

Child Care

The Division of Child Care and Early Learning (DCCEL) was created in July 2001 to consolidate state child care responsibilities and improve the overall administration and quality of the state's child care programs. DCCEL is responsible for establishing Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) policy and procedures, licensing child care centers and family home providers, and for the overall integrity of Washington State's child care programs. Two major child care programs previously run by the Children's Administration, Seasonal and Homeless child care, were moved from Children's to the newly formed division in July 2001.

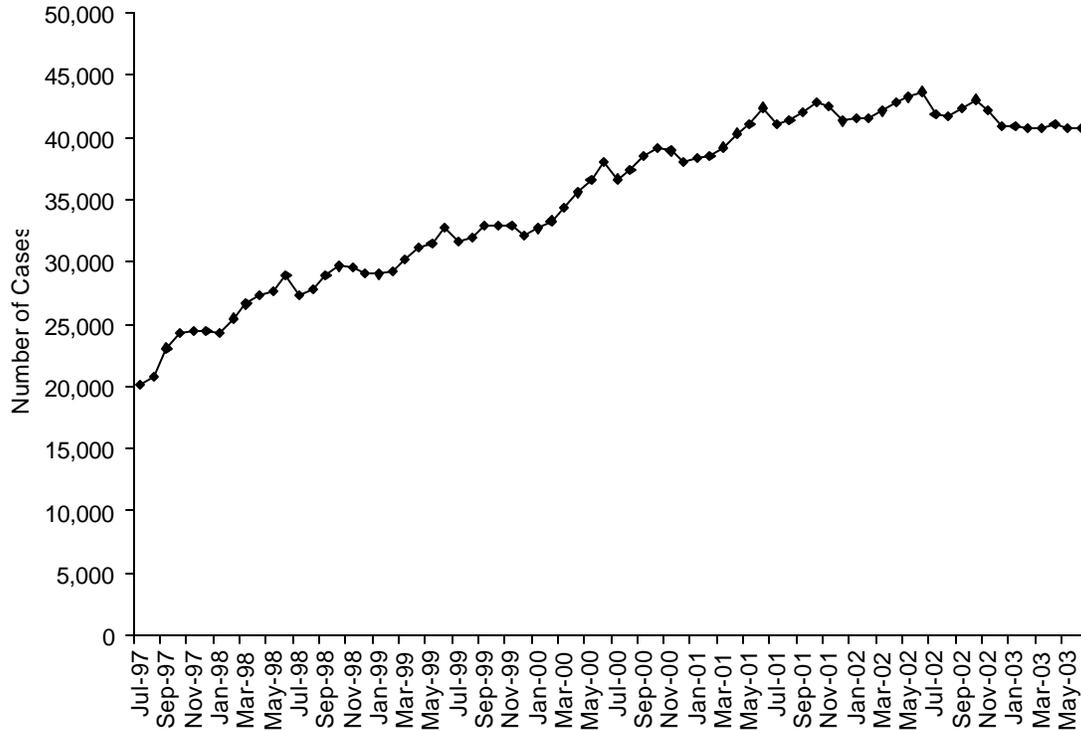
Highlights:

- After years of growth, **the average number of households served per month in Working Connections Child Care declined slightly from 42,137 in SFY 2002 to 41,393 in SFY 2003.** The average number of children served per month declined from 71,890 in SFY 2002 to 70,676 in SFY 2003.
- **The percent of households served by Working Connections Child Care that are not receiving TANF benefits remained stable at 80% in SFY 2003.**
- The percent of children served by Working Connections Child Care that are cared for in a setting exempt from licensing regulations has declined steadily, **hitting a new low of 27% for non-TANF children and 25% for TANF children in June 2003.** The percent of WCCC TANF children served in exempt settings has fallen from a high of 47% in SFY 1999 to 31% SFY 2003.
- **Center care is the most commonly used type** of care for children in Working Connections Child Care, being used by 46% of TANF children and 41% of non-TANF children. **Overall, 42% of children in SFY 2003 were in center care, unchanged from SFY 2002.**
- **Just over a third (36%) of infants and school-age children are being cared for either in their own home or in the home of a relative (exempt settings).**
- **Almost half (48%) of all preschool age children in subsidized child care attended a child care center.**
- **The number of children served in the Homeless program decreased from 4,159 children in SFY 1999 to 1,479 children in SFY 2003.**
- **The average monthly number of children served in the Seasonal Child Care program decreased to 1,456 children in SFY 2003, compared to 1,844 in SY 2002.**

