Child Support Program

SFY

2025

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

Table of Contents

Child Support Program Overview 3
Child Support Program Highlights, SFY 2025 4
Child Support Incentive Scorecard, FFY 2024 and FFY 2025 5
Child Support Caseload, SFY 2016 – SFY 2025 6
Child Support Collections, SFY 2016 – SFY 2025 7
Clients with DCS Cases by County of Residence, June 2025 Snapshot 8
Percentage of Total Population with a DCS Case by County, June 2025 Snapshot 9
Percentage of Custodial Parents (CP) by County, June 2025 Snapshot 10
Percentage of Noncustodial Parents (NCP) by County, June 2025 Snapshot 11
Child Support Cost Avoidance by Source, SFY 2025 12
Child Support Cost Avoidance by Source, SFY 2016 – SFY 2025 13
Child Support Tribal Caseload, SFY 2025 14
Child Support Tribal Collections, SFY 2025 15
Child Support Demographics, June 2025 Snapshot 16
Special Grants/Projects 17
Voluntary Acknowledgments and Genetic Testing 18

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

TECHNICAL NOTES

DATA SOURCES: Data for this chapter was based on ESA Division of Child Support's Support Enforcement Management System (SEMS) - September 2025 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 2025

- The average monthly child support caseload decreased by 3%, from 245,881 in SFY 2024 to 238,618 in SFY 2025. Within this caseload, average monthly Current Assistance cases increased by 2% from 29,033 in SFY 2024 to 29,654 in SFY 2025; Former Assistance cases decreased by 4% from 132,224 to 126,652; and Never Assistance cases decreased by 3% from 84,625 to 82,312.
- The child support program collected a total of $634.6 million in SFY 2025.
- The total cost avoidance in SFY 2025 was $205.7 million. Of the total, $123.6 million (60.1%) was for the Medicaid program, $50.9 million (24.7%) was for the Basic Food program, and $31.3 million (15.2%) was for the TANF program.
- In SFY 2025, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) reported 25,720 births to unmarried birth parents/mothers. 23,192 (90.2%) Washington state Acknowledgment of Parentage forms were signed by unmarried birth parent/mothers and a second parent and filed with the Department of Health. The Acknowledgment of Parentage is a legal form that establishes a parent-child relationship or “parentage” once filed with DOH. Most of these acknowledgments were signed at the hospital as a result of the efforts of the DCS Parentage and Paternity Program.

Child Support Incentive[1] Scorecard, FFY 2024[2] and FFY 2025[3]

Measure	Goal Needed to Obtain Maximum Incentive Funding	Actual Performance		Estimated Percentage of Maximum Incentive Reached	
		2024	2025	2024	2025
Paternity Establishment Percentage	80%	95.8%	94.3%	100%	100%
Support Order Establishment	80%	89.9%	90.2%	100%	100%
Current Collections	80%	65.8%	65.4%	75%	75%
Arrearage Collections	80%	61.7%	61.8%	71%	71%
Cost Effectiveness	$5.00	$3.12	$3.24	60%	60%

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

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.

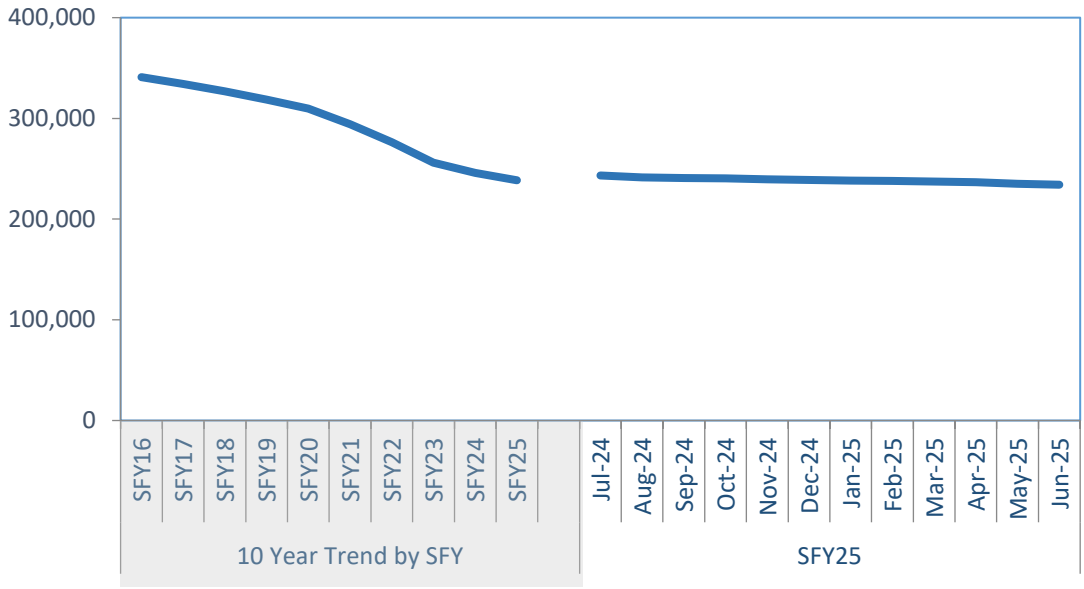
Cost-effectiveness: Total IV-D dollars collected divided by total IV-D dollars expended.

