent who is ineligible for assistance due to factors such as receipt of SSI, their legal status, or their immigration status (effective July 1, 2023).
- Expands good cause reasons used to determine whether a WorkFirst family should face financial sanction for situations where the parent does not engage in agreed upon activities with their service and participation plan (effective July 23, 2023).
- Increases in Asset and Resource Limits for ESA cash assistance programs, doubling the resource limit from \$6,000 to \$12,000 and completely exempting one vehicle (no matter the value) and retirement/pension-related funds or accounts (effective February 1, 2024).

- Changes to Earned Income Disregard policy for ESA cash assistance programs, allowing for the first \$500 of earned income to be fully disregarded from benefit calculations, with remaining income disregarded at 50% (effective August 1, 2024).

SHB 1260 *Accelerating stability for people with a work-limiting disability or incapacity* (Chapter 289, Laws of 2023)

- Expands good cause reasons for not participating in substance use disorder assessment or treatment as a condition of eligibility for the ABD, HEN Referral, and PWA programs.
- Allows the department to determine the income standard for the ABD/HEN program up to 100% FPL.
- Eliminates the requirement for ABD program recipients to repay the state for benefits received for the same period as federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits were received (effective October 1, 2025). The monetary value of ABD benefits paid prior to October 1, 2025, that is duplicated by the person's receipt of SSI benefits for the same period, remains a debt due to the state that is subject to recovery.

HB 1128 *Raising the residential personal needs allowance* (Chapter 201, Laws of 2023)

Increases the Personal Needs Allowance (PNA) for individuals receiving care in a medical institution or residential setting from \$70 to \$100. Because the State Supplemental Payment (SSP) is leveraged to bridge the gap between the capped SSI amount which can be dedicated to PNA, this bill requires an increase in the SSP

payment to these households to meet the new PNA level.

SSB 5398 *Domestic violence funding allocation* (Chapter 401, Laws of 2023)

This bill requires the department to convene a workgroup to review and update the formula used to determine the allocation of funding for domestic violence victim services agencies, and report recommendations to the legislature. Implementation of any of the funding allocation recommendations adopted by the Department must be effective July 1, 2025

Federal Welfare Legislative History, 1935 - 2023

2023

Fiscal Responsibility Act (FRA), 2023 (H.R.3746)

signed into law on June 3, 2023 kept the government running by raising the limit on federal borrowing, also known as the debt ceiling. The FRA requires administrative changes to how states count and meet TANF work requirements and makes programmatically significant amendments to the SNAP eligibility rules.

Temporary SNAP changes include (*due to sunset – Oct. 1, 2030*):

- Expanding Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWDs) age requirements:
 - Age of those subject to the ABAWD time limit increases to age 50 – *effective Sept. 1, 2023*.
 - Age of those subject to the ABAWD time limit increases to age 52 – *effective Oct. 1, 2023*.
 - Age of those subject to the ABAWD time limit increases to age 54 – *effective Oct. 1, 2024*.
- New work exemptions for specific groups – *effective Sept. 1, 2023*, allowing for expanded access to Basic Food benefits for:
 - Individuals experiencing homelessness.
 - Veterans.
 - Individuals who are 24 years of age or younger who were in foster care on their 18th birthday.

TANF mandated changes include:

- New outcome measure reporting requirements – *effective Oct. 1, 2024*.
- Change to the base year for the caseload reduction credit (CRC) from 2005 to 2015 – *effective Oct. 1, 2025*.
- \$35 minimum for small payments to working parents included in a state's Work Participation Rate (WPR) - *effective Oct. 1, 2025*.

FRA also included a 5-year TANF pilot program option for five states, to test a program performance approach leveraging outcome measures in lieu of the Work Participation Rate, *effective Oct. 1, 2024*.

2022

Afghanistan Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (H.R. 2471)

signed into law on March 15, 2022, provides supports for Afghan resettlement, such as:

- Allocated funding for Afghan resettlement operations including housing, medical, legal, and case management services.
- Expanded eligibility for federal public assistance to citizens or nationals of Afghanistan paroled into the U.S. between July 31, 2021 and September 30, 2022 and their family members who were paroled into the U.S. after September 30, 2022.

Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (AUSAA) (H.R. 7691)

signed into law on May 21, 2022 allows Ukrainian citizens or nationals paroled into the U.S. between February 24, 2022 and September 30, 2023, as well as their eligible family members paroled into the U.S. after September 30, 2023, eligibility for federal assistance and supports to the same extent as refugees.

Final rule entitled “Extending Refugee Cash Assistance and Refugee Medical Assistance From 8 Months to 12 Months” was published in the Federal Register on March 28, 2022. The rule revised the eligibility period for Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) benefits from eight months to twelve months from date of eligibility for Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) eligible populations who became eligible on or after October 1, 2021.

2021

Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021 (H.R. 133) signed into law on December 27, 2020 and provided a number of SNAP-related enhancements including:

- \$13 billion to increase the monthly SNAP benefit nationally by 15% through June 30, 2021 (later extended in the *American Rescue Plan Act*)
- A temporary expansion to student eligibility for those who are eligible to participate in state or federally funded work-study during the school year and have an expected family contribution of \$0.00.
- Enhanced Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) to the 2020-2021 school year to assist those who were affected by school closures and would have otherwise received free

or reduced-price school meals. In addition to children in school, P-EBT was expanded to children under the age of 6 and were enrolled in covered child care facilities who were also affected by the pandemic.

- Restored Medicaid to Washington residents from the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated State of Micronesia (COFA Islanders).

The American Rescue Plan Act 2021 (H.R. 1319) was signed into law on March 11, 2021, and included the following provisions:

- Extending the temporary 15% increase to SNAP benefit amounts through the end of Federal Fiscal Year 21, or 09/30/2021.
- Expanding P-EBT programing through the summer period to both eligible school aged children and children under six.
- The TANF section of the Social Security Act is amended to establish a \$1 billion Pandemic Emergency Fund which must be spent on non-recurrent, short-term benefits. Washington received \$22.7M of this Fund which must be spent by September 30, 2022.
- Providing additional Supplemental Family Violence and Prevention Services funding is to support continuity of domestic violence services and respond immediate needs of survivors connected to domestic violence and the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Final Rule entitled: “Employment and Training Opportunities in SNAP” was published to the Federal Register January 5, 2021. The new rule

implemented changes, made in section 4005 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, to 7 CFR 271 and 273 including:

- Mandating SNAP Employment and Training (E&T) programs to coordinate with local Workforce Development Boards.
- Creating the “provider determination” process requiring SNAP E&T providers to refer clients back to the state when determined not a “good fit” for the program.
- Clarifying supervised job search and non-participation good cause.
- Adding “case management” to the definition of SNAP E&T.
- Updating ABAWD allowable activities and exemptions.
- Increasing Work Registration requirements including referral expectations.

2020

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was signed into law on March 27, 2020. It extended authorization for TANF and related programs through November 2020. It also provided additional Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) funding to cover waiver authority granted in the Families First Coronavirus Relief Act (FFCRA) and the additional participation expected due to the coronavirus impact, through September 30, 2021.

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) was signed into law on March 18, 2020 and contained several provisions related to SNAP. Under this act, the following changes were implemented:

- Pandemic EBT, or P-EBT, food assistance benefits were made available to families with school-age children who are eligible for free or reduced-price meal programs, if their school closed for at least five consecutive days. This assistance was for the time period schools closed due to COVID-19 during the 2019 – 2020 school year.
- Emergency SNAP allotments allowing recipients to receive a supplemental benefit of the difference between their regular monthly benefit and the maximum amount for their household size. A household already receiving the maximum allotment for their household size did not receive additional benefits. This policy was also extended to the Food Assistance Program through support of the state’s Disaster Relief Fund.
- Administrative flexibilities including extending certification periods for households with eligibility reviews for recertifications due in the months of April, May and June 2020 for six additional months. These certifications were extended through October, November and December 2020. Mid-certification review (MCR) requirements for April, May and June 2020 were also waived, so benefits continued through the end of certification periods without a mid-certification review as long as households continued to meet all other eligibility requirements.
- Allowed for continued Medicaid coverage throughout the public health emergency. Provided only limited exceptions for termination.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Requirements for Able Bodied Adults Without

Dependents Final Rule Injunction. Effective March 16, 2020, a federal court injunction delayed implementation of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) final rule limiting states flexibilities in waiving ABAWD work requirements. The rule was scheduled to take effect April 1, 2020. The court denied the request for a preliminary injunction related to the final rule's changes to discretionary exemptions. The final rule, including discretionary exemptions, was vacated in October 2020 by the Federal District of Columbia Court.

2019

Final rule entitled "Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Requirements for Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents" was published in the Federal Register on December 5, 2019. The rule revised the conditions under which USDA would waive, when requested by states, the able-bodied adult without dependents (ABAWD) time limit in areas that have an unemployment rate of over 10 percent or a lack of sufficient jobs. The rule also limited the carryover of ABAWD discretionary exemptions.

Final rule entitled "Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Student Eligibility, Convicted Felons, Lottery and Gambling, and State Verification Provisions of the Agricultural Act of 2014" was published in the Federal Register on April 15, 2019. A major provision of this final rule prohibited individuals with substantial lottery and gambling winnings from receiving SNAP benefits. The remaining provisions were enacted by ESA CSD in previous years.

2018

Included under a continuing resolution to fund the federal government [PL 115-123, **the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018**; Section 53117], this federal act included a policy requirement that all state child support agencies increase the annual user fee to \$35, and increase the threshold amount of support collections that triggers the annual fee to \$550. The impact on Washington state is discussed more fully above.

The Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 became public law on December 20, 2018. The act reauthorized SNAP through Federal Fiscal Year 2023. Provisions regarding SNAP included:

- Made the option to provide a shelter deduction to homeless households in which all members are homeless individuals that are not receiving free shelter throughout the month and do not opt to claim an excess shelter deduction mandatory for all states. It indexed the current value of \$143 to inflation beginning in Fiscal Year (FY) 2019.
- Changed benefit expungement due to inactivity from 12 to 9 months.

2017

"FLEXIBILITY RULE"

The *Flexibility, Efficiency, and Modernization in Child Support Enforcement Programs* rule, known as the "Flexibility rule," was published on December 20, 2016 in the Federal Register, Volume 81, Number 244, on page 93492, and took effect on January 19, 2017. The Flexibility Rule contained both mandatory and optional provisions to be adopted by states, with differing implementation dates. These requirements may have been implemented by

statute or policy, according to each state's process. Highlights of the changes under the Flexibility Rule included:

- Notice requirements regarding "continuation of services" when a family is no longer eligible for assistance under the state's title IV-A, IV-E foster care, and Medicaid programs.
- Clarification of who is and is not allowed to receive child support collections.
- New considerations for the determination of child support amounts which are more focused on the circumstances of the individual family for whom support is being established; these considerations also apply to modification and adjustment of orders.
- New guidelines for the use of civil contempt for nonpayment of child support, including screening for information regarding the noncustodial parent's ability to pay or otherwise comply with the order.
- Providing that incarceration of the obligor for more than 180 calendar days is a basis for modification or adjustment of existing child support orders (not a guarantee of a change in support, but a guarantee of a chance to ask for it).
- New and modified criteria for case closure.
- Requirement that a parent who provides "public health care coverage" is considered to be in compliance with the requirement to provide health care coverage for a child.

"BIG RULE"

On January 6, 2017, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) published the final rule, *Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Eligibility, Certification, and Employment and Training Provisions of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008*, referred to as the Big Rule, because of the many regulatory changes. Some of the provisions in this rule were enacted on October 1, 2008, while the items below were effective March 7, 2017.

Mandatory provisions:

- Program name change 7 CFR Parts 271 through 285
- Changed the program name from Food Stamp Program to SNAP.
- Minimum benefit increase for small households 7 CFR 271.2 and 273.10(e)(2)(ii)(C): Increases the minimum benefit for one and two person households and allows for annual increases.
- Provided households a copy of completed non-paper applications 7 CFR 273.2(c)(1)(v). Requires state agencies to offer copies of SNAP applications completed by households regardless of the method by which the applicant submitted the application. Households will have the option to receive the copy of their complete application in electronic format. *(Effective January 8, 2018).*
- Asset changes 7 CFR 273.8(b). Indexed SNAP asset limits to inflation, rounded down to the nearest \$250, as of October 1, 2008. Excluded all tax-preferred retirement accounts, such as individual retirement accounts, from countable resources in determining

SNAP eligibility. Also excluded funds in a qualified tuition program described in section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) or in a Coverdell education savings account under section 530 of the IRC. The value of funeral arrangements is also excluded from SNAP resources altogether.

- Military combat pay exclusion 7 CFR 273.9(c)(2). Excluded military combat pay from income of households that apply for or participate in SNAP. This exclusion applied only to additional pay resulting from deployment or service to a combat zone, and not to pay received prior to deployment.
- Standard deduction increase for small households 7 CFR 273.9(d)(1)(iii). Raises the minimum standard deduction for one, two, or three person households and indexes the standard deduction to inflation beginning in Fiscal Year (FY) 2010.
- Elimination of the cap on dependent care expenses 7 CFR 273.9(d)(4). Eliminates the cap on the deduction for dependent care expenses and provided state agencies the option to include dependent care-related transportation costs and activity fees. This final rule also clarified longstanding policy that dependent care costs are deductible for children under the age of 18 and for people with disabilities of any age.
- Changes to client reporting requirements 7 CFR 273.12. Removed restrictions that prohibited state agencies from applying Simplified Reporting systems to households with certain members including elderly, disabled, homeless and migrant farm

workers. The final rule also clarified how states respond to unclear information received outside of a client report and provides procedures for following up with households in accordance with their reporting systems.

Optional Provisions:

- Transitional benefits option 7 CFR 272.2, 273.26, 273.27, 273.29, 273.32. Expands eligibility for transitional benefits to households with children when state and locally-funded cash assistance ends. Previously, transitional benefits were limited to families whose TANF benefits were ending.
- Unwritten signatures option 7 CFR 273.2(c)(1), 273.2(c)(3), 273.2(c)(7). Allows SNAP applicants to sign an application over the telephone using a recorded verbal assent. Also specifies that state agencies may accept unwritten signatures, which include electronic signature techniques, handwritten signatures transmitted by fax or other electronic transmissions, and recorded gestured signatures.
- Telephone interview at initial certification and recertification 7 CFR 273.2(e)(2) and 273.14(b)(3). Allows state agencies to use a telephone interview rather than a face-to-face interview without the need for the state to ascertain hardship. State agencies must provide a face-to-face interview if requested by the household or its authorized representative.
- Average student work hours 7 CFR 273.5(b). Provides state agencies the

option to determine compliance with the 20-hour minimum work requirement by averaging the number of hours worked over the month. Work hours performed during academic breaks greater than one month must not be averaged with other months.

- Employment and Training (E&T) funding for job retention services option 7 CFR 273.7(d)(3)(ix). Includes job retention services of up to 90 days as an allowable E&T service state agencies may provide to clients.

2016

The ABAWD time limit policy exemption was lifted statewide. The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) limited the receipt of SNAP benefits to 3 months in a 36-month period for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) who are not working at least eighty hours per month, participating in qualifying education and training activities at least eighty hours per month, or complying with a workfare program. An ABAWD is a person between the ages of 18 and 49 who has no dependents and is able to work.

Each year Washington could request waivers from Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) to exempt areas of our state from this rule. Areas which have an unemployment rate 20% above the national average are eligible for such a waiver. During the Great Recession and until January 1, 2016, all of Washington state was exempt.

In calendar year 2016, two counties (King and Snohomish) and most of a third county (Pierce) were not waived from the ABAWD rules. In 2017, only one county (King) was not waived.

Annual requests will continue to be submitted to Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) to exempt qualified counties from the ABAWD requirements. In non-exempt counties with SNAP recipients that fall into the ABAWD category, those recipients must work, have a personal exemption (such as pregnancy or chronic homelessness), or participate in employment and training activities to remain eligible to receive food benefits. Each ABAWD is given three safety net months in a 36 month period during which they could continue to receive food benefits even if they failed to meet the ABAWD work requirements.

Subsequent changes to the areas of the state covered by the ABAWD exemption were addressed in Appendix 8 – Major Changes in ESA Programs by Month.

2014

The Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-79) was signed into law by President Obama on February 7, 2014 and is commonly known as the “Farm Bill.” The Farm Bill set national agricultural, nutrition, conservation, and forestry policy. The SNAP provisions of the bill were designed to improve oversight by the USDA and state program operations and administration.

SNAP eligibility rules and benefit levels are, for the most part, set at the federal level and uniform across the nation, though states have flexibility to tailor aspects of the program. To address concerns regarding eligibility, benefits, and inappropriate shelter or medical expenses, the deductions have been tightened up under the Act.

The Act specifies individuals who are not eligible for SNAP, such as lottery winners,

affluent college students, permanently disqualified, and deceased individuals. Ex-felons convicted of particularly heinous crimes (such as murder, aggravated sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or abuse of children) who have served their sentence were also prohibited from participating in SNAP unless they complied with the terms of their parole. Further, the bill codified existing USDA policy that households with an elderly or disabled member cannot deduct legalized medical marijuana expenses as a SNAP medical deduction.

In addition, SNAP allowed deductions from gross income for certain essential household expenses. Each state sets a Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) reflecting typical utility costs for low-income households that incur heating and cooling costs apart from their rent. No longer can a SNAP recipient qualify for SUA because they receive a minimal LIHEAP benefit in lieu of showing copies of their bills. The 2014 Farm Bill required a household to receive a LIHEAP benefit of greater than \$20 a year in order to qualify for the SUA. As of January 1, 2015, the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) issues a more substantial LIHEAP benefit meeting the new requirement for households who are not eligible for the SUA without receiving the payment.

The Farm Bill also had multiple provisions to strengthen program integrity by investing new resources in fraud detection and prevention, launching a new federal and state partnership on retailer fraud, and enhancing tools for fraud detection.

The Farm Bill included three major modifications to prioritize employment and training (E&T) services and program outcomes within SNAP E&T:

- (1) Pilot Projects to Test Innovative Strategies;
- (2) E&T Reporting and Monitoring; and Additional Funds for E&T.

Public Law 113-183, the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act, made changes to Title IV-D of the Social Security Act to require states to adopt the 2008 version of the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA), as well as other changes intended to improve international child support recovery. This law grants Indian tribes access to the Federal Parent Locator Service (FPLS). It also expressed the intent of Congress that establishing parenting time arrangements when obtaining child support orders is “an important goal which should be accompanied by strong family violence safeguards” and that states should use existing funding sources to support the establishment of parenting time arrangements. This law also made changes to Title IV-E (Foster Care and Adoption Assistance) regarding children or youth in state care or in kinship care, which may have child support impacts.

2010

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 and the Health Care and Reconciliation Act of 2010 is referred to collectively as the “Affordable Care Act” or “ACA.” The ACA was enacted in 2010 under two separate provisions – Public Law 114-148 and Public Law 111-152. Different parts of the ACA took effect at different times. Of most significance to public assistance programs, the eligibility rules and eligibility processes for determining Medicaid changed significantly effective October 1, 2013. Under a federal option, Washington state opted to create a state-run Health Benefit

Exchange portal called the Washington Healthplanfinder. In addition to providing access to health insurance to individuals and employers, Healthplanfinder provides real-time automated eligibility determinations for most Medicaid applicants. Beginning January 1, 2014, families and pregnant individuals with Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) below the required federal poverty level (FPL) became eligible for Medicaid. Washington also opted to participate in Medicaid Expansion, which allowed individuals with incomes below 138% of the Federal Poverty Level to qualify for Medicaid. Eligibility for most Medicaid programs under the ACA is determined using a new simplified automated system that is no longer tied to eligibility for TANF, SNAP, or other Economic Services Administration (ESA) programs; therefore, the management of medical assistance eligibility and related IT system processes were moved to the Health Benefit Exchange (HBE) and Health Care Authority (HCA). The Economic Services Administration continues to determine eligibility for some medical assistance programs (called Classic Medical), including medical programs for persons who are elderly (age 65 or older), blind or disabled.

2009

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), Public Law 111-5, was enacted on February 17, 2009. An economic stimulus bill designed to address the nation's economic crisis, this Act provided funding under Title II, Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families, in several key areas: (1) SNAP – provided a 13.6 percent increase in maximum benefits, which equated to a \$24 increase for a one-person household; (2) Unemployment Benefits – provided an

extension of the Emergency Unemployment Compensation program through December 31, 2009; (3) Medical Assistance – provided an extension for Transitional Medical Assistance (TMA) through December 31, 2010; (4) TANF – established a TANF Emergency Contingency Fund to provide additional funds to states that experienced an increase in their TANF caseload and expenditures, short-term non-recurring benefits, or subsidized employment programs. States were eligible to receive 80% of the increase in expenditures between FFY 2007 and FFY 2008 (whichever was less) and FFY 2009. Funding was made available for FFY 2009 and 2010 and was limited to 50% of the combined annual TANF awards for the two-year period. The Act modified the TANF carry-forward rules to allow states to carry forward unexpended TANF and emergency contingency funds to the next year without the requirement to spend the funds on assistance. It modified the caseload reduction credit calculation to use FFY 2007 or 2008, or the prior year (whichever would be most advantageous to the state); and (5) Social Security Act (SSA), State Supplemental Income (SSI), and Railroad Retirement (RR) Benefits – it allowed a one-time \$250 payment to be made to recipients.

2008

Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill), Public Law 110-234, was enacted on May 22, 2008. The Farm Bill renamed the Food Stamp Program as the “Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program” (SNAP). The Food Stamp Act of 1977 was now to be called the “Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.”

Key changes to SNAP program eligibility and benefit levels included increases in the Standard

Income Deduction (from \$134 to \$144) and a \$16 increase in the minimum benefit for one-person and two-person households. It also removed the cap on the dependent care deduction, excluded combat pay as income, excluded retirement and educational accounts as a resource and instituted annual resource limit adjustments to keep pace with inflation. It established state options to expand simplified reporting (for migrant/seasonal farm workers, homeless and elderly disabled households) and to provide transitional benefits for state-funded assistance programs. In addition, it established new types of disqualifications for fraud.

Key administrative changes included a state option to allow telephonic signature, a requirement for FNS to develop standards and establish state data collection and reporting requirements related to a state's major changes in program design, and new federal match requirements for automated systems related to systemic errors, access and payment accuracy. The Act also made the following changes to the Food Stamp Employment & Training program: more time to expend allocations, added job retention services as an allowable employment and training activity, and eased participation restrictions for volunteers. In addition, states that had a nutrition education program were now required to notify food assistance applicants and participants of the availability of nutrition education "to the maximum extent practicable." DSHS currently contracts with Washington State University and the Washington State Department of Health to provide Nutrition Education services.

2006

The Deficit Reduction Act (DRA), Public Law 109-171, was enacted on February 8, 2006. The

TANF program was extended at the FY 2004 funding level through FY 2010. The Act made appropriations and extended the National Random Sample Study of Child Welfare through FY 2010. It revised the formula for the caseload reduction credit with respect to work participation rates and included families receiving assistance under separate state programs in the calculation of work participation rates. It directed the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary to publish regulations for determining whether activities may be counted as work activities, how to count and verify reported hours of work, and work-eligible individuals. It also provided a state penalty for failure to establish or comply with work participation verification procedures.

The Act replaced incentive bonuses to states for a decrease in the illegitimacy rate with healthy marriage promotion and responsible fatherhood grants, and limited the use of funds for (1) demonstration projects designed to test the effectiveness of tribal governments or consortia in coordinating the provision of child welfare services to tribal families at risk of child abuse or neglect; and (2) activities promoting responsible fatherhood. It made appropriations for FY2006-FY2010.

Child Care – The Act made appropriations for FY2006-FY2010 for Child Care Development Fund block grants to states for child care.

Child Support – The Act modified the rule requiring assignment of support rights as a condition of receiving TANF, revised requirements for the distribution of arrearages with respect to families that formerly received TANF, declared that states shall not be required to pay the federal government the federal share

of amounts collected on behalf of a family (1) that formerly received TANF, to the extent that the state pays (passes through) the amount to the family; or (2) that currently receives assistance, to the extent a certain portion passed through to the family. It revised requirements for use of the tax refund intercept program to collect past-due child support on behalf of children who are not minors, reduced from \$5,000 to \$2,500 the amount of a child support arrearage triggering referral for passport denial, and required that all child support orders include a provision for medical support for children to be provided by either or both parents, and to be enforced. It also provided for a mandatory annual fee of \$25 for each case of successful child support collection for a family that had never received TANF, if the state collected more than \$500.

2004

Social Security Protection Act of 2004, Public Law 108-203, was enacted on March 2, 2004 providing for a temporary extension to SSI claimants of the system under which the Social Security Administration withholds past-due benefits to pay claimants' attorney fees. This change affected how DSHS received and processed the reimbursement of interim assistance (i.e., General Assistance or other state funds-only benefits paid to or on behalf of SSI claimants).

2002

Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, Public Law 107-171, was enacted on May 13, 2002, making changes to the **Food Stamp Program** and providing program funding through fiscal year 2007. **Title IV: Nutrition Programs – Food Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2002 – Subtitle A: Food Stamp Program** – The

Act amended the **Food Stamp Act of 1977** to exclude the following income for food stamp program eligibility purposes:

- (1) Legally-obligated child support payments made by a household member on behalf of a person not a member of such household (Note: states could continue to provide a child support deduction, rather than this exclusion. The deduction must be determined before computing the excess shelter expense deduction); and
- (2) Income in the form of deferred educational and veterans' educational assistance, state complementary assistance payments, and certain medical assistance not included as income under specified provisions of Titles IV and XIX of the Social Security Act.

The Act revised and increased the standard deduction by tying it to the Federal poverty income guideline, according to household size and indexed for inflation. It authorized states to give a homeless household with some shelter expenses a \$143 monthly deduction rather than an excess shelter expense deduction. It also revised utility allowances, eligibility certification provisions, and quality control provisions.

The Act required states with a program website to make on-line applications available in each language in which printed applications were available. It also reduced household reporting requirements and provided high performance bonus payments beginning in FY 2003 to the six states with the highest or most improved performance. States were now authorized to provide up to five months of transitional

program benefits to households moving from the TANF program. Employment and training program funding allocations were extended through FY 2006 and additional FY 2002 through 2006 amounts were allocated to states that ensure availability of specified work opportunities.

The Act repealed (1) the 80 percent set-aside for able-bodied adults without dependents; (2) the maintenance-of-effort requirement to access new unmatched funds; and (3) the limits on the amount states were reimbursed for each work slot offered. It increased the monthly cap on the amount states may reimburse participants for transportation and other work expenses for FY 2002 through 2009 from \$25 to \$50.

It amended the **Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996** to make all legal immigrant children, regardless of U.S. entry date, eligible for the SSI and food stamp programs beginning in FY 2004. It also made the following individuals eligible for food stamps: (1) qualified aliens who have resided in the U.S. for 5 years and (2) blind or disabled aliens who lawfully reside in the U.S. and receive disability cash or medical benefits.

1997

Balanced Budget Act (BBA) of 1997, Public Law 105-33, was enacted on August 5, 1997 making changes and implementing numerous technical corrections to the **Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996**, Public Law 104-193. The BBA (1) established the Welfare-to-Work Block Grant, (2) limited the amount of TANF funds that can be transferred to Title XX – Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) to 10% of the TANF block grant and removed the requirement to

transfer \$2 to the Child Care & Development Block Grant (CCDBG) for every \$1 transferred to the SSBG, (3) increased from 20% to 30% of individuals in all families (and in 2-parent families) the limitation on the number of persons who may be treated as engaged in work by reason of participation in a vocational education program, or — for teen heads of households — maintenance of satisfactory school attendance, and (4) extended the refugee/asylee eligibility period for SSI/Medicaid eligibility from 5 to 7 years, included Cuban and Haitian entrants in this category, and provided a 5-year food stamp eligibility for these aliens. The following technical corrections were also made: (1) revised the computation method for out-of-wedlock reduction bonuses, (2) modified the MOE requirements for the Contingency Fund, (3) revised work requirements so that a family with a disabled parent is not treated as a 2-parent family, allowed the minimum work requirement for a 2-parent family to be shared between both parents with a 55 hour per week minimum, allowed a caretaker of a child under age 6 to meet work requirements if working 20 hours per week, and allowed 12 weeks of job search to count as work during any period a state meets the contingency fund definition of “needy state,” (4) TANF penalties were modified so that the penalty amount was now 5% in the first year, and increased by 2% per year up to 21% maximum, and (5) the drug felon disqualification rule was modified to apply to convictions for conduct that occurred after 8/22/96.

1996

Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996, Public Law 104-193, was signed into law on August 22,

1996 giving states choices in how to structure their welfare programs. Federal funding was provided in the form of the **TANF** block grant, and was fixed at the same level for five years. TANF replaced the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program and ended the entitlement status of welfare benefits. PRWORA provided new federal child care funds, reauthorized the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), and required these combined funds to be administered as a unified program under the **Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)**. PRWORA also allowed states to transfer up to 30% of the TANF block grant into the CCDBG and the Title XX – Social Services Block Grant (SSBG), but limited the amount transferable to SSBG to 10% of the TANF block grant and required that \$2 be transferred to the CCDBG for every \$1 transferred to the SSBG. In this first major overhaul of welfare in 60 years, welfare receipt was limited to 5 years. The law contained strong work requirements and penalties for states that failed to meet them, i.e., 5% of the TANF grant for failure to meet work participation rates with the amount increasing in subsequent years by up to an additional 2% up to a limit of 21%. In addition, there was a performance bonus to reward states for moving welfare recipients into jobs, state maintenance of effort requirements, comprehensive child support enforcement requirements, and supports for families moving from welfare to work, including at least one year of transitional Medicaid when a family leaves welfare for work.