Child Care

Working Connections Child Care Cases SFY 1998 to SFY 2003

Source: SSPS Payment History



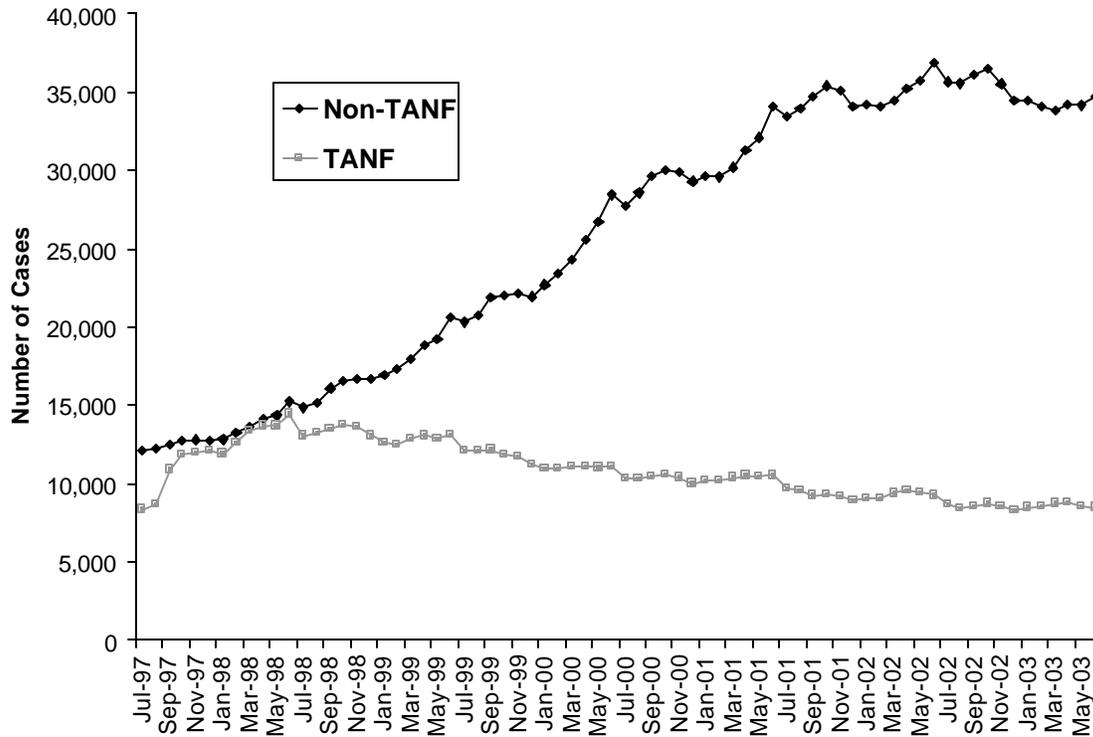
	SFY1998	SFY1999	SFY2000	SFY2001	SFY2002	SFY2003
July	20,166	27,342	31,597	36,634	41,077	41,815
August	20,752	27,821	31,936	37,385	41,407	41,655
September	23,080	28,940	32,893	38,453	41,948	42,370
October	24,299	29,635	32,907	39,135	42,776	43,028
November	24,489	29,601	32,898	38,904	42,443	42,127
December	24,491	29,085	32,126	37,964	41,278	40,820
January	24,334	28,991	32,665	38,381	41,472	40,912
February	25,453	29,198	33,287	38,448	41,482	40,761
March	26,609	30,227	34,290	39,195	42,086	40,692
April	27,334	31,162	35,548	40,320	42,836	41,020
May	27,599	31,500	36,596	40,996	43,198	40,770
June	28,928	32,715	37,942	42,375	43,644	40,746
Monthly Avg.	24,795	29,685	33,724	39,016	42,137	41,393

Note: Cases are unduplicated based on information from the name, date of birth and social security fields.

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Working Connections Child Care Cases by TANF Status, SFY 2003

