

TANF/SFA/
WorkFirst

SFY

2019

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 welfare-to-work and support services to 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 2019.

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. Persons who are residents of Washington State and are ineligible for TANF solely because of eligibility changes due to the Welfare Reform Act may be eligible for SFA. Some TANF/SFA families participate in the WorkFirst Program, which helps participants prepare for, find, and keep jobs.

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

Highlights

Washington State's TANF/SFA average monthly caseload declined by 2.3% in SFY 2019, from 26,030 households in SFY 2018 to 25,422 households in SFY 2019.

Child-only households comprised 47.8% of the total TANF/SFA caseload in SFY 2019, up from 47.7% in SFY 2018.

The monthly average proportion of WorkFirst clients sanctioned due to noncompliance with participation requirements decreased from 3.6% in SFY 2018 to 3.2% in SFY 2019.

TECHNICAL NOTES

DATA SOURCES: Data for this chapter is based on the ESA Automated Client Eligibility System (ACES) database as of August 2019. Quarterly employment and earnings for WorkFirst participants is based on Unemployment Insurance (UI) wage data provided by the Employment Security Department (ESD).

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.

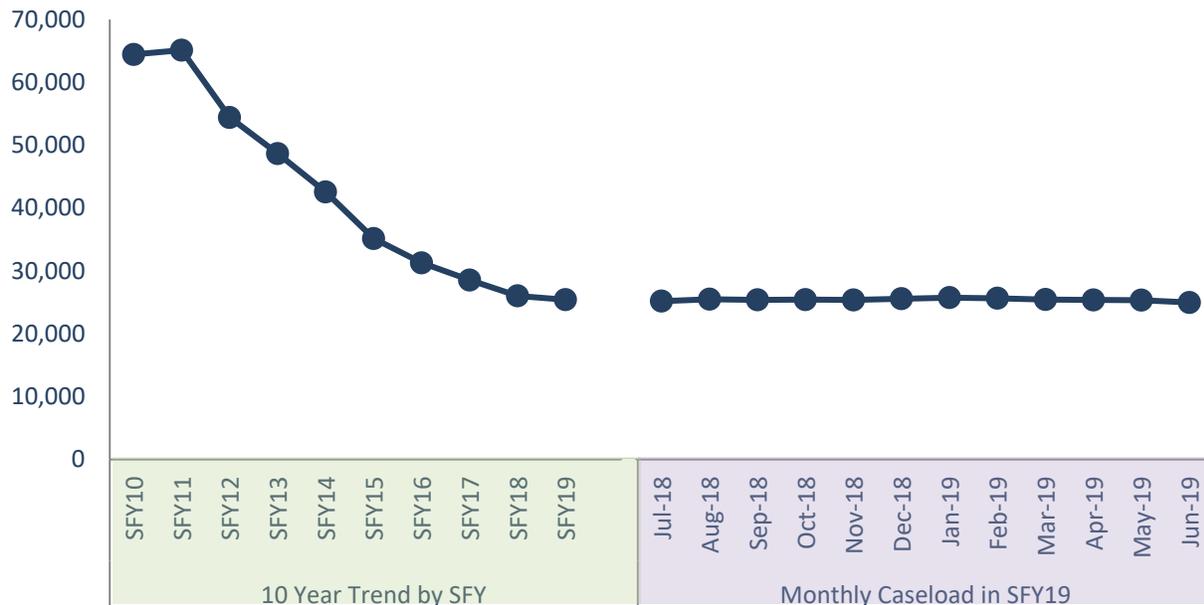
Selected TANF/SFA Program Overview, SFY 2018 and SFY 2019

	SFY 2018 (July 2017-June 2018)	SFY 2019 (July 2018-June 2019)	Change	
Average Number of Cases Per Month (Range)	26,030 (25,378 – 26,430)	25,422 (24,984 - 25,753)	-2.3% (Decrease)	↓
Average Number of Persons Per Month (Range)	57,432 (55,793 – 58,558)	55,874 (54,647 - 56,740)	-2.7% (Decrease)	↓
Average Number of Adults Per Month (Range)	15,374 (14,931 – 15,751)	14,877 (14,568 - 15,169)	-3.2% (Decrease)	↓
Average Number of Children Per Month (Range)	42,058 (40,862 – 43,004)	40,998 (40,079 - 41,767)	-2.5% (Decrease)	↓
State Population ¹	7,427,600	7,546,400	1.6% (Increase)	↑
Recipients as a Percent of State's Total Population	0.8%	0.7%	-0.1% Point (Decrease)	↓
Children as Percent of Recipients	73.2%	73.4%	0.2% Point (Increase)	↑
Average Persons Per Case	2.2	2.2	No Change	=
Average Children Per Case	1.6	1.6	No Change	=
Average Children Per Adult	2.7	2.8	0.1 (Increase)	↑
Average Monthly Payment Per Case (Range) ²	\$407.80 (\$404.44 - \$412.88)	\$446.37 (\$445.08 - \$448.61)	9.5% (Increase)	↑

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

² Payments not adjusted for refunds. The TANF grant increased by 9.3% effective July 1, 2018 which included a 6.8% increase approved in the 2018 Supplemental Operating Budget and a 2.5% increase approved in the 2017-2019 Biennium Budget.

TANF/SFA Caseload, SFY 2010 – 2019³



SFY	Monthly Average Caseload	SFY	Monthly Average Caseload
SFY10	64,448	SFY15	35,158
SFY11	65,127	SFY16	31,284
SFY12	54,425	SFY17	28,555
SFY13	48,675	SFY18	26,030
SFY14	42,564	SFY19	25,422

SFY 2019	Total Caseload	Clients	Grant Expenditures	Average Payment Per Case
July	25,195	55,372	\$11,213,729	\$445.08
August	25,502	56,177	\$11,357,362	\$445.35
September	25,398	55,899	\$11,329,617	\$446.08
October	25,437	55,912	\$11,361,659	\$446.66
November	25,382	55,649	\$11,318,616	\$445.93
December	25,572	56,301	\$11,471,794	\$448.61
January	25,753	56,740	\$11,502,903	\$446.66
February	25,659	56,478	\$11,495,101	\$447.99
March	25,446	55,862	\$11,351,430	\$446.10
April	25,392	55,824	\$11,341,783	\$446.67
May	25,344	55,626	\$11,287,638	\$445.38
June	24,984	54,647	\$11,139,454	\$445.86
Mo. Avg.	25,422	55,874	\$11,347,590	\$446.37

³ Washington State implemented stricter time limit extension criteria and a 15% TANF grant reduction effective February 1, 2011 which significantly reduced the caseload. The TANF grant increased by 9% on July 1, 2015, which had the effect of slowing the rate of the caseload decrease.

TANF/SFA Caseload by Funding Type, SFY 2019

SFY 2019	Total Caseload	TANF Only		Mixed TANF & SFA ⁴		SFA Only	
		Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total
July	25,195	24,454	97.1%	404	1.6%	337	1.3%
August	25,502	24,770	97.1%	397	1.6%	335	1.3%
September	25,398	24,687	97.2%	393	1.5%	318	1.3%
October	25,437	24,725	97.2%	383	1.5%	329	1.3%
November	25,382	24,682	97.2%	377	1.5%	323	1.3%
December	25,572	24,860	97.2%	400	1.6%	312	1.2%
January	25,753	25,031	97.2%	407	1.6%	315	1.2%
February	25,659	24,931	97.2%	411	1.6%	317	1.2%
March	25,446	24,688	97.0%	415	1.6%	343	1.3%
April	25,392	24,607	96.9%	445	1.8%	340	1.3%
May	25,344	24,518	96.7%	470	1.9%	356	1.4%
June	24,984	24,171	96.7%	462	1.8%	351	1.4%
Mo. Avg.	25,422	24,677	97.1%	414	1.6%	331	1.3%

SFY 2019	SFA Caseload	State	Federal	Average State	Total Average
		Expenditures on SFA Cases	Expenditures on SFA Cases ⁵	Expenditures Per Case	Expenditures Per Case
July	741	\$259,415	\$104,277	\$350.09	\$490.81
August	732	\$250,741	\$102,448	\$342.54	\$482.50
September	711	\$240,858	\$104,807	\$338.76	\$486.17
October	712	\$243,819	\$100,594	\$342.44	\$483.73
November	700	\$249,023	\$94,076	\$355.75	\$490.14
December	712	\$247,565	\$103,279	\$347.70	\$492.76
January	722	\$254,545	\$104,562	\$352.56	\$497.38
February	728	\$253,212	\$106,383	\$347.82	\$493.95
March	758	\$255,672	\$108,678	\$337.30	\$480.67
April	785	\$267,069	\$121,514	\$340.22	\$495.01
May	826	\$282,595	\$122,947	\$342.13	\$490.97
June	813	\$279,989	\$122,512	\$344.39	\$495.08
Mo. Avg.	745	\$257,042	\$108,006	\$345.02	\$490.00

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.

Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2019 Snapshot

The following pages detail the TANF/SFA caseload, June 2019 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) or Home and Community Services Offices (HCS) within DSHS's Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (AL TSA).
- 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	7,729	30.9%	17,121	31.3%	7,732	30.9%	17,123	31.3%
Region 2 CSOs	7,591	30.4%	17,159	31.4%	7,495	30.0%	16,923	31.0%
Region 3 CSOs	9,660	38.7%	20,360	37.3%	9,754	39.0%	20,596	37.7%
CSCCs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A			
HCS	4	<0.1%	7	<0.1%	N/A			
Not Reported / Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	<0.1%	5	<0.1%
State Total	24,984	100.0%	54,647	100.0%	24,984	100.0%	54,647	100.0%

Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2019 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	169	0.7%	371	0.7%	169	0.7%	371	0.7%
COLFAX	80	0.3%	178	0.3%	79	0.3%	175	0.3%
COLVILLE	176	0.7%	366	0.7%	178	0.7%	368	0.7%
ELLENSBURG	119	0.5%	253	0.5%	118	0.5%	251	0.5%
GOLDENDALE	73	0.3%	166	0.3%	73	0.3%	166	0.3%
KENNEWICK	1,000	4.0%	2,293	4.2%	1,029	4.1%	2,366	4.3%
MOSES LAKE	578	2.3%	1,262	2.3%	585	2.3%	1,274	2.3%
NEWPORT	85	0.3%	165	0.3%	84	0.3%	159	0.3%
OKANOGAN	192	0.8%	358	0.7%	183	0.7%	339	0.6%
REPUBLIC	39	0.2%	90	0.2%	39	0.2%	92	0.2%
SPOKANE MAPLE	1,167	4.7%	2,641	4.8%	1,280	5.1%	2,869	5.3%
SPOKANE TRENT	1,658	6.6%	3,776	6.9%	1,547	6.2%	3,556	6.5%
SUNNYSIDE	336	1.3%	814	1.5%	308	1.2%	740	1.4%
TOPPENISH	383	1.5%	795	1.5%	382	1.5%	792	1.4%
WALLA WALLA	226	0.9%	488	0.9%	224	0.9%	483	0.9%
WENATCHEE	319	1.3%	672	1.2%	322	1.3%	679	1.2%
WHITE SALMON	32	0.1%	64	0.1%	33	0.1%	67	0.1%
YAKIMA	1,097	4.4%	2,369	4.3%	1,099	4.4%	2,376	4.3%
Region 1 Total	7,729	30.9%	17,121	31.3%	7,732	30.9%	17,123	31.3%

Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2019 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	402	1.6%	892	1.6%	398	1.6%	894	1.6%
AUBURN	639	2.6%	1,524	2.8%	637	2.5%	1,517	2.8%
BELLINGHAM	639	2.6%	1,368	2.5%	635	2.5%	1,366	2.5%
BELLTOWN	115	0.5%	270	0.5%	114	0.5%	273	0.5%
CAPITOL HILL	193	0.8%	413	0.8%	185	0.7%	391	0.7%
EVERETT	652	2.6%	1,493	2.7%	648	2.6%	1,476	2.7%
FEDERAL WAY	441	1.8%	1,030	1.9%	433	1.7%	1,007	1.8%
KING EASTSIDE	472	1.9%	1,097	2.0%	454	1.8%	1,058	1.9%
KING NORTH	491	2.0%	1,176	2.2%	477	1.9%	1,139	2.1%
KING SOUTH	731	2.9%	1,824	3.3%	729	2.9%	1,829	3.3%
MT VERNON	396	1.6%	787	1.4%	381	1.5%	759	1.4%
OAK HARBOR	124	0.5%	256	0.5%	132	0.5%	271	0.5%
RAINIER	464	1.9%	1,023	1.9%	469	1.9%	1,030	1.9%
RENTON	486	1.9%	1,098	2.0%	475	1.9%	1,065	1.9%
SKY VALLEY	209	0.8%	450	0.8%	205	0.8%	440	0.8%
SMOKEY POINT	580	2.3%	1,197	2.2%	573	2.3%	1,179	2.2%
WHITE CENTER	557	2.2%	1,261	2.3%	550	2.2%	1,229	2.2%
Region 2 Total	7,591	30.4%	17,159	31.4%	7,495	30.0%	16,923	31.0%

Caseload by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2019 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	486	1.9%	939	1.7%	496	2.0%	957	1.8%
BREMERTON	710	2.8%	1,449	2.7%	704	2.8%	1,433	2.6%
CHEHALIS	543	2.2%	1,164	2.1%	540	2.2%	1,155	2.1%
COLUMBIA RIVER	1,457	5.8%	3,156	5.8%	1,451	5.8%	3,141	5.7%
FORKS	81	0.3%	161	0.3%	81	0.3%	161	0.3%
KELSO	923	3.7%	1,967	3.6%	918	3.7%	1,963	3.6%
LAKESWOOD	1,016	4.1%	2,250	4.1%	1,013	4.1%	2,265	4.1%
LONG BEACH	54	0.2%	100	0.2%	54	0.2%	95	0.2%
OLYMPIA	1,022	4.1%	2,099	3.8%	1,160	4.6%	2,454	4.5%
PIERCE NORTH	659	2.6%	1,450	2.7%	650	2.6%	1,423	2.6%
PIERCE SOUTH	1,068	4.3%	2,328	4.3%	1,060	4.2%	2,291	4.2%
PORT ANGELES	180	0.7%	336	0.6%	179	0.7%	338	0.6%
PORT TOWNSEND	100	0.4%	185	0.3%	101	0.4%	186	0.3%
PUYALLUP VALLEY	919	3.7%	1,872	3.4%	916	3.7%	1,852	3.4%
SHELTON	339	1.4%	673	1.2%	332	1.3%	661	1.2%
SOUTH BEND	68	0.3%	151	0.3%	65	0.3%	144	0.3%
STEVENSON	35	0.1%	80	0.1%	34	0.1%	77	0.1%
Region 3 Total	9,660	38.7%	20,360	37.3%	9,754	39.0%	20,596	37.7%

Caseload by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), June 2019 Snapshot

Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 1	HCS of Issuance			
	# of 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	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%
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	1	<0.1%	1	<0.1%
TRI-CITIES HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
WALLA WALLA HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
WAPATO 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	2	<0.1%	4	<0.1%

Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 2	HCS of Issuance			
	# of 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	2	<0.1%	3	<0.1%
MOUNT VERNON HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
OAK HARBOR HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
SKYKOMISH HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
SMOKEY POINT HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Region 2 Total	2	<0.1%	3	<0.1%

Caseload by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), June 2019 Snapshot (continued)

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	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
VANCOUVER HCS	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Region 3 Total	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