1990

Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1990, Public Law 101-508, was enacted on November 5, 1990. Children were not considered members of AFDC assistance units

when determining eligibility for AFDC benefits. Their income and resources were not counted toward family income and resource limits when they were recipients of Title IV-E, state, or local foster care maintenance or adoption support payments or a combination of these types of payments and the inclusion of the adopted child in the assistance unit would result in lower benefits for the family. Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) was considered an exempt resource during the month of receipt and the following month by the AFDC and GA-U Programs. Any EITC remaining in the second month following the month of receipt now applied towards the Resource Ceiling. States now had the option of specifying which categories of families must report monthly and which method of income budgeting to use (prospective or retrospective budgeting). The Act excluded the income and resources of a child receiving state or local foster care maintenance payments from eligibility or payment determinations for AFDC. It also amended the AFDC program to provide child care to low-income families not receiving AFDC benefits when the state determined there was a need for care in order to work and the family was at risk of becoming dependent upon the AFDC program.

1989

Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1989, Public Law 101-239, became law on December 19, 1989 and amended the **Child Support Enforcement Amendments of 1984**, Public Law 98-378, to permanently extend the provision to continue a family's Medicaid (Title XIX) eligibility when the family became ineligible for AFDC due to the collection or increased collection of child support under Part D of Title IV (Child Support and Establishment of

Paternity) of the Social Security Act. The Act established a new AFDC quality control system which imposed penalties on states based upon a sliding scale which reflected the degree to which a state's AFDC error rate exceeds the national average. It also took into account overpayments and underpayments in determining error rates and established a Quality Control Review Panel for dispute resolution between states and the federal government.

1988

Family Support Act (FSA) of 1988, Public Law 100-485, was enacted on October 13, 1988 and targeted services to those most likely to become long-term welfare recipients. The Act created the **Job Opportunities and Basic Skills (JOBS)** program, which focused on education and training, and provided child care and medical assistance to recipients for 12 months after they left AFDC with employment. It made changes to the 6-out-of-13 work quarter requirement for AFDC-Employable and to the "principal wage earner" criteria. It increased the child care disregard to \$175 per child/per month (\$200 for a child under age 2), the work expense disregard to \$90, and disregarded EITC. The Act established the state option to require that unmarried minor parents must live with a parent, legal guardian or other adult relative, or in an adult-supervised living arrangement to be eligible for AFDC. With the enactment of FSA of 1988, states now had to revise their need and payment standards every 3 years and could create wage supplementation and community work experience programs. The Act strengthened child support enforcement collection activities, including changes to the \$50 pass-through payment rules and mandatory wage-withholding. It also established paternity

establishment performance standards for states and mandated annual reports to Congress.

1986

Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) of 1985, Public Law 99-272, enacted on April 7, 1986 formally established the two-parent AFDC-Employable (AFDC-E) program, which was previously known as the AFDC-Unemployed Father program. The Act provided that certain education or training programs might qualify as quarters of work for AFDC eligibility purposes.

1984

Deficit Reduction Act (DEFRA) of 1984, Public Law 98-369, enacted on July 18, 1984 instituted significant changes to the AFDC program. The 185% of Need eligibility test was created, the \$75 work expense deduction was applied to both full- and part-time employment, the \$30 and 1/3 earned income disregard was limited to 4 months followed by a \$30 disregard for 8 months, and the term "earned income" was defined to mean gross income before deductions. Burial plots, funeral arrangements, and real property that a family was making a good faith effort to sell, were excluded as resources. Retrospective budgeting was made mandatory for monthly reporting households, but optional for other cases; monthly reporting was made mandatory for families with a recent work history or earned income, EITC was declared to be an excluded income, and women in the third trimester of pregnancy were excluded from participation in the Work Incentive (WIN) program. Lump sum income eligibility rules were changed to allow recalculation of the period of ineligibility when an event occurs that would have changed the family's need for that month, the money

became unavailable, or the family incurred medical expenses, which offset the lump sum. Overpayment recovery was waived when the cost of recovery exceeded the debt, aliens became ineligible for 3 years when their sponsor was a public or private agency, and information disclosure to law enforcement was permitted when the AFDC recipient was a fugitive felon. The Act established the \$50 child support pass-through payment and the exclusion of the earned income of a full-time child for 6 months for purposes of the AFDC gross income test.

Child Support Enforcement Amendments of 1984, Public Law 98-378, signed into law on August 16, 1984 provided 4 months of continued Medicaid eligibility for families that lost AFDC eligibility because of the collection or increased collection of child support.

1983

Social Security Amendments of 1983, Public Law 98-21, became law on April 20, 1983 and amended Title IV to exclude from the definition of “income” any support or maintenance assistance furnished to a family based on need, including home energy assistance.

Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1984, Public Law 98-181, became law on November 30, 1983 and declared that utility payments made by persons living in federally-assisted low-income housing projects were to be considered rental payments for purposes of determining eligibility and payment amounts under the AFDC program.

1982

Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), Public Law 97-300, enacted on October 13, 1982 established participation targets for AFDC

recipients, aged 16 and older, in Adult and Youth programs, and provided earnings disregards for child participants.

Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA) of 1982, Public Law 97-248, was enacted on September 3, 1982 and amended AFDC eligibility to allow rounding of benefits down to the next lower whole dollar, eliminated payment of benefits for a whole month when eligibility was determined later in the month, and required states to not consider a parent absent from the home due to active duty in a uniformed service. With this Act, states were now allowed to require employment search as an eligibility criteria and could prorate need and payment standards for children living with other non-applying individuals.

1981

Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1981, Public Law 97-35, was signed into law on August 13, 1981 and allowed welfare-to-work demonstration projects to begin in many states. States could now require welfare recipients to go into training, job search, or unpaid work experience in exchange for their AFDC grants. It revised the method for determining earned income by changing the order in which the work expense, child care, and \$30 and 1/3 earned income disregards were applied in order to maximize the amount of countable income to be deducted from the grant. It eliminated payments for work-related child care expenses and implemented a new child care expense deduction to be deducted from earned income. The \$30 and 1/3 earned income disregard was restricted to 4 months and the recipient was required to be off AFDC for 12 months before being eligible to receive the disregard again. The Act prohibited grant payments below \$10,

instituted the “principal wage earner” concept for eligibility determinations, thereby replacing references to “mother” and “father” in compliance with *Westcott v. Califano*. It permitted AFDC payments to a pregnant woman (with no other eligible child) during her last month of pregnancy or within the following three-month period if the child would be eligible for AFDC. With this Act, OBRA began determining monthly eligibility based upon the resources at hand during the month and the monthly benefit amount based upon the income and resources of the prior month.

1979

U.S. Supreme Court Decision *Westcott v. Califano* ruled in June 1979 that Section 407 of the Social Security Act regarding unemployed fathers was unconstitutional because of the discriminatory nature of the gender distinction. The court extended benefits of the AFDC-Unemployed Father program to similarly situated unemployed mothers, thereby removing the gender distinction.

1970

Federal regulations required states to guard against payments to ineligible welfare applicants. States were now required to monitor their active AFDC caseloads, compute errors made in determining eligibility, and pay penalties for high error rates.

1967

Amendments to the Social Security Act established the **Work Incentive Program (WIN)**, which added employment services to AFDC, and directed states to emphasize work rather than welfare

1963

Medicaid and Food Stamp programs were created; AFDC recipients were automatically eligible for both programs.

1961

Amendments to the Social Security Act led to a new emphasis on social services. Families with two parents were now able to receive AFDC based upon the unemployment of the father (AFDC-Unemployed Father). Welfare caseloads began to grow, for both one- and two-parent families.

1935

The Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) program (later known as **Aid to Families with Dependent Children or AFDC**) was created as part of the Social Security Act. AFDC supported poor children whose parents were dead, absent, or incapacitated.

Washington State Legislative History, 1987 – 2023

2023

SB 5693 *Supplemental Operating Budget* (Chapter 297, Laws of 2022) Effective July 1, 2022, the budget provides funding for the following:

- Implementation of a state-funded employment and training program for recipients of the state's Food Assistance Program (FAP).
- Elimination of the Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) mid-certification review (MCR). Note: The MCR was eliminated for recipients age 65 or older effective July 1, 2020.
- Continued suspension of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) 60-month time limit through June 30, 2023.
- Increasing the maximum monthly TANF grant from the eight-person to a ten-person standard.
- Increasing WorkFirst support service funding for housing, utility and diaper needs of families receiving TANF.
- Contracts with nonprofit organizations to provide services for refugees and immigrants that arrive in Washington state on or after July 1, 2021, and are eligible for federal refugee resettlement services, including those from Afghanistan and Ukraine.

Additionally the following were funded effective September 1, 2022:

- Expansion of the ABD program to individuals between the ages of 21 and 64 who reside in a public mental health institution (e.g. Eastern or Western State Hospital). Eligible individuals receive a maximum monthly payment of \$41.62 to cover clothing, personal maintenance, and necessary incidentals.
- Increase of the ABD cash grant standard to \$417 for a single individual or \$528 for a married couple. This aligns with the grant standard for TANF and other cash assistance programs.

HB 1748 *Aged, Blind, or Disabled Program Eligibility for Victims of Human Trafficking* (Chapter 208, Laws of 2022) Effective July 1, 2022, this agency request legislation expands ABD, Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral, and Pregnant Women Assistance (PWA) eligibility to victims of human trafficking who meet all other program eligibility requirements. This change also further expands Medical Care Services (MCS) eligibility to victims of human trafficking determined eligible for ABD or HEN Referral.

HB 1755 *Temporary assistance for needy families time limit extensions during times of high unemployment* (Chapter 24, Laws of 2022) Effective July 1, 2022, this agency request legislation creates a new TANF time limit extension for situations where the last published Washington state unemployment rate is equal to or greater than seven percent.

SSB 5729 *Creating a good cause exception to administrative hearing deadlines for applicants or recipients of certain public assistance benefits* (Chapter 163, Laws of 2022) Effective July 1, 2023, to the extent allowable under federal law, this bill creates good cause exceptions for public and medical assistance administrative hearing request deadlines up to one year after the Department decision is made.

SSB 5785 *Transitional Food Assistance* (Chapter 98, Laws of 2022) Effective January 1, 2024, this request legislation expands Transitional Food Assistance access to non-sanctioned household members of a TANF assistance unit when TANF ends for reasons other than sanction. If the TANF household includes a sanctioned household member, the remaining household members may receive TFA.

SSB 5838 *Providing a monthly diaper subsidy for parents or other caregivers receiving temporary assistance for needy families* (Chapter 100, Laws of 2022) Effective November 1, 2023, this bill allows the Department to provide, with funds appropriated for this specific purpose, an additional monthly cash benefit to TANF households with a child under age three in order to assist with child-related expenses such as diapers.

2022

SB 5092 *Operating Budget* (Chapter 334, Laws of 2021) Effective July 1, 2021, the budget provides funding for the following:

- A 15% grant increase for the TANF, Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), and Pregnant Women Assistance (PWA) programs.
- Suspension of the TANF 60-month time limit through June 30, 2022.
- Pandemic Emergency Assistance for eligible families receiving SFA or FAP.
- Continuation of the Washington Immigrant Relief Fund through SFY 2023.
- An additional \$2.6 million for SFY 2023 for the Department of Commerce HEN Program.

2SSB 5214 *Economic assistance programs* (Chapter 239, Laws of 2021) Effective July 25, 2021, this bill provided a new TANF time limit extension (TLE) when a client receives TANF during a month on or after March 2020, the state's unemployment rate was 7% or above, and the client is otherwise eligible. The new extension category is applied after all other TLE criteria have been exhausted and is equal to the number of months the recipient received TANF when the state's unemployment rate was 7% or above.

SHB 1151 *Bolstering economic recovery by providing public assistance to households in need* (Chapter 9, Laws of 2021)¹ Effective July 1, 2022, Section 2 of this Department request legislation provided for a one-time cash benefit and five months of transitional food assistance to non-TANF families with children exiting Basic Food due to increased income or voluntary closure. Section 3 requires the Department to begin basing the cash assistance need standard

¹ Section 1 of this legislation was implemented in SFY 2021. See Washington State Legislative History: 2021.

on a broadly-used national standard reflecting current household goods and services to meet basic needs as of July 1, 2022.

SHB 1171 (Chapter 35, Laws of 2021)

Amending child support income withholding provisions to comply with federal requirements.

This Department request legislation made technical changes to income withholding statutes to update outdated language regarding income withholding by employers, which will ensure statutory language accurately references the federally mandated “Income Withholding Order” form. This bill took effect July 25, 2021.

SHB 1416 (Chapter 168, Laws of 2021)

Concerning the reporting of debt information by insurers to enhance the collection of past-due child support. This bill required insurers to report claims to the Division of Child Support in advance of any payout. This provided DCS with the opportunity to determine whether the claimant has unpaid child support debt and issue a lien before the insurer remits payment. This new requirement is expected to increase child support collections. This bill took effect January 1, 2022.

HB 2050 *Repealing requirements for parent payment of the cost of their child’s support, treatment, and confinement* (Chapter 145, Laws of 2022) Effective June 9, 2022, this bill removed the requirement that parents must pay a portion of the cost of their child’s support, treatment, and confinement in Department of Children Youth and Family Juvenile Rehabilitation facilities. Also removed the authority for a court to order parents to pay for or contribute to detention costs for their children.

2021

SB 5092 *Operating Budget* (Chapter 334, Laws of 2021) Effective July 1, 2021, the budget provided funding for the following:

- A 15% grant increase for the TANF, RCA, and PWA programs.
- Suspension of the TANF 60-month time limit through June 30, 2022.
- Pandemic Emergency Assistance for eligible families receiving SFA or FAP.
- Continuation of the Washington Immigrant Relief Fund through SFY23.
- Additional \$2.6 million for SFY23 for the Department of Commerce HEN Program.

2SSB 5214 *Economic assistance programs* (Chapter 239, Laws of 2021)

Effective July 25, 2021, this bill provides a new TANF time limit extension (TLE) when a client receives TANF during a month on or after March 2020, the state’s unemployment rate was 7% or above, and the client is otherwise eligible. The new extension category is applied after all other TLE criteria have been exhausted and is equal to the number of months the recipient received TANF when the state’s unemployment rate was 7% or above.

ESHB 1368 *Responding to the COVID-19 pandemic through state actions supported by federal funding* (Chapter 3, Laws of 2021)

Appropriated over \$90 million to ESA from the Coronavirus Relief Fund under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

- \$65 million toward continuation of the Immigrant Relief Fund.

- \$12 million for the Disaster Cash Assistance Program, contingent on the enactment of SHB 1151.
- \$4.7 million provided for January through March 2021 to increase state Food Assistance Program allotments to align with federal SNAP COVID-related benefit increases.
- \$9 million provided for January through June 2021 to support increased TANF caseloads due to COVID-related policy changes.

SHB 1151 *Bolstering economic recovery by providing public assistance to households in need* (Chapter 9, Laws of 2021) Effective March 31, 2021, Section 1 of this Department request legislation modifies the Disaster Cash Assistance Program (DCAP) to allow ESA to issue DCAP assistance more than once in a 12-month period during a state of emergency, as ordered by the Governor. Effective July 1, 2022, Section 2 of this Department request legislation provides for a one-time cash benefit and five months of transitional food assistance to non-TANF families with children exiting SNAP due to increased income or voluntary closure. Section 3 requires the Department to begin basing the cash assistance need standard on a broadly-used national standard reflecting current household goods and services to meet basic needs as of July 1, 2022.

2020

ESSB 6168 *Operating Budget- Supplemental* (Chapter 357, Laws of 2020) Effective July 1, 2020, the budget provided funding to:

- Eliminate the supplied shelter grant standard for the Aged, Blind, or

Disabled; TANF; RCA; and PWA programs.

- Eliminate the mid-certification review for ABD recipients age 65 years or older.
- Implement legislation passed in the 2020 session, including Child Support Pass-through (2SSB 5144), Trafficking Victim Assistance (3SSB 5164), and Revising Economic Assistance Programs (2SSB 6478 and 2SHB 2441).
- Provide implicit bias training and continuation of the Poverty Reduction Workgroup Steering Committee.
- Continue implementation of the federally compliant Asset Verification System for asset based Medicaid eligibility system.
- Fund a Department of Commerce housing assistance pilot program for recipients of Social Security Administration assistance in King, Snohomish, Pierce, Kitsap, Thurston, and Clark counties. This directly impacts ESA clients (e.g. Aged, Blind, or Disabled program) who transition to federal disability assistance.

2SSB 5144 *Implementing child support pass-through payments* (Chapter 349, Laws of 2020)

Effective February 1, 2021 this bill reinstated child support pass-through for families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. Child support collections are passed through up to \$50 per month for TANF families with one child, and up to \$100 per month for families with two or more children. These amounts do count against a family's TANF grant; however, it is factored into their food benefit eligibility.

SHB 2441 *Improving access to TANF (Chapter 338, Laws of 2020)* Effective July 1, 2021, this bill removed home visits, immediate sanction closures, and WorkFirst Sanction Re-Open from the TANF WorkFirst sanction process. The bill required the department to reduce the grant of a TANF recipient by the greater of either 40% or the recipients share after two months of continuous noncompliance with WorkFirst requirements. It also required the Department to terminate the grant after twelve months of continuous noncompliance (formerly could be closed immediately or up to two months). This additional time provided recipients with more opportunities to reengage prior to facing financial penalties.

2SSB 6478 *Revising economic assistance programs (Chapter 320, Laws of 2020)* Effective July 1, 2021, this bill expanded the 60-month TANF time limit extension criteria to include homelessness as defined in the McKinney-Vento Act. It also required DSHS to submit an annual report regarding racial demographics of recipients terminated from TANF due to sanctions or time limits, including the Department's plan to remedy any racial disproportionality reflected in the data.

3SSB 5164 *Providing public assistance to victims of human trafficking (Chapter 136, Laws of 2020)* This bill expanded eligibility for state-funded public assistance programs including the Food Assistance Program, State Family Assistance, and Medical Care Services to noncitizen victims of human trafficking, as they are defined by the bill, and their qualifying family members, effective February 1, 2022.

SSB 6495 *Essential needs and housing support eligibility (Chapter 322, Laws of 2020)* This

Department request legislation allows individuals determined eligible for the PWA program to receive a referral to the HEN program for 24 consecutive months from the date their PWA eligibility is established. The bill also allowed the Department to set the income eligibility standard for the PWA program. This bill took effect June 11, 2020.

SB 6136 *Updating restrictions on electronic benefit cards (Chapter 64, Laws of 2020)* resolved a discrepancy between federal and state EBT policy. This change enabled state licensed beer and/or wine specialty stores, federally authorized as SNAP retailers, to accept EBT cards; no longer requiring disablement of ATM and point-of-sale machines located on the premises. This bill took effect June 11, 2020.

2SHB 1603 *Revising economic assistance programs by updating standards of need, revising outcome measures and data collected, and reducing barriers to participation (Chapter 343, Laws of 2019)* provided for a new time limit extension for families experiencing homelessness. Families that are homeless and have used up all 60 months of TANF assistance now qualify for additional months of TANF. For purposes of this TANF program change, homelessness means:

- Living outside,
- Living in a building or other location not meant for human habitation,
- Living in a building or other location that you have no legal right to occupy,
- Living in an emergency shelter, or
- Living in a temporary housing program, which may include a transitional or supportive housing program with a limited duration of stay.

This bill also eliminated permanent disqualification from the TANF program due to reoccurring non-compliance with WorkFirst participation requirements. Families who have struggled to meet participation requirements in the past, and as a result were permanently disqualified from receiving TANF and WorkFirst support services, may now reapply for TANF. The legislation also included additional reporting requirements.

2SHB 1893 *Providing assistance for certain postsecondary students* (Chapter 407, Laws of 2019) required DSHS to consult with the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) and the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) to seek a waiver from the USDA allowing students to use their electronic benefit transfer (EBT) card at on-campus food retail establishments of Washington's public and private institutions of higher education and report quarterly to the Legislature regarding these efforts through January 1, 2020. This legislation also required the Department to provide written notice to specified parties if federal approval of such waiver is not obtained by January 1, 2020.

Additionally, 2SHB 1893 required DSHS and SBCTC to identify educational programs at the community and technical colleges that would meet the requirements of state-approved employment and training programs for student eligibility for the Washington Basic Food program, with a focus on programs related to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). DSHS was required to seek federal approval of such programs by the USDA, if needed. This legislation also required DSHS to maintain and regularly update a list of the identified educational programs.

The bill also permitted, to the extent allowed by federal law, students who are “anticipating participation” in the work-study program to qualify for the Washington Basic Food program. 2SHB 1893 also required DSHS, SBCTC, and WSAC to identify options that could confer categorical eligibility for federal assistance programs for students who receive the State Need Grant (since replaced by the Washington College Grant) and report those options to the appropriate committees of the Legislature by January 1, 2020.

Lastly, the bill required institutions of higher education to provide written notice to State Need Grant (Washington College Grant) and work-study program recipients of possible eligibility for SNAP and how to apply for SNAP.

ESHB 1916 *Improving the delivery of child support services to families* (Chapter 275, Laws of 2019) took effect on July 28, 2019 but was not implemented until October 1, 2019 (the first day of the federal fiscal year). Section 4 of ESHB 1916 increased the annual fee for “never-assistance” child support enforcement services pursuant to the requirements of the continuing resolution to fund the federal government [PL 115-123, the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018; Section 53117]. The federal act included a policy requirement that all state child support agencies increase the annual user fee to \$35, based on the amount of support collected in any federal fiscal year for families which never received AFDC, TANF or Tribal TANF; in addition, the act required states to increase the threshold amount of support collections that triggers the annual fee from \$500 to \$550. This law also made changes to RCW 26.19.025, the statute which deals with the state’s federally-required quadrennial (every four years) review

of the child support guidelines. Section 1 of ESHB 1916 made changes based on the amendments to 45 CFR 302.56(h) made by the *Flexibility, Efficiency, and Modernization in Child Support Enforcement Programs* rule (the “Flexibility rule,” which was published on December 20, 2016 in the Federal Register, Volume 81, Number 244, on page 93492, and were effective January 19, 2017).

Different parts of the Flexibility Rule had different required implementation dates; the adoption of a new Economic Table in the Washington state Child Support Schedule (Chapter 26.19 RCW) in the 2018 legislative session triggered the change to the information that must be considered in the child support guidelines review which commences after the statutory change. Because of the federal implementation requirements, Washington was required to enact the changes in the 2019 legislative session. Based on the combination of the required date for amending the statute, the timing of the commencement of the quadrennial review, and the effective date of the legislation, ESHB 1916 took effect on July 28, 2019, but does not have legal impact until the start of the 2023 Child Support Schedule Workgroup. However, the 2019 Workgroup, which was convened in January of 2019, agreed to be bound by the spirit of these changes.

SHB 2302 *Concerning child support with respect to standards for determination of income, abatement of child support for incarcerated obligors, modification of administrative orders, and notices of support owed* (Chapter 227, Laws of 2020) made a number of changes impacting the administration of child support based in large

part on consensus recommendations from the 2019 Child Support Schedule Workgroup.

This legislation made changes to the child support schedule regarding how income is imputed and whether a high school student is voluntarily unemployed, allows the Office of Administrative Hearings to mail the notices of hearing in petitions to modify administrative support orders, allows the Division of Child Support to serve the notice of support owed by regular mail, rather than by certified mail, and earlier than waiting for twelve months to pass, in order to help keep support from being overpaid or underpaid.

This legislation also allowed for abatement of child support to \$10 per support order when a parent is incarcerated for a period exceeding 6 months and has no income or assets to pay support. Abatement is intended to help parents who have been incarcerated avoid recidivism and to assist their re-entry and reintegration into society by avoiding the accumulation of significant child support arrears while incarcerated. The custodial parent is entitled to a hearing to rebut the presumption that the noncustodial parent does not have the ability to pay support while incarcerated. The monthly support obligation is automatically raised to 50% of the amount in the original support order on the first day of the fourth month after the noncustodial parent’s release and the obligation automatically increases to 100% of the obligation in the original order one year after release.

The abatement provisions took effect February 1, 2021, as does the “notice of hearing” provision since it was included in one of the statutes amended by the abatement provisions. The other two provisions (income

determination and the changes to the notice of support owed) took effect June 11, 2020.

2019

Substitute Senate Bill 5333 (SSB 5333, Chapter 46, Laws of 2019) made technical corrections to various provisions of the Uniform Parentage Act, which were also adopted by SSB 6334 (Chapter 6, Laws of 2018, effective January 1, 2019), and discussed below.

Changes included:

- “Unrepealing” sections dealing with judicial proceedings based on an acknowledgment of parentage and removing references to the establishment of administrative support orders based on affidavits of paternity filed before July 1, 1997.
- Restoring language that a support debt owed to the state for public assistance not be merged or extinguished by an order without notice to DCS.
- Clarifying the crimes which preclude a perpetrator from seeking a parentage determination.

Engrossed Substitute House Bill (Chapter 415, Laws of 2019), 2019-2021 Operating Budget, was signed into law on May 21, 2019. The budget funded the following:

- Implementation of TANF program policy changes (see 2SHB 1603 – Chapter 343, Laws of 2019).
- Implementation of Automatic Voter Registration as a result of 2018’s HB 2595 (Chapter 10, Laws of 2018).
- Increased naturalization services administered through the Office of

Refugee and Immigrant Assistance (ORIA).

- Initial implementation work for a federally-compliant Asset Verification System required for certain Medicaid eligibility decisions.
- PWA maximum grant increase from \$197.00 to \$363.00.
- Continuation of the Working Family Support (WFS) program.

2018

House Bill 2208 (HB 2208, Chapter 19, Laws of 2018), allowed for background checks of current and prospective employees, as well as contractors with the state of Washington, who are or may be authorized by the agency for which he or she is employed to access federal tax information, pursuant to the requirements of Internal Revenue Service (IRS) safeguarding requirements and with the state plan under Title IV-D of the federal Social Security Act. Implementation of this act is ongoing.

Substitute Senate Bill 6334 (SSB 6334, Chapter 150, Laws of 2018), relating to child support, but only including a parent's obligation to provide medical support, use of electronic funds transfers, notice of noncompliance, adoption of the economic table recommended by the child support work group, and references to the federal poverty level in self-support reserve limitations, contained sections that were effective June 7, 2018 (Sections 101-110) and sections that were effective January 1, 2019 (Sections 201 – 401). This bill:

- Made changes to medical child support obligations required by the federal Flexibility Rule (discussed above).

- Required that a business, employer, or payroll processor remit withheld funds by electronic means with certain waiver and exception provisions.
- Adopted a new Economic Table for the Washington state Child Support Schedule (Chapter 26.19 RCW).
- Clarified that references to the Federal Poverty Level, used in determining the Self-Support Reserve, meant “the federal poverty level for a one-person family.”

Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 6037 (ESSB 6037, Chapter 6, Laws of 2018, effective January 1, 2019), adopted the most recent version of the Uniform Parentage Act. In addition to terminology changes (from “paternity” to “parentage”), this act:

- Added new ways to establish a parent-child relationship.
- Re-defined the presumption of parentage.
- Codified the establishment of *de facto* parentage.
- Changed the rules on who can sign an acknowledgment of parentage.
- Allowed paid surrogacy for the first time in Washington state.

Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 6032 (Chapter 299, Laws of 2018), 2018 Supplemental Operating Budget, was signed into law on March 27, 2018. A number of policy changes were funded in the operating budget, including:

- A 6.8 percent cash grant increase (in addition to the 2.5 percent increase in the 2017-19 enacted budget) for TANF, and RCA. The cumulative cash grant

increase effective July 1, 2018 is 9.3 percent.

- A reduction in funding for TANF/WorkFirst partner contracts; \$886,000 in SFY17 and \$1.1 million in SFY19.
- Funding to increase the public assistance program vehicle exemption to a value of no more than \$10,000 (from \$5,000) and all other assets to \$6,000 (from \$1,000) (see ESSHB 1831).
- Funding to provide for staff and incapacity exam costs as a result of the increased HEN referrals (see SHB 2667).
- An increased Personal Needs Allowance (PNA) for recipients of the State Supplemental Payment who are in an institutional setting to \$70 (from \$58.43) per month effective January 1, 2019. Effective January 1, 2020, the PNA for these recipients will be adjusted annually by the percentage cost-of-living-adjustment for federal Social Security benefits (see SHB 2651).

Substitute House Bill 2651 (Chapter 137, Laws of 2018), increasing the personal needs allowance for people in residential and institutional care settings, took effect on

January 1, 2019. This bill increases the Personal Needs Allowance (PNA) to \$70 (from \$58.43) per month for clients in medical institutions and certain community residential settings.

Beginning January 1, 2020, the PNA for these recipients will be adjusted by the percentage of the cost-of-living-Adjustment (COLA) for federal benefits as published by the Social Security Administration.

House Bill 2816 (Chapter 52, Laws of 2018), transferring all aspects of Working Connections Child Care and Seasonal Child Care service delivery to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families, took effect July 1, 2019. This bill transferred all aspects of Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) and Seasonal Child Care (SCC) service delivery to the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) and followed the recommendations of a report submitted to the Legislature on December 1, 2017, in accordance with HB 1661, Section 103. The transfer includes all tangible property used in carrying out the program functions, including office equipment, reports, records, and files; any appropriations made to DSHS for the programs' administration; employees engaged in performing program functions; and all rules and pending business before DSHS pertaining to the programs are continued and to be acted upon by DCYF. DCYF assumes all program responsibilities for the WCCC and SCC programs, including determinations of program eligibility, providing services to parents applying for or receiving benefits, making payments to providers, and establishing and monitoring program outcome measures.

Engrossed Third Substitute House Bill 1482 (Chapter 126, Laws of 2018), establishing the legislative-executive WorkFirst poverty reduction oversight task force, took effect on June 7, 2018. This bill modified the current WorkFirst Legislative Executive Task Force to create the Legislative-Executive WorkFirst Poverty Reduction Oversight Task Force and an Intergenerational Poverty Advisory Committee to lay the groundwork in Washington for advancing intergenerational prosperity and reducing poverty. The task force must make

recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature. DSHS is required to develop a five-year plan to address intergenerational poverty, subject to oversight and approval by the task force. Upon approval by the task force, the Department must submit these plans to the Governor and the appropriate committees of the Legislature by December 1, 2019. The task force must review the five-year plan by December 1, 2024, and direct DSHS to update the plan as needed.

Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1831 (Chapter 40, Laws of 2018), Revising resource limitations for public assistance, took effect on February 1, 2019. This bill increased the resource limits for cash assistance program eligibility to \$6,000 (from \$1,000) and exempted the value of one vehicle up to \$10,000 (from \$5,000).

Engrossed Substitute House Bill (ESHB) 2667, Improving housing stability for people with disabilities and seniors was signed into law and became effective due to an emergency clause on March 13, 2018. The bill expanded eligibility for the HEN program to include recipients of the ABD cash assistance program and expanded eligibility for the HEN Referral program by removing the restriction that disqualified individuals who are primarily incapacitated due to a substance use disorder (Sections 1 and 2). The bill also required the Department to share demographic data of those persons determined eligible for a referral to the HEN program with Commerce on a monthly basis (Section 3 took effect on June 7, 2018).

2017

Substitute House Bill 1543 (SHB 1543, Chapter 234, Laws of 2017), Parental Rights and Responsibilities of Sexual Assault Perpetrators

and Survivors, took effect on July 23, 2017. This bill established a process under the Uniform Parentage Act (UPA, Chapter 26.26 RCW) to adjudicate parental rights and obligations in cases in which the person seeking parental rights or presumed to be a legal parent is alleged to have committed a sexual assault against the child's parent and the child was conceived as the result of the sexual assault. "Sexual assault" means nonconsensual sexual penetration that results in pregnancy. If an allegation of sexual assault resulting in pregnancy is raised in the context of a parentage action, the court must conduct a fact-finding hearing on the allegation. If the court finds the person seeking parental rights or the presumed parent committed sexual assault of the child's parent, and that the child was born within 320 days, the court must either: **(1)** enter an order that the person seeking parental rights or presumed to be the parent is not a parent of the child, if requested by the child's legal parent or guardian; or **(2)** enter an order consistent with the relief requested by the child's parent or legal guardian if it is in the best interests of the child. The order must include a requirement for payment of child support, birth-related costs, or both, if sought by the legal parent or guardian. If the legal parent or guardian declines an order for child support, even if the child currently or in the future receives public assistance, the order must provide that support enforcement agencies may not file administrative or court proceedings to establish or collect child support from the person who was found by the court to have committed the sexual assault.

Substitute House Bill 1624 (SHB 1624, Chapter 9, Laws of 2017) Concerning Working Connections Child Care Eligibility for

Vulnerable Children, took effect on December 1, 2018. This bill made certain populations of vulnerable children eligible for the Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) subsidy program for a minimum of twelve months. Effective December 1, 2018, a child will be eligible for WCCC if: (a) the child received child protective services (CPS), child welfare services (CWS) or services through a family assessment response (FAR) within the prior six months; (b) has been referred for child care as part of the family's case management; and (c) is residing with a biological parent or guardian.

Second Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1661 (2E2SHB 1661, Chapter 6, Laws of 2017) Creating the Department of Children, Youth and Families, took effect on October 19, 2017. This bill allowed for the creation of the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) by merging Department of Early Learning (DEL) with the Department of Social and Health Services' (DSHS) Children's Administration (CA) effective July 1, 2018, and DSHS Juvenile Rehabilitation (JRA) effective July 1, 2019. The bill required DSHS, DEL, and DCYF to prepare a plan for transferring Working Connections Child Care eligibility to DCYF effective July 1, 2019. This bill recodified RCWs pertaining to the current departments and transfers control to the new department.

Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1814 (ESHB 1814, Chapter 269, Laws of 2017) DSHS Notification and Service, took effect on July 23, 2017. This bill allowed the Department to serve certain notices by certified mail. Section 6 of the bill allows the Division of Child Support to serve a *Notice of Noncompliance and Intent to Suspend Licenses* by regular mail when the underlying support order contains statutorily-

required language warning of the possibility of license suspension for noncompliance with a child support order.

Substitute House Bill 1815 (SHB 1815, Chapter 276, Laws of 2017) Rights of an Alleged Parent in Dependency Proceedings, took effect on July 23, 2017. This bill was created with the intention to harmonize the definition of “parent” used in the Uniform Parentage Act (Chapter 26.26 RCW) and the Dependency statutes (Title 13 RCW). It defined “parent” as the biological or adoptive parent of a child, or an individual who has established a parent-child relationship under RCW 26.26.101, unless the legal rights of that person have been terminated by a judicial proceeding pursuant to Washington law, or under the equivalent laws of another state or a federally recognized Indian tribe.

Senate Bill 5118 (SB 5118, Chapter 270, Laws of 2017), Increasing the Personal Needs Allowance for Persons Receiving State-Financed Care, took effect on July 1, 2017. This bill allowed for a personal needs allowance (PNA) increase to reflect the cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) made to federal Social Security benefits for Medicaid-eligible residents in institutions and community-based residential settings receiving long-term care, developmental disabilities, or mental health services.

Second Substitute Senate Bill 5347 (2SSB 5347, Chapter 156, Laws of 2017) Concerning the Definition of Work Activity for the Purposes of the WorkFirst Program, took effect on July 23, 2017. This bill amended RCW 74.08A.250 to allow for expansion of vocational education as an approvable work activity from 12 months to 24 months.

Substitute Senate Bill 5883, the 2017-2019 Operating Biennium Budget was signed into law on June 30, 2017. A number of policy changes were funded in the operating budget, including:

- TANF, and Refugee Cash Assistance program grants will increase by 2.5 percent beginning in SFY 2019;
- Means tests for kinship caregivers will be repealed (see 2ESSB 5890);
- Working Family Support received funding to continue the program through the biennium, and;
- Infant exemptions from work, for TANF parents, was extended for children up to 24 months

Second Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5890 (2ESSB 5890, Chapter 20, Laws of 2017), Concerning Foster Care and Adoption Support, took effect on October 19, 2017. This bill facilitated and supported permanency for children in the foster care system, including through promoting adoption. Section 16, as of July 1, 2018, repealed income means testing for nonparent caregivers applying for or receiving Child-Only TANF grants on behalf of the children in their care.

Engrossed Second Substitute Bill 5898 (ESSB 5898, Chapter 21, Laws of 2017) Concerning Eligibility for Public Assistance Programs, took effect on October 19, 2017. This bill removed outdated WorkFirst suspension dates and amends RCW 74.08a.260 to suspend WorkFirst participation for TANF recipients with a child under age two. It modified the good cause reasons for failure to participate by adding in the recipients with a child under age two. It adds language that parents with a child under age two and claiming good cause exemption

may still be required to participate in the activities noted in subsections (2a-d) and (3). Subsection (5) limits a good cause exemption under subsection (1)(b) to a maximum of twenty-four months in a parent's lifetime. Subsection (3) notes the Department shall work with a parent claiming good cause exemption to participate in programs and services regarding parenting skills and promote child well-being, including but not limited to home visitation programs.

2016

Second Substitute House Bill (2SHB) 2877, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – Benefit Distribution Dates, was signed into law on March 29, 2016. It required the Department to expand distribution dates for SNAP benefits from the 1st to the 10th of every month to the 1st through the 20th of every month, beginning February 1, 2017.

Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 6430, Medical Assistance Programs – Continuity of Care, was signed into law on March 31, 2016. It required the Health Care Authority (HCA) and the Community Services Division (CSD) of the DSHS Economic Services Administration to suspend, rather than terminate, medical assistance benefits for persons who are incarcerated or committed to a state hospital, beginning July 1, 2017. HCA must allow a person to apply for medical assistance during incarceration, whether or not the release date of the person is known; eligibility is suspended until the individual is released.

2015

Second Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill (2E2SHB) 1491, the Early Start Act, was signed into law on July 6, 2015. The Act required the

Department of Early Learning (DEL) to establish and implement Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) policies that promote stability and quality of care for children from low-income households, focus on school readiness for young learners, and use outcome measures that promote stability, quality and continuity of the early care and education program. It promoted stability by maintaining authorizations for WCCC subsidies for 12 months regardless of most changes in family employment, other approved activities, schedule, or income, beginning July 1, 2016. To receive subsidy payment for care of children below school age, existing licensed child care providers must enroll (August 2016), progress (August 2017) and meet standards (December 2019) set under Early Achievers, the state quality rating and improvement system for child care. New providers must follow a similar timeline for meeting standards. The Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program, the state's comprehensive pre-kindergarten program for three and four year old children from low income families, is to expand to serve all eligible children by the 2020-2021 school year.

ESSB 6052, the 2015-2017 Operating Biennium Budget was signed into law on June 30, 2015. A number of policy changes were funded in the operating budget, including:

- (1) Elimination of the Washington Telephone Assistance Program (WTAP) funding;
- (2) Increase in TANF grant standards by 9%; and
- (3) Increase in FAP benefit amount to 100% of the SNAP benefit amount.

Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill (ESSB) 5498 (Chapter 214, Laws of 2015) Revising the

Uniform Interstate Family Support Act, adopted the 2008 version of UIFSA pursuant to the requirements of Public Law 113-183, the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act (pg. 4, *supra*), with an effective date of July 1, 2015.

Senate Bill (SB) 5793 (Chapter 124, Laws of 2015) Providing Credit Towards Child Support Obligations for Veterans Benefits took effect on July 24, 2015. This bill amended RCW 26.18.190 to provide that when “the veterans’ administration apportions a veteran’s benefits to pay child support on behalf of or on account of the child or children of the veteran, the amount paid for the child or children shall be treated for all purposes as if the veteran paid the benefits toward the satisfaction of that person’s child support obligation for that period for which benefits are paid.”

2014

House Bill (HB) 2585, TANF – Benefits for a Child was signed into law on March 27, 2014. The bill created greater parity for non-parental caregivers by amending RCW 74.12.037 to allow a 50% unearned income disregard for TANF child-only cases involving non-parental caregivers, many of whom are kinship caregivers (such as a grandparent, aunt, uncle or other relative). This change was intended to ease the financial burden for these families, as many non-parental caregivers live on fixed incomes. The effective date for implementation of the 50% unearned income disregard for non-parental caregivers was November 1, 2014.

Senate Bill (SB) 6573 Changing the Effective Date of Modifications to the ABD cash assistance and the Housing and HEN programs was signed into law on April 3, 2014. A

statutory change in 2013 directed DSHS to determine program eligibility for the ABD program using less restrictive standards for the duration of a person’s disabling condition (from 12 months to 9 months) and consideration of past work (from 15 years to 10 years) during the period of January 2014 through June 2015. Enacting SB 6573 into law changed the date for reverting to the more restrictive standards for program eligibility from July 1, 2015 to July 1, 2014.

Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill (ESSB) 6002, the 2014 Supplemental Operating Budget, was signed into law on April 4, 2014. A number of WorkFirst policy changes were funded through the supplemental operating budget:

- 1) Implementation of a 15% incentive payment, beginning April 15, 2015, to WorkFirst households that participate in their Individual Responsibility Plan (IRP) for 20 hours or more a week;
- 2) Implementation of a TANF home visiting service for at-risk expectant parents, families with newborns and young children under age 5, and families receiving Rapid Rehousing services. These home visits promote healthy child development and address issues such as maternal and child health, positive parenting, and safe home environments.
- 3) Increased funding for work study through the community and technical colleges for WorkFirst clients;
- 4) Modified the Additional Requirements for Emergent Needs (AREN) program to a maximum of \$750 per household in a 12-month period rather than in a lifetime;

- 5) Modified the WorkFirst sanction policy from a four-month period to a two-month period and implemented a home visit program for clients who do not attend an in-person meeting regarding their IRP prior to termination for non-compliance;
- 6) Adjusted funding for the Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA), Tribal TANF Maintenance of Effort (MOE), and WorkFirst contracts;
- 7) Gave one-time funding to complete Lean process projects and technical assistance visits to local Community Service Offices (CSOs); and
- 8) Implemented a mandatory Orientation for WorkFirst clients.

2013

Substitute House Bill (SHB) 2069, Continuation of Safety Net Benefits for Persons Determined to Have a Physical or Mental Disability, was signed into law on June 30. The bill redefined eligibility for the ABD program by making it less restrictive than SSI disability criteria, reducing the minimum incapacity duration from 12 to 9 months, and reducing consideration of an individual's ability to perform past work from 15 to 10 years. The less restrictive disability standard will be in place for 18 months only, from January 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. After that, the program will revert back to the more restrictive standards now in place. The bill also replaced the current mechanism for determining potential eligibility HEN. To be potentially eligible for HEN currently, an individual must receive Medical Care Services (MCS). SHB 2069 replaced the MCS requirement for HEN with an incapacity determination by DSHS intended to identify individuals who are "eligible for referral" to HEN

services. MCS eligibility was also narrowed to only ABD and HEN recipients who are ineligible for Medicaid expansion. The effective dates for these changes range from January 1, 2014 to July 1, 2015 (Section 2 only).

Second Engrossed Substitute House Bill (2ESSHB) 1971 Concerning Communications Services Reform, was signed into law on June 30. The bill repealed the excise tax that funds the Washington Telephone Assistance Program (WTAP) and required the program to be funded by a biennial State General Fund appropriation. It prohibited WTAP enrollment from exceeding appropriated funds for the program and required DSHS to close WTAP if there was a danger of overspending. The effective date for the legislation is August 1, 2013.

Second Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill (2ESSB) 5595 New Customer Service Standards for Working Connections Child Care, was signed into law on May 23. The bill required the Department to provide training on professionalism to employees working with parents who apply for or are receiving WCCC; return WCCC-related telephone calls to parents within two business days; develop an electronic process by which WCCC parents can submit required forms and information; provide 10 day advance notice to providers and parents of loss of WCCC benefits; and provide parents with easy to understand information on the services they are eligible for, hearing rights, and the parent's responsibilities in obtaining and maintaining eligibility for WCCC. The effective date for the bill is July 28, 2013.

Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill (E2SHB) 1723, Expanding and Streamlining Early Learning Services and Programs, was signed into law on May 21. The bill put into

statute the 200% FPL income eligibility threshold for the Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) program. It also required an increase in the base rate for WCCC providers, provided tiered rate enhancements to providers who meet specific requirements, and increased the subsidy rate for WCCC providers who enrolled in Level 2 of the Early Achievers program. The effective date for the rate changes is September 1, 2013.

2012

Third Engrossed Substitute House Bill (3ESHB) 2127, the supplemental budget, was enacted and made the following changes: **(1)** TANF Payment Standard – the maximum TANF cash grant increased from \$726 to \$941 for families of 6 or more; **(2)** FAP – funding was provided at 50% of the benefit level for the federal SNAP; **(3)** Child Care Subsidy Program eligibility increased from 175% to 200% FPL and certifications increased from 6-month to 12-month periods; **(4)** WorkFirst Services – funding was reduced by about \$821,000 (1.1%); **(5)** Division of Child Support – funding was provided for 16 additional FTEs in SFY 2013 (effective July 1, 2012) to increase the amount of child support collected and retained by the state; and **(6)** Department of Early Learning – provided \$100,000 for contracts with independent consultants to evaluate and recommend the optimum system for the eligibility determination process for child care, with a report due to the Office of Financial Management and Legislature by December 31, 2012.

2011

Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill (ESSB) 5921 was enacted to make fundamental reforms to the WorkFirst program. This legislation: **(1)**

suspended work participation for parents of one child under age two or two children under age six from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012; **(2)** created a Legislative-Executive WorkFirst Oversight Task Force to oversee implementation of the WorkFirst TANF redesign; **(3)** established an income eligibility of 300% FPL for non-parental Child-Only TANF cases and established a sliding scale benefit standard for a child when the caregiver's income is above 200% but below 300% FPL; **(4)** prohibited DSHS from counting SSI income when determining TANF eligibility; **(5)** imposed the 60-month time limit on all parents of children who receive Child-Only TANF, provided this was "consistent with federal funding requirements and makes hardship extensions available to these parents effective September 1, 2011;" **(6)** allowed DSHS to implement a permanent disqualification for adults who had been terminated due to a WorkFirst noncompliance sanction three or more times since March 1, 2007; **(7)** added voluntary service at a licensed child care, preschool or elementary school where the parent's child is enrolled as an allowable work activity and allowed parenting or life skills education; **(8)** made it a condition of eligibility for child care subsidy programs that the applicant or recipient must seek child support enforcement services from the DSHS Division of Child Support, unless DSHS finds that the applicant or recipient has good cause not to cooperate; **(9)** required DSHS and the Department of Early Learning to develop a plan for monitoring WCCC attendance, to be implemented by January 2013, and conduct an assessment of current subsidized child care eligibility, reporting on both to the Legislature by December 31, 2011; **(10)** required DSHS, in consultation with its Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) contractor

and others, to strategize how to help recipients maintain bank accounts, increase their financial literacy and financial management skills, and minimize their ATM fee costs with a report due to Legislature by December 1, 2011; **(11)** required DSHS, in its EBT contracts, to require that any surcharge or transaction fee be disclosed to clients at the point of transaction; **(12)** expanded prohibitions on use of EBT cards, limited use of card to recipients, forbade sale of cards, and made violators subject to a possible civil penalty; **(13)** required certain businesses to disable ATMs and point-of-sale machines by January 1, 2012; **(14)** established an Office of Fraud and Accountability (OFA) in the Secretary's office, with responsibility to: conduct independent investigations; refer to law enforcement when appropriate; maximize overpayment collections; recommend new policies and procedures to mitigate the risk of fraud and abuse; analyze alternatives to the cash benefit delivery system; determine appropriate deployment of investigative resources; and report to the Legislature by December 31, 2011; and **(15)** DSHS was directed to establish an incentive pilot that would give staff who work directly with clients an additional eight hours of paid leave for helping clients reach outcomes to be determined by DSHS. While the Governor vetoed Section 3 of the bill regarding competitive performance-based contracting, the Governor directed the Department of Social and Health Services and the WorkFirst Subcabinet to act on the Legislature's direction in 2ESHB 1087 to competitively contract all work activities under the 1997 law.

Engrossed Substitute House Bill (ESHB) 2082 was enacted to make fundamental reforms to the Disability Lifeline program. The key

provisions included: **(1)** all components of the Disability Lifeline program were terminated effective October 31, 2011; **(2)** ABD, PWA, and Essential Needs and Housing Support programs were created effective November 1, 2011 (to be eligible for the ABD program, a person must be aged 65 or older, blind by SSA standards, or determined likely to meet the SSI disability standard); **(3)** individuals who were eligible for Medical Care Services (MCS) would be referred to the Essential Needs and Housing Support program (no cash grant was provided under this program); **(4)** the Department of Commerce was required to provide services under the Essential Needs and Housing Support program; **(5)** individuals who were eligible for the ABD and PWA programs would now be eligible for cash assistance and medical benefits; **(6)** ESHB 2082 allowed the Health Care Authority (HCA) to freeze new MCS enrollments and establish a waiting list if it appeared that continued enrollment would result in MCS expenditures exceeding the appropriated level for a particular fiscal year; and **(7)** DSHS was now required to review the cases of all persons who received MCS benefits for 12 months and annually thereafter to determine whether they would meet the standards for the ABD program.

Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill (E2SHB) 1267 amended the state version of the Uniform Parentage Act and clarified and expanded the rights and obligations of state registered domestic partners and other couples related to parentage. The bill used non-gender-specific terminology and referred to a "parent" instead of "mother" or "father," and "person" instead of "woman" or "man." An exception, based on the child support program's state plan under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, was made for the paternity acknowledgment

process, which provided that the mother of a child and a man claiming to be the genetic father of a child could sign an acknowledgment of paternity with intent to establish the man's paternity. This bill became effective July 22, 2011.

2010

Substitute House Bill (SHB) 2684 was enacted to establish an Opportunity Employment and Education Center (OCEE) within the Seattle Community College District, which would house various educational and social services providers in order to integrate access to benefit programs and services. The bill also required the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) to make recommendations on the location of an additional center by December 1, 2010. The center is required to provide services including Basic Food, TANF and WorkFirst, general assistance, and SSI facilitation. This bill became effective June 10, 2010. The OCEE is located on the campus of the North Seattle Community College.

Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill (E2SHB) 2782 was enacted containing three distinct provisions: **(1)** it required the creation of an "Opportunity Portal," a web-based universal application/benefit portal that would make it easier for low-income families and individuals to apply for and access a broad array of services and benefits. Creation of the "Opportunity Portal" was contingent upon the state securing private funding by December 2010; **(2)** it required the expansion of the Basic Food Employment and Training program to three additional community colleges or community-based locations and increased capacity at existing locations, subject to federal approval. Recipients of Basic Food, unless

exempt, were required to participate in the program, which included job search workshops and assistance with job placement; **(3)** It required DSHS to end the General Assistance program and create the Disability Lifeline program. Major changes to the program included a new name; implementing time limits of 24 months out of 60 months, effective September 1, 2010 through June 13, 2013; creating a housing voucher program that will be administered by the Department of Commerce; requiring the development and use of a new assessment tool, which must be used to determine whether Division of Vocational Rehabilitation programs could assist Disability Lifeline recipients in returning to work; requiring DSHS as part of the application process to ask the applicant if they ever served in the US military and if so, DSHS was required to confer with the state or federal Department of Veterans Affairs to determine whether the applicant was eligible for any benefits or programs offered to veterans; and requiring DSHS to contract with a managed health care system or other qualified entity to operate a project aimed at screening and quickly transitioning individuals with a disability who are likely to qualify for federal disability benefits into the Disability Lifeline Expedited Program, previously known as GA-X. The pilot began in King, Pierce, and Spokane counties on July 1, 2010 and was to be expanded statewide by October 1, 2011. This bill became effective March 29, 2010.

Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill (E2SHB) 3141 was enacted requiring a 12 month child care authorization period for children in the Working Connections Child Care program who were enrolled in the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program

(ECEAP), Head Start, and Early Head Start. The change was effective July 1, 2010. The Governor vetoed other sections of the bill, including the section requiring a proposal for implementing three pathways for WorkFirst, Washington's TANF program, which focused on employment, education and training and disability support. With the signing of the bill, the Governor directed the WorkFirst Subcabinet to develop a redesign plan for WorkFirst that meets the needs of WorkFirst families to obtain employment and achieve family self-sufficiency. The target date for completing the TANF Redesign plan was December 2010. This bill became effective June 10, 2010.

Substitute House Bill (SHB) 3016 was enacted to clarify certain sections of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) dealing with modification of child support orders to provide that DSHS was required by federal law to review and modify child support orders, regardless of whether the family received public assistance and was already authorized to do so in other sections of the RCW, but was now specifically authorized to take such actions in these sections. In addition, the bill allowed for telephonic appearances by parties to an action to modify or adjust a child support order. This bill became effective June 10, 2010.

Second Substitute House Bill (2SHB) 2603 was enacted requiring a state agency to furnish a small business with a copy of any state statute or rule that it has failed to follow before the agency can impose a fine, civil penalty, or administrative penalty for noncompliance. This bill required DSHS to revise its forms used for noncompliance actions in order to provide small businesses with copies of the state statutes for which it may impose penalties for

noncompliance. This bill became effective June 10, 2010.

Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 6893 suspended the child support pass-through effective May 1, 2011.

2009

House Bill (HB) 1270 was enacted allowing DSHS and HCA to adopt electronic signatures for online applications for benefits. This provision became effective July 26, 2009.

Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 6024 eliminated the 45-day processing timeframe for General Assistance applications filed by a person confined in a correctional facility or institution. The provision became effective November 1, 2009.

Substitute House Bill (SHB) 2071 allowed DSHS to continue to decide whether education and training (including higher education) for a WorkFirst recipient was appropriate. SHBS 2071 encouraged DSHS to make more use of education and training opportunities, but referred to moving the recipient into full-time WorkFirst activities as quickly as possible; giving DSHS the latitude to make the decision on what would be the best activity for the recipient. The Bill required DSHS to describe services available to the recipient either during or after WorkFirst to enable the recipient to not only obtain and keep employment, but advance in the workplace and increase wage earning potential over time. This bill became effective July 26, 2009.

Engrossed Substitute House Bill (ESHB) 1244, the operating budget, required DSHS to make the following changes: (1) in regions with high numbers of GA-U clients, coordination with

local workforce development councils to expedite access to worker retraining programs; **(2)** identify GA-U clients who would be eligible for federal disability benefits if they became a naturalized citizen, and give them priority to naturalization services funded through DSHS; **(3)** work with the Washington State Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) to develop a process for referring GA-U clients who may be eligible for veteran's services; **(4)** outstation DVA staff in selected Community Services Offices in King and Pierce counties to facilitate applications for veteran's services; **(5)** intensively evaluate persons who have received GA-U for more than 12 months. For those with an impairment that would not qualify for federal disability benefits, the Bill allowed expedited referrals to services that can eliminate or minimize barriers to employment, like mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment, and vocational rehabilitation services that are available through the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; **(6)** implement 50% earned income disregard for GA – the same as TANF; and **(7)** provide ten additional SSI Facilitators.

Substitute House Bill (SHB) 1845 implemented federal regulations concerning medical child support obligations. All child support orders had to require both parents to provide medical support for any child named in the order. Medical support consisted of health insurance coverage and cash medical support, which consisted of a parent's proportionate share of uninsured medical expenses and, if the obligated parent did not provide health insurance coverage, could include a monthly payment toward the premium paid by the other parent or the state for coverage for the child. The court could waive the coverage

requirement for one parent under appropriate circumstances. The requirement to contribute a parent's proportionate share of uninsured medical expenses could not be waived for either parent. This bill became effective October 1, 2009.

2008

Engrossed Substitute House Bill (ESHB) 2687, the operating budget, was enacted effective July 1, 2008. Section 207 of the budget: **(1)** provided a 3% grant increase to TANF/CEAP households for increased housing costs; **(2)** increased the gross income limit for Basic Food eligibility to 200% FPL; and **(3)** provided five additional SSI Facilitators for the General Assistance program.

Senate Bill (SB) 6950 provided a limited waiver or suspension of statutory obligations during officially declared emergencies. Section 201 expanded eligibility for Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP) benefits to individuals without children during a Governor-declared state of emergency. The Bill provided the foundation for the Disaster Cash Assistance Program.

2007

Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 5244 was enacted authorizing statutory changes needed to implement child support provisions of the federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005. These included limiting child support assignment to the months that the family received TANF and "pass through" to the family of up to \$100 per month for one child and \$200 per month for two or more children. "Pass through" must be disregarded as income for the TANF program. Both these provisions become effective October 1, 2008. The bill also required DSHS to pursue

enforcement of medical support against either or both parents.

Second Substitute Senate Bill (2SSB) 6016 was enacted allowing a parent to be exempt from WorkFirst participation requirements while a child was under 12 months old, but limiting the exemption to 12 months in the parent's lifetime (the federal limit). The bill allowed DSHS to require the parent to participate in part-time mental health, alcohol or drug treatment, domestic violence services, or parenting education or skills training during the exemption period if indicated by an assessment. Parenting skills training could now include voluntary home visitation services, if available.

Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 5830 directed DSHS to work with the Washington Council for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (WCPCAN), Department of Health, Department of Early Learning, and Family Policy Council to coordinate or consolidate home visitation services for children and families. These services were now required to address risk factors for child abuse and neglect and poor education outcomes for children, including family poverty and lack of parental education and job skills.

Second Substitute House Bill (2SHB) 1088 required DSHS to collaborate with county juvenile court administrators and the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration to conduct expedited medical determinations and restore medical assistance upon release for youth confined in a JRA or county-run juvenile detention facility. Youth to be served were any who received medical assistance prior to entering the institution or detention facility or who were "likely to be eligible upon release."

Second Substitute House Bill (2SHB) 1201

provided Medicaid coverage to individuals between the ages of 18 and 21 who aged out of foster care or an out-of-home placement at age 18. It required DSHS to help youth approaching age 21 to apply for the Basic Health Plan.

Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 5093 was enacted as part of the Governor's plan for all children in Washington state to have health care coverage by 2010 and to improve access. It required DSHS to simplify and streamline applications and review processes to avoid breaks in coverage, expand coverage to include children in families at higher income levels and to cover children not eligible for Medicaid, charge premiums or make unsubsidized coverage available to children in higher income families, participate with the Department of Early Learning, Department of Health, local public schools and others, in education and outreach efforts, and develop a feasibility study and implementation plan for an online medical assistance application integrated with the Automated Client Eligibility System (ACES). It allowed DSHS to freeze enrollment for non-Medicaid-eligible children and for children in higher income families. The SFY 2008 budget provided ESA with funding for increased workload and to out-station eligibility workers in support of outreach efforts.

Pathway to Engagement Budget Proviso

required DSHS to collaborate with community partners and represented staff to identify additional services for WorkFirst parents in sanction status and families whose WorkFirst cash benefits had ended as a result of a non-compliance sanction. Services were required to be complementary to services already provided by DSHS, voluntary for parents, and delivered

through performance-based contracts with community-based organizations.

WorkFirst Career Services Budget Proviso authorized DSHS to establish a post-TANF work transition program.

2006

Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill (E2SHB) 1290 was enacted requiring expedited eligibility determinations and timely access to medical assistance for persons with mental disorders being released from confinement. Additionally, it required collaboration with the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC), the Department of Corrections (DOC), and the Social Security Administration (SSA) to develop processes and procedures for coordination. DSHS was directed to phase in the new procedures on a statewide basis and continue to evaluate funding needs as the program was implemented.

Substitute House Bill (SHB) 2394 required the Department of Social and Health Services to start assessing WorkFirst parents for financial literacy during the comprehensive evaluation effective January 1, 2007. The Bill directed DSHS to offer referrals to financial literacy services available in the local communities to all WorkFirst parents to assist them in becoming self-sufficient and financially stable.

Medicaid Treatment Child Care (MTCC) Budget Proviso required DSHS to contract for MTCC services and authorize care for eligible children referred by TANF caseworkers and public health nurses.