Source: SSPS Payment File



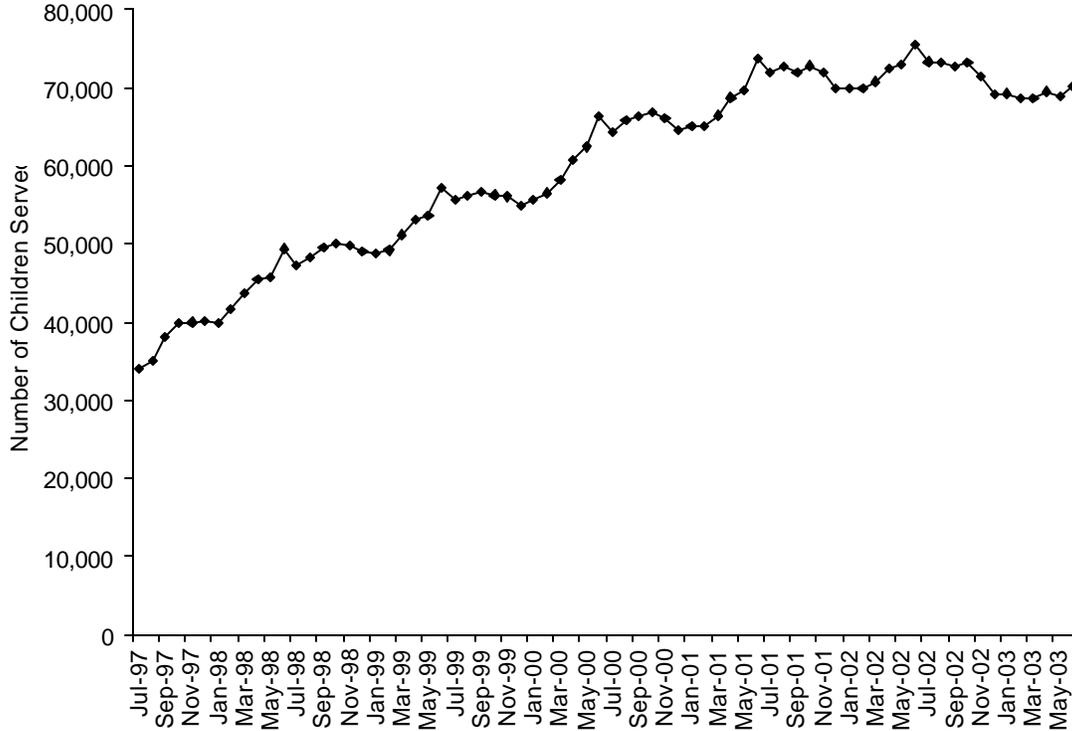
	Total	TANF		Non-TANF	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
July	41,815	8,675	19.6%	35,662	80.4%
August	41,655	8,473	19.2%	35,566	80.8%
September	42,370	8,587	19.2%	36,084	80.8%
October	43,028	8,747	19.3%	36,468	80.7%
November	42,127	8,583	19.5%	35,536	80.5%
December	40,820	8,299	19.4%	34,468	80.6%
January	40,912	8,490	19.8%	34,437	80.2%
February	40,761	8,604	20.1%	34,096	79.9%
March	40,692	8,737	20.5%	33,886	79.5%
April	41,020	8,793	20.4%	34,249	79.6%
May	40,770	8,541	20.0%	34,168	80.0%
June	40,746	8,483	19.6%	34,693	80.4%
Avg. Mo.	41,393	8,584	19.7%	34,943	80.3%

Note: Cases are unduplicated based on information from the name, date of birth and social security fields. The sum of TANF and non-TANF cases will be greater than the total number of cases because some cases may be coded both as TANF and non-TANF cases.

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Children Served by Working Connections Child Care SFY 1998 to SFY 2003

Source: SSPS Payment File



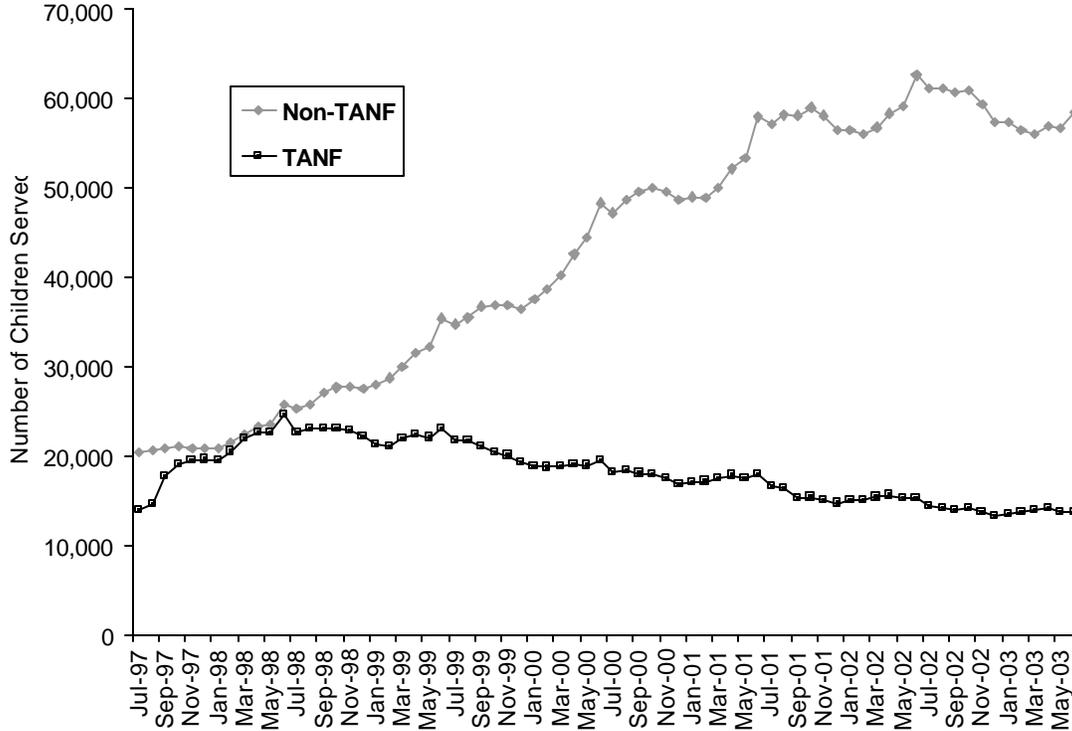
	SFY1998	SFY1999	SFY2000	SFY2001	SFY2002	SFY2003
July	33,942	47,167	55,583	64,343	72,021	73,328
August	35,063	48,225	56,164	65,768	72,808	73,165
September	38,119	49,455	56,653	66,264	71,891	72,691
October	39,777	50,121	56,302	66,830	72,823	73,266
November	39,980	49,898	56,053	66,160	71,884	71,528
December	40,039	49,082	54,839	64,605	69,847	69,145
January	39,892	48,709	55,626	65,084	69,935	69,278
February	41,656	49,165	56,542	65,070	69,847	68,674
March	43,779	51,199	58,264	66,485	70,801	68,544
April	45,388	53,147	60,775	68,759	72,401	69,513
May	45,722	53,612	62,431	69,679	72,944	68,894
June	49,392	57,266	66,266	73,732	75,481	70,089
Avg. Mo.	41,062	50,587	57,598	66,898	71,890	70,676

