

WorkFirst Performance Chartbook
Including Program Counts and Performance Measures

May 2021

OFM Forecasting and Research Division

To find updates on the web, go to:

<https://workfirst.wa.gov/performance> and click on "WorkFirst Performance Chartbook"

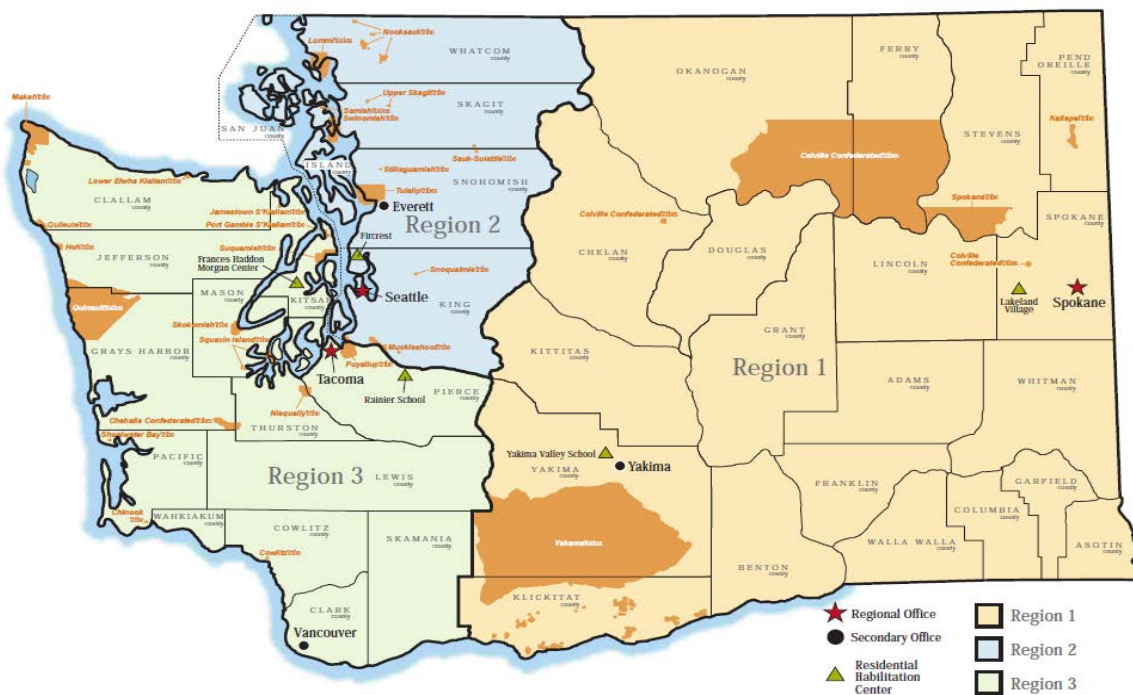
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DSHS Regional Map



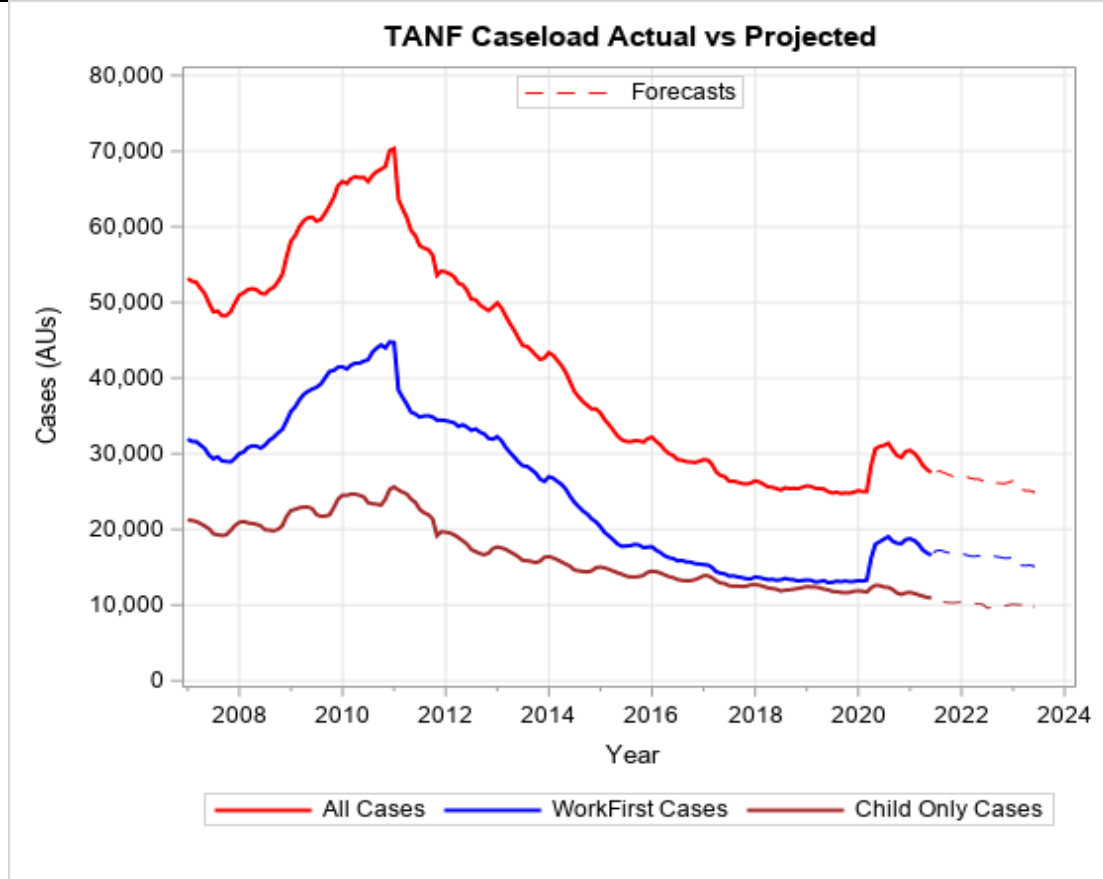
Effective May 1, 2011

DSHS region boundaries are shown above. There were six DSHS prior to March 2011. This chartbook reports caseloads associated with the old regions to provide greater detail. Current Region 1 is made up of the counties in old Regions 1 and 2 as described below. Current Region 2 is made up of old Regions 3 and 4. Current Region 3 is made up of old Regions 5 and 6. Klickitat County is an exception. It was assigned to current Region 1 instead of 3. The Department of Children, Youth, and Families sets child care rates using the six original DSHS regions, with separate rates for Clark and Spokane counties.

Counties in WCCC Subsidy Regions, and Former DSHS Regions

New DSHS Region 1: (Add Klickitat)	Old Region 1: Adams, Asotin, Chelan, Douglas, Ferry, Garfield, Grant, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, and Whitman Old Region 2: Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Kittitas, Walla Walla, and Yakima
New DSHS Region 2:	Old Region 3: Island, Skagit, Snohomish, San Juan, and Whatcom Old Region 4: King
New DSHS Region 3: (Drop Klickitat)	Old Region 5: Pierce and Kitsap Old Region 6: Clark, Clallam, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Klickitat, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Skamania, Thurston, and Wahkiakum

Count 1: Caseload Forecast



Forecast

The most recent forecast was released in June 2021. The forecast model is based on past TANF caseload trends. Forecasts for WorkFirst and Child Only caseloads are made separately and added together. The forecast includes estimates of the impacts of ending COVID-19 policy impacts as of September 2021 with a three-month phase out. It also includes steps for policies regarding sanctions (from SHB 2441) which also take effect at that time and TANF time limits which take effect in July 2022. Impacts of the 15% payment standard increase that begins in July 2021 are also included.

Further information on the TANF caseload forecasts and forecast tracking can be found at: http://www.cfc.wa.gov/HumanServices_PAS_TANF_Total.htm

Experience to Date

Caseloads declined between December 2005 and December 2007. This trend reversed in 2008. Caseloads grew from May 2008 through January 2011. The drop in February 2011 resulted from policy changes including implementation of 60 month time limits and a 15% reduction in payment standards. The November 2011 drop in Child Only cases was also due to changes in program rules. The flat spot in caseloads between July 2015 and January 2016 followed a 9% payment standard increase adopted in July 2015. Caseload declines resumed in 2016. The TANF caseload dropped to 24,816 by July 2019. It was 24,998 in March 2020 but increased by 6,379 households (25.5%) between March and August 2020 due to the COVID-19 emergency, reaching 31,378. It declined to 29,510 by November 2020, increased again, but dropped back to 27,518 by June 2021. In June 2021 the WorkFirst caseload was 3,303 (24.9%) higher than in March 2020 but 1,792 (9.8%) lower than in June 2020. By June 2021, the Child Only caseload was 1,651 (13.1%) lower than in June 2020 -- and reached a new low point of 10,930.

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Count 1: Caseload Forecast

Month	Total	% Change	WorkFirst	Child Only	WorkFirst Cases	
	Cases	Year Ago	Cases	Cases	Entries	Exits
Jan-11	70,331	6.6%	44,710	25,621	4,156	4,232
Jan-12	54,020	-23.2%	34,386	19,634	3,581	3,640
Jan-13	49,939	-7.6%	32,257	17,682	3,927	3,591
Jan-14	43,365	-13.2%	26,962	16,403	3,904	3,272
Jan-15	35,380	-18.4%	20,352	15,028	2,532	3,174
Jan-16	32,191	-9.0%	17,713	14,478	2,406	2,356
Jul-16	29,201	-7.7%	15,838	13,363	2,173	2,478
Jan-17	29,221	-9.2%	15,339	13,882	2,103	2,186
Jan-18	26,430	-9.6%	13,722	12,708	2,107	1,842
Jul-18	25,195	-6.5%	13,337	11,858	1,939	1,886
Jan-19	25,755	-2.6%	13,323	12,432	1,703	1,641
Jul-19	24,816	-1.5%	13,012	11,804	1,880	1,840
Jan-20	25,112	-2.5%	13,228	11,884	1,836	1,719
Mar-20	24,998	-1.8%	13,286	11,712	1,848	1,738
Jul-20	31,100	25.3%	18,716	12,384	2,103	1,768
Jan-21	30,457	21.3%	18,773	11,684	1,537	1,421
May-21	27,925	-8.9%	16,896	11,029	1,263	1,683
Jun-21	27,518	-11.1%	16,589	10,930	1,322	1,624

Projected (June 2021 Forecast)

Jun-21	28,147	-9.1%	17,302	10,845	The Caseload	
Dec-21	27,005	-10.8%	16,668	10,337	Forecast Council	
Jun-22	26,413	-6.2%	16,318	10,095	no longer	
Dec-22	26,197	-3.0%	16,187	10,010	forecasts entries	
Jun-23	24,892	-5.8%	15,100	9,792	and exits	

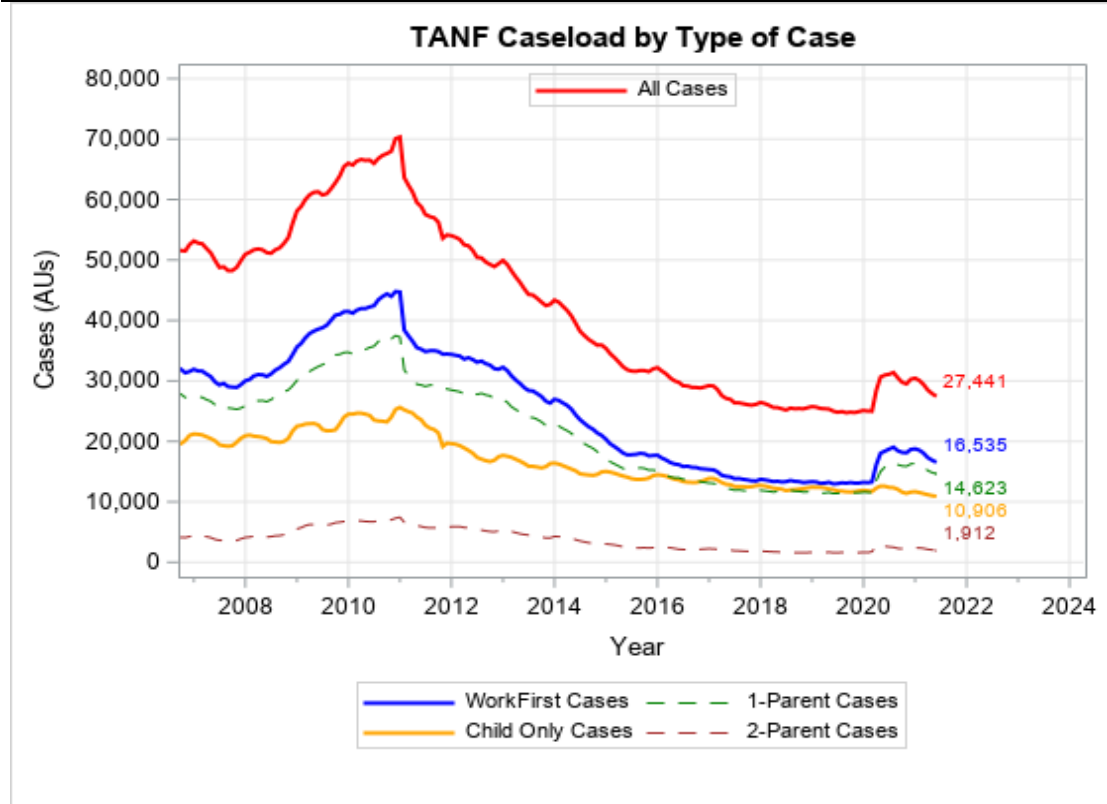
Variance from June 2021 Forecast

Month	Actual	% Change	Projected	Variance	%	Total TANF	
	Cases	Year Ago	Cases	Cases		Entries	Exits
Apr-21	28,497	0.2%	29,121	-624	-2.2%	1,167	2,110
May-21	27,925	-8.9%	28,793	-868	-3.1%	1,510	2,087
Jun-21	27,518	-11.1%	28,147	-629	-2.3%	1,614	2,008
Jul-21	-	-	27,620	-	-	-	-
Aug-21	-	-	27,708	-	-	-	-
Sep-21	-	-	27,462	-	-	-	-

The most recent "Actual Cases" count shown above is lag-adjusted and reflects the monthly caseload update reported by the OFM Forecasting Division. Lag adjustments predict the number of cases that will eventually be paid during a month. The caseload counts that follow on pages 3 through 8 are reported without lag adjustments, so case counts for the most recent month shown on those pages are lower. Counts through page 6 include cases with TANF grant issuances. Counts of adults on pages 7 and 8 are from a third data source that includes information on adults who receive TANF benefits through wages paid in subsidized jobs instead of grants. Approximately 240 households/adults per month received TANF benefits this way prior to the pandemic. WorkFirst entries include transfers from Child Only to WorkFirst caseloads. WorkFirst exits include transfers from WorkFirst to Child Only caseloads.

Source: OFM Forecast, based on CASE_SNAPSHOT table from ACES data warehouse.

Count 1a: Caseload By Type



Experience to Date

2-Parent cases made up about 12% of the WorkFirst caseload during the summer of 2007 and then increased to 16% of the WorkFirst caseload in March 2009. The percentage ranged between 16% and 17% in calendar 2011 but dropped to 12.2% in July 2018 and 12.3% in July 2019. COVID-19 reversed that decline. 2-Parent cases made up 16.6% of the WorkFirst caseload in May 2020, dropping to 12.3% of the caseload in October and November 2020 and rising to 12.8% between December 2020 and February 2021. The 2-Parent caseload dropped to 11.6% of the WorkFirst caseload by June 2021. Factors behind this pattern include changes to the Limited English Proficiency portion of the WorkFirst caseload. See pages 13-14.

Comments

In June 2021 the count of 2-parent cases was 52% lower than in FY 2008, compared with a 44% decline in 1-Parent cases. Overall, the number of WorkFirst cases was 45% below the average for FY 2008. The number of Child Only cases was 46% below the average for FY 2008.

Estimating All Family, Child Only, and 2-Parent Caseloads

WorkFirst cases made up 64.9% of the caseload in FY 2013, 58.5% of the caseload in FY 2015, 53.2% in FY 2017, and 52.1% in FY 2018 and FY 2019. The COVID-19 emergency changed this trend. WorkFirst cases made up 54.4% of the TANF caseload in FY 2020 and are forecast to make up 61.4% of the caseload in FY 2021. WorkFirst cases made up 60.3% of the TANF caseload in June 2021. The average number of 2-parent WorkFirst cases was 2,390 in FY 2016, 2,132 in FY 2017, 1,795 in FY 2018, and 1,625 in FY 2019 but rose to 1,919 in FY 2020 and 2,282 in FY 2021. 2-Parent cases jumped to 3,003 in May 2020 as a result of COVID-19 impacts, dropping back to 1,912 by June 2021. If 2-parent cases continue to make up 11.6% of the WorkFirst caseload, we should see an average of 1,936 2-parent households in FY 2022 and 1,837 in FY 2023.

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Count 1a: Caseload By Type

Data Table

Month	Total Cases	WorkFirst Cases	1-Parent Cases	2-Parent Cases	Child Only Cases	2-Parent % of WorkFirst
Jan-11	70,331	44,710	37,262	7,448	25,621	16.7%
Jan-12	54,020	34,386	28,501	5,885	19,634	17.1%
Jan-13	49,939	32,257	26,881	5,376	17,682	16.7%
Jan-14	43,365	26,962	22,695	4,267	16,403	15.8%
Jan-15	35,380	20,352	17,313	3,039	15,028	14.9%
Jan-16	32,192	17,715	15,209	2,506	14,477	14.1%
Jan-17	29,221	15,341	13,088	2,253	13,880	14.7%
Jan-18	26,431	13,723	11,895	1,828	12,708	13.3%
Jan-19	25,753	13,322	11,668	1,654	12,431	12.4%
Jul-19	24,815	13,012	11,407	1,605	11,803	12.3%
Jan-20	25,110	13,228	11,578	1,650	11,882	12.5%
May-20	30,647	18,040	15,037	3,003	12,607	16.6%
Jul-20	31,102	18,718	16,164	2,554	12,384	13.6%
Jan-21	30,454	18,772	16,362	2,410	11,682	12.8%
May-21	27,912	16,890	14,842	2,048	11,022	12.1%
Jun-21	27,441	16,535	14,623	1,912	10,906	11.6%

Percent of FY 2008 Cases

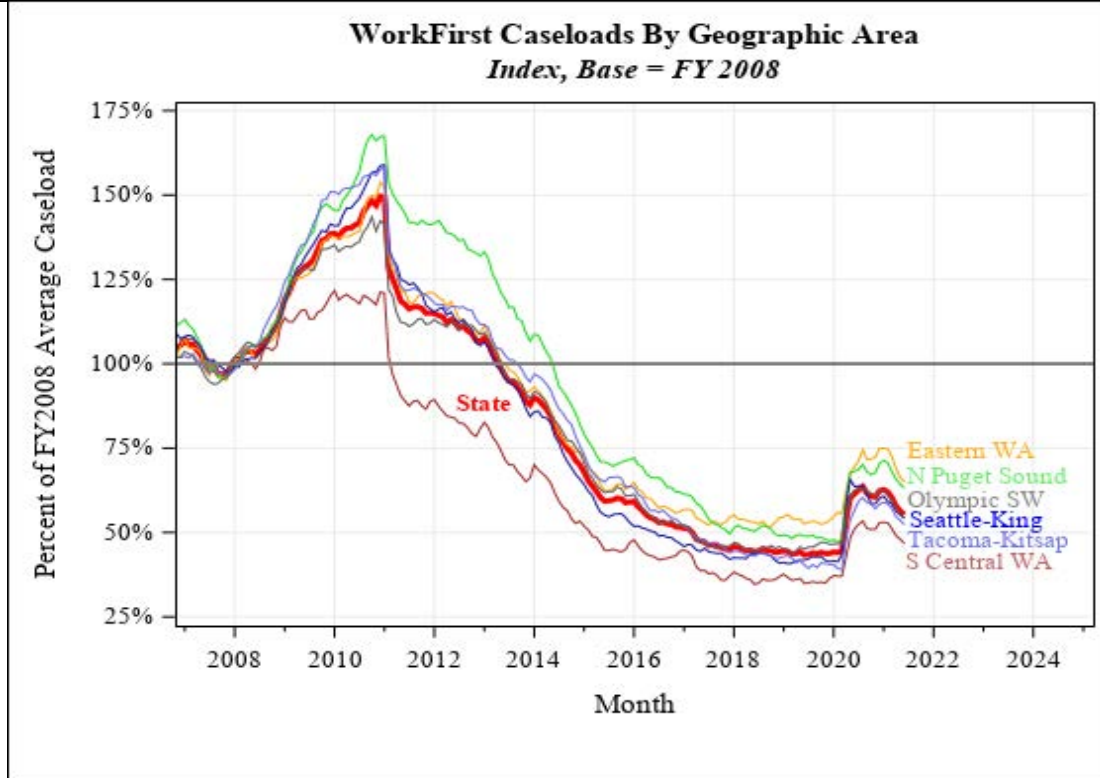
	Total Cases	WorkFirst Cases	1-Parent Cases	2-Parent Cases	Child Only Cases
FY 2008 Cases	50,317	30,079	26,095	3,985	20,238
Jan-11	139.8	148.6	142.8	186.9	126.6
Jan-12	107.4	114.3	109.2	147.7	97.0
Jan-13	99.2	107.2	103.0	134.9	87.4
Jan-14	86.2	89.6	87.0	107.1	81.1
Jan-15	70.3	67.7	66.3	76.3	74.3
Jan-16	64.0	58.9	58.3	62.9	71.5
Jan-17	58.1	51.0	50.2	56.5	68.6
Jan-18	52.5	45.6	45.6	45.9	62.8
Jan-19	51.2	44.3	44.7	41.5	61.4
Jul-19	49.3	43.3	43.7	40.3	58.3
Jan-20	49.9	44.0	44.4	41.4	58.7
May-20	60.9	60.0	57.6	75.4	62.3
Jul-20	61.8	62.2	61.9	64.1	61.2
Jan-21	60.5	62.4	62.7	60.5	57.7
May-21	55.5	56.2	56.9	51.4	54.5
Jun-21	54.5	55.0	56.0	48.0	53.9

Percentage Change in Cases since FY 2008 (the low point before the 2009-11 recession):

% Caseload Change: -45% -45% -44% -52% -46%

Source: OFM Forecast, based on CASE_SNAPSHOT table from ACES data warehouse.

Count 1b: WorkFirst Caseload By Region



Experience to Date

In June 2021, the WorkFirst caseload was 45% below the average caseload in FY 2008, the low point for WorkFirst prior to the program changes in 2011. However, WorkFirst caseloads increased by 36% between March 2020 and March 2021. Declines have resumed now that the COVID-19 pandemic is more than one year old -- a 10% decline between June 2020 and June 2021. Declines occurred in all areas of the state. The largest declines were in the Seattle-King County area (15% below June 2020) and the Olympics and Southwest Washington area (down 13%). WorkFirst caseloads were down by 6% to 8% in the rest of the state.

Comments

The count of WorkFirst cases on page 6 is slightly lower than the counts shown on page 4 because some cases are associated with call centers and have not been assigned to regions.

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Count 1b: WorkFirst Caseload By Region

Data Table

	WorkFirst Cases	Region 1		Region 2		Region 3	
		Eastern Wash	South Central	North Puget Sound	Seattle King Co.	Tacoma Kitsap	Olympics Southwest
FY 2008	29,928	4,431	4,849	3,232	6,365	5,623	5,428
Jul-16	15,838	2,534	2,031	2,143	3,115	3,141	2,874
Jan-17	15,340	2,517	2,173	1,981	2,920	2,911	2,838
Jul-17	13,824	2,314	1,829	1,742	2,819	2,621	2,499
Jan-18	13,721	2,448	1,855	1,658	2,705	2,507	2,548
Jul-18	13,337	2,323	1,697	1,655	2,777	2,460	2,425
Jan-19	13,321	2,421	1,825	1,593	2,618	2,413	2,451
Jul-19	13,012	2,352	1,700	1,579	2,686	2,214	2,481
Jan-20	13,227	2,425	1,804	1,548	2,647	2,275	2,528
Jul-20	18,717	3,152	2,540	2,221	4,058	3,337	3,409
Jan-21	18,771	3,323	2,572	2,307	3,870	3,315	3,384
May-21	16,889	2,938	2,330	2,080	3,531	3,016	2,994
Jun-21	16,534	2,881	2,266	2,041	3,446	2,945	2,955

Percentage Change in Cases June 2020 to June 2021:

% Caseload Change	-10%	-6%	-8%	-7%	-15%	-7%	-13%
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Percent of FY 2008 Cases

	WorkFirst Cases	Region 1		Region 2		Region 3	
		Eastern Wash	South Central	North Puget Sound	Seattle King Co.	Tacoma Kitsap	Olympics Southwest
FY 2008 Index	29,928	4,431	4,849	3,232	6,365	5,623	5,428
Jul-16	52.9	57.2	41.9	66.3	48.9	55.9	53.0
Jan-17	51.3	56.8	44.8	61.3	45.9	51.8	52.3
Jul-17	46.2	52.2	37.7	53.9	44.3	46.6	46.0
Jan-18	45.9	55.3	38.3	51.3	42.5	44.6	46.9
Jul-18	44.6	52.4	35.0	51.2	43.6	43.8	44.7
Jan-19	44.5	54.6	53.0	49.3	41.1	42.9	45.2
Jul-19	43.5	53.1	35.1	48.9	42.2	39.4	45.7
Jan-20	44.2	54.7	37.2	47.9	41.6	40.5	46.6
Jul-20	61.4	69.5	51.1	68.1	63.6	56.5	62.6
Jan-21	62.7	75.0	53.0	71.4	60.8	59.0	62.3
May-21	56.4	66.3	48.1	64.4	55.5	53.6	55.2
Jun-21	55.3	65.0	46.7	63.2	54.1	52.4	54.4

Percentage Change in Cases since FY 2008 (the low point for WorkFirst before the 2009-11 recession):

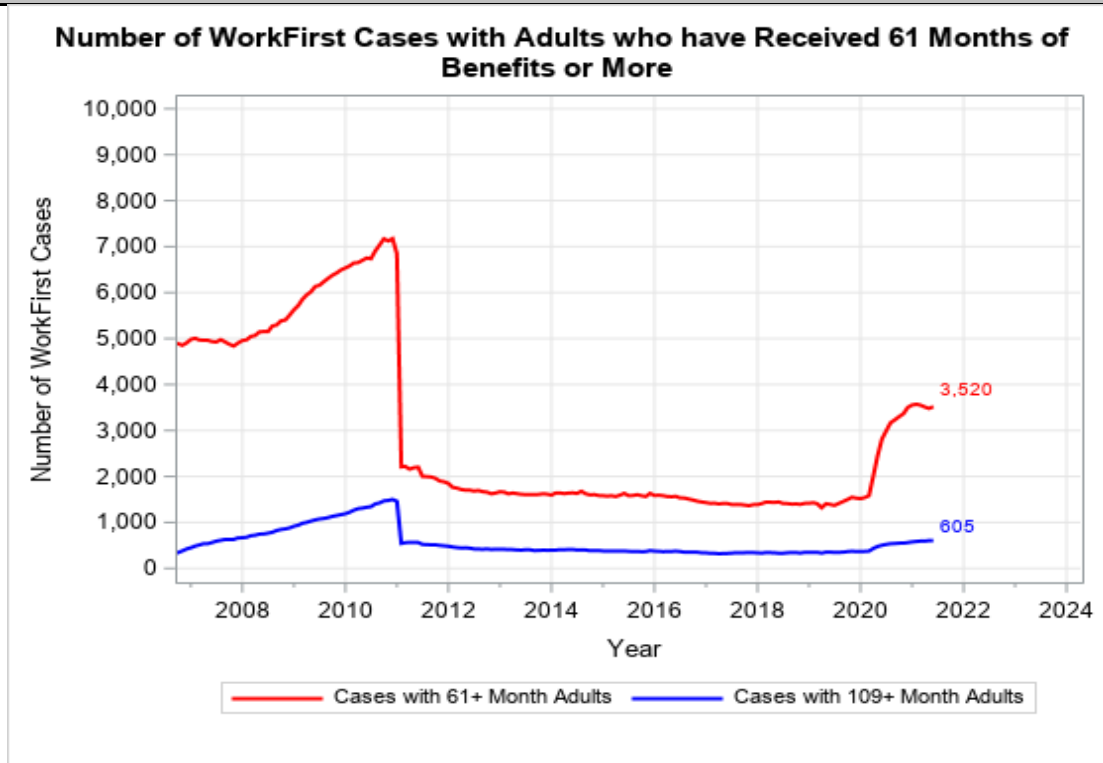
% Caseload Change	-45%	-35%	-53%	-37%	-46%	-48%	-46%
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Statewide: Region 1: Region 2: Region 3:

DSHS Region definitions were consolidated in March 2011 to create three new regions out of the original six. This report continues to track the six geographic areas associated with the former regions, but also summarizes the results to the current regional definitions. See the rates of change shown in boxes above.

Source: OFM Forecast, based on CASE_SNAPSHOT table from ACES data warehouse.

Count 1c: TANF 61 Month Cases



Target

Federal law sets a 60 month time limit for receipt of TANF benefits as an adult and allows states to extend benefits beyond this limit for up to 20% of the total caseload (including Child Only cases). The extension limit is currently set at 5,543 cases. Before 2011, Washington extended benefits beyond the 60 month time limit to all households as long as household members met other program requirements. Beginning in February 2011, extensions to the time limit were restricted to eight categories of hardship listed on page 8. A ninth category of hardship, for being homeless, was added in July 2019. A tenth category providing temporary extensions to financially eligible households facing hardship due to the COVID-19 emergency was added in April 2020.

Experience to Date

In June 2021, WorkFirst cases with adults who had received more than 60 months of benefits made up 12.8% of all cases, 21.3% of WorkFirst cases, and 63.5% of the federal limit on extension to TANF time limits. The number of extension cases in June 2021 was 25% higher than in June 2020 compared with a WorkFirst caseload that was down by 10% over the period. The increase in extension cases is due primarily to the COVID-19 extension criteria. Extensions related to COVID-19 are temporary and scheduled to end after June 2022. This extension is tracked in the category "caring for a disabled adult" due to lack of time to create a new code within the DSHS computer system. There were 25 extensions for "caring for a disabled adult" in February 2020. The count of extensions for homelessness is also being tracked using an older code, for "employed 32+ hours per week. There was little or no regular use of that extension category prior to July 2019. Updates to extension codes are now completed, and will be reflected in data for August 2021.

The new time limit extension categories apply to Child Only cases with ineligible parents as well. The two major categories of Child Only cases with ineligible parents are disabled parents (who qualify for extension) and non-citizen parents.

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Count 1c: TANF 61 Month Cases

Data Table

Month	Cases with 61+ Month Adult	Percent of All Family Cases	Disabled Adult	Reason for Extension of Time Limit				
				Applied for SSI/SSDI	Family Violence	Employed/ Homeless	Adult Care/ COVID-19	Other Extension
Mar-19	1,406	10.8%	477	361	314	0	21	165
Apr-19	1,320	10.1%	441	356	278	0	21	157
May-19	1,406	10.6%	462	359	332	0	21	154
Jun-19	1,391	10.7%	455	361	332	0	20	158
Jul-19	1,371	10.5%	447	346	325	6	15	154
Aug-19	1,415	10.7%	434	347	327	51	19	154
Sep-19	1,456	11.1%	426	360	347	96	17	157
Oct-19	1,498	11.3%	420	368	347	120	21	155
Nov-19	1,547	11.8%	417	381	351	143	24	159
Dec-19	1,529	11.7%	414	380	341	138	24	155
Jan-20	1,519	11.5%	410	370	358	133	23	161
Feb-20	1,541	11.7%	426	359	354	136	25	161
Mar-20	1,581	11.9%	434	367	355	151	61	166
Apr-20	2,010	12.4%	464	366	340	159	444	216
May-20	2,446	13.5%	501	359	331	160	852	214
Jun-20	2,813	15.3%	555	338	296	140	1,208	247
Jul-20	2,990	16.0%	585	313	269	124	1,396	252
Aug-20	3,168	16.6%	604	303	260	89	1,629	237
Sep-20	3,233	17.5%	611	287	245	63	1,744	227
Oct-20	3,301	18.2%	587	276	226	78	1,863	213
Nov-20	3,366	18.6%	557	276	204	77	1,989	203
Dec-20	3,501	18.8%	549	271	197	71	2,165	196
Jan-21	3,555	18.9%	545	257	187	73	2,243	203
Feb-21	3,570	19.3%	532	245	169	65	2,319	193
Mar-21	3,552	19.7%	508	234	167	58	2,358	182
Apr-21	3,511	20.3%	518	222	156	48	2,350	179
May-21	3,479	20.6%	513	221	150	41	2,347	174
Jun-21	3,520	21.3%	524	238	145	49	2,349	179

June 2021 compared to June 2020 (without adjustments for late reporting)

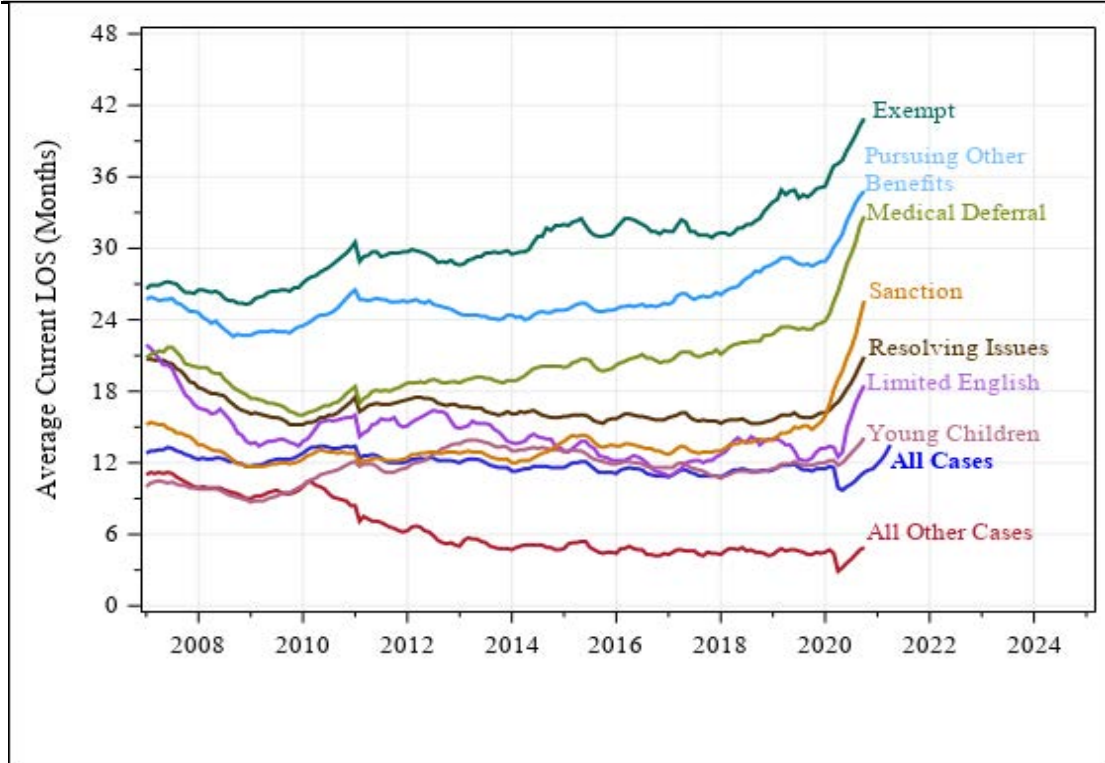
% Change	25%	-6%	-30%	-51%	-65%	94%	-28%
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Time limits are based on the number of months of TANF or State Financial Assistance received as an adult since August 1997. The other extension category includes: caring for a disabled child (159 cases); open CPS case - first dependency order (8); and 55 year old caretaker relative (12). The 28% decrease in the number of cases in the other extension categories stems mainly from a 27% decrease in the number of households caring for a disabled child. There were 217 extensions for a disabled child in June 2020. Other households not in the other extension category are not eligible for extension and will be terminated at the end of the month (8) or are in the process of having their status determined (28). There are no households in an administrative hearing adjudicating a determination. Ninety-five percent of the cases were extended for reasons that would exempt them from or defer application of WorkFirst work participation requirements.