2005

Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill (E2SSB) 5213 exercises the state option to exempt individuals convicted of a drug-related felony from the TANF ban on receipt of benefits. The statutorily mandated effective date was September 1, 2005.

2004

Senate Bill (SB) 6411 required DSHS to implement simplified reporting for the Basic Food program beginning October 2004. In addition, Basic Food eligibility restrictions for persons convicted of a drug-related felony were removed effective July 2004. The restriction prohibiting fleeing felons from receiving Basic Food is still applicable.

2003

Substitute House Bill (SHB) 1624 was signed into law on May 7, 2003 permanently Authorizing the Washington Telephone Assistance Program (WTAP), which was scheduled to expire on June 30, 2003. In addition to permanently authorizing the WTAP program, effective July 1, 2003, the program was expanded to include Community Service Voice Mail (CSVM) as a component. DSHS was directed to enter into an agreement with the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development to provide a portion of the WTAP budget for operation of CSVM, which will provide homeless individuals with a community service voice mail box.

1997

Engrossed House Bill (EHB) 3901, the **Washington WorkFirst TANF Act**, was signed into law on April 17, 1997. It established the **WorkFirst** program in Washington state and replaced the Aid to Families with Dependent

Children (AFDC) program. The Success Through Employment Program (STEP) Waiver 48 of 60-Month Time Limit was repealed and replaced with a five-year lifetime limit for cash assistance. The earned income exemption was increased to 50% of gross wages, overpayments due to retrospective budgeting were eliminated, and the 100% of Need test was eliminated. The vehicle equity limit was raised to \$5,000, a vehicle used to transport a disabled individual is totally exempt, and savings accounts up to \$3,000 are allowed. Pregnant teen and teen parent requirements for education went into effect. Diversion services were implemented as an alternative to cash assistance. The Division of Child Support (DCS) non-cooperation sanction was replaced with a 25% grant reduction and eligibility review cycles were extended from six to twelve months. Various child support enforcement remedies required by PRWORA were adopted. The bill created the DCS license suspension program for delinquent child support obligors, and provided for license suspension as a sanction for a person who, or entity which, fails to comply with a DCS withholding notice, lien or subpoena.

1995

As required by E2SHB 2798, the **Success Through Employment Program (STEP)** waiver application was submitted to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) on January 30. The proposed project start date was July 1, 1995, end date June 30, 2005, and project area was statewide. The waiver requested permission to establish length of stay grant reductions and elimination of the 100-hour rule.

1994

Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill (E2SHB) 2798 Welfare System Reform was enacted on April 2, 1994, and addressed the issues of lengthy stays on welfare, lack of access to vocational education and training, inadequate emphasis on employment by the social welfare system and teen pregnancy as obstacles to achieving economic independence. DSHS was instructed to (1) reduce AFDC grants by 10 percent per year for some families that received welfare for 48 out of 60 months, (2) waive the 100-hour rule for AFDC recipients, (3) train staff to emphasize the expectation that recipients will enter employment, and (4) determine the most appropriate living situation for unmarried pregnant teens who receive public assistance. Target populations included applicants and recipients who received AFDC for 36 of the preceding 60 months, custodial parents under the age of 24 who have not completed high school or who had little or no work experience, and families in which the youngest child was within 2 years of being ineligible for AFDC because of age. DSHS was directed to seek approval from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for implementation of the time limit provisions, waiver of the 100-hour rule for recipients, and statewide implementation (known as the STEP Waiver). The Employment Partnership Program (EPP) was modified to allow contracting out to public or private nonprofit organizations. In addition, authority to establish wage subsidy projects to enable AFDC grants to be paid as wage subsidies was moved from the Employment Security Department to DSHS. It established authority for a child's irrevocable trust account, with a limit of \$4,000, for future educational use. DSHS was directed to actively develop mechanisms to

refer disabled persons currently receiving AFDC to the federal SSI program.

1993

House Bill (HB) 1197 instructed DSHS to (1) “segment” the AFDC population, (2) match services to the needs of each segment, (3) focus AFDC on employment, and (4) seek federal waivers that allowed families to keep more of their earnings from employment while receiving AFDC.

1990

Washington implemented the federal Family Support Act of 1988, Public Law 100-485, establishing the Job Opportunities and Basic Skills (JOBS) program. Participation was voluntary for welfare recipients.

1987

The Family Independence Program (FIP), a 5-year welfare reform demonstration, began in 1987. FIP provided (1) financial incentives to obtain education, training, and employment, (2) cash rather than Food Stamps, (3) social services during FIP participation, and (4) childcare and medical coupons for 12 months after exiting, if the recipient left FIP with employment.

Appendix 6: Changes in Cash Grant Assistance Programs

SFY

2023

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Overview

On August 22, 1996, President Bill Clinton signed into law the *Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996* that created the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, thereby replacing the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and the Job Opportunities and Basic Skills (JOBS) programs. Under PRWORA, each state is required to operate a Title IV-D Child Support program in order to be eligible for TANF funds. On April 17, 1997, Governor Gary Locke signed into law the *Washington WorkFirst Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Act*, creating the WorkFirst program, Washington State's TANF program. The WorkFirst program went into effect in August 1997. These two federal and state laws resulted in major program and funding changes.

On August 5, 1997, President Clinton signed into law the *Balanced Budget Act (BBA) of 1997*, which made numerous technical corrections to PRWORA. Funding and spending requirements included: (1) limiting the amount of TANF funds that can be transferred to Title XX – Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) to 10% of the TANF block grant, and removing the requirement to transfer \$2 to the Child Care & Development Block Grant (CCDBG) for every \$1 transferred to the SSBG; (2) modification of the MOE requirements for the Contingency Fund; and (3) modification of TANF work participation penalties so that the penalty amount is 5% in the first year, and increasing by 2% per year up to 21% maximum.

On February 8, 2006, President George Bush signed into law the *Deficit Reduction Act of 2005* reauthorizing the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program with a

renewed focus on work, program integrity and strengthening families through healthy marriage promotion and responsible fatherhood. Work activities were defined along with procedures for counting and verifying reported hours. The reauthorization was scheduled to expire on September 30, 2010.

On February 17, 2009, President Barack Obama signed into law the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)* of 2009, which provided funding in several key areas: (1) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) - providing a 13.6 percent increase in the maximum benefits (Basic Food); (2) TANF – making numerous changes to the TANF program by establishing a TANF Emergency Contingency Fund to provide additional funds to states that experience an increase in (a) their TANF caseload and expenditures, (b) short-term non-recurring benefits, or (c) subsidized employment programs. States were eligible to receive 80% of the increase in expenditures between FFY 2007 and FFY 2008 (whichever is less) and FFY 2009. Funding was available for FFY 2009 and 2010 and was limited to 50% of the combined annual TANF awards for the 2 year period; and (3) modifying the TANF carry-forward rules to allow states to carry forward unexpended TANF and emergency contingency funds to the next year without the requirement to spend them on assistance.

On March 11, 2021, President Joe Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which aimed to address pandemic related hardship through additional supports such as education, food assistance, housing, unemployment, and emergency funds for families. The bill included \$1 billion for a related Pandemic Emergency

Assistance Fund, providing dollars to support households with non-recurrent, short-term benefits. The funds could support families receiving TANF as well as those with higher incomes, who were still working to make ends meet.

On June 3, 2023, President Joe Biden signed into law the *Fiscal Responsibility Act (FRA) of 2023*, which kept the government running by

raising the limit on federal borrowing. The FRA contained several administrative changes to the TANF statute regarding how Work Participation Rates (WPR) are calculated. The mandates include: change to the base year for the caseload reduction credit (CRC) from 2005 to 2015, \$35 minimum for small payments to working parents included in the state's WPR, and new outcome-based reporting requirements.

Key Changes as a Result of Federal Law

Program and Policy Changes

1. Welfare ceased to be an entitlement (as it was under AFDC and JOBS); instead, participation in TANF required a five-year limit. The five-year limit affected the first clients in Washington in August 2002.
2. The Economic Services Administration of DSHS works with three partner agencies to provide services to WorkFirst clients.
3. Native American Tribes were granted an option in the federal law to operate their own TANF program, including cash grants and employment and training. The tribes are required to apply to the federal government and, if certified, receive federal funds. The state identifies and negotiates Maintenance of Effort (MOE) funding for each tribe.
4. Federal assistance to some legal immigrants was barred or restricted. The State Family Assistance (SFA) and Food Assistance Program (FAP) were created by the Legislature to help legal immigrants.
5. Child care subsidy programs for welfare and low-income families were consolidated into the Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) program. Child care requires a co-payment.

Funding Changes

1. The TANF block grant replaced Title IV-A (AFDC and CEAP) and IV-F (JOBS) entitlement-based federal funding.
2. The Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) consolidated child care funding that was previously provided to the state through

the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) and Title IV-A of the Social Security Act.

3. A requirement to spend an amount of state dollars, known as MOE, replaced previous federal requirements to match a percentage of program costs with state funds. There is a MOE requirement for TANF and the CCDF block grant. Federal matching funds still exist in SNAP, Medicaid and one CCDF child care funding stream.

Funding Details

Washington's TANF block grant was initially \$404,331,754 per year. The amount of the block grant is based on the amount of the Title IV-A and Title IV-F funds, AFDC Assistance, Emergency Assistance (EA), JOBS, and AFDC administration claimed by Washington State in FFY 1994, plus a portion of the increase of FFY 1995 EA over FFY 1994 EA.

The block grant amount was lowered by penalties or awards to Tribes electing to operate a Tribal TANF program. Since the initial grant award of \$404,331,754, Washington's TANF grant amount was reduced by \$23,932,442 in Tribal TANF awards to \$379,064,017.

The TANF program has a cost-sharing requirement referred to as MOE. States must expend state funds equal to a specific percentage of the state's 1994 expenditures for the AFDC, EA, AFDC-related child care, transitional child care, At-Risk Child Care, and JOBS programs. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has set the amount at

¹ See Appendix 8 for a chronological listing of the detailed changes.

\$362,747,765. In FFY 2017, the base MOE level was reduced by \$21,542,170, for Tribal TANF programs operating in the state, to \$341,205,595.

In general, states must spend state funds in an amount equal to at least 80% of the amount spent on these programs in FFY 1994, as adjusted for Tribal TANF programs; however, if a state meets the required work participation rates, then it only needs to expend 75% of the amount spent in FFY 1994, as adjusted for Tribal TANF programs.

For FFY 2018, Washington's MOE requirement was 75% of the adjusted FFY 1994 spending level, or \$255,904,196.

Similar to the TANF block grant, the TANF Contingency Fund has a MOE requirement based on the state's 1994 expenditures, except these expenditures cannot include those made for child care and separate state programs. This MOE level, equal to 100% of the historic amount, was initially set by HHS at \$362,747,765. Beginning with FFY 2017, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) reduced this amount to \$341,205,595.

HHS also set the MOE requirement for the CCDF block grant, based on state expenditures in FFY 1994. The CCDF MOE amount was \$40,543,030 for FFY 2018.

Appendix 7:
Child
Support
Federal
Legislative
History

SFY

2023

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Child Support Federal Legislative History, 1950 – 2023

2021

On March 11, 2021, Public Law 117-2 (the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021) was signed into law. Section 9601 provided economic impact payments of up to \$1,400 for qualifying individuals. Section 9611 of the Act provided advance child tax credit monthly payments of up to \$250-300/child for qualifying taxpayers.

2020

On March 27, 2020, Public Law 116-136 (the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security [CARES]) Act was signed into law. Section 2201 of the Act provided qualifying individuals with a recovery rebate of up to \$1,200 (or \$2,400 if married and filing jointly), plus up to \$500 for each qualifying child.

While the Act intentionally exempted these rebates from reduction or offset against certain debts, there was no exemption for child support debt. As a result, the economic impact payments made to eligible NCPs who owed past-due child support and who were subject to intercept under the Federal Income Tax Refund Offset Program were offset by the amount of past-due child support. Because these economic impact payments were treated as a tax refund offset, and not an administrative offset, the Act did not provide DCS the option to suspend federal tax refund offset in cases meeting the eligibility criteria under section 464 of the Social Security Act and 45 CFR 303.72.

2018

In early 2018, Congress passed another continuing resolution to fund the federal government [PL 115-123, the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018; Section 53117], which included a

policy requirement that all state child support agencies increase the annual user fee. This is part of the 2019 ESA/DCS request legislation proposal.

2016/2017

The Final Rule entitled Flexibility, Efficiency, and Modernization in Child Support Enforcement Programs (“Flexibility Rule”) was published on December 20, 2016 in the Federal Register, Volume 81, Number 244, on page 93492; the rule was effective January 19, 2017. There are various implementation dates for different sections in the Flexibility Rule: the amendment to 45 CFR 303.31, was to be implemented by July 1, 2018. The Washington Legislature implemented this section in Part I of SSB 6334 (Chapter 150, Laws of 2018); Part I took effect on June 7, 2018.

2014

Public Law (PL) 113-183, the **Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act**, made changes to Title IV-D of the Social Security Act to require states to adopt the 2008 version of the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA), as well as other changes intended to improve interstate and international child support recovery. This law grants Indian tribes access to the Federal Parent Locator Service (FPLS), and expresses the sense of Congress that establishing parenting plans (child custody arrangements) when obtaining child support orders is “an important goal which should be accompanied by strong family violence safeguards,” and that states should use existing funding sources to support the establishment of parenting time arrangements. This law also made changes to Title IV-E (Foster Care and

Adoption Assistance) regarding children or youth in state care or in kinship care, which may have child support impacts.

2011

Public Law (PL) 111-291, the **Claims Resolution Act of 2010**, made changes to employer reporting requirements. Under this new provision, employers were now required to report, among other elements, the date that an employee first performs services for pay.

PL 112-40, the **Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act of 2011**, amended 42 U.S.C. 653a(a)(2) to provide a definition of the term “newly-hired employee,” a term which was not previously defined in the federal laws concerning employer reporting.

2010

Public Law (PL) 111-148, the **Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act**, enacted health insurance coverage requirements for parents without making corresponding amendments in the medical support requirements under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act.

2009

Public Law (PL) 111-5, the **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)**, temporarily restored states’ ability to claim federal matching funds for federal performance incentives earned. States could request matching funds from October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2010.

2006

Public Law (PL) 109-171, the **Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (DRA)**, made major funding and program changes to the child support and TANF programs. Significant provisions of the DRA

included the elimination of pre-assistance assignment no longer requiring families to assign all of their past-due support rights to the state when they receive TANF, requirements that all child support orders include a provision that either or both parents must provide medical support, and that states may enforce medical support obligations against the custodial parent. Additionally, states were also required to provide services to collect co-pays, deductibles, and un-reimbursed medical expenses collected on behalf of a child. IV-D agencies were also required to impose an annual fee of \$25 on cases where the custodial parent has never received TANF and at least \$500 has been collected. States were also allowed to choose to pass-through support to families on public assistance, eliminate pre-1997 and post-1997 assignments, and eliminate the distribution exception to intercepted IRS collections, in order for more money to go directly to families. The DRA also eliminated states’ ability to claim federal matching funds for performance incentives earned. In addition, the DRA also created a new federal grants program available for fatherhood and marriage initiatives.

2005

PL 109-8, the **Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005** (effective October 17, 2005), contained several provisions which allowed child support to continue to be enforced even if a debtor had filed bankruptcy. Child support claims were given priority. Proceedings related to child support for income withholding, license suspension, credit bureau reporting, tax refund intercepts, and enforcement of medical obligations were made exempt from automatic stay provisions. Bankruptcy trustees were required to notify the

claim holder and the child support agency of the debtor's last known address.

1999

PL 106-113, the **Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2000**, contained several provisions affecting child support. Section 454A of the Social Security Act was amended requiring state child support automated data processing and information retrieval systems to disclose to Private Industry Councils (PICs) certain information on noncustodial parents for the purpose of contacting them regarding their participation in the welfare-to-work program. The Act also provided that if a state plan would be disapproved for failure to establish a disbursement unit for child support payments, but the state had submitted, by April 1, 2000, a corrective compliance plan acceptable to the Secretary, then the Secretary would not disapprove the state plan for spousal and child support, but the amount otherwise payable to the state would be reduced as a penalty.

The Act also required the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, to submit a report to Congress on the feasibility of lowering the threshold amount of an individual's support arrearage from \$5,000 to \$2,500 before the Secretary of State would refuse to issue a passport to such an individual.

PL 106-169, the Foster Care Independence Act of 1999, narrowed the hold harmless provision for state share distribution of collected child support.

1998

PL 105-200, the **Child Support Performance and Incentive Act of 1998** (CSPIA), generally

provided for an alternative penalty procedure for states that failed to meet Federal child support data processing requirements, and it reformed Federal incentive payments for effective child support performance. The law also required the creation of a Medical Support Working Group to identify any impediments to effective enforcement of medical support and to recommend appropriate remedies. (The Medical Support Working Group's report was issued in August of 2000.)

PL 105-306 included technical amendments to CSPIA that reduced by 20% the penalty for state failure to meet the deadline for compliance with child support data processing and information retrieval requirements. This law also amended the effective date for state enactment of certain medical support requirements.

PL 105-200, the **Child Support Performance and Incentive Act of 1998**, provided penalties for failure to meet data processing requirements, reformed incentive payments and provided penalties for violating inter-jurisdictional adoption requirements. Incentive payments were based on paternity establishment, order establishment, current support collected, cases paying past due support, and cost effectiveness and on a percentage of collections. Incentive payments had to be reinvested in the state's child support program.

PL 105-187, the **Deadbeat Parents Punishment Act of 1998**, established felony violations for the willful failure to pay legal child support obligations in interstate cases.

1997

PL 105-33, the **Balanced Budget Act of 1997**, made a number of amendments to the Social

Security Act, including creating the Children's Health Insurance Program in Title XXI to help provide medical coverage to children of working poor families, who were not eligible for private health insurance and who were earning too much to receive Medicaid. The Balanced Budget Act also amended section 454 of the Social Security Act regarding cooperation/good cause, and the FPLS language in section 453 to clarify the authority permitting certain re-disclosures of wage and claim information. Also, this Act authorized for the first time the direct funding of Tribal support programs, with Congress giving the Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) greater flexibility in providing direct funding for such programs and requiring OCSE to make known regulations before issuing grants directly to Tribes.

PL 105-34, the **Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997**, amended the Social Security Act by requiring, beginning October 1, 1999, the Federal Case Registry of Child Support Orders to include the names and Social Security Numbers of children on whose behalf child support is owed, and that such information also be included in state case registries. Furthermore, the Secretary of the Treasury would have access to the Federal Case Registry of Child Support Orders for the purpose of administering the tax provisions that grant tax benefits based on support or residence of a child.

PL 105-89, the **Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997**, made the Federal Parent Locator Service available to child welfare services for enforcement of custody and support orders.

1996

Title III of the **Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA)** of

1996 (PL 104-193) abolished Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and established Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). Each state was required to operate a **Title IV-D child support program** to be eligible for TANF funds. States had to comply with numerous changes in child support services. Many of those changes included enhanced child support enforcement tools, such as license suspension for non-payment of support; the financial institution data match; requiring states to adopt the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA) of 1996; and the adoption of federal withholding forms.

1995

PL 104-35 extended the deadline two years for states to have an automated data processing and information retrieval system. The 90 percent match was not extended.

1994

PL 103-432, the **Social Security Act Amendments of 1994**, required states to periodically report debtor parents to consumer reporting agencies.

PL 103-403, the **Small Business Administration Amendments of 1994**, rendered delinquent child support payers ineligible for small business loans.

PL 103-394, the **Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1994**, did not stay a paternity, child support or alimony proceeding. Child support and alimony were made priority claims.

PL 103-383, the **Full Faith and Credit for Child Support Orders Act**, required states to enforce other states' administrative and court orders.

1993

PL 103-66, the **Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993**, required states to establish paternity on 75 percent of the children on their caseload instead of 50 percent. States had to adopt civil procedures for voluntary acknowledgement of paternity. The law also required states to adopt laws to ensure the medical compliance in orders.

1992

PL 102-537, the **Ted Weiss Child Support Enforcement Act of 1992**, amended the Fair Credit Reporting Act to include child support delinquencies in credit reporting.

PL 102-521, the **Child Support Recovery Act of 1992**, imposed a federal criminal penalty for the willful failure to pay child support in interstate cases.

1990

PL 101-508, the **Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990**, permanently extended the federal provision for IRS tax refund offsets for child and spousal support.

1989

PL 101-239, the **Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989**, made permanent the requirement that Medicaid continue for four months after termination from AFDC.

1988

PL 100-485, the **Family Support Act of 1988**, emphasized the duties of parents to work and support their children, underscoring the importance of child support as the first line of defense against welfare dependence. States were required to: 1) develop mandatory support guidelines; 2) meet paternity standards;

3) respond to requests for services within specified time periods; 4) develop an automated tracking system; 5) provide immediate wage withholding; 6) have parents furnish Social Security numbers when a birth certificate is issued; and 7) notify AFDC recipients of monthly collections.

1987

PL 100-203, the **Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987**, required states to provide services to families with an absent parent who receives Medicaid and have them assign their support rights to the state.

1986

PL 99-509, the **Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986**, included an amendment that prohibited retroactive modification of child support awards.

1984

PL 98-378, the **Child Support Amendments of 1984**, expanded federal oversight to increase uniformity among states. States were required to enact statutes to improve enforcement. Federal Financial Participation (FFP) rates were adjusted to encourage reliance on performance-based incentives. Audit provisions were altered to evaluate a state's effectiveness. States were required to improve their interstate enforcement. States were mandated to provide equal services for AFDC and non-AFDC families alike.

PL 98-369, the **Tax Reform Act of 1984**, included two tax provisions for alimony and child support.

1982

PL 97-253, the **Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1982**, allowed access to information obtained under the Food Stamp Act of 1977.

PL 97-252, the **Uniformed Services Former Spouses' Protection Act**, authorized military retirement or retainer pay to be treated as property.

PL 97-248, the **Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982**, included several provisions affecting IV-D, including reducing the Federal Financial Participation (FFP) and incentives. In addition, Congress repealed the mandatory non-AFDC collection fee retroactive to 1981, making it an option. States were allowed to collect spousal support for non-AFDC cases. Military personnel were required to make allotments from their pay, if delinquent in their child support.

1981

PL 97-35, the **Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1981**, amended IV-D in five ways: 1) IRS was authorized to withhold tax refunds for delinquent child support; 2) IV-D agencies were required to collect spousal support for AFDC families; 3) IV-D agencies were required to collect fees from parents delinquent in child support; 4) obligations assigned to the state were no longer dischargeable in bankruptcy proceedings and 5) states were required to withhold a portion of unemployment for delinquent support.

1980

PL 96-272, the **Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980**, amended the Social Security Act as follows: 1) Federal Financial Participation (FFP) for non-AFDC was made

permanent; 2) states could receive incentives on interstate AFDC collections; and 3) states had to claim expenditures within two years.

PL 96-265, the **Social Security Disability Amendments of 1980**, increased federal matching funds to 90 percent for automated systems. Matching funds were made available for court staff. IRS was authorized to collect arrearages for non-AFDC families. IV-D agencies were allowed access to wage data.

1978

PL 95-598, the **Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978**, repealed section 456(b) of the Social Security Act (42 USC §656(b)), which had barred the discharge in bankruptcy of assigned child support arrears. (PL 97-35 in 1981 restored this section.)

1977

PL 95-142, the **Medicare-Medicaid Antifraud and Abuse Amendments of 1977**, enabled states to require Medicaid applicants to assign the state their rights to medical support. Incentives were made for states securing collections on behalf of other states.

PL 95-30 amended section 454 of the Social Security Act, including garnishment of federal employees, bonding employees who handled cash and changing incentive rates.

1976

PL 94-566 required state employment agencies to provide addresses of obligated parents to state child support agencies.

1974

PL 93-647, the **Social Security Amendments of 1974**, created Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, the child support program. The program

was designed for cost recovery of state and federal outlays on public assistance and for cost avoidance to help families leave welfare and to help families avoid turning to public assistance.

1967

PL 90-248, the **Social Security Amendments of 1967**, allowed states access to IRS for addresses of obligated parents. Each state was required to establish a single child support unit for AFDC children. States were required to work cooperatively.

1965

PL 89-97, the **Social Security Amendments of 1965**, allowed welfare agencies to obtain addresses and employers of obligated parents from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

1950

PL 81-734, the **Social Security Act Amendments of 1950**, added section 402(a)(11) to the Social Security Act (42 USC 602(a)(11)). The law required state welfare agencies to notify law enforcement officials when providing AFDC to a child. The Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act (URESA) was approved.

Appendix 8:
Major
Changes in
ESA
Programs by
Month

SFY

2023

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Major Changes in ESA Programs by Month, July 1995 – June 2023

June 2023

Tribal SNAP Eligibility Demonstration Project

In June 2023, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) approved Washington's request to expand the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) demonstration pilot conducted at Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe to an additional five tribes. Tribes are to work with Community Services Division (CSD) to operate as a Community Service Office (CSO) and perform eligibility and certification of SNAP benefits on behalf of the state.

End of Expanded Student Eligibility [COVID-19 Response]

The temporary expansion of Basic Food Basic Food eligibility for students of higher education who were eligible for work study or had an expected family contribution of \$0 on their federal financial aid at application ended in June 2023.

TANF Time Limit Extension Ended [COVID-19 Response]

Families that did not meet any other TANF time limit extension criteria were able to continue to receive an extension due to the pandemic beginning April 1, 2020. This provision ended effective June 30, 2023, after which families must meet specific time limit extension criteria to remain eligible for TANF.

May 2023

TANF In Loco Parentis Eligibility Change

In May 2023, the application process for TANF In Loco Parentis caregivers was streamlined and no longer required the caregiver to pass a

background check in order to receive benefits on behalf of the child in their care.

Extended Parole (and Benefits) for Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) began extending parole for an additional year on a case-by-case basis for Ukrainians who were paroled at a port of entry between Feb. 24, 2022, and April 25, 2022. These individuals were originally issued a one-year term of parole. This allowed for federal benefits (e.g., TANF, SNAP, and Medicaid) to remain open for these households, if all other eligibility requirements were met.

Medicaid Continuous Enrollment and other Public Health Emergency (PHE) Flexibilities End [COVID-19 Response]

With the passing of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, beginning with May 2023 renewals, terminations resumed for all Medicaid recipients who did not complete their Eligibility Reviews. Recipients found ineligible during their renewal period were also terminated. COVID-19 flexibilities, such as self-attestation of medical expenses, income, and resources also ended.

Per CMS requirements, the Community Services Division (CSD), also implemented the completion of Medicaid renewals on an ex-parte basis, by attempting to complete a Medicaid renewal using data matches and not requiring a recipient to contact the department to initiate a renewal.

Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance (ORIA) Community Outreach and Education Program Launch

In May 2023, ORIA implemented the Community Outreach and Education (COE) to help the growing number of refugees and humanitarian entrants arriving in Washington to connect with services and resources through information and referral, resource navigation, community & cultural orientation, and outreach services.

March 2023

End of Basic Food Emergency Allotments [COVID-19 Response]

After February 2023, Washington Basic Food households returned to regular monthly allotments and no longer received the maximum food benefit based solely on household size. Households who are eligible for the maximum food benefit due to household circumstances no longer received the difference between their regular monthly benefit allotment and the maximum amount for their household size, with a minimum supplement of \$95.

January 2023

Resumption of Home Visits for Teen Living Assessments

[COVID-19 Response]

Effective January 1, 2023, home visits for Teen Living Assessments were resumed. These assessments apply to all unmarried, minor parents applying for TANF cash assistance, to determine eligibility and offer support to the household.

December 2022

TANF Home Visiting Referral – Statewide Expansion

Effective December 1, 2022, the TANF Home Visiting and Parent Support referral option expanded statewide for WorkFirst families. Starting in May of 2015, this initiative was intended to support and improve outcomes for both parents and children receiving public assistance. In 2015, the referral process was expanded to include over 25 Community Services Offices. With statewide expansion, all WorkFirst families who are expecting a child or have a child under the age of two are offered a referral to Home Visiting or other parent support services. Participation in this activity is voluntary, without repercussions to the family if they decide to decline the referral or discontinue engagement in services.

November 2022

Employment Authorization for Certain Afghan and Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees

Effective November 21, 2022, certain Afghan and Ukrainian humanitarian parolees were considered employment-authorized to the same extent as refugees. This consideration allowed them to get an unrestricted Social Security card and removed the requirement to obtain employment authorization from the federal government before engaging in work within the U.S.

ABD/HEN Referral Review and Engagement Processes Resume

[COVID-19 Response]

Effective November 1, 2022, DSHS reinstated the disability and incapacity review cycles of 24 and 12 months, resumed the good cause process for those not cooperating with medical and mental health treatments or the SSI application process, and resumed gathering medical evidence from within the last 90 days

of application and 45 days of review from sources accepted by SSA.

September 2022

ABD Cash Grant Increase

Effective September 1, 2022, the payment standard for ABD increased to \$417 based on funding provided in the 2022 supplemental operating budget. This increase was a step toward fully meeting the basic needs of disabled individuals and was the first approved grant increase in the history of the program.

ABD Expands to Patients Age 21-64 of Eastern and Western State Hospital

Effective September 1, 2022, eligibility for ABD expanded to patients residing in Eastern or Western State Hospital who had been civilly committed or found not guilty by reason of insanity. Residents determined eligible received a CPI grant of \$41.62.

August 2022

Fast Track to Employment Pilot

The Fast Track to Employment program pilot, a model of supported employment called “Individual Placement and Support,” helps people find work at jobs of their choosing. In August 2022, this pilot began supporting WorkFirst participants and ABAWDS in specific counties who were eligible to receive these services. Pilot counties included Spokane, Snohomish, Cowlitz, and Lewis.

July 2022

TANF Time Limits

[COVID-19 Response]

Families that do not meet any other TANF time limit extension criteria were able to continue to receive an extension due to the pandemic, effective July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. The extension supported poverty reduction and

eliminating disparities for families struggling to maintain economic stability as they reached the 60-month time limit.