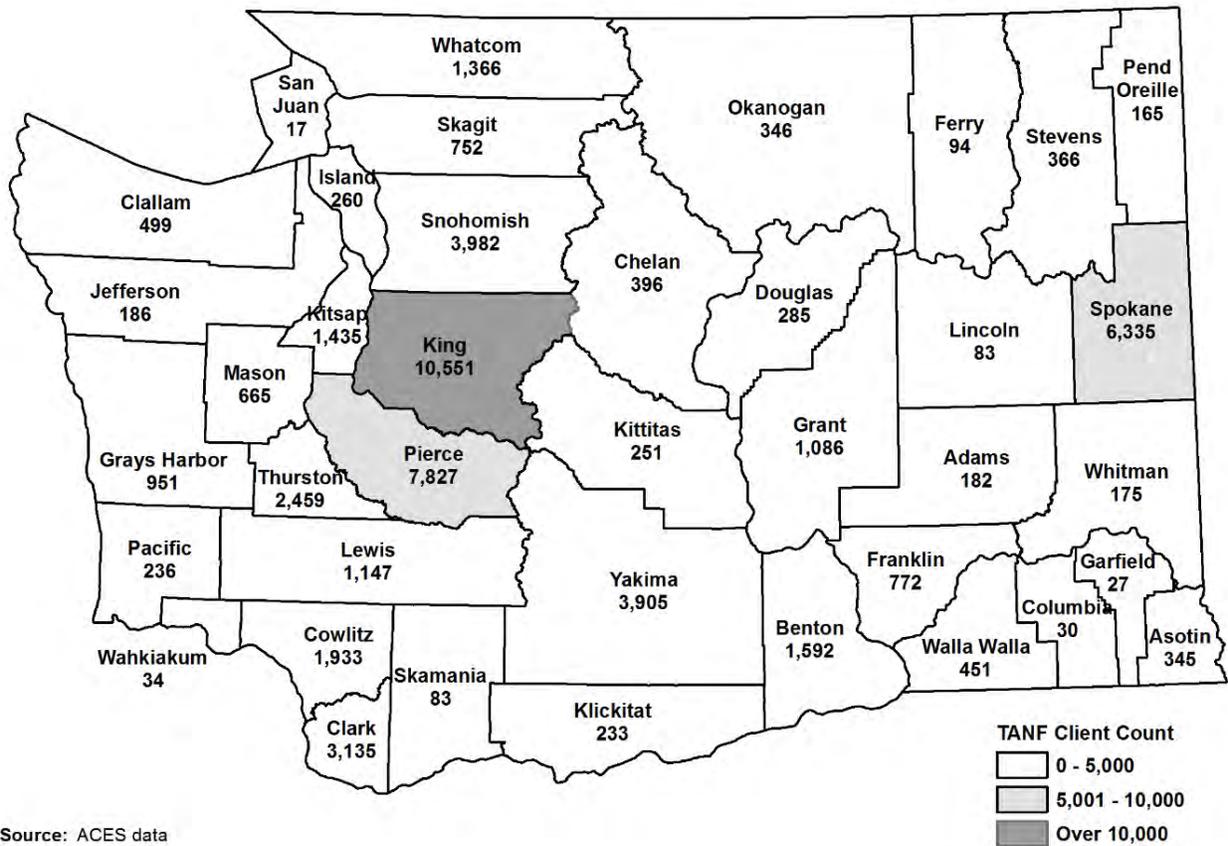
Caseload by County of Residence, June 2019 Snapshot

County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total	County	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total
Adams	84	0.3%	182	0.3%	Lewis	537	2.1%	1,147	2.1%
Asotin	160	0.6%	345	0.6%	Lincoln	42	0.2%	83	0.2%
Benton	709	2.8%	1,592	2.9%	Mason	335	1.3%	665	1.2%
Chelan	188	0.8%	396	0.7%	Okanogan	186	0.7%	346	0.6%
Clallam	260	1.0%	499	0.9%	Pacific	117	0.5%	236	0.4%
Clark	1,449	5.8%	3,135	5.7%	Pend Oreille	85	0.3%	165	0.3%
Columbia	17	0.1%	30	0.1%	Pierce	3,637	14.6%	7,827	14.3%
Cowlitz	899	3.6%	1,933	3.5%	San Juan	12	<0.1%	17	<0.1%
Douglas	134	0.5%	285	0.5%	Skagit	373	1.5%	752	1.4%
Ferry	40	0.2%	94	0.2%	Skamania	36	0.1%	83	0.2%
Franklin	321	1.3%	772	1.4%	Snohomish	1,822	7.3%	3,982	7.3%
Garfield	10	<0.1%	27	<0.1%	Spokane	2,784	11.1%	6,335	11.6%
Grant	499	2.0%	1,086	2.0%	Stevens	176	0.7%	366	0.7%
Grays Harbor	491	2.0%	951	1.7%	Thurston	1,162	4.7%	2,459	4.5%
Island	128	0.5%	260	0.5%	Wahkiakum	20	0.1%	34	0.1%
Jefferson	101	0.4%	186	0.3%	Walla Walla	206	0.8%	451	0.8%
King	4,528	18.1%	10,551	19.3%	Whatcom	635	2.5%	1,366	2.5%
Kitsap	705	2.8%	1,435	2.6%	Whitman	79	0.3%	175	0.3%
Kittitas	118	0.5%	251	0.5%	Yakima	1,787	7.2%	3,905	7.1%
Klickitat	106	0.4%	233	0.4%	Not Reported/ Unidentifiable	6	<0.1%	10	<0.1%

	# of Cases	# of Clients
State Total	24,984	54,647

Client Density Maps by Residential County, June 2019 Snapshot

Number of TANF Clients by Residential County in Washington State: June 2019

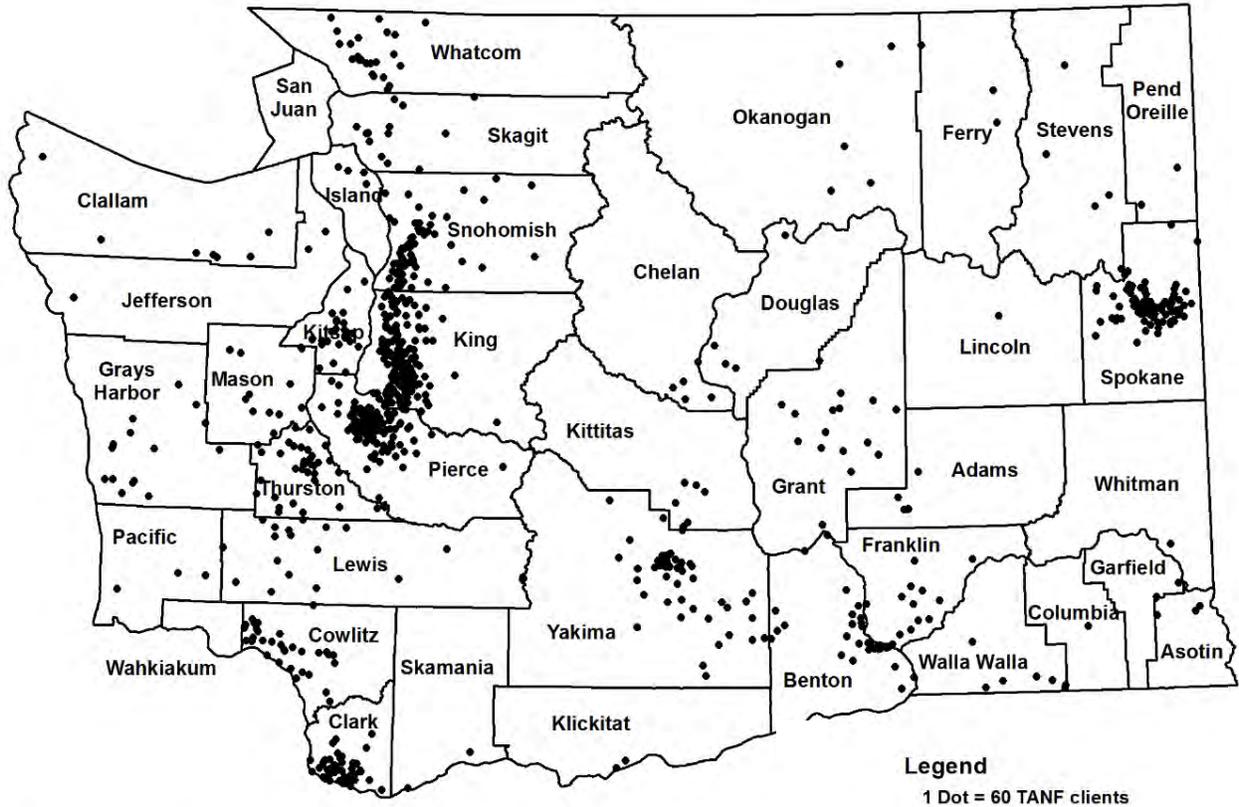


Source: ACES data

Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/E-MAPS - Sep. 2019

Client Density Maps, June 2019 Snapshot (continued)