In June 2021 there were 379 Child Only time limit extensions for COVID-19/caring for a disabled adult, up from 50 in March 2020 and 44 in February 2020 but down from a peak of 402 in January 2021. There were 2 Child Only cases extended for homelessness/employed 32+ hours per week.

Source: EMAPs reports on TANF Extension Cases by Month Intervals and By Category.

Count 1d: WorkFirst Length of Stay



Experience to Date

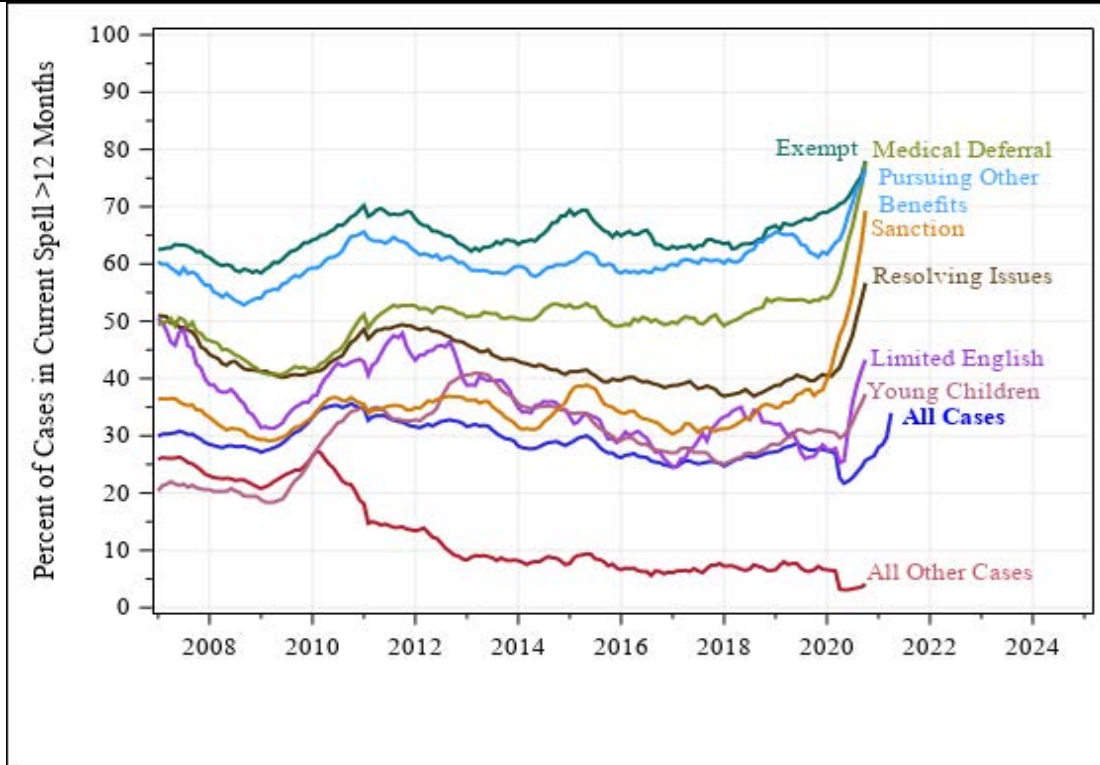
Average length of stay (LOS) since the most recent entry to WorkFirst was 13.5 months in April 2021, up from 9.9 months in April 2020. LOS had dropped due to the influx of new cases at the beginning of the COVID-19 emergency but has increased as those cases aged. Lifetime length of stay across all spells of WorkFirst was 19.5 months in April 2020 and 24.3 months in April 2021. The WorkFirst caseload was 7% larger in April 2021 than in April 2020.

Comments

The WorkFirst caseload was 38% larger in October 2020 than in October 2019. Two subgroups grew in size. The All Other cases group (cases not assigned to any other category) grew by 298% as a result of pandemic entries. It had a LOS of only 4.9 months in the current spell but 16.9 months in lifetime LOS (a 4 month increase) as many recent entrants were returning after prior spells of TANF. The Young Children group grew by 2%. The Limited English group shrank by 31%. The LEP group is defined by the use of the LP and KE component flags associated with LEP services. LEP cases recorded their lowest LOS (11.4 months) in January 2017 during a rapid influx of new LEP cases. The Resolving Issues group shrank by 17%. That group includes cases with drug or alcohol dependency, mental health, family violence, or homelessness issues. The Sanction, Medical Deferral, Pursuing Other Benefits, and Exempt groups each shrank by 19% or more in the past year. There have been few sanctions since April 2020 and open cases with past sanctions have dropped by 46% -- those that remain have a long LOS. The Exempt and Pursuing Other Benefits definitions correspond to criteria for extending TANF benefits to adults beyond the 60 month time limit. This explains their high LOS. Indications from pages 43-44 suggest that some barriers are less likely to be coded now that exemption from participation is available for all during the pandemic. That leaves the All Other cases group much larger than before the pandemic.

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Count 1d: WorkFirst Length of Stay



Length of Stay Values as of April 2021 for All Cases, as of October 2020 for Subgroups

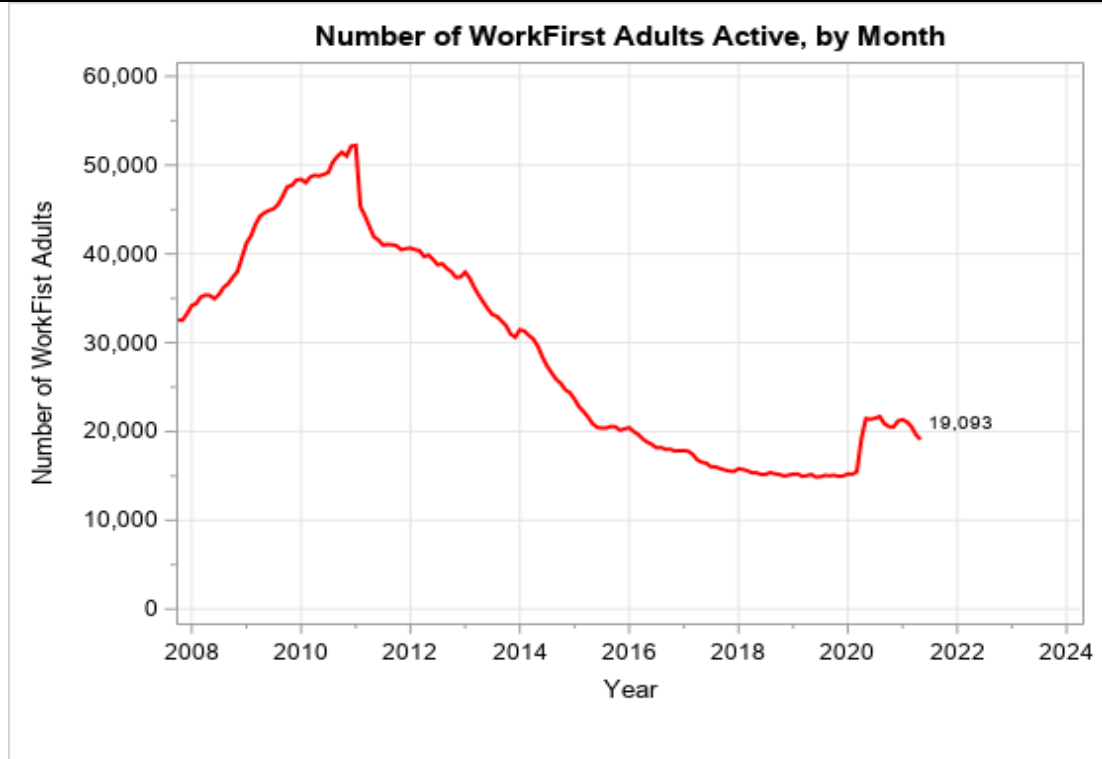
Type of Case	Number	Current Case LOS	Same 12 Mos Ago	Percent of Cases >12 mos	Percent 12 Mos Ago	Lifetime LOS in Mos	Same 12 Mos Ago
All Cases	17,481	13.5	9.9	34.0	22.6	24.3	19.5
Exempt	819	40.9	34.6	78.0	68.0	59.3	51.4
Resolving Issues	4,813	20.9	15.8	56.7	39.6	34.0	28.0
Limited English	649	18.5	12.4	43.3	26.4	23.3	16.6
Medical Deferral	1,412	32.7	23.2	77.7	53.7	47.6	36.4
Other Benefits	1,374	34.8	28.5	76.6	61.7	54.2	46.8
Young Children	6,839	14.1	11.8	37.3	30.7	21.2	18.3
Sanction	1,514	25.6	14.8	69.3	37.0	38.7	26.3
All Other Cases	7,698	4.9	4.3	4.1	6.6	16.9	12.6

Source: OFM Longitudinal Client Table, derived from EMAPS Client table and JAS_Actual table.

Definition

Average LOS is the number of months that WorkFirst cases have been in their current spell. The Percent > 12 Mos is the percent of WorkFirst cases that have been in their current spell longer than 12 months. A case may be in more than one group (except for All Other Cases). LOS for All Cases is shown through April 2021. LOS for other groups is through October 2020. It takes about six months for a new case to be sorted into the subgroups listed above. This process has been disrupted by the pandemic, may take longer, or may not occur at all for some adults until the pandemic is over. Lifetime months include months of benefits received as a child, and therefore differ from the count of months used for TANF time limits.

Count 1e: WorkFirst Adults



Indicator

Some WorkFirst cases have more than one adult. This chart shows the total number of TANF adults enrolled in the WorkFirst program. This total is used as the denominator for many of the Participation by Activity counts shown in section 5.

Trends

The count of WorkFirst adults was more or less stable between 2002 and 2006, at around 40,000 per month with seasonal variations. Adult counts began to decline in 2006, bottoming out at 32,543 in October 2007. Then counts began to increase during the recession that began in 2008. In November and December 2010, the count of WorkFirst adults surpassed 52,000. Program changes, including changes to sanctions, TANF time limits, and lower payment standards reduced the count of WorkFirst adults to 45,317 in February 2011. The count of adults reached 15,189 in February 2020, about the same as in February 2019 but then increased to 19,224 in April; 21,459 in May and 21,690 in August 2020 due to COVID-19 impacts. The count was 19,093 in May 2021. The average number of WorkFirst adults was 16,494 in FY 2020, up from 15,121 in FY 2019 and 15,627 in FY 2018 but below the 17,566 average monthly caseload in FY 2017, 19,913 in FY 2016 and 23,840 per month in FY 2015. The June 2021 caseload forecast predicts average monthly caseloads of 20,737 for FY 2021, 19,129 in FY 2022 and 18,164 in FY 2023.

King County has a concentration of Limited English Proficiency cases. See pages 13-14 for more information on the LEP population. A spike in the LEP population during May 2020 contributed to the high Seattle-King caseload during that month. Reduced LEP caseloads since that time contribute to the larger than average caseload declines in the Seattle-King area since May 2020.

Counts include adjustments that add in TANF recipients who are paid through subsidized jobs instead of TANF grants. This correction added an average of 238 adults per month in FY 2019. These counts are not lag-adjusted. [Return to Contents](#)

Count 1e: WorkFirst Adults

Data Table

Month	Region 1		Region 2		Region 3		Statewide Total
	Eastern Wash	South Central	North Puget Sound	Seattle King Co.	Tacoma Kitsap	Olympics Southwest	
Jul-18	2,682	1,905	1,877	3,229	2,727	2,755	15,175
Aug-18	2,720	1,973	1,899	3,230	2,733	2,823	15,378
Sep-18	2,636	1,962	1,878	3,198	2,710	2,844	15,230
Oct-18	2,629	1,963	1,861	3,153	2,689	2,868	15,163
Nov-18	2,708	1,983	1,808	3,044	2,639	2,796	14,979
Dec-18	2,807	2,027	1,779	3,002	2,647	2,819	15,083
Jan-19	2,826	2,085	1,804	3,027	2,685	2,783	15,212
Feb-19	2,867	2,030	1,785	3,022	2,694	2,811	15,211
Mar-19	2,805	1,997	1,764	3,033	2,667	2,692	14,960
Apr-19	2,799	1,996	1,810	3,099	2,576	2,743	15,023
May-19	2,787	2,019	1,825	3,097	2,612	2,819	15,160
Jun-19	2,707	1,938	1,817	3,101	2,525	2,787	14,875
Jul-19	2,735	1,925	1,828	3,129	2,467	2,812	14,896
Aug-19	2,727	1,954	1,841	3,181	2,537	2,826	15,066
Sep-19	2,696	1,942	1,816	3,191	2,486	2,875	15,006
Oct-19	2,669	1,944	1,803	3,182	2,576	2,904	15,079
Nov-19	2,708	1,918	1,779	3,090	2,554	2,904	14,955
Dec-19	2,773	1,984	1,760	3,048	2,552	2,874	14,993
Jan-20	2,862	2,060	1,783	3,077	2,553	2,892	15,227
Feb-20	2,919	2,035	1,741	3,091	2,483	2,919	15,189
Mar-20	2,924	2,063	1,803	3,306	2,457	2,917	15,469
Apr-20	3,319	2,403	2,304	4,580	3,064	3,551	19,224
May-20	3,596	2,708	2,610	5,123	3,499	3,921	21,459
Jun-20	3,617	2,830	2,552	4,755	3,639	3,978	21,373
Jul-20	3,665	2,882	2,559	4,677	3,772	3,939	21,497
Aug-20	3,838	2,916	2,581	4,610	3,815	3,932	21,693
Sep-20	3,664	2,775	2,477	4,421	3,704	3,843	20,884
Oct-20	3,673	2,758	2,446	4,214	3,672	3,794	20,559
Nov-20	3,703	2,777	2,475	4,198	3,556	3,792	20,502
Dec-20	3,868	2,909	2,574	4,299	3,660	3,876	21,187
Jan-21	3,875	2,921	2,617	4,350	3,691	3,878	21,335
Feb-21	3,839	2,908	2,593	4,233	3,658	3,823	21,057
Mar-21	3,736	2,822	2,502	4,180	3,584	3,706	20,534
Apr-21	3,528	2,696	2,412	4,019	3,425	3,525	19,606
May-21	3,379	2,634	2,357	3,961	3,365	3,396	19,093

May 2021 compared to May 2020 (without adjustments for late reporting)

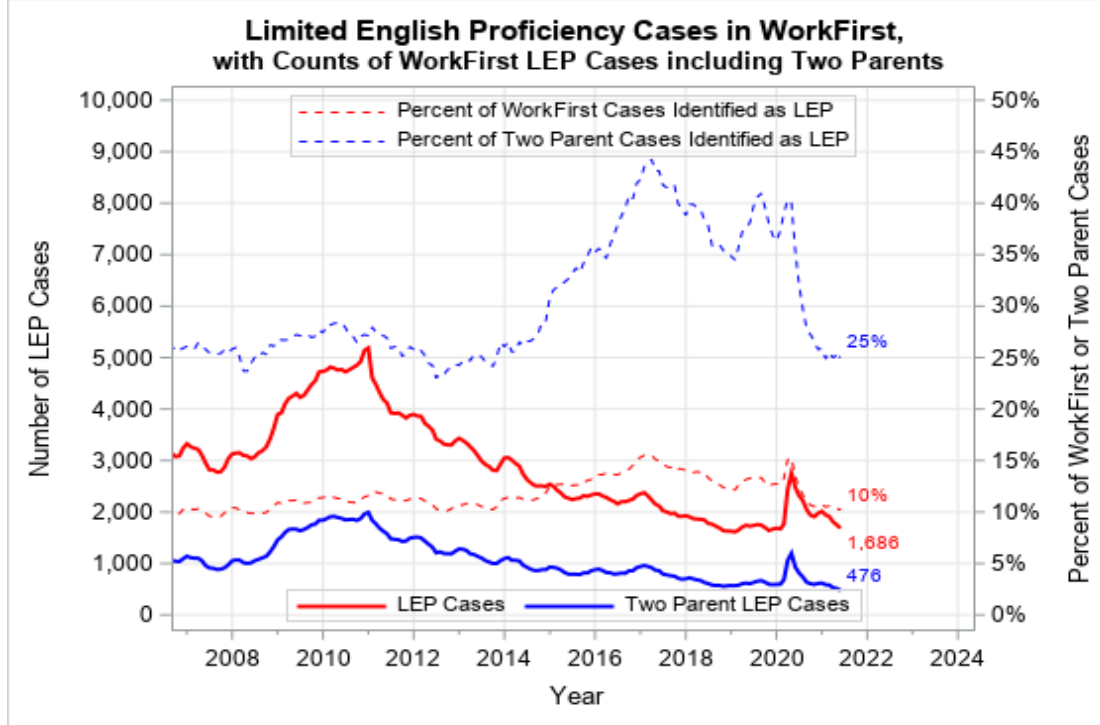
Statewide

% Change -6% -3% -10% -23% -4% -13% -11%

Region 1: Region 2: Region 3: Statewide:

Source: ACES data warehouse, EMAPS Client table, and JAS_Actual table.

Count 1f: Limited English Proficiency Cases and Adults



Indicator

Limited English Proficiency status, as defined here, is based on the primary language used for communications, need for an interpreter, and/or immigration status. Sixteen percent of LEP adults defined in this way are native born. Most LEP adults are immigrants or refugees, who can be served by the Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance LEP program regardless of whether they are eligible for WorkFirst. LEP adults who are eligible for WorkFirst may be served by any of the WorkFirst partners. Counts shown here are for WorkFirst recipients only and do not depend on whether services were received.

The top ten countries of origin for the WorkFirst LEP population in June 2021 were: Mexico, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Ukraine, Iraq, Russia, Ethiopia, Somalia, Afghanistan and Eritrea. These nationalities accounted for 55% of the LEP population. Sixty-nine percent of those receiving services were from Ukraine, Afghanistan, Iraq, Russia, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, Marshall Islands, Mexico and Syria.

Trends

The LEP case count within WorkFirst was 32% lower in June 2021 than in June 2020 compared with a 10% decrease in WorkFirst cases. The rate of decline for non-LEP WorkFirst cases was 7%. The percent of WorkFirst cases involving LEP dropped from a peak of 15.5% in April 2017 to 12.1% in February 2019. It increased to 15.2% in May 2020 but dropped to 10.6% in December 2020 and was 10.2% in June 2021, the lowest since the fall of 2012.

Twenty-eight percent of LEP households in June 2021 had two parents, compared with 10% of non-LEP households. Both percents are lower than levels in June 2020 (38% and 11%). The figure for LEP households has dropped to a record low. The figure for non-LEP households remains higher than before the pandemic began. The figures for English language proficiency and service needs can vary over time due to changes in the immigrant and refugee population. The number of LEP adults assessed at ESL Level 1 was 51% lower in June 2021 than in June 2020 -- only 5% of the LEP population. ESL Level 1 is the lowest level of proficiency, indicating that the adult functions "minimally, if at all, in English". Only 14% of the LEP population in June 2021 had been tested for English language skills, down from 18% in June 2020.

TANF/ORIA provides ESL, job search, and basic education to LEP adults through contractors in the LEP Pathway program. Service counts are provided on pages 29-32 and 37-38. Length of stay is shown on pages 9-10. Employment outcomes of LEP Job Search are described on pages 55-56, 60, 87, 91, and 95.

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Count 1f: Limited English Proficiency Cases and Adults

Data Table

Month	LEP			LEP			LEP Adults at	
	WorkFirst Cases	WorkFirst Cases	Percent LEP	WorkFirst Adults	WorkFirst Adults	Percent LEP	Level 1 ESL	Percent Level 1
Aug-18	13,558	1,764	13.0%	15,171	2,270	15.0%	310	13.7%
Sep-18	13,411	1,722	12.8%	15,012	2,211	14.7%	282	12.8%
Oct-18	13,359	1,687	12.6%	14,947	2,178	14.6%	265	12.2%
Nov-18	13,217	1,635	12.4%	14,789	2,117	14.3%	245	11.6%
Dec-18	13,280	1,630	12.3%	14,879	2,114	14.2%	229	10.8%
Jan-19	13,340	1,628	12.2%	14,979	2,121	14.2%	238	11.2%
Feb-19	13,289	1,614	12.1%	14,938	2,111	14.1%	237	11.2%
Mar-19	13,075	1,648	12.6%	14,692	2,145	14.6%	242	11.3%
Apr-19	13,115	1,709	13.0%	14,742	2,227	15.1%	243	10.9%
May-19	13,242	1,741	13.1%	14,888	2,272	15.3%	235	10.3%
Jun-19	12,987	1,726	13.3%	14,580	2,255	15.5%	224	9.9%
Jul-19	13,017	1,738	13.4%	14,604	2,297	15.7%	222	9.7%
Aug-19	13,168	1,757	13.3%	14,780	2,337	15.8%	209	8.9%
Sep-19	13,094	1,745	13.3%	14,717	2,332	15.9%	197	8.4%
Oct-19	13,199	1,699	12.9%	14,801	2,262	15.3%	190	8.4%
Nov-19	13,106	1,641	12.5%	14,673	2,163	14.7%	172	8.0%
Dec-19	13,123	1,666	12.7%	14,717	2,177	14.8%	173	7.9%
Jan-20	13,247	1,686	12.7%	14,879	2,197	14.8%	169	7.7%
Feb-20	13,190	1,671	12.7%	14,786	2,183	14.8%	156	7.1%
Mar-20	13,302	1,765	13.3%	15,043	2,355	15.7%	177	7.5%
Apr-20	16,185	2,443	15.1%	18,807	3,315	17.6%	240	7.2%
May-20	18,060	2,754	15.2%	21,046	3,726	17.7%	264	7.1%
Jun-20	18,387	2,479	13.5%	21,016	3,230	15.4%	220	6.8%
Jul-20	18,728	2,321	12.4%	21,262	2,978	14.0%	191	6.4%
Aug-20	19,055	2,222	11.7%	21,528	2,807	13.0%	168	6.0%
Sep-20	18,451	2,045	11.1%	20,729	2,551	12.3%	163	6.4%
Oct-20	18,186	1,940	10.7%	20,417	2,426	11.9%	146	6.0%
Nov-20	18,127	1,909	10.5%	20,348	2,377	11.7%	127	5.3%
Dec-20	18,663	1,974	10.6%	21,034	2,455	11.7%	132	5.4%
Jan-21	18,780	2,014	10.7%	21,174	2,493	11.8%	135	5.4%
Feb-21	18,537	1,942	10.5%	20,896	2,388	11.4%	123	5.2%
Mar-21	18,072	1,913	10.6%	20,357	2,354	11.6%	126	5.4%
Apr-21	17,313	1,811	10.5%	19,435	2,213	11.4%	130	5.9%
May-21	16,896	1,749	10.4%	18,932	2,132	11.3%	117	5.5%
Jun-21	16,537	1,686	10.2%	18,437	2,040	11.1%	107	5.2%

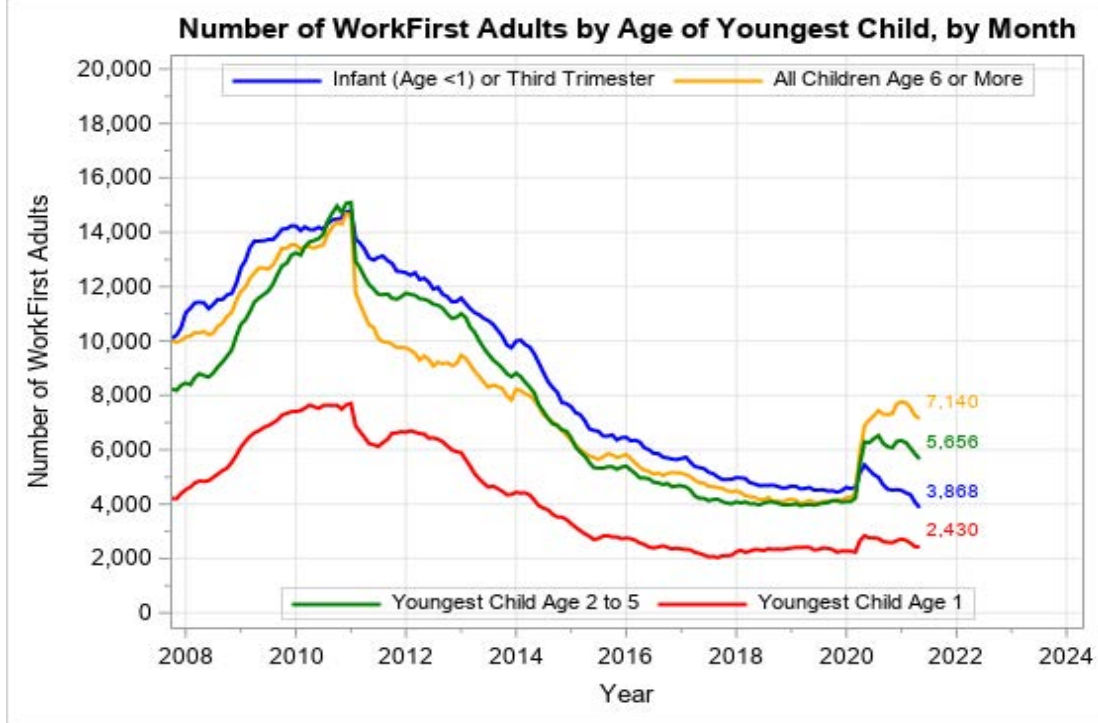
June 2021 compared to June 2020 (without adjustments for late reporting)

% Change -10% -32% -12% -37% -51%

Counts of TANF cases and WorkFirst adults on this page differ slightly from those on pages 1 through 6, 9-12, and 15-16 due to differences in data sources and data definitions.

Source: EMAPS reports on LEP Adult Cases and LEP Adult Clients and ACES Data Warehouse.

Count 1g: Adults by Age of Youngest Child



Indicator

WorkFirst adults have different work requirements depending on the age of their youngest child. This chart shows the total number of adults in four groups defined by the age of their youngest child. Under ESSB 5898, effective in October 2017, one adult in each household with children under the age of 2 is eligible for a voluntary exemption from work requirements for a lifetime limit of 24 months. The chart shows the number of households potentially affected by this policy. An earlier suspension policy, under ESSB 5921, provided temporary suspensions for one adult in each household with children under the age of 2 or two children under the age of 6. Those suspensions could be started between July 2011 and June 2012 and were phased out during FY 2013. Single adults with children under the age of 6 have been able to meet work requirements by participating for 20 hours instead of 30 hours per week since March 2011. The four groups in the chart are mutually exclusive.

Trends

Implementation of 60 month time limits in February 2011 reduced the number of adults with children in every age group. It had the largest impact on households with the oldest children and smallest impact on households with the youngest children. The count of parents with youngest child age 1 (12 to 23 months) began to increase in August 2011 under the ESSB 5921 suspension policy, but began to decline again in March 2012 and dropped to pre-suspension levels by October 2012. The ESSB 5898 policy increased the count of households with youngest child age 1 through April 2019. However, that group showed relatively slow growth after the COVID-19 emergency began to affect caseloads. Households with youngest child age 6 or older are the largest portion of the caseload and showed 4% growth over the past year compared with an 11% decrease in overall cases. Counts of households with youngest child age 2 to 5 decreased by 10%. Counts of households with one-year olds are now 15% smaller than they were in May 2020. The number of WorkFirst households with adults who were pregnant or whose household included an infant was 29% smaller than in May 2020.

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Count 1g: Adults by Age of Youngest Child

Month	Youngest Child			Work Participation Requirements				Total Adults
	Infant Age < 1 Year or Pregnant	Age 1 Year but < 2 Years (Exemptions Began Oct-17)	Potential Exemption Parents	20 Hours		35 Hours		
				Youngest Child Age		No Child Younger		
				Two	but < Six Years	Than Age Six	2 Adults	
Nov-18	4,592	2,335	4,846	3,053	929	3,310	762	14,979
Dec-18	4,606	2,359	4,848	3,045	928	3,385	761	15,083
Jan-19	4,665	2,386	4,890	3,056	925	3,390	790	15,212
Feb-19	4,652	2,406	4,837	3,076	940	3,375	762	15,211
Mar-19	4,567	2,406	4,785	3,013	931	3,312	731	14,960
Apr-19	4,576	2,415	4,804	3,044	930	3,302	757	15,023
May-19	4,617	2,414	4,816	3,051	941	3,368	769	15,160
Jun-19	4,517	2,319	4,679	3,048	913	3,296	782	14,875
Jul-19	4,522	2,332	4,693	3,098	907	3,260	777	14,896
Aug-19	4,530	2,394	4,733	3,114	922	3,345	763	15,066
Sep-19	4,481	2,370	4,679	3,090	964	3,344	757	15,006
Oct-19	4,493	2,335	4,689	3,159	977	3,384	731	15,079
Nov-19	4,442	2,233	4,601	3,153	974	3,447	709	14,955
Dec-19	4,495	2,279	4,658	3,134	938	3,410	738	14,993
Jan-20	4,619	2,272	4,686	3,129	963	3,467	778	15,227
Feb-20	4,569	2,271	4,622	3,177	923	3,470	781	15,189
Mar-20	4,627	2,236	4,557	3,150	1,074	3,514	869	15,469
Apr-20	5,165	2,659	5,101	3,862	1,634	4,565	1,340	19,224
May-20	5,442	2,843	5,385	4,365	1,924	5,359	1,527	21,459
Jun-20	5,255	2,756	5,317	4,580	1,683	5,771	1,329	21,373
Jul-20	5,089	2,757	5,282	4,763	1,645	5,946	1,297	21,497
Aug-20	4,988	2,740	5,244	4,908	1,614	6,186	1,257	21,693
Sep-20	4,715	2,622	4,988	4,757	1,481	6,150	1,160	20,884
Oct-20	4,551	2,601	4,863	4,711	1,402	6,134	1,160	20,559
Nov-20	4,517	2,585	4,799	4,697	1,377	6,174	1,152	20,502
Dec-20	4,534	2,657	4,832	4,820	1,490	6,442	1,244	21,187
Jan-21	4,508	2,716	4,873	4,831	1,507	6,536	1,237	21,335
Feb-21	4,412	2,670	4,758	4,792	1,463	6,482	1,238	21,057
Mar-21	4,351	2,570	4,603	4,670	1,394	6,319	1,230	20,534
Apr-21	4,069	2,436	4,316	4,545	1,301	6,110	1,145	19,606
May-21	3,868	2,430	4,175	4,417	1,239	6,034	1,106	19,093

May 2021 compared to May 2020 (without adjustments for late reporting)

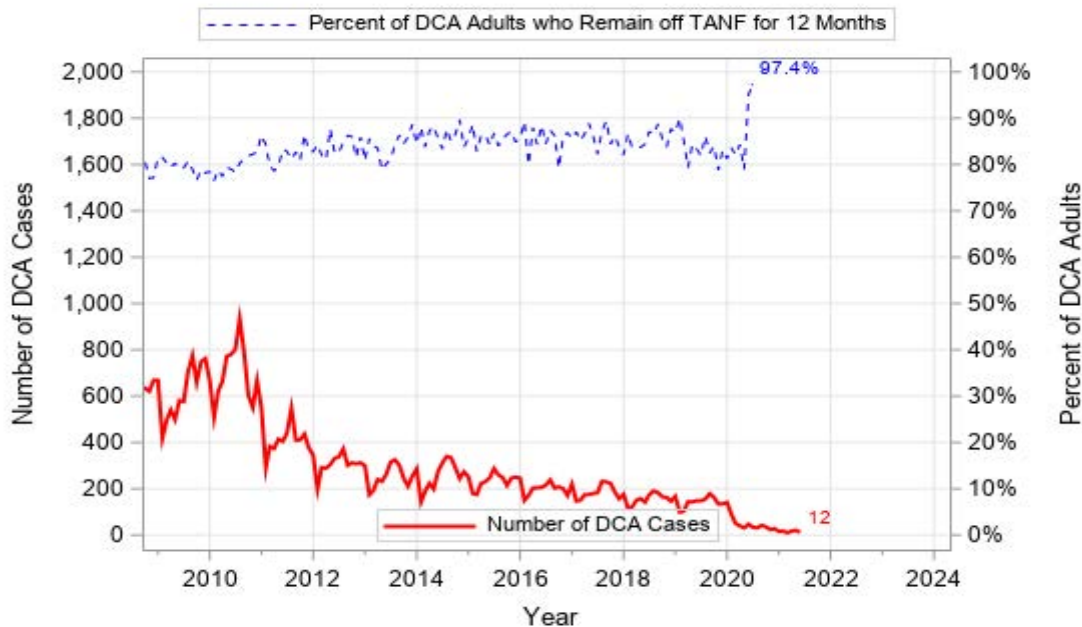
% Change	-29%	-15%	-22%	1%	-36%	13%	-28%	-11%
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Reduced work requirements were implemented for two parent households in October 2010, after which only one of the two adults was required to participate. Reduced work requirements for single adults with children under six were introduced in March 2011. Reduced work requirements were introduced to reduce child care costs. Budgets for employment and educational programs were reduced for the suspension in FY 2012 and for the expansion of infant exemptions in FY 2018.

The "Potential Exemption Parents" column counts only one adult per household.

Count 2: DCA Success Rate

Number of Diversion Cash Assistance Adults and Percent who Remain Off TANF for 12 Months



DCA Program

Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA) is provided to meet the temporary income needs of eligible adults so they do not have to enter TANF (WorkFirst). Households receive payments of up to \$1,250, a portion of which must be repaid if recipients enter TANF during the following 12 months. Eighty-seven percent of DCA payments in June 2021 were used to pay for housing assistance, 9% for employment related expenses and 4% for transportation related expenses.

Target

The historical WorkFirst target for the percent of DCA recipients who did not enter TANF within 12 months was 80%. There is no current target for this measure.

Experience to Date

Use of DCA dropped after October 2010. Until October 2010, DCA households could receive payments of up to \$1,500. The maximum payment was reduced to \$1,250 in October 2010. The maximum was reduced again -- to \$1,000 -- in January 2011. The maximum DCA payment returned to \$1,250 in July 2011. TANF time limits and reductions to TANF payment standards introduced in February 2011 also reduced the number of households eligible to receive DCA. DCA benefits were provided at ten CSOs in June 2021. The 10 CSOs had one user each. This sums to less than 12 users due to lag adjustments which suggest there will be two more cases that have not yet been recorded. The DCA program has been in use since November 1997. DCA use reached a record low in March 2021. Use was highest during the Great Recession (2009-10).

The percent of DCA households remaining off TANF for 12 months was 97% for households starting DCA in July 2020. Results became more variable after April 2020 as the DCA caseload grew smaller and COVID-19 affected return to TANF (see page 63).