Note: Children are unduplicated based on information from the name and date of birth fields for the service recipient as well as information from the primary recipient field.

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Children Served by Working Connections Child Care, by TANF Status SFY 2003

Source: SSPS Payment File



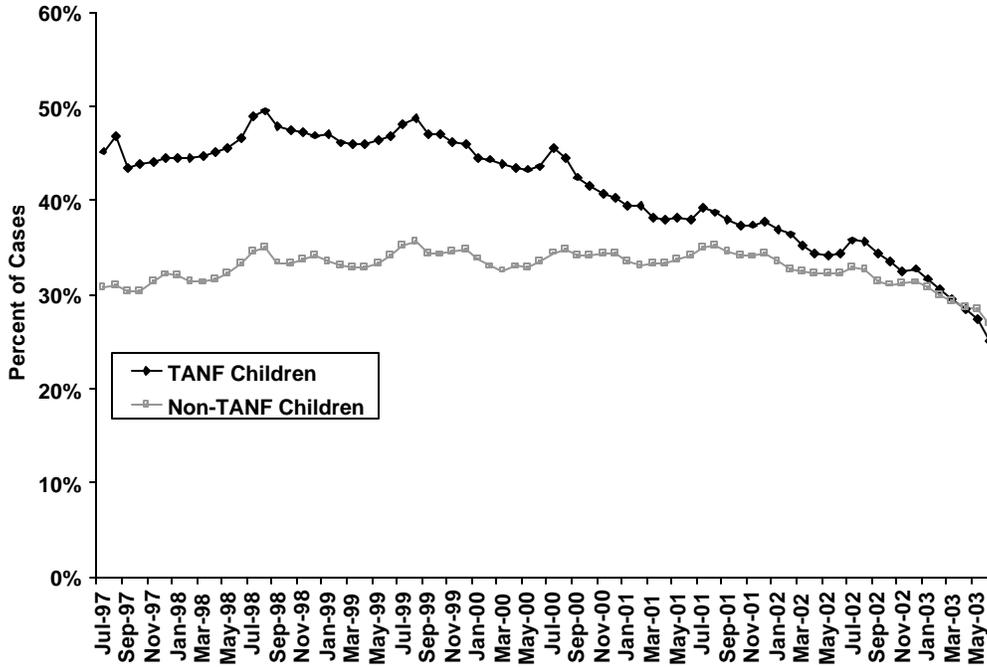
	Total	TANF		Non-TANF	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
July	73,328	14,398	19.0%	61,227	81.0%
August	73,165	14,201	18.8%	61,165	81.2%
September	72,691	13,918	18.6%	60,745	81.4%
October	73,266	14,094	18.8%	61,010	81.2%
November	71,528	13,736	18.8%	59,376	81.2%
December	69,145	13,335	18.9%	57,357	81.1%
January	69,278	13,563	19.1%	57,329	80.9%
February	68,674	13,643	19.4%	56,509	80.6%
March	68,544	13,878	19.8%	56,073	80.2%
April	69,513	14,105	19.8%	56,995	80.2%
May	68,894	13,648	19.4%	56,743	80.6%
June	70,089	13,667	18.9%	58,578	81.1%
Avg. Mo.	70,676	13,849	19.1%	58,592	80.9%

Note: Children are unduplicated based on information from the name and date of birth fields for the service recipient as well as information from the primary recipient field. The sum of TANF and non-TANF children will be greater than the total number of children because some children may be coded both as TANF and non-TANF children.