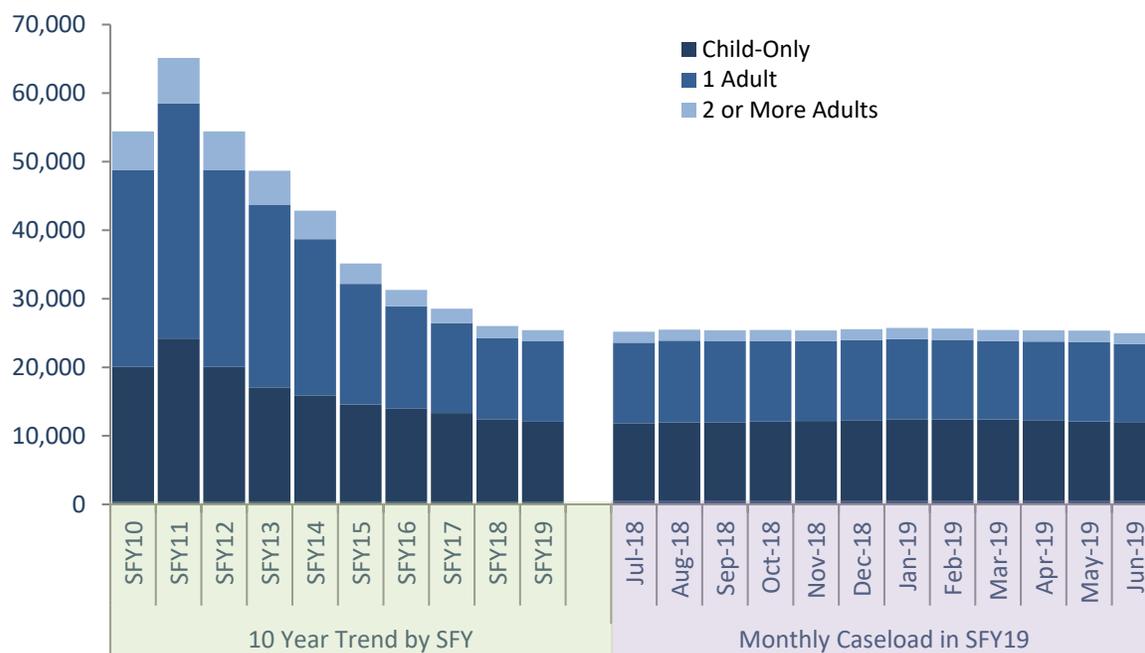
Number of TANF Clients by Density of Residential Zip Code in Washington State: June 2019



Source: ACES data

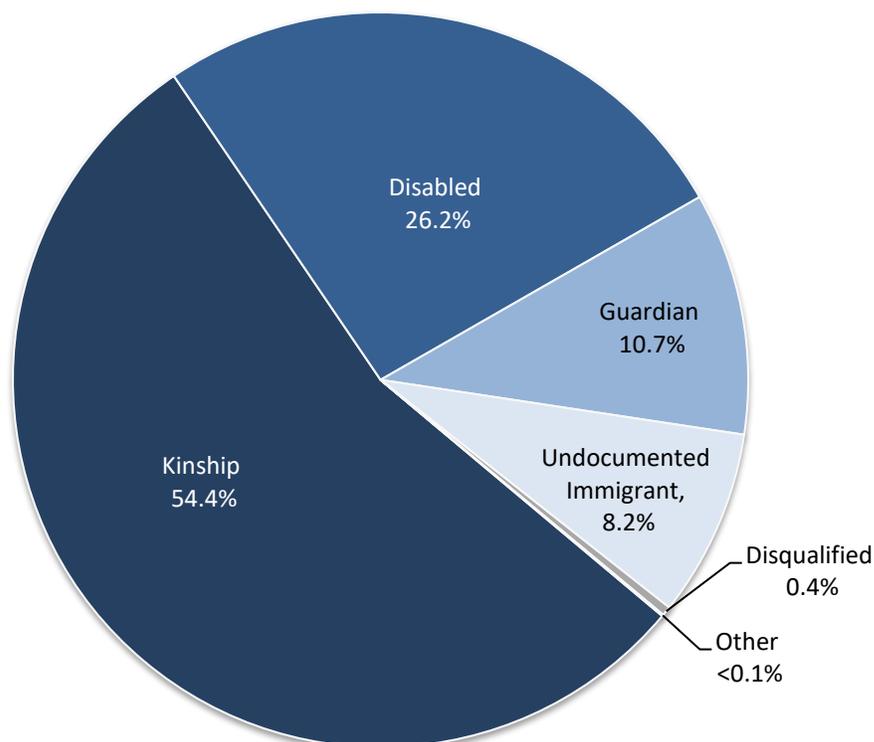
Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/E-MAPS - Sep. 2019

Caseload by Case Type, SFY 2010 – 2019



SFY 2019	Total Caseload	Caseload By Case Type					
		Child-Only		1 Adult		2 or More Adults	
		Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total
July	25,195	11,844	47.0%	11,739	46.6%	1,612	6.4%
August	25,502	11,945	46.8%	11,940	46.8%	1,617	6.3%
September	25,398	11,987	47.2%	11,808	46.5%	1,603	6.3%
October	25,437	12,078	47.5%	11,768	46.3%	1,591	6.3%
November	25,382	12,166	47.9%	11,643	45.9%	1,573	6.2%
December	25,572	12,295	48.1%	11,674	45.7%	1,603	6.3%
January	25,753	12,417	48.2%	11,696	45.4%	1,640	6.4%
February	25,659	12,374	48.2%	11,636	45.3%	1,649	6.4%
March	25,446	12,375	48.6%	11,455	45.0%	1,616	6.4%
April	25,392	12,281	48.4%	11,479	45.2%	1,632	6.4%
May	25,344	12,106	47.8%	11,591	45.7%	1,647	6.5%
June	24,984	12,006	48.1%	11,385	45.6%	1,593	6.4%
Mo. Avg.	25,422	12,156	47.8%	11,651	45.8%	1,615	6.4%

Child-Only Caseload by Major Caretaker Groups, June 2019 Snapshot⁶



Kinship – Some parents are unable to care for their children due to their own circumstances, such as substance abuse, and 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.

Undocumented Immigrant – Children in households headed by undocumented immigrants may be U.S. citizens and therefore eligible for TANF benefits if the household, including non-recipient adults, meets financial eligibility criteria. Undocumented immigrant parents may apply for TANF on behalf of their citizen children; the undocumented parents receive no continuing benefits (cash, food, or medical) for themselves.

Disabled – Disabled parents who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) will not qualify for TANF because federal law does not allow them to receive both. Their minor children will still be eligible for TANF, as long as the household meets the program's financial eligibility criteria.

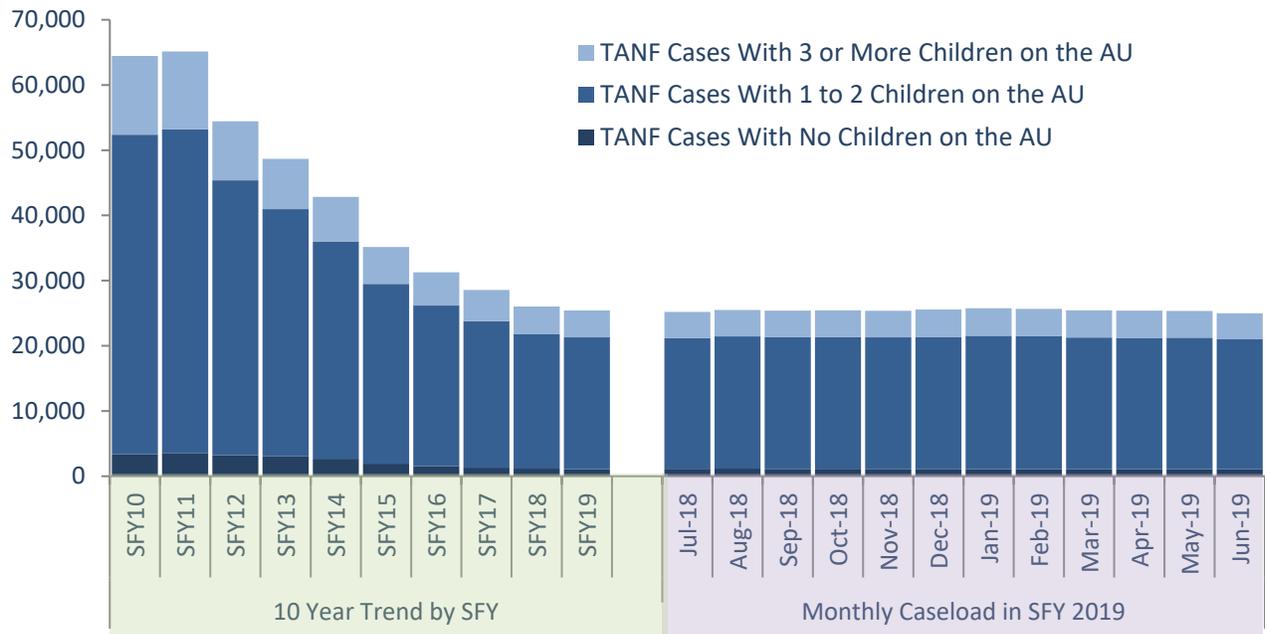
Guardian – Sometimes, when a parent is unable to provide care, a relative or other concerned adult will seek legal guardianship of a child. As with relative caregivers without this legal status, non-relative guardians may receive TANF on behalf of an otherwise eligible child. In addition, non-relatives 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 child.

