

Social Services Estimating Conference
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Assistance Payments
July 9, 2024
Executive Summary

The Social Services Estimating Conference convened on July 9, 2024, to revise the forecast through FY 2029-30. Relative to the prior forecast, the Conference adopted a combined caseload for the four component programs that is lower in all years. The accompanying expenditure forecast is lower in the first two years but moves marginally higher beginning in FY 2026-27 before stabilizing in FY 2028-29.

The revised caseload outlook for the Relative Caregiver Program continues to be colored by legislation passed during the 2022 Session (CS/SB 7034: Child Welfare). The most important feature was the adjustment to payment rates to incentivize the number of new caregivers opting to become Licensed Level I foster parents, a prerequisite for participation in the Guardianship Assistance Program. Identifying the “new normal” for the Relative Caregiver Program caseload once all of the behavioral changes have permeated through the system continues to be elusive. Based on the data at the end of FY 2023-24, the Conference lowered the caseload for the current fiscal year and then maintained that level throughout the remainder of the forecast. The Child Only program has also been adjusted downward over the same period.

Elevated caseloads for the Families with Adult and Unemployed Parent programs persisted throughout much of FY 2023-24, but not to the degree originally expected by the Conference. Largely, this was result of fluctuating increases in non-citizen applicant activity. This historically high activity has just started to unwind. Even so, the Conference expects the elevated level to continue in the Families with Adult program through FY 2026-27, before a more aggressive decline takes hold. For the Unemployed Parent program, this decline is already underway. Relative to the prior forecast, this timing shift generally results in upward revisions to the Families with Adult program and mixed changes (downward and then upward) to the Unemployed Parent program.

Overall expenditures for FY 2023-24 were \$105.1 million. Expenditures are then expected to drop to \$97.0 million in FY 2024-25, a 8.5% decrease from prior forecast of \$106.0 million and \$15.9 million below the appropriated level. Total expenditures are largely unchanged from the prior forecast in FY 2025-26 at \$94.6 million (a decrease of only \$0.2 million from the prior estimate), before beginning a steady decline to \$76.8 million at the end of the forecast horizon.

The first table below provides the new caseload and expenditure projections for the combined total of the four component programs. The second table provides these projections for each program individually.

TANF CASELOAD AND EXPENDITURE FORECAST

Fiscal Year	Caseload			Expenditures (\$ mill.)		
	Nov 2023	July 2024	Diff.	Nov 2023	July 2024	Diff.
Total Program						
FY 2024-25	32,471	29,124	-3,347	106.0	97.0	-9.0
FY 2025-26	29,193	27,945	-1,248	94.8	94.6	-0.1
FY 2026-27	26,014	25,806	-208	84.3	87.5	3.2
FY 2027-28	24,463	23,458	-1,005	78.6	80.1	1.4
FY 2028-29	23,981	22,283	-1,698	76.9	76.8	0.0
FY 2029-30	-	22,211	-	-	76.8	-

TANF CASELOAD AND EXPENDITURE FORECAST DETAIL

Fiscal Year	Caseload			Expenditures (\$ mill.)		
	Nov 2023	July 2024	Diff.	Nov 2023	July 2024	Diff.
Relative Caregiver						
FY 2024-25	8,208	6,847	-1,361	29.5	27.8	-1.7
FY 2025-26	8,208	6,847	-1,361	29.5	27.8	-1.7
FY 2026-27	8,208	6,847	-1,361	29.5	27.8	-1.7
FY 2027-28	8,208	6,847	-1,361	29.5	27.8	-1.7
FY 2028-29	8,208	6,847	-1,361	29.5	27.8	-1.7
FY 2029-30	-	6,847	-	-	27.8	-
Child Only Cases						
FY 2024-25	7,932	7,431	-501	20.3	19.1	-1.3
FY 2025-26	7,932	7,331	-601	20.3	19.1	-1.3
FY 2026-27	7,932	7,331	-601	20.3	19.1	-1.3
FY 2027-28	7,932	7,331	-601	20.3	19.1	-1.3
FY 2028-29	7,932	7,331	-601	20.3	19.1	-1.3
FY 2029-30	-	7,331	-	-	19.1	-
Families with Adult						
FY 2024-25	9,454	9,570	116	31.3	32.1	0.8
FY 2025-26	7,992	9,570	1,578	26.4	32.1	5.7
FY 2026-27	6,954	8,920	1,966	23.7	29.9	6.2
FY 2027-28	6,603	7,395	792	22.5	24.8	2.3
FY 2028-29	6,603	6,420	-183	22.5	21.5	-0.9
FY 2029-30	-	6,420	-	-	21.5	-
Unemployed Parent						
FY 2024-25	6,877	5,276	-1,601	24.9	18.1	-6.8
FY 2025-26	5,061	4,197	-864	18.5	15.7	-2.9
FY 2026-27	2,920	2,708	-212	10.8	10.8	0.0
FY 2027-28	1,720	1,885	165	6.4	8.4	2.1
FY 2028-29	1,238	1,685	447	4.6	8.4	3.8
FY 2029-30	-	1,613	-	-	8.4	-