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Percent of Children in Working Connections Child Care in Exempt Care by TANF Status, SFY 2003

Source: SSPS Payment File



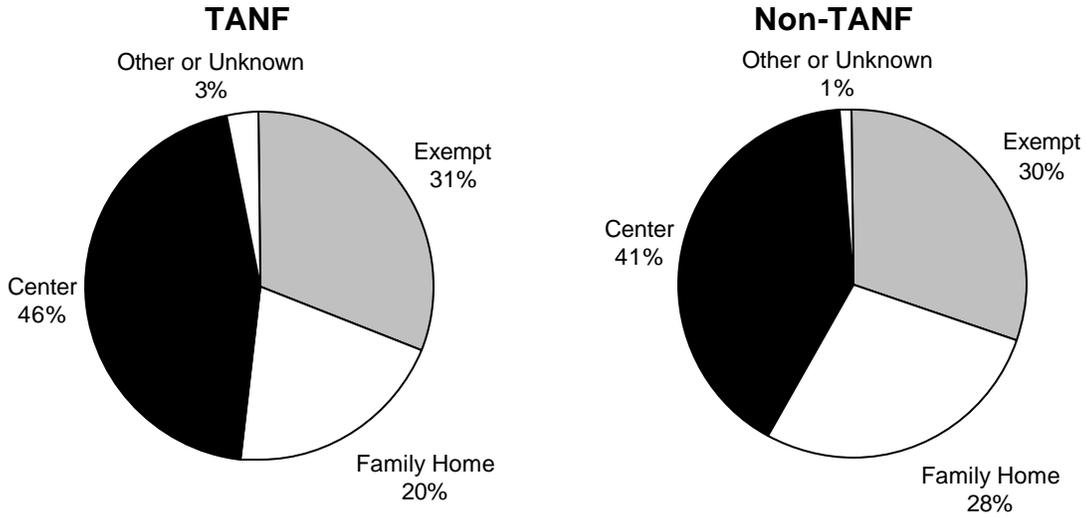
	TANF		Non- TANF	
	Number Children Exempt	% Children Exempt	Number Children Exempt	% Children Exempt
July	5,102	35%	20,111	33%
August	5,010	35%	19,997	33%
September	4,747	34%	19,042	31%
October	4,678	33%	18,951	31%
November	4,426	32%	18,475	31%
December	4,332	32%	17,957	31%
January	4,263	31%	17,614	31%
February	4,143	30%	16,917	30%
March	4,077	29%	16,395	29%
April	3,970	28%	16,350	29%
May	3,708	27%	16,117	28%
June	3,379	25%	15,706	27%
Avg. Mo.	4,320	31%	17,803	30%

Note: Children receiving care from more than one type of provider are coded to just one type of provider using the following logic: exempt, if any exempt care provider is used; family home, if no exempt care provider is used and the child is cared for by a licensed family home provider; and center if a child is cared for by a center provider and not an exempt provider or a licensed family home provider. Exempt care is child care that is exempt from licensing and is provided either in the child's home or in the home of a relative. If a child used both exempt and licensed care in a given month, the child was counted as using exempt care.

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Percent of Children Using Working Connections Child Care by Facility Type and TANF Status, SFY 2003

Source: SSPS Payment File



	TANF				Non-TANF			
	Exempt	Family Home	Center	Other ¹	Exempt	Family Home	Center	Other ¹
July	5,102	2,817	6,044	435	20,111	16,679	23,566	871
August	5,010	2,739	6,051	401	19,997	16,653	23,660	855
September	4,747	2,806	5,852	513	19,042	16,966	23,933	804
October	4,678	2,777	6,185	454	18,951	16,956	24,506	597
November	4,426	2,760	6,183	367	18,475	16,074	24,329	498
December	4,332	2,741	5,887	375	17,957	15,149	23,802	449
January	4,263	2,854	6,039	407	17,614	15,373	23,810	532
February	4,143	2,861	6,267	372	16,917	15,384	23,721	487
March	4,077	2,805	6,570	426	16,395	15,405	23,709	564
April	3,970	2,950	6,731	454	16,350	16,086	23,910	649
May	3,708	2,948	6,584	408	16,117	16,055	23,989	582
June	3,379	2,963	6,825	500	15,706	17,127	24,891	854
Mo. Avg.	4,320	2,835	6,268	426	17,803	16,159	23,986	645
Mo. Pct.	31%	20%	46%	3%	30%	28%	41%	1%