[1] DCS incentive payments for FFY 2024 are based on DCS actual FFY 2024 performance and Office of Child Support Services FFY 2024 preliminary performance results for all other states. DCS incentive payments for FFY 2025 are based on DCS actual FFY 2025 performance and OCSS FFY 2025 preliminary performance results for all other states. Data source: DCS Fiscal Office.

[2] FFY 2024 data is from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Services 2024 Preliminary Report.

[3] FFY 2025 data is preliminary based on unaudited federal reports.

Child Support Caseload, SFY 2016 – SFY 2025

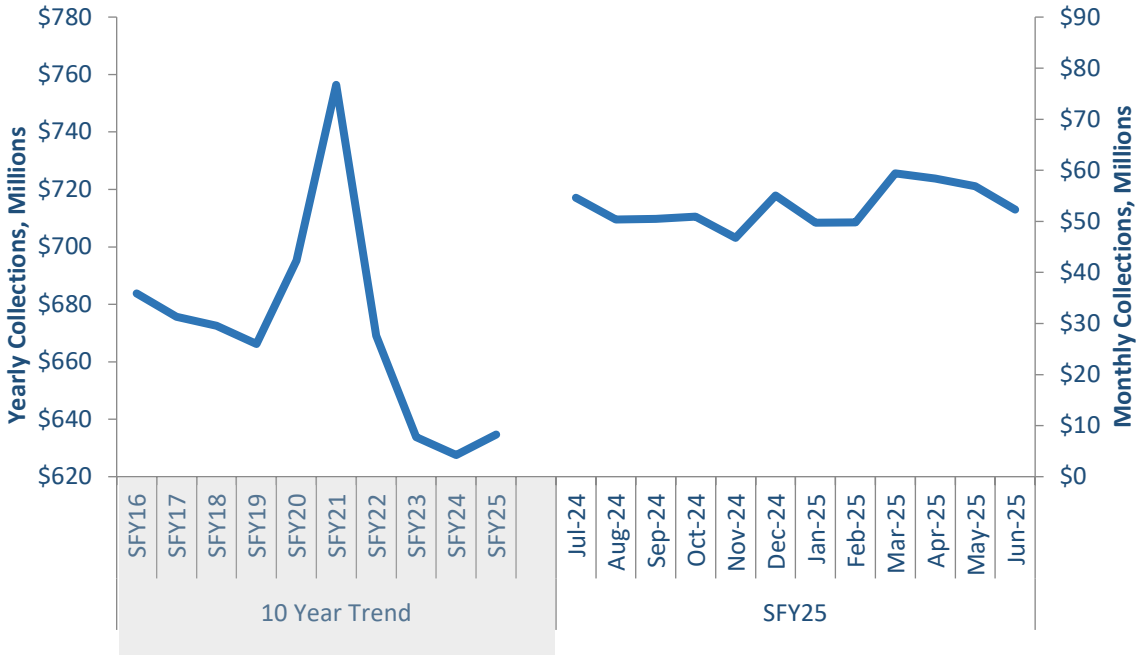


SFY	Monthly Average Caseload	SFY	Monthly Average Caseload
SFY16	340,919	**SFY21**	294,069
SFY17	334,027	**SFY22**	276,267
SFY18	326,923	**SFY23**	256,014
SFY19	318,444	**SFY24**	245,881
SFY20	309,616	**SFY25**	238,618

SFY 2025	TANF/Foster Care	Former Assistance	Never Assistance	Total IV-D Caseload
July	29,635	129,396	84,173	243,204
August	29,674	128,656	83,168	241,498
September	30,187	127,920	82,678	240,785
October	30,234	127,599	82,519	240,352
November	30,144	127,074	82,228	239,446
December	30,025	126,617	82,112	238,754
January	30,153	126,149	82,014	238,316
February	29,739	126,229	81,982	237,950
March	29,635	125,754	82,003	237,392
April	29,203	125,577	81,796	236,576
May	28,826	124,569	81,620	235,015
June	28,391	124,285	81,446	234,122
Monthly Average	**29,654**	**126,652**	**82,312**	**238,618**
Annual Unduplicated[4]	**52,772**	**152,561**	**92,720**	**284,331**

[4] The number of annual unduplicated cases is obtained by counting the number of unique cases served by DCS so that an individual case that spans multiple months in the SFY is counted only once.