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Count 2: DCA Success Rate

Data Table

Month	DCA Adults in Next 12 Months				New WorkFirst Entries	DCA as % of Entries
	DCA Cases	DCA Adults	Adults w/ No TANF	Success Rate		
Apr-19	144	184	146	79%	1,785	8%
May-19	143	179	151	84%	1,783	8%
Jun-19	148	186	155	83%	1,663	9%
Jul-19	148	183	150	82%	1,851	8%
Aug-19	156	195	168	86%	1,911	8%
Sep-19	179	217	179	82%	1,858	10%
Oct-19	163	218	183	84%	1,816	9%
Nov-19	134	151	119	79%	1,704	8%
Dec-19	135	178	148	83%	1,706	8%
Jan-20	141	176	143	81%	1,800	8%
Feb-20	90	110	92	84%	1,549	6%
Mar-20	50	67	55	82%	1,826	3%
Apr-20	40	51	43	84%	4,270	1%
May-20	31	38	30	79%	2,647	1%
Jun-20	47	61	58	95%	2,602	2%
Jul-20	34	38	37	97%	2,085	2%
Aug-20	31	38	.	.	1,963	2%
Sep-20	42	50	.	.	1,774	2%
Oct-20	36	40	.	.	1,732	2%
Nov-20	24	35	.	.	1,820	1%
Dec-20	28	34	.	.	1,825	2%
Jan-21	16	20	.	.	1,521	1%
Feb-21	17	.	.	.	1,297	1%
Mar-21	10	.	.	.	1,060	1%
Apr-21	17	.	.	.	931	2%
May-21	21	.	.	.	1,250	2%
Jun-21	12	.	.	.	1,307	1%

June 2021 compared to June 2020

% Change -74% -50%

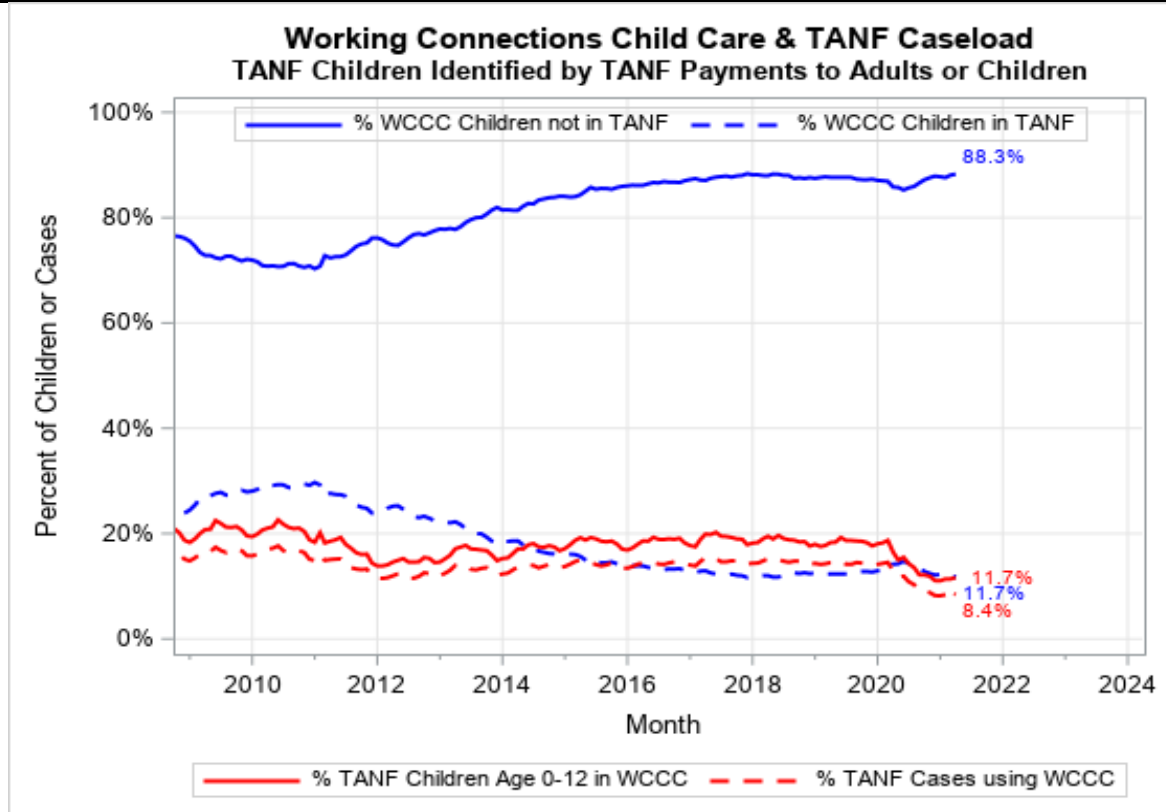
If DCA recipients had entered TANF instead, WorkFirst entries would have been 15% higher in calendar year 2010. DCA use reduced WorkFirst entries by 9% in 2015 through 2017 and by 8% in 2018 and 2019. DCA use in June 2021 was 74% lower than in June 2020. New WorkFirst entries decreased by 50% over the same period. DCA use has been low during the COVID-19 emergency. DCA use has reduced WorkFirst entries by only 1.5% since March 2020. Counts of DCA cases and WorkFirst entries are lag adjusted to reflect delayed reporting. The count of new WorkFirst entries shown here differs from counts shown on page 2. This count does not include transfers from Child Only to WorkFirst as a new entry to WorkFirst.

Definition of Measure

The chart measures the number of Diversion Cash Assistance clients who do not enter TANF within 12 months of receiving a DCA payment.

Source: DSHS performance reports and ACES data warehouse.

Count 3: Working Connections Child Care



Goal

Working Connections Child Care provides subsidized child care for TANF and other low-income families so parents are able to work and move toward family self-sufficiency and so children have stable access to nurturing environments that help support their healthy development and school readiness.

Experience to Date

In 2010, 29% of WCCC children were members of TANF households. The percent of TANF children age 0-12 served in WCCC was 11.7% in April 2021. However, most WCCC households have used TANF in the past: 73% of WCCC households in April 2021 had used TANF: 13% in March or April 2021; 48% most recently between February 2011 and February 2021; and 12% prior to the TANF program changes of February 2011. The majority (68%) of past TANF users of WCCC (prior to March 2021) had incomes reported to be above the Federal Poverty Level.

Comments

Caseloads are not lag adjusted for late reporting. Caseloads for March and April 2021 could rise by 0.6% and 1.3% respectively when all bills are paid. The drop in TANF-related households is related to the drop in TANF caseloads since February 2011 and to WorkFirst program changes. Caseloads increased in July 2016 due to eligibility changes in the Early Start Act, but decreased in July 2017 and again in July 2018 and July 2019. The COVID-19 emergency reduced caseloads beginning in April 2020. The April to April comparisons shown in these pages suggest that there was a 20.1% decline in cases and 18.0% decline in children served over the past year. April 2021 caseloads will likely reach 19,516 households and 35,105 children once all bills are paid -- 19.0% and 16.9% lower than in April 2020. Data were obtained on June 26, 2021.

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Count 3: Working Connections Child Care

Data Table							
Month	WCCC Cases	Non-TANF Related Cases	TANF Related Cases	WCCC Children	TANF WCCC Children	% of TANF Households Using WCCC	% of TANF Children 0-12 Using WCCC
Dec-18	26,771	23,166	3,605	46,051	5,705	14.1%	17.6%
Jan-19	27,093	23,400	3,693	46,670	5,849	14.3%	18.0%
Feb-19	26,640	23,011	3,629	45,780	5,663	14.1%	17.5%
Mar-19	26,881	23,254	3,627	46,171	5,655	14.3%	17.7%
Apr-19	27,247	23,572	3,675	47,117	5,812	14.5%	18.3%
May-19	27,248	23,591	3,657	46,844	5,782	14.4%	18.4%
Jun-19	27,512	23,829	3,683	48,181	5,941	14.7%	19.3%
Jul-19	26,455	22,935	3,520	46,925	5,784	14.2%	18.7%
Aug-19	26,270	22,744	3,526	46,727	5,781	14.1%	18.7%
Sep-19	26,082	22,493	3,589	45,040	5,718	14.5%	18.6%
Oct-19	25,950	22,375	3,575	44,613	5,702	14.4%	18.5%
Nov-19	25,575	22,032	3,543	43,754	5,595	14.3%	18.3%
Dec-19	25,118	21,656	3,462	43,016	5,461	13.9%	17.7%
Jan-20	25,338	21,788	3,550	43,508	5,620	14.1%	18.0%
Feb-20	25,319	21,734	3,585	43,320	5,632	14.3%	18.2%
Mar-20	25,476	21,846	3,630	44,302	5,801	14.5%	18.7%
Apr-20	24,099	20,422	3,677	42,224	5,989	12.9%	16.5%
May-20	23,489	19,880	3,609	41,385	5,898	11.8%	15.0%
Jun-20	23,225	19,538	3,687	41,281	6,085	11.9%	15.5%
Jul-20	21,949	18,573	3,376	39,276	5,631	10.9%	14.3%
Aug-20	21,210	17,977	3,233	38,199	5,375	10.3%	13.6%
Sep-20	19,129	16,343	2,786	34,748	4,656	9.1%	12.2%
Oct-20	19,436	16,718	2,718	35,409	4,532	9.1%	12.1%
Nov-20	19,369	16,775	2,594	35,322	4,385	8.8%	11.9%
Dec-20	18,962	16,476	2,486	34,556	4,185	8.2%	11.1%
Jan-21	18,884	16,388	2,496	34,296	4,196	8.2%	11.0%
Feb-21	18,947	16,426	2,521	34,325	4,252	8.4%	11.4%
Mar-21	19,162	16,717	2,445	34,611	4,132	8.3%	11.4%
Apr-21	19,257	16,859	2,398	34,619	4,057	8.4%	11.7%

April 2021 compared to April 2020 (without adjustments for late reporting)

Change -20% -17% -35% -18% -32%

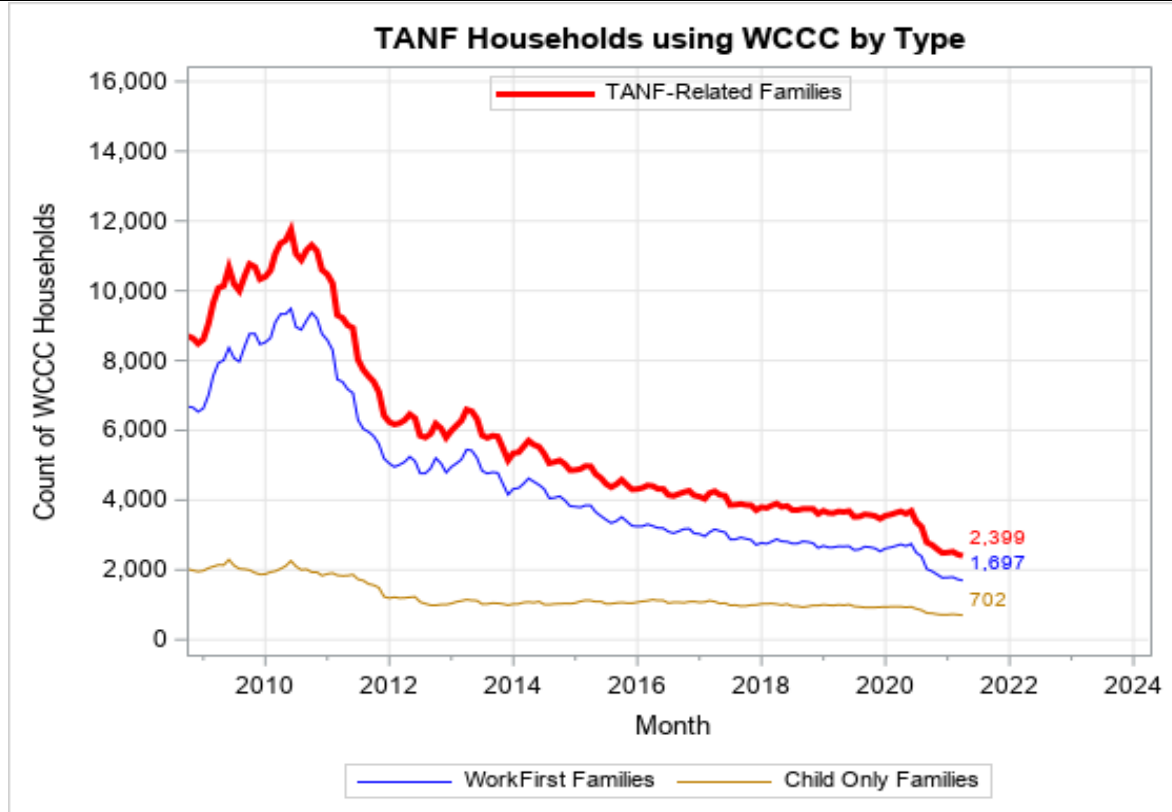
Definition of Measure

Results are tabulated from files supplied by the Department of Children, Youth, and Families. The percent of TANF children served by WCCC is based on the number of children living in households receiving TANF and WCCC (based on DCYF data) divided by the number of TANF children aged 0 to 12 (based on ACES data). This method is based on matching WCCC consumer IDs with TANF records. This definition of TANF households includes households with children in Child Only cases. Homeless Grace Period cases and households transitioning from Children's Administration to CWCCC care under HB 1624 are included in these counts.

See: http://www.cfc.wa.gov/HumanServices_DCYF_WorkingConnections.htm for WCCC forecasts.

Source: WCCC cases and children, DCYF; Number of TANF children aged 0-12, ACES data warehouse.

Count 3a: Type of TANF Cases Using WCCC



Use of WCCC by TANF Households

Parents often need paid child care to maintain employment or to participate in WorkFirst activities, but many households do not use child care. There was one WCCC case for every 2.6 adults who used WorkFirst services in FY 2016, but use among households receiving services has increased since then. There was one WCCC case per 2.4 adults who used WorkFirst services in FY 2018, one per 2.3 adults with services in FY 2019 and one per 2.2 adults with services FY 2020. TANF related care includes WCCC child care provided to kinship caregivers, guardians, and parents of children with Child Only TANF grants. Categorized by type of Child Only household, WCCC was used by 12% of kinship caregivers, 6% of legal guardians, 4% of parents disqualified from using TANF, 6% of non-citizen parents, and 5% of disabled parents in FY 2020.

Experience to Date

Use of WCCC by WorkFirst (All Family) TANF households reached a high point during the summer of 2010 and then dropped after cutbacks to the WorkFirst program. Exemptions from WorkFirst work requirements were extended to households with children under the age of 2 in October 2017, which reduced TANF-related child care activity. Most remaining WorkFirst households were exempted from work requirements in mid-March 2020 due to the COVID-19 emergency. WorkFirst households used WCCC in April 2021 at a lower rate than in April 2020 and that rate will remain lower even after all bills are paid. The number of WorkFirst households has increased during the pandemic while the number using WCCC childcare is declining. Use of WCCC by Child Only cases remained relatively stable until program changes in November 2011. Kinship caregivers may receive WCCC without using TANF, so the drop in TANF Child Only households using WCCC does not necessarily imply a drop in the use of child care by those households. (They can also be counted among the non-TANF WCCC households.)

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Count 3a: Type of TANF Cases Using WCCC

Data Table							
	WorkFirst	WorkFirst	Percent	Child Only	Child Only	Percent	Child Only
Month	TANF Cases	Cases Using WCCC	Using WCCC	TANF Cases	Cases Using WCCC	Using WCCC	% of TANF WCCC Users
Nov-18	13,191	2,767	21.0%	12,192	981	8.0%	26.2%
Dec-18	13,261	2,628	19.8%	12,313	978	7.9%	27.1%
Jan-19	13,323	2,690	20.2%	12,432	1,003	8.1%	27.2%
Feb-19	13,279	2,641	19.9%	12,382	988	8.0%	27.2%
Mar-19	13,055	2,647	20.3%	12,394	980	7.9%	27.0%
Apr-19	13,102	2,675	20.4%	12,293	1,000	8.1%	27.2%
May-19	13,235	2,672	20.2%	12,112	986	8.1%	27.0%
Jun-19	12,972	2,678	20.6%	12,019	1,007	8.4%	27.3%
Jul-19	13,012	2,568	19.7%	11,804	953	8.1%	27.1%
Aug-19	13,151	2,585	19.7%	11,770	941	8.0%	26.7%
Sep-19	13,081	2,665	20.4%	11,657	925	7.9%	25.8%
Oct-19	13,192	2,650	20.1%	11,639	926	8.0%	25.9%
Nov-19	13,095	2,618	20.0%	11,673	925	7.9%	26.1%
Dec-19	13,111	2,531	19.3%	11,824	933	7.9%	26.9%
Jan-20	13,228	2,614	19.8%	11,884	938	7.9%	26.4%
Feb-20	13,176	2,643	20.1%	11,827	942	8.0%	26.3%
Mar-20	13,286	2,683	20.2%	11,712	948	8.1%	26.1%
Apr-20	16,172	2,733	16.9%	12,278	944	7.7%	25.7%
May-20	18,040	2,681	14.9%	12,608	928	7.4%	25.7%
Jun-20	18,381	2,747	14.9%	12,581	941	7.5%	25.5%
Jul-20	18,716	2,491	13.3%	12,384	885	7.1%	26.2%
Aug-20	19,037	2,388	12.5%	12,340	845	6.8%	26.1%
Sep-20	18,436	2,024	11.0%	12,061	762	6.3%	27.4%
Oct-20	18,173	1,963	10.8%	11,601	755	6.5%	27.8%
Nov-20	18,110	1,868	10.3%	11,400	727	6.4%	28.0%
Dec-20	18,655	1,774	9.5%	11,611	712	6.1%	28.6%
Jan-21	18,771	1,781	9.5%	11,683	715	6.1%	28.6%
Feb-21	18,528	1,793	9.7%	11,531	728	6.3%	28.9%
Mar-21	18,070	1,731	9.6%	11,362	714	6.3%	29.2%
Apr-21	17,309	1,697	9.8%	11,179	702	6.3%	29.3%

April 2021 compared to April 2020 (without adjustments for late reporting)

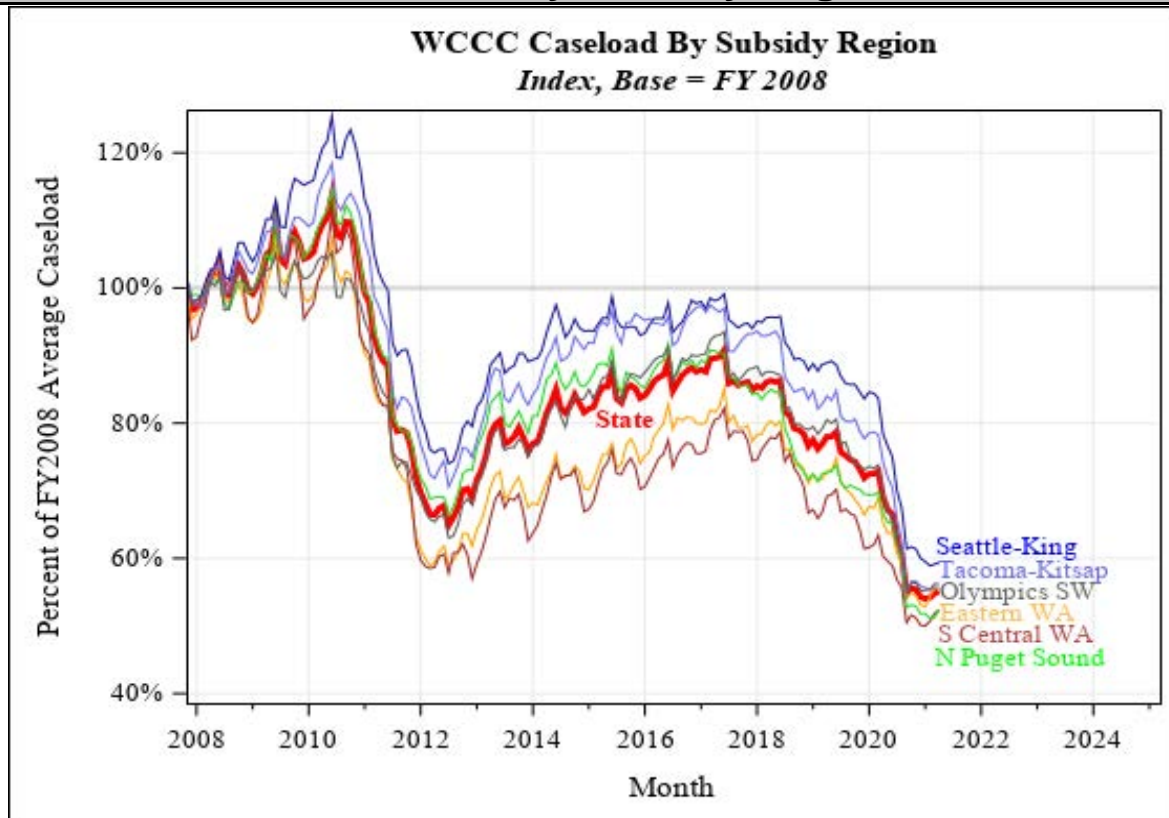
% Change 7% -38% -9% -26%

Definition of Measures

Results are tabulated from files supplied by DCYF matched with TANF case data. WCCC cases are identified as WorkFirst if a parent receiving benefits in a TANF case is listed as the head of the WCCC household during the current or prior month. WCCC cases are identified as Child Only if an adult associated with a Child Only TANF case is identified as the head of the WCCC household during the current or prior month. This method of counting TANF-related cases produces a larger count of WCCC households than would be obtained by looking at the WCCC eligibility records, which appear to undercount WCCC households receiving TANF. Many cases counted as non-TANF related have also received TANF in the past, but not recently enough to be counted in this measure.

Source: WCCC cases from DCYF matched to Client IDs in ACES.

Count 3b: WCCC Caseload by Subsidy Region



Experience to Date

WCCC caseloads began to grow in most areas in mid-2008 but began to decline by late-2010 in all parts of the state. Caseloads began to increase in all six regions in January 2013 but flattened out during the summer of 2015. Declines began during the summer of 2017 and occurred again in July 2018, July 2019 and July 2020. Declines in 2020 began in April 2020 due to the COVID-19 emergency, continued in September, but slowed in October 2020.

Average caseloads grew by 3.1% in FY 2017 but declined by 2.5% in FY 2018; 8.6% in FY 2019; and 8.1% in FY 2020. They are expected to decline by 21.9% in FY 2021 according to the June 2021 caseload forecast. Caseloads are expected to expand by 18.5% in FY 2022 and 19.0% in FY 2023 as a result of income eligibility changes, copayment changes, and expanded eligibility for students included in the Fair Start Act (SB 5237). Some of the pre-COVID decline resulted from requirements that providers begin using electronic attendance systems in July 2018. Declines were pronounced among FFN providers until May 2020 and have been pronounced at child care centers since July 2020 (see pages 27-28). WCCC caseloads have dropped below the previous low reached in July 2012. However, the June 2021 caseload forecast expects WCCC caseloads to return to 27,878 by June 2022 and 29,500 by June 2023.

Under 12-month eligibility, households with changes in circumstance remain eligible for a full year. The first cohorts found eligible under those rules reached the end of their year long-eligibility in July 2017. Some were no longer eligible to continue, and the new cohorts of households beginning services were not large enough to fully replace the departing cohorts. The drops seen in July 2017, July 2018, July 2019 and July 2020 also show up in the number of households eligible for WCCC with authorizations to be paid for services. Some have proposed that increased wage levels have reduced the number of households eligible for care and reduced incentives to provide FFN care.

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Count 3b: WCCC Caseload by Subsidy Region

Data Table	WCCC Cases	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6
		Eastern	South	North Puget	Seattle	Tacoma	Olympics
		Wash	Central	Sound	King Co.	Kitsap	Southwest
FY 2008	34,941	6,270	5,437	4,614	7,436	5,008	5,770
Jul-15	29,226	4,602	3,940	3,969	7,076	4,666	4,787
Jan-16	29,376	4,714	3,841	3,929	6,940	4,768	5,103
Jul-16	29,615	4,958	3,995	4,005	6,945	4,580	5,073
Jan-17	30,712	5,004	4,106	4,119	7,288	4,880	5,210
Jul-17	30,000	5,024	4,230	4,000	7,085	4,538	5,044
Jan-18	29,871	4,908	4,058	3,898	7,072	4,690	5,019
Jul-18	28,495	4,759	4,037	3,655	6,837	4,345	4,749
Jan-19	27,093	4,535	3,656	3,346	6,603	4,249	4,524
Jul-19	26,455	4,480	3,635	3,287	6,461	4,057	4,438
Jan-20	25,338	4,244	3,349	3,200	6,287	3,929	4,246
Jul-20	23,225	4,000	3,203	3,010	5,580	3,533	3,827
Jan-21	18,884	3,312	2,717	2,389	4,425	2,785	3,191
Mar-21	19,162	3,495	2,818	2,363	4,391	2,783	3,241
Apr-21	19,257	3,467	2,849	2,418	4,417	2,790	3,245

April 2021 compared to April 2020 (without adjustments for late reporting)

% Change	-20%	-15%	-13%	-21%	-24%	-25%	-19%
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Percent of FY 2008 Cases

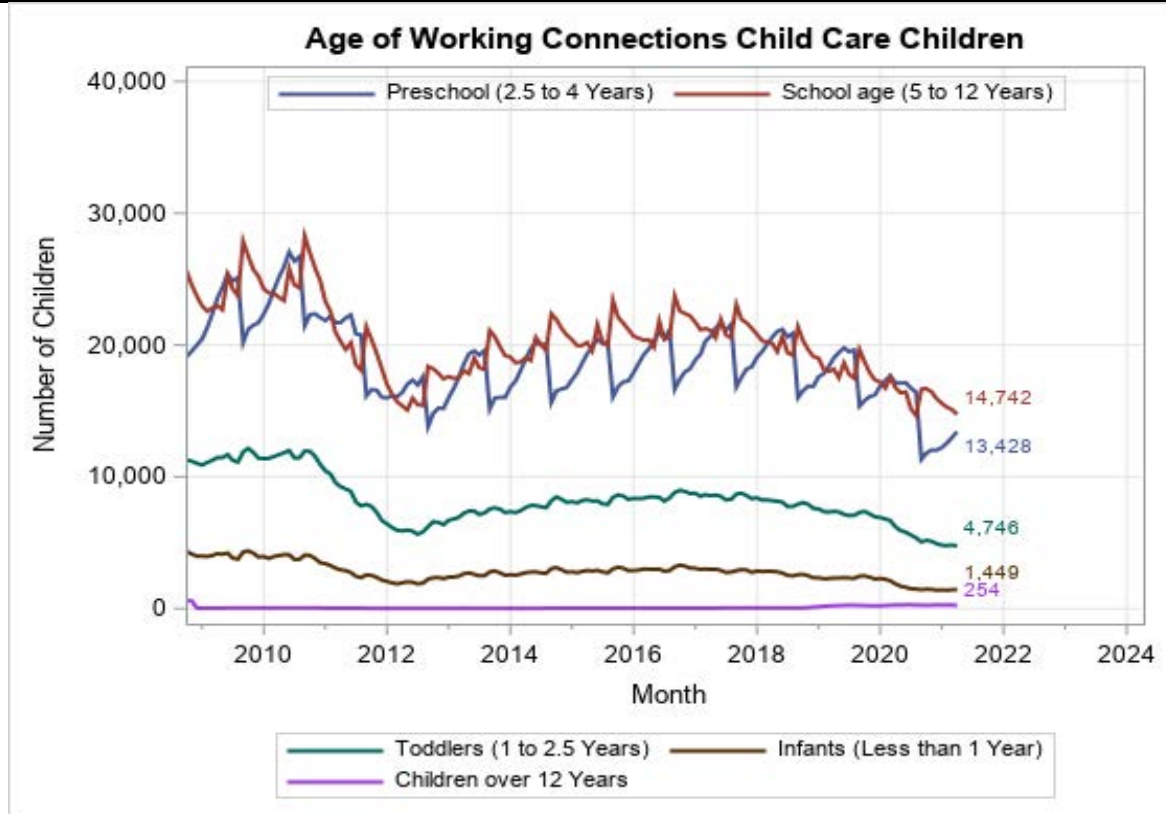
	WCCC Cases	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6
		Eastern	South	North Puget	Seattle	Tacoma	Olympics
		Wash	Central	Sound	King Co.	Kitsap	Southwest
FY 2008	34,941	6,270	5,437	4,614	7,436	5,008	5,770
Jul-15	83.6	73.4	72.5	86.0	95.2	93.2	83.0
Jan-16	84.1	75.2	70.6	85.2	93.3	95.2	88.4
Jul-16	84.8	79.1	73.5	86.8	93.4	91.5	87.9
Jan-17	87.9	79.8	75.5	89.3	98.0	97.4	90.3
Jul-17	85.9	80.1	77.8	86.7	95.3	90.6	87.4
Jan-18	85.5	78.3	74.6	84.5	95.1	93.6	87.0
Jul-18	81.6	75.9	74.3	79.2	92.0	86.8	82.3
Jan-19	77.5	72.3	67.2	72.5	88.8	84.8	78.4
Jul-19	75.7	71.4	66.9	71.2	86.9	81.0	76.9
Jan-20	72.5	67.7	61.6	69.4	84.6	78.5	73.6
Jul-20	66.5	63.8	58.9	65.2	75.0	70.5	66.3
Jan-21	54.0	52.8	50.0	51.8	59.5	55.6	55.3
Mar-21	54.8	55.7	51.8	51.2	59.1	55.6	56.2
Apr-21	55.1	55.3	52.4	52.4	59.4	55.7	56.2

Definition of Measure

Counts of WCCC cases by region use the county of service provider to identify WCCC subsidy regions. Household counts differ from page 20 because region cannot be identified for some providers. The percent of FY 2008 figures show the monthly caseload divided by the region's average caseload in State fiscal year 2008. The index is useful for viewing changes between periods by region.

Source: WCCC cases from DCYF monthly extract.

Count 3c: WCCC Children by Age



Ages of WCCC Children

Working Connections Child Care pays different vendor rates for children of different ages. Knowledge of child age is also important to policymakers since some policies affect only certain age groups. Vendor rates differ for preschool children and school age children. Children who are 5 years old by August 31 of a year reach school age beginning in September of that year. The drop in preschool children and increase in school age children that occurs in each September is the movement of 5-year olds at the start of the school year.

Experience to Date

Prior to the COVID-19 emergency, the number of children per WCCC household had a seasonal pattern -- 1.78 during the summer of 2019 and 1.72 during the 2019-20 school year through March 2020. The average number of children served per household was 1.73 in FYs 2018 and 2019 and 1.74 in FY 2020. The average reached 1.76 in May 2020, 1.82 in September 2020 and was 1.80 in April 2021.

The number of children served in April 2021 with bills paid through June 26, 2021 was 18.0% lower than in April 2020. The number children declined at all ages younger than 14. Declines were largest among 2-year olds (down 26%), and infants, 1-year olds and 3-year olds (down 22%). 13-year olds had the smallest decline (down 9%) followed by 6-year olds (down 10%). Counts of school-aged children had been dropping faster until March 2020. The switch in patterns was probably due to COVID-19 impacts. Infants and 1-year olds were down by 34% in WorkFirst related WCCC households over the past year compared with a 20% drop in the number of children that age among non-TANF related households.

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Count 3c: WCCC Children by Age

Data Table

Month	WCCC						Total Children
	Infants Lt 1 Year	Toddlers 1 to 2.5 Yrs	Preschool 2.5 to 4 Yrs	School Age 5-12 Yrs	Over 12 13-19 Yrs	Unknown Age	
Sep-18	2,584	7,918	16,013	21,379	55	9	47,958
Oct-18	2,596	8,053	16,530	20,332	59	7	47,577
Nov-18	2,497	7,917	16,887	19,638	78	2	47,019
Dec-18	2,331	7,607	16,860	19,137	114	2	46,051
Jan-19	2,349	7,568	17,595	19,010	139	9	46,670
Feb-19	2,263	7,359	17,826	18,158	174	0	45,780
Mar-19	2,279	7,329	18,357	18,000	204	2	46,171
Apr-19	2,329	7,380	19,010	18,172	221	5	47,117
May-19	2,326	7,335	19,426	17,518	238	1	46,844
Jun-19	2,341	7,149	19,789	18,647	249	6	48,181
Jul-19	2,324	7,062	19,489	17,788	261	1	46,925
Aug-19	2,292	7,080	19,627	17,473	252	3	46,727
Sep-19	2,473	7,302	15,356	19,661	247	1	45,040
Oct-19	2,483	7,379	15,794	18,716	238	3	44,613
Nov-19	2,380	7,180	16,092	17,880	221	1	43,754
Dec-19	2,246	6,960	16,219	17,363	226	2	43,016
Jan-20	2,288	6,911	16,888	17,198	221	2	43,508
Feb-20	2,226	6,803	17,317	16,736	234	4	43,320
Mar-20	2,115	6,682	17,658	17,582	263	2	44,302
Apr-20	1,867	6,199	17,123	16,762	269	4	42,224
May-20	1,700	5,921	17,108	16,377	277	2	41,385
Jun-20	1,620	5,796	17,138	16,441	285	1	41,281
Jul-20	1,508	5,577	16,738	15,166	286	1	39,276
Aug-20	1,488	5,368	16,423	14,644	274	2	38,199
Sep-20	1,435	5,068	11,327	16,652	266	0	34,748
Oct-20	1,475	5,179	11,803	16,695	253	4	35,409
Nov-20	1,455	5,112	12,043	16,445	265	2	35,322
Dec-20	1,399	4,925	12,020	15,927	284	1	34,556
Jan-21	1,414	4,808	12,227	15,565	279	3	34,296
Feb-21	1,393	4,786	12,592	15,270	283	1	34,325
Mar-21	1,429	4,826	12,979	15,104	272	1	34,611
Apr-21	1,449	4,746	13,428	14,742	254	0	34,619

April 2021 compared to April 2020 (without adjustments for late reporting)

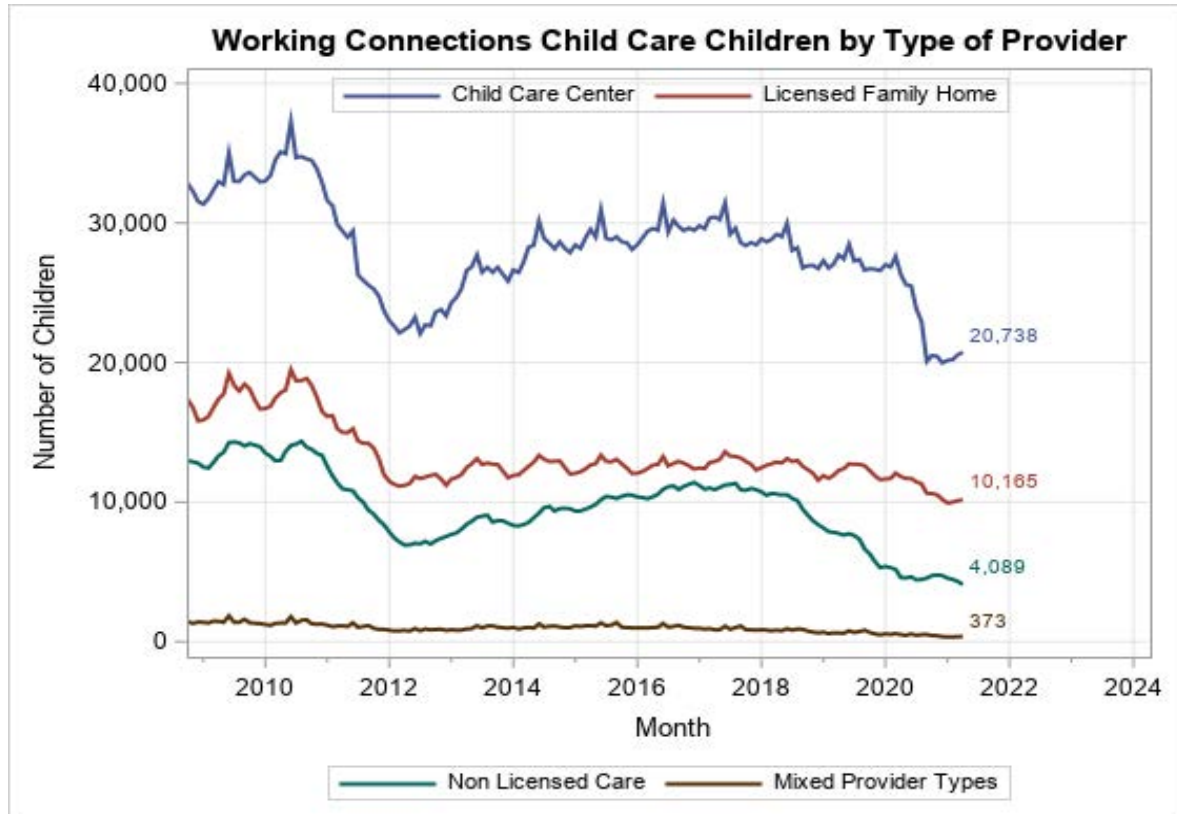
% Change	-22%	-23%	-22%	-12%	-6%	-100%	-18%
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Definition of Measure

The number of WCCC cases by age is measured by comparing children's birthdates with month of service as reported to DCYF. Some birthdates produce ages below zero or above 19 and are reported in the "Unknown Age" category. Children age 13 to 19 can be served under exceptional circumstances. Beginning in October 2018, children who reach the age of 13 are served until the end of their 12 month eligibility period. The labels for "Preschool 2.5 to 4" and "School Age 5 to 12" incorporate the school age definition: children who are 5 years old prior to September become school aged in September.