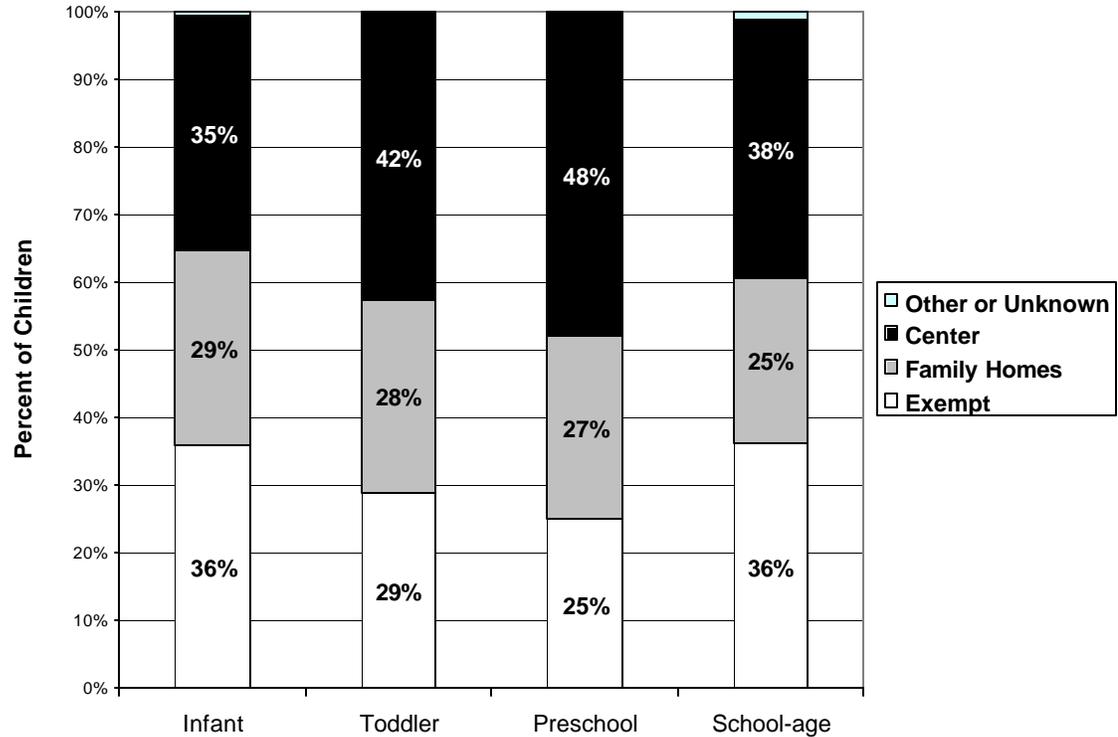
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¹ Other or Unknown are either summer camps exempt from licensing but not in home or relative care or coded licensed care but not clearly identified as a center or family home.

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Average Number/Percent of Children Served in Working Connections Child Care Per Month By Facility Type and Age of Child, SFY 2003

Source: SSPS Payment File



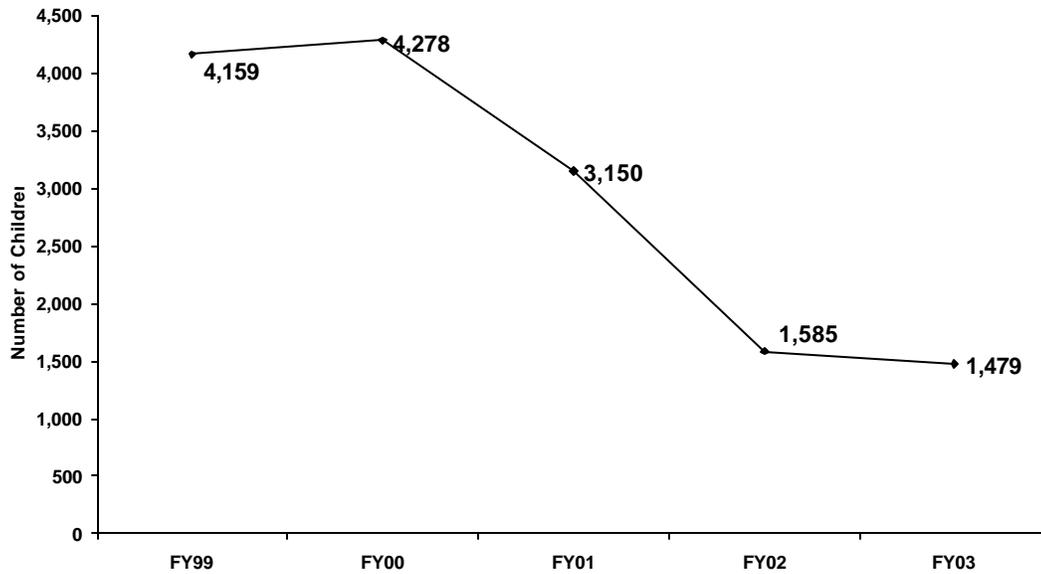
	Infant		Toddler		Pre-School		School-Age	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Exempt	1,626	36%	3,397	29%	6,084	25%	10,826	36%
Family Home	1,311	29%	3,338	28%	6,603	27%	7,364	25%
Center	1,576	35%	4,977	42%	11,661	48%	11,438	38%
Other or Unknown	22	trace	35	trace	71	trace	347	1%
Total	4,535	100%	11,747	100%	24,419	100%	29,975	100%

Note: Children receiving care from more than one type of provider are coded to just one type of provider using the following logic: exempt, if any exempt care provider is used; family home, if no exempt care provider is used and the child is cared for by a licensed family home provider; and center if a child is cared for by a center provider and not an exempt provider or a licensed family home provider.