Child Support Collections, SFY 2016 – SFY 2025



SFY	Collections	SFY	Collections
SFY16	$683,807,632	**SFY21**	$756,412,192
SFY17	$675,702,583	**SFY22**	$669,143,007
SFY18	$672,521,073	**SFY23**	$633,754,215
SFY19	$666,175,348	**SFY24**	$627,535,615
SFY20	$695,311,638	**SFY25**	$634,630,606

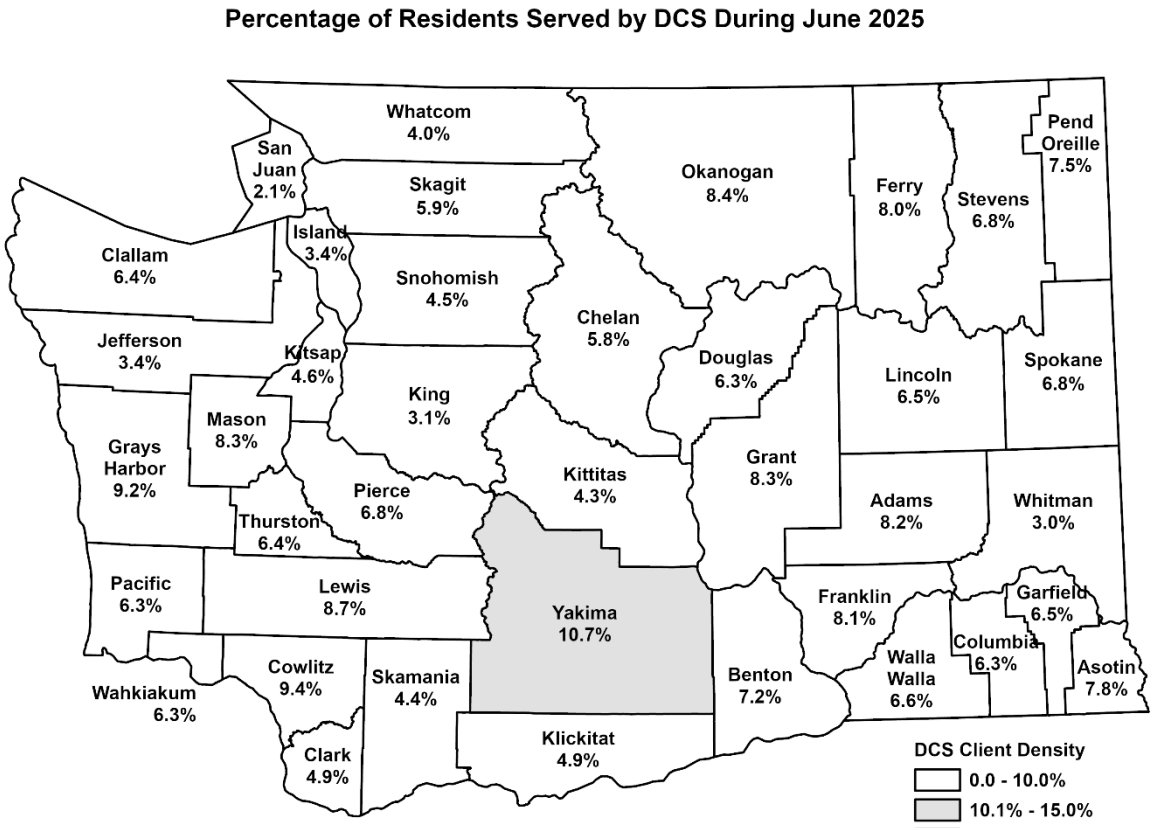
SFY 2025	TANF/Foster Care	Former Assistance	Never Assistance	Total IV-D Collections
July	$2,139,592	$18,567,041	$33,912,775	$54,619,407
August	$1,927,968	$16,530,018	$31,916,812	$50,374,798
September	$1,968,430	$16,809,027	$31,684,589	$50,462,047
October	$1,958,123	$16,871,318	$32,074,261	$50,903,702
November	$1,714,488	$15,319,212	$29,732,698	$46,766,399
December	$2,152,607	$17,870,579	$35,024,355	$55,047,541
January	$1,920,482	$16,105,700	$31,697,373	$49,723,555
February	$1,915,731	$16,351,561	$31,525,745	$49,793,037
March	$2,908,055	$20,361,773	$36,129,751	$59,399,579
April	$2,818,209	$20,374,239	$35,159,972	$58,352,420
May	$2,475,657	$19,360,732	$35,043,544	$56,879,933
June	$2,109,361	$17,094,029	$33,104,797	$52,308,188
Total	**$26,008,702**	**$211,615,230**	**$397,006,674**	**$634,630,606**

