

Aged,
Blind, or
Disabled
(ABD)

SFY

2024

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 in the **Program Descriptions** section of the Briefing Book.

Highlights

The average number of ABD program clients per month in Washington state was **30,870 in SFY 2024**, up from **27,365 in SFY 2023**. The average monthly cash assistance grant per client was **\$399**. The average monthly ABD clients in SFY 2024 included:

- Presumptive SSI – 23,567 persons
- Aged – 6,182 persons
- Disabled – 1,120 persons
- Blind – 2 persons

TECHNICAL NOTES

DATA SOURCES: Data for this chapter was based on the ESA ACES database as of August 2024.

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.

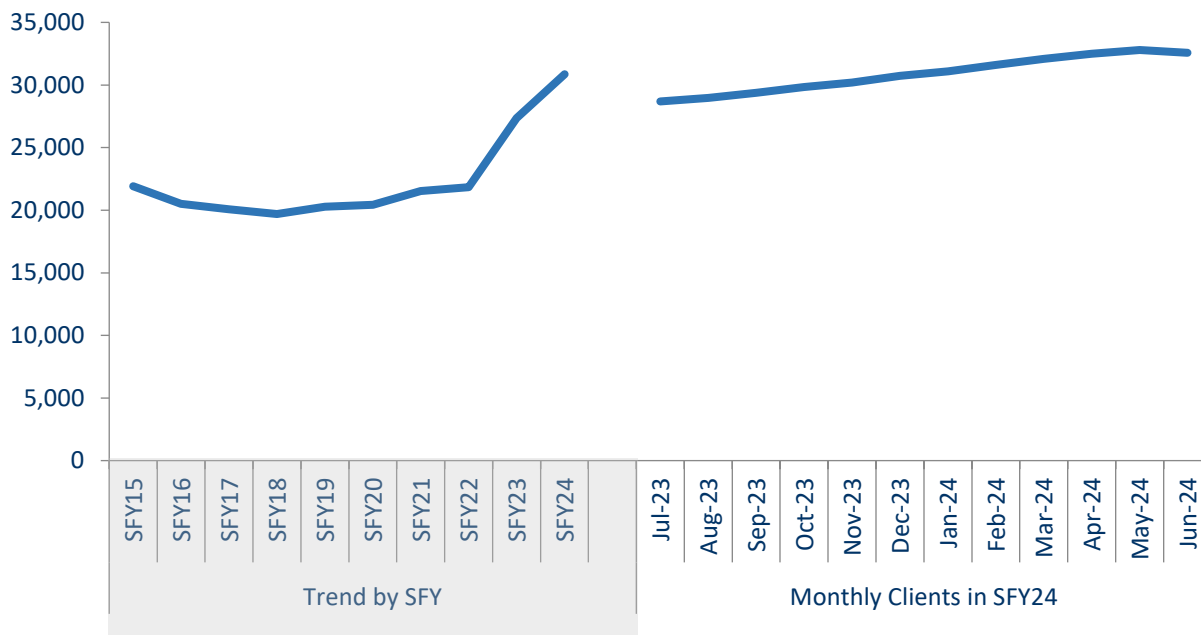
Selected ABD Program Overview, SFY 2023 and SFY 2024

	SFY 2023	SFY 2024	Change	
	(July 2022-June 2023)	(July 2023-June 2024)		
Average Number of Persons Per Month (Range)	27,365 (24,459 - 28,717)	30,870 (28,696 - 32,794)	12.8% (Increase)	↑
State Population² Age 18 and Over	6,255,743	6,341,261	1.5% (Increase)	↑
Average Monthly Recipients as a Percent of State's Population 18 and Over	0.4%	0.5%	No Change	=
Average Monthly Payment Per Case (Range)³	\$354.02 (\$184.27 - \$388.23)	\$398.64 (\$381.60 - \$416.00)	12.6% (Increase)	↑

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

³ Payments not adjusted for refunds. Effective January 1, 2024, all cash assistance programs received an 8% payment standard increase.