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 will still be 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.

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.

⁶ The chart may not add up to 100% exactly due to rounding.

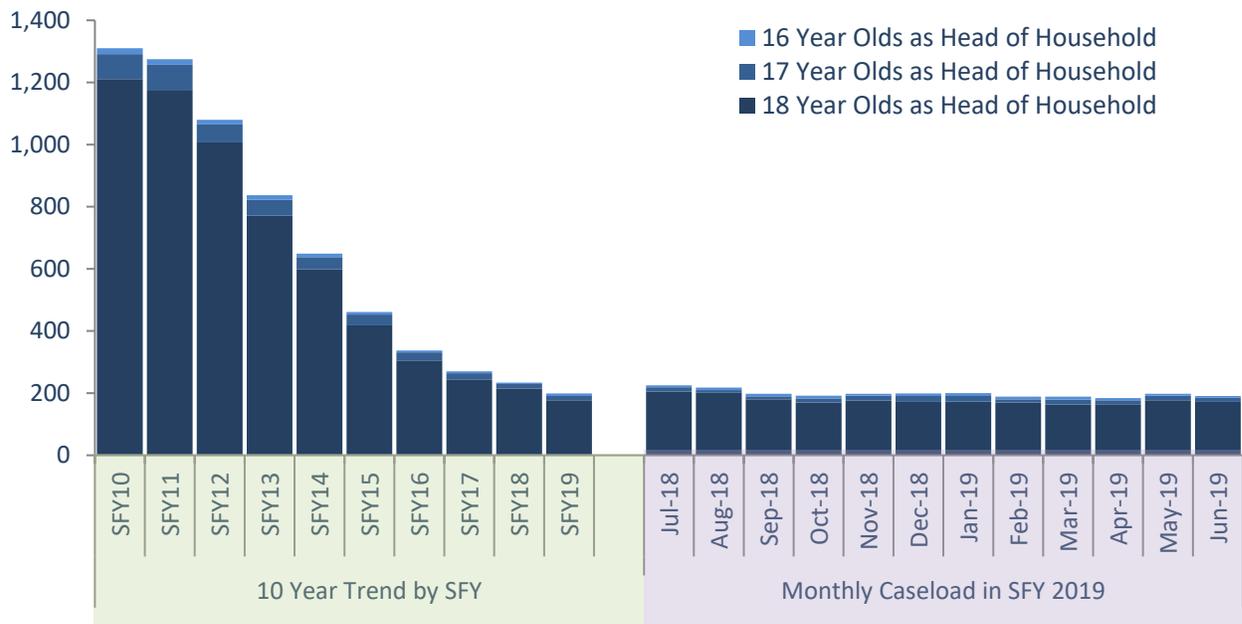
Caseload by Number of Children⁷, SFY 2010 – 2019



SFY 2019	Total TANF Caseload	Caseload by Number of Children					
		No Children		1 to 2 Children		3 or More Children	
		Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total
July	25,195	1,154	4.6%	20,052	79.6%	3,989	15.8%
August	25,502	1,161	4.6%	20,279	79.5%	4,062	15.9%
September	25,398	1,124	4.4%	20,197	79.5%	4,077	16.1%
October	25,437	1,136	4.5%	20,194	79.4%	4,107	16.1%
November	25,382	1,116	4.4%	20,179	79.5%	4,087	16.1%
December	25,572	1,115	4.4%	20,254	79.2%	4,203	16.4%
January	25,753	1,088	4.2%	20,442	79.4%	4,223	16.4%
February	25,659	1,103	4.3%	20,360	79.3%	4,196	16.4%
March	25,446	1,079	4.2%	20,199	79.4%	4,168	16.4%
April	25,392	1,070	4.2%	20,159	79.4%	4,163	16.4%
May	25,344	1,095	4.3%	20,147	79.5%	4,102	16.2%
June	24,984	1,064	4.3%	19,931	79.8%	3,989	16.0%
Mo. Avg.	25,422	1,109	4.4%	20,199	79.5%	4,114	16.2%

⁷ In cases where the only children eligible for TANF are receiving SSI, those children will not receive a TANF payment, but the parents will receive a TANF payment. Also, pregnant women with no children are eligible for TANF.

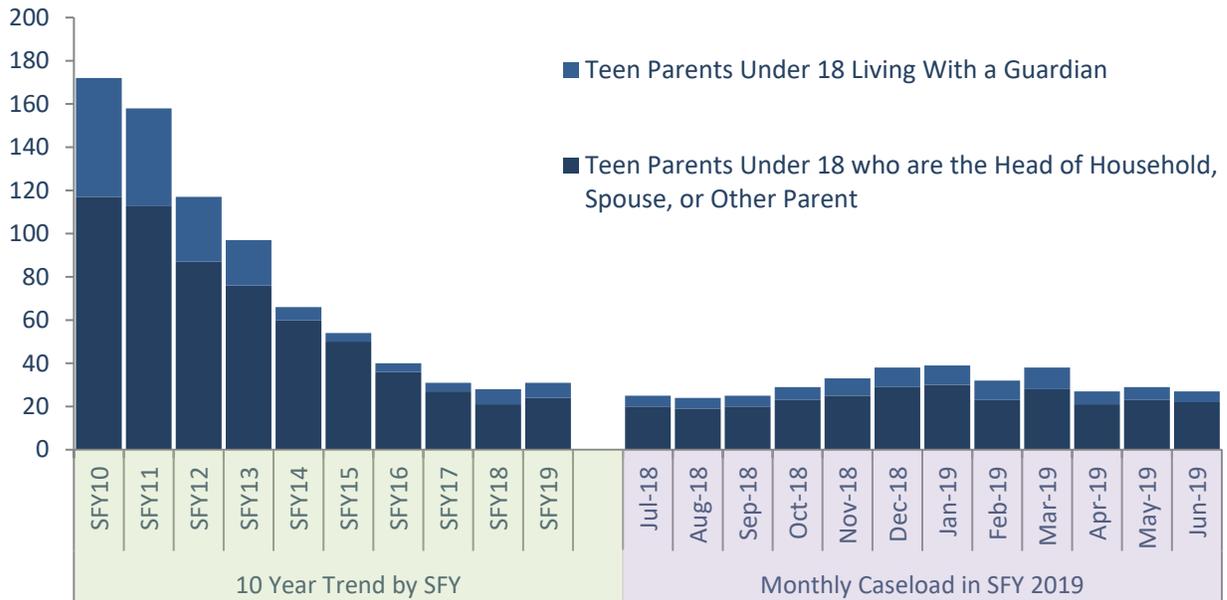
Teen Head of Household (HOH), SFY 2010 – 2019



SFY 2019	Teen Head of Households ⁸						
	Total TANF 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	225	6	2.7%	14	6.2%	205	91.1%
August	218	8	3.7%	9	4.1%	201	92.2%
September	198	8	4.0%	10	5.1%	180	90.9%
October	192	9	4.7%	13	6.8%	170	88.5%
November	198	6	3.0%	16	8.1%	176	88.9%
December	199	8	4.0%	19	9.5%	172	86.4%
January	200	9	4.5%	18	9.0%	173	86.5%
February	189	9	4.8%	10	5.3%	170	89.9%
March	189	10	5.3%	16	8.5%	163	86.2%
April	184	7	3.8%	13	7.1%	164	89.1%
May	198	6	3.0%	15	7.6%	177	89.4%
June	191	6	3.1%	13	6.8%	172	90.1%
Mo. Avg.	198	8	4.0%	14	7.1%	177	89.4%

⁸ Numbers reflect households where the head of household member is a teen parent living independently from his/her formal legal guardian.

