

Aged,
Blind or
Disabled
(ABD)

SFY

2021

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.

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

Highlights

The average number of ABD program clients per month in Washington state was **21,522 in SFY 2021**, up from **20,429 in SFY 2020**. This is likely due to an increased need associated with, and emergency policies implemented in response to, the COVID-19 pandemic. See the COVID-19 Response section for additional details. The average monthly cash grant assistance per client was **\$185**. The average monthly ABD clients in SFY 2021 included:

- Aged – 4,485 persons
- Disabled – 472 persons
- Pending SSI – 16,560 persons
- Institutionalized – 4 persons
- Blind – 1 person

TECHNICAL NOTES

DATA SOURCES: Data for this chapter was based on the ESA ACES database as of August 2021.

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.

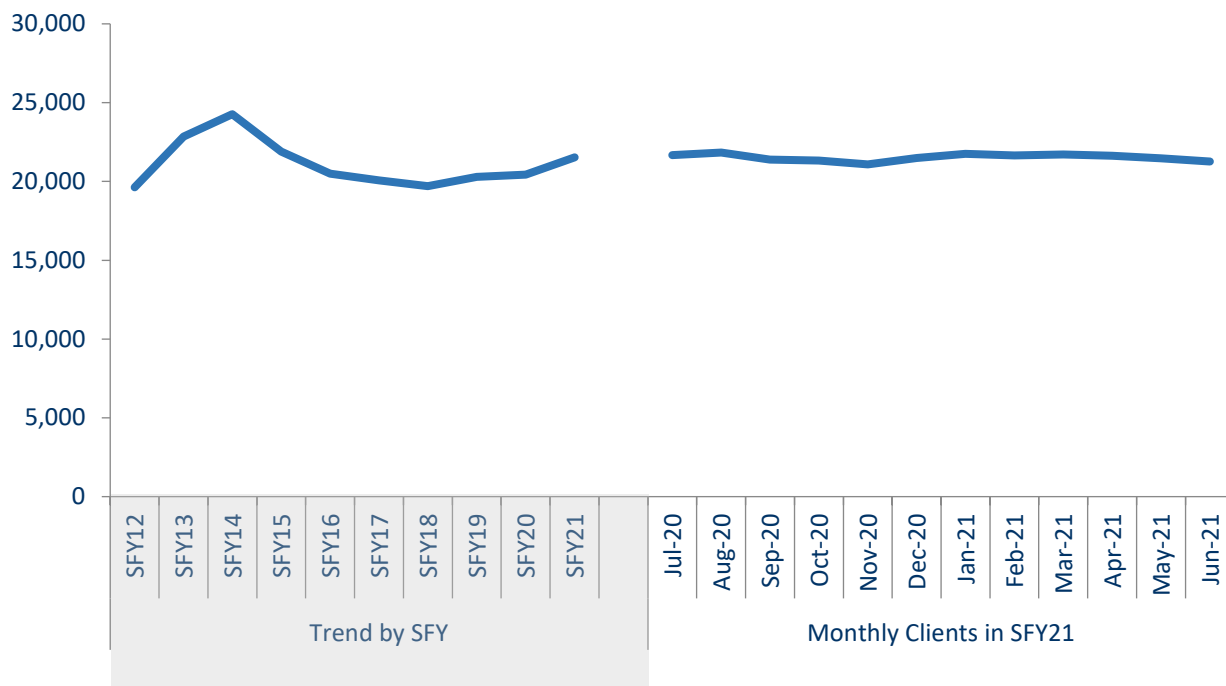
Selected ABD Program Overview, SFY 2020 and SFY 2021

	SFY 2020	SFY 2021	Change	
	(July 2019-June 2020)	(July 2020-June 2021)		
Average Number of Persons Per Month (Range)	20,429 (20,050 - 21,232)	21,522 (21,079 - 21,828)	5.4% (Increase)	↑
State Population² Age 18 and Over	5,958,785	6,084,554	2.1% (Increase)	↑
Average Monthly Recipients as a Percent of State's Population 18 and Over	0.3%	0.4%	0.1% Point (Increase)	↑
Average Monthly Payment Per Case (Range)³	\$172.13 (\$170.38 - \$175.35)	\$185.27 (\$184.67 - \$185.94)	7.6% (Increase)	↑

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

³ Payments not adjusted for refunds.