ABD Clients, SFY 2015 – 2024



SFY	Monthly Average Clients	SFY	Monthly Average Clients
SFY15	21,904	SFY20	20,429
SFY16	20,499	SFY21	21,522
SFY17	20,064	SFY22	21,847
SFY18	19,694	SFY23	27,365
SFY19	20,281	SFY24	30,870

SFY 2024	Clients	Total Grant Expenditures	Average Payment Per Client
July	28,696	\$10,990,054	\$382.98
August	28,974	\$11,065,875	\$381.92
September	29,372	\$11,229,404	\$382.32
October	29,829	\$11,382,770	\$381.60
November	30,207	\$11,585,072	\$383.52
December	30,727	\$11,782,569	\$383.46
January	31,090	\$12,811,553	\$412.08
February	31,606	\$13,053,509	\$413.01
March	32,098	\$13,240,980	\$412.52
April	32,482	\$13,425,624	\$413.33
May	32,794	\$13,557,775	\$413.42
June	32,564	\$13,546,552	\$416.00
Mo. Avg.	30,870	\$12,305,978	\$398.64
Annual Unduplicated	47,496	\$147,671,738	\$3,109.14

ABD Clients by Program Type, SFY 2024

SFY 2024	ABD Combined Caseload	Aged	Blind	Disabled	Presumptive SSI
July	28,696	5,678	1	1,063	21,957
August	28,974	5,798	1	1,073	22,102
September	29,372	5,893	2	1,086	22,393
October	29,829	5,999	2	1,091	22,737
November	30,207	6,037	4	1,106	23,060
December	30,727	6,122	3	1,104	23,500
January	31,090	6,215	3	1,110	23,762
February	31,606	6,287	3	1,152	24,164
March	32,098	6,431	2	1,177	24,492
April	32,482	6,517	0	1,174	24,793
May	32,794	6,620	0	1,164	25,010
June	32,564	6,591	0	1,134	24,839
Mo. Avg.	30,870	6,182	2	1,120	23,567

ABD Clients Exiting to Other Programs, SFY 2024

SFY 2024	Total ABD Clients ⁴	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 ⁵	
		# of Clients	Percent	# of Clients	Percent	# of Clients	Percent	# of Clients	Percent
July	28,696	27,003	94.1%	102	0.4%	446	1.6%	1,145	4.0%
August	28,974	27,462	94.8%	74	0.3%	391	1.3%	1,047	3.6%
September	29,372	27,751	94.5%	84	0.3%	413	1.4%	1,124	3.8%
October	29,829	28,268	94.8%	94	0.3%	463	1.6%	1,004	3.4%
November	30,207	28,826	95.4%	54	0.2%	477	1.6%	850	2.8%
December	30,727	29,050	94.5%	104	0.3%	509	1.7%	1,064	3.5%
January	31,090	29,558	95.1%	93	0.3%	453	1.5%	986	3.2%
February	31,606	29,924	94.7%	116	0.4%	477	1.5%	1,089	3.4%
March	32,098	30,364	94.6%	83	0.3%	542	1.7%	1,109	3.5%
April	32,482	30,693	94.5%	117	0.4%	557	1.7%	1,115	3.4%
May	32,794	30,835	94.0%	111	0.3%	607	1.9%	1,241	3.8%
June	32,564	30,796	94.6%	127	0.4%	528	1.6%	1,113	3.4%
Mo. Avg.	30,870	29,211	94.6%	97	0.3%	489	1.6%	1,074	3.5%

⁴ 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.

⁵ These are adults who were not enrolled in HEN Referral or SSI/SSDI in the following month.

ABD Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2024 Snapshot

The following pages detail the ABD clients, June 2024 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 (AL TSA), 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	6,768	20.8%	7,098	21.8%
Region 2 CSOs	14,710	45.2%	15,633	48.0%
Region 3 CSOs	9,557	29.3%	9,821	30.2%
CSCCs	13	<0.1%	N/A	
AL TSA (HCS)	1,502	4.6%		
DDA	13	<0.1%		
Tribal Locations	0	0.0%		
Not Reported / Unidentifiable	1	<0.1%	12	<0.1%
State Total	32,564	100.0%	32,564	100.0%

Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2024 Snapshot (continued)

Region 1 CSO	CSO of Issuance		CSO of Residence	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON	91	0.3%	91	0.3%
COLFAX	75	0.2%	83	0.3%
COLVILLE	137	0.4%	143	0.4%
ELLENSBURG	159	0.5%	162	0.5%
GOLDENDALE	65	0.2%	64	0.2%
KENNEWICK	968	3.0%	1,018	3.1%
MOSES LAKE	567	1.7%	596	1.8%
NEWPORT	63	0.2%	64	0.2%
OKANOGAN	176	0.5%	170	0.5%
REPUBLIC	35	0.1%	32	0.1%
SPOKANE MAPLE	1,486	4.6%	1,633	5.0%
SPOKANE TRENT	1,534	4.7%	1,567	4.8%
SUNNYSIDE	129	0.4%	138	0.4%
TOPPENISH	95	0.3%	103	0.3%
WALLA WALLA	136	0.4%	150	0.5%
WENATCHEE	255	0.8%	264	0.8%
WHITE SALMON	22	0.1%	23	0.1%
YAKIMA	775	2.4%	797	2.4%
Region 1 Total	6,768	20.8%	7,098	21.8%

Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2024 Snapshot (continued)

Region 2 CSO	CSO of Issuance		CSO of Residence	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD	922	2.8%	987	3.0%
AUBURN	764	2.3%	826	2.5%
BELLINGHAM	719	2.2%	739	2.3%
BELLTOWN	1,442	4.4%	1,497	4.6%
CAPITOL HILL	813	2.5%	857	2.6%
EVERETT	1,259	3.9%	1,318	4.0%
FEDERAL WAY	632	1.9%	683	2.1%
KING EASTSIDE	1,184	3.6%	1,329	4.1%
KING NORTH	1,411	4.3%	1,494	4.6%
KING SOUTH	936	2.9%	1,031	3.2%
MOUNT VERNON	494	1.5%	483	1.5%
OAK HARBOR	163	0.5%	183	0.6%
RAINIER	738	2.3%	784	2.4%
RENTON	776	2.4%	848	2.6%
SKYKOMISH VALLEY	331	1.0%	348	1.1%
SMOKEY POINT	967	3.0%	995	3.1%
WHITE CENTER	1,159	3.6%	1,231	3.8%
Region 2 Total	14,710	45.2%	15,633	48.0%

Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2024 Snapshot (continued)

Region 3 CSO	CSO of Issuance		CSO of Residence	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN	723	2.2%	725	2.2%
BREMERTON	847	2.6%	856	2.6%
CHEHALIS	486	1.5%	492	1.5%
COLUMBIA RIVER	1,403	4.3%	1,462	4.5%
FORKS	32	0.1%	32	0.1%
KELSO	785	2.4%	787	2.4%
LAKESWOOD	1,035	3.2%	1,118	3.4%
LONG BEACH	70	0.2%	73	0.2%
OLYMPIA	1,032	3.2%	1,076	3.3%
PIERCE EAST	743	2.3%	773	2.4%
PIERCE NORTH	767	2.4%	778	2.4%
PIERCE SOUTH	772	2.4%	789	2.4%
PORT ANGELES	304	0.9%	303	0.9%
PORT TOWNSEND	111	0.3%	113	0.3%
SHELTON	346	1.1%	348	1.1%
SOUTH BEND	67	0.2%	65	0.2%
STEVENSON	34	0.1%	31	0.1%
Region 3 Total	9,557	29.3%	9,821	30.2%

ABD Caseload by Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC) and Other Locations, June 2024 Snapshot

Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC)	Office of Issuance	
	Clients	% of State Total
CSCC Central Sound	1	<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	0	0.0%
CSCC Virtual Case Management Center	0	0.0%
CSCC WASHCAP	10	<0.1%
CSCC and WASHCAP Total	13	<0.1%

DDA Locations	Office of Issuance	
	Clients	% of State Total
DDA Behavioral Health Financial Unit	0	0.0%
DDA Long-Term Care & Special Programs	13	<0.1%
DDA Locations Total	13	<0.1%

ABD Clients by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), June 2024 Snapshot

ALTA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 1	HCS of Issuance	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON HCS	1	<0.1%
COLVILLE HCS	0	0.0%
ELLENSBURG HCS	2	<0.1%
MEDICAL LAKE HCS	175	0.5%
MOSES LAKE HCS	25	0.1%
OKANOGAN HCS	0	0.0%
SPOKANE HCS	69	0.2%
TOPPENISH HCS	28	0.1%
TRI-CITIES HCS	42	0.1%
WALLA WALLA HCS	3	<0.1%
WENATCHEE HCS	0	0.0%
YAKIMA HCS	2	<0.1%
Region 1 Total	347	1.1%

ALTA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 2	HCS of Issuance ⁶	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD HCS	0	0.0%
BELLINGHAM HCS	0	0.0%
EVERETT HCS	3	<0.1%
HOLGATE HCS	895	2.7%
MOUNT VERNON HCS	0	0.0%
SMOKEY POINT HCS	0	0.0%
Region 2 Total	898	2.8%

⁶ HCS Region 2 merged caseloads under Holgate HCS. Other physical offices exist and serve clients but cases may not be recorded under those offices.

Clients by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), June 2024 Snapshot (continued)

ALTA Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 3	HCS of Issuance ⁷	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN HCS	0	0.0%
BREMERTON HCS	0	0.0%
CHEHALIS HCS	180	0.6%
KELSO HCS	0	0.0%
OLYMPIA HCS	0	0.0%
PORT ANGELES HCS	0	0.0%
STEILACOOM HCS	77	0.2%
TACOMA HCS	0	0.0%
VANCOUVER HCS	0	0.0%
Region 3 Total	257	0.8%

⁷ HCS Region 3 merged caseloads under Chehalis HCS. Other physical offices exist and serve clients but cases may not be recorded under those offices.