Source: WCCC cases from DCYF monthly extract.

Count 3d: WCCC Children by Type of Provider



Providers of WCCC Care

Working Connections Child Care uses three types of providers. Child care centers are licensed providers of child care and early learning services. Family homes are licensed providers of child care and early learning services for not more than 12 children. License-exempt providers also operate out of a home, but are exempt from licensing. They are often family, friends, and neighbors of the children receiving care and are also referred to as FFN providers. Some Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program providers also provide WCCC care. These are classified as centers in the WCCC payment system, though that may not be their category in the licensing system.

Experience to Date

Without lag adjustments, the number of WCCC children decreased by 18.0% between April 2020 and April 2021. License-exempt FFN providers and licensed family homes experienced the smallest changes, serving 11% and 14% fewer children than a year earlier. Child care centers served 21% fewer children. FFN caseloads had been dropping by 40% per year as recently as August 2020 but are now dropping at 11% per year. Training, background check and electronic attendance requirements for FFN providers that began in October 2018 were phased in by December 2019 and have put no further downward pressure on FFN caseloads. There was little change in the FFN child count between December 2019 and February 2020. Use of FFN care dropped again in April 2020, probably due to COVID-19 emergency impacts. FFN child counts had been declining more slowly than counts of children in the other two sectors between May 2020 and December 2020 but began to drop faster again in January 2021. The September 2020 drop in children at child care centers appears to be related to before and after school programs that did not restart at the beginning of the 2020-21 school year. See pages 65-67 for Barometer measures related to type of provider for TANF- related households.

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Count 3d: WCCC Children by Type of Provider

Month	Child Care Center	Licensed Family Home	License-Exempt	Mixed Types	Total Children
Sep-18	26,787	12,563	9,490	882	47,958
Oct-18	26,940	12,328	9,067	758	47,577
Nov-18	26,969	12,068	8,664	682	47,019
Dec-18	26,734	11,565	8,383	631	46,051
Jan-19	27,300	11,894	8,148	672	46,670
Feb-19	26,771	11,708	7,880	579	45,780
Mar-19	27,044	11,911	7,841	625	46,171
Apr-19	27,716	12,271	7,754	624	47,117
May-19	27,422	12,390	7,632	600	46,844
Jun-19	28,472	12,743	7,740	774	48,181
Jul-19	27,270	12,715	7,602	662	46,925
Aug-19	27,391	12,706	7,351	721	46,727
Sep-19	26,620	12,606	6,636	822	45,040
Oct-19	26,724	12,260	6,287	658	44,613
Nov-19	26,685	11,886	5,734	551	43,754
Dec-19	26,591	11,610	5,302	487	43,016
Jan-20	27,011	11,660	5,395	558	43,508
Feb-20	26,847	11,694	5,294	515	43,320
Mar-20	27,612	12,077	5,189	576	44,302
Apr-20	26,314	11,828	4,589	507	42,224
May-20	25,585	11,692	4,560	452	41,385
Jun-20	25,491	11,696	4,645	551	41,281
Jul-20	23,861	11,449	4,425	459	39,276
Aug-20	22,933	11,313	4,456	503	38,199
Sep-20	20,084	10,624	4,554	514	34,748
Oct-20	20,501	10,614	4,731	437	35,409
Nov-20	20,442	10,525	4,778	423	35,322
Dec-20	19,971	10,201	4,737	353	34,556
Jan-21	20,156	9,930	4,552	342	34,296
Feb-21	20,219	9,994	4,452	340	34,325
Mar-21	20,545	10,102	4,319	355	34,611
Apr-21	20,738	10,165	4,089	373	34,619

April 2021 compared to April 2020 (without adjustments for late reporting)

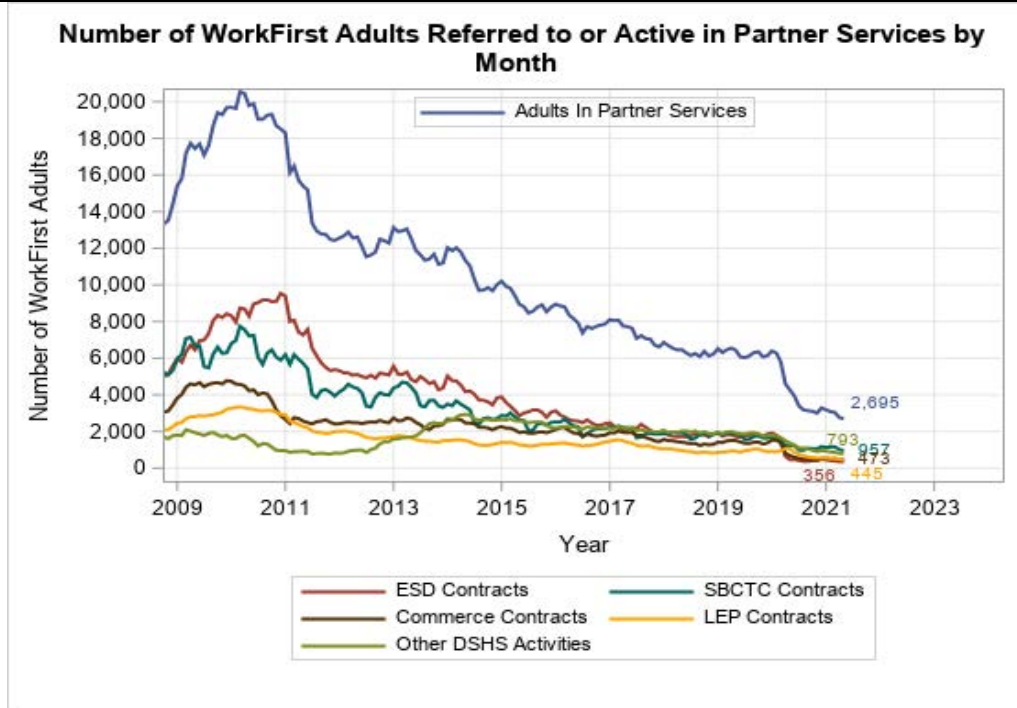
% Change	-21%	-14%	-11%	-26%	-18%
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Definition of Measure

Some children may be served by more than one type of provider during the same month. The mixed category includes children recorded as having been served by more than one type of provider. Such children are also included in the counts for each type of provider that served them. Data were collected on April 26, 2021. Child counts are based on payments made to providers. Payments to child care centers and licensed family homes for services between April and August 2020 were based on authorized amounts of care instead of attendance records. This COVID-19 emergency policy did not affect FFN child care. Some of the change seen in September 2020 could reflect the end of that policy. DCYF paid consumer copayments between April and June 2020 and again between October and December 2020.

Source: WCCC cases from DCYF monthly extract.

Count 5a: Enrollment by Partner Agency



Information Shown

WorkFirst adults receive services provided by partner agencies. Profiles of specific services are shown in the tables that follow. Some services are provided by several partners, so profiles by service type do not always provide a clear picture of the number of adults served by each partner. This indicator provides an unduplicated count of adults with open activities (referrals) served by five types of partner. The unduplicated count of adults served by any of the partners is lower than the sum of the partner counts.

Trends

The number of adults referred to or receiving partner services reached a peak in March 2010 and then declined as budget cuts and reduced participation requirements began to take effect. Forty-two percent of adults were served by partners during March-April 2010 -- 36% were served between February and June 2011, and only 31% during the suspension of work requirements in FY 2012. The percent served returned to 41% in December 2014, reached a high of 47% in May 2017, dropped to 43% in November 2017 and to 40% during the summer of 2018. That pattern repeated in 2019 with use rates reaching 43% in the spring, dropping back to 40% in the summer. The percent served rose to 42% in September-October 2019 and in January 2020. The percent served dropped to 18% in June 2020. It was 16% in July and December 2020 and 15% in all other months between August 2020 and March 2021. It dropped to 14% in April and May 2021.

The number of adults in referral status at Commerce contractors dropped by 30% between May 2020 and May 2021. The number of adults at SBCTC colleges dropped by 21%. The number of adults with open referrals to ESD job search dropped by 22%. The number of WorkFirst adults was only 11% lower at the end of that period, but many had exemptions from work participation (see pages 43-44). The number with open referrals to Limited English program contractors decreased by 59% compared with a 43% reduction in the number of LEP adults. Commerce counts shown here are higher than shown on pages 35-36 because they include adults who have not yet started approved work assignments.

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Count 5a: Enrollment by Partner Agency

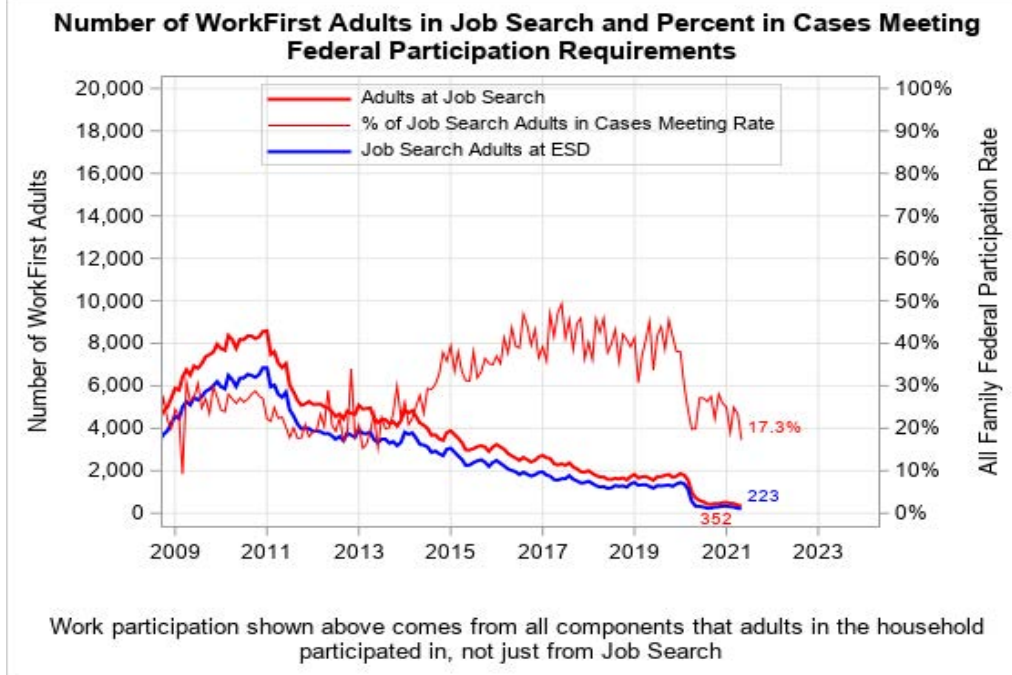
Month	Employment Security	SBCTC Colleges	Commerce Department	Limited English Contracts	Other DSHS Activities	Total Adults (No Dups)	Percent of Adults
Dec-18	1,864	1,837	1,292	820	1,867	6,218	41%
Jan-19	1,941	1,897	1,411	856	1,952	6,522	43%
Feb-19	1,736	1,831	1,395	868	1,881	6,307	41%
Mar-19	1,820	1,947	1,484	892	1,963	6,450	43%
Apr-19	1,828	1,880	1,506	929	1,999	6,552	44%
May-19	1,718	1,893	1,503	932	1,926	6,441	42%
Jun-19	1,690	1,815	1,425	859	1,876	6,079	41%
Jul-19	1,763	1,553	1,354	949	1,851	6,027	40%
Aug-19	1,798	1,581	1,350	981	1,921	6,120	41%
Sep-19	1,839	1,714	1,408	1,027	1,931	6,303	42%
Oct-19	1,807	1,759	1,426	1,037	1,879	6,348	42%
Nov-19	1,712	1,640	1,321	954	1,742	6,074	41%
Dec-19	1,862	1,638	1,369	896	1,777	6,132	41%
Jan-20	1,915	1,706	1,524	909	1,797	6,390	42%
Feb-20	1,788	1,688	1,527	891	1,755	6,272	41%
Mar-20	1,476	1,518	1,377	941	1,662	5,785	37%
Apr-20	647	1,232	806	1,056	1,493	4,607	24%
May-20	459	1,214	675	1,074	1,372	4,274	20%
Jun-20	466	1,241	588	848	1,251	3,933	18%
Jul-20	416	985	535	769	1,088	3,398	16%
Aug-20	371	972	488	658	1,100	3,177	15%
Sep-20	364	1,090	476	607	1,039	3,133	15%
Oct-20	406	1,061	472	578	976	3,100	15%
Nov-20	412	1,055	446	547	906	3,001	15%
Dec-20	492	1,173	501	551	956	3,285	16%
Jan-21	453	1,127	524	556	931	3,178	15%
Feb-21	407	1,155	507	516	884	3,078	15%
Mar-21	391	1,159	523	518	860	3,039	15%
Apr-21	349	1,007	483	492	800	2,756	14%
May-21	356	957	473	445	793	2,695	14%

May 2021 compared to May 2020 (without adjustments for late reporting)

	Employment Security	SBCTC Colleges	Commerce Department	Limited English Contracts	Other DSHS Activities	Total Adults (No Dups)	WorkFirst Adults
% Change	-22%	-21%	-30%	-59%	-42%	-37%	-11%

Counts in this table are based on contractor codes associated with referrals and services. They include enrollment in direct services, such as job search, vocational education, or GED preparation and also include referrals to services such as referral to community technical college (RA), job search (RI), or Limited English Pathway (LP). Most Employment Security services are provided without contractor codes. RI, JS and OT services have been counted as Employment Security services when they occur without a contractor code. Other DSHS activities include contracts made directly between DSHS and vendors, including colleges, transit agencies, non-profits and private-for-profit case management firms for specialized services such as barrier removal and support services. Some pilot projects for transportation, housing, and home visits previously included in the DSHS count have been removed. Adults must have an open TANF case and have Jas_Actv and Comp_Dtl records open during the month to be counted in this table. End dates are defined by the DSHS case manager and may differ from end dates identified by partner agencies.

Count 5b: Use of Job Search



Components Shown

Job search is one of the primary WorkFirst activities contributing to federal participation. Most job search (76% in FY 2016, 78% in FY 2019) is provided by the Employment Security Department. This dropped to 72% in FY 2020 when COVID-19 began to have a bigger impacts on ESD job search than on job search from other partners. Most of the remaining job search is provided by LEP contractors. The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 limited the amount of time that job search can count toward federal participation rates. For needy states, including Washington, this limit is 12 weeks in a 12-month period. The percent of all WorkFirst adults enrolled in job search activities is shown on the next page. Department of Commerce contractors began using the JS component in support of their paid work preparation programs in July 2011. Commerce programs are described on pages 35-36. Job search provided in the package of services associated with Commerce programs is not included in these counts.

Trends

Job search enrollments in May 2021 were 52% lower than in May 2020. ESD job search use decreased by 34% while LEP job search use decreased by 67%. The percent of WorkFirst adults in job search was 1.8% in May 2021 -- below its 3.4% level in May 2020 and the first time below 2.0%. Use rates had been as high as 16% as recently as 2015. Use of job search dropped after the expansion of infant exemptions under ESSB 5898 in October 2017 and dropped further during the COVID-19 emergency. Services are provided on-line for those willing to participate. Referrals to job search to cure sanctions are no longer necessary under COVID-19 emergency policies.

Refer Backs

Adults in the refer back (RB) component are shown in the last columns of the table. The count of adults referred back from job search in May 2021 was 15% lower than in May 2020. The RB component returns ESD job search adults to the DSHS case manager. It typically indicates participation in job search activities without finding a job. Success at job finding recently become more difficult for WorkFirst adults. See pages 55-57.

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Count 5b: Use of Job Search

Month	Number of Adults			Percent of Adults		Number in	Percent in
	Job Search Search (JS)	ESD Job Search	LEP Job Search	In Job Search	JS Meeting AF WPR	ESD Refer Back (RB)	ESD Refer Back (RB)
Jan-19	1,830	1,453	373	12.0%	41.3%	417	2.7%
Feb-19	1,656	1,314	335	10.9%	30.7%	329	2.2%
Mar-19	1,714	1,337	377	11.5%	36.9%	374	2.5%
Apr-19	1,731	1,347	379	11.5%	40.9%	367	2.4%
May-19	1,650	1,261	386	10.9%	45.2%	354	2.3%
Jun-19	1,554	1,183	369	10.4%	33.7%	306	2.1%
Jul-19	1,724	1,300	421	11.6%	41.7%	370	2.5%
Aug-19	1,723	1,288	429	11.4%	43.9%	384	2.5%
Sep-19	1,788	1,306	476	11.9%	38.6%	401	2.7%
Oct-19	1,827	1,328	496	12.1%	45.5%	367	2.4%
Nov-19	1,691	1,268	417	11.3%	41.6%	338	2.3%
Dec-19	1,744	1,379	364	11.6%	38.1%	379	2.5%
Jan-20	1,867	1,446	414	12.3%	38.0%	460	3.0%
Feb-20	1,793	1,384	405	11.8%	30.0%	395	2.6%
Mar-20	1,573	1,144	419	10.2%	24.4%	425	2.7%
Apr-20	982	561	415	5.1%	19.8%	251	1.3%
May-20	727	338	383	3.4%	19.9%	78	0.4%
Jun-20	598	321	275	2.8%	27.1%	74	0.3%
Jul-20	547	298	248	2.5%	27.1%	93	0.4%
Aug-20	438	239	198	2.0%	26.3%	51	0.2%
Sep-20	421	243	174	2.0%	27.5%	57	0.3%
Oct-20	459	291	164	2.2%	22.3%	73	0.4%
Nov-20	449	302	147	2.2%	28.1%	69	0.3%
Dec-20	499	334	163	2.4%	25.9%	95	0.4%
Jan-21	512	338	172	2.4%	25.0%	91	0.4%
Feb-21	468	308	158	2.2%	19.0%	106	0.5%
Mar-21	459	289	168	2.2%	24.9%	106	0.5%
Apr-21	383	232	147	2.0%	23.3%	65	0.3%
May-21	352	223	127	1.8%	17.3%	66	0.3%

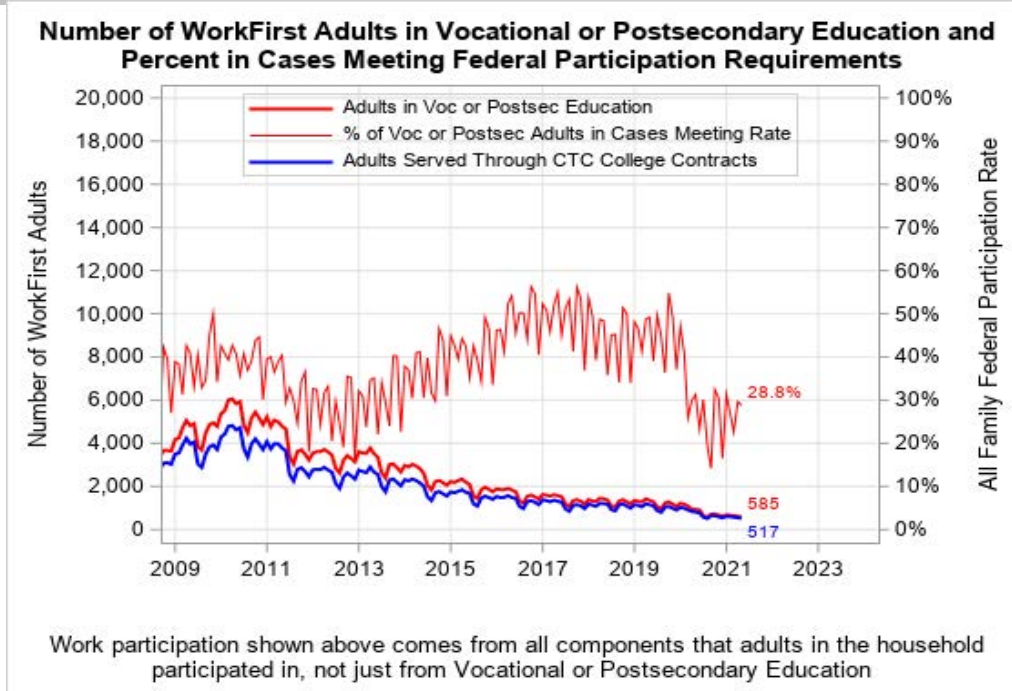
May 2021 compared to May 2020 (without adjustments for late reporting)

				WorkFirst Adults
% Change	-52%	-34%	-67%	-15%

The percent of job search participants meeting federal participation requirements rose from less than 15% in February 2013 to a high of 49% in June 2017. Participation in job search counts toward federal participation rates for only 12 weeks in every 12-month period. Rates shown through September 2020 include the full 12-week participation definition. Rates for October 2020 through May 2021 are lower because they count only six weeks in the previous 12-month period. This limit will be increased once DHHS certifies that Washington is eligible for the longer limit. Rates have been lower since March 2020 due to the interruption of services resulting from the COVID-19 emergency. The average work participation rate for the past 12 months was 25% -- 21% for ESD job search and 31% for LEP job search. Participation rates for job search enrollees include contributions from paid work and enrollment in other components. LEP programs typically add other activities that boost results. The preliminary work participation rate for job search enrollees was 17% in May 2021.

Source: ACES data warehouse, EMAPS Client file, JAS_Actv table, and JAS_Actual table, and monthly DSHS Work Participation Rate files.

Count 5c: Use of Vocational or Postsecondary Education including Part-Time College Courses



Components Shown

Vocational and postsecondary education is provided by Washington's Community and Technical College system, private career schools, and four-year colleges. CTC colleges provided 85% of these activities in FY 2020, up from 84% in FY 2018, 80% in FY 2016 and 77% in FY 2015. Full-time vocational education activities can count toward federal participation for up to 12 months in an adult's lifetime. Part-time education does not count toward this limit, but must be paired with non-educational activities. Enrollment counts by program and the percent of all WorkFirst adults enrolled in these activities are shown on page 34. Under federal rules, no more than 30% of a state's work participation rate can result from full-time vocational education activities. The codes included in this chart are VE (vocational education), PE (customized training), HW (high-wage high-demand training), DC (degree completion), and VU (unapproved vocational education). VU is allowed by DSHS but is called "unapproved" because it does not count towards federal work participation rates. JT identifies vocational education activity when provided at a CTC college.

Trends

Enrollment in vocational and postsecondary education dropped from 11% of WorkFirst adults in FY 2010 to just below 9% during the suspension of work requirements allowed in FY 2012. After suspensions ended, enrollment rose to 9% in FYs 2013 through 2017, dropping back to 8% in FYs 2018 and 2019. Some 3.1% of WorkFirst adults were enrolled in vocational or postsecondary components in May 2021, down from the 4.3% enrolled in May 2020. The number of WorkFirst adults enrolled in vocational and postsecondary components in May 2021 was 37% lower than in May 2020. The count of WorkFirst adults decreased by only 11% over that time, but fewer referrals are being made during the COVID-19 period. Use of unapproved vocational education has more than doubled over the past year, but from a very low base.

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Count 5c: Use of Vocational or Postsecondary Education including Part-Time College Courses

Month	Number of Adults			Unapproved Voc (VU)	Voc and Postsecondary		Percent of WorkFirst Adults All Schools
	Full Time College (VE)	Part Time College (JT)	Other Voc PE, HW, DC		SBCTC (No Dups)	All Schools (No Dups)	
Dec-18	704	409	85	6	994	1,189	7.9%
Jan-19	775	530	94	14	1,157	1,357	8.9%
Feb-19	729	510	82	12	1,121	1,307	8.6%
Mar-19	711	475	103	11	1,057	1,280	8.6%
Apr-19	801	550	114	10	1,195	1,419	9.4%
May-19	732	534	108	9	1,151	1,358	9.0%
Jun-19	695	536	102	11	1,100	1,290	8.7%
Jul-19	547	483	68	7	882	1,058	7.1%
Aug-19	475	433	68	6	803	963	6.4%
Sep-19	669	503	88	9	1,042	1,225	8.2%
Oct-19	692	517	96	14	1,076	1,285	8.5%
Nov-19	662	442	82	10	989	1,183	7.9%
Dec-19	611	395	69	8	905	1,071	7.1%
Jan-20	737	441	86	8	1,026	1,221	8.0%
Feb-20	690	421	75	10	991	1,172	7.7%
Mar-20	656	383	65	8	915	1,091	7.1%
Apr-20	579	355	35	3	835	943	4.9%
May-20	532	346	56	6	819	932	4.3%
Jun-20	517	351	82	4	776	912	4.3%
Jul-20	310	328	26	3	580	650	3.0%
Aug-20	271	281	19	2	515	569	2.6%
Sep-20	437	253	48	7	640	717	3.4%
Oct-20	419	262	56	7	643	728	3.5%
Nov-20	380	250	44	5	593	674	3.3%
Dec-20	359	224	40	6	544	623	2.9%
Jan-21	397	266	31	11	615	683	3.2%
Feb-21	360	272	26	10	601	663	3.1%
Mar-21	349	263	28	10	575	640	3.1%
Apr-21	367	235	27	11	551	620	3.2%
May-21	330	227	29	9	517	585	3.1%

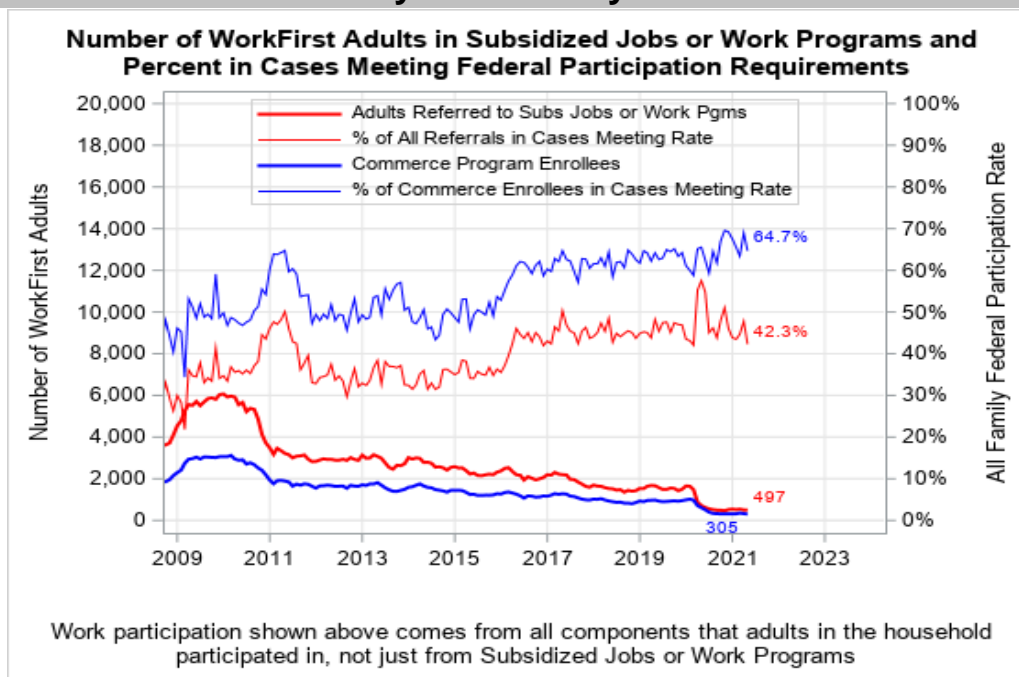
May 2021 compared to May 2020 (without adjustments for late reporting)

							WorkFirst Adults
% Change	-38%	-34%	-48%	50%	-37%	-37%	-11%

Participation rates vary, with high rates during months in the middle of academic quarters and lower rates when quarters begin and end. Federal participation in the most recent two months (April-May 2021) was 29% -- compared with 31% in April-May 2020. The average work participation rate for the most recent 12 months was 26% -- 27% for education provided by CTC colleges and 18% for other colleges. The state's extension of educational benefits to two years tends to reduce federal participation rates, which count education toward federal participation for only 12 months. The COVID-19 emergency is also reducing the potential to meet work hour requirements.

Source: ACES data warehouse, EMAPS Client file, JAS_Actv table, JAS_Actual table, and monthly DSHS Work Participation Rate files.

Count 5d: Use of Paid and Unpaid Work Programs and Voluntary Community Service



Components Shown

Community Jobs are subsidized jobs (paid work preparation activities) provided by Department of Commerce contractors. Commerce contractors also provide Community Works -- an unpaid work activity. The unpaid CW program was preceded by several other unpaid components which are consolidated into the unpaid column. The chart shows enrollment in these activities by month on the left scale and the percent of participants who met federal work participation requirements on the right. The red line shows adults referred for all paid or unpaid work preparation activities whether adults were working in an assignment or not. The red line includes activities provided by LEP, CTC, and other non-Commerce partners. The blue line and the Commerce data in the table on page 36 show adults enrolled in approved work assignments. The service end dates used to construct this measure are recorded by DSHS case managers.

Trends

Active enrollment in Commerce components rose from around 3% of WorkFirst adults in FY 2007 to 6% in FY 2010 and dropped back to 5% in FY 2011. Enrollment returned to 6.2% in January 2015 and was 6.7% in February 2020 but dropped to 1.5% from September 2020 through February 2021. It was 1.7% in March and April 2021, the highest since July 2020, but dropped back to 1.6% in May 2021. The count of adults working in Commerce program worksites in May 2021 was 50% lower than in May 2020. Paid Commerce work enrollments were also 50% lower in May 2021 than in May 2020. These counts include only those adults who have begun to work at worksites. Use of work study positions decreased by 67% from May 2020. Federal work participation in Commerce programs was 65% over the past 12 months among workers enrolled in approved work sites -- 67% for paid work programs (Community Jobs) and 7% for the unpaid work programs. The difference probably lies in work schedules for paid vs. unpaid programs.

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Count 5d: Use of Paid and Unpaid Work Programs and Voluntary Community Service

Month	Adults Actively Enrolled in Commerce Programs				Adults in Paid Work Study during Education	Adults in	
	Paid Work (CJ & JC)	Unpaid (XS WC, WE)	Total Adults (No Dups)	Percent of WorkFirst		Other Work Experience (XS, WE)	Voluntary Community Service (VS)
Nov-18	639	181	804	5.4%	261	62	20
Dec-18	671	195	857	5.7%	220	63	27
Jan-19	745	194	930	6.1%	252	69	22
Feb-19	742	171	901	5.9%	302	71	15
Mar-19	793	175	958	6.4%	278	88	24
Apr-19	797	180	967	6.4%	243	92	31
May-19	800	194	978	6.5%	263	99	26
Jun-19	769	167	927	6.2%	218	93	22
Jul-19	741	166	900	6.0%	222	103	10
Aug-19	750	174	911	6.0%	234	90	10
Sep-19	761	176	926	6.2%	249	82	21
Oct-19	768	179	941	6.2%	235	67	13
Nov-19	763	170	923	6.2%	236	66	12
Dec-19	780	179	951	6.3%	200	76	16
Jan-20	816	177	987	6.5%	239	75	21
Feb-20	853	177	1,018	6.7%	230	67	13
Mar-20	823	156	972	6.3%	162	50	18
Apr-20	661	53	711	3.7%	168	39	5
May-20	583	27	610	2.8%	150	27	2
Jun-20	498	17	515	2.4%	78	27	1
Jul-20	381	17	394	1.8%	94	20	2
Aug-20	326	17	340	1.6%	98	26	2
Sep-20	313	14	324	1.6%	84	14	3
Oct-20	308	10	318	1.5%	98	14	2
Nov-20	302	12	313	1.5%	80	18	1
Dec-20	297	15	312	1.5%	47	13	1
Jan-21	308	15	320	1.5%	52	16	1
Feb-21	307	15	321	1.5%	58	9	1
Mar-21	338	17	355	1.7%	50	15	2
Apr-21	314	15	327	1.7%	46	15	1
May-21	292	13	305	1.6%	49	17	1

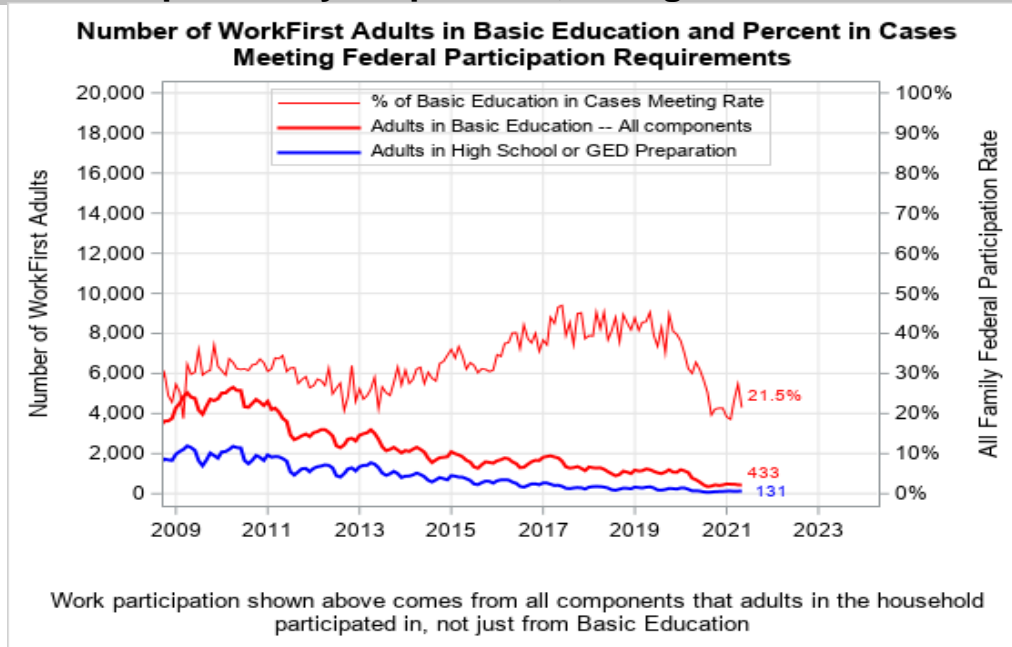
May 2021 compared to May 2020

				WorkFirst Adults	(without lag adjustments)		
% Change	-50%	-52%	-50%	-11%	-67%	-37%	-50%

Community Jobs are designed for to help overcome barriers to employment. The work study column counts the paid work study positions provided to WorkFirst students in educational programs. Most are associated with CTC programs of study and paid using WorkFirst funds. Unpaid work experience not provided by Commerce contractors is provided by LEP contractors (79%) and CTC colleges (21%). Voluntary Community Service (VS) is used by adults assisting with their children's early childhood education and is not a Commerce activity.