ABD Clients, SFY 2012 – 2021



SFY	Monthly Average Clients	SFY	Monthly Average Clients
SFY12	19,627	SFY17	20,064
SFY13	22,840	SFY18	19,694
SFY14	24,268	SFY19	20,281
SFY15	21,904	SFY20	20,429
SFY16	20,499	SFY21	21,522

SFY 2021	Clients	Total Grant Expenditures	Average Payment Per Client
July	21,661	\$4,011,943	\$185.22
August	21,828	\$4,041,328	\$185.14
September	21,393	\$3,954,964	\$184.87
October	21,319	\$3,936,955	\$184.67
November	21,079	\$3,896,688	\$184.86
December	21,486	\$3,981,472	\$185.31
January	21,759	\$4,033,214	\$185.36
February	21,660	\$4,018,933	\$185.55
March	21,708	\$4,019,458	\$185.16
April	21,638	\$4,015,707	\$185.59
May	21,472	\$3,992,564	\$185.94
June	21,256	\$3,945,526	\$185.62
Mo. Avg.	21,522	\$3,987,396	\$185.27

ABD Clients by Program Type, SFY 2021

SFY 2021	ABD Combined					
	Caseload	Aged	Blind	Disabled	Pending SSI	Institutionalized
July	21,661	4,443	1	470	16,745	2
August	21,828	4,493	1	466	16,866	2
September	21,393	4,472	2	466	16,450	3
October	21,319	4,499	1	453	16,361	5
November	21,079	4,448	1	435	16,190	5
December	21,486	4,489	1	455	16,537	4
January	21,759	4,538	1	471	16,744	5
February	21,660	4,495	1	464	16,694	6
March	21,708	4,489	1	476	16,738	4
April	21,638	4,475	1	500	16,656	6
May	21,472	4,492	1	501	16,474	4
June	21,256	4,482	1	508	16,261	4
Mo. Avg.	21,522	4,485	1	472	16,560	4

ABD Clients Exiting to Other Programs, SFY 2021

SFY 2021	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	21,661	20,783	95.9%	46	0.2%	310	1.4%	522	2.4%
August	21,828	20,373	93.3%	84	0.4%	361	1.7%	1,010	4.6%
September	21,393	20,260	94.7%	50	0.2%	327	1.5%	756	3.5%
October	21,319	19,984	93.7%	97	0.5%	344	1.6%	894	4.2%
November	21,079	20,380	96.7%	55	0.3%	278	1.3%	366	1.7%
December	21,486	20,744	96.5%	54	0.3%	343	1.6%	345	1.6%
January	21,759	20,764	95.4%	51	0.2%	311	1.4%	633	2.9%
February	21,660	20,650	95.3%	50	0.2%	290	1.3%	670	3.1%
March	21,708	20,656	95.2%	55	0.3%	414	1.9%	583	2.7%
April	21,638	20,651	95.4%	42	0.2%	383	1.8%	562	2.6%
May	21,472	20,264	94.4%	32	0.1%	430	2.0%	746	3.5%
June	21,256	20,191	95.0%	29	0.1%	357	1.7%	679	3.2%
Mo. Avg.	21,522	20,475	95.1%	54	0.2%	346	1.6%	647	3.0%

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, SSI/SSDI, or other cash programs in the following month.

ABD Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2021 Snapshot

The following pages detail the ABD clients, June 2021 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), Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe (PGST), or Home and Community Service 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 Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
Region 1 CSOs	4,320	20.3%	4,522	21.3%
Region 2 CSOs	9,895	46.6%	10,509	49.4%
Region 3 CSOs	6,058	28.5%	6,223	29.3%
CSCCs	7	<0.1%	N/A	
HCS	972	4.6%	N/A	
Other Locations	4	<0.1%	N/A	
Not Reported / Unidentifiable	0	0.0%	2	<0.1%
State Total	21,256	100.0%	21,256	100.0%

Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2021 Snapshot (continued)

Region 1 CSO	CSO of Issuance		CSO of Residence	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON	52	0.2%	52	0.2%
COLFAX	48	0.2%	55	0.3%
COLVILLE	103	0.5%	103	0.5%
ELLENSBURG	103	0.5%	101	0.5%
GOLDENDALE	40	0.2%	40	0.2%
KENNEWICK	473	2.2%	524	2.5%
MOSES LAKE	370	1.7%	391	1.8%
NEWPORT	45	0.2%	46	0.2%
OKANOGAN	108	0.5%	106	0.5%
REPUBLIC	13	0.1%	13	0.1%
SPOKANE MAPLE	982	4.6%	1,065	5.0%
SPOKANE TRENT	1,069	5.0%	1,065	5.0%
SUNNYSIDE	105	0.5%	114	0.5%
TOPPENISH	72	0.3%	75	0.4%
WALLA WALLA	130	0.6%	139	0.7%
WENATCHEE	191	0.9%	195	0.9%
WHITE SALMON	16	0.1%	18	0.1%
YAKIMA	400	1.9%	420	2.0%
Region 1 Total	4,320	20.3%	4,522	21.3%

Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2021 Snapshot (continued)