Clients with DCS Cases by County of Residence, June 2025 Snapshot[5]

County	Clients	Population Estimate	% of Residents Served	County	Clients	Population Estimate	% of Residents Served
Adams	1,768	21,550	8.2%	**Lewis**	7,457	85,550	8.7%
Asotin	1,764	22,750	7.8%	**Lincoln**	727	11,250	6.5%
Benton	15,773	219,625	7.2%	**Mason**	5,611	67,800	8.3%
Chelan	4,805	82,900	5.8%	**Okanogan**	3,629	43,400	8.4%
Clallam	5,008	78,650	6.4%	**Pacific**	1,520	23,950	6.3%
Clark	26,515	542,400	4.9%	**Pend Oreille**	1,052	13,950	7.5%
Columbia	249	3,950	6.3%	**Pierce**	64,855	959,900	6.8%
Cowlitz	10,790	114,500	9.4%	**San Juan**	388	18,550	2.1%
Douglas	2,862	45,450	6.3%	**Skagit**	7,956	134,600	5.9%
Ferry	590	7,350	8.0%	**Skamania**	538	12,150	4.4%
Franklin	8,356	103,250	8.1%	**Snohomish**	38,950	873,800	4.5%
Garfield	149	2,300	6.5%	**Spokane**	38,294	566,000	6.8%
Grant	8,842	106,250	8.3%	**Stevens**	3,239	47,800	6.8%
Grays Harbor	7,147	77,750	9.2%	**Thurston**	19,632	309,100	6.4%
Island	2,991	88,700	3.4%	**Wahkiakum**	287	4,550	6.3%
Jefferson	1,166	33,825	3.4%	**Walla Walla**	4,185	63,800	6.6%
King	74,670	2,411,700	3.1%	**Whatcom**	9,573	240,500	4.0%
Kitsap	13,177	288,900	4.6%	**Whitman**	1,466	49,450	3.0%
Kittitas	2,094	48,950	4.3%	**Yakima**	28,364	264,650	10.7%
Klickitat	1,154	23,600	4.9%				
State	**427,593**	**8,115,100**	**5.3%**				

[5] Population estimate source: Office of Financial Management (OFM) population estimates