WorkFirst Housing and Utility Temporary Support Services

Effective July 1, 2022, a temporary support service was made available for WorkFirst families specifically to support housing and utility costs, broadening the ability to help WorkFirst participants meet their basic needs. The budget adopted by the Legislature provided an additional \$6.6 million for this support through June 30, 2023.

Implementation of HB 1748- Expanding ABD/HEN program to Survivors of Certain Crimes

Effective July 1, 2022, noncitizens harmed by a crime who were in the process of filing an application for specific visas or immigration status with the federal government, became eligible for the Aged, Blind or Disabled program if all other eligibility criteria was met.

Aged, Blind or Disabled Cash Assistance Program Mid Certification Review Requirement Eliminated

Effective July 1, 2022, the supplemental operating budget included funding to eliminate the Mid-Certification Review (MCR) requirement for all ABD cash recipients.

Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance Housing Stabilization Services Program

Effective July 1, 2022, ORIA launched its Housing Stabilization Services program to assist eligible refugees and humanitarian entrants with short-term housing services, rental assistance, and utility assistance.

June 2022

Expansion of Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) and Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA)

Eligibility Periods

Effective June 1, 2022, the eligibility period for RCA and RMA expanded from eight to twelve months from date of eligibility for federally-eligible populations whose date of eligibility of refugee assistance was on or after October 1, 2021.

May 2022

Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees Eligible for Federally Funded Benefits

Effective May 21, 2022, humanitarian parolees from Ukraine and their parents, spouses, and children paroled into the U.S. between February 24, 2022 and September 30, 2023, were eligible for federal funded benefits (e.g., Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), RCA, and Basic Food Employment & Training (BFET)).

Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund [COVID-19 response]

Washington state received \$22.7 million in federal Pandemic Emergency Assistance Funds (PEAF) to support non-recurring, short-term benefits for families. State funds were also approved to enable the benefits to go to otherwise eligible families that do not qualify for federal programs based on citizenship status. Washington's PEAF benefit was issued in May 2022 as a one-time cash payment of \$127 per child for families with minor children receiving TANF/SFA, Basic Food, FAP, or TFA with income at or under 75% of the Federal Poverty Level.

February 2022

State-Funded Cash, Food and Medical Benefits for Survivors of Certain Crimes

Effective February 1, 2022, state-funded benefits were provided to noncitizens harmed by a crime who were in the process of filling an application for specific visas or immigration status with the federal government.

Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) Waiver

Effective February 1, 2022, ABAWDs were exempt from work requirements through a statewide SNAP time limit waiver. FNS' approval extended through January 31, 2023. Clients remained eligible to participate in BFET services voluntarily.

January 2022

Mid-Certification Review Requirement Waived [COVID-19 response]

DSHS continued to receive federal approval to implement flexibilities to waive Mid-Certification Reviews from January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022. This waiver applied to TANF, State Family Assistance (SFA), Aged, Blind or Disabled (ABD) Cash Assistance, Working Family Support (WFS), and all Food Assistance programs.

November 2021

Disaster Cash Assistance Program (DCAP) Activation for Severe Weather

Effective November 22, 2021 through December 18, 2021, DCAP was activated in response to Governor Inslee's declaration of a state of emergency for 14 counties due to the devastating effects of severe weather. DCAP provided cash to eligible households impacted by the flooding, landslides, mudslides or other hazardous storm events, who lived in these counties.

October 2021

Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) Increase

Effective October 1, 2021, Basic Food benefit amounts were permanently adjusted to provide 40-cents more per person per meal. Separate from the 15% allotment increase to Basic Food in January 2021 in response to COVID, Congress had directed USDA to study the costs required to purchase foods to support a healthy diet. This study resulted in a permanent allotment increase of 25% enacted to the TFP which allowed for the increase in benefits, replacing the temporary COVID-19 15% allotment increases.

Afghan Humanitarian Parolees Eligible for Federally Funded Benefits

Effective October 1, 2021, per federal law, humanitarian parolees from Afghanistan and their parents, spouses, and children, paroled into the U.S. between July 31, 2021 and September 30, 2022, became eligible for federal funded benefits (TANF, SNAP, RCA, and BFET). Prior to this change, this population was eligible for certain state-funded cash and food assistance, if all other eligibility criteria was met.

September 2021

WorkFirst Participation Requirements Resume [COVID 19 response]

Effective September 1, 2021, WorkFirst participation requirements, suspended since March 2020 due to the pandemic, resumed. DSHS has since worked to connect with families to update assessments and develop participation plans appropriate for their situation.

WorkFirst Integrated Interview

DSHS launched the WorkFirst integrated interview starting September 20, 2021— a streamlined intake process and suite of new engagement tools (including a new assessment tool). This approach is client-centered and strengths-based, giving families receiving TANF the opportunity to complete financial eligibility, evaluation and development of a plan for participating in WorkFirst activities in a single phone or in-person interview.

July 2021

WorkFirst Sanction Policy

Effective July 1, 2021, WorkFirst Non-Compliance Sanction policies changed, providing participants two continuous months of non-compliance before reduction of cash benefits and an additional ten months on a reduced grant before cash benefits are terminated. Additionally, sanction-related home visits and immediate sanction closures were no longer a part of the sanction process. Though policy was changed, WorkFirst participation requirements remained suspended until September 1, 2021.

Cash Assistance Grant Increase

Effective July 1, 2021, the payment standard for TANF, SFA, Pregnant Women Assistance (PWA), RCA and Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP) increased by 15% based on funding provided by the Legislature in the biennial operating budget. This increase was a step toward fully meeting the basic needs of families and individuals who experience financial hardship. The change also increased the maximum earned income limits for these programs.

TANF Time Limits

Effective July 1, 2021, the criteria for TANF 60-month Time Limit Extensions expanded to support families who exhausted their 60 months and were homeless or who had a child in their home who met the broad McKinney-Vento definition of homeless. This change allowed families experiencing housing instability, or who care for a child in this situation, to continue receiving cash assistance.

Additionally, families that do not meet any other time limit extension criteria were able to continue to receive an extension due to the pandemic, effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

Pandemic-EBT (P-EBT) Summer 2021 Expansion [COVID-19 Response]

Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) approved the issuance of P-EBT benefits to eligible children for the summer period following the 2020-21 school year. A standard benefit of \$375 was issued to both school aged children and children under the age of six for the months July and August of 2021.

June 2021

ABAWD Waiver

Effective June 8, 2021, ABAWDs were exempted from work requirements through a statewide SNAP time limit waiver. Food and Nutrition Service's (FNS) approval extended through May 31, 2022; however clients remained eligible to participate in BFET services voluntarily.

P-EBT Children Under 6 Expansion [COVID-19 Response]

DSHS received FNS approval to expand P-EBT benefits to children under the age of six for the 2020-21 school year. Children living in both a Basic Food household and a county participating in the National School Lunch

Program and School Breakfast program whose schools reported limited on-site meal service between October 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021, were eligible for P-EBT.

May 2021

ABD and HEN Case Management Resumes

Effective May 12, 2021, DSHS resumed case management activities for new ABD Cash Assistance and Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral recipients. Staff continued to provide support for individuals with participation in medical treatment for disabling conditions, and with assessment and treatment services for substance use disorders, similar to how case planning activities were offered prior to suspension due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

April 2021

ABAWD Navigator Program Ends

Effective April 1, 2021, DSHS ended the ABAWD Navigator program due to loss of funding. FNS notified the department of its disagreement with the states use of "Good Cause" to exempt ABAWDs during the public health emergency in March 2021 and disqualified funding to support the navigator program. DSHS filed a formal appeal.

Basic Food Emergency Supplement \$95 Minimum [COVID-19 Response]

Effective April 2021, all Basic Food households became eligible for a minimum emergency supplement of \$95. This change provided additional assistance to the lowest income households that previously did not qualify or received small supplements.

DCAP

Effective April 19, 2021, DCAP activated for Washington families without children impacted by COVID-19 who met the income and resource

limits and were not eligible for other cash programs. Prior to this date, households were only eligible for DCAP once in a 12-month period. In accordance to SHB 1151 and Governor Inslee’s proclamation dated April 15, 2021, this program was available monthly for eligible households through June 30, 2021.

March 2021

P-EBT 2020-2021 Plan Approval

DSHS received FNS approval of its state plan to issue P-EBT for the 2020-21 school year. The 2020-21 plan differed the previous year as DSHS shifted from internal eligibility determination to working with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and a third party vendor, Accenture, to determine free or reduced priced school meal eligibility and issue benefits through designated P-EBT cards.

February 2021

Child Support Pass-Through Payments

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) households were eligible to receive child support payments disbursed by Division of Child Support (DCS) without a reduction to their TANF grant. These “pass-through” payments are received each month DCS collects child support. Active TANF recipients may receive:

- Up to \$50 a month of support collected for a TANF assistance unit with one child; or
- Up to \$100 a month of support collected for a TANF assistance unit with two or more children.

January 2021

Basic Food 15% Allotment Increase [COVID-19 Response]

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, provided Basic Food households with an increase of 15% to their maximum allotments.

This approval covered the period of January through June 2021, but was later expanded through September 2021 in the American Rescue Plan Act.

Expanded Student Eligibility [COVID-19 Response]

The Consolidated Appropriations Act expanded SNAP eligibility to students participating in state or federally funded work-study during the school year with an expected family contribution of \$0 for the duration of the Public Health Emergency.

Effective January 16, 2021, CSD expanded Basic Food to students of higher education who are eligible for work study or have an expected family contribution of \$0 on their federal financial aid at application through their certification period.

November 2020

Continued Certification Period Extensions [COVID-19 Response]

The Continuing Appropriations Act maintained certification extensions for all programs beginning November 2020 through February 2021. November and December 2020 certification periods were extended two months and January and February 2021 certification periods were extended four months. All food Mid-Certifications Reviews were waived through June 30, 2021.

October 2020

Home Detention and Monitoring Eligibility

Effective October 5, 2020, individuals released from incarceration to home detention or home monitoring were now potentially eligible for the ABD and HEN Referral programs which aligns with other programs, such as TANF. This change supported Governor Inslee’s Executive Order

16-05 to reduce recidivism and assist incarcerated individuals as they return to the community.

July 2020

Elimination of the Supplied Shelter Grant

Based on additional funding provided by the Legislature, DSHS eliminated the separate payment standard for households receiving cash assistance (ABD, TANF, SFA, RCA, and PWA) who report their housing is provided at no cost. This change increased cash benefit amounts and streamlined benefit eligibility work.

June 2020

Pandemic EBT [*COVID-19 Response from the SFY 2020 Briefing Book*]

Eligible families with children who would have received free or reduced-price meals through the National School Lunch Program, received P-EBT food benefits for the months of March through June 2020 due to school closures.

PWA Eligibility for Referral to HEN Program [*State Change*]

Effective June 11, 2020, eligibility for referral to the HEN program was extended to all PWA recipients. While PWA recipients are eligible for cash assistance only while pregnant, the referral to HEN is valid for 24 months from the date PWA eligibility was established. A referral to HEN was a significant additional benefit for the small population receiving PWA.

May 2020

Refugee Cash Assistance / Refugee Medical Assistance Time Limit Extension [*COVID-19 Response*]

Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)

approved states to request a waiver to extend RCA and RMA to eligible recipients beyond the normal eight-month time limit. Washington State received a waiver to provide benefits to people who became eligible between April 1, 2019 and January 30, 2020 for more than the eight-months.

April 2020

Certification Period Extension for Cash Programs and Basic Food [*COVID-19 Response*]

Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, DSHS extended certification periods for households with Eligibility Reviews due in the months of April, May and June for six additional months, extending these certifications through October, November and December 2020. Mid-Certification Review requirements for April, May and June were also waived, and benefits continued through the end of certification periods as long as households continued to meet all other eligibility requirements. This applied to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); SFA, ABD Cash Assistance, HEN Referral; WFS; and all Food Assistance programs.

DCAP [*COVID-19 Response*]

Effective April 17, 2020, DCAP eligibility was expanded to include Washington families and people without children impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic who met the income and resource limits and were not eligible for other cash programs. The program ended January 15, 2021.

TANF Time Limit Extensions [*COVID-19 Response*]

Effective April 1, 2020, the criteria for TANF 60-month Time Limit Extensions was expanded to support families experiencing hardships related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

March 2020

Emergency Allotment (EA) Food Supplements: [COVID-19 Response]

Beginning in March 2020, DSHS issued monthly supplemental benefits to food assistance recipients on a month-to-month basis with federal approval during the federal and state public health emergency declaration. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Food Assistance Program for Legal Immigrants (FAP) households were issued the difference between their regular monthly benefit allotment and the maximum amount for their household size.

TANF WorkFirst Participation and Sanction Suspension [COVID-19 Response]

Effective March 16, 2020, all WorkFirst participants were temporarily exempted from required participation. Clients could choose to continue participation voluntarily and, to the extent possible, case management continued, but participation was not required. WorkFirst sanction reduction or case closure penalties were also temporarily suspended.

Suspension of Home Visits for Teen Living Assessments [COVID-19 Response]

Effective March 16, 2020, home visits were suspended for Teen Living Assessments. These assessments apply to all unmarried, minor parents applying for TANF cash assistance, to determine eligibility and offer support to the household.

Basic Food ABAWD Requirements Final Rule Injunction

Effective March 16, 2020, a federal court injunction delayed implementation of USDA's final rule limiting states flexibilities in waiving

ABAWD work requirements. The rule was scheduled to take effect April 1, 2020. The court denied the request for a preliminary injunction related to the final rule's changes to discretionary exemptions. The final rule on discretionary exemptions was scheduled to take effect October 1, 2020.

ABD and HEN Referral Program [COVID-19 Response]

Effective March 18, 2020, DSHS suspended pursuing treatment verification and good cause for participation in medical treatment, participation in substance use assessment and treatment, and participation in vocational rehabilitation.

Effective March 26, 2020, DSHS postponed ABD disability reviews, modified HEN referral incapacity reviews, and expanded medical evidence rules for eligibility purposes.

Mental Incapacity Evaluation contracts were amended to allow for telephonic psychological evaluations.

ABAWD Participation Good Cause [COVID-19 Response]

Effective March 16, 2020, all mandatory ABAWDs in King County have good cause not to participate due to Stay Home Stay Healthy orders by the Governor. Clients have the option to continue participation to the extent possible. Staff members continue to provide ABAWDs with referrals to Navigators. Navigators continue to refer ABAWDs to appropriate employment and training opportunities, but participation is not required.

July 2019

Changes to TANF-WorkFirst Permanent Disqualification Rules & Expansion of Time Limit Extension Criteria *[State Change]*

Effective July 28, 2019, families were no longer permanently disqualified from TANF cash assistance due to three sanction case closures for noncompliance with required WorkFirst activities. Also, TANF time limit hardship criteria was expanded to families experiencing homelessness, including individuals living:

- a. Outside;
- b. In a building or a location not meant for human habitation;
- c. In a building or location which they have no legal right to occupy;
- d. In an emergency shelter; or
- e. In a temporary housing program, which may include transitional and supportive housing programs with a limited duration of stay.

PWA Payment Standard Increase *[State Change]*

Effective July 1, 2019, the payment standards for the PWA recipients increased to \$363 (paying shelter) and \$221 (supplied shelter). These increases are based on changes approved in the 2019-21 Operating Budget. This change is a step towards improved support for families and individuals who are experiencing financial hardship.

Child Care Subsidy Programs *[State Change]*

Effective July 1, 2019, service delivery for the Working Connections Child Care and Seasonal Child Care subsidy programs moved to the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF).

May 2019

Cash Assistance Overpayments *[State Change]*

Effective May 1, 2019, CSD no longer

established cash overpayments for dependent children. This change supports the dependent child's financial well-being. CSD will establish an overpayment when a non-needy caretaker relative or guardian receives an overpayment on behalf of a dependent child. CSD will not use grant reductions to recover overpayments from non-needy caretaker relatives or guardians when the assessed overpayment was for a child who is not currently part of the assistance unit.

February 2019

Asset Limit Increase *[State Change]*

Effective February 1, 2019, resource limits for cash benefits increased. Increased resource limits allow applicants and recipients of cash benefits to save for emergencies and keep a reliable vehicle to get to and from appointments, school and work. The new limit for liquid resources increased from \$1,000 to \$6,000 and the new limit for vehicle equity increased from \$5,000 to \$10,000. This increase affected the following programs:

- a. TANF
- b. SFA
- c. ABD cash assistance
- d. HEN Referral program
- e. RCA, and
- f. PWA.

August 2018

Foundational Community Supports

Recipients of ABD and the HEN Referral program received referrals for Supported Employment and Supportive Housing benefits available for eligible clients through their Medicaid coverage.

July 2018

TANF Grant Increase *[State Change]*

Effective July 1, 2018, there was a 6.8 percent cash grant increase (in addition to the 2.5 percent increase in the 2017-19 enacted budget) for TANF, SFA, and RCA. The cumulative cash grant increase was 9.3 percent.

Child-Only TANF Means Testing Repeal [State Change]

Effective July 1, 2018, for child-only TANF or SFA, the caregiver's income no longer counted in determining eligibility or benefit amount. This change applied to households where the cash assistance provided is only for the child or children in the home. This change applied to relatives other than the child's parents (like a grandparent, sibling, aunt or uncle) and caregivers who are not related to the child.

Domestic Violence Unit Transfers to CSD [Administrative Change]

Effective July 1, 2018, the Domestic Violence (DV) Unit, including Victim Services and DV Perpetrator programs, transferred from DSHS Children's Administration to ESA/CSD. This change was a result of a DSHS reorganization following the move of Children's Administration to the newly created Department of Children, Youth and Families (HB 1661 2017 Legislative Session).

June 2018

Staying Connected

Effective June 1, 2018, recipients of CSD programs could access additional cell phone minutes if they were also customers of the federal Lifeline program through participating wireless carriers.

March 2018

ABD/HEN Referral

Effective March 13, 2018, recipients of the ABD program became eligible to receive a referral to

the Commerce administered HEN program. Eligibility for the HEN Referral program was also expanded to include individuals who are primarily incapacitated due to a substance use disorder.

Child Care

Effective March 1, 2018, there were new household composition requirements for single parent households when status could not be verified through DSHS systems.

Getting Connected

Effective March 2018, Employment Security Department and Community Service Division (CSD) created marketing materials to inform CSD recipients of free cell phone and voicemail services.

January 2018

Minimum Wage Increase

Effective January 1, 2018, the Washington minimum wage increased to \$11.50 per hour statewide with some areas having local increases above that amount.

- a. Paid Employment – the minimum wage increase affected all wages and cash benefits paid to Community Jobs (CJ) participants.
- b. Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) – the minimum wage increase may result in a decrease in the number of hours clients are required to participate in unpaid Work Experience (WE).

October 2017

WorkFirst

Effective October 19, 2017, the infant exemption was expanded to include parents with a child under two years of age. This change allowed a parent to be exempt from

mandatory WorkFirst activities for up to 24 months in a lifetime as long as there is a child in the home under two years of age. Parents were allowed to participate voluntarily in WorkFirst activities.

August 2017

Child Care

Starting August 1, 2017, licensed child care programs that accept state child care subsidies and serve children younger than school age must have completed training, verified the professional records of their staff, and completed self-assessments among other activities in Early Achievers, Washington's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) for child care.

July 2017

Child Care

Effective July 1, 2017, families experiencing homelessness were eligible for child care subsidies for a four-month grace period to address homelessness. At the end of this period, the parents must be working or in another approved activity for child care subsidy to continue. This new policy replaced the prior Department of Early Learning Homeless Child Care Program.

Working Family Support

Effective July 1, 2017 funding was approved through the biennium for Working Family Support program with a cap of 10,000 cases.

WorkFirst Activity

Effective July 23, 2017, allows for the expansion of vocational education as an approvable work activity from 12 months to 24 months.

January 2017

Basic Food

Beginning January 1, 2017, the Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) exemption was again expanded statewide, with the exception of King County (not including Muckleshoot tribal land). Non-exempt ABAWDs within King County, except for those residing on Muckleshoot tribal land, may only receive three months of Basic Food benefits within a 36-month period unless they:

- a) Worked at least 20 hours per week averaged monthly (80 hours/month);
- b) Completed at least 16 hours per month of unpaid volunteer work (called Workfare); or
- c) Participated in the BFET or Resources to Initiate Successful Employment (RISE) programs.

October 2016

Child Care

Effective October 1, 2016, when child care applicants reapply for child care and are above 200% FPL and below 220% FPL, they became eligible for a three-month grace period to transition to private pay childcare.

July 2016

Child Care

Effective July 1, 2016, child care applicants no longer had to report most changes after being approved, creating a true 12-month eligibility period. Clients could continue to use childcare if they were no longer in an approved activity or if their income went above 200% FPL. If the household income went above 85% State Median Income (SMI), the client's childcare would be closed. Licensed Child Care Centers and FFN providers received a flat 2% increase. Licensed Child Care Family Homes received an increase that varies geographically and is based

on the 75th percentile of the local child care market rate.

June 2016

Basic Food /Cash

Effective June 16, 2016, an applicant or recipient was only considered a fleeing felon if a law enforcement official presents the agency with a warrant for Escape, Flight, or Escape – Flight. This change was made to comply with federal regulations.

May 2016

Working Family Support

Effective May 1, 2016, families that receive Basic Food, Food Assistance for Legal Immigrants (FAP), or Transitional Food Assistance (TFA), work at least 35 hours per week, and have a qualifying child within their Basic Food household, may be eligible to receive an additional \$10 monthly food benefit. Benefits are covered by state funds.

February 2016

CEAP Suspension

Beginning February 1, 2016, the Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP) was suspended due to the exhaustion of state program funds.

January 2016

Basic Food

Beginning January 1, 2016, non-exempt Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) in King, Snohomish, and parts of Pierce counties only received three months of Basic Food benefits within a 36-month period unless they:

- a. Worked at least 20 hours per week averaged monthly (80 hours/month);

- b. Completed at least 16 hours per month of unpaid volunteer work (called Workfare); or
- c. Participated in the BFET or Resources to Initiate Successful Employment (RISE) programs.

The first time benefits closed because of these updated ABAWD rules was March 31, 2016. Even if the Basic Food benefits ended, ABAWD individuals were able to requalify if the person became exempt or participated in an approved activity. Otherwise, they would not be able to qualify for Basic Food again until January 1, 2018 when the 36-month period reset.

October 2015

New Refugee Program

The Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance utilized federal resources to create the new “PRIME” Program or Promoting Refugee Integration, Mobility, and Empowerment. PRIME is administered across the state by 16 different providers that offer comprehensive case management services, self-sufficiency education workshops, immigration assistance helping refugees apply for lawful permanent residence (a.k.a. green cards), and other new programs – such as a program targeting persons granted asylum or asylees. This program replaced the former Refugee Resettlement Assistance Program.

August 2015

Basic Food/Cash

Effective July 2015, households receiving Basic Food or Cash assistance with self-employment income could choose the greater of:

- a. A standard 50% deduction from the gross self-employment income; or

- b. A deduction consisting of actual verified and allowable costs of producing self-employment income that is above the 50% standard.

This rule change eliminated the \$100 standard self-employment income deduction for the cost of doing business rules.

July 2015

Basic Food

Effective July 1, 2015, the Legislature increased benefits under state-funded FAP from 75% of the federal SNAP benefit level to 100% of the federal SNAP benefit level.

May 2015

Child Care

Effective May 15, 2015, verification and eligibility changes were made regarding Working Connections Child Care 110 hour rule, verification requirements, eligibility determinations, and changes associated with school breaks. The changes, based on ACLARA sub-group recommendations and policy clarifications from the Department of Early Learning (DEL), are intended to streamline the eligibility determination process, remove barriers for consumers, and simplify billing procedures for child care providers.

CEAP Reinstatement

Beginning May 7, 2015, funding for the Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP) was available. The program had been suspended effective January 27, 2015.

TANF Home Visiting Referral Pilot

In spring of 2015, the TANF Home Visiting Referral Pilot for WorkFirst families began in six Community Services Offices. This pilot program provided exempt pregnancy to employment

pathway participants a referral to local Home Visiting Services.

April 2015

Child Care

Effective April 30, 2015, the Non-Standard Hours Bonus (NSHB) was suspended because funds were exhausted.

January 2015

Basic Food

Effective January 1, 2015, the Department provided a LIHEAP benefit of \$20.01 per year under the 'Heat and Eat' program to Basic Food households who do not receive the maximum food allotment and are not eligible for the Standard Utility Allowance based on paying heating costs.

Minimum Wage Increase

Effective January 1, the Washington minimum wage increased to \$9.47 per hour.

- a. Paid Employment – the minimum wage increase affected all wages and cash benefits paid to Community Jobs (CJ) and Job Connection (JC) programs.
- b. Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) – the minimum wage increase may result in a decrease in hours of mandatory participation.

CEAP Suspension

Beginning January 27, 2015, the Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP) was suspended due to the exhaustion of state program funds.

Child Care

Effective January 1, 2015, child care providers received a base rate increase in their child care subsidy rates of four percent.

Refugee Cash Assistance

Effective January 1, 2015, refugee adults receiving RCA received a formal assessment and referral to the Limited English Proficient Pathway employment and English programs by Social Services Specialists through eJAS.

November 2014**WorkFirst**

Effective November 1, 2014, the WorkFirst sanction rules were changed to re-engage WorkFirst participants sooner and to help them get full benefit from their 60 months of TANF assistance. There were now two types of sanction penalties: sanction reduction penalty and sanction termination penalty. If the parent attended the noncompliance case staffing and did not have good cause, the parent would be subject to the sanction reduction penalty for two months. If the parent was sanctioned for two months in a row, his/her TANF grant might close. If the parent did not attend the noncompliance case staffing or the home visit, the TANF case would be closed the first of the following month after 10-day notice.

Basic Food

Effective November 1, 2014, all Basic Food households that did not receive WASHCAP had to pay heating or cooling separate from rent, or receive LIHEAP benefits of more than \$20 yearly, to qualify for the Standard Utility Allowance (SUA). The change was in response to the passage of the Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act of 2014 (Farm Bill), limiting the option for states to use a \$1 or other minimal energy assistance payment to provide food assistance households the Standard Utility Allowance or SUA.

July 2014**ABD Disability Standards**

Effective July 1, 2014, the ABD program reverted to the more restrictive disability standards, in accordance with the passage of Senate Bill 6573. The minimum duration requirement increased from nine to twelve months and consideration of an individual's ability to perform past work extended from ten to fifteen years.

WorkFirst Comprehensive Evaluation (CE)

Effective July 18, 2014, a new WorkFirst CE assisted case managers in completing a more thorough upfront evaluation when TANF was approved. The new CE was recommended as part of the 2010 WorkFirst Redesign Initiative.

Child Care

Effective July 1, 2014, child care providers received a base rate increase in their child care subsidy rates of four percent.

June 2014**WorkFirst Orientation**

Effective June 1, 2014, completion of a new WorkFirst (WF) Orientation is required as a condition of eligibility for all TANF and SFA applicants. The new orientation was implemented to ensure clients receive consistent information statewide about the WF program, including the services and supports available and activities that may be required for participation in the TANF/SFA program.

May 2014**AREN Twelve-Month Limit**

Effective May 1, 2014, the Department reinstated the 12-month limit for the Additional Requirements for Emergent Needs (AREN) program and eliminated the \$750 lifetime limit.

Reporting Indigence Exemptions

A new streamlined process for reporting indigence exemptions to sponsor deeming for legal immigrants was introduced, and with the exception of SSI related medical (S02), the Department no longer reports indigence exemption for medical programs.

April 2014**Categorical Eligibility for Basic Food Income Limit**

Effective April 1, 2014, the 200% of federal poverty level (FPL) standards used for categorical eligible households increased.

March 2014**Reinstatement of Basic Food Standard Utility Allowances**

Effective March 10, 2014, the Department began using actual utility expenses to calculate the shelter expenses and final benefits for all new applicants

February 2014**WorkFirst Housing Pathway Pilot-Phase 2**

Starting February 15, 2014, the WorkFirst Housing Pathway Pilot was expanded to Pacific, Wahkiakum, and Jefferson counties. In partnership with the Department of Commerce, this pilot focused on serving WorkFirst families who were currently homeless by obtaining housing, with the goal of moving families to self-sufficiency within six months.

January 2014**Changes to the ABD, HEN, and Medical Care Services (MCS) Programs**

Substitute House Bill 2069 temporarily established less restrictive disability criteria for the ABD cash assistance program, created a new HEN referral program, and modified the

eligibility for the state-funded MCS medical assistance program.

- a. ABD-Disability criteria reduced the minimum disability duration requirement from twelve to nine months, and reduced consideration of an individual's ability to perform past work from fifteen to ten years.
- b. HEN Referral-this new referral program replaced MCS as the gateway to potential HEN eligibility.
- c. MCS-Maintained the state-funded MCS medical assistance program for ABD and HEN Referral recipients who are ineligible for Medicaid due to their immigration status.

Affordable Care Act (ACA) Implementation

Effective January 1, 2014, eligible ABD and HEN Referral recipients were transitioned from medical programs administered by DSHS to Washington Apple Health (WAH) Medicaid administered through the Health Benefit Exchange (HBE).

CEAP Suspension

State funding for Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP) was exhausted. The program was suspended effective January 1, 2014 through June 30, 2014.

Minimum Wage Increase

Effective January 1 2014, the Washington minimum wage increased to \$9.32 per hour.

- a. Paid Employment – the minimum wage increase affected all wages and cash benefits paid to Community Jobs (CJ) and Job Connection (JC) programs. A client's January income must be prospectively budgeted against January benefits.

- b. Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) – the minimum wage increase may result in a decrease in hours of mandatory WorkFirst participation.

December 2013

Child Care

Effective December 1, 2013, parents who received Working Connections Child Care benefits and participated in 110 hours or more of approved work or work-related activities became eligible for full-time child care services in accordance with the passage of Senate Bill 5595.