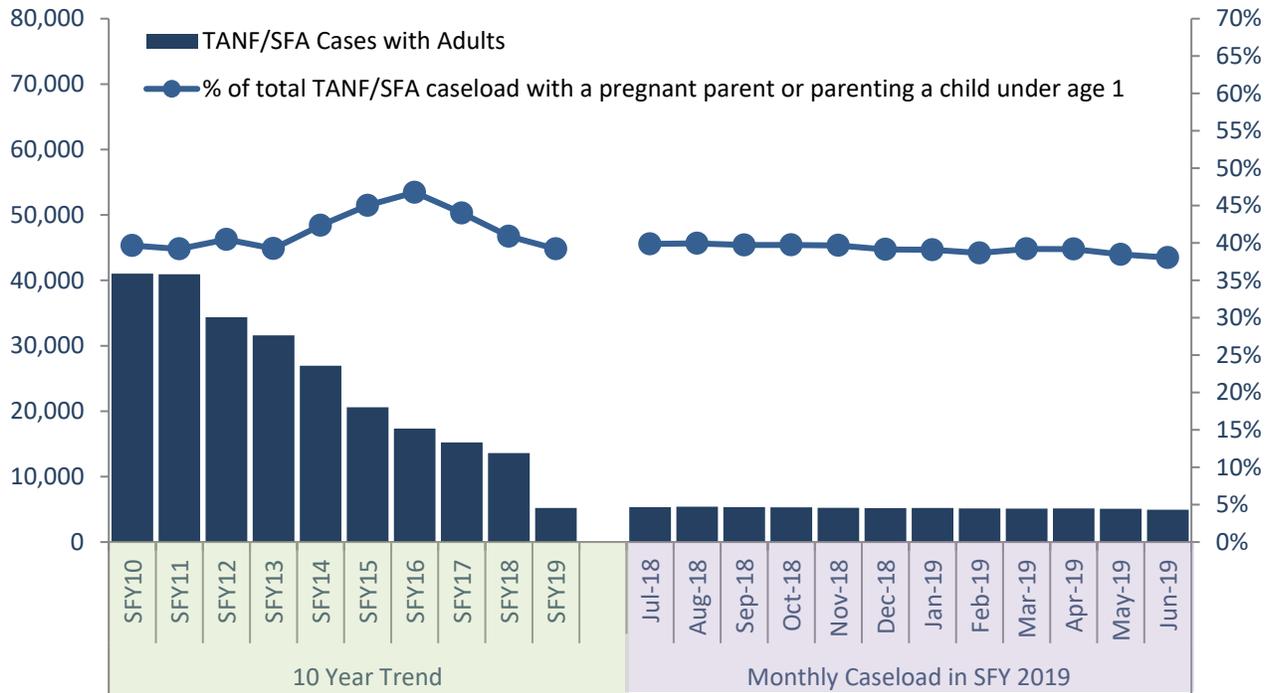
Teen Parents under Age 18, SFY 2010 – 2019



Teen Parents Under Age 18 ⁹					
SFY 2019	Total Clients	Living with a Legal Guardian		Head of Household, Spouse or Other Parent	
		# of Clients	% of Total	# of Clients	% of Total
July	25	5	20.0%	20	80.0%
August	24	5	20.8%	19	79.2%
September	25	5	20.0%	20	80.0%
October	29	6	20.7%	23	79.3%
November	33	8	24.2%	25	75.8%
December	38	9	23.7%	29	76.3%
January	39	9	23.1%	30	76.9%
February	32	9	28.1%	23	71.9%
March	38	10	26.3%	28	73.7%
April	27	6	22.2%	21	77.8%
May	29	6	20.7%	23	79.3%
June	27	5	18.5%	22	81.5%
Mo. Avg.	31	7	22.6%	24	77.4%

⁹ Teen Parents are defined based on the client’s head of household relationship. 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.

Caseload with Pregnant Women & Women with Children under Age 1, SFY 2010 – 2019



% of Total TANF/SFA Caseload with Adults that have a Pregnant Woman or Child Under Age 1							
SFY 2019	Total Caseload with Adults ¹⁰	Pregnant ¹¹		0 – 3 Months Old		4 – 12 Months Old	
		Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total	Caseload	% of Total
July	13,351	1,786	13.4%	1,352	10.1%	2,186	16.4%
August	13,557	1,810	13.4%	1,423	10.5%	2,183	16.1%
September	13,411	1,728	12.9%	1,345	10.0%	2,255	16.8%
October	13,359	1,742	13.0%	1,343	10.1%	2,224	16.6%
November	13,216	1,700	12.9%	1,296	9.8%	2,247	17.0%
December	13,277	1,696	12.8%	1,258	9.5%	2,243	16.9%
January	13,336	1,648	12.4%	1,300	9.7%	2,265	17.0%
February	13,285	1,646	12.4%	1,294	9.7%	2,197	16.5%
March	13,071	1,642	12.6%	1,270	9.7%	2,212	16.9%
April	13,111	1,698	13.0%	1,237	9.4%	2,202	16.8%
May	13,238	1,690	12.8%	1,279	9.7%	2,124	16.0%
June	12,978	1,634	12.6%	1,202	9.3%	2,102	16.2%
Mo. Avg.	13,266	1,702	12.8%	1,300	9.8%	2,203	16.6%

¹⁰ Cases are unduplicated across groups. If a case has multiple young children or a pregnant recipient and a young child, the case category reflects the youngest child. Adults include teen parents.

¹¹ Pregnant women were identified using pregnancy status data entered in ACES.

TANF/SFA WorkFirst Adult Clients Participating in WorkFirst Activities, SFY 2019

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.¹² Adult clients who fail to meet participation requirements without a good cause are subject to the WorkFirst noncompliance sanction (NCS)¹³.

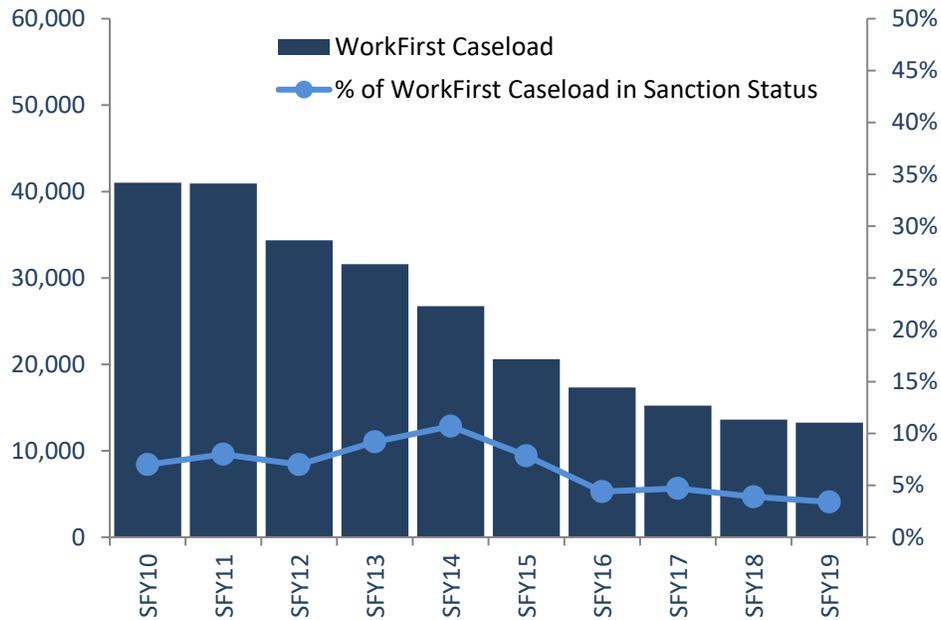
SFY 2019	Total WorkFirst Clients Receiving TANF/SFA	Total WorkFirst Clients Exempted ¹⁴ from Participation	WorkFirst Clients Required to Participate (Non-Exempt)	% of Non-Exempt WorkFirst Clients Participating in WorkFirst Activities
July	14,959	5,054	9,905	75.2%
August	15,169	5,130	10,039	74.5%
September	15,010	5,055	9,955	74.2%
October	14,944	5,037	9,907	77.1%
November	14,784	4,970	9,814	76.5%
December	14,873	4,987	9,886	74.4%
January	14,973	5,064	9,909	76.2%
February	14,932	4,932	10,000	75.1%
March	14,686	4,924	9,762	75.4%
April	14,737	4,868	9,869	76.4%
May	14,883	4,763	10,120	75.1%
June	14,568	4,683	9,885	73.5%
Mo. Avg.	14,877	4,956	9,921	75.3%

¹² WorkFirst participation may be waived or deferred if the individual meets an exemption criterion as described in WAC 388-310-0350.