Source: ACES data warehouse, EMAPS Client file, JAS_Actv table, JAS_Actual table, and monthly DSHS Work Participation Rate files.

Count 5e: Use of Adult Basic Education, High School Equivalency Preparation, or High School



Components Shown

Basic education is provided by Community and Technical Colleges (CTC), Department of Commerce contractors, and Limited English Program (LEP) contractors. Codes reporting basic education include (HS) high school, (GE) high school equivalency preparation, (BE) basic education, (ES) full-time English as a second language training, and (JT) unless provided under a CTC college contract. JT provided under LEP contracts typically indicates part-time ESL.

Trends

Enrollment in basic education has varied over time, starting at 11% of WorkFirst adults in FYs 2008 through 2010. Enrollment averaged 7% in FYs 2012-2014 but rose to 9% in FY 2017. It dropped to 8% in FY 2018, 7% in FY 2019 and 6% in FY 2020. It was 2.3% in January through May 2021. Enrollment in the HS or equivalency subset of basic education activities dropped from 4% of WorkFirst adults in FY 2010 to 3% in FYs 2012-2017, to 2% in FYs 2018 and 2019 and to 1% in FY 2020. It was 0.6% in December 2020 through March 2021 and 0.7% in April and May 2021. The number of WorkFirst adults enrolled in basic education in May 2021 was 38% lower than in May 2020. There were 11% fewer adults in the HS or GE components in May 2021 than in May 2020. These decreases are associated with the COVID-19 emergency. However, May 2021 basic education enrollments were 14% higher than in September 2020. HS or GE enrollments were 58% higher than in September 2020. Enrollments are beginning to recover from the lowest levels experienced last year.

The percent of basic education enrollees meeting federal participation requirements has ranged from 18% to 47% since 2011, averaging 23% during the most recent 12 months. Federal work participation rates were 31% for basic education April-May 2020 and 24% in April-May 2021. The federal work participation rate among the HS or GE subset of enrollees was 20% in April-May 2020 and 16% in April-May 2021. COVID-19 conditions have made it harder to meet work hour requirements since March 2020.

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Count 5e: Use of Adult Basic Education, High School Equivalency Preparation, or High School

Month	Adults in Basic Education Provided by:			Total in (HS, GE, BE JT or ES)	Percent of Adults in Basic Ed	Total in High School or Equiv Prep (GE, HS)	Percent of WorkFirst Adults
	CTC College Contract	LEP Contract	Commerce Contract				
Nov-18	273	378	247	1,079	7.2%	272	1.8%
Dec-18	229	358	234	1,005	6.7%	249	1.7%
Jan-19	300	380	275	1,178	7.7%	328	2.2%
Feb-19	289	367	269	1,129	7.4%	305	2.0%
Mar-19	261	408	269	1,147	7.7%	287	1.9%
Apr-19	305	424	274	1,236	8.2%	325	2.2%
May-19	301	384	270	1,201	7.9%	343	2.3%
Jun-19	256	375	242	1,116	7.5%	290	1.9%
Jul-19	204	454	225	1,046	7.0%	187	1.3%
Aug-19	173	447	220	1,001	6.6%	177	1.2%
Sep-19	222	485	197	1,086	7.2%	212	1.4%
Oct-19	293	485	220	1,195	7.9%	267	1.8%
Nov-19	264	406	223	1,079	7.2%	254	1.7%
Dec-19	220	409	232	1,071	7.1%	234	1.6%
Jan-20	273	435	254	1,198	7.9%	287	1.9%
Feb-20	282	388	260	1,137	7.5%	285	1.9%
Mar-20	237	398	253	1,061	6.9%	225	1.5%
Apr-20	187	311	198	775	4.0%	142	0.7%
May-20	172	275	172	697	3.2%	148	0.7%
Jun-20	155	227	128	580	2.7%	130	0.6%
Jul-20	125	189	88	442	2.1%	92	0.4%
Aug-20	101	153	55	354	1.6%	73	0.3%
Sep-20	128	143	50	381	1.8%	83	0.4%
Oct-20	157	165	52	444	2.2%	106	0.5%
Nov-20	153	149	41	411	2.0%	110	0.5%
Dec-20	139	166	51	437	2.1%	117	0.6%
Jan-21	172	179	72	488	2.3%	128	0.6%
Feb-21	181	161	68	475	2.3%	131	0.6%
Mar-21	162	177	65	475	2.3%	124	0.6%
Apr-21	148	158	68	443	2.3%	128	0.7%
May-21	151	143	62	433	2.3%	131	0.7%

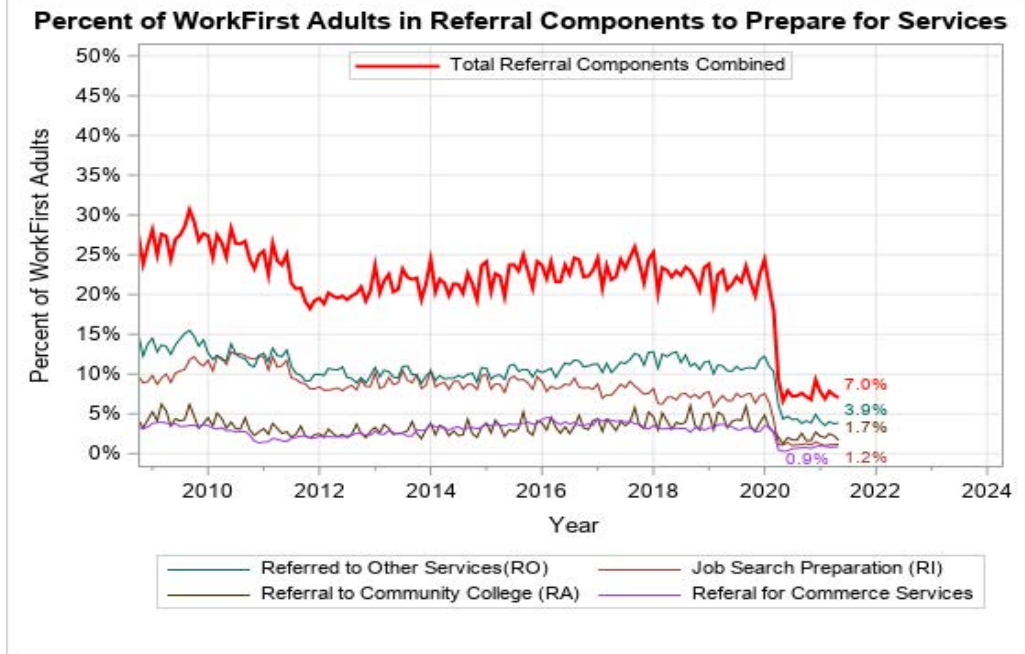
May 2021 compared to May 2020 (without adjustments for late reporting)

	WorkFirst Adults					
% Change	-12%	-48%	-64%	-38%	-11%	-11%

The HS or equivalency group is a subset of the larger basic education group. The job skills enhancement training (JT) component has been split between vocational or postsecondary education and basic education based on contract type. SBCTC cleaned up use of the HS and GE components, which tends to increase the use of the other basic education components. See Driver Measures 12 and 13 (pages 61-62) for information the number and percent of TANF adults who need basic education services and are receiving them. The percent of all adults receiving basic education services is shown on page 76.

Source: ACES data warehouse, EMAPS Client file, JAS_Actv table, JAS_Actual table, and monthly DSHS Work Participation Rate files.

Count 5f: Use of Referral Components



Components Shown

The components shown in this chart track referrals that prepare for services to be provided or to determine what to do next. ESD and community colleges use RI and RA referrals to prepare job search or college. RO is referral component used by DSHS case managers to assess or remove barriers. The total referral line in the chart counts adults in any of these categories and is unduplicated. Referral components are counted during the months including and between the start date and end date of the component. The Commerce services line shows adults referred to Commerce contractors from the component start date prior to the contractor actual start date.

Trends

The number of WorkFirst adults in referral status in May 2021 was 6% lower than the number in referral status in May 2020. The percent in referrals status dropped from a peak of 9.3% in December 2020 to 7.0% in May 2021. Referrals to providers of work related services increased from the low volumes of April and May 2020. Referrals to prepare for ESD job search decreased by 4% from May 2020 but referrals to prepare for a CTC program of study increased by 21% and referrals to Commerce activities (adults sent but not yet started in their activities) increased by 197% from May 2020. The drop in overall referrals came from a 21% drop in referrals to other services which probably stems from drop in use of infant exemptions (see pages 41-42). Referrals to other services include pregnancy to employment assessments for infant exemption users.

The number of adults in referral status dropped after June 2011 with the temporary suspension of work requirements under ESSB 5921 and with the creation of toddler exemptions in October 2017. The large drop in 2020 resulted from the COVID-19 emergency. Reengagement from COVID-19 exemptions will begin in September 2021. Commerce counts include rejected and no-show referrals. Rejected referrals take time and have also been included in ESD, community college, and total counts.

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Count 5f: Use of Referral Components

Month	Job Search Prep (RI)	Referral to CTC (RA)	Referral to Commerce Services	Referral to Tribal Svcs (RT)	Referral to Other Services (RO)	Total Referred (No Dups)	Percent of Adults
Nov-18	1,039	443	482	1	1,585	3,075	20.5%
Dec-18	1,141	747	444	1	1,729	3,527	23.4%
Jan-19	1,184	769	493	0	1,768	3,625	23.8%
Feb-19	894	459	503	0	1,526	2,906	19.1%
Mar-19	999	777	542	0	1,667	3,368	22.5%
Apr-19	1,095	728	556	0	1,658	3,466	23.1%
May-19	1,010	492	530	0	1,579	3,129	20.6%
Jun-19	989	597	503	2	1,541	3,163	21.3%
Jul-19	1,126	637	450	1	1,633	3,314	22.2%
Aug-19	1,068	629	453	1	1,581	3,251	21.6%
Sep-19	1,117	897	489	1	1,616	3,537	23.6%
Oct-19	1,140	513	487	1	1,630	3,249	21.5%
Nov-19	950	419	405	0	1,595	2,969	19.9%
Dec-19	1,088	580	421	0	1,770	3,386	22.6%
Jan-20	1,150	736	531	2	1,865	3,717	24.4%
Feb-20	969	481	516	3	1,659	3,169	20.9%
Mar-20	653	425	406	2	1,597	2,779	18.0%
Apr-20	213	397	87	1	1,172	1,774	9.2%
May-20	233	264	58	1	932	1,424	6.6%
Jun-20	295	431	71	1	1,001	1,690	7.9%
Jul-20	219	368	136	0	917	1,550	7.2%
Aug-20	238	369	144	0	944	1,575	7.3%
Sep-20	240	534	151	0	790	1,588	7.6%
Oct-20	256	335	152	0	846	1,472	7.2%
Nov-20	225	336	131	0	788	1,391	6.8%
Dec-20	313	571	188	0	1,040	1,965	9.3%
Jan-21	253	467	203	0	864	1,657	7.8%
Feb-21	213	420	187	0	742	1,451	6.9%
Mar-21	225	510	167	0	825	1,608	7.8%
Apr-21	222	438	157	0	732	1,439	7.3%
May-21	224	319	172	0	739	1,341	7.0%

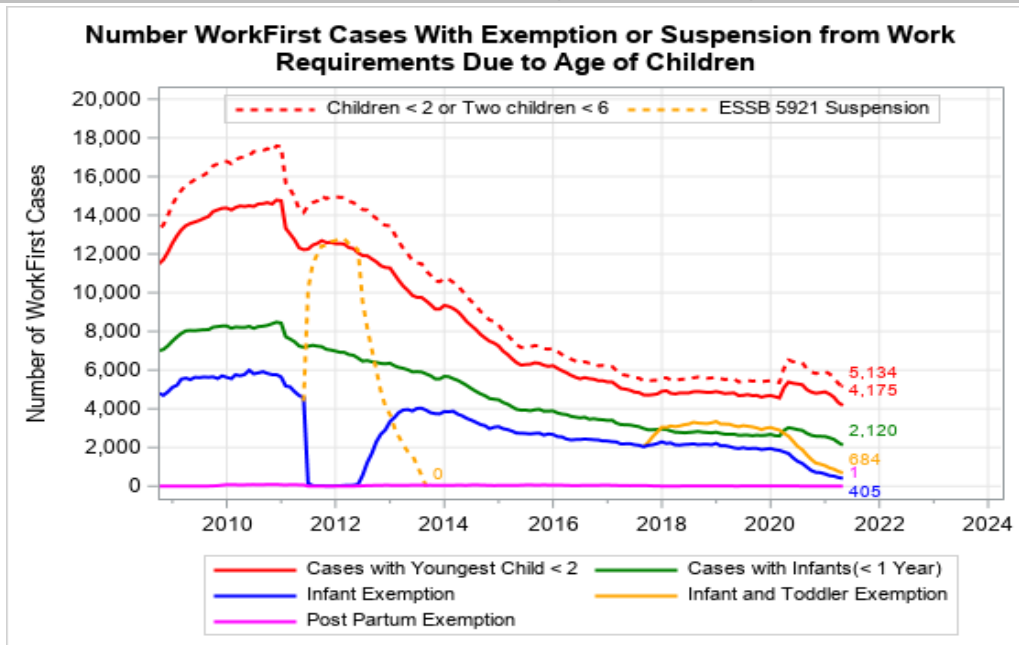
May 2021 compared to May 2020 (without adjustments for late reporting)

% Change	-4%	21%	197%	-100%	-21%	-6%	WorkFirst Adults -11%
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WorkFirst adults are not typically able to meet federal work participation rates during months in which they are in a referral component. Time in this status includes the time needed to make and return rejected referrals. The percentage of adults in referral status and the length of time spent in referral components between active assignments can reduce Washington's ability to meet federal work participation requirements. The RB component, for referral back from ESD job search, has been dropped from this measure at the suggestion of stakeholders. It can be found on page 32 with other measures related to job search.

Source: ACES data warehouse, EMAPS Client file, JAS_Actv table, and JAS_Actual table.

Count 5g: Use of Infant Exemption and Work Suspension Components based on the Age of Youngest Child



Components Shown

Some WorkFirst adults with young children can seek exemptions from work participation requirements. Beginning in July 2007, adults with children under the age of 1 could request a one-time 12-month infant exemption (IE). Since July 2008, adults who have exhausted their infant exemption may seek a 12-week post-partum exemption (PD). In FY 2012, parents with children under 2 or with two children under the age of 6 could seek a suspension of work requirements under ESSB 5921. Those suspensions were available during FY 2012 and were phased out in FY 2013. Infant exemptions were extended again in October 2017, this time to parents with a child under the age of 2 for a lifetime limit of 24 months, by ESSB 5898.

The solid red line shows households potentially eligible for exemptions under ESSB 5898. The green line shows cases with infants. The blue and magenta lines show cases with infants using the infant exemption (IE) and post-partum exemption (PD). The IE code will continue to track exemption households whose youngest child is less than 12 months old. A toddler exemption code (TE) has been added for exemption households whose youngest child is 1 year old but less than 2 years old. The solid yellow line shows the total users of IE and TE combined (and unduplicated). Of 344 households using the expanded infant exemption or toddler exemption in May 2021, 292 were using it for one-year olds and 52 were using it to spend additional time with infants beyond the 12 months allowed under previous policy. Use of infant and toddler exemptions began to decline in April 2020 due to impacts of the COVID-19 emergency. The percent of households with infants using IE has dropped from almost 80% to 19%. The percent of households with toddlers using TE has dropped from 60% to 14%. Parents with young children can qualify for COVID-19 exemptions without having to use up infant or toddler exemption eligibility, so this drop in use makes sense as long as the COVID-19 exemptions continue. Use is likely to increase again once COVID-19 exemptions end during the fall of 2021.

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Count 5g: Use of Infant Exemption and Work Suspension Components based on the Age of Youngest Child

Month	Cases with Youngest Child < 2 Years Old	Cases With Child < 1 Year Old	Cases Using		Total Cases IE or TE (No Dups)	Percent of Cases	
			Infant Exemption	Toddler Exemption		wi Infants Using IE	wi Toddlers Using TE
Mar-19	4,785	2,684	2,093	1,241	3,209	78.0%	59.1%
Apr-19	4,804	2,683	2,043	1,278	3,199	76.1%	60.3%
May-19	4,816	2,687	1,978	1,237	3,123	73.6%	58.1%
Jun-19	4,679	2,627	1,945	1,224	3,070	74.0%	59.6%
Jul-19	4,693	2,636	1,987	1,242	3,129	75.4%	60.4%
Aug-19	4,733	2,638	1,940	1,236	3,096	73.5%	59.0%
Sep-19	4,679	2,610	1,953	1,208	3,063	74.8%	58.4%
Oct-19	4,689	2,633	1,950	1,145	3,010	74.1%	55.7%
Nov-19	4,601	2,617	1,893	1,119	2,923	72.3%	56.4%
Dec-19	4,658	2,634	1,920	1,180	2,998	72.9%	58.3%
Jan-20	4,686	2,674	1,947	1,194	3,036	72.8%	59.3%
Feb-20	4,622	2,609	1,881	1,160	2,956	72.1%	57.6%
Mar-20	4,557	2,594	1,850	1,125	2,900	71.3%	57.3%
Apr-20	5,101	2,884	1,767	1,028	2,723	61.3%	46.4%
May-20	5,385	3,023	1,686	980	2,581	55.8%	41.5%
Jun-20	5,317	2,978	1,460	919	2,317	49.0%	39.3%
Jul-20	5,282	2,921	1,285	828	2,052	44.0%	35.1%
Aug-20	5,244	2,884	1,175	777	1,886	40.7%	32.9%
Sep-20	4,988	2,729	986	678	1,613	36.1%	30.0%
Oct-20	4,863	2,628	809	604	1,382	30.8%	27.0%
Nov-20	4,799	2,583	712	513	1,190	27.6%	23.1%
Dec-20	4,832	2,575	699	480	1,140	27.1%	21.3%
Jan-21	4,873	2,568	630	459	1,062	24.5%	19.9%
Feb-21	4,758	2,496	542	421	940	21.7%	18.6%
Mar-21	4,603	2,421	519	386	882	21.4%	17.7%
Apr-21	4,316	2,252	447	338	760	19.8%	16.4%
May-21	4,175	2,120	405	292	684	19.1%	14.2%

May 2021 compared to May 2020 (without adjustments for late reporting)

% Change	-22%	-30%	-76%	-70%	-73%
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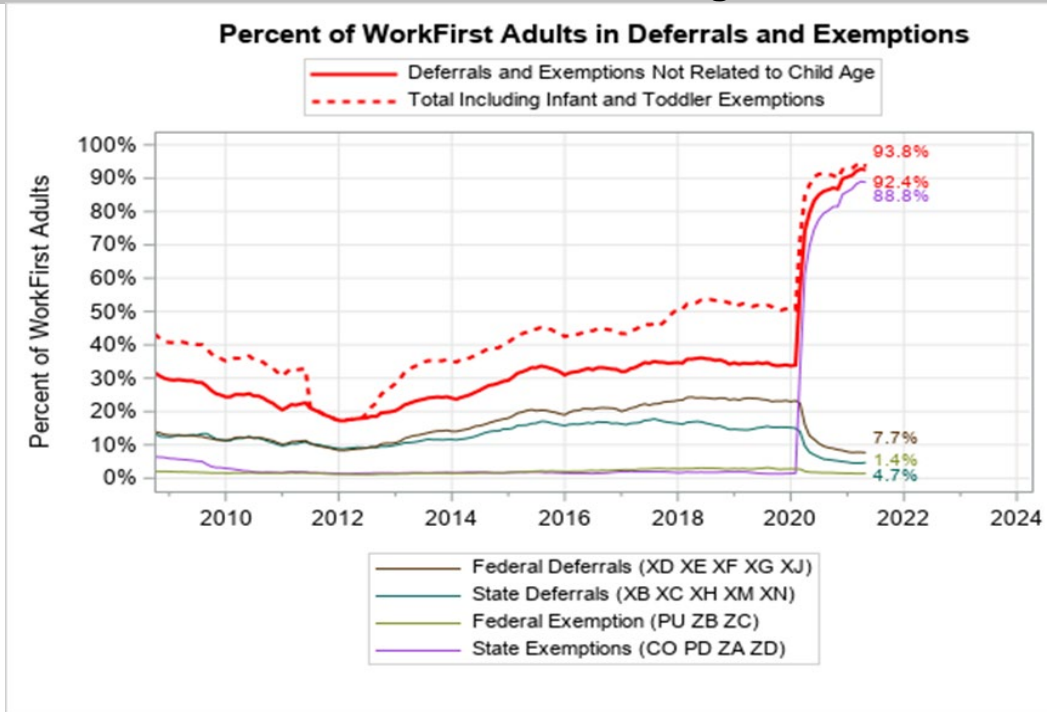
Parents whose youngest child is under two years old are potentially eligible for the infant exemption or toddler exemption under ESSB 5898 to a lifetime limit of 24 months.

One parent households with children less than 12 months old are exempt from federal work participation requirements for up to 12 months. Most single parents using IE (for infants) qualify for this federal exemption. Two-parent households with infants do not qualify for exemption from federal work participation requirements. Beginning in February 2016, two-parent households using infant exemption have been removed from work participation rates unless they are meeting participation requirements. They are funded using state funds only. Households exercising a toddler exemption do not qualify for exemption from federal work participation requirements.

Counts shown here are different from those on pages 15-16, which count adults instead of cases.

Source: ACES data warehouse, JAS_ACTV table, and DSHS 5921 Suspension Reports.

Count 5h: Use of Deferral and Exemption Components Not Related to Child Age



Components Shown

The solid red line in this chart shows the percent of WorkFirst adults exempted or deferred from full-time participation for reasons other than the age of their children (33.9% in February 2020, 79.6% in May 2020, and 92.4% in May 2021). The increase is due to the introduction of COVID-19 exemptions in March 2020. The dashed red line at the top adds the adults using infant or toddler exemptions to the total.

Activities labeled Federal Deferrals (e.g., Mental Health or Substance Abuse/Alcohol treatment) may be counted toward federal participation and count against federal job search time-limits. Activities labeled State Deferrals (e.g., Temporary Physical Incapacity/Medical Treatment or Resolution of Homelessness) do not count toward federal participation. Deferrals are meant to be short-term in length and paired with other activities when possible.

Exemptions identify longer-term waivers of participation for activities such as pursuit of SSI benefits or being a caretaker relative over the age of 55. Parents in federal exemptions are removed from participation rate calculations. State exemptions do not exclude adults from federal participation requirements.

Trends

The number of adults with deferrals or exemptions not related to the age of their children was 3% higher in May 2021 than in May 2020. The percent of adults with deferrals or exemptions declined between 2009 and early 2012. The percent of adults with deferrals and exemptions peaked at 36% in June 2018 and had declined from that level. Some of that growth appears to have been related to increased need for mental health and substance abuse treatment services (see pages 72-73). Some 16,888 adults were using or had used COVID-19 exemptions in May 2021-- 88% of all adults. Use of non-age related deferrals and exemptions has begun to drop as a result. Adults will be assessed for reengagement from COVID exemptions between September and November 2021 and use of the other deferral and exemption codes should increase as a result.

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Count 5h: Use of Deferral and Exemption Components Not Related to Child Age

Adult Counts in the Largest Categories

Month	Mental Health Services (XG)	Pursuing Other Benefits (XB)	Family Violence Intervention (XF)	Temporary Medical (XM)	Alcohol & Substance Abuse (XE)	Resolution of Homelessness (XH)	COVID-19 (CO)	Total in Chart (No Dups)	Percent of WorkFirst Adults
Jan-19	2,222	1,210	1,119	999	926	165	0	5,269	34.6%
Feb-19	2,217	1,208	1,058	1,006	939	162	0	5,198	34.2%
Mar-19	2,215	1,199	1,061	979	948	176	0	5,160	34.5%
Apr-19	2,240	1,185	1,081	1,019	959	180	0	5,164	34.4%
May-19	2,247	1,189	1,071	1,046	972	186	0	5,209	34.4%
Jun-19	2,214	1,206	1,057	1,038	934	195	0	5,157	34.7%
Jul-19	2,177	1,188	1,071	1,030	937	206	0	5,116	34.3%
Aug-19	2,213	1,169	1,054	1,035	928	291	0	5,222	34.7%
Sep-19	2,108	1,151	1,052	991	897	313	0	5,108	34.0%
Oct-19	2,132	1,153	1,041	993	914	337	0	5,082	33.7%
Nov-19	2,133	1,150	1,011	1,013	897	317	0	5,053	33.8%
Dec-19	2,170	1,156	1,024	1,009	913	301	0	5,096	34.0%
Jan-20	2,167	1,158	1,036	1,019	929	323	0	5,130	33.7%
Feb-20	2,191	1,143	1,044	1,010	931	328	0	5,147	33.9%
Mar-20	2,158	1,138	1,048	971	901	297	4,827	8,777	56.7%
Apr-20	1,872	1,085	988	844	748	200	11,598	14,275	74.3%
May-20	1,608	1,054	916	739	625	124	14,793	17,080	79.6%
Jun-20	1,396	993	883	636	544	81	15,834	17,799	83.3%
Jul-20	1,213	937	810	539	494	65	16,567	18,275	85.0%
Aug-20	1,118	879	773	491	449	50	17,117	18,672	86.1%
Sep-20	1,005	835	727	461	414	49	16,669	18,068	86.5%
Oct-20	956	798	706	421	388	47	16,653	17,904	87.1%
Nov-20	927	767	661	398	370	44	16,633	17,788	86.8%
Dec-20	925	765	689	384	356	49	17,962	19,038	89.9%
Jan-21	885	763	672	351	322	50	18,260	19,275	90.3%
Feb-21	840	724	639	331	320	39	18,210	19,137	90.9%
Mar-21	814	702	634	312	319	29	18,068	18,925	92.2%
Apr-21	771	672	602	304	301	29	17,393	18,186	92.8%
May-21	751	672	575	299	274	35	16,888	17,648	92.4%

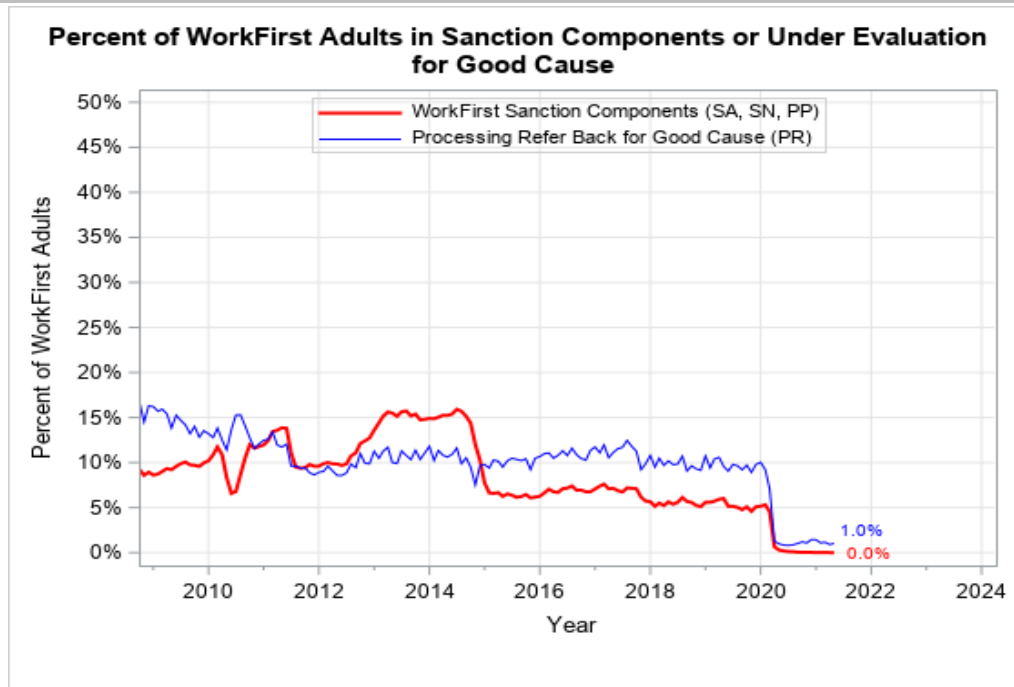
May 2021 compared to May 2020 (without adjustments for late reporting)

	XG	XB	XF	XM	XE	XH	CO	Total	WorkFirst Adults
% Change	-53%	-36%	-37%	-60%	-56%	-72%	14%	3%	-11%

Use of the Pursuing Other Benefits (XB) component decreased by 36% between May 2020 and May 2021. Use of Family Violence Intervention (XF) component decreased by 37%. Use of the Mental Health Treatment (XG) component decreased by 53% and use of the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment (XE) component decreased by 56% between May 2020 and May 2021. Use of the Temporary Medical (XM) component decreased by 60%. Use of the Resolution of Homelessness (XH) component decreased by 72%. The unduplicated count of those deferred or exempted in May 2021 was 17,648 -- rising to 17,914 if infant exemptions (IE) and toddler exemptions (TE) are included. Some 3.6% of adults used infant or toddler exemptions, down from 12.0% in May 2020; 1.4% of adults used an infant or toddler exemption and did not use any of the other exemption or deferral codes. None of these codes are needed to defer work participation requirements as long as COVID-19 policies are in effect.

Source: ACES data warehouse, EMAPS Client file, JAS_Actv table, and JAS_Actual table.

Count 5i: Use of Sanction and Processing Good Cause Components



Components Shown

This chart shows the percent of adults in sanction components. Prior to COVID-19, adults who were required to but did not participate in WorkFirst activities or required treatment without good cause were subject to a reduction in grant. Adults could cure their sanction by resuming participation. Continued non-participation resulted in grant termination. DSHS produces separate reports on adults whose grants are reduced by sanction. Those counts were smaller, because grant reduction did not begin until the first full month after sanctions were applied.

Trends

None of the 19,093 WorkFirst adults in May 2021 was flagged with the sanction component. Sanction rates can vary by age of youngest child depending on work requirements. Sanction rates for parents with infants dropped from 8% in June 2011 to 6% between August 2011 and June 2012 under ESSB 5921 suspension of work requirements. They rose to 10% in September 2014 but dropped to 4% by January 2018 after the extension of infant exemptions to 24 months. They were 4% in February 2020. Sanction rates for parents whose youngest children were 1-year olds dropped from 18% in June 2011 to 3% between August 2011 and June 2012 under suspensions. Sanctions rates for this group rebounded to 15% in September 2014 but dropped back to 3% after the expansion of toddler exemptions. They were 3% in February 2020. The sanction rate for parents with youngest child age 2 through 5 was 17% in June 2011, 18% in September 2014, and was never below 13% in between. That rate was 7% in February 2020. Households whose youngest child was school-aged had a sanction rate of 14% in September 2014 and 6% in February 2020. Sanction rates were zero for each group in May 2021 due to COVID-19 emergency policies.

WorkFirst orientations were adopted in July 2014. Orientations explain work participation requirements prior to grant approval. Orientations are being conducted by telephone and explain current COVID-19 policies.

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Count 5i: Use of Sanction and Processing Good Cause Components

WorkFirst Adults in e-JAS Sanction Components

Month	Sanction Components	Good Cause Eval (PR)	Percent in Sanction	Percent in Eval (PR)
Dec-18	770	1,379	5.1%	9.1%
Jan-19	850	1,633	5.6%	10.7%
Feb-19	850	1,431	5.6%	9.4%
Mar-19	855	1,555	5.7%	10.4%
Apr-19	890	1,589	5.9%	10.6%
May-19	911	1,452	6.0%	9.6%
Jun-19	764	1,347	5.1%	9.1%
Jul-19	766	1,458	5.1%	9.8%
Aug-19	757	1,453	5.0%	9.6%
Sep-19	715	1,379	4.8%	9.2%
Oct-19	766	1,465	5.1%	9.7%
Nov-19	686	1,333	4.6%	8.9%
Dec-19	763	1,467	5.1%	9.8%
Jan-20	785	1,527	5.2%	10.0%
Feb-20	807	1,397	5.3%	9.2%
Mar-20	703	1,091	4.5%	7.1%
Apr-20	123	245	0.6%	1.3%
May-20	63	209	0.3%	1.0%
Jun-20	39	180	0.2%	0.8%
Jul-20	25	171	0.1%	0.8%
Aug-20	23	186	0.1%	0.9%
Sep-20	10	212	0.0%	1.0%
Oct-20	8	245	0.0%	1.2%
Nov-20	8	220	0.0%	1.1%
Dec-20	6	305	0.0%	1.4%
Jan-21	0	305	0.0%	1.4%
Feb-21	3	227	0.0%	1.1%
Mar-21	1	237	0.0%	1.2%
Apr-21	0	178	0.0%	0.9%
May-21	0	195	0.0%	1.0%

May 2021 compared to May 2020 (without adjustments for late reporting)

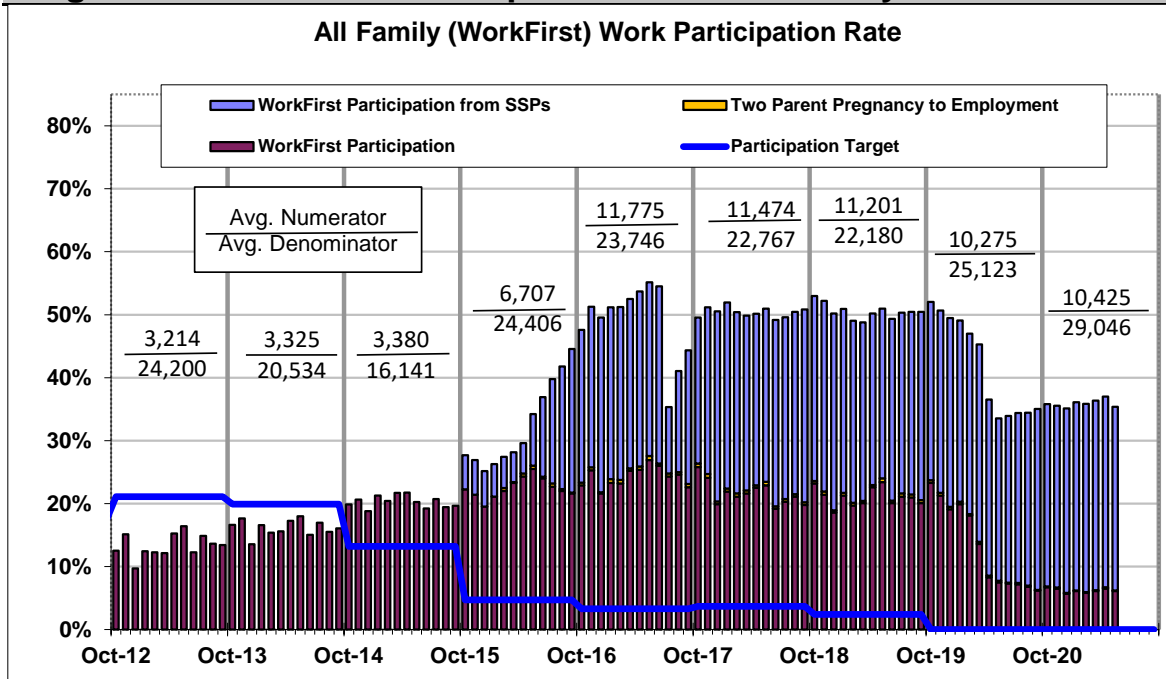
% Change -100% -7%

WorkFirst
Adults
-11%

Sanction activity dropped in 2010 and again at the end of 2014 because of revisions to sanction policy. Under the 2010 policy, adults remained in sanction status for 4 months before termination for non-compliance with program rules. Prior to July 2010, adults could remain in sanction status for up to 6 months before termination. The shorter length of sanction periods reduced the percent of the caseload with sanctions. SHB 2441, passed in March 2020, will increase the amount of time that parents can remain on TANF during sanction to 12 months. This will increase sanction counts and the percent of cases with sanctions once work participation requirements are reestablished. Sanction rates dropped to near zero in May 2020 and should stay there through September 2021 under COVID-19 emergency rules.