State Supplemental Payment (SSP) Decrease

Starting December 1, 2013, the Department reduced the State Supplemental Assistance Program (SSP) payment for SSI recipients who are aged, blind, or have an ineligible spouse from \$46 to \$40 to stay within available funds.

November 2013

WorkFirst Housing Pathway Pilot-Phase 1

Starting November 1, 2013, the WorkFirst Housing Pathway Pilot rolled out in the five “Ending Family Homelessness” pilot counties: Whatcom, Snohomish, Cowlitz, Mason, and Spokane. In partnership with the Department of Commerce, this pilot focused on serving WorkFirst families who are currently homeless by obtaining housing, with the goal of moving families to self-sufficiency within six months.

Reductions to Basic Food, Washington Combined Application Project (WASHCAP), and FAP for Legal Immigrants Benefit

Effective November 1, 2013, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) supplements ended resulting in a decrease in SNAP benefit levels. FAP benefit levels based on Basic Food levels (75% of SNAP) also decreased.

October 2013

WorkFirst Support Services Instant Issuance Fuel Card

Starting October 1, 2013, Bank of America (BOA) fuel cards could provide gasoline assistance for participants in the WorkFirst program. Fuel cards could be authorized for up to \$50, and would only work at gas pumps.

Restoration of Community Works

Effective October 18, 2013, the Department introduced the Community Works (WC) program as a new unpaid work experience program that was structured to provide WorkFirst participants structured unpaid work experience.

Affordable Care Act (ACA) Implementation

Starting in October 2013, the Department began transitioning eligible Family, Children, and Pregnancy Medicaid recipients from medical programs administered by DSHS to Washington Apple Health (WAH) Medicaid administered through the Health Benefit Exchange. The transition process continued through September 2014.

September 2013

Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) Second Program Violation

As required by Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill ESSB 5921, the Department now requires a protective payee for a client after two program violations for using public assistance benefits at a prohibited location.

August 2013

Basic Food Elderly Interview Waiver

Starting August 2013, elderly households (age 60+) without earnings were no longer required to have an interview for Basic Food Benefits if

all necessary verification was provided or available through system interfaces, and no information was questionable.

July 2013

CEAP Reinstatement

Funding became available for CEAP. Any applications for CEAP received on or after July 1, 2013 could be approved.

Increased Benefit Level for FAP

Effective July 1, 2013, the state budget changed the benefit calculation from 50% of the SNAP to 75% for the state-funded food benefits to legal immigrants.

May 2013

Voluntary Community Service (VS)

An instructional memo and flyer were issued that encouraged the use of Voluntary Community Services as a core WorkFirst activity, including for parents with young children re-engaging in WorkFirst after the temporary suspension allowed under ESSB 5921 ended.

April 2013

LEP Pathway expansions/pilot projects (skills training & intensive ESL)

The Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance (ORIA) implemented these expansions/pilots to focus on two of the most important skills newcomers need in order to integrate into their new communities: 1) teach job skills in specific industries, and 2) provide intensive ESL instruction to give newly arrived refugees and immigrants additional time to increase their English proficiency.

February 2013

The Department removed individual dollar limits for each WorkFirst support service type while retaining the annual \$3,000 limit.

January 2013

Minimum Wage Increase

Effective January 1, 2013, the Washington minimum wage increased to \$9.19 per hour.

- a. Paid Employment – the minimum wage increase affected all wages and cash benefits paid to Community Jobs (CJ) and Job Connection (JC) programs. A client's January income must be prospectively budgeted against January benefits.
- b. Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) – the minimum wage increase may result in a decrease in hours of mandatory WorkFirst participation.

CEAP Suspension

State funding for Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP) was exhausted. The program was suspended effective January 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013

August 2012

EBT Fees

Starting August 1, 2012, public assistance recipients were no longer charged an \$0.85 fee by JP Morgan Chase when using their EBT card to make an ATM cash withdrawal.

Pre-Paid Merchant Cards

Starting August 1, 2012, the use of an automated system (Card Minder) was implemented to track pre-paid merchant cards to assist in issuing Support Services. The pre-paid merchant cards did not eliminate the use of vouchers. Vouchers would continue to be

used for support services exceeding \$50.00, or when pre-paid merchant cards were not an option.

The temporary automated system used to track pre-paid merchant cards is called "CardMinder." This system:

- a. Allowed the Department to track the cards from the time they arrive in ESA Fiscal to when they are issued to a client.
- b. Used a magnetic card reader similar to EBT.
- c. Had limited functionality because it was not able to track negotiables that did not have magnetic coding such as bus passes or tickets. The current purchase, issuance and tracking of transportation negotiables remained unchanged.

Is unable to attribute issuances to a specific client or subcategory in eJAS.

July 2012

In accordance with the 2012 Supplemental Budget (3ESHB 2127), the following changes took effect:

- a. TANF Payment Standard – the maximum TANF cash grant was increased from \$726 to \$941 for families of six or more.
- b. FAP for Legal Immigrants – funding now
 - i. Provided at 50% of the benefit level for federal SNAP.
- c. Child Care Subsidy Program :
 - i. Eligibility increased from 175% to 200% FPL; and
 - ii. Certifications increased from 6-month to 12-month periods.
- d. WorkFirst Services – funding reduced by about \$821,000 (1.1%).

- e. Division of Child Support – funding provided for 16 additional FTEs in SFY 2013 (effective July 1, 2012) to increase the amount of child support collected and retained by the state.
- f. Department of Early Learning – funding of \$100,000 provided for a contract with an independent consultant to evaluate and recommend an optimum system for the child care eligibility determination process, with a report due to the Office of Financial Management and Legislature by December 31, 2012.

WorkFirst Participation

As required by ESSB 5921, the Department began re-engaging TANF parents with young children who chose a temporary suspension of WorkFirst participation requirements. ESSB 5921 required DSHS to begin phasing parents required to participate in WorkFirst back into work activity over the course of SFY 2013, starting with parents closest to reaching the 60-month TANF time limit.

CEAP Reinstatement

Funding was available for CEAP. Any applications for CEAP received on or after July 1, 2012 might be approved.

EBT

The Department negotiated changes to the EBT fee structure with JP Morgan Chase:

- a. Cost per case fee – JP Morgan Chase reduced the monthly fee charged to the state for each case that receives an EBT benefit deposit during a given month, called the 'Cost per Case Month' fee. The fee varied, depending on the type(s) of benefits that was deposited in a person's EBT card account (food only, cash only, or combined food and cash benefits). The chart below

compares the old and new monthly cost per case fees.

- b. **Liquidated Damage fee** – Washington's EBT contract included a 'Liquidated Damage' fee for an option that allowed the Department to assess charges against the EBT vendor for extended and unplanned EBT service outages that resulted in clients being unable to access their benefits. Because it was not cost-effective, the Department and JP Morgan Chase agreed to drop this option effective July 1, 2012.

June 2012

Child Care Subsidy Program – As required by SSB 6386 and HB 2828, the requirement that an applicant or recipient of child care subsidies seek child support services through the Division of Child Support was eliminated.

Early SSI Transition Pilot – As required by SB 6223, the pilot was repealed. The pilot was started in August 2010 (as part of the Disability Lifeline program) and ended in December 2011.

FAP for Legal Immigrants – On June 10, 2012, the U.S. District Court formally dismissed the claims in Case No C11-119 MJP based on an earlier ruling by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. This action by the US District Court fully resolved the FAP lawsuit (see February 2011). Because the state budget changed, the Department no longer needed to eliminate FAP. The Department moved forward with implementing a change in FAP benefit levels. The SFY 2012 Supplemental Budget approved by the Legislature funded FAP at only 50% of the benefit level for the federal SNAP, to be effective July 1, 2012.

February 2012

AREN Lifetime Limit – The Department implemented a \$750 lifetime limit for the AREN program. All AREN payments issued to any adult recipient since April 2001 would be counted against the lifetime limit. Exceptions were granted only when the household's health and safety would be in imminent danger. All AREN payments were to be issued directly to a vendor.

January 2012

CEAP Suspension – The Department suspended the consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP) through June 30, 2012 due to exhaustion of state program funds. Staff manually denied all CEAP applications that were not processed or in pending status prior to January 1, 2012

December 2011

A pilot to eliminate issuance of EBT replacement cards in local offices began in the Access Spokane offices for a six-month period. The majority of EBT replacement cards were to be issued by the vendor via mail, with limited and clearly defined emergency exception criteria for local office issuance. If the pilot was successful, the EBT replacement card mailing

	Monthly Case Fee		
	Prior to July 1, 2012	Effective July 1, 2012	Difference
Food-only Cases	\$1.24	\$0.85	Savings of \$0.39 per case
Cash-only Cases	\$0.67	\$0.53	Savings of \$0.14 per case
Combined Food and Cash Cases	\$1.65	\$1.26	Savings of \$0.39 per case

protocol would be expanded statewide in July 2012.

The Department implemented a **permanent TANF/SFA disqualification** for clients who had three or more WorkFirst non-compliance sanction (NCS) terminations since March 1, 2007 when the NCS termination policy was implemented.

November 2011

In accordance with *Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill (ESSB) 5921*, the Department changed the rules for determining eligibility for a non-parental “child-only” TANF/SFA cash grant. The Department began means testing non-parental child-only grants by counting the income for all household members in addition to the recipient child’s income to determine eligibility.

- a. Means testing applied to kinship or legal guardian child-only cases.
- b. Households with income:
 - I. At or below 200% of FPL would receive a grant based on the payment standard for TANF/SFA families.
 - II. Between 200% and 300% of FPL would receive a grant based on reduced payment standards:

FPL	Payment Standard
201% thru 225% of FPL	80% of payment standard
226% thru 250% of FPL	60% of payment standard
251% thru 275% of FPL	40% of payment standard
276% thru 300% of FPL	20% of payment standard

- III. Over 300% FPL would no longer be eligible for a child-only cash grant.
- c. Required a Social Security number (SSN) for anyone in the household when needed to verify

income.

- d. Children who had been placed by a state or tribal child welfare agency and had an open child welfare case would *not* be subject to means testing.
- e. The means testing assistance unit (household) would include the person applying on the child’s behalf, any dependents of the caregiver, and other persons who were financially responsible for the caregiver or the TANF child. For example, the caregiver/relative, caregiver’s spouse, caregiver’s children, and TANF/SFA recipient child(ren).
- f. There would be no resource test for non-parental child-only caretaker relative households.
- g. Budgeting of the recipient child(ren)’s income and resources against the payment standard would remain the same, but would occur only after the household means test had been applied.
- h. Means testing did not change medical, food and child care eligibility.

In accordance with *Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill (ESSB) 5921*, the Department implemented a **60-month time limit** on TANF child-only cases in which the parent is in the home and is ineligible for TANF, with the same limited hardship extensions that apply to regular TANF cases.

In accordance with Engrossed Substitute House Bill 2082, the **Disability Lifeline (DL) program ended** effective November 1, 2011, pursuant RCW 74.60.020. Three new programs were created under RCW 74.60.030 to serve the former DL population:

- a. The ABD program would provide cash assistance to persons who were age 65 or older, blind or likely to meet the disability standard for the federal SSI program. The maximum monthly grant would be \$197 for one person.
- b. The **PWA** program would provide cash assistance to individuals who are pregnant and not eligible for Washington’s

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. The maximum monthly grant would be \$197 for one person.

- c. The **HEN** program, administered through the Department of Commerce, would provide essential needs items (e.g., bus passes, personal hygiene items, toiletries) and housing supports (e.g. rent and utility assistance) to certain individuals who were unable to work for at least 90 days due to a physical or mental incapacity.

October 2011

In accordance with *Engrossed Substitute House Bill 2082*, the **Disability Lifeline (DL) program** was eliminated effective October 31, 2011.

September 2011

The Economic Services Administration (ESA) issued supplemental payments, ranging from \$27 to \$69 per month, to about 34,000 Disability Lifeline clients after discovering that the emergency rule had expired that allowed the DL grant reduction in April 2011. The emergency rule expired on July 12, 2011 and because the permanent rule had not been filed to continue the lower grant standard (\$197) beyond July 12, the Department was obligated to restore the DL grant standard to the higher amount (\$266) in effect prior to April 1.

July 2011

The Washington State Legislature made seeking **child support enforcement services** from the Division of Child Support (DCS) a condition of eligibility for child care subsidies, effective July 1, 2011, unless the applicant met one of the good cause reasons set forth in the Department of Early Learning rules. It was expected that child support would increase household income to the point that either co-payments were increased or families were no longer eligible for

subsidized care, using the savings realized to provide child care subsidies for more families.

The Washington State Legislature adopted changes to the **Uniform Parentage Act** (Chapter 26.26.RCW), changing the focus of the act to the determination of parentage, as opposed to the former emphasis on paternity. Although the changes in the law did not have a major impact on the administrative procedures of the Division of Child Support (DCS), the law made many changes that impacted judicial proceedings concerning parentage, which affected the prosecuting attorneys who represent DCS. Certain persons were now considered to have the legal status of parents regardless of gender or biological connection, based on their legal relationship at the time the child was born. A new presumption of parentage was established where an individual resides with a child for the first two years of the child's life and openly claims the child as his or her child. A minor parent who signed an acknowledgment or denial of paternity now had until the minor parent's 19th birthday to file an action in court to rescind the acknowledgment. The former two-year statute of limitations was increased to four years: a person may challenge an acknowledgment or bring a proceeding in court to adjudicate the parentage of a child having a presumed parent within four years of the child's birth; if the child was more than two years old when the action commenced, the child must now be made a party to the action.

FNS amended overpayment rules to remove the alien sponsor liability for food assistance overpayments incurred by aliens they sponsored. This change was the result of regulations filed on December 15, 2010.

The Washington State Legislature reset the state **FAP benefit** at half the amount of the federal SNAP benefit effective July 1 as a cost saving measure to help balance the state's budget. Prior to that, FAP households received the same amount of benefits as SNAP households.

Temporary Suspension of WorkFirst Participation

Parents could choose to suspend participation for a WorkFirst parent, or caretaker, with a child under age two, or two or more children under age six. During the suspension period, parents would be encouraged to participate in WorkFirst activities, be placed in participation suspension upon request, and not be eligible for support services such as transportation and childcare unless volunteering to participate in WorkFirst activities. Notices regarding this change will be mailed by July 6, 2011 to WorkFirst participants that met the criteria.

Expanded WorkFirst Work Activities

State law changed to expand allowable activities to include the following:

- a. WorkFirst "work activities" would include parent education services or programs that support development of parenting skills, life skills, and employment-related competencies; and
- b. Community Service activities were expanded to include volunteering at their child's licensed childcare, preschool, or elementary school.

Department of Commerce began two new programs:

- a. Job Connection Program – This program provided participants with opportunities to

build references, develop networking connections, and demonstrate their work skills directly through employment by performing jobs within their chosen field.

- b. Career Development Program – This program provided a volunteer unpaid work activity to participants to support their engagement in an education pathway.

Career Scope Pilots

Career Scope was ESD's new approach to employment service delivery that focused on individualized services. Pilots began in July 2011 in Mount Vernon, Bellingham, North Seattle, Port Angeles, Bremerton, and Spokane.

Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA) Changes

DCA maximum payment amount increased from \$1,000 to \$1,250 in a twelve-month period.

Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP) Changes

CEAP funding was made available for the next biennium. Staff could approve all applications received on or after July 1 if the household met the program eligibility.

Child Care Changes

The Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) policies were changed to reflect the following:

- a. Applicants were required to seek support enforcement services as a condition of WCCC eligibility unless they had good cause.
- b. Customer Service Center began processing seasonal childcare applications.
- c. Non-Standard Hours Bonus (NSHB) funding was reinstated due to the approval of state program funds for the new biennium.

May 2011

The grant maximum for cash assistance was reduced from \$941 to \$726 per month. The change reduced TANF, State Family Assistance, and Refugee Cash Assistance grants for most families with more than five household members. The change was necessary due to a budget shortfall and increased demand for services by families affected by the economic recession.

Child support pass-through payments to custodial parents receiving TANF were suspended May 1, 2011, as required under SSB 6893 that was passed by the Washington State Legislature in a special session held in December 2010.

April 2011

The full Pregnancy-to-Employment assessment for the other parent in a two-parent household was eliminated. A partial assessment was required after the child was born.

Disability Lifeline grants were reduced by 25%, from \$266 to \$197 for one person.

March 2011

In an effort to achieve cost savings and align participation requirements with the federal TANF standard, WorkFirst **participation requirements for single parents** with a child under age six were reduced from 32 to 20 hours per week. The 20 hours per week participation requirement had to be in a core activity. Parents were allowed to voluntarily participate full-time. Full-time activities included Community Jobs and Vocational Education.

Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) changes:

- a. **Waiting List** – With the exceptions noted below, families applying for WCCC with income at or below 175% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) would be placed on a waiting list. Program openings would be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Families would be notified when there are openings in the program and would have ten days to begin the application process.

The following groups would receive **priority access** to WCCC and would not be included in the waiting list:

- I. All TANF families;
- II. Families with pending TANF due to curing a WorkFirst sanction; and
- III. Families with a verifiable special needs child.

- b. **Copayment Increase** – Copays for families with income above 82% of the FPL increased as follows:

Income level	Copayment	Change
At or below 82% of FPL	At or below 82% of FPL	No change
Above 82% up to 137.5% FPL	Above 82% up to 137.5% FPL	\$10 increase
Above 137.5% through 175% FPL	Above 137.5% through 175% FPL	\$10 increase plus an increase in multiplying from 44% to 50%

In response to a budget shortfall, the Department implemented **emergency rules to count federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** when determining TANF eligibility and benefit levels. The emergency rules were challenged in federal court. The plaintiffs'

motion for a temporary restraining order was orally granted on February 28, 2011, and an order entered shortly thereafter. During the month of March 2011, the Department reinstated benefits for approximately 8,250 families affected by this change. Subsequent legislation in 2011 (ESSB 5921 Section 5) prohibited DSHS from including SSI income when determining TANF eligibility and benefit levels.

February 2011

In December 2010, DSHS adopted a rule-making order to **eliminate the FAP** on February 1, 2011. FAP provided state-funded food assistance to approximately 13,700 individuals who resided in Washington legally, but did not meet the requirements for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Washington's Basic Food program) because of their immigration status. Roughly 68% of these individuals lived in "mixed" households, where some family members were eligible for and receiving federal food benefits. On January 20, 2011, legal services filed a lawsuit in federal court to stop DSHS from ending FAP. On January 27, 2011, the court granted legal services' motion for a temporary restraining order and required DSHS to continue providing FAP benefits. This motion was later followed by a preliminary injunction that barred DSHS from terminating or reducing FAP benefits. The Washington State Legislature passed Supplemental Budget ESHB 1086, which reduced FAP benefits to 50% of the benefit levels for the SNAP program. Benefit rule changes under this legislation were to be implemented April 1, 2011; however, the preliminary injunction also prevented implementation of this reduction. Currently,

the preliminary injunction is on appeal before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

TANF time limit hardship extension changes took effect. Revised hardship extensions were granted for parents or needy relative caregivers:

- a. Approved for WorkFirst exemption due to age, disability or because of a need to stay home to care for a disabled family member or required to apply for SSI; or
- b. Participating in a family violence service plan developed by someone trained in family violence; or
- c. With an open child welfare case with a state or tribal government and it is the first time any child in the home has been involved in dependency considerations or action; or
- d. Employed 32 hours or more per week; or
- e. Recipient needy relative caregivers over age 55.

In response to budget reductions, **TANF 15% grant reduction** took effect. This change also reduced payment standards for Refugee Cash Assistance, State Family Assistance, Consolidated Emergency Assistance Program, and the Maximum Earned Income and Grant Maximum payment standards.

Temporary Suspension of Working Connections Child Care Field Trip Fee Reimbursement

In response to budget reductions, licensed or certified child care centers would no longer be able to bill for field trip fees. The change did not affect licensed or certified family home child care providers.

January 2011

Disability Lifeline

Effective January 1, 2011, ESA implemented a reduction of 21.4% to the average grant for Disability Lifeline clients (formerly General Assistance). About 41,000 clients, who were eligible for the program due to physical or psychological incapacities, were affected by the reduction. The reductions were needed to meet the Governor's mandate for 6.3% across the board spending cuts and to offset anticipated savings lost due to the *Elkins vs. Dreyfus* Temporary Restraining Order (TRO).

Disability Lifeline – the **Vocational Rehabilitation Assessment Tool** was implemented. When a determination was made that a person would be likely to benefit from vocational rehabilitation services, the individual was required to participate with DVR in order to remain eligible for the monthly stipend and housing voucher or cash grant. If the person refused to participate, the Department was required to terminate the cash stipend and housing voucher or cash grant, but could not terminate medical coverage.

DCA Reduction

Effective January 1, 2011, the DCA maximum payment amount decreased from \$1,250 to \$1,000 in a 12-month period. This reduction was approved by the Legislature during the 2010 Special Session. The reduction was temporary and expected to end June 30, 2011, as it was not proposed to be carried over into the next biennium.

Working Connections Child Care

Changing the income limit for Working Connections Childcare (WCCC) to 175% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) began in October 2010 and was anticipated to be phased in over six months. Effective January 1, 2011, the new

income limit was applied to all remaining households exceeding 175% of FPL.

Tribal TANF Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Funding Reduction

Effective January 1, 2011, state MOE funding for Tribal TANF programs was reduced by 6.3% in response to the Governor's Across-the-Board budget reduction directive.

WorkFirst Funding for Children's Administration

Effective January 1, 2011, WorkFirst funding used to support the delivery of child welfare services was reduced by 6.3% in response to the Governor's Across-the-Board budget reduction directive.

December 2010

Naturalization

The Department eliminated the Naturalization program, which was projected to serve approximately 4,200 clients in 2010. The program provided assistance, such as help paying fees and preparation for the Naturalization test, to individuals who received public assistance but had not yet attained citizenship. Although the Naturalization program included a proviso for a small portion of the funding, the majority of the program funding was provided by the State's General Fund.

Refugee Services

The Department reduced contracts with community-based agencies that provide employment placement, English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) training, job skills training, job search workshops, and job retention services for refugees and legal immigrants with limited English proficiencies who receive TANF or Refugee Cash Assistance, and those who have

resided in the United States for less than five years but do not receive assistance. The reductions were effective December 1, 2010 and limited services available to this population.

TANF Two-Parent Participation Change

An additional participation option was added to allow both parents in a qualifying family to split the 35 hour per week requirement.

October 2010

On August 12, 2010, the Governor announced the details of a plan to keep the WorkFirst budget in balance. Faced with a \$51 million shortfall, difficult decisions had to be made to ensure a balanced budget and protect the safety net for vulnerable families and children. The following changes became effective October 1, 2010:

a. Eliminated Services –

- i. Post TANF/SFA Services – All support services and tuition assistance for clients who no longer received TANF or SFA were eliminated. Staff no longer provided clients with post-TANF support services or post-TANF tuition assistance once a client had exited the program.
- ii. Sanction Review Panel – The Sanction Review Panel (SRP) was eliminated.

b. Suspended Services

The Career Services Program (CSP) administered by the Employment Security Department was suspended.

c. Reduced Services

- i. **DCA** –The maximum DCA allotment was reduced to \$1,250 from \$1,500 in a 12-month period.

- ii. **Working Connections Childcare (WCCC)** – Income limit for (WCCC) was reduced to 175% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). The new income limit was used to determine eligibility:

1. When the current authorization period ends for families with open WCCC cases.
2. For new WCCC applications submitted on or after October 1, 2010.

iii. Reduced Partner Agency Funding and Expenditures

1. DSHS staffing program support costs were reduced by 6%
2. Education and training expenditures and funding to the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges were reduced by 10%
3. Employment services expenditures and funding to Employment Security Department were reduced by 2.1%
4. Funding for Supported Works programs operated by the Department of Commerce was reduced by 9.8%. This reduction eliminated the Supported Works programs once funding was exhausted in December 2010.

d. **Participation Requirement Change – Two-Parent Participation** – Two-parent households were now able to coordinate their activities to meet WorkFirst participation requirements. The parents were required to engage in at least 35 hours per week of WorkFirst activities (30 hours core/5 hours of core or non-core). One parent in a qualifying two-parent household could opt out of participation as long as the participating parent was engaged in WorkFirst activities at least 35 hours per week. Effective December 1, an additional option was added to allow both parents in a qualifying family to split the 35 hour per week requirement.

e. **AREN Change** – Rules for AREN did not change but were reinforced. In accordance with WAC 388-436-0002, prior to issuance of funds for utility assistance, a client was required to apply for local community resources and submit written verification from the community provider that utility assistance was not available.

As of October 2010, AREN requests beyond \$500 and up to the \$750 program limit now required referral to a supervisor or designee for approval.

Elkins v. Dreyfus – **Disability Lifeline time limits were stopped.**

a. A lawsuit was filed in August 2010 against the Department regarding the implementation of the time limits for the Disability Lifeline (DL) program. The plaintiffs sought an injunction to stop any termination of benefits and to reinstate October benefits for those terminated from the program. On October 13, 2010, a federal District Court judge issued a temporary restraining order, prohibiting the

Department from terminating Disability Lifeline clients due to time limits and ordering the Department to reinstate benefits for persons previously terminated for time limits. The court found that plaintiffs were likely to succeed in their claims that they did not receive adequate notice of termination and that the Department's disability review process did not determine whether the plaintiffs met the SSI disability standard prior to termination, as required under the statute. It was determined that the Department did not have the resources to complete the full five-step sequential evaluation process for SSI disability for all clients subject to the time limits and was unable to implement the policy under the current statutory language. Therefore, the Department reinstated benefits for all affected clients and did not implement time limits before the disability lifeline program was eliminated in October 2011.

b. The Department revised the estimated ratable reduction that was scheduled to take effect January 1, 2011. The revised reduction was increased from approximately 11.8% to grant payment standards for Disability Lifeline clients (formerly General Assistance) to 23.9% due to the effect of the Temporary Restraining Order. About 41,000 clients, who were eligible for the program due to a temporary incapacity, were affected by the reduction.

September 2010

Governor Christine Gregoire announced that all state agencies had to **reduce their budgets** by 6.3%. ESA was required to achieve a reduction target of about \$36.6 million in General Fund-state savings between October 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011.

Disability Lifeline – time limits took effect. By September, case reviews had to occur for all clients who had been on assistance for at least 12-19 months. A client could be terminated, due to the time limits, unless the case had been reviewed to determine whether the client was likely to be eligible for SSI.

July 2010

CEAP eligibility was expanded to include families who had been terminated due to a Non-Compliance Sanction and who were participating for 4 consecutive weeks before they could qualify for TANF/SFA.

Disability Lifeline (DL) changes mandated by E2SHB 2782 began July 6, 2010:

- a. Chemical dependency treatment became a condition of eligibility for all DL recipients who were assessed as chemically dependent;
- b. Training for chemical dependency treatment, vocational rehabilitation services and sanction policy became available;
- c. Case reviews were to be completed by July, 2010 when a client had been on assistance for at least 20 months; and
- d. Early SSI Transition Project began in King, Pierce and Spokane counties – the Department contracted with a managed health care system, Community Health Plan of Washington (CHPW), to operate a project intended to quickly transition Disability Lifeline recipients to Medicaid and SSI. Under the project, CHPW would:
 - I. (Starting 08/01/2010) help recipients identified as potentially disabled file and pursue applications for Supplemental Security Income (SSI).
 - II. (Starting 11/01/2010) schedule and perform incapacity evaluations when medical evidence was not already available.

Non-Compliance Sanction Termination Policy was changed so that families were terminated after four consecutive months of sanction. Prior policy was to terminate after six months of sanction. In addition:

- a. Parents who were terminated for non-compliance sanction were required to comply with program requirements for four consecutive weeks before they could receive a TANF grant, regardless of the length of time between termination and reapplication.
- b. All parents who exited TANF while they were in sanction status were required to come back in sanction when they reapplied, regardless of the length of time they had been off TANF.
- c. The process was streamlined by eliminating one case staffing, giving parents one comprehensive case staffing before sanction occurred. Effective October 1, 2010 the panel that reviewed cases prior to termination was eliminated.

Career Services Program (CSP) eligibility changes took effect. In response to budget reductions, CSP no longer enrolled Basic Food Assistance parents. Basic Food Assistance parents that had enrolled in CSP prior to July 1, 2010 continued to receive services and assistance for the duration of their six months of enrollment as long as they maintained their program eligibility.

Effective July 1, 2010, DCS adopted rules to provide that collections from federal tax refund

offset were to be applied only to support arrears, and first to arrears assigned to the state; this rule change was based on budgetary needs.

May 2010

The following **Disability Lifeline medical evidence rule changes** took effect:

Diagnoses of impairments based on examinations performed within 12 months of the application were now accepted.

Rules clarified that the Department could use only diagnoses of impairments that were independent of addiction or chemical dependency, defined as “expected to persist after 90 days of abstinence,” to determine incapacity.

A medical evidence request letter for physical impairments (Form 14-150) was revised to support these changes.

April 2010

The **WorkFirst procedures for approving deferrals and exemptions** for WorkFirst parents who were needed in the home to care for children and adult relatives with physical, mental or emotional disorders were changed:

- a. The changes limited Children with Special Needs Public Health Nurse evaluations to an initial evaluation unless a supervisor approved a follow-up evaluation.
- b. Two Public Health Nurse Evaluation forms were condensed and consolidated into a new DSHS 10-255, Special Needs Evaluation and Engagement Recommendations form. The revised form focused on the child’s care requirements, the parent’s ability to participate, and how long the parent was

expected to be needed in the home to care for the child.

- c. The changes eliminated the case staffing and set new criteria for approving disability-related exemptions.