¹³ The non-compliance sanction (NCS) policy for WorkFirst was modified effective November 1, 2014 (See WAC 388-310-1600). The NCS policy terminates TANF or SFA when adults fail to participate for two months in a row. The NCS policy also terminates TANF or SFA when mandatory, noncompliant WorkFirst adults fail to attend a non-compliance case staffing and DSHS is not able to make contact with them at the subsequent home visit or alternative site visit. Prior to November 1, 2014, the sanction period was four months (not two) and did not require a home/alternative site visit.

¹⁴ Clients meeting one or more of the following exemption or deferral 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.

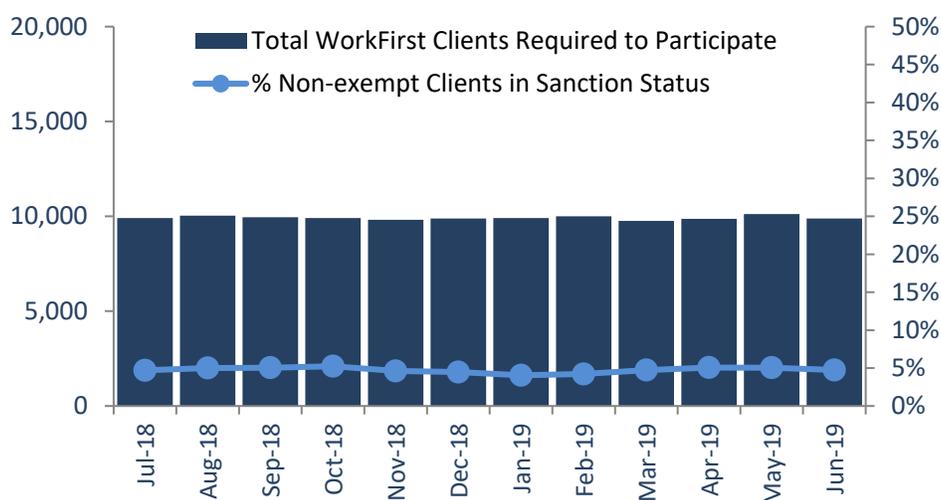
WorkFirst Cases and Clients in NCS Sanction Status¹⁵, SFY 2010 – 2019



SFY	Cases (Monthly Average)			Clients (Monthly Average)		
	WorkFirst Caseload	Cases with at Least 1 Adult in Sanction	% of Cases with at least 1 Adult in Sanction	All WorkFirst Clients	Clients in Sanction Status	% of All WorkFirst Clients in Sanction Status
SFY10	41,030	2,862	7.0%	47,545	3,047	6.4%
SFY11	40,930	3,285	8.0%	47,562	3,480	7.3%
SFY12	34,363	2,393	7.0%	40,037	2,480	6.2%
SFY13	31,598	2,921	9.2%	36,596	3,063	8.4%
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%

¹⁵ The non-compliance sanction (NCS) policy for WorkFirst was modified effective November 1, 2014 (See WAC 388-310-1600). The NCS policy terminates TANF or SFA when adults refuse to participate for two months in a row. The NCS policy also terminates TANF or SFA when mandatory, noncompliant WorkFirst adults fail to attend a non-compliance case staffing and DSHS is not able to make contact with them at the subsequent home visit or alternative site visit. Prior to November 1, 2014, the sanction period was four months (not two) and did not require a home/alternative site visit.

WorkFirst Clients in NCS Sanction Status by Month, SFY 2019



TANF/SFA WorkFirst Adult Clients in WorkFirst Non-Compliance Sanction (NCS)					
SFY 2019	Total WorkFirst Clients Required to Participate (Non-exempt ¹⁶)	Total Non-exempt Clients in Sanction Status	% Non-exempt Clients in Sanction Status	Clients Receiving an NCS Termination Without Grant Reduction ¹⁷	Clients in Sanction Status with Grant Reduction
July	9,905	466	4.7%	129	337
August	10,039	502	5.0%	193	309
September	9,955	502	5.0%	170	332
October	9,907	519	5.2%	151	368
November	9,814	453	4.6%	150	303
December	9,886	442	4.5%	156	286
January	9,909	401	4.0%	105	296
February	10,000	422	4.2%	147	275
March	9,762	462	4.7%	166	296
April	9,869	500	5.1%	144	356
May	10,120	511	5.0%	173	338
June	9,885	469	4.7%	140	329
Mo. Avg.	9,921	471	4.7%	152	319

¹⁶ 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.

¹⁷ Effective November 1, 2014, clients who did not attend the required NCS case staffing and the home visit may be terminated from TANF without a grant reduction. Some of these clients may be reinstated if they reapply and complete a financial intake by the end of the month of their case closures.

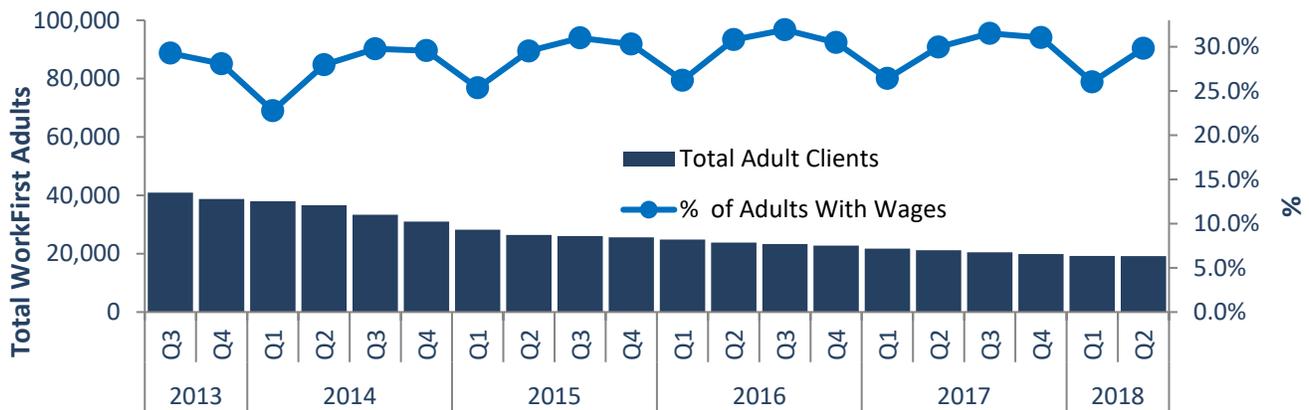
Employment Rates for WorkFirst Clients¹⁸, SFY 2010 – 2019



SFY 2019	# of WorkFirst Clients	# Employed (Earned Income > \$5.00)	% Employed (Earned Income > \$5.00)	Avg. Monthly Hours Worked (Among those Employed)
July	14,959	1,342	9.0%	55.0
August	15,169	1,458	9.6%	58.0
September	15,010	1,395	9.3%	57.0
October	14,944	1,322	8.8%	57.0
November	14,784	1,515	10.2%	53.0
December	14,873	1,363	9.2%	54.0
January	14,973	1,342	9.0%	54.0
February	14,932	1,315	8.8%	56.0
March	14,686	1,453	9.9%	58.0
April	14,737	1,341	9.1%	56.0
May	14,883	1,602	10.8%	56.0
June	14,568	1,467	10.1%	54.0
Mo. Avg.	14,877	1,410	9.5%	55.7

¹⁸Employment 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 Adults Receiving Quarterly Wages¹⁹, July 2014 – June 2019