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Number of Children Served in Homeless Child Care Program By State Fiscal Year

Source: Division of Child Care and Early Learning

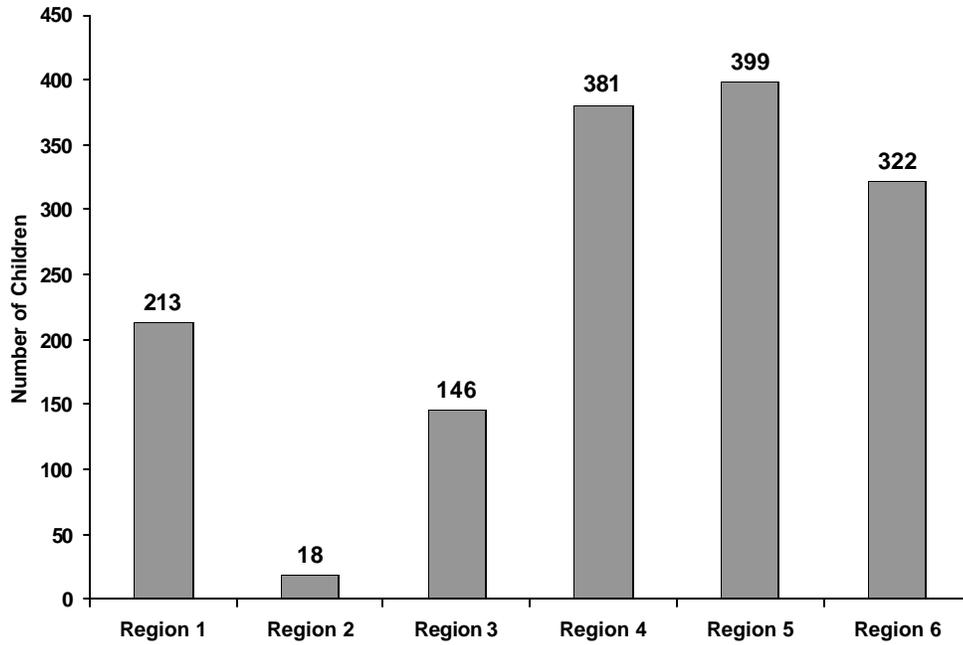


Note: The decrease in number of children served beginning in SFY 2000 corresponds to changes in Working Connections Child Care that made more homeless families eligible for subsidized child care through the Working Connections Child Care Program. The Homeless Child Care Program is being redesigned for SFY 2005 to respond to unmet needs of the remaining homeless families. The Homeless Child Care Program moved from Children's Administration to Economic Services Administration in July 2001.

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Number of Children Served in Homeless Child Care Program in SFY 2003, by DSHS Region

Source: Division of Child Care and Early Learning

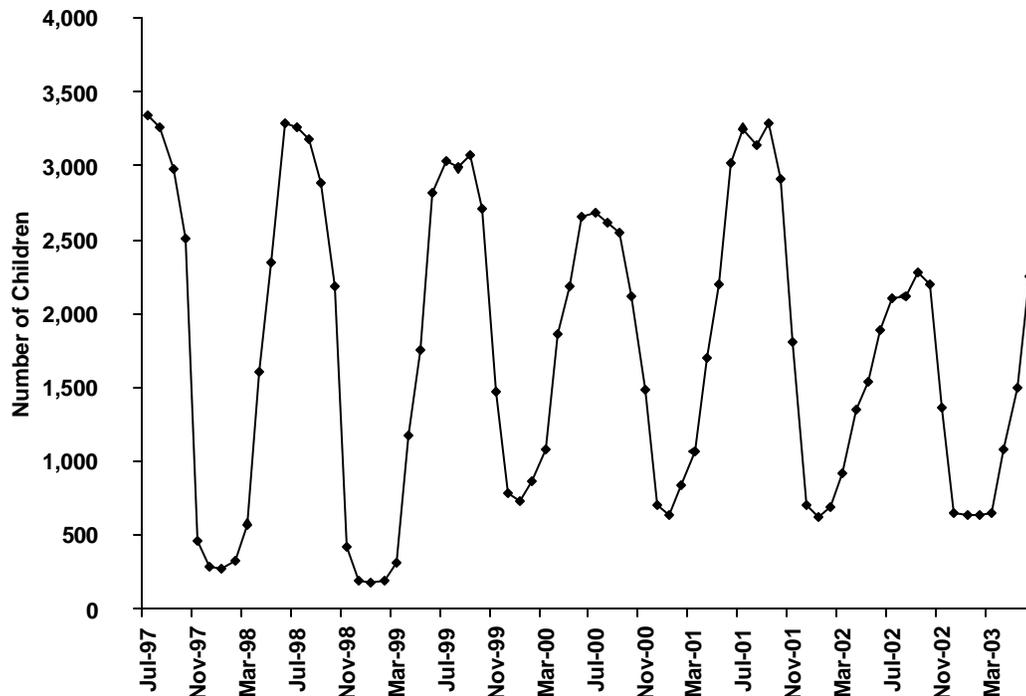


Note: The distribution of funds and usage is highest in the Regions with high urban populations and corresponds to the availability of serves rather than necessarily reflecting the need for service. The Homeless Child Care Program moved from Children's Administration to Economic Services Administration in July 2001.