March 2010

Effective March 29, 2010, the Washington State Legislature enacted E2SHB 2782, which eliminated the General Assistance (GA) program and created the **Disability Lifeline (DL)** program. Major characteristics of the new DL program were:

- a. Time limits of 24 months out of 60 months, effective September 1, 2010 through June 13, 2013;
- b. Participation in chemical dependency treatment or vocational rehabilitation services as conditions of eligibility;
- c. Creation of a housing voucher program administered by the Department of Commerce;
- d. Development and use of a new assessment tool to determine whether Division of Vocational Rehabilitation programs could assist Disability Lifeline recipients in returning to work;
- e. The Department is required, during the application process, to ask if the applicant had ever served in the U.S. military. If yes, the Department must confer with the state or federal Department of Veterans Affairs or contracted veteran’s affairs service officer to determine whether the applicant might be eligible for any benefits or programs offered to veterans; and
- f. The Department is required to contract with a managed health care system or other qualified entity to operate a project aimed at quickly transitioning individuals with a

disability who are likely to qualify for federal disability benefits into the Disability Lifeline Expedited Program, extending what was previously known as the GA-X program. The pilot began in King, Pierce and Spokane counties July 1, 2010 with a mandate to expand statewide by October 1, 2011.

November 2009

Most GA-U recipients began access to Medical Care Services (MCS) benefits through Community Health Plan of Washington (CHPW). CHPW provided medical benefits to GA-U recipients in King and Pierce Counties beginning January 2005 through a managed care pilot project. A mental health component was added to the pilot in December 2007.

October 2009

Income rules for employed General Assistance recipients changed to a 50% earned income disregard.

A new Washington State Child Support Schedule was implemented. Changes included:

- a. The presumptive minimum child support order increased to \$50 per month per child;
- b. The need standard was replaced by a “self-support reserve” set at 125% of the federal poverty level;
- c. The schedule was now presumptive from the \$1,000 to \$12,000 income levels;
- d. Income from second jobs was excluded from the gross income calculation;
- e. New rules were created for imputing income.

Based on requirements in the federal regulations, Child Support orders entered in Washington State were now required to have language requiring medical support from both parents and allowing for a collection of a

medical premium share against one or both parents when that parent did not provide insurance. If the obligated parent did not provide health insurance for the child and the order contained a provision for allowing collection of the medical premium share, that share could be collected upon request. Each parent was responsible for a proportionate share of uninsured medical costs. Upon proof of expense, DCS would enforce uninsured medical costs.

Annual federally required standards were updated for Basic Food and WASHCAP.

September 2009

WorkFirst participation requirements for dependent teens were eliminated.

Standardized WorkFirst policies and procedures were established to help parents with physical, mental and emotional conditions become employable, and for those with severe and chronic health conditions, to access federal disability benefits.

July 2009

General Assistance (GA) program changes were implemented as required by the 2009-2010 Operating Budget, including:

- a. Working with the Department of Veteran Affairs to establish a referral process to facilitate applications for veteran’s services.
- b. Implementing a plan to evaluate General Assistance Unemployable (GA-U) cases that had been on assistance for over 12 months to determine if the available medical and incapacity related evidence indicated the recipient should remain on GA-U or be referred to General Assistance Expedited Medicaid (GA-X).

- c. Referring appropriate GA recipients to Naturalization Services.
- d. Referring appropriate GA recipients to Workforce Development Councils in King, Pierce, Snohomish and Spokane Counties for worker retraining or development services.

April 2009

Suspended support services for parents enrolled in Career Services due to Diversion Cash Assistance.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) provided a 13.6 percent increase in the maximum SNAP benefits (Basic Food). This equated to a \$24 increase for a one-person household.

February 2009

The Career Services program was expanded to include Non-Assistance Food Stamps (NAFS) parents who were working 30 hours per week.

Under the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), \$1 payments were provided to all households receiving Basic Food benefits. This joint effort between DSHS and the Department of Commerce leveraged federal LIHEAP funds to confer the highest utility deduction for Basic Food available, resulting in increased benefits for many households. The payment also reduced administrative effort related to verifying household utility costs. Washington's issuance of federal SNAP benefits increased by approximately \$3.6 million monthly or \$43.4 million on an annual basis as a result of this initiative.

October 2008

Effective October 1, 2008 the **Gross Income Standard for the Basic Food Program** (BFP) was raised from 130% to 200% of the Federal Poverty Level for Categorically Eligible (CE) households (under BFP rules, most households are CE). An extensive marketing and outreach campaign was implemented to inform potentially eligible households of the new rules. An additional 23,300 households were expected to qualify for BFP as a result of this change.

The Division of Child Support (DCS) began paying **pass-through payments** to TANF recipients beginning October 1, 2008. Recipients received up to \$100 a month of support collected for one child, and up to \$200 a month of support collected for two or more children. The pass-through payment did not affect TANF grants.

Effective October 1, 2008 the **final federal regulations for the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005** went into effect.

- a. The Division of Child Support (DCS) now applied Funds intercepted from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to current support.
- b. The types of WorkFirst activities that counted towards participation were expanded, the methodology for counting job search and excused absences towards participation were changed, and some of the participation documentation requirements were relaxed.

Effective October 1, 2008, provisions of the 2008 Farm Bill went into effect. These provisions included an increase in the standard income deduction, an increase in the minimum benefit for one and two-person households,

and removal of the cap on the dependent care expense deduction.

August 2008

Effective August 1, 2008, ESA implemented **policy changes to promote family reunification and support temporary placement of children with relatives**. The primary changes included:

- a. Extending eligibility for TANF cash and medical benefits from 90 to 180 days when a child is temporarily absent and is expected to return to the home within 180 days.
- b. Providing **concurrent TANF benefits** for the child for up to 180 days to both the parent and another adult caregiver with whom the Division of Children and Family Services has placed the TANF child.
- c. Allowing a child who is temporarily out of the home due to hospitalization to be added to the TANF grant.

July 2008

Effective July 1, 2008, the TANF, SFA, CEAP and RCA payments standards were increased by three percent.

February 2008

On February 12, 2008, the Division of Assistance Programs' restructuring of headquarters staff was completed. The division was renamed the Community Services Division.

December 2007

Local Community Services Offices began referring parents in long-term WorkFirst sanction or who lost TANF benefits due to non-compliance sanction to **Pathway-to-Engagement** contractors. These contractors helped parents re-engage with the WorkFirst program or develop exit plans for supporting

themselves without a monthly cash grant. Pathway-to-Engagement services were mandated and funded under a proviso in the 2007-09 Biennial Operating Budget.

On December 10, 2007, ESA began implementing the **federal Disaster Food Stamp Program (DFSP)** in Grays Harbor and Lewis counties to provide emergency food benefits for storm and flood victims. Under the DFSP, the USDA Food and Nutrition Service allowed states to waive regular Food Stamp Program eligibility rules for persons in federally declared disaster areas. On December 18, 2007, the DFSP was expanded to Thurston, Mason and Pacific counties. On December 21, 2007, the program was expanded to Clallam and Kitsap counties. By January 7, 2007, over \$5.2 million in DFSP benefits had been issued to over 16,000 households. In addition, regular Basic Food Program (BFP) recipients were authorized replacement issuances for food lost during the disaster.

July 2007

Effective July 1, 2007 ESA and the Employment Security Department implemented a **new WorkFirst Career Services program** to provide services to families who left TANF and who were employed at least 30 hours per week. The program was administered primarily by ESD and provided cash payments and employment services for up to six months for eligible parents who chose to enroll. The Career Services program was a post-TANF work transition program funded under the WorkFirst program budget.

Effective July 1, 2007 ESA, the WorkFirst Partner agencies, and WorkFirst contractors began implementing **procedures for verifying actual hours of client participation** in activities that

were used to determine the federal TANF participation rate. These included job search and job readiness activities, community service and work experience, and some education and training activities. Verification of actual hours of participation in these activities was required under the federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005.

Effective July 22, 2007 ESA began implementing Second Substitute Senate Bill (2SSB) 6016, which changed the **WorkFirst infant exemption** by allowing parents to be exempt from participation for up to 12 months in the parent's lifetime.

Effective October 1, 2007 the **federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005** required state child support agencies to charge a \$25 annual fee on each case when:

- a. The custodian had never received Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Tribal TANF or Aid to Dependent Families (AFDC) funds as a custodian of minor children, and
- b. The support agency had paid \$500 in collections to the custodian on the case during the federal fiscal year (October through September).

April 2007

On April 16, 2007, two divisions in the DSHS Economic Services Administration – the Community Services Division and the Division of Employment and Assistance Programs – **began merging into a single division** – the newly defined **Community Services Division**. This merger brought public assistance policy development, program management, service delivery and field operations in regional offices and Community Services Offices (CSO) all together under a single “roof.”

July 2006

The Department of Early Learning (DEL) came into existence July 1, 2006 as a result of Second Substitute House Bill (2SSB) 2964. This legislation was requested by Governor Christine Gregoire and was passed by the 2006 Washington State Legislature. The Department was formerly known as the Division of Child Care and Early Learning (DCCEL) and was housed within the Economic Services Administration. The newly formed department included other programs, such as the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program, also known as ECEAP, which was once part of the Department of Community Trade and Economic Development (CTED), as well as the Early Reading Initiative, formerly part of the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).

June 2006

WorkFirst parents began going through a **new Comprehensive Evaluation (CE) process** (see WorkFirst changes outlined in December 2005 below). The Comprehensive Evaluation was a multi-part evaluation conducted by WorkFirst partner agencies to identify a parent's strengths, participation options and best pathway to employment. Primary objectives of the Comprehensive Evaluation included:

- a. Increased parent involvement in developing their plan for participation, resulting in more parent buy-in and better results;
- b. Better information about parents' skills and abilities and quicker placement in an employment pathway;
- c. More objective case management decision making based on clearer program criteria; and

- d. More consistency in how the WorkFirst program operates across the state through stronger program standards.

WAC changes for the new Non-Compliance

Sanction for WorkFirst were filed on June 1, 2006 with a September 2006 effective date (see WorkFirst changes outlined in December 2005 below). Under the new sanction policy, a family would lose its WorkFirst cash grant after six months of sanction for refusal to participate in WorkFirst activities. The six-month count for families in sanction status began September 1, 2006.

Sanctioned WorkFirst parents were no longer automatically assigned protective payees. Protective payees continued to be available for teen parents and to help those families who had difficulty managing their cash grants.

Child Safety Net Payments for parents who had been on WorkFirst over 60 months and were not in compliance with WorkFirst work requirements were no longer issued to a protective payee but issued directly to the family.

In accordance with the federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, federal rules requiring states to begin **verifying citizenship** for those receiving Medicaid went into effect.

May 2006

Education and training changes for WorkFirst went into effect in May 2006 (see WorkFirst changes outlined in December 2005 below). These changes allowed more parents to engage in full-time education/training and to combine more types of activities with education/training.

April 2006

Utility standards for the Basic Food Program and the WASHCAP changed in April 2006 to partially offset the increase in energy costs.

Positive prevention strategies for WorkFirst went into effect in April 2006 (see WorkFirst changes outlined in December 2005 below). WorkFirst parents and applicants were informed about alternatives to WorkFirst cash assistance and linked to other services that can meet their needs, including:

- a. Child Support;
- b. Basic Food;
- c. Medical Assistance;
- d. Unemployment Benefits;
- e. Child Care assistance; and
- f. Diversion Cash Assistance.

March 2006

The Washington State Legislature passed Substitute House Bill (SHB) 2394, which required the Department of Social and Health Services to start **assessing WorkFirst parents for financial literacy** during the comprehensive evaluation effective January 1, 2007. The legislation directed DSHS to offer referrals to financial literacy services available in the local communities to all WorkFirst parents to help them become self-sufficient and financially stable.

February 2006

On February 8, 2006, President Bush signed into law S. 1932, **the federal Deficit Reduction Act** (DRA) of 2005 that reauthorized the TANF program for an additional five years. The DRA contained significant changes that would impact the state's TANF program, WorkFirst, and child support enforcement. Interim final

federal regulations for TANF were issued in July 2006 with an October 1, 2006 effective date.

Changes to TANF and child support included:

- a. A requirement that the federal Administration for Children and Families define work activities for TANF.
- b. Redefinition of which adults were required to participate in WorkFirst activities.
- c. Recalibration of the TANF caseload reduction credit, replacing the FFY 1995 base year with a base year of FFY 2005.
- d. Establishment of the TANF work verification requirements for states, under which states could now lose up to five percent of the TANF federal block grant for failure to comply.
- e. Disallowance of states from using federal child support performance incentive funds to draw down federal matching funds, effective October 1, 2007.
- f. A requirement for states to charge families that had never received TANF-funded assistance an annual fee of \$25 if the state collected at least \$500 in support.
- g. A requirement for states to pursue medical insurance from custodial parents in appropriate cases where the insurance was not provided by the non-custodial parent, and to recover unpaid co-pays, deductibles and medical costs.
- h. Changes gave states the option to pass through to TANF families up to \$100 per month in child support for one child and up to \$200 per month in child support for two or more children, and to disregard that assistance to the family as income for TANF. States could choose to make this change effective October 1, 2008.

- i. Limits on the amount of child support that TANF recipients must assign to the state. Effective October 1, 2009 or one year earlier (at state option), the allowable assignment would be limited to the amount of child support due to the custodial parent for each month that TANF was received by the family (limited to the total amount of TANF expended). Past due (unpaid) child support would no longer be assigned to the state

January 2006

A court order from the **WASHCAP lawsuit** (*Chamberlain v. DSHS*) was implemented. Approximately 41,500 low-income aged, blind, and disabled residents who participated in WASHCAP were to share \$2.7 million in food benefits to comply with the Thurston County Superior Court ruling.

In accordance with Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill (E2SHB) 1290 (passed by the 2005 Legislature), new **expedited medical determinations procedures** were phased into selected areas of the state to help jail and prison inmates and psychiatric hospital patients with serious disorders get immediate access to Medicaid and other medical assistance programs upon their release from confinement. The following Community Services Offices (CSOs) worked in partnership with local jails, prisons, institutions and Regional Support Networks to do speedy medical eligibility determinations: Spokane Southwest CSO; Spokane Central CSO; Yakima CSO; Kennewick CSO; Sky Valley CSO; Everett CSO; Mt. Vernon CSO; Bellingham CSO; Oak Harbor CSO; Belltown CSO; Bremerton CSO; Pierce North CSO; Olympia CSO; and Columbia River CSO.

December 2005

Governor Gregoire's **WorkFirst Re-Examination Workgroup**, established to make recommendations to improve the WorkFirst program and achieve financial sustainability, presented its final recommendations, which were endorsed by the Governor. The Governor issued the following program and policy directives:

- a. Increase the use of positive prevention strategies to determine whether services other than WorkFirst cash assistance will meet the need of parents. Examples of these services included child support, medical, Basic Food, and Diversion Cash Assistance. The Department was directed to complete an upfront screening of all new and returning WorkFirst applicants and to help parents access alternative supports. This change was implemented in **April 2006**.
- b. Expand education and training opportunities to allow more parents to engage in full-time education/training. This change was implemented in **May 2006**.
- c. Complete a cross partner agency evaluation of all WorkFirst parents to identify strengths, participation options, and best pathway to employment. This process was called the Comprehensive Evaluation (CE), and was implemented in **June 2006**.
- d. Implement a non-compliance sanction policy that would end WorkFirst cash assistance for families refusing to participate in program activities for six consecutive months. The six-month count for families in sanction status began **September 1, 2006**.

November 2005

Families receiving Basic Food at the time they transitioned off of WorkFirst and Tribal TANF to self-sufficiency were automatically eligible for TFA, which was five months of Basic Food benefits after the TANF cash grant ends. TFA was not available to the following families: (1) families in which someone was in sanction (for not complying with work requirements or child support collection requirements), and (2) families whose TANF cash grant ended because the family moved out of state. During the five-month TFA period:

- a. The family would not have to report any changes in their household;
- b. The TFA benefit would be based on the family's circumstances in the last month they were on WorkFirst but would be adjusted to exclude the TANF grant; and
- c. The benefit level was frozen for the five-month period.

Child care subsidy rates for licensed providers were raised 6.47%.

October 2005

Annual updates to WASHCAP standards and Basic Food income standards, maximum benefit amounts, standard deduction, and maximum shelter standard went into effect.

September 2005

Felons with drug convictions could now receive TANF. Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill (E2SSB) 5213 (Chapter 714, Laws of 2005) exercised the state option to exempt individuals convicted of a drug-related felony from the TANF ban on the receipt of benefits.

July 2005

WPLEX (Washington Post-Employment Labor Exchange) was eliminated after WorkFirst budget reductions mandated changes to client services that were provided by ESD.

New EBT (Electronic Benefit Transfer) features allowed clients to see their account information online 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Using their EBT card and Personal Identification Number (PIN), clients could now:

- a. see current EBT cash/food balances;
- b. see 180 days of EBT transactions;
- c. download an online statement of transactions to their PC;
- d. change their PIN in "real time"; and
- e. send and receive messages to/from EBT customer services representatives.

June 2005

EJAS system was modified to **record actual hours of work participation** replacing the time-block model in use.

March 2005

Columbia Legal Services (CLS) was verbally upheld in the WASHCAP lawsuit. Emergency rule filing was rendered void by Superior Court and the Department was directed to restore benefits to a WASHCAP class of recipients for the period of January 1, 2005 through March 22, 2005.

February 2005

DSHS was sued by **Columbia Legal Services (CLS)** over a WASHCAP emergency rule filing. CLS asserted that the Department did not have sufficient justification to file an emergency rule change.

January 2005

WASHCAP rules were amended by emergency adoption to maintain cost-neutrality as required by FNS. Changes were:

- a. The benefit calculation used the limited utility allowance (LUA) instead of the standard utility allowance (SUA).
- b. The opt-out rule was changed to allow people to opt-out of the program based on their shelter expenses or if they made the request prior to January 1, 2005. The provision to opt-out when Basic Food benefits would be greater than WASHCAP benefits was removed.

October 2004

Annual updates to Basic Food income standards, maximum benefit amounts, standard deduction, and maximum shelter standard went into effect.

Simplified reporting changes went into effect for cash, medical and Basic Food. Senate Bill (SB) 6411 (Chapter 54, Laws of 2004) required the Department to implement simplified reporting for the Basic Food program beginning October 2004.

July 2004

New maximum child care subsidy rates for Spokane County went into effect until July, 2005.

Basic Food eligibility restrictions for persons convicted of a drug-related felony were removed as mandated by Senate Bill (SB) 6411 (Chapter 24, Laws of 2004). The fleeing felons provisions still applied to Basic Food.

May 2004

Categorical Eligibility (CE) was expanded to eliminate resource requirements for most Basic Food applicants and recipients. Changes in federal regulations now allowed states to use non-cash services paid for with Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds to make people categorically eligible for Basic Food. Assistance Units (AU) that were categorically eligible for Basic Food did not have to meet the resource or net income requirement for Basic Food.

- a. Households that currently had CE status would not be affected by the change. Most AUs who met any of the following criteria were categorically eligible:
 - i. An AU where all persons received General Assistance (GA), Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Treatment and Support Act (ADATSA), or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits;
 - ii. An AU where any person received TANF, State Family Assistance, or Diversion Cash Assistance; or
 - iii. AUs that met the gross income limit for Basic Food.
- b. Circumstances when a household that met CE criteria could not be categorically eligible for Basic Food included situations such as:
 - i. The head of household of the Basic Food AU failed to meet work requirements;
 - ii. Anyone in the AU was disqualified for an Intentional Program Violation (IPV); or
 - iii. Anyone in the AU was a disqualified drug-felon (*through 6/30/04*).
- c. Households that met the new CE requirements did not have to meet the resource or net income limits for Basic Food. However, CE households still had to meet other Basic Food eligibility requirements.
- d. A person who was ineligible for Basic Food for a reason other than income or resources would not be made eligible due to the AU's CE status. An example of this is an ineligible fleeing felon.

Changes to sanction policies went into effect. The graduated three-level process was replaced by a single process. When a WorkFirst recipient refused to engage in work and work-related activities, a penalty equal to the greater of either 40% or the non-compliant person's pro-rata share was to be deducted from the grant and the grant was sent to a protective payee until the sanction was lifted.

Revised WACs for WCCC were filed.

April 2004

AREN payment policy was revised to allow multiple payments within a 12-month period but was capped at a total of \$750. Exception to rules were still granted at state-office level and had to be related to health and safety.

New background checks were not needed for WCCC when the results were less than 90 days old and the Background Check Central Unit's letter stated "No Record."

January 2004

Changes to WorkFirst Post-60-Month policies took effect:

- a. **"Playing by the Rules"** was changed to "Full-Time Participation." After 60 months,

participation consisted of working or preparing for work full-time (including Community Jobs, pre-approved educational/training activities, or a combination of work-related activities); barrier removal activities would be approved only in addition to full-time preparation if the client was considered to be “playing by the rules.”

- b. **Temporary Hardship Exemption** – Clients who reached 60 months on TANF and beyond who were unable to participate in full-time work-related activities could meet the criteria for a TANF Hardship Extension and possibly be exempt from participation. The criteria for a hardship extension approval were based on verification of the issue, severity, duration, and impact on the client’s ability to function in the workplace.
- c. **Changes to Child Safety Net (CSN)** – Clients now had the opportunity to return to full-time participation and full grant status, but had to fully participate for 12 weeks before the CSN status could be lifted.

Need Standards for Cash Assistance were updated to reflect annual cost-of-living adjustments.

December 2003

Changes to Basic Food eligibility requirements for strikers and those attending institutions of higher education at least half-time went into effect:

- a. **Striker eligibility** – the definition of strike now included expiration of a collective bargaining agreement, and eligibility was determined using the greater of the striker’s income before the strike or the striker’s current income.
- b. **Student eligibility** – for students attending an institute of higher education, employment for 20 hours a week must be *paid employment*; self-employed students could be eligible if they worked at least 20 hours a week and earned at least as much as they would earn working 20 hours a week at the federal minimum wage; students had to be responsible for *more than half* of a dependent’s care; and a student was eligible for Basic Food based entirely on work study only while they were working and receiving money through the work study program.

November 2003

Changes to client reporting requirements, verification, and interview requirements for the Basic Food program went into effect:

- a. **Change Reporting/Income Budgeting** – the threshold for reporting changes in unearned income increased from \$25 to \$50; job changes only needed to be reported if there was a change in income; and changes in income that were expected to last at least 1 month beyond the date reported required an adjustment to the AU income estimate.
- b. **Verification** – clients no longer needed to verify income when the change was \$50 or less; medical expenses if they changed by \$25 or less; and unchanged child support paid to someone outside the AU.
- c. **Interview Requirements** – clients could have a telephone interview if they had trouble attending an in-office interview; interviews were required at initial application and every 12 months; and staff could use a desk review if the AU had an interview within the last 12 months.

SSI recipients who are blind or age 65 and older began receiving **State Supplemental Payments (SSP)**. These two groups of SSI recipients increased the number receiving the ESA SSP to about 30,000.

October 2003

Annual updates to **Basic Food income standards, maximum benefit amounts, standard deduction, and maximum shelter standards** went into effect.

September 2003

ESSB 2252 **changed the burden of proof from the Department to the recipient** for continuing GA benefits based on incapacity.

August 2003

The client monthly co-pay for **Washington Telephone Assistance Program participation** increased from \$4 to \$8.

July 2003

Post-employment services for post-TANF families were reduced from 24 months to 12 months.

Support services changed:

- a. Services for post-TANF families were reduced from 12 months to 6 months;
- b. Car repairs were reduced from \$500 to \$250 per year;
- c. Clothing payments were reduced from \$200 to \$75 per year;
- d. Liability insurance was no longer available except via Exception To Rule; and
- e. ESD no longer authorized support services for relocation, diapers, or personal hygiene (this authorization was only made by DSHS and OTED).

Employment supports paid for by GA program funds, known as the WorkPlus program, were discontinued. This use of program funds was authorized by the Legislature in July 2001.

Community Service Voice Mail (CSVM), a component of WTAP, became effective. DSHS began the development of an agreement with the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development to provide a portion of the WTAP budget for operation of CSVM to provide homeless individuals with a community service voice mail box.

June 2003

Washington Telephone Assistance Program rate changes went into effect limiting the amount a telephone company could be reimbursed out of the WTAP fund for monthly services to a maximum of \$19.

Completed background checks were required for in-home and relative providers prior to the start date of child care subsidy payments, ending the practice of backdating benefits to the date the original request was received upon approval through the background check process.

May 2003

Substitute House Bill (SHB) 1624 was signed into law on May 7, 2003, permanently authorizing the **Washington Telephone Assistance Program (WTAP)**, which was scheduled to expire on June 30, 2003. In addition to permanently authorizing the WTAP program, effective July 1, 2003, the program was expanded to include Community Service Voice Mail (CSVM) as a component. DSHS was directed to enter into an agreement with the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development to provide a portion of

the WTAP budget for operation of CSVM, which would provide homeless individuals with a community service voice mail box.

AREN payments based on Exception to Rule (ETR) were reinstated on a limited basis and had to be approved at the State-office level. Only those relating to health and safety were granted.

April 2003

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, P.L. 107-171, restored federal food stamp benefits to certain legal immigrants. Beginning in April, these families began receiving federal Food Stamp benefits and no longer received state-funded Food Assistance benefits (formerly known as FAP).

Community and Technical colleges were no longer eligible for an enhanced rate for consumers who were enrolled in the Families-That-Work program or at Extended Hour Care sites.

March 2003

The Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) co-pay increased by \$25 for families with co-payments of \$25 or more.

The Non-Standard Bonus for child care prior to 6 a.m., after 6 p.m., and on weekends was eliminated.

February 2003

The Early Exit Bonus (sometimes called the transitional work expense) was eliminated. The second early exit bonus of \$500 could only be authorized for persons who received their first \$500 payment on or before January 31, 2003.

AREN payments were reduced from \$1,500 to \$750 per 12-month period and all AREN payments based on Exception to Rule (ETR) were eliminated

January 2003

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) COLA increased by 1.4%.

October 2002

The \$134 **standard deduction for food assistance** was replaced with a tiered deduction based on the number of individuals in the food assistance household. The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-171) required that this standard be adjusted each year. No households received a deduction less than \$134.

Eligibility for federal food stamp benefits was expanded to include blind or disabled immigrants who received disability-related cash or medical benefits. This change was required under P.L. 107-171.

The countable resource limit for food assistance households that included a disabled individual was changed from \$2,000 to \$3,000. This change was required under P.L. 107-171.

An annual adjustment to multiple standards for food assistance for FFY 2003 was implemented. The following standards were updated: gross income limit, net income limit, maximum allotment, utility allowances, and the maximum excess shelter deduction.

The exemption of all homeless individuals from ABAWD Food Stamp Employment & Training Program requirements was removed. Homeless clients had to meet requirements or

be exempt for a reason other than homelessness.

The food assistance treatment of time-loss income as unearned income for cash was adopted to make policy consistent in both programs. Time-loss benefits were counted as earned income for cash in certain situations.

The Department assumed state administration of the SSI State Supplement Program, a program that was previously administered by the Social Security Administration. The Washington State Legislature mandated that the Department assume administration of this program to reduce the administrative costs of the program.

August 2002

The Economic Services Administration (ESA) implemented **TANF time limit extensions** in conjunction with the WorkFirst partner agencies – the Employment Security Department, Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development, the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, and tribal governments. ESA conducted case staffing and extended benefits for families who need more than sixty months of TANF cash aid due to age, disability or inability to become self-sufficient. Parents who had not participated in WorkFirst after 60 months on TANF would not receive money. To ensure that children were not penalized for their parents' failure to participate in WorkFirst activities, ESA provided child safety net payments to a third party contractor to pay rent, utilities, and items for the children in the home.

ESA implemented the WorkFirst Improvement Initiative in conjunction with the WorkFirst partner agencies and tribes. The initiative

increased accountability for clients and staff, ensuring active engagement and progression through full-time participation requirements, close monitoring, daily sign-in at job search activities, a strengthened sanction policy, and monthly reporting by contractors.

Graduated sanctions for TANF/SFA clients who failed to participate in WorkFirst activities without good cause were implemented. Clients graduated to the next sanction level by remaining in sanction status or by returning to sanction status. After three months of sanction, it would take four weeks (instead of two) to cure the sanction. WorkFirst sanctions had three levels:

- a. the person(s)' share of the grant was removed;
- b. the reduced grant in the first level sanction was to be sent to a protective payee every month until the client cooperated and left sanction status; and
- c. the grant was reduced by the person(s)' share or forty percent, whichever was more. The grant continued to be sent to a protective payee until the client participated in WorkFirst activities.

July 2002

Eligibility for the SSI State Supplement program was restricted to SSI recipients who had an ineligible spouse based on Social Security Administration (SSA) criteria and individuals who SSA considered as Mandatory Income Level (MIL) clients. Beginning July 1, 2002, ESA paid about 5,200 people an SSP payment. About 100,000 SSI recipients' payments ended June 30, 2002. The current SSP amount for an individual with an ineligible spouse was \$70 per month. MIL recipients'

payments varied based upon the amount of the payment they received in January 1974 when states converted from state programs for the aged, blind, and disabled to the Federal SSI program. MIL rates varied between \$0.74 and \$199.50 per month.

A change in required background checks was made to include any individuals sixteen years of age or older who resided with a provider when child care occurred outside the WCCC child's home.

June 2002

With the passing of House Bill 1144, a **one-time exemption from full-time participation** was allowed in the WorkFirst program. Recipients who had a child between the ages of four months and 12 months might be exempt only once from full-time participation, however, part-time participation was required, up to 20 hours, until the child reached 12 months. Full-time participation was required with each subsequent child.

Criteria were adopted in June 2002 for **extending eligibility for TANF/SFA clients** beyond the 60-month limit established under PRWORA.

- a. The following individuals were exempt from participating in WorkFirst activities:
 - i. older caretaker relatives;
 - ii. adults with chronic and severe disability including facilitated applicants for SSI or other federal disability benefits;
 - iii. clients caring for a child with special needs; and
 - iv. clients caring for an adult with disabilities.