Quarter	Total Adults	Adults with Wages ²⁰		Average Quarterly Wages ²¹	Average Quarterly Hourly Wages ²²
		Number	Percent		
2014Q3	33,336	9,923	29.8%	\$2,460	\$11.75
2014Q4	31,019	9,168	29.6%	\$2,395	\$11.89
2015Q1	28,237	7,159	25.4%	\$2,044	\$11.89
2015Q2	26,435	7,801	29.5%	\$2,309	\$11.92
2015Q3	26,019	8,074	31.0%	\$2,329	\$12.26
2015Q4	25,606	7,765	30.3%	\$2,445	\$12.19
2016Q1	24,849	6,503	26.2%	\$2,130	\$12.47
2016Q2	23,792	7,338	30.8%	\$2,362	\$12.45
2016Q3	23,312	7,441	31.9%	\$2,479	\$12.66
2016Q4	22,750	6,933	30.5%	\$2,496	\$12.80
2017Q1	21,718	5,522	25.4%	\$2,303	\$13.44
2017Q2	21,184	6,195	29.2%	\$2,440	\$13.56
2017Q3	20,454	6,346	31.0%	\$2,559	\$13.79
2017Q4	19,884	6,045	30.4%	\$2,616	\$14.03
2018Q1	19,249	4,881	25.4%	\$2,420	\$14.31
2018Q2	19,167	5,582	29.1%	\$2,602	\$14.29
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	5,501	29.4%	\$2,744	\$15.16

¹⁹ Quarterly wage information is based on the Employment Security Department's (ESD) Unemployment Insurance (UI) wage data.

²⁰ Adults with wages are those adult clients with wages who earned total wages of more than \$5.00 in a quarter.

²¹ Average quarterly wages per person for those adult clients with wages in a quarter.

²² Jobs without hours or with 1,000 or more hours are excluded. Only includes jobs with an hourly wage rate between \$5 and \$50.

Caseload by Primary Language, June 2019 Snapshot

Primary Language ²³	# of Cases	Percent of Cases	Percentage of Non-English Cases
English Language Cases			
English	22,706	90.9%	N/A
Large Print	130	0.5%	N/A
Sign Language	2	<0.1%	N/A
Braille	0	0.0%	N/A
Total English Languages	22,838	91.4%	N/A
Non-English Language Cases			
Spanish	1,294	5.2%	60.3%
Arabic	165	0.7%	7.7%
Russian	160	0.6%	7.5%
Other Language	72	0.3%	3.4%
Somali	71	0.3%	3.3%
Tigrigna	54	0.2%	2.5%
Dari	44	0.2%	2.1%
Ukrainian	43	0.2%	2.0%
Amharic	40	0.2%	1.9%
Vietnamese	34	0.1%	1.6%
Trukese	24	0.1%	1.1%
French	23	0.1%	1.1%
Swahili	21	0.1%	1.0%
Farsi	17	0.1%	0.8%
Cambodian (Khmer)	16	0.1%	0.7%
Burmese	11	<0.1%	0.5%
Other Languages²⁴	57	0.2%	2.7%
Total Non-English Language Cases	2,146	8.6%	100.0%
Total	24,984	100.0%	

²³ Primary Language Code comes from the language indicated by the applicant during eligibility determination. It is used for letters, notices, and other written communications.

²⁴ Clients who are coded as "Other Language" in the ACES database or speak a language used by fewer than 10 clients in the caseload.

Client Demographics²⁵, June 2019 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	54,647	100.0%	14,568	100.0%	40,079	100.0%

Gender	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
Female	31,915	58.4%	11,925	81.9%	19,990	49.9%
Male	22,728	41.6%	2,643	18.1%	20,085	50.1%
Unknown	4	<0.1%	0	0.0%	4	<0.1%

Ethnicity and Race	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
Hispanic or Latino	12,450	22.8%	2,233	15.3%	10,217	25.5%
Not Hispanic or Latino²⁶	42,197	77.2%	12,335	84.7%	29,862	74.5%
White	24,511	44.9%	7,953	54.6%	16,558	41.3%
Black/African American	7,343	13.4%	2,071	14.2%	5,272	13.2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2,734	5.0%	895	6.1%	1,839	4.6%
American Indian/Alaska Native	2,157	3.9%	487	3.3%	1,670	4.2%
Two or More Races	1,852	3.4%	312	2.1%	1,540	3.8%
Race Not Reported	3,600	6.6%	617	4.2%	2,983	7.4%

Marital Status	All Adults	
Separated	1,395	9.6%
Married	2,847	19.5%
Never Married	8,294	56.9%
Divorced	1,877	12.9%
Widowed	99	0.7%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	56	0.4%

Citizenship Status	All Clients		All Adults		All Children	
U.S. Citizen	50,515	92.4%	12,624	86.7%	37,891	94.5%
Resident Alien	3,975	7.3%	1,894	13.0%	2,081	5.2%
U.S. National²⁷	157	0.3%	50	0.3%	107	0.3%

²⁵ Clients are classified as adults or children based on their relationship to the head of household, rather than age.

²⁶ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

²⁷ 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).

Client Demographics²⁸, June 2019 Snapshot (continued)

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

Homeless Status	All Clients		All Adults	
Homeless ²⁹	8,388	15.3%	3,715	25.5%

Education Status	All Adults	
Less than a High School Diploma	3,460	23.8%
High School Graduate or GED	6,997	48.0%
Some College or College Degree	3,949	27.1%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	162	1.1%

Age	All Clients		All Adults	
< 1 Year Old	3,318	6.1%	N/A	
1 – 5 Years Old	12,928	23.7%		
6 – 10 Years Old	10,497	19.2%		
11 – 15 Years Old	9,419	17.2%		
16 – 17 Years Old	3,085	5.6%	21	0.1%
18 – 24 Years Old	4,001	7.3%	3,148	21.6%
25 – 34 Years Old	6,363	11.6%	6,363	43.7%
35 – 44 Years Old	3,668	6.7%	3,668	25.2%
45 – 54 Years Old	1,147	2.1%	1,147	7.9%
55 – 64 Years Old	208	0.4%	208	1.4%
65+ Years Old	13	<0.1%	13	0.1%
Average Age of Children	7.7 Years			
Average Age of Adults	32.0 Years			

Length of Stay ³⁰	
Average	25.7 Months
Median	17.0 Months

²⁸ Clients are classified as adults or children based on their relationship to the head of household, rather than age.

²⁹ Homeless is defined as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

³⁰ Months on Assistance Since July 1997 (All Adults). Does not include child recipient months.

Child Demographics³¹, June 2019 Snapshot

Characteristic	All Children		Children in Child-Only Cases	
	# of Clients	% of All Children	# of Clients	% of Children in Child-Only Cases
Total Clients	40,079	100.0%	18,707	100.0%

Gender	All Children		Children in Child-Only Cases	
Female	19,990	49.9%	9,500	50.8%
Male	20,085	50.1%	9,206	49.2%
Unknown	4	>0.1%	1	>0.1%

Ethnicity and Race	All Children		Children in Child-Only Cases	
Hispanic or Latino	10,217	25.5%	5,722	30.6%
Not Hispanic or Latino³²	29,862	74.5%	12,985	69.4%
White	16,558	41.3%	7,539	40.3%
Black/African American	5,272	13.2%	2,017	10.8%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1,839	4.6%	631	3.4%
American Indian/Alaska Native	1,670	4.2%	1,068	5.7%
Two or More Races	1,540	3.8%	663	3.5%
Race Not Reported	2,983	7.4%	1,067	5.7%

Citizenship Status	All Children		Children in Child-Only Cases	
U.S. Citizen	37,891	94.5%	18,347	98.1%
Resident Alien	2,081	5.2%	315	1.7%
U.S. National³³	107	0.3%	45	0.2%

Age	All Children		Children in Child-Only Cases	
< 1 Year Old	3,318	8.3%	565	3.0%
1 – 5 Years Old	12,928	32.3%	4,449	23.8%
6 – 10 Years Old	10,497	26.2%	5,379	28.8%
11 – 15 Years Old	9,419	23.5%	5,716	30.6%
16 – 17 Years Old	3,064	7.6%	2,022	10.8%
18 – 24 Years Old	853	2.1%	576	3.1%
Average Age of Children	7.7 Years			
Average Age of Children in Child-Only Cases	9.4 Years			

³¹ Clients are classified as adults or children based on their relationship to the head of household, rather than age.

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).