Region 2 CSO	CSO of Issuance		CSO of Residence	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD	656	3.1%	702	3.3%
AUBURN	526	2.5%	551	2.6%
BELLINGHAM	458	2.2%	475	2.2%
BELLTOWN	1,061	5.0%	1,093	5.1%
CAPITOL HILL	586	2.8%	609	2.9%
EVERETT	956	4.5%	993	4.7%
FEDERAL WAY	292	1.4%	330	1.6%
KING EASTSIDE	781	3.7%	860	4.0%
KING NORTH	883	4.2%	944	4.4%
KING SOUTH	722	3.4%	788	3.7%
MOUNT VERNON	424	2.0%	435	2.0%
OAK HARBOR	143	0.7%	146	0.7%
RAINIER	458	2.2%	505	2.4%
RENTON	544	2.6%	602	2.8%
SKYKOMISH VALLEY	223	1.0%	237	1.1%
SMOKEY POINT	511	2.4%	520	2.4%
WHITE CENTER	671	3.2%	719	3.4%
Region 2 Total	9,895	46.6%	10,509	49.4%

Clients by DSHS Region and CSO of Issuance and Residence, June 2021 Snapshot (continued)

Region 3 CSO	CSO of Issuance		CSO of Residence	
	# of Clients	% of State Total	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN	366	1.7%	368	1.7%
BREMERTON	583	2.7%	585	2.8%
CHEHALIS	315	1.5%	315	1.5%
COLUMBIA RIVER	956	4.5%	1,002	4.7%
FORKS	11	0.1%	10	<0.1%
KELSO	480	2.3%	482	2.3%
LAKESWOOD	547	2.6%	572	2.7%
LONG BEACH	47	0.2%	48	0.2%
OLYMPIA	608	2.9%	647	3.0%
PIERCE NORTH	510	2.4%	527	2.5%
PIERCE SOUTH	561	2.6%	586	2.8%
PORT ANGELES	216	1.0%	216	1.0%
PORT TOWNSEND	48	0.2%	47	0.2%
PUYALLUP VALLEY	539	2.5%	550	2.6%
SHELTON	218	1.0%	218	1.0%
SOUTH BEND	37	0.2%	36	0.2%
STEVENSON	16	0.1%	14	0.1%
Region 3 Total	6,058	28.5%	6,223	29.3%

ABD Caseload by Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC) and Other Locations, June 2021 Snapshot

Customer Service Contact Centers (CSCC)	Office of Issuance	
	Clients	% of State Total
CSCC CENTRAL SOUND	0	0.0%
CSCC NORTHEAST	0	0.0%
CSCC NORTHWEST	0	0.0%
CSCC SOUTHWEST	0	0.0%
CSCC SOUTHEAST	0	0.0%
CSCC SOUTH SOUND	0	0.0%
CSCC LTC	0	0.0%
CSCC WASHCAP	7	<0.1%
CSCC and WASHCAP Total	7	<0.1%

Other Locations	Office of Issuance	
	Clients	% of State Total
DDA LTC & Spec Programs	4	<0.1%
MEDICAL ELIG. DET SVC	0	0.0%
Health Care Authority	0	0.0%
PORT GAMBLE S'KLALLAM TRIBE (PGST)	0	0.0%
Other Locations Total	4	<0.1%

ABD Clients by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), June 2021 Snapshot

Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 1	HCS of Issuance	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
CLARKSTON HCS	0	0.0%
COLVILLE HCS	0	0.0%
ELLENSBURG HCS	2	<0.1%
MEDICAL LAKE HCS	59	0.3%
MOSES LAKE HCS	16	0.1%
OKANOGAN HCS	1	<0.1%
SPOKANE HCS	60	0.3%
SUNNYSIDE HCS	24	0.1%
TRI-CITIES HCS	38	0.2%
WALLA WALLA HCS	8	<0.1%
WENATCHEE HCS	0	0.0%
YAKIMA HCS	4	<0.1%
Region 1 Total	212	1.0%

Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 2	HCS of Issuance	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
ALDERWOOD HCS	71	0.3%
BELLINGHAM HCS	13	0.1%
EVERETT HCS	61	0.3%
HOLGATE HCS	449	2.1%
MOUNT VERNON HCS	16	0.1%
SMOKEY POINT HCS	0	0.0%
Region 2 Total	610	2.9%

Clients by Home and Community Services Offices (HCS), June 2021 Snapshot (continued)

Home and Community Service Offices (HCS) – Region 3	HCS of Issuance	
	# of Clients	% of State Total
ABERDEEN HCS	2	<0.1%
BREMERTON HCS	3	<0.1%
CHEHALIS HCS	2	<0.1%
KELSO HCS	0	0.0%
OLYMPIA HCS	16	0.1%
PORT ANGELES HCS	0	0.0%
STEILACOOM HCS	20	0.1%
TACOMA HCS	68	0.3%
VANCOUVER HCS	39	0.2%
Region 3 Total	150	0.7%