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Number of Children Served in Seasonal Child Care Program by Month, SFY 2003

Source: SSPS Payment File



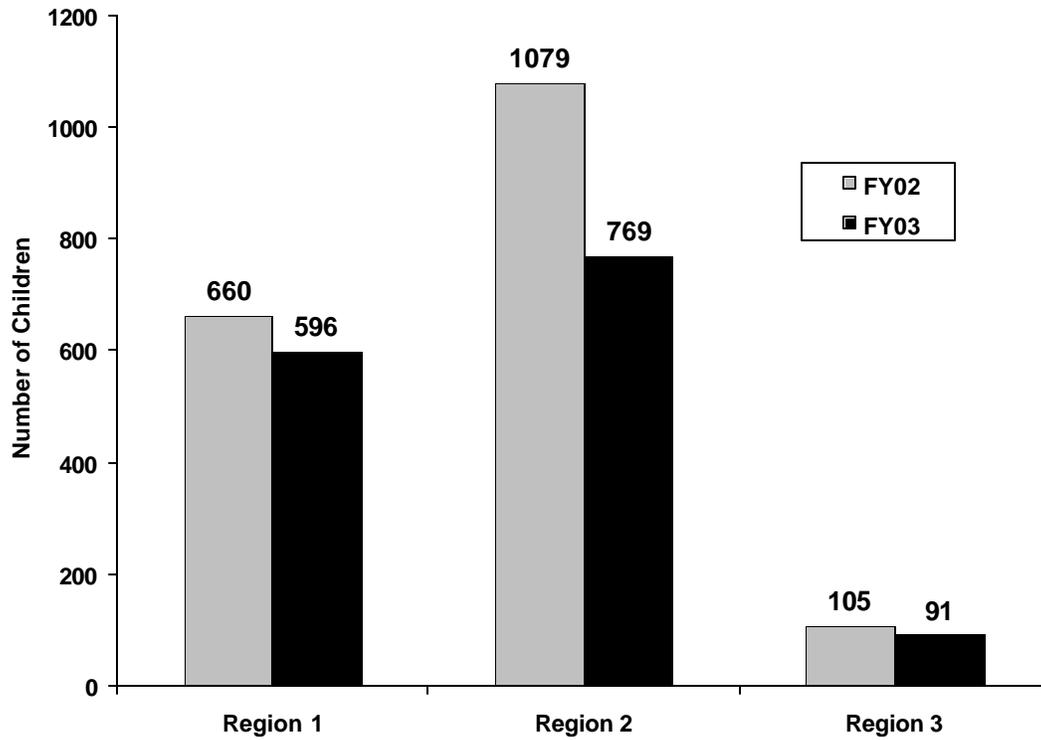
	SFY1998	SFY1999	SFY2000	SFY2001	SFY2002	SFY2003
July	3,337	3,267	3,033	2,683	3,254	2,098
August	3,258	3,174	2,985	2,620	3,145	2,117
September	2,978	2,885	3,069	2,545	3,291	2,275
October	2,508	2,179	2,712	2,110	2,905	2,200
November	462	416	1,476	1,486	1,802	1,363
December	280	192	782	701	706	650
January	275	175	734	636	627	639
February	325	187	870	841	689	643
March	576	309	1,085	1,069	924	645
April	1,604	1,171	1,865	1,699	1,350	1,086
May	2,340	1,751	2,184	2,201	1,542	1,502
June	3,287	2,819	2,653	3,017	1,893	2,255
Avg. Mo.	1,769	1,544	1,954	1,801	1,844	1,456

Note: The cyclical flux corresponds to seasonal crop growth and harvest. In FY'00 program use in the winter increased and has remained constant due to the availability of more year-round work (packing houses, pruning) and program changes. In July 2001 the Seasonal Child Care Program moved from Children's Administration to Economic Services Administration. Starting in FY02 families were referred to Working Connections Child Care if they met the eligibility rules for both the Seasonal and WCCC child care subsidy programs. Contractors also were monitored to stay within their budgeted funds for the fiscal year, leading some contractors to limit services.

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Average Number of Children Served per Month in Seasonal Child Care Program by DSHS Region SFY 2002 – SFY 2003

Source: SSPS Payment File



Note: The distribution of children served by DSHS Region in the Seasonal Child Care Program corresponds to the breadth and length of agricultural work and the amount of funds allocated to the Region. DSHS Regions 4,5, and 6 did not have children served in the Seasonal Child Care Program. The Seasonal Child Care Program moved from Children's Administration to Economic Services Administration in July 2001.