ABD Clients by County of Residence, June 2024 Snapshot

County	# of Clients	% of Total	County	# of Clients	% of Total
Adams	67	0.2%	Lewis	493	1.5%
Asotin	87	0.3%	Lincoln	34	0.1%
Benton	704	2.2%	Mason	348	1.1%
Chelan	192	0.6%	Okanogan	171	0.5%
Clallam	335	1.0%	Pacific	138	0.4%
Clark	1,460	4.5%	Pend Oreille	65	0.2%
Columbia	14	<0.1%	Pierce	3,458	10.6%
Cowlitz	770	2.4%	San Juan	19	0.1%
Douglas	72	0.2%	Skagit	464	1.4%
Ferry	33	0.1%	Skamania	34	0.1%
Franklin	314	1.0%	Snohomish	3,642	11.2%
Garfield	4	<0.1%	Spokane	3,165	9.7%
Grant	529	1.6%	Stevens	143	0.4%
Grays Harbor	725	2.2%	Thurston	1,077	3.3%
Island	183	0.6%	Wahkiakum	17	0.1%
Jefferson	113	0.3%	Walla Walla	137	0.4%
King	10,586	32.5%	Whatcom	739	2.3%
Kitsap	856	2.6%	Whitman	83	0.3%
Kittitas	164	0.5%	Yakima	1,038	3.2%
Klickitat	86	0.3%	Not Reported/ Unidentifiable	5	<0.1%

	# of Clients	% of Total
State Total	32,564	100.0%

ABD Client Demographics, June 2024 Snapshot

All Clients		
Characteristic	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Total Clients	32,564	100.0%

All Clients		
Gender	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Female	15,456	47.5%
Male	17,106	52.5%
Unknown	2	<0.1%

All Clients		
Ethnicity and Race	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Hispanic or Latino	4,060	12.5%
Not Hispanic or Latino⁸	28,504	87.5%
White	17,631	54.1%
Black/African American	3,821	11.7%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4,076	12.5%
American Indian/Alaska Native	1,171	3.6%
Two or More Races	667	2.0%
Race Not Reported	1,138	3.5%

All Clients		
Marital Status	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Separated	2,374	7.3%
Married	3,705	11.4%
Never Married	15,620	48.0%
Divorced	7,486	23.0%
Widowed	3,304	10.1%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	75	0.2%

All Clients		
Citizenship Status	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
U.S. Citizen	25,577	78.5%
Resident Noncitizen	6,924	21.3%
U.S. National⁹	55	0.2%
Survivors of Certain Crimes¹⁰	8	<0.1%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	0	0.0%

⁸ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

⁹ 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).

¹⁰ Effective July 1, 2022, the Aged, Blind or Disabled (ABD) cash assistance program is 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 2024 Snapshot (continued)

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients

Homeless Status		
	All Clients	
Homeless ¹¹	9,250	28.4%

Equal Access		
	All Clients	
Equal Access Help Needed	19,430	59.7%

Disability		
	All Clients	
Mental	18,069	55.5%
Physical	7,893	24.2%
Aged ¹²	6,591	20.2%
Other ¹³	11	<0.1%

Education Status		
	All Clients	
Less than a High School Diploma	7,372	22.6%
High School Graduate or GED	14,722	45.2%
Some College or College Degree	9,463	29.1%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	1,007	3.1%

Age		
	All Clients	
Under 18 Years Old	N/A	N/A
18 - 24 Years Old	1,509	4.6%
25 - 34 Years Old	4,715	14.5%
35 - 44 Years Old	6,815	20.9%
45 - 54 Years Old	7,543	23.2%
55 - 64 Years Old	5,389	16.5%
65+ Years Old	6,593	20.2%
Average Age of Clients	49.9 Years	

¹¹ 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.

¹² Clients with a program type code of 'A' regardless of the presence of a disability type code.

¹³ These are the clients who had a disability determination made by DSHS Division of Disability Determination Services (DDDS).

ABD Client Demographics, June 2024 Snapshot (continued)

Average Length of Stay ¹⁴	<u>All Clients</u>
Average Length of Stay Since November 2011	27.3 Months
Average Length of Stay on ABD-Presumptive SSI Since November 2011	23.5 Months
Average Length of Stay on ABD-Aged Since November 2011	39.7 Months
Average Length of Stay on ABD-Blind/ Disabled/ Institutionalized Since November 2011 (Average Number of Months on ABD)	17.7 Months

¹⁴ Length of Stay is based on cumulative months since November 2011 when the ABD program started.