- b. The following adults were extended beyond the 60-month time limit:
 - i. those participating in WorkFirst activities;
 - ii. those that were impacted by family violence and participating in approved family violence activities;
 - iii. those resolving barriers to employment; and
 - iv. those caring for an infant less than four months old.
- c. Families beyond the 60-month limit where the adults were not participating in WorkFirst activities received a child safety net payment for only the children's needs. The Department assigned a protective payee to manage these benefits.

May 2002

The policy of using **Kelly Blue Book online** as the only source to determine a vehicle's value when determining resource eligibility for cash or food assistance benefits was adopted in May 2002. Clients retained the right to provide information from other sources if they disagreed with the value of the vehicle.

April 2002

The income eligibility level for **Working Connections Child Care Program** (WCCC) was decreased from 225% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to 200%.

A family's portion of the child care cost or co-payment also changed in April 2002. For family income from 0 to 82% of the FPL, the co-payment increased from \$10 to \$15 per month. For families with income over 82% through 137.5% of the FPL, the co-payment increased from \$20 to \$25 per month. Families with income over 137.5% to 200% of the FPL

experienced a \$5 per month increase in co-payment following the application of the co-payment formula. The WCCC program grew beyond expectations causing a budget shortfall. The changes were implemented in an attempt to reduce the deficit.

March 2002

The JAS system was migrated to a web enabled system called e-JAS. **E-JAS** provided a 24/7 interactive and collaborative online case management tool that integrated employability screening, evaluation, assessment, case staffing, referrals, case notes, information exchange, support services payments and caseload/management reporting functions for the WorkFirst, Food Stamps Employment and Training, Teen parent barrier removal and Protective Payee programs. E-JAS users expanded from two state agencies - DSHS Community Services Division staff (Case Managers, Social Workers and supervisors) and Employment Security Department (Counselors) – to include the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (WorkFirst staff), Office of Trade and Economic Development Community (Jobs partners), Contractors, and Tribal Staff.

Legislative direction of the **State Supplemental Payment (SSP) program** changed when about \$21.3 million of the original \$28.9 million maintenance of effort (MOE) was transferred to the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), leaving the Economic Services Administration with approximately \$7.6 million for SSP. The final budget bill included specific language regarding how the state should distribute SSP and who would receive payments. Within this change, the Legislature directed ESA to pay SSP to Mandatory Income Level (MIL) (a small number of people who have

been receiving SSI continuously since 1974) and SSI recipients with a spouse ineligible for SSI benefits.

February 2002

New federal regulations were implemented replacing income received under Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) income with the **new Workforce Investment Act (WIA)**. WIA income was treated the same as JTPA income.

New rules for the earned income of a child were implemented in February 2002. For food assistance and medical programs for families, children, and pregnant individuals, the new rule did not count the earnings of a child if the child was in school, age seventeen or younger, not married, and not emancipated. For cash assistance, the rule did not count the earnings of a child if the child was in school and met the age and attendance requirements to be considered a dependent child.

January 2002

Economic Services Administration implemented three **No Wrong Door (NWD) start-up sites** to provide a seamless access system for clients receiving services from multiple DSHS administrations and community based organizations. NWD integrated services through coordinated agency efforts and a single decision point. The start-up sites included one primary site in Seattle, and two volunteer sites in Puyallup and Spokane. All sites focused on long-term TANF recipients (30-60 months on TANF). ESA began expanding NWD to be incorporated into all community services offices by November 2003.

New federal regulations were implemented for **Assistance Unit (AU) composition for Food Stamps**. “Spouse” was now defined as a

husband or wife through a legally recognized marriage. The Department no longer considered unmarried people as spouses when they presented themselves to the community as married. Ineligible ABAWDs were now considered ineligible AU members instead of non-household members. Live-in attendants were now optional members of the AU.

Child care subsidy rates were set at the 58th percentile of the 2000 Market Rate Survey.

December 2001

WASHCAP was implemented in December 2001 on a statewide basis. WASHCAP was a 5-year demonstration project approved by FNS and partnered with SSA.

- a. Clients had to be:
 - I. eligible for SSI money;
 - II. at least age 18;
 - III. unemployed; and
 - IV. living alone or purchasing and preparing food separately from others in the household.
- b. Client benefits:
 - I. the SSI application and interview with SSA acts as the application and interview for WASHCAP food assistance;
 - II. twenty-four month food assistance certification periods;
 - III. recertified by SSA when SSI was re-determined;
 - IV. all changes must be reported to SSA;
 - V. SSA had to notify DSHS of client changes via the State Data Exchange (SDX) System in an overnight reporting process.

Program administration was easier than the regular food assistance program because of automatic opening and closing features programmed into the ACES system and triggered by the SDX system.

New federal regulations for Food Stamps were implemented for the treatment of the income and resources of certain ineligible members. For drug-related and fleeing felons, all of the client's income, expenses, and resources to the eligible members of the AU were now to be counted. For ineligible ABAWDs, ineligible aliens, and clients ineligible for not providing their social security numbers, all of the client's resources were also to be counted, as well as a prorated share of the client's income and expenses.

October 2001

A new standard deduction for households with self-employment income was implemented in October 2001. These households were now automatically eligible to receive a business expense deduction of \$100. If the household had expenses greater than \$100, they were required to itemize and verify these expenses to receive a deduction equal to their expenses.

August 2001

New federal regulations for Food Stamps were implemented for the recoupment of overpayments. With this change administrative overpayments would be collected through an automatic allotment reduction equal to the greater of 10% of the allotment or \$10 per month; households not currently receiving food assistance would not have an overpayment established if the claim was less than \$125 unless discovered through federal quality control review; and all overpayments had to be

established (or disposed of) no later than the last day of the calendar quarter after the quarter in which the overpayment was discovered.

New federal regulations added **flexibility to interview requirements** for all programs. A face-to-face interview would only be required once every 12 months. This face-to-face requirement could be waived if the household applied for medical only or if they met the hardship criteria.

New federal regulations for Food Stamps for **the recertification process** were implemented. In the new regulations, households had up to 30 days after their certification period ended to complete the recertification process. Benefits could be prorated in the first month of the new certification period if the household was late in reapplying for benefits.

New federal regulations for Food Stamps were implemented that **excluded any vehicle** that had an equity value less than \$1,500

July 2001

The Division of Child Care and Early Learning (DCCEL) was created in the Economic Services Administration (ESA) in July 2001.

March 2001

In the settlement of the *Hagen v. DSHS lawsuit*, the Department used TANF funds for the costs of providing income assistance to children living with adults who were standing in *loco parentis*. Under Washington state law, children living with adults who stood in *loco parentis* constituted eligible families for the purpose of TANF assistance.

October 2000

Categorical eligibility for Food Stamps was expanded to include households that lost eligibility for TANF due to excess earnings (for 24 months after grant termination) and households that received Diversion Cash Assistance (month of receipt and following three months). For these cases, categorical eligibility meant that the household was exempt from the Food Stamp gross income test (130% of Federal Poverty Level) and Food Stamp resource standards.

Eligibility for Additional Requirements – Emergent Needs (TANF, SFA and RCA) was restricted to:

- a. require that family must be eligible for ongoing grant;
- b. cap benefits at \$1,500; and
- c. limit eligibility to once every 12 months.

These policy changes were implemented to control AREN program expenditures.

July 2000

In July 2000 the Department began using TANF funds for **children living with legal guardians** (GA-H program) to comply with proviso in 1999 budget bill. GA-H program was folded into the TANF program and ceased to exist as a separate program.

Effective July 14, aliens who were **Permanently Residing (in the USA) Under Color of Law (PRUCOL)** were eligible for State-funded FAP.

June 2000

Employment and training requirements were increased for Food Stamp recipients who were ABAWD. Enhanced tracking mechanisms were

implemented to better monitor clients' job search progress.

Changes in federal law were implemented to ensure asylees received refugee cash aid and medical assistance for up to eight months from the date their application for asylum is granted. (Formerly, the eight months of aid were reduced by months of pending asylee status.)

May 2000

On May 1, 2000 the **Family Medical Project initiative** began to reinstate clients who lost benefits when their cash grant ended, between August 1, 1997 and August 31, 1999. The Centralized Medical Unit in Seattle was operational.

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) was implemented statewide. Clients who had a bank account now had the option of having their monthly cash assistance benefits deposited directly into their account.

April 2000

Virtual Integrated Employability Worksheet (VIEW) was created and implemented. VIEW was a TANF screening and evaluation system for WorkFirst case managers to use to identify and document WorkFirst clients' barriers to employment and to make appropriate referrals for services.

A new medical coverage group, **Family Medical Project**, was promoted in ACES. Individuals who were terminated from TANF cash assistance from 8/1/97 through 8/31/99 and were not authorized medical benefits the month following cash termination were reinstated as of May 1, 2000.

March 2000

TANF Early Exit Bonuses were implemented in March 2000 (bonuses were a once-in-a-lifetime \$1,000 support service payment to employed TANF clients, with low cash grants, who voluntarily exited TANF). The bonus was paid to cover work expenses and allow clients to "bank" months of TANF use for times of greater need.

January 2000

In January 2000 **TANF intensive services** were implemented statewide.

"Prospective" income budgeting policy was implemented for cash and food assistance. Eligibility was now to be determined based on anticipated income, rather than income received in past months ("retrospective" budgeting).

SSI/SSA cost of living adjustment (COLA) increased benefits by 2.4%.

Overpayments occurring due to reconciliation of retrospectively budgeted income were eliminated.

Upper limit for eligibility for child care subsidies were changed to 225% of Federal Poverty level (unadjusted) from 175% of Federal Poverty level (adjusted).

Reduction in co-payment formula for families using subsidized child care, particularly those with income over 135% Federal Poverty Level (unadjusted).

November 1999

An overall child care eligibility increase to families with gross incomes at or below 225% of

the Federal Poverty Level was authorized in November 1999.

The Department began phasing in **the intensive services model**, which provided DSHS social worker assessments, collaboratively developed Individual Responsibility Plans (IRP) and bundled services for the harder-to-employ. The model required more frequent use of employability evaluations to determine which participants might benefit from intensive services.

Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) was implemented statewide. Cash and food assistance benefits were now issued using the Quest card.

October 1999

The Limited English Proficiency (LEP) pathway was implemented statewide (i.e., Phase Two).

The participation report in the JAS management information system was changed to collect more information about those who are receiving alternative services and redefine what counts as participating in the WorkFirst program.

The Children with Special Needs Initiative statewide was implemented (i.e., Phase Two).

September 1999

The General Assistance Supported Employment Project added a pilot site at the King Eastside CSO.

The Division of Child Support (DCS) was awarded a federal grant to develop an **Internet-based lien registry**. State and local government agencies and private businesses would be able to check if a claimant owes a child support debt and voluntarily notify DCS.

August 1999

Deprivation due to absence, incapacity, death, or unemployment of a parent was eliminated by Engrossed Senate Bill (ESB) 5798, effective July 25, 1999. Associated qualifying parent requirements were eliminated.

The 185% of Need Test was eliminated.

The Striker provision—a person on strike on the last day of the month was retroactively ineligible to the first of the month and an overpayment established—was eliminated.

The guidelines for support services were simplified and the upper limit was increased for how much support services a client could receive.

Phase I of the WorkFirst Children with Special Needs Initiative was implemented (phasing in services for WorkFirst clients raising children with special needs).

Age limits were expanded for children receiving TANF/SFA/GAH based on school participation.

SFA eligibility was expanded to pregnant individuals who are ineligible for TANF due to a conviction for a drug-related felony or misrepresentation of residence.

ESA field staff began an **audit of all TANF cash terminations** to determine if medical benefits should continue. An agreement was reached between MAA and Columbia Legal Services to reinstate medical benefits to individuals who exited TANF from August 1, 1997 through August 31, 1999 and were not authorized medical benefits the month following termination of their cash assistance. In addition to audits, several enhancements to the Automated Client Eligibility System (ACES) were

initiated to ensure clients eligible for continued medical benefits received them

July 1999

The Washington Telephone Assistance Program (WTAP) client threshold was reduced from \$7.50 to \$4.00.

State law changed **WorkFirst participation exemption criteria** from parents with a child less than 12 months of age to parents with a child less than three months of age. It established the Pregnancy-to-Employment pathway to meet the parenting and employment needs of parents with infants, who were no longer exempt from WorkFirst participation, and former GA-S participants, who had been moved into the TANF program.

CEAP funds were transferred to the Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development (DCTED) as part of a plan to deal with homeless issues and settle the “Homeless Lawsuit.” CEAP eligibility was limited to clients who were not eligible for any other cash assistance program.

The **cap for Additional Requirements-Emergent Need (AREN)** payments was **removed**.

The TANF eligibility review cycle was decreased from twelve to six months in order to transition cases to Prospective Budgeting.

FAP eligibility was expanded to non-citizens legally admitted into the country in order to escape domestic violence.

The **Region 5 SSI Facilitation Project** was completed.

Working Connections Child Care began requiring criminal background checks for

exempt providers, i.e., providers that either provided child care for a child in the child’s own home or were a close relative of the child.

June 1999

Phase One implementation of Children with Special Needs Initiative began.

Working Connections Automated Program (WCAP) pilot began.

Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) began in Region 1.

SSA On-Line Access (SOLQ) statewide through ACES was implemented.

The Community Jobs Program statewide was implemented and the earnings disregard was changed from 20% to 50%.

May 1999

Face-to-face contact with WorkFirst participants in sanction status for more than three months was now required.

Region 5 SSI Facilitation Project started looking at long-term GAU cases and testing ways of shortening the time between GAU approval and the filing of the SSI application.

The first phase of Limited English Proficiency Pathway contracts became effective.

GA-S clients were folded into the WorkFirst program and become subject to TANF 60-month time limit and work requirements.

Requirements for post-employment services in the Washington Administrative Code were established.

Hourly requirements for college work study

were changed from 20 to 16 hours a week for a deferral from job search.

New regulations clarified that **mandatory WorkFirst participants** might be required to participate for up to 40 hours a week in working, looking for work or preparing for work in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC).

On May 1, 1999 **the Family Medical Project initiative** began to reinstate clients who had lost benefits when their cash grant ended between August 1, 1997 and August 31, 1999. The Centralized Medical Unit in Seattle became operational.

April 1999

The **General Assistance Supported Employment Project** added pilot sites at the Vancouver and Spokane Southwest CSOs.

March 1999

The **Project Access** pilot started in King County. Using a \$36,000 grant from Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC), providing community services voice-mail to the homeless and local telephone service in community service sites such as shelters and food distribution centers.

The “Most Wanted” Internet website began posting photos of selected persons owing child support debt.

February 1999

The Re-Employ Washington Workers program was established, administered by the Employment Security Department. The program offered enhanced job search activities and bonuses for early re-employment to non-TANF, low-income families.

January 1999

Washington State Minimum Wage increased to \$5.70 per hour.

Eligibility for the community jobs program was changed to pay for actual number of hours worked with a 20% earnings disregard and to screen out fewer clients from the program.

SSI/SSA cost of living adjustment (COLA) increased benefits by 1.3%.

November 1998

Based on a change in federal law, **eligibility for federal Food Stamps** to certain minor, elderly, or disabled non-citizens was expanded.

October 1998

The Tribal TANF agreement with the Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe was finalized.

September 1998

The Tribal TANF agreement with the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe was finalized.

An overall **child care rate increase** was authorized.

Special rates for **non-standard hour child care** were established.

A \$250 one-time bonus for **licensed child care providers** who agree to provide infant care was authorized.

July 1998

The Legislature renewed authorization for **Washington Telephone Assistance Program (WTAP)** for five years (through June 30, 2003).

Fleeing felon disqualification was applied to General Assistance programs. A person is not eligible for General Assistance benefits for any

month in which they are fleeing from the law to avoid going to court or jail for a crime considered a felony or for breaking a condition of probation or parole.

April 1998

Complete phase-in of the **Integrated Child Care System** began.

March 1998

The **Washington Telephone Assistance Program (WTAP) client threshold** was reduced from \$9.25 to \$7.00.

February 1998

Due to a court injunction, **DSHS stopped enforcing the residency requirement** (grant payment to be made at the previous state of residence level for the first twelve months) for non-immigrants.

November 1997

Residency requirements went into effect for those applying for WorkFirst. Payment was to be made at the previous state of residence level for the first twelve months.

WorkFirst Individual Responsibility Plan was implemented.

TANF recipients were allowed to establish **“Individual Development Accounts.”**

DCA became available for TANF-eligible applicants.

Under the **Consolidated Assistance Units** rules, non-sibling children living with the same caretaker were to be placed in the same assistance unit.

WorkFirst self-employment was implemented.

Phase-in of four programs into the **Integrated Child Care System** began.

Quality Assurance TANF data reporting requirements began.

A pilot program was initiated to **eliminate the 100-hour rule** for TANF applicants. The rule was to be waived on an exception to policy basis for one year to determine fiscal impact.

An adult parent of teen parent’s child was ineligible for TANF if the Department determined that the living situation was inappropriate.

Child care subsidy rates were set at 59th percentile of the 1996 Market Rate Survey.

October 1997

The **General Assistance Supported Employment Project** began in Region 4. The pilot project at the Belltown CSO was named “Partnership with Adults for Community Enhancement (PACE).” Recipients, sorted by physical impairments or mental disorder, were provided contracted job development and placement services and related work supports.

September 1997

As of September 1, 1997 **certain legal immigrants were no longer eligible for federal food stamps.** The state implemented the Food Assistance Program for eligible legal immigrants to receive state-funded food stamps. Eligibility and employment & training requirements were the same as for the federal food stamp program.

The **General Assistance-Unemployable Pilot (GAP)** project in Region 3 ended.

August 1997

Changes to the **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program** were made to complete implementation of P. L. 104-193, the *Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996* (PRWORA), and to begin implementing state welfare reform legislation. The *Washington WorkFirst Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Act* (EHB 3901) was signed into law in April.

Changes included:

- a. A five-year time limit for cash assistance;
- b. Exemption of 50% of gross earned income from consideration when determining benefit level;
- c. Elimination of establishment of overpayments due to retrospective budgeting;
- d. Elimination of the 100% needs test;
- e. Increased allowable equity of \$5,000 for a client's automobile;
- f. Exemption of client savings accounts of up to \$3,000;
- g. Pregnant Teen and Teen Parent requirements for education (teen had to be pursuing high school completion or GED) went into effect;
- h. Diversion Services provided directly or through referral to other agencies as an alternative to WorkFirst Cash Assistance;
- i. A vehicle used to transport a disabled individual was exempt without regard to value;
- j. DCS non-cooperation sanction is replaced by 25% grant reduction penalty and determination of DCS non-cooperation to be made by the IV-D agency (under PRWORA, each state must operate a Title IV-D child support program to be eligible for TANF funds);
- k. The eligibility review cycle was extended from six to twelve months;
- l. Disqualification for drug-related felony conviction was modified to add an exception for clients who participated in or had completed treatment;
- m. Temporary disqualification of caretaker relative for failure to make timely report of a child's absence from home;
- n. Teen parent requirements for appropriate living situation were amended by state law to further restrict eligibility beyond TANF requirements, a living situation was not appropriate if a minor parent was under age 16 and resided with the adult parent of his/her child ("child rape" situations); and
- o. Certain categories of aliens were denied TANF benefits.

The **State-funded cash aid, SFA**, program for legal immigrants was implemented.

The AREN component of TANF was broadened so that clients no longer needed an eviction or utility shut-off notice in order to qualify for a payment. Also, the AREN payment was no longer limited to the grant payment standard for the family size. The effect was to allow some clients with income (earned or unearned) that exceeded the grant standard to retain eligibility because of the increase in the need (i.e., the payment standard plus the amount requested for AREN).

July 1997

The **License suspension program** (for noncustodial delinquent parents) for Child Support Enforcement was implemented.

Quality Assurance began Phase One implementation of TANF payment accuracy evaluation.

The **100-hour rule** was permanently eliminated for TANF recipients.

May 1997

Changes to the TANF program were made to continue implementation of P. L. 104-194 and requirements under existing state law. Changes included:

- a. Disqualification periods for individuals convicted in state court of unlawful practices (welfare fraud);
- b. Ten year disqualification for individuals convicted of misrepresenting residence to obtain assistance in two or more states; and
- c. Lifetime disqualification for individuals convicted of drug-related felonies

April 1997

The **Naturalization Facilitation** for aged, blind or disabled SSI recipients at risk of losing SSI due to non-citizenship began.

On April 17, Governor Gary Locke signed into law the ***Washington WorkFirst Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Act (TANF) legislation (EHB-3901)***, which established the **WorkFirst Program**. This program replaced the Aid for Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program. The STEP Waiver 48 of 60-Month Time Limit was repealed.

February 1997

As of February 1997, an unmarried minor parent who did not reside in an appropriate living situation, as determined by the DSHS, was ineligible for TANF (implementation of the TANF requirements).

January 1997

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) replaced the Aid to Families with

Dependent Children (AFDC) program on January 10, 1997 when the TANF State Plan was submitted to the Department of Health and Human Services. The following TANF program changes were implemented in January as a result of the *Personal Responsibility & Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996* (P. L. 104-193) and existing state law that was no longer superseded by federal law:

- a. Upon the request of a law enforcement officer, the DSHS would furnish the address of any TANF recipient who was a fugitive felon or probation or parole violator or had information that was necessary for the conduct of the officer's official duties.
- b. Personal property of great sentimental value was exempt without regard to ceiling value.
- c. Non-recurring lump sum income in the form of compensatory awards or related settlements that were not used to repair or replace damaged, destroyed or stolen property or to pay medical bills were treated as resources on the first of the month following receipt. Recipients could reduce the value of the award prior to the first of the month as long as the resource was not transferred for less than adequate consideration.

For lump sums that were not compensatory awards or related settlements, that portion of the award equal to the difference between the \$1,000 non-exempt resource ceiling and the client's existing non-exempt resources, would be considered exempt. If the remaining balance of the lump sum was:

- i. Less than the payment standard, the amount would be deducted from the recipient's grant.
- ii. In excess of one month's grant payment less than two month's payment, the recipient's grant would be suspended.
- iii. In excess of two month's payment, the recipient would be ineligible for two months and required to reapply for assistance at the end of the period of ineligibility.
- d. Fleeing felons were ineligible for TANF. A person was no longer eligible if fleeing from the law to avoid prosecution or imprisonment or violating a condition of probation or parole.

The shelter deduction was increased from \$247 to \$250.

The following **Food Stamp Program changes** were the result of the Personal Responsibility & Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (P. L. 104-193):

- a. Children 21 years of age or younger living with a parent had to be included in the food stamp household with the parent.
- b. Fleeing felons were ineligible for the food stamp program. A person was no longer eligible for the food stamp program when fleeing from the law to avoid going to court or jail for a crime considered a felony and breaking a condition of parole or probation.
- c. The 20% work expense deduction from earned income was eliminated when a household failed without good cause to report earnings in a timely manner resulting in an over issuance.
- d. Immigrant eligibility changed so that many non-citizens who previously qualified now

did not qualify for food stamps. The following non-citizens were eligible:

- i. Immigrants residing in the United States who:
 - a) were veterans honorably discharged for reasons other than alienage,
 - b) were active duty personnel of the armed forces,
 - c) were spouses or unmarried dependents of these veterans or active duty personnel, or
 - d) had worked and earned money in 40 qualifying quarters.
- ii. For five years after obtaining the designated alien status:
 - a) Refugees admitted under section 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA),
 - b) Asylees admitted under section 208 of the INA, or
 - c) Aliens whose deportation had been withheld under section 243(h) of the INA.

The energy disregard for cash grants was eliminated. In the past a part of the cash grant was disregarded as energy assistance. This amount was now being counted as income. The grant remained the same, but each cash assistance household would lose between \$25 and \$30 in food stamp benefits.

Food stamp households that were late reapplying for food stamp benefits (after the certification period expired), would have the

food stamp benefits prorated from the date of application.

High school students age 18 and over would have their earnings counted as income when calculating food stamp benefits.

Food stamp benefits would not increase when income was decreased because of failure to take an action required by a public assistance program.

New penalties were required for the Food Stamp Employment and Training Program and for voluntary quit. They were:

- a. One month for the first time and correct the violation,
- b. Three months for the second time and correct the violation, and
- c. Six months for the third time and correct the violation.

Fraud penalties became stiffer. People who knowingly broke a food stamp rule would be barred from the food stamp program for 12 months for the first offense and 24 months for the second offense.

People found guilty of buying, selling or trading food stamps for illegal drugs would be barred for two years. People convicted of buying, selling or trading food stamps of \$500 or more would be barred for life.

People found guilty of giving false information about their identity or where they lived to get duplicate benefits would be barred for 10 years.

ABAWD were eligible for food stamp benefits for no more than three months out of a 36 month period unless working or participating in a work program at least twenty hours a week, or participating in a Workfare program.

The definition of a homeless person was revised to limit homelessness to 90 days while temporarily residing in the home of another.

The homeless shelter standard was eliminated.

The SSI state supplement payment standards were increased when the state returned to the “payment level method” for determining the amount of the state supplement. This increase was made in anticipation of a drop in SSI caseload due to 1996 Welfare Reform legislation. However, under *the Balanced Budget Act of 1997*, most recipients would remain on SSI. Therefore, the state changed to the “Total Expenditure Method” for determining the state supplement amount.

November 1996

Governor Mike Lowry presented Washington’s proposed **Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) State Plan** for public review and comment.

The ACES On-line Manuals System was implemented statewide. Policy and Procedural manuals as well as the ACES User Manual were now available electronically to all ACES users.

October 1996

The one-year General Assistance-Unemployable (GA-U) pilot (GAP) project began. The Alderwood, Smokey Point, Sky Valley and Everett CSOs established working agreements with community employment services agencies to test an inter-agency assessment tool and determine the services, time and costs needed to help long-term (recipient for six months or more and not suitable to apply for SSI) GA-U recipients become employable.

The vehicle resource limit for the food stamp program was raised from \$4,600 to \$4,650.

The standard deduction for food stamps was frozen at \$134.

August 1996

On August 22, 1996 President Clinton signed the ***Personal Responsibility & Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA)*** into law. Title IV of the Social Security Act was re-written to repeal the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program and replace it with the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. The entitlement to public assistance ended, states received block grants and were given flexibility to design their own assistance programs. A five-year lifetime limit on receipt of public assistance was established along with stringent work participation requirements.

July 1996

Administration of most cases for persons receiving long term care services was transferred to **Home and Community Services, Aging and Adult Services**. General Assistance-Unemployable WAC was amended to waive the requirement for medical documentation to establish incapacity for these cases.

May 1996

The definition of student was expanded to include an adult student who has parental control of a child 11 years of age or under when neither the child's natural or adoptive nor step-parent nor the adult's spouse resided in the household.

DSHS received waiver approval from Food and Consumer Services to eliminate the telephone interview for food stamp benefits at the time of

the desk review for Aid for Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). A face-to-face interview was to be required every 12 months for the Food Stamp Program.

A new description was added to inaccessible resources – resources are inaccessible if, when sold, the resources would net the household less than one-half of the applicable resource limit.

March 1996

Contract with America Advancement Act of 1996, P. L. 104-121, terminated disability benefits to persons receiving Title II benefits when disability is based on drug addiction or alcoholism. Disability benefits were denied to any person filing for benefits based on drug addiction or alcoholism or whose case was adjudicated on or after March 29, 1996.

December 1995

Washington Administrative Code (WAC) was changed effective December 1, 1995 to allow AFDC recipient households the option of including or excluding the child of unmarried parents when the child is living with both parents. This change was made in response to the state court of appeals decision in *Sams v. DSHS*.

Unmarried, two-parent AFDC applicants were offered the opportunity to sign paternity affidavits at the time of financial interview. Those applicants choosing not to complete an affidavit were then to be referred to the Division of Child Support for paternity establishment.

The Food Stamp Standard Deduction was reduced from \$138 to \$134.

The Garcia decision from the U. S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals was implemented. An intentional program violation disqualification would be implemented the first of the month following the date the person received written notification of the Administrative Disqualification Hearing for both recipients and non-recipients.

October 1995

The Food Stamp Program changed as follows:

- a. The Thrifty Food Plan amounts and Basis of Issuance tables were increased.
- b. Gross, net and 165% of Income Standards were increased.
- c. The standard deduction was increased to \$138.
- d. The homeless shelter deduction was increased to \$143.
- e. The maximum shelter deduction was increased to \$247.
- f. The Standard Utility Allowance increased to \$220.
- g. The Telephone Standard increased to \$29.
- h. The vehicle fair market value limit increased to \$4,600.

Cooperation with Quality Control (QC) was made an eligibility factor for AFDC. AFDC grants must be terminated for families that refuse to cooperate in the Quality Control review process.

Refugees were eligible for extended Refugee Medical Assistance through the eighth month after entry into the United States, regardless of their Refugee Cash Assistance status

September 1995

Need standards for grant recipients were raised to reflect annual cost of living

adjustment. AFDC grant Payment Standards remain unchanged and were now equal to 43.6% of the Need Standards.

August 1995

The Department suspended retrospectively budgeted Food Stamp households for one month when the household received an extra periodic income. Retrospective budgeting meant budgeting income from a past month to determine benefits for a future month, e.g., earned income received in January would be reported to the Department in February and then budgeted against March food stamp benefits.

July 1995

The Department added a **non-heating/non-cooling limited utility allowance**.

A mandatory verification for **household composition, shelter, and utility costs** was added.

The Washington Administrative Code (WAC) was amended, as required by the Legislature, to require the DSHS to **notify the parent with whom a child last resided** when the child was approved for AFDC while living with a nonparent relative. The parent also must be informed of the availability of Family Reconciliation Services and that they have the right to request their child's address. The Department was obligated to disclose the child's address to the parent provided there were no allegations of child abuse or neglect.

Public Law 103-286 exempted payments made to victims of Nazi persecution when determining eligibility and the amount of benefits or services.

As a result of the **Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation Grand Coulee Dam Settlement Act**, funds paid from a trust fund established through the act were disregarded.

Bank accounts jointly owned by AFDC recipients and SSI recipients could be excluded as a resource for AFDC if the account was considered by Social Security Administration Disability Office (SSADO) in determining SSI eligibility.