Percentage of Total Population with a DCS Case by County, June 2025 Snapshot

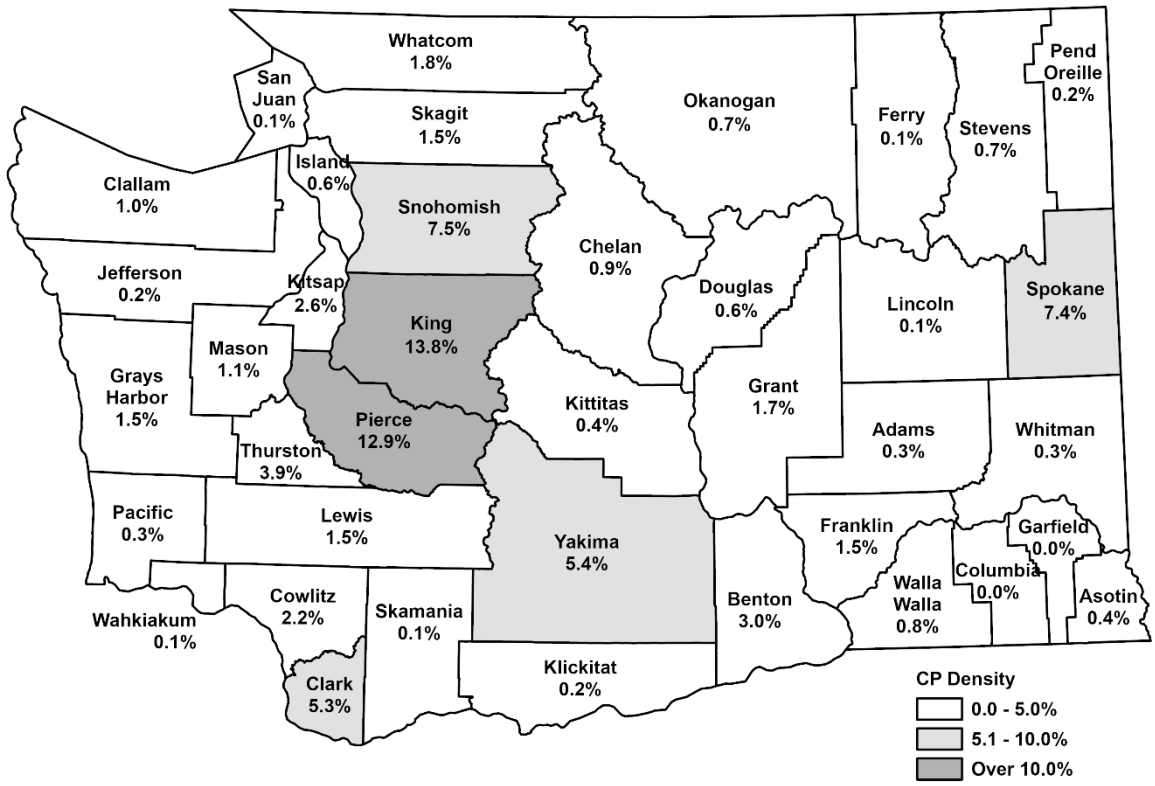


Note: The percentage of residents served is obtained by dividing the number of DCS clients in a county during June 2025 by the OFM 2025 County Population estimate.

Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - Aug. 2025

Percentage of Custodial Parents (CP) by County, June 2025 Snapshot

Percentage of Custodial Parents by County in Washington State: June 2025

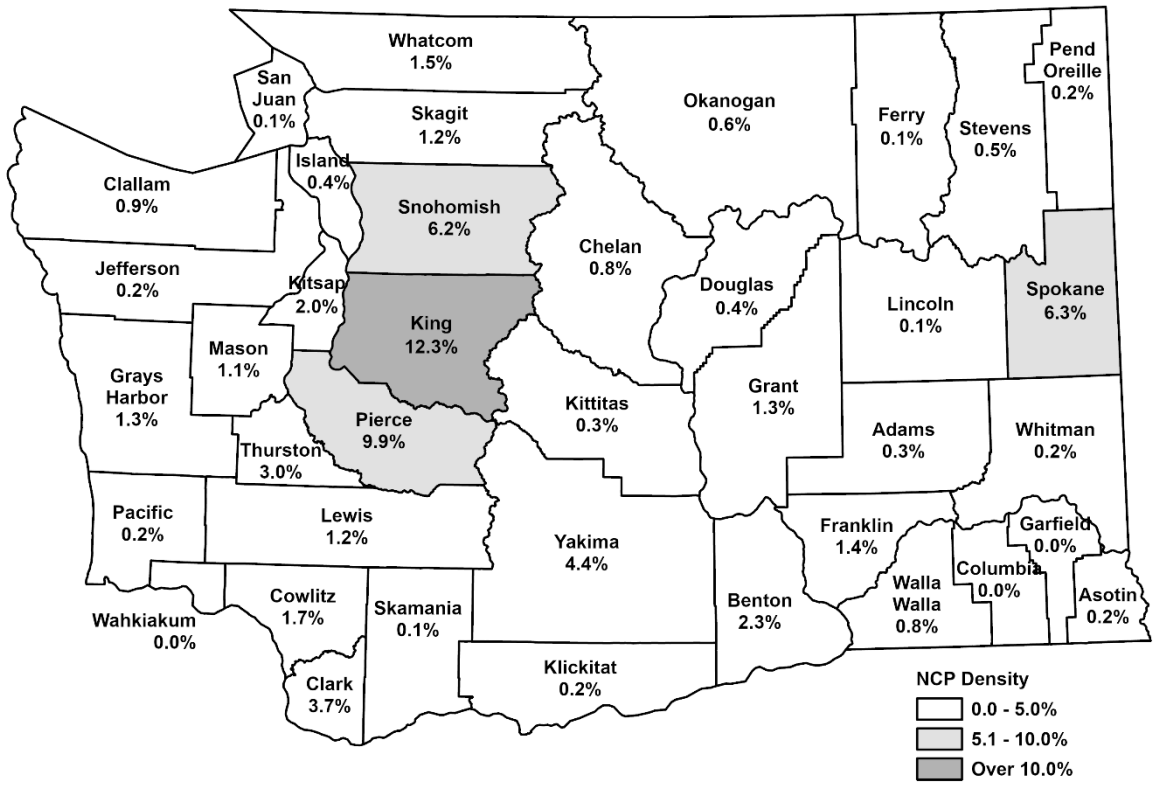


Note: 17.3% of CPs are out of state or do not have valid county address code.

Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - Aug. 2025

Percentage of Noncustodial Parents (NCP) by County, June 2025 Snapshot

Percentage of Noncustodial Parents by County in Washington State: June 2025



Note: 32.5% of NCPs are out of state or do not have valid county address code.

Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - Aug. 2025

Child Support Cost Avoidance by Source, SFY 2025

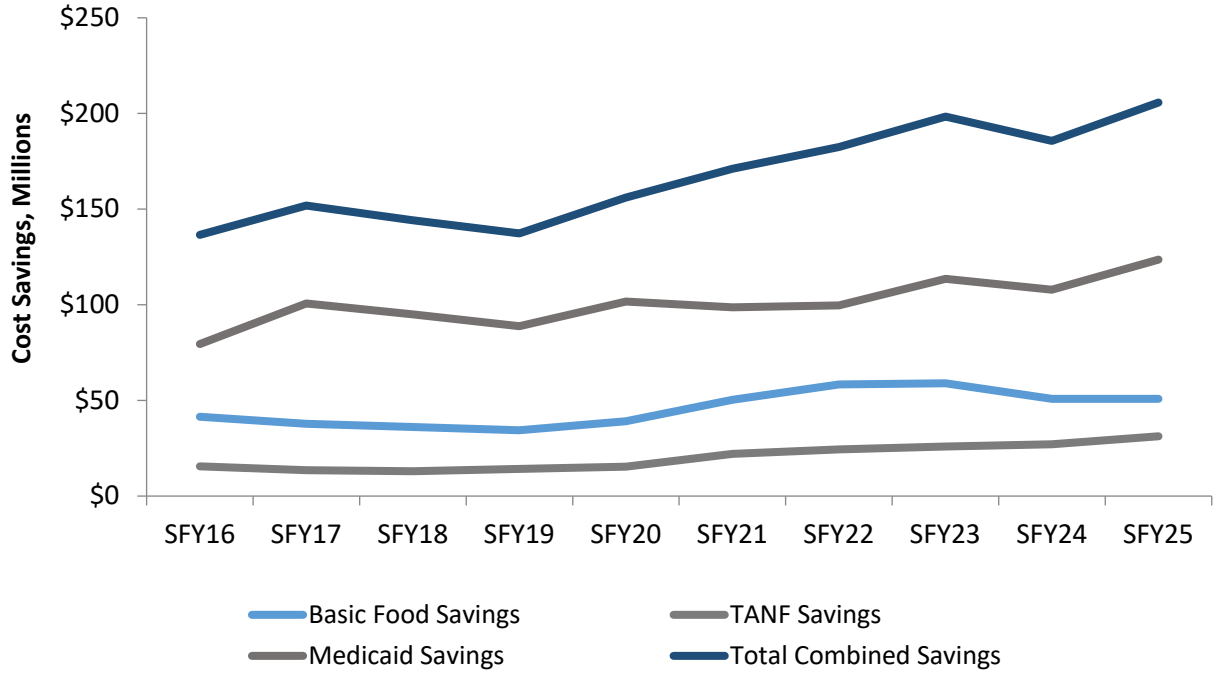
	Basic Food			TANF		
SFY 2025	Average CR[6] Basic Food Expenditure	Average CI[7] Basic Food Expenditure	Total Basic Food Cost Avoidance	Average CR[5] TANF Expenditure	Average CI[6] TANF Expenditure	Total TANF Cost Avoidance
July	$114.68	$196.74	$4,161,188	$13.81	$62.75	$2,474,436
August	$116.26	$198.18	$4,088,079	$14.50	$65.88	$2,552,322
September	$115.98	$198.62	$4,080,358	$14.49	$66.74	$2,580,147
October	$117.63	$201.99	$4,159,739	$14.53	$68.43	$2,687,703
November	$116.13	$203.98	$4,260,467	$14.48	$68.65	$2,600,481
December	$114.44	$202.37	$4,295,001	$14.75	$69.39	$2,646,118
January	$113.39	$202.46	$4,378,424	$14.85	$70.15	$2,687,541
February	$112.34	$202.41	$4,388,272	$14.81	$70.30	$2,650,381
March	$112.62	$201.12	$4,354,701	$15.16	$69.58	$2,637,687
April	$113.29	$200.61	$4,328,105	$15.03	$69.47	$2,675,049
May	$112.53	$199.62	$4,250,145	$15.12	$68.42	$2,564,115
June	$112.53	$198.26	$4,110,760	$14.85	$67.48	$2,496,072
Total			**$50,855,240**			**$31,252,051**