ABD Clients by County of Residence, June 2021 Snapshot

County	# of Clients	% of Total	County	# of Clients	% of Total
Adams	42	0.2%	Lewis	315	1.5%
Asotin	49	0.2%	Lincoln	26	0.1%
Benton	336	1.6%	Mason	219	1.0%
Chelan	144	0.7%	Okanogan	106	0.5%
Clallam	226	1.1%	Pacific	84	0.4%
Clark	1,000	4.7%	Pend Oreille	46	0.2%
Columbia	9	<0.1%	Pierce	2,235	10.5%
Cowlitz	472	2.2%	San Juan	25	0.1%
Douglas	51	0.2%	Skagit	410	1.9%
Ferry	13	0.1%	Skamania	16	0.1%
Franklin	188	0.9%	Snohomish	2,452	11.5%
Garfield	3	<0.1%	Spokane	2,103	9.9%
Grant	350	1.6%	Stevens	103	0.5%
Grays Harbor	367	1.7%	Thurston	647	3.0%
Island	146	0.7%	Wahkiakum	10	<0.1%
Jefferson	47	0.2%	Walla Walla	130	0.6%
King	7,001	32.9%	Whatcom	475	2.2%
Kitsap	587	2.8%	Whitman	55	0.3%
Kittitas	101	0.5%	Yakima	609	2.9%
Klickitat	58	0.3%	Not Reported/ Unidentifiable	0	0.0%

	# of Clients	% of Total
State Total	21,256	100.0%

ABD Client Demographics, June 2021 Snapshot

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients
Total Clients	21,256	100.0%

Gender		
	All Clients	
Female	10,343	48.7%
Male	10,913	51.3%
Unknown	0	0.0%

Ethnicity and Race		
	All Clients	
Hispanic or Latino	2,374	11.2%
Not Hispanic or Latino⁶	18,882	88.8%
White	11,510	54.1%
Black/African American	2,656	12.5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2,882	13.6%
American Indian/Alaska Native	689	3.2%
Two or More Races	438	2.1%
Race Not Reported	707	3.3%

Marital Status		
	All Clients	
Separated	1,627	7.7%
Married	2,353	11.1%
Never Married	9,477	44.6%
Divorced	5,123	24.1%
Widowed	2,356	11.1%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	320	1.5%

Citizenship Status		
	All Clients	
U.S. Citizen	16,223	76.3%
Resident Noncitizen	5,013	23.6%
U.S. National⁷	20	0.1%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	0	0.0%

⁶ Includes clients not reporting whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin.

⁷ U.S. National: A national of the United States or a person who, though not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the United States (e.g., persons born in American Samoa or Swains Island).

ABD Client Demographics, June 2021 Snapshot (continued)

Characteristic	All Clients	
	# of Clients	% of Total Clients

Homeless Status		
	All Clients	
Homeless ⁸	6,920	32.6%

Disability		
	All Clients	
Mental	12,159	57.2%
Physical	4,603	21.7%
Aged ⁹	4,484	21.1%
Other ¹⁰	10	<0.1%

Education Status		
	All Clients	
Less than a High School Diploma	5,150	24.2%
High School Graduate or GED	9,757	45.9%
Some College or College Degree	5,563	26.2%
Not Reported/Unidentifiable	786	3.7%

Age		
	All Clients	
Under 18 Years Old	N/A	N/A
18 - 24 Years Old	977	4.6%
25 - 34 Years Old	3,126	14.7%
35 - 44 Years Old	4,343	20.4%
45 - 54 Years Old	5,361	25.2%
55 - 64 Years Old	2,965	13.9%
65+ Years Old	4,484	21.1%

⁸ Homeless is defined (based on the self-reported living arrangement code in ACES) as: homeless without housing, homeless with housing (staying temporarily with family or friends—commonly referred to as "couch surfing"), emergency shelter, or domestic violence shelter.

⁹ Clients with a program type code of 'A' regardless of the presence of a disability type code.

¹⁰ These are the clients who had a disability determination made by DSHS Division of Disability Determination Services (DDDS).

ABD Client Demographics, June 2021 Snapshot (continued)

Average Length of Stay ¹¹	<u>All Clients</u>
Average Age of Clients	50.0 Years
Average Length of Stay Since November 2011	30.0 Months
Average Length of Stay on ABD-Pending SSI Since November 2011	24.1 Months
Average Length of Stay on ABD-Aged Since November 2011	48.8 Months
Average Length of Stay on ABD-Blind/ Disabled/ Institutionalized Since November 2011 (Average Number of Months on ABD)	23.4 Months

¹¹ Length of Stay is based on cumulative months since November 2011 when the ABD program started.