Source: ACES data warehouse, EMAPS Client file, JAS_Actv table, and JAS_Actual table.

Targeted Measure 1a: Participation Rate - All Family



Goal

Meet federal work participation requirements (WPR) in qualifying activities.

Targets

DSHS predicted that Federal Office of Family Assistance targets would be 3.6% for FY 2017, 4.2% for FY 2018 and 2.4% for FY 2019. OFA published final targets of 3.3% for FY 2017, 3.7% for FY 2018 and 3.2% for FY 2019. Forty-nine states met All Family WPR targets during FY 2019, the most recent year for which OFA has released results. Washington's All Family performance of 50.5% exceeded its federal target for FY 2019. Washington predicts that its All Family target will be 0.0% in FY 2020 and FY 2021.

Analysis

The All Family WPR rate for FY 2017 was 24.3%. Addition of two Supplemental State Programs increased FY 2017 results to 49.8%. All Family results for FY 2018 were 21.7%, increased to 50.4% by SSPs. Results for FY 2019 were 21.5%, increased to 50.5% by SSPs. Preliminary results for FY 2020 were 13.2% increased to 41.8% by SSPs. All Family results for the first eight months of FY 2021 were 6.2% increased to 35.9% by SSPs. An SSP is a state-funded program to benefit low income families with children. SSPs increase both the numerator and denominator of the WPR rate. Fifteen states operated SSPs during FY 2019. In 4 states: Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Oregon, SSPs made the difference between passing and failing All Family requirements. Twenty-five states had All Family targets of 0.0% in FY 2019 and only 5 of them offered SSPs. Washington began tracking and reporting work participation in the State Food Assistance program as an SSP in October 2015. Washington began a second SSP, the Family Support Program, in May 2016. FSP enrollments were interrupted in June 2017 due to budget delays. Data beyond May 2021 are not complete and are not shown. Participation rates use the 12-week job search definition through September 2020 and 6-week definition beginning in October 2020. Results for October 2020 through May 2021 should increase before they become final. Average monthly numerators and denominators for each fiscal year are shown as fractions.

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Targeted Measure 1a: Participation Rate - All Family

Data Table Components of Federal Work Participation Rates

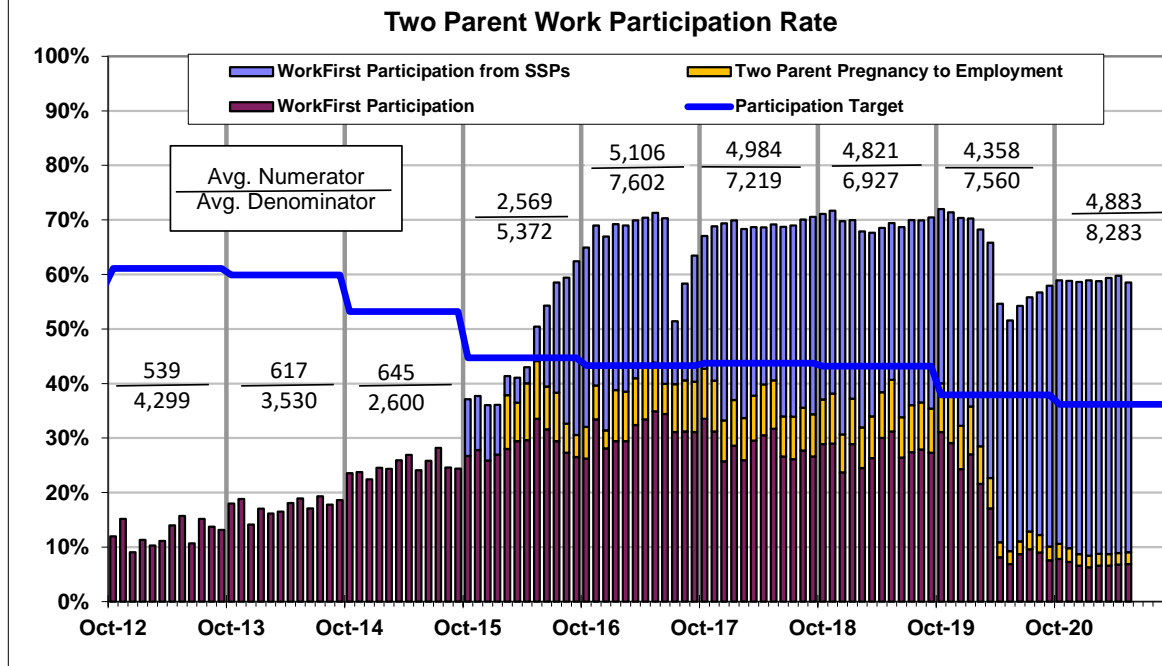
Month	All Family (WorkFirst) Work Participation Rates							
	All Family WPR Denominator	All Family Cases	Work Participation Category			Work Participation Rate		
			Hours Met Fed Rate	Supplemental State Pgms	Total	WorkFirst Only	Combined Total	All Family Target
Mar-19	21,649	12,912	2,192	8,374	10,566	20.1%	48.8%	2.4%
Apr-19	22,034	12,984	2,494	8,567	11,061	22.6%	50.2%	2.4%
May-19	22,084	13,045	2,618	8,640	11,258	23.4%	51.0%	2.4%
Jun-19	21,860	12,879	2,206	8,577	10,783	20.1%	49.3%	2.4%
Jul-19	21,857	12,887	2,321	8,682	11,003	21.1%	50.3%	2.4%
Aug-19	22,145	13,049	2,338	8,834	11,172	21.0%	50.4%	2.4%
Sep-19	22,070	12,972	2,231	8,905	11,136	20.1%	50.5%	2.4%
Oct-19	22,140	13,047	2,601	8,917	11,518	23.3%	52.0%	0.0%
Nov-19	21,967	13,013	2,379	8,748	11,127	21.3%	50.7%	0.0%
Dec-19	21,877	13,018	2,123	8,697	10,820	19.1%	49.5%	0.0%
Jan-20	21,970	13,133	2,238	8,550	10,788	19.9%	49.1%	0.0%
Feb-20	21,836	13,200	2,050	8,214	10,264	18.1%	47.0%	0.0%
Mar-20	22,818	13,276	1,566	8,767	10,333	13.6%	45.3%	0.0%
Apr-20	25,766	16,139	1,178	8,239	9,417	8.3%	36.5%	0.0%
May-20	27,591	18,114	1,208	8,045	9,253	7.5%	33.5%	0.0%
Jun-20	28,205	18,343	1,188	8,374	9,562	7.3%	33.9%	0.0%
Jul-20	28,894	18,552	1,204	8,729	9,933	7.2%	34.4%	0.0%
Aug-20	29,434	18,860	1,153	8,978	10,131	6.8%	34.4%	0.0%
Sep-20	28,975	18,208	1,005	9,143	10,148	6.2%	35.0%	0.0%
Oct-20	28,776	18,021	1,089	9,211	10,300	6.7%	35.8%	0.0%
Nov-20	28,589	17,981	1,065	9,095	10,160	6.5%	35.5%	0.0%
Dec-20	29,583	18,511	955	9,430	10,385	5.7%	35.1%	0.0%
Jan-21	30,269	18,622	1,029	9,903	10,932	6.1%	36.1%	0.0%
Feb-21	29,844	18,402	977	9,719	10,696	5.8%	35.8%	0.0%
Mar-21	29,425	17,973	1,002	9,691	10,693	6.1%	36.3%	0.0%
Apr-21	28,539	17,194	1,040	9,518	10,558	6.5%	37.0%	0.0%
May-21	27,340	16,806	943	8,733	9,676	6.1%	35.4%	0.0%

Definition of Measure

Numerator: Number of TANF and Supplemental State Program families that include a work-eligible parent who is participating for the required number of hours per week in federally defined work activities; divided by the **Denominator:** the number of TANF and SSP families that include a work-eligible parent, minus the number of families that are disregarded for being in their first three months of sanction (limited to 3 out of the last 12 months) or being single custodial parents caring for a child under age 1 (limited to 12 months in that parent's lifetime). The parent with the best participation is used to measure results for 2-parent households. For single parents with children under age six, the work requirement is 20 hours per week. For other parents the requirement is 30 hours per week. Work participation is measured during federal fiscal years, which run from October through September. Two-parent households with an infant or pregnancy are now state funded unless they meet WPR requirements. This removes them from the numerator and denominator beginning in February 2016. The impact on the All Family rate is very small.

Source: DSHS Work participation reports through June 2021, including TARDIS reports.

Targeted Measure 1b: Participation Rate - Two Parent



Goal

Meet federal work participation requirements (WPR) in qualifying activities.

Target

Washington predicted that Federal Office of Family Assistance targets would be 43.6% for FY 2017, 44.2% for FY 2018 and 42.4% for FY 2019. OFA published final targets of 43.3% for FY 2017, 43.7% for FY 2018 and 43.2% for FY 2019. Twenty-two states (out of 27) met 2-parent targets during FY 2019, the most recent year for which OFA has released results. The remaining states had no TANF families subject to 2-parent work requirements. Washington's 2-parent performance of 69.6% exceeded its federal target for FY 2019. Washington predicts that its 2-parent target will be 37.9% in FY 2020 and 36.2% in FY 2021.

Analysis

2-Parent results for FY 2017 were 39.1%, increased to 66.2% by Supplemental State Programs. 2-Parent results for FY 2018 were 36.9%, increased to 69.0% by SSPs. Results for FY 2019 were 35.8%, increased to 69.6% by SSPs. Preliminary 2-parent results for FY 2020 were 22.0%, increased to 62.4% by SSPs. Results for the first eight months of FY 2021 were 9.1%, increased to 58.9% by SSPs. SSPs increase both the numerator and denominator of the WPR rate. Seven states with 2-parent requirements operated SSPs in FY 2019. In 5 states: Maine, Massachusetts, Oregon, Vermont and Washington, SSPs made the difference between passing and failing 2-parent requirements. Washington began tracking and reporting work participation in the State Food Assistance program as an SSP in October 2015. Washington began a second SSP, the Family Support Program, in May 2016. FSP enrollments were interrupted in June 2017 due to budget delays. Washington also funds 2-parent households that include infants using state funds unless they are meeting work requirements. This increases the WPR rate by removing the households from the denominator of the measure. This impact is shown in yellow segments of the participation bars labeled 2-Parent Pregnancy to Employment. Data beyond May 2021 are not complete and are not shown. Participation rates use the 12-week job search definition through September 2020 and 6-week definition beginning in October 2020. Results for October 2020 through May 2021 should increase before they become final. Average numerators and denominators are shown as fractions, by fiscal year.

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Targeted Measure 1b: Participation Rate - Two Parent

Data Table Components of Federal Work Participation Rates

Two Parent Work Participation Rates

Month	Two Parent WPR Denominator	Two Parent Cases	Work Participation Category			Work Participation Rate		
			Hours Met Fed Rate	Supplemental State Pgms	Total	Two Parent Only	Combined Total	Two Parent Target
			Feb-19	6,853	1,619	380	4,273	4,653
Mar-19	6,798	1,619	406	4,192	4,598	33.9%	67.6%	43.2%
Apr-19	6,948	1,626	469	4,294	4,763	38.4%	68.6%	43.2%
May-19	6,960	1,640	493	4,340	4,833	40.6%	69.4%	43.2%
Jun-19	6,835	1,579	393	4,301	4,694	33.8%	68.7%	43.2%
Jul-19	6,815	1,595	422	4,345	4,767	36.0%	69.9%	43.2%
Aug-19	6,820	1,625	437	4,332	4,769	36.5%	69.9%	43.2%
Sep-19	6,803	1,614	426	4,366	4,792	35.4%	70.4%	43.2%
Oct-19	6,819	1,593	480	4,429	4,909	40.0%	72.0%	37.9%
Nov-19	6,668	1,562	440	4,320	4,760	38.0%	71.4%	37.9%
Dec-19	6,653	1,578	369	4,312	4,681	32.2%	70.4%	37.9%
Jan-20	6,676	1,623	425	4,265	4,690	35.8%	70.3%	37.9%
Feb-20	6,569	1,612	338	4,145	4,483	28.5%	68.2%	37.9%
Mar-20	7,151	1,747	294	4,413	4,707	22.7%	65.8%	37.9%
Apr-20	8,174	2,620	211	4,255	4,466	10.9%	54.6%	37.9%
May-20	8,475	2,998	205	4,166	4,371	9.3%	51.6%	37.9%
Jun-20	8,310	2,633	213	4,295	4,508	11.0%	54.2%	37.9%
Jul-20	8,416	2,543	242	4,455	4,697	12.9%	55.8%	37.9%
Aug-20	8,500	2,476	221	4,598	4,819	12.2%	56.7%	37.9%
Sep-20	8,311	2,260	167	4,646	4,813	10.1%	57.9%	37.9%
Oct-20	8,185	2,228	173	4,648	4,821	10.6%	58.9%	36.2%
Nov-20	8,086	2,226	162	4,594	4,756	9.8%	58.8%	36.2%
Dec-20	8,428	2,363	152	4,787	4,939	8.7%	58.6%	36.2%
Jan-21	8,740	2,402	150	4,999	5,149	8.4%	58.9%	36.2%
Feb-21	8,546	2,353	154	4,868	5,022	8.7%	58.8%	36.2%
Mar-21	8,466	2,279	148	4,876	5,024	8.7%	59.3%	36.2%
Apr-21	8,187	2,112	143	4,747	4,890	8.9%	59.7%	36.2%
May-21	7,629	2,032	140	4,324	4,464	9.0%	58.5%	36.2%

Definition of Measure

Numerator: Number of 2-parent families with two work-eligible parents who are participating an average of 35 hours per week (combined between the two parents) in federally defined work activities; divided by the **Denominator:** the number of TANF and SSP families that include two work-eligible parents, minus the number of families that are disregarded for being in their first 3 months of sanction (limited to 3 out of the last 12 months). The participation standard differs based on whether the family receives federal or state-funded child care. Washington uses state-funded child care for 2-parent families, decreasing the federal work participation requirement from 55 hours to 35 hours per week. Work participation is measured during federal fiscal years, which run from October through September. Two-parent households with an infant or pregnancy are now state-funded unless they meet WPR requirements. This removes them from both the numerator and denominator beginning in February 2016.

Source: DSHS Work participation reports through June 2021, including TARDIS reports.

Targeted Measure 2: Exits Due to Income, Earnings, or at Customer Request, for WorkFirst Cases



Goal and Target

Increase the percent of people who leave TANF due to increased income or at their request from 58% in March 2018 to 60% by June 2021. This is Economic Services Administration strategic plan metric E2.1.

Experience to Date

The percent of exits for income, earnings, or customer request among exits lasting three months or more dropped to 27.6% in January 2011 due to the large number of exits produced by changes to TANF time limits. Results recovered, but stabilized at lower levels after February 2011. Results improved when exits due to non-compliance sanctions and TANF time limits began to drop in 2018. Together, these reasons were associated with 18% of exits in 2018, down from 22% of exits in 2015, but up from 14% of exits in 2012 and 5% in 2010. Average results for January through March 2020 were 59.3%. Results increased further under COVID-19 policies. Exits for non-compliance sanctions were eliminated. Exits for employment, earnings and customer request were 94% higher in May 2020 than May 2019, 35% higher in June 2020 than in June 2019, 62% higher in August 2020 than August 2019 and 60% higher in March 2021 than March 2020. Increases in exits for other income are driving this increase. DSHS review indicates that exits to Unemployment Insurance are driving this result.

This monthly indicator measures progress toward quarterly results. The last quarter reported by ESA was Q3 2020, with results of 70.6%. This measure is listed in Results Washington as an archived measure under Goal 4: Healthy and Safe Communities/Supported People. The measure no longer appears among current Results Washington outcomes. This measure was revised in 2019 based on legislation. HB 1603 called for the separate tracking of exits due to increased income, employment, participant request and other reasons. See the breakout on page 52. This measure may be affected by changes in eligibility redeterminations and mid-certification reviews that began in November 2020. [Return to Contents](#)

Targeted Measure 2: Exits Due to Income, Earnings, or at Customer Request, for WorkFirst Cases

Exits by Reason and Percent of Exits for Income, Earnings or Request

Month	Earned Income	Other Income	Customer Request	Combined Income & Customer Request		Exits for Other Reasons	Total Exits
				Number	Percent		
Nov-18	506	110	191	807	56.7%	616	1,423
Dec-18	419	102	198	719	54.5%	601	1,320
Jan-19	330	88	206	624	54.9%	512	1,136
Feb-19	415	111	264	790	55.2%	642	1,432
Mar-19	446	114	255	815	56.2%	635	1,450
Apr-19	455	107	279	841	61.3%	531	1,372
May-19	549	120	242	911	57.3%	678	1,589
Jun-19	506	102	245	853	58.2%	612	1,465
Jul-19	491	104	248	843	58.2%	606	1,449
Aug-19	582	120	242	944	57.7%	693	1,636
Sep-19	490	96	258	844	59.7%	569	1,413
Oct-19	528	118	294	940	61.6%	586	1,526
Nov-19	519	96	226	841	60.9%	540	1,381
Dec-19	462	110	247	819	59.5%	558	1,377
Jan-20	377	104	218	699	57.4%	519	1,218
Feb-20	424	123	244	791	58.7%	556	1,347
Mar-20	344	108	201	653	62.4%	393	1,046
Apr-20	166	170	97	433	70.1%	185	618
May-20	285	1,315	172	1,772	84.9%	315	2,087
Jun-20	316	625	214	1,155	74.1%	404	1,558
Jul-20	366	587	150	1,103	75.1%	366	1,469
Aug-20	502	851	174	1,527	72.0%	595	2,122
Sep-20	386	576	181	1,143	65.2%	611	1,754
Oct-20	395	459	158	1,012	62.2%	614	1,626
Nov-20	271	294	126	691	64.1%	387	1,078
Dec-20	365	317	144	826	66.7%	412	1,238
Jan-21	336	378	158	872	62.8%	517	1,389
Feb-21	299	446	163	908	66.3%	462	1,370
Mar-21	351	498	196	1,045	69.0%	470	1,515

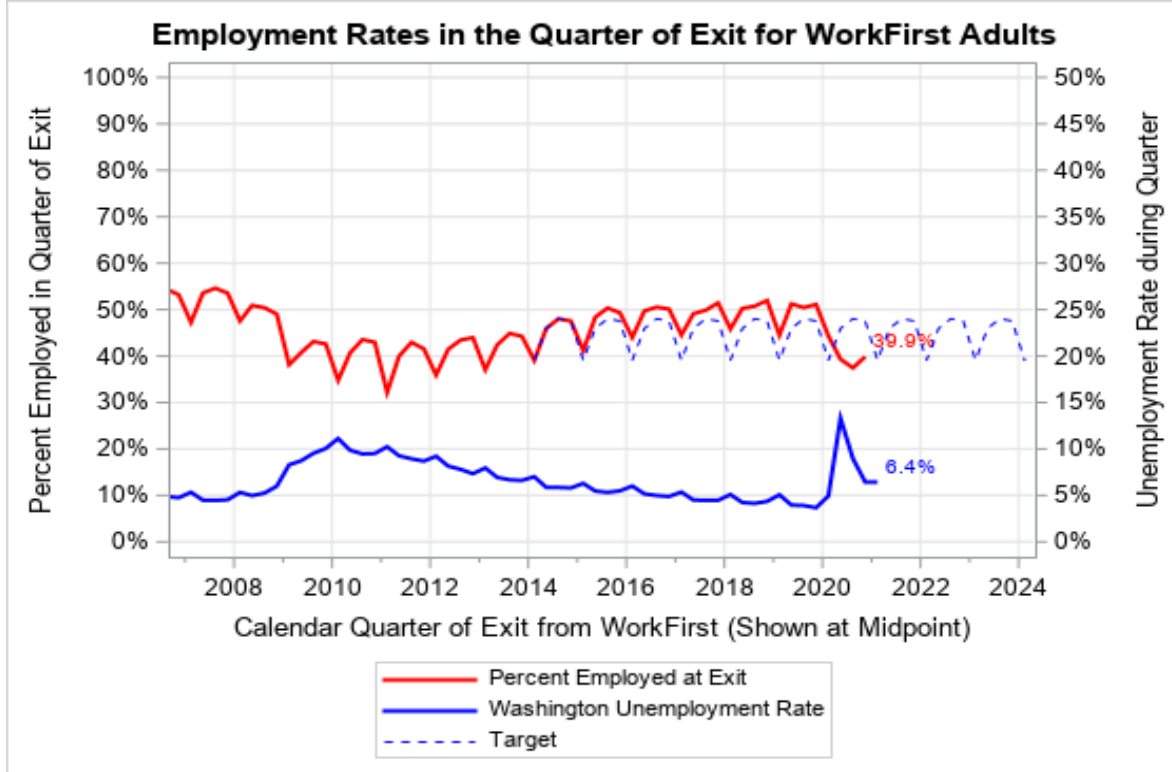
March 2021, compared to March 2020

% Change 2% #NAME? -2% 60% 20% 45%

The numerator includes WorkFirst closures lasting 3 months or more for selected reasons. Closures for earned income are based on exceeded earned income limit (reason code 334). Other income includes: child support more than grant (324), excess net income (331), and change in child support payments (507). Customer request is based on assistance unit requests closure (557). The denominator includes all WorkFirst closures lasting three months or more. Common reasons in the other category include: non-compliance sanction process, no eligible household members, failed to provide verification, 6-month report not returned, head of household not eligible, review not complete, no dependent child, and exceeds adult TANF time limits. This measure is similar to a former WorkFirst GMAP Measure: Self-Sufficiency Exits.

Source: DSHS performance reports and EMAPs reports on TANF Terminations.

Targeted Measure 3: Exit to Employment



Goal

Increase the percentage of adults who leave WorkFirst with employment.

Target

The target is for employment results to meet or exceed results in the same quarter of CY 2014.

Analysis

Results depend on a number of factors. Some of them, like economic conditions, are outside of WorkFirst program control. Results for Q4 2020 prepared by DSHS region show the highest exit with employment rate in Region 1 (Eastern Washington) at 42.4%, followed by Region 2 (Seattle and North Puget Sound) at 39.3% and Region 3 (Pierce County, the Olympic Peninsula, and Southwest Washington) at 38.6%. The rate in Seattle-King County was 41.3%.

The exit with employment rate for Q4 2020 was 39.9%, down from 51.1% in Q4 2019, a difference of 11.2 percentage points. Q4 2020 was the third quarter affected by the COVID-19 emergency, and the large drop in exit with employment reflects that impact. As seen in the exit for increased income measure (pages 51-52) households have continued to leave TANF due to income since COVID-19 impacts began, but not necessarily due to employment income. Washington's unemployment rate in Q4 2020 was 6.4%, 2.8 points higher than the 3.7% in Q4 2019. Region 2 had the lowest unemployment rate in Q4 2020 (6.2%) followed by Region 1 (6.5%) and Region 3 (6.8%). The exit with employment rate in Q3 2020 changed from 37.1% in the data reported through February 2021 to 37.5% in data reported through May 2021. The 13.1% decline in the exit with employment rate seen between Q3 2019 and Q3 2020 in the last reporting cycle changed to a decline of 13.0%. The 11.2% reduction in the exit with employment rate seen between Q4 2019 and Q4 2020 in this report could get smaller when the UI wage file due in August 2021 is processed.

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Targeted Measure 3: Exit to Employment

Data Table **Percent of WorkFirst Parents Employed at TANF Exit**

Calendar Quarter	Exits with Employment	Total Exits	Percent of Exits to Employment		Unemployment Rate	
			Target	Washington	United States	
Q4 2014	5,170	10,874	47.5%	47.5%	5.8%	5.5%
Q1 2015	4,152	10,081	41.2%	39.1%	6.3%	5.8%
Q2 2015	4,743	9,809	48.4%	45.9%	5.5%	5.3%
Q3 2015	4,479	8,895	50.4%	48.0%	5.3%	5.2%
Q4 2015	4,250	8,619	49.3%	47.5%	5.5%	4.8%
Q1 2016	3,639	8,268	44.0%	39.1%	6.0%	5.2%
Q2 2016	4,305	8,659	49.7%	45.9%	5.2%	4.8%
Q3 2016	4,474	8,854	50.5%	48.0%	5.0%	5.0%
Q4 2016	3,940	7,862	50.1%	47.5%	4.9%	4.5%
Q1 2017	3,306	7,424	44.5%	39.1%	5.4%	4.9%
Q2 2017	3,939	8,021	49.1%	45.9%	4.5%	4.2%
Q3 2017	3,874	7,768	49.9%	48.0%	4.5%	4.4%
Q4 2017	3,629	7,055	51.4%	47.5%	4.5%	3.9%
Q1 2018	2,939	6,412	45.8%	39.1%	5.1%	4.3%
Q2 2018	3,291	6,548	50.3%	45.9%	4.2%	3.8%
Q3 2018	3,289	6,481	50.7%	48.0%	4.1%	3.9%
Q4 2018	3,233	6,222	52.0%	47.5%	4.4%	3.6%
Q1 2019	2,586	5,809	44.5%	39.1%	5.1%	4.1%
Q2 2019	3,229	6,303	51.2%	45.9%	4.0%	3.5%
Q3 2019	3,277	6,497	50.4%	48.0%	3.9%	3.7%
Q4 2019	3,198	6,258	51.1%	47.5%	3.7%	3.3%
Q1 2020	2,634	5,943	44.3%	39.1%	4.9%	4.1%
Q2 2020	2,191	5,573	39.3%	45.9%	13.3%	12.9%
Q3 2020	2,646	7,065	37.5%	48.0%	9.0%	8.9%
Q4 2020	2,409	6,044	39.9%	47.5%	6.4%	6.5%
Q1 2021	.	.	.	39.1%	6.4%	6.5%

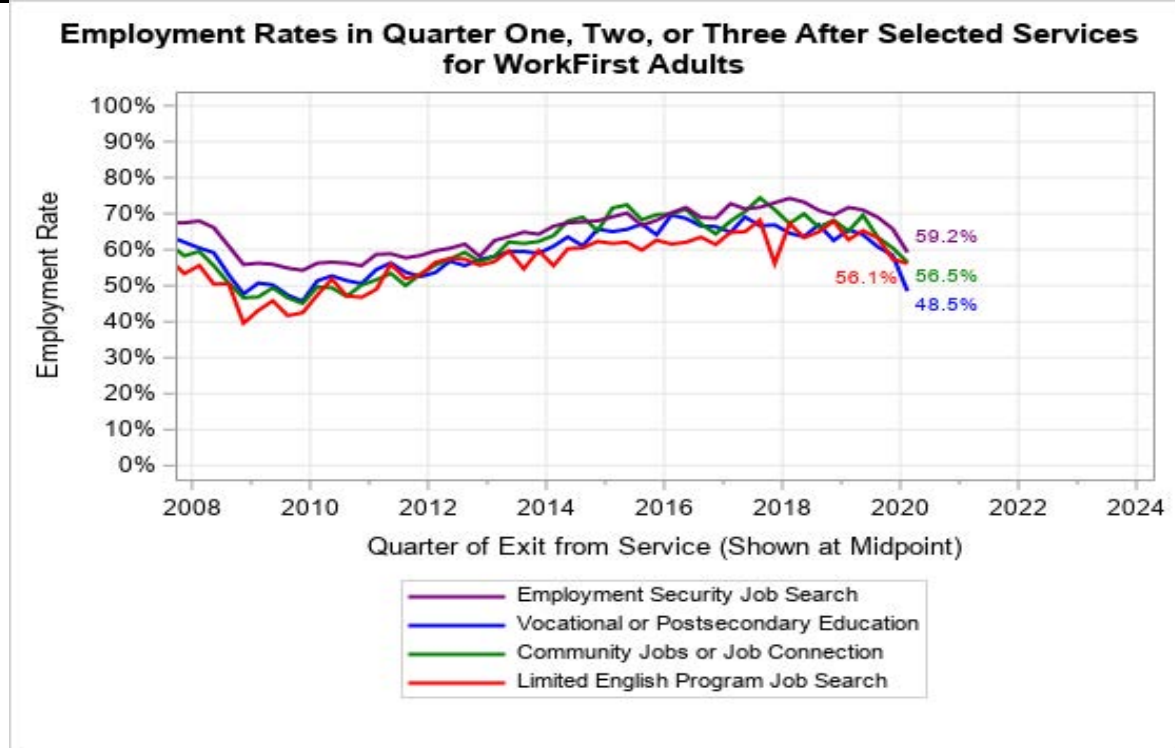
	Change in Exit with Employment Rate (Percentage Points)			Change in Unemployment Rate (Percentage Points)	
Q4 2020, compared with Q4 2019					
% Change	-25%	-3%	-11.2%	2.8%	3.2%

Definition of Measure

The numerator includes all WorkFirst adults exiting TANF in a calendar quarter who had employment reported to the Unemployment Insurance system during that quarter. The denominator is the number of adults exiting TANF during the quarter. Exits in this measure occur during months when adults have no TANF payments following a month in which they did have TANF payments. Results for the most recent quarter are typically subject to upwards revision in the next measurement cycle. Exits decreased by 3% between Q4 2019 and Q4 2020 as a result of reduced exit rates. Exits with employment dropped by 25% over the same period. Quarterly unemployment rates are created by dividing the sum of monthly unemployment counts during a quarter by the sum of monthly labor force counts in the same quarter. Washington unemployment rates are compared with national unemployment rates for reference.

Source: Afarrays file and UI wage file. Prepared by OFM Forecasting and Research staff. Unemployment rates are from Employment Security Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), not seasonally adjusted. Data were collected in May 2021.

Targeted Measures 4 to 7: Employment After Services



Goal

Increase the percent of WorkFirst parents who find employment after participating in job search (JS) at Employment Security or LEP programs, vocational or postsecondary education (VE, PE, HW, VU, DC) or JT if provided by Community of Technical College (CTC) contract, and the Community Jobs (CJ) or Job Connection (JC) programs run by the Department of Commerce.

Targets

These measures are calculated on a quarterly basis. Targets are for results to meet or exceed results in the same quarter of fiscal year 2014. Charts with targets and analysis are found on pages 57-60.

Analysis

Q1 2020 was the fourth quarter affected by the \$13.50 minimum wage and the third quarter affected by COVID-19 impacts. Employment after services has dropped during COVID-19. The number of exits from service in Q1 2020 was high relative to Q1 2019 because of interruptions caused by the pandemic. Services were probably incomplete at exit for many who left in Q1 2020, making employment less likely.

Definition of Measures

Employment is measured in quarter 1, 2, or 3 after exit from four programs: ESD job search (see pages 31-32); vocational and postsecondary education - all schools (see pages 33-34); paid work preparation -- Community Jobs or Job Connection (see pages 35-36); and LEP job search (page 32). An exit occurs when an adult has left the program and not returned to it for four consecutive months. Employment is measured using Unemployment Insurance wage records. Employment rates are higher than shown for exit to employment (pages 53-54) partly because this measure combines results from three calendar quarters instead of using just one quarter. Adults may be served by more than one program. Someone served by a college, followed by job search, would be in both measures, leaving at different dates based on the date of exit from each service.