	Medicaid		
SFY 2025	Total Custodial Parent Medicaid Cost Avoidance	Total Child Medicaid Cost Avoidance	Total Medicaid Cost Avoidance
July	$4,487,371	$5,223,827	$9,711,198
August	$4,477,314	$5,336,445	$9,813,759
September	$4,694,292	$5,232,080	$9,926,372
October	$4,900,385	$5,763,934	$10,664,319
November	$4,253,391	$5,120,088	$9,373,479
December	$4,678,979	$5,356,199	$10,035,178
January	$5,274,016	$5,799,833	$11,073,850
February	$4,686,614	$5,607,293	$10,293,908
March	$5,165,396	$6,151,702	$11,317,098
April	$5,051,578	$5,712,983	$10,764,562
May	$4,810,535	$5,724,262	$10,534,797
June	$4,665,704	$5,421,499	$10,087,203
Total	**$57,145,576**	**$66,450,147**	**$123,595,722**

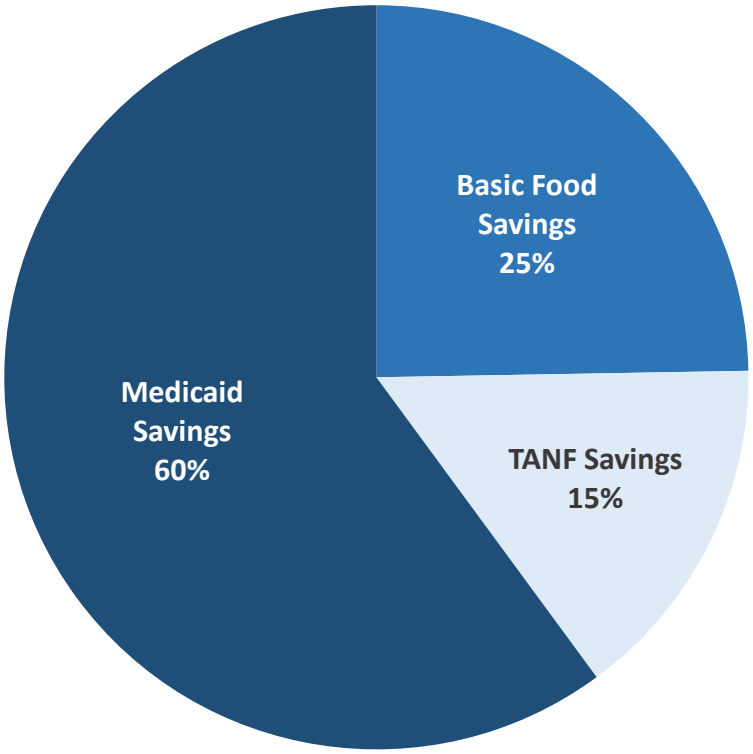
[6] CR: Custodial parents with regular child support payments. Regular child support payments are defined as summed monthly order amount more than $0 and summed total arrearage debt less than twice the summed monthly order amount.

[7] CI: Custodial parents without regular child support payments.

Child Support Cost Avoidance by Source, SFY 2016 – SFY 2025



Sources of $205.7 Million in Child Support Cost Avoidance, SFY 2025



Child Support Tribal Caseload[8], SFY 2025

SFY 2025	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	29,635	1,840	6.2%	129,396	4,945	3.8%
August	29,674	1,817	6.1%	128,656	4,941	3.8%
September	30,187	1,827	6.1%	127,920	4,922	3.8%
October	30,234	1,832	6.1%	127,599	4,879	3.8%
November	30,144	1,798	6.0%	127,074	4,852	3.8%
December	30,025	1,705	5.7%	126,617	4,524	3.6%
January	30,153	1,998	6.6%	126,149	5,401	4.3%
February	29,739	2,003	6.7%	126,229	5,369	4.3%
March	29,635	1,943	6.6%	125,754	5,215	4.1%
April	29,203	1,918	6.6%	125,577	5,213	4.2%
May	28,826	1,928	6.7%	124,569	5,179	4.2%
June	28,391	1,996	7.0%	124,285	5,530	4.4%
Monthly Average	**29,654**	**1,884**	**6.4%**	**126,652**	**5,081**	**4.0%**

SFY 2025	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	84,173	1,575	1.9%	243,204	8,360	3.4%
August	83,168	1,566	1.9%	241,498	8,324	3.4%
September	82,678	1,563	1.9%	240,785	8,312	3.5%
October	82,519	1,569	1.9%	240,352	8,280	3.4%
November	82,228	1,565	1.9%	239,446	8,215	3.4%
December	82,112	1,501	1.8%	238,754	7,730	3.2%
January	82,014	1,602	2.0%	238,316	9,001	3.8%
February	81,982	1,600	2.0%	237,950	8,972	3.8%
March	82,003	1,568	1.9%	237,392	8,726	3.7%
April	81,796	1,565	1.9%	236,576	8,696	3.7%
May	81,620	1,561	1.9%	235,015	8,668	3.7%
June	81,446	1,633	2.0%	234,122	9,159	3.9%
Monthly Average	**82,312**	**1,572**	**1.9%**	**238,618**	**8,537**	**3.6%**