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Targeted Measures 4 to 7: Employment After Services

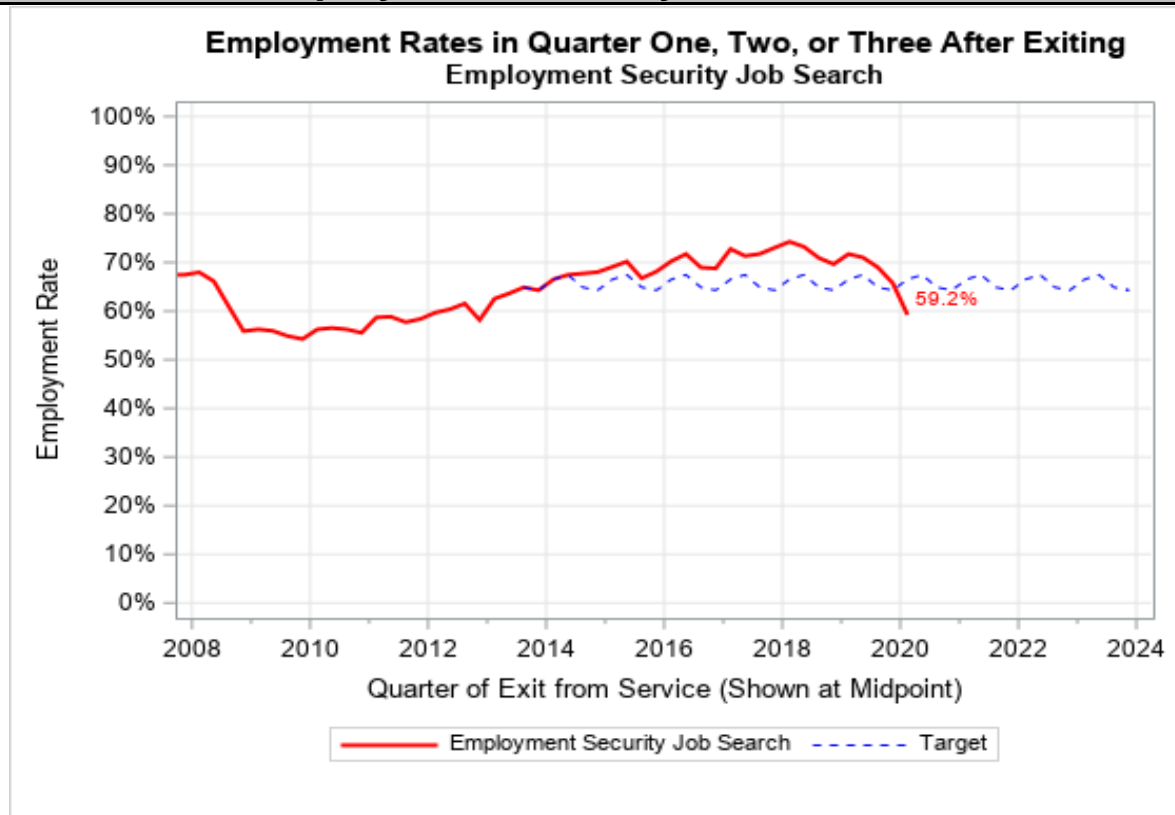
Employment in Quarters 1, 2, or 3 After Exit from Services

Calendar Quarter	Employment Security Job Search		FT or PT Voc and Postsecondary Ed		Community Jobs or Job Connection		Limited English Pgm Job Search	
	Exits	Rate	Exits	Rate	Exits	Rate	Exits	Rate
Q1 2014	3,892	66.5%	1,352	60.9%	928	63.9%	452	55.5%
Q2 2014	3,835	67.5%	1,687	63.5%	1,018	68.0%	546	60.3%
Q3 2014	3,411	67.7%	1,065	61.0%	872	69.0%	501	60.5%
Q4 2014	2,989	68.0%	1,029	65.7%	718	65.2%	366	62.3%
Q1 2015	3,184	69.1%	992	65.0%	714	71.6%	444	61.7%
Q2 2015	2,790	70.2%	1,315	65.6%	748	72.5%	467	62.1%
Q3 2015	2,791	66.8%	794	67.1%	590	68.3%	431	59.9%
Q4 2015	2,612	68.1%	942	64.1%	568	69.7%	380	62.6%
Q1 2016	2,721	70.3%	918	69.6%	657	69.9%	450	61.6%
Q2 2016	2,540	71.7%	1,127	68.7%	721	71.3%	461	62.0%
Q3 2016	2,364	69.0%	673	66.6%	555	67.2%	460	63.5%
Q4 2016	2,136	68.8%	783	66.4%	553	64.4%	399	61.4%
Q1 2017	2,225	72.8%	756	64.8%	577	67.9%	469	64.8%
Q2 2017	2,019	71.3%	909	69.1%	686	70.6%	511	65.0%
Q3 2017	2,096	71.8%	605	66.6%	625	74.4%	412	68.2%
Q4 2017	1,895	73.0%	622	66.9%	478	71.1%	381	56.2%
Q1 2018	1,744	74.3%	556	64.6%	571	67.3%	327	67.3%
Q2 2018	1,639	73.2%	731	63.6%	576	70.0%	349	63.3%
Q3 2018	1,620	70.9%	511	66.9%	494	66.2%	308	64.9%
Q4 2018	1,568	69.6%	566	62.5%	437	68.2%	268	67.9%
Q1 2019	1,560	71.7%	514	65.6%	459	65.1%	247	62.8%
Q2 2019	1,570	71.0%	725	64.1%	582	69.6%	288	65.3%
Q3 2019	1,632	69.0%	505	60.8%	481	63.4%	321	63.2%
Q4 2019	1,513	65.8%	577	58.4%	458	60.5%	359	57.4%
Q1 2020	1,867	59.2%	615	48.5%	494	56.5%	294	56.1%
Q1 2020, compared with Q1 2019	Change in Rate		Change in Rate		Change in Rate		Change in Rate	
% Change	20%	-12.5%	20%	-17.1%	8%	-8.7%	19%	-6.6%

Longer follow-up length makes these results roughly nine months older than employment at exit figures. Rates differ by program partly due to the characteristics of adults served. ESD job search is typically provided to adults with more work experience and fewer barriers to employment than adults served by other programs. Vocational and postsecondary education is generally provided to adults who have completed high school or its equivalent, though CTC colleges provide vocational education to some adults who are working on high school credentials through the I-Best program. Outcomes through 2012 were lowest for Community Jobs enrollees, who faced the greatest barriers, had lower education levels, and were more often working on adult basic education, high school equivalency, or basic skill development than adults in other programs. A Commerce program called Job Connection that began in July 2011 increased Commerce program performance. Job Connection was a 3-month paid work assignment used to build references and demonstrate work skills for adults with few barriers. The two programs were merged into one Community Jobs program serving both populations in July 2016. Data were collected in May 2021.

Source: ACES data warehouse, Afarrays file and UI wage file. Prepared by OFM Forecasting staff.

Targeted Measure 4: Employment after Employment Security Job Search



Targets

Targets are Quarter 3: 64.9%; Quarter 4: 64.3%; Quarter 1: 66.5%; and Quarter 2: 67.5% based on results from calendar Q3 and Q4 2013 and calendar Q1 and Q2 2014 (Fiscal Year 2014). COVID-19 affected results in all three quarters of follow-up for Q1 2020 and may have ended some services prematurely.

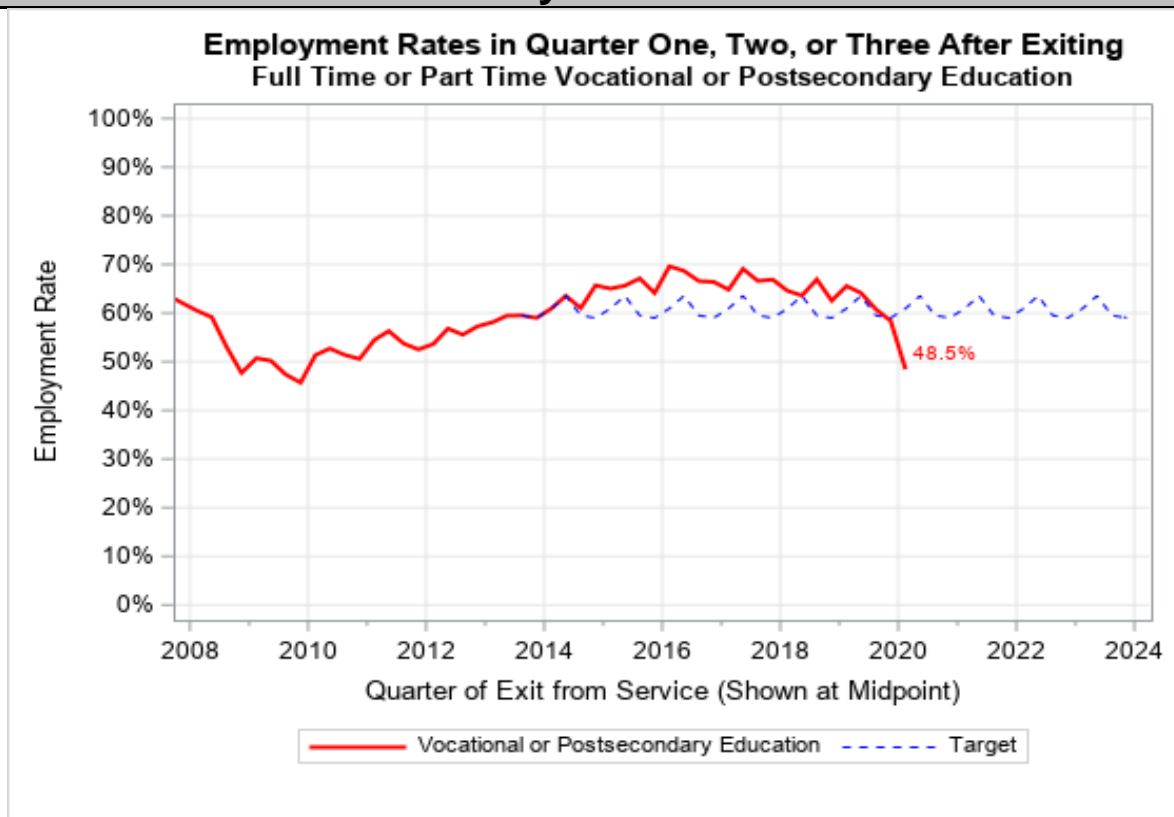
Analysis

Results depend on a number of factors, like economic conditions, the characteristics of the adults assigned to the program, and the combination of other services received by those who left the program. Results following ESD job search in Q1 2020 were highest in DSHS Region 1 (64.6%) followed by Region 2 (59.2%) and Region 3 (55.1%). Local Planning Areas with employment outcomes exceeding 70% after ESD job search were: Okanogan County (24) and Yakima/Kittitas (170) in Region 1 and King Eastside (19) and Skagit/San Juan/Island (37) in Region 2. Outcomes did not exceed 70% at any LPA in Region 3. The number of ESD job search exits is shown in parentheses for each LPA. Small sample sizes can increase the variability of results. Pierce County (384 exits), Spokane/Lincoln (220 exits), Yakima/Kittitas (170 exits), Clark County (107 exits) and King South (95 exits) were the largest users of ESD job search.

Five LPAs had employment levels below 50% after ESD job search: Asotin/Garfield/Whitman (17) in Region 1 (bordering on Idaho and Oregon); King North (21) in Region 2; and Clark County (107), Grays Harbor/Pacific (58) and Kitsap County (35) in Region 3. UI wage records may not include the employment of adults finding jobs in neighboring states.

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Targeted Measure 5: Employment after Vocational or Postsecondary Education



Target

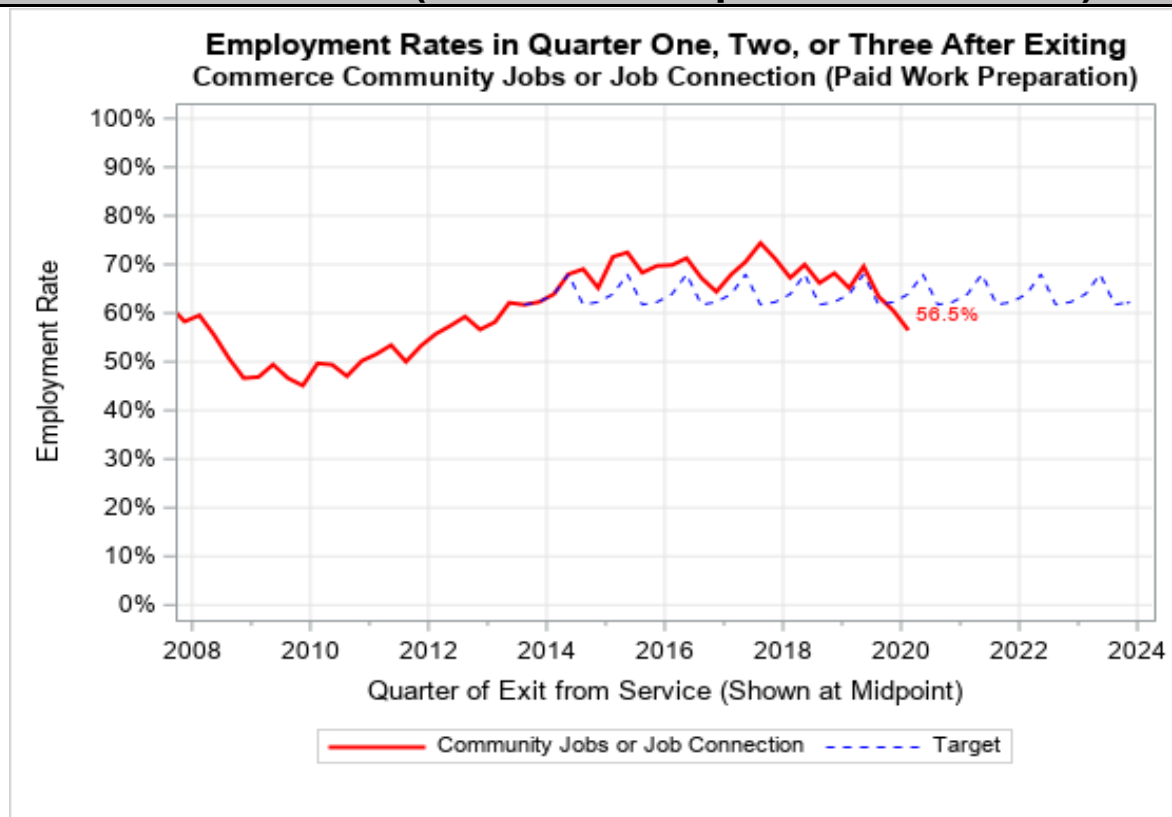
Targets are Quarter 3: 59.5%; Quarter 4: 59.0%; Quarter 1: 60.9%; and Quarter 2: 63.5% based on results from calendar Q3 and Q4 2013 and calendar Q1 and Q2 2014 (Fiscal Year 2014). COVID-19 affected results in all three quarters of follow-up for Q1 2020 and may have ended some services prematurely.

Analysis

Results depend on a number of factors, like economic conditions, the characteristics of the adults served by schools, and the combination of other services received by those who left the program. Results following vocational or postsecondary education in Q1 2020 were highest in DSHS Region 1 (51.2%) followed by Region 3 (48.5%) and Region 2 (46.8%). Local Planning Areas with outcomes exceeding 70% after vocational or postsecondary education were: Chelan/Douglas (3) and Grant/Adams (5) in Region 1 and Clallam/Jefferson (2) in Region 3. Outcomes did not exceed 70% at any LPA in Region 2. The number of vocational or postsecondary exits is shown in parentheses for each LPA. Small sample sizes can increase the variability of results. Pierce County (106 exits), Spokane/Lincoln (67 exits), King South (62 exits) and Snohomish County (51 exits) were the largest users of vocational or postsecondary education.

Twelve LPAs had employment levels below 50% after vocational or postsecondary education: Spokane/Lincoln (67), Tri-Counties (3) and Walla Walla/Columbia (9) in Region 1; King Eastside (25), King South (62), Snohomish County (51) and Whatcom County (12) in Region 2; and Clark County (45), Cowlitz/Wahkiakum (23), Lewis County (25), Mason County (7) and Thurston County (25) in Region 3. Klickitat/Skamania, straddling Regions 1 and 3, recorded no exits from vocational or postsecondary education and had no outcomes to report. [Return to Contents](#)

Targeted Measure 6: Employment after Community Jobs or Job Connection (Paid Work Preparation Activities)



Targets

Targets are Quarter 3: 61.7%; Quarter 4: 62.3%; Quarter 1: 63.9%; and Quarter 2: 68.0% based on results from calendar Q3 and Q4 2013 and calendar Q1 and Q2 2014 (Fiscal Year 2014). COVID-19 affected results in all three quarters of follow-up for Q1 2020 and may have ended some services prematurely.

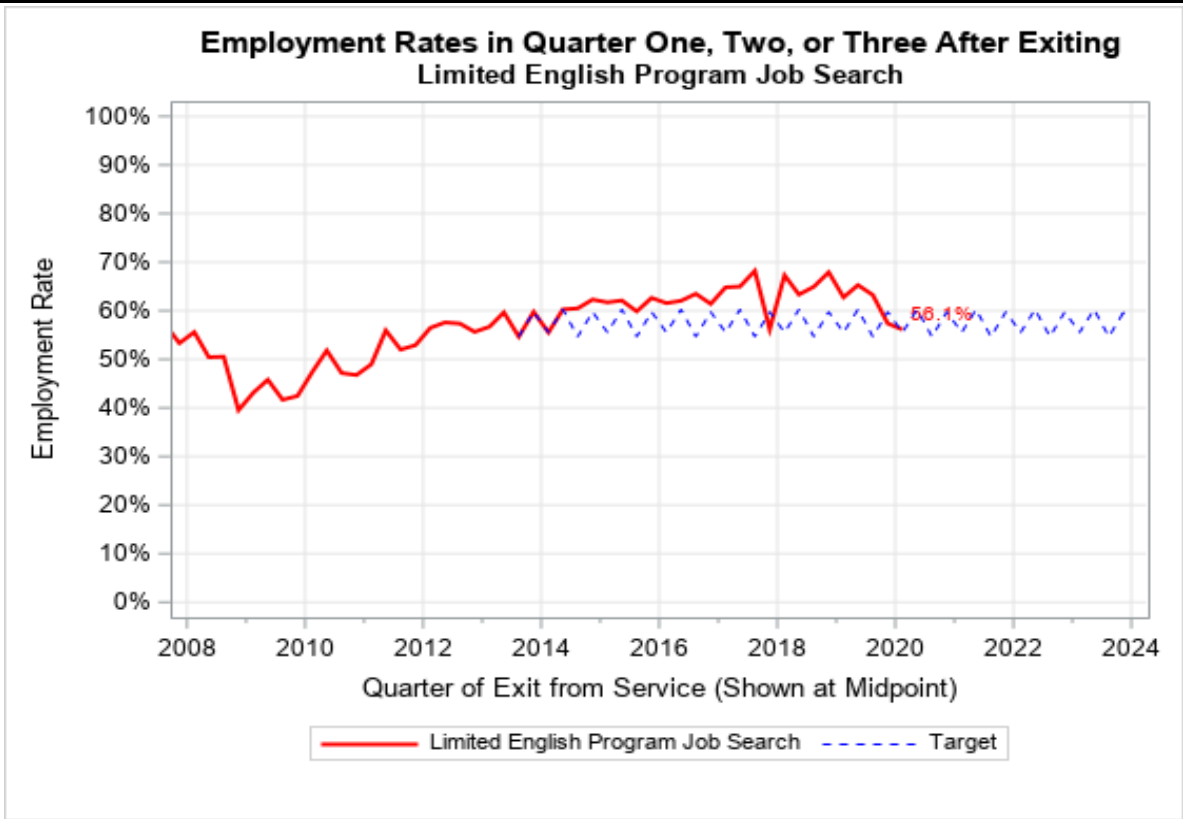
Analysis

Results depend on a number of factors, like economic conditions, the characteristics of the adults assigned to the programs, and the combination of other services received by those who left the program. A separate Job Connection program was merged into Community Jobs in July 2016. Results following Community Jobs in Q1 2020 were highest in DSHS Region 3 (60.5%) followed by Region 1 (57.6%) and Region 2 (51.5%). Local Planning Areas with outcomes exceeding 70% after Community Jobs were: Benton/Franklin (8) and Chelan/Douglas (7) in Region 1; Skagit/San Juan/Island (8) in Region 2; and Clark County (11), Grays Harbor/Pacific (7) and Mason County (4) in Region 3. The number of exits from Community Jobs is shown in parentheses for each LPA. Spokane/Lincoln (81 exits), King Central (61 exits), Yakima/Kittitas (50 exits) and Pierce County (50 exits) were the largest users of Community Jobs.

Eight LPAs had employment levels below 50% after Community Jobs: Walla Walla/Columbia (9) and Yakima (50) in Region 1; King Central (61), King Eastside (6), King North (7) and Whatcom County (9) in Region 2; Lewis County (5) in Region 3 and Klickitat/Skamania (8) straddling Regions 1 and 3. Asotin/Garfield/Whitman in Region 1 recorded no exits from Community Jobs and had no outcomes to report.

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Targeted Measure 7: Employment after Limited English Program Job Search



Target

Targets are Quarter 3: 54.7%; Quarter 4: 59.7%; Quarter 1: 55.5%; and Quarter 2: 60.3% based on results from calendar Q3 and Q4 2013 and calendar Q1 and Q2 2014 (Fiscal Year 2014). COVID-19 affected results in all three quarters of follow-up for Q1 2020 and may have ended some services prematurely.

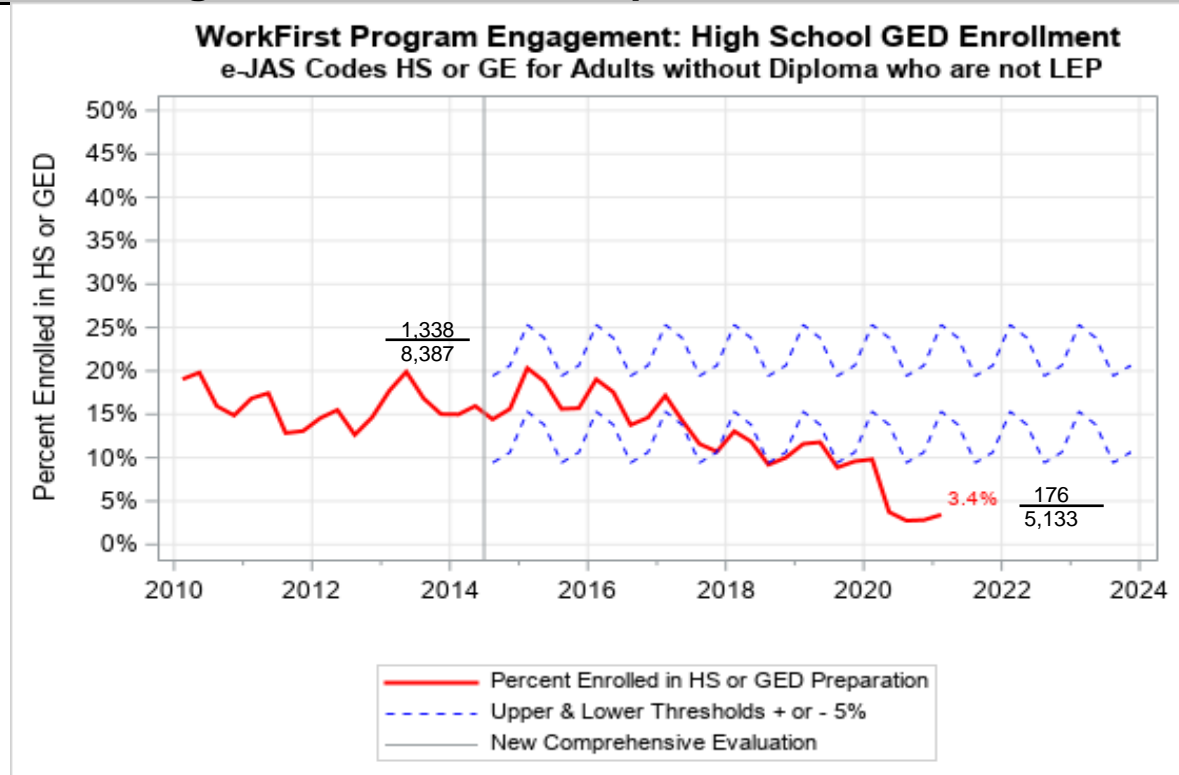
Analysis

Results depend on a number of factors, like economic conditions, the characteristics of the adults assigned to the program, and the combination of other services received by those who left the program. Results following Limited English Proficiency job search in Q1 2020 were highest in DSHS Region 1 (75.0%) followed by Region 2 (55.5%) and Region 3 (42.2%). Local Planning Areas with outcomes exceeding 70% after LEP job search were: Benton Franklin (6) and Spokane/Lincoln (34) in Region 1 and Skagit/San Juan/Island (2) in Region 2. Outcomes did not exceed 70% at any LPA in Region 3. The number of exits is shown in parentheses for each LPA. Small sample sizes can increase the variability of results. King South (109 exits), King Central (66 exits), Spokane/Lincoln (34 exits) and Clark County (29 exits) were the largest users of LEP job search.

Two LPAs had employment levels below 50% after LEP job search: Snohomish County (18) in Region 2 and Clark County (29) in Region 3. UI wage records may not include the employment of adults finding jobs in neighboring states. Fourteen LPAs had no exits from LEP job search in their areas during Q1 2020 and had no outcomes to report. There were 209 exits from LEP job search in Region 2 during Q1 2020 but only 40 exits in Region 1 and 45 exits in Region 3.

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Driver Measure 12: Program Engagement: Enrollment in High School or GED Preparation Activities



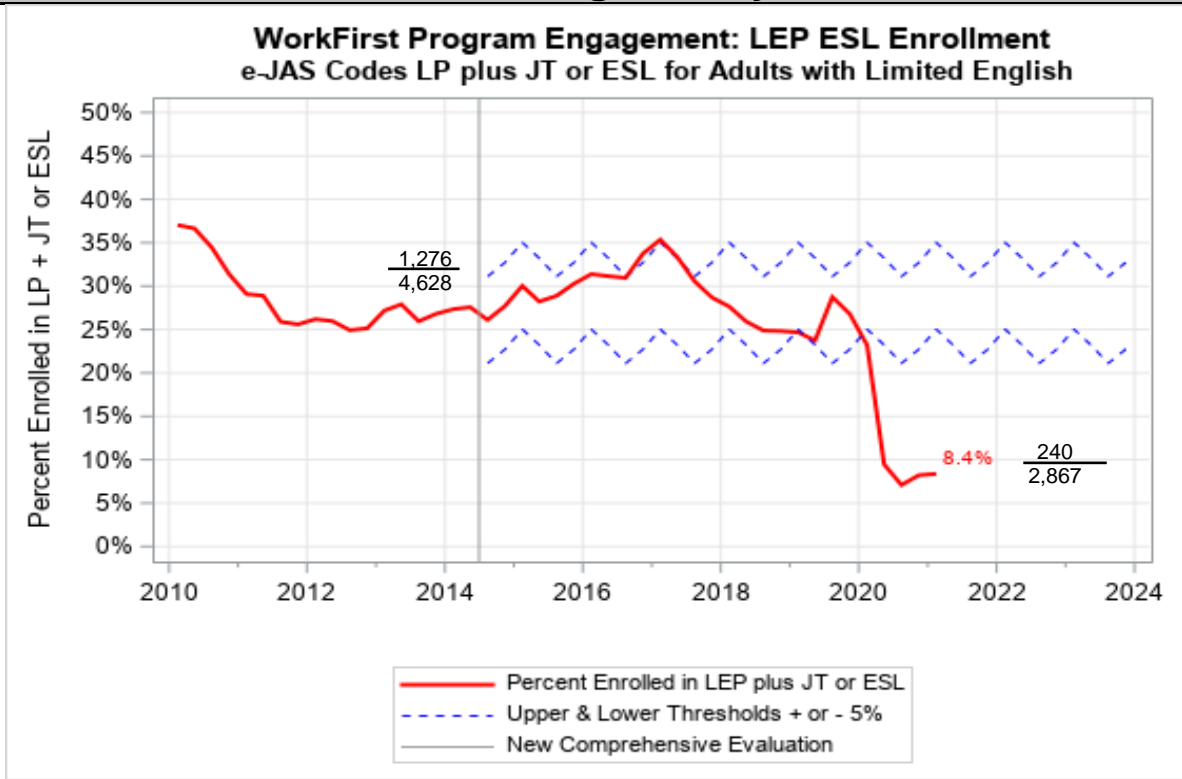
Definition of Measure

Percent of TANF adults without a high school diploma or equivalent who are engaged in high school or high school equivalency preparation activities. The numerator of this measure is the number of TANF adults, excluding those eligible to participate in Limited English Proficiency programs, who were engaged in high school or high school equivalency preparation as indicated by the HS or GE e-JAS component codes. The denominator is the number of TANF adults (with the same LEP exclusion) whose education level was less than high school diploma or GED during the month according to ACES records. The data source is DSHS-ESA-EMAPS data from the ACES and e-JAS data systems. The data shown here are from the ACES data warehouse as of May 2021.

An average of 3,714 adults (excluding LEP adults) were identified with an education level below high school diploma or equivalent per quarter during the first three quarters of FY 2020. An average of 350 adults were enrolled in high school or equivalency programs per quarter. This produced an engagement rate of 9.4% during the period. The average engagement rate had been 10.7% in FY 2019, 11.8% in FY 2018, 15.0% in FY 2017 and 17.0% in FY 2016. Engagement dropped to 3.7% in Q2 2020 and 2.7% in Q3 2020 due to the effects of the COVID-19 emergency before rising to 2.8% in Q4 2020 and 3.4% in Q1 2021. See counts on pages 37-38 and Barometer Measure 29, page 76. Numerators and denominators for Q2 2014 and Q1 2021 are shown as fractions.

Outcomes for basic education at SBCTC colleges are provided on pages 96-98. Non-LEP adults without a high school diploma or equivalent made up 20% of adults in FYs 2017 to 2020, down from 29% in FY 2011. Non-LEP adults without a high school diploma or equivalent made up 21% of adults in Q1 2021, the highest percentage since mid-2016. [Return to Contents](#)

Driver Measure 13: Program Engagement: Enrollment in Basic Education and ESL Programs by LEP Adults

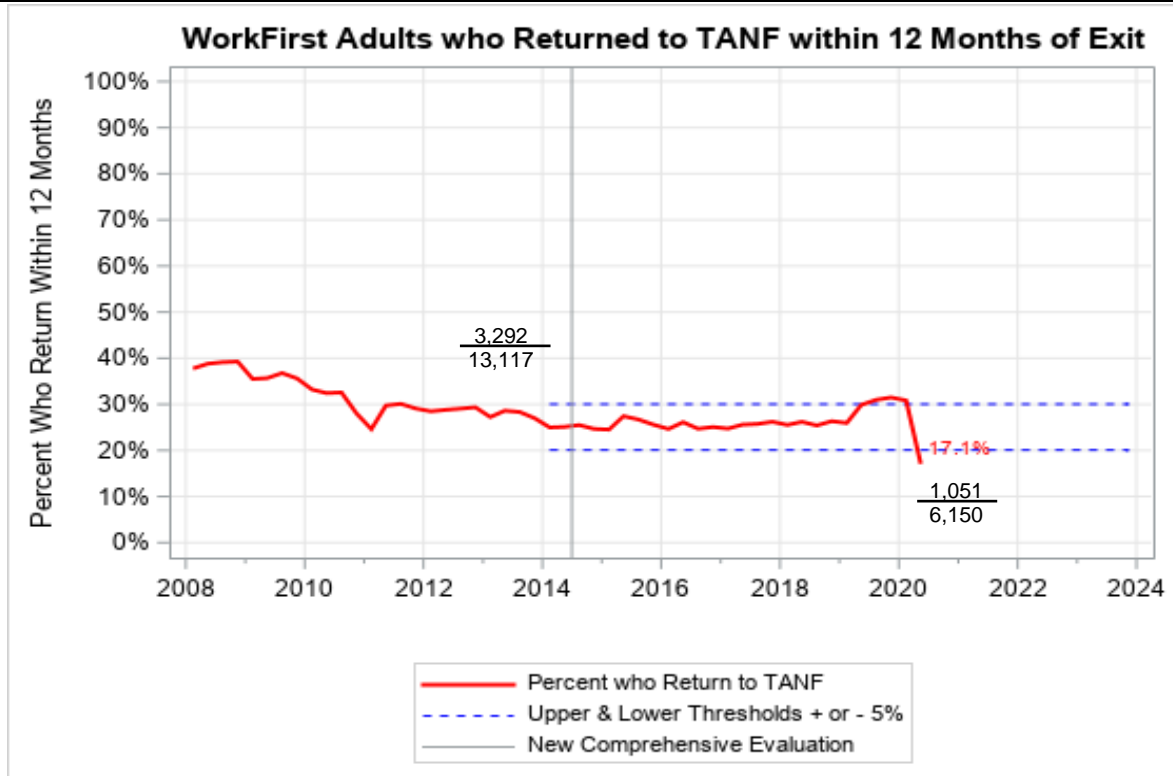


Definition of Measure

Percent of TANF Limited English Proficiency (LEP) adults who are engaged in English as a second language programs. The numerator for this measure is the number of TANF adults referred to Limited English Pathway providers as indicated by being enrolled in the LP (Limited English Pathway) e-JAS component code concurrently with the JT (Job Skills Enhancement Training) component or enrollment in English as a second language (ES) regardless of other component codes. The denominator of this measure is the count of TANF adults identified as non-English speakers or immigrants. The data source is DSHS-ESA-EMAPs data from the ACES and e-JAS data systems. The data shown above are from the ACES data warehouse as of May 2021.

An average of 2,955 adults were identified as non-English speakers or immigrants eligible for LEP programs per quarter during the first three quarters of FY 2020. They were identified as using a primary language other than English; by codes for needing an interpreter; or by one of six Immigration and Naturalization Service verification or status variables. An average of 776 adults were enrolled in the combination of LP and JT or the ES component during those quarters. The average engagement rate for LEP programs was 26.2% during that period. Engagement dropped to 9.5% in Q2 2020 and 7.1% in Q3 2020 before rising to 8.2% in Q4 2020 and 8.4% in Q1 2021. The LEP population has varied in size. LEP adults made up 17% of the WorkFirst population in FY 2017 and engagement peaked at 33.4% in that year. The LEP population dropped to 15% of WorkFirst in FY 2019, returned briefly to 17% in Q2 2020 but dropped below 14% in Q3 2020 and to 12% in Q4 2020 and Q1 2021. Numerators and denominators for Q2 2014 and Q1 2021 are shown as fractions. For monthly counts of LEP adults, see pages 13-14. For counts of LEP enrollees in job search, see page 32. Employment counts for this pathway are provided on pages 55-56, 60, 87, 91, and 95. [Return to Contents](#)

Barometer Measure 14: Return to TANF after Exit



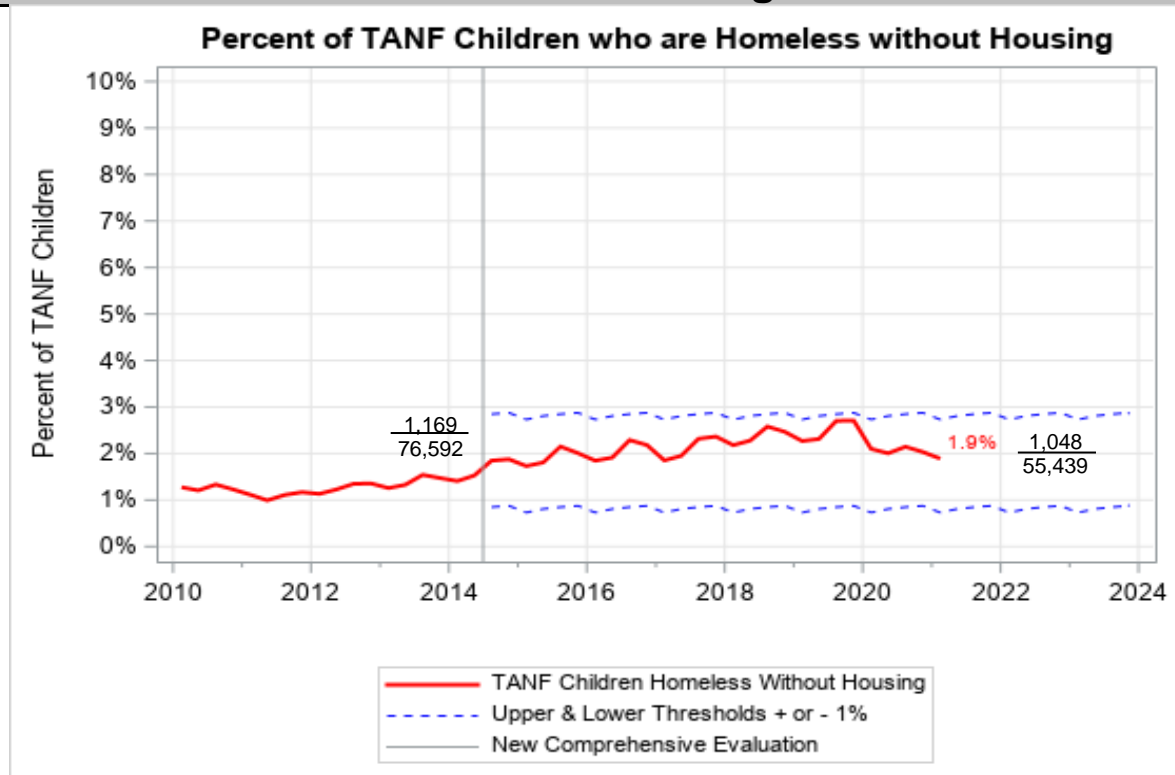
Definition of Measure

Percent of WorkFirst adults who return to TANF within a year after exit. The numerator for this measure is the number of WorkFirst adults who left TANF during a quarter and returned to TANF cash assistance within the following 12 months. The denominator is the number of WorkFirst adults who exited during the quarter. The data source is a DSHS-EMAPS report on long-term exits recoded to identify return to TANF within 12 months, with monthly data converted to quarterly data.

An average of 6,067 WorkFirst adults exited TANF during each quarter of FY 2021. Of those, an average of 1,672 had returned to TANF within 12 months or had another family member who did so. The resulting rate of return to TANF was 27.9%. Rates for FYs 2017, 2018, and 2019 were 25.0%, 25.9% and 26.9%. Rates of return increased early in the COVID-19 emergency to 29.9%, 31.0% and 31.5% in the 12 months after Q2, Q3 and Q4 2019 and dropped back to 30.8% during Q1 of 2020. Those who had left TANF before the pandemic were likely to return to TANF during the pandemic period. However, those who left TANF after the pandemic began were much less likely to return to TANF within the following year. Only 17.1% of those who left TANF in Q2 2020 despite pandemic conditions returned to TANF by June 2021. Rates for Q2 2014 and Q2 2020 are shown as fractions in the chart.

This measure differs from the one provided in quarterly WorkFirst wage progression reports to the legislature. This measure counts those who have ever returned to TANF over the course of 12 months. The wage progression report measure counts those who returned to TANF during the quarter 12 months after the quarter of WorkFirst exit. See: https://app.leg.wa.gov/ReportsToTheLegislature/Home/GetPDF?filename=WF%20Wage%20Progression%20Report_2020%20Q3_d2c09a86-f623-47b4-8c93-f238b42ac7f5.pdf The percent who have returned to TANF within a specific calendar quarter is lower than the percent who returned to TANF at any time over a twelve month period. The 12 month follow-up period in this measure is longer than the three month view in wage progression reports. The last quarter tracked in the current wage progression report, dated July 1, 2021, is Q3 2019. The wage progression report is just entering the period of elevated return-to-TANF shown above. [Return to Contents](#)

Barometer Measure 15: Percent of TANF Children who are Homeless without Housing



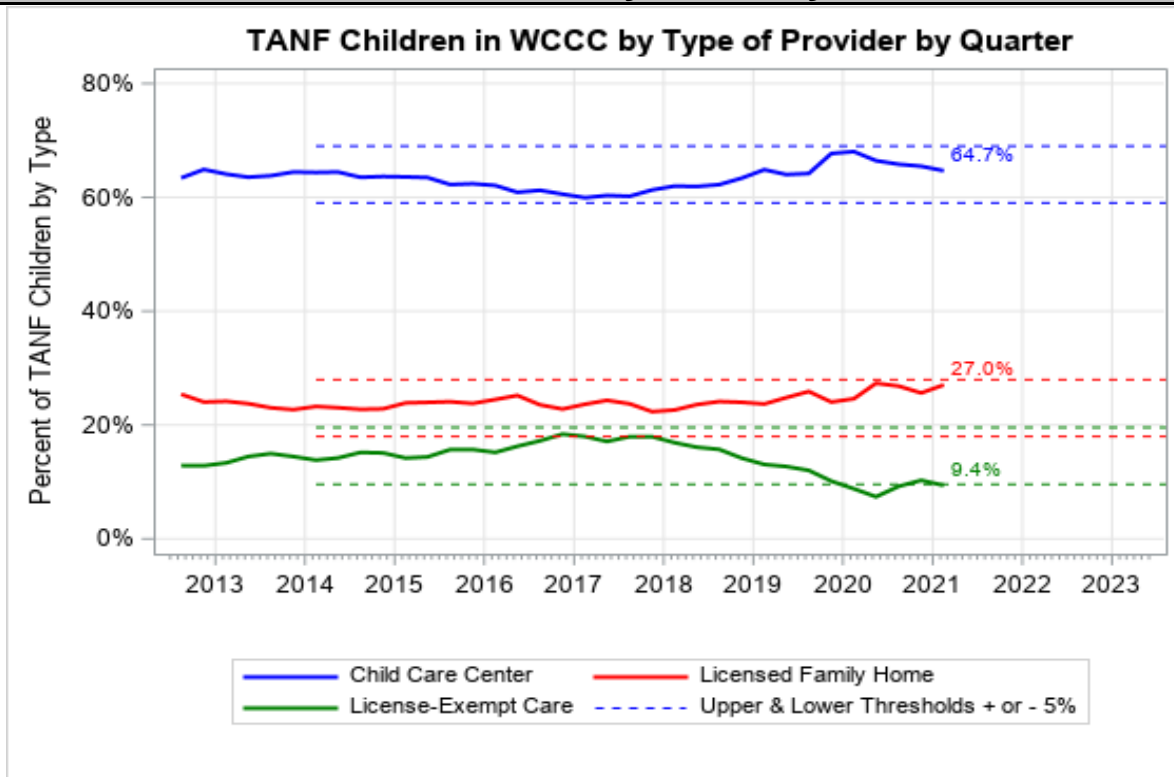
Definition of Measure

Percent of TANF children who are recorded as homeless without housing. The numerator of this measure is the number of TANF children reported as homeless without housing. The denominator is the number of TANF children during the same period according to ACES records. The data source is DSHS-ESA-EMAPS data using the ACES data system. The data shown above are from the ACES data warehouse as of May 2021. Counts include Child Only TANF children.

An average of 50,211 children received TANF during each quarter of FY 2020. Of these, an average of 1,254 children were identified as homeless without housing. Homeless with housing generally includes people who are staying with family or friends or using shelters. Homeless without housing generally indicates living in vehicles or out of doors, and indicates the greatest risk. Assistance recipients are asked to report housing status at each application for benefits and eligibility review. A housing status code is attached to each benefit eligibility period recorded in ACES. The average percent of the TANF child population that was homeless without housing in a quarter was 2.0% in FY 2016, 2.1% in FY 2017, 2.3% in FY 2018, 2.4% in FY 2019 and 2.5% in FY 2020. The thresholds for this measure are calculated from FY 2015. Numerators and denominators for Q2 2014 and Q1 2021 are shown as fractions.

The number of TANF children who were homeless without housing was 1,048 during Q1 2021, 11.7% fewer than in Q1 2020 compared with a 13.2% decrease in the number of homeless TANF children. The number of TANF children increased by 16.7% over the same time period. The influx of children associated with the COVID-19 emergency has reduced the percent of children who are homeless with or without housing. But, the absolute number of homeless children has also decreased. See page 70 for information on TANF adults. [Return to Contents](#)

Barometer Measure 16: TANF Children Using WCCC Child Care by Modality



Definition of Measure

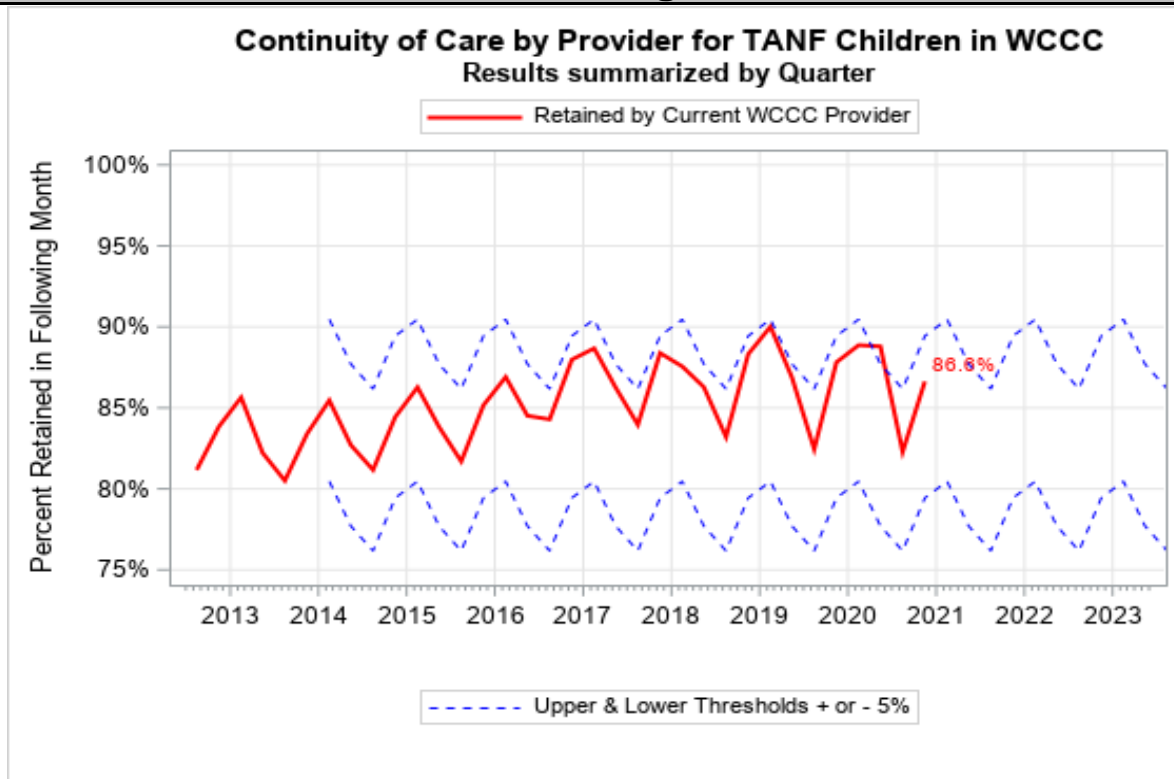
Percent of TANF children using WCCC who are using child care centers, licensed family homes, or license-exempt care. The numerator of these measures is the number of months of care in each sector during the quarter. The denominator is the total months of care for TANF children during the quarter. Type of provider is indicated by Social Service Payment System records. A small number of children were served in more than one type of care during the same month. They are counted in each sector that they used, so percentages sum to more than 100%. The data source is Department of Children, Youth, and Families records. DCYF records are matched to DSHS records to identify children who received TANF during the month of care or the last month prior to care. Data matching is conducted by OFM and the measure is calculated by OFM.

An average of 17,253 months of WCCC child care were provided for TANF children per quarter in FY 2020, down by 2% from FY 2019 and down 67% from FY 2011. The share of care provided by centers increased from 61% in FY 2018 to 67% in FY 2020. The share of TANF-related child care provided by licensed family homes increased from 23% in FY 2018 to 26% in FY 2020. The share of TANF related care provided at license-exempt family, friends and neighbors increased from 14% in FY 2014 to 18% in FY 2017, then dropped to 14% in FY 2019 and to less than 10% during FY 2020.

For comparison: 114,271 months of care were provided per quarter to non-TANF related children in FY 2020, down by 9% from FY 2019 and down by 11% from FY 2011. The share of non-TANF related care provided at child care centers was 55% in FY 2018, rising to 60% during FY 2020. The share of non-TANF care provided by licensed family homes rose from 25% to 28% and the share at FFN providers dropped from 21% to 14%.

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Barometer Measure 17: Stability of Care by Provider for TANF Children using WCCC Child Care



Definition of Measure

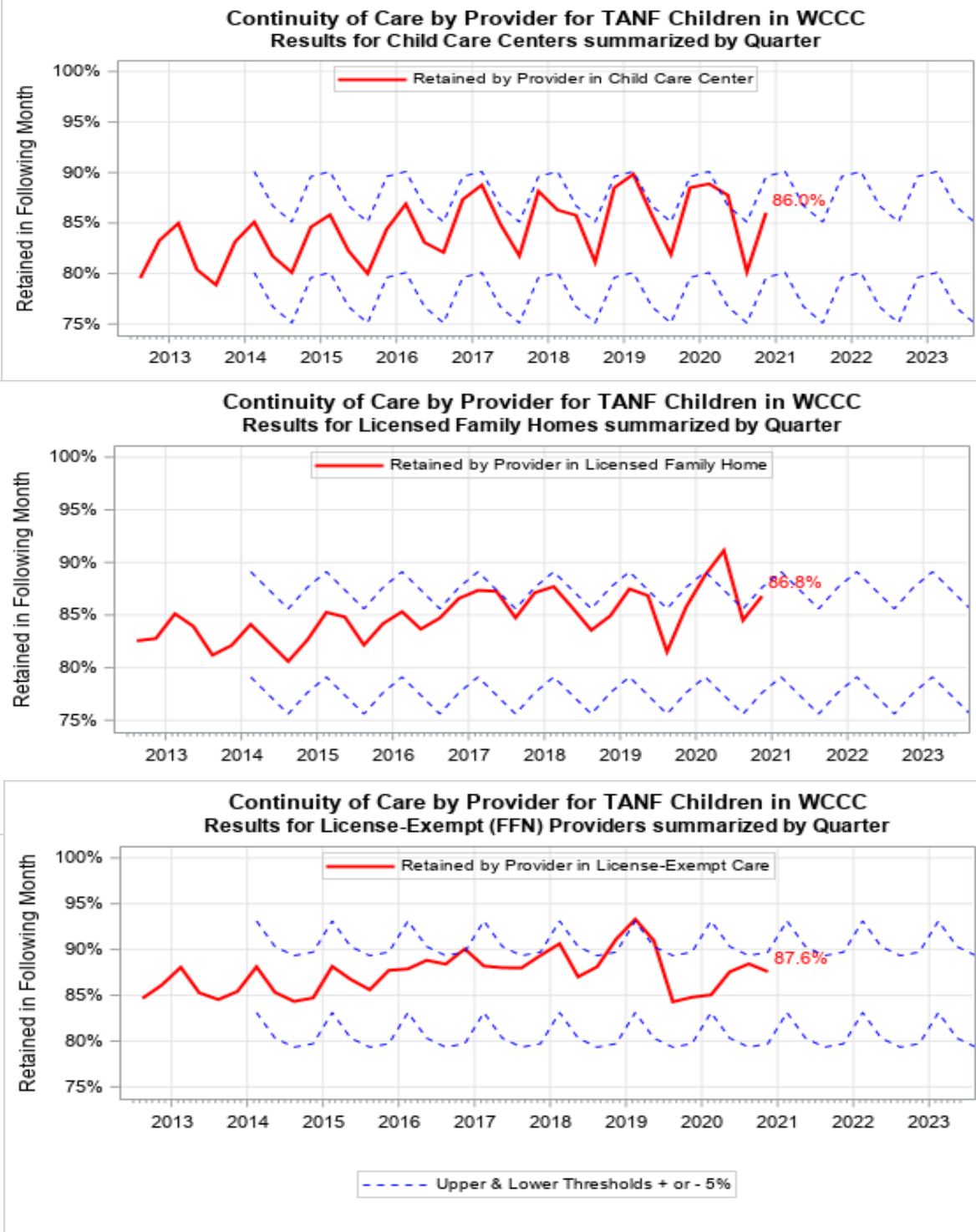
Stability of child care is defined as the number of children using WCCC care during the month who are still using WCCC care in the following month divided by the number of children using WCCC in the first month. It is the opposite of the exit rate from child care. If 15% of child care users leave care each month, the rate of child care continuity is 85%. Continuity by provider measures stability (continuity) with the same provider. The summary measure (above) shows continuity by provider for TANF-related care. The three charts for Barometer Measures 18 to 20 (page 67) show this measure separately for each provider type. The data source is Department of Children, Youth, and Families records. DCYF records are matched to DSHS records to identify children who received TANF during the month of care or month immediately prior to care.

Continuity with the same provider for TANF children was 86.5% in FY 2018 and 87.0% in FY 2020. Comparable rates were 82.6% in FY 2014 and 84.5% in FY 2016. The increase in continuity came from reducing the impacts of WorkFirst activity gaps that interrupted care prior to 12-month eligibility. Continuity for non-TANF children grew more slowly between FY 2014 (87.5%) and FY 2020 (88.1%).

The drop in continuity in Q4 2020 (the most recent observation) appears to stem from the the waiver of work participation requirements for WorkFirst adults during the COVID-19 pandemic. Continuity with a provider was 86.6% among TANF related households in Q4 2020, down by 1.2% from Q4 2019, but all of this was among WorkFirst households. Those households had been exempt from work participation requirements since Q2 2020 and had continuity with a provider of 85.5% in Q4 2020. Continuity for non-TANF and Child Only TANF households was higher in Q4 2020: 89.5% and 89.8% and was up slightly from Q4 2019.

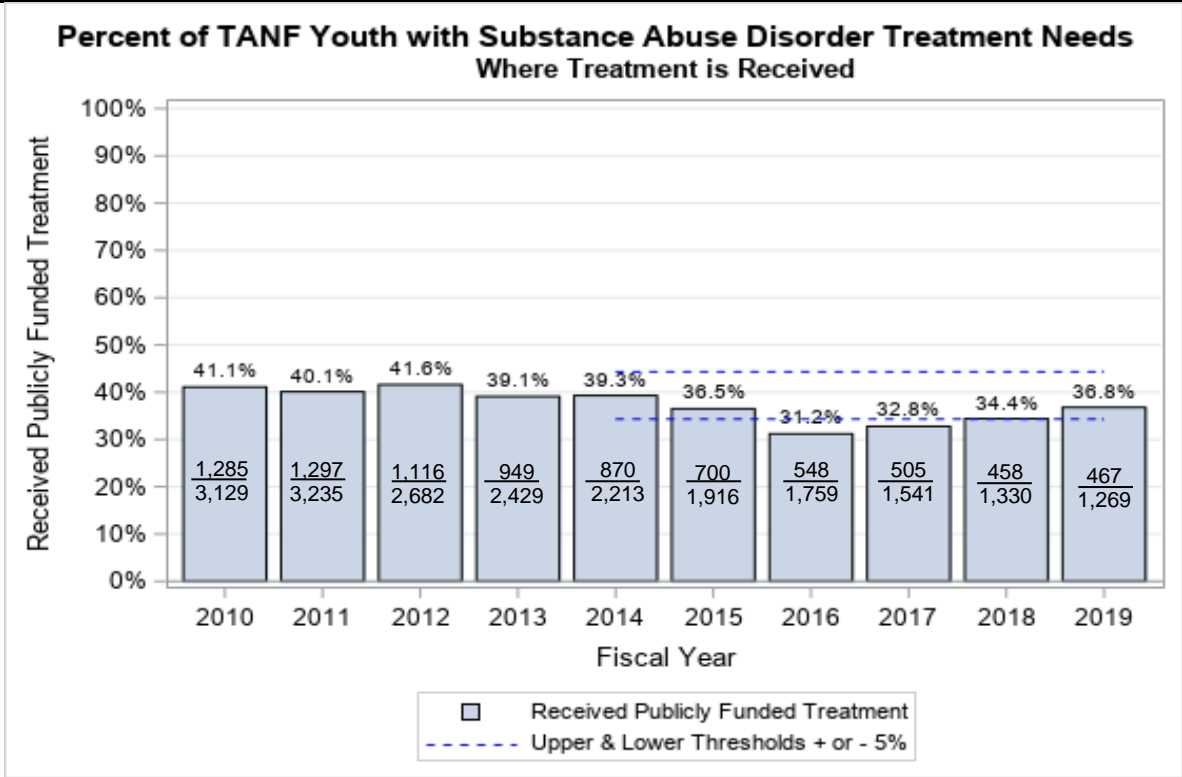
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Barometer Measures 18 to 20: Stability of Care by Provider for TANF Children using each WCCC Child Care Modality



Thresholds for Barometer Measures 16 through 20 are based on calendar year 2014. Results are based on SSPS data through May 26, 2021.

Barometer Measure 21: Substance Abuse Disorder Treatment Received (Youth)



Definition of Measure

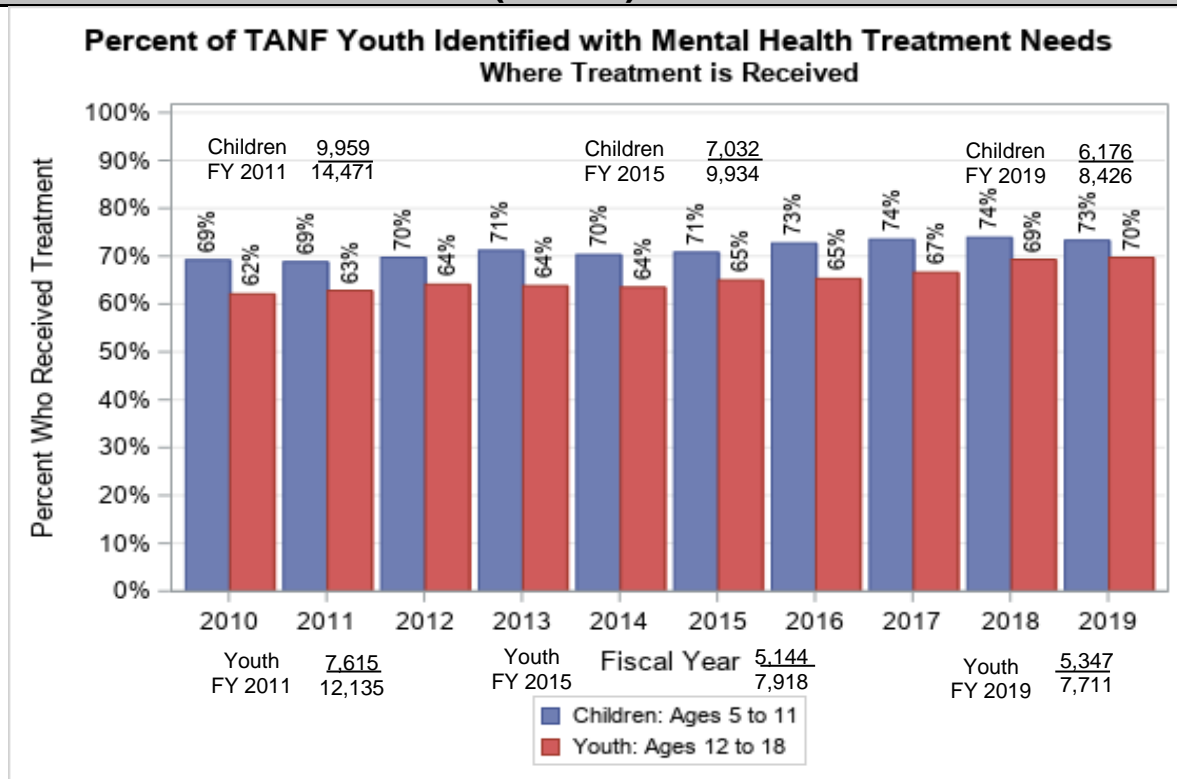
Percent of TANF youth with Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) treatment needs where treatment is provided. The numerator of this measure is the number of TANF youth, ages 12 to 17, who received publicly funded SUD treatment during a fiscal year. The denominator is the number of TANF youth ages 12 to 17 needing SUD treatment. SUD treatment need is indicated by administrative data that reflect services, medications, or arrests recorded for substance abuse related problems in the current or prior fiscal year. TANF youth were identified in ACES. SUD Treatment and SUD Treatment needs were identified from the DSHS Research and Data Analysis (RDA) Integrated Client Database. These data were supplied on November 9, 2020. Counts include Child Only TANF children.

A total of 16,577 TANF youth between the ages of 12 and 17 in FY 2019 were identified for this measure. Of these, 1,269 youth were identified in the Integrated Client Database as having an SUD treatment need. A total of 467 youth were identified as receiving publicly funded SUD treatment, yielding a treatment rate of 36.8%. The percent of TANF youth with treatment needs rose from 8.4% in FY 2011 to 9.2% in FY 2015 but dropped to 8.4% in FY 2017 and 7.7% in FY2019. The 36.8% treatment rate recorded in FY 2019 was the highest since FY 2014 but lower than the rates of 40% or more achieved in FYs 2010 through FY 2012.

Data for each year are recalculated with each update. Changes can occur due to revised definitions and reporting improvements. The fractions in each bar show the numerator and denominator for the year. The decline in the number of children is associated with TANF caseload declines. See page 71 for similar information on TANF adults.

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Barometer Measure 22: Mental Health Treatment Received (Youth)



Definition of Measure

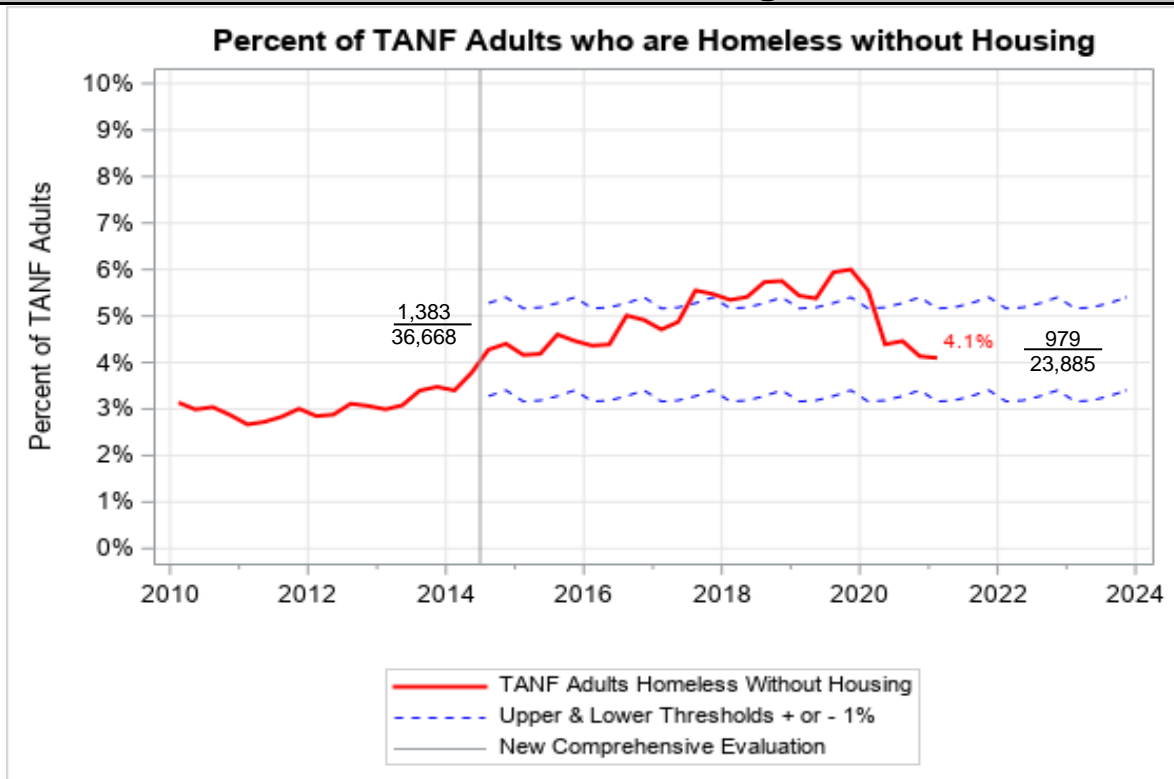
Percent of TANF youth identified as in need of mental health treatment where treatment is received. The numerator of this measure is the number of TANF youth who received publicly funded mental health treatment during a fiscal year. The denominator is the number of TANF youth needing mental health treatment. Receipt of mental health services through Washington State Behavioral Health Organizations or state hospitals, prescribed psychotropic medications, or mental health related medical diagnoses during the current or prior year are considered indications of mental health need. Receipt of treatment is identified through outpatient mental health services and mental health services provided through the client's Medicaid medical benefit, including management of mental health conditions in a primary care setting and Medicaid-paid tribal mental health encounters. Needs and treatment were identified from the DSHS Research and Data Analysis Integrated Client Database. These data were supplied on November 9, 2020. Child Only TANF children are included.

A total of 16,577 TANF youth between the ages of 12 and 17 were identified for this measure in FY 2019. Of these, 7,711 youth were identified with MH treatment needs and 5,347 received treatment. Treatment rates for younger children (ages 5 to 11) were higher, with 6,176 children receiving treatment and 8,426 needing it out of a total of 26,291 young children. Some 27% of younger children, as opposed to 38% of older children were identified as having treatment needs in FY 2015, increasing to 32% and 47% in FY 2019. Treatment needs were lower in prior years. Only 23% of younger children and 31% of older children needed mental health treatment in FY 2011, the year that TANF caseloads were highest.

Data for each year are recalculated in each update. The fractions show the numerators and denominators for selected years. The decline in the number of children is associated with TANF caseload declines. See page 72 for similar information on TANF adults.

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Barometer Measure 23: Percent of TANF Adults who are Homeless without Housing



Definition of Measure

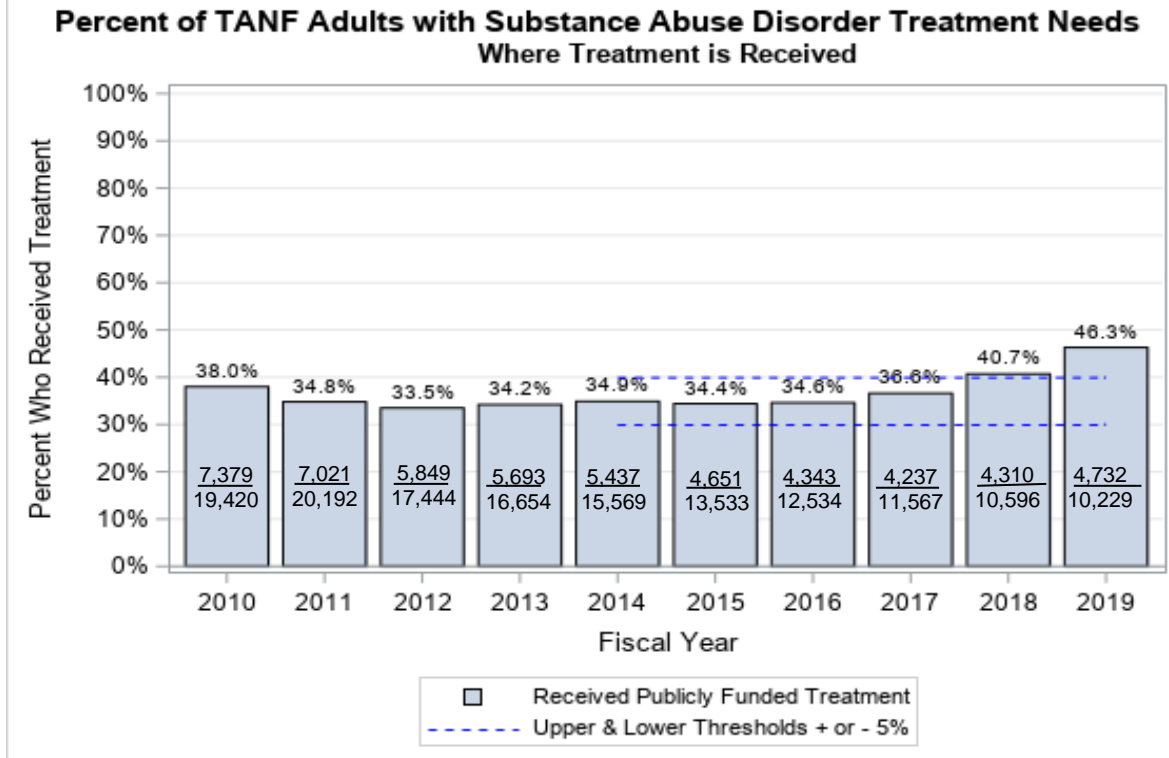
Percent of TANF adults recorded as homeless without housing. The numerator of this measure is the number of TANF adults who reported being homeless without housing. The denominator is the number of TANF adults during the same period according to ACES records. The data source is DSHS-ESA-EMAPS data using the ACES data system. The data shown above are from the ACES data warehouse as of May 2021.

An average of 20,395 adults received TANF during each quarter of FY 2020. Of these, an average of 1,099 adults were identified as homeless without housing. Homeless with housing generally includes people who are staying with family or friends or using shelters. Homeless without housing generally indicates living in vehicles or out of doors, and indicates the greatest risk. Assistance recipients are asked to report housing status at each application for benefits and eligibility review. A housing status code is attached to each benefit eligibility period recorded in ACES. The average percent of the TANF adult population that was homeless without housing in a quarter was 4.5% in FY 2016, 4.9% in FY 2017, 5.4% in FY 2018, 5.6% in FY 2019 and 5.4% in FY 2020. The thresholds for this measure are calculated from FY 2015. Numerators and denominators for Q2 2014 and Q1 2021 are shown as fractions.

The number of TANF adults who were homeless without housing was 979 during Q1 2021, 6.5% fewer than in Q1 2020. The number of homeless adults on TANF decreased by 14.6% but the number of TANF adults increased by 25.5% over the same period. The influx of adults associated with the COVID-19 emergency has reduced the percent of adults who are homeless with or without housing but the number of homeless adults has also dropped. See page 64 for information on TANF children.

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Barometer Measure 24: Substance Abuse Disorder Treatment Received (Adults)



Definition of Measure

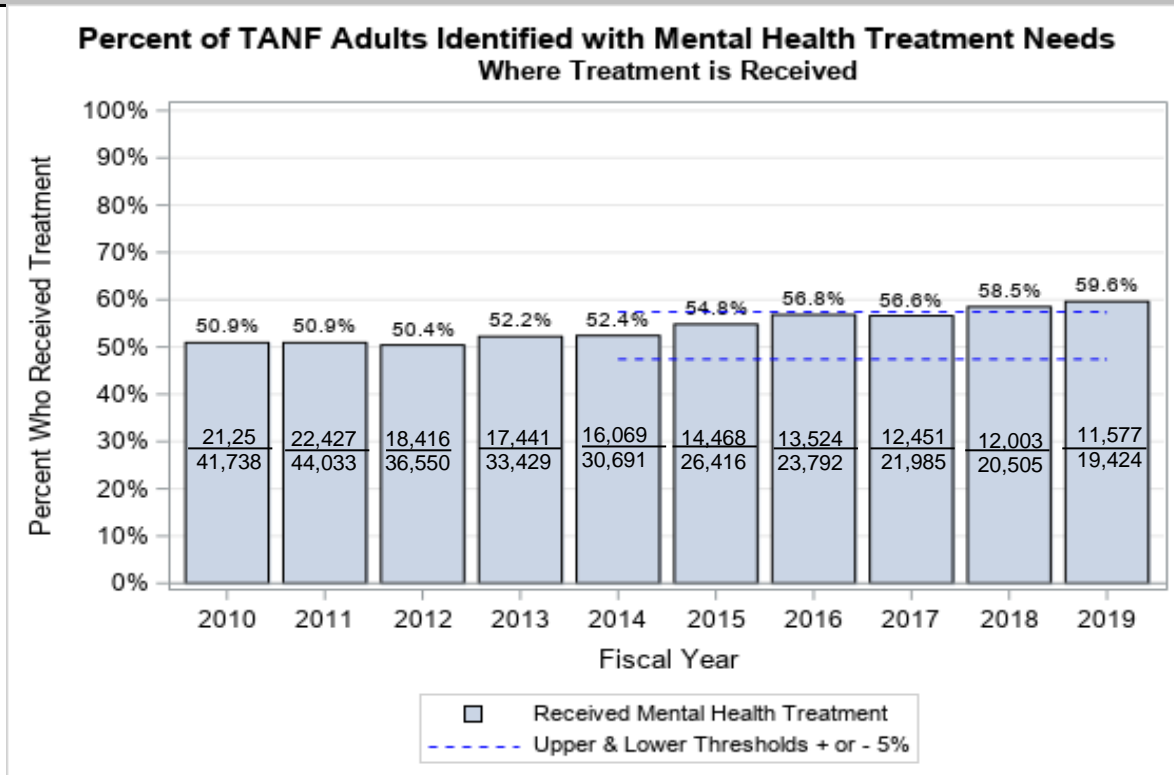
Percent of TANF adults with Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) treatment needs where treatment is provided. The numerator of this measure is the number of TANF adults who received publicly funded SUD treatment during a fiscal year. The denominator is the number of TANF adults identified as needing SUD treatment. SUD treatment need is indicated by medical and administrative data that reflect services, medications, or arrests recorded for substance abuse related problems during the current or prior fiscal year. TANF adults were identified in ACES. SUD