[8] 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 2025

SFY 2025	TANF/Foster Care	Former Assistance	Never Assistance	Total Child Support Collections
July	$63,786	$296,212	$329,429	$689,426
August	$61,412	$283,000	$316,868	$661,280
September	$57,547	$282,755	$307,201	$647,503
October	$52,655	$273,750	$325,926	$652,331
November	$49,048	$240,184	$297,579	$586,811
December	$61,540	$292,320	$338,009	$691,868
January	$59,551	$287,277	$340,157	$686,984
February	$59,100	$259,878	$312,121	$631,100
March	$95,149	$358,568	$387,161	$840,879
April	$117,894	$384,129	$407,083	$909,107
May	$72,111	$324,896	$380,246	$777,252
June	$72,133	$300,516	$359,280	$731,928
Total	**$821,926**	**$3,583,485**	**$4,101,059**	**$8,506,470**

Child Support Demographics, June 2025 Snapshot

Characteristic	Noncustodial Parents[9] # of NCPs	Noncustodial Parents[9] Percent	Custodial Parents[10] # of CPs	Custodial Parents[10] Percent	Children # of Children	Children Percent
Total	**182,245**	**100.0%**	**200,989**	**100.0%**	**200,041**	**100.0%**

Gender	Noncustodial Parents		Custodial Parents		Children	
Female	26,632	14.6%	178,176	88.6%	98,420	49.2%
Male	155,368	85.3%	22,296	11.1%	101,582	50.8%
Unknown[11]	245	0.1%	517	0.3%	39	<0.1%

Age of Parent	Noncustodial Parents		Custodial Parents		Children
<26 Years Old	4,766	2.6%	6,893	3.4%	N/A
26 – 35 Years Old	42,642	23.4%	49,202	24.5%	
36 – 45 Years Old	75,678	41.5%	79,484	39.5%	
46 – 55 Years Old	41,112	22.6%	41,764	20.8%	
56+ Years Old	15,121	8.3%	23,267	11.6%	
Not Reported/ Unidentifiable	2,926	1.6%	379	0.2%	

Age of Children		Children	
<6 Years Old	N/A	31,770	15.9%
6 – 10 Years Old		53,955	27.0%
11 – 15 Years Old		74,895	37.4%
16 – 18 Years Old		37,223	18.6%
19+ Years Old		2,182	1.1%
Not Reported/ Unidentifiable		16	<0.1%

Years	Noncustodial Parents	Custodial Parents	Children
Mean Age	42.5	42.9	11.4
Median Age	41.8	41.3	12.0

[9] A noncustodial parent (NCP) may also be a custodial parent (CP) on another case.
[10] A CP may also be an NCP on another case.
[11] 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

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 the federal Office of Child Support Services, experts and people 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 2025, the voluntary program received 9,415 referrals. During SFY 2024, Alternative Solutions served 1,172 parents. Alternative Solutions has provided 49,962 resources to parents working with the program since its inception. The program maintains a database of more than 4,600 resources with a version available to the public, allowing any Washingtonian to connect with local community resources. Parents, field offices, prosecuting attorney offices and community partners embrace the program. This cooperative effort generates real-life success stories as parents work through barriers to 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 12 Tribal TANF programs in the state. Additionally, Urban Indian Organizations provide resources and support to Native people living 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 with the opportunity to sign an Acknowledgment of Parentage (AOP) form at the child's birth or a later date. Most AOP 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 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 AOP 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 AOP form, the DOH must name the father/second parent on the child's birth certificate.

Effects of the Acknowledgment of Parentage – A properly signed and filed AOP 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 AOP 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 fewer from the date the DOH files the AOP, 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 2025, parentage was established for 12,950 children, 85.8% of them by AOP.

DCS Parentage and Paternity Partner Outreach

DCS published and electronically distributed two editions of the Parentage and Paternity Newsletter in SFY 2025. 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 DOH Center for Health Statistics, DCS co-hosted two virtual "Provider Insider" meetings on the Microsoft Teams platform for personnel from the state's hospitals, midwifery clinics and birth centers. Offered in September 2024, the presentations covered information about birth filing, birth corrections, the AOP and the Voluntary Paternity Testing Program. The "Provider Insider" presentations are 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 AOP, Denial of Parentage and Rescission of Parentage forms, which have been in effect since Jan. 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 offers reimbursement to 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 employees and other birth providers 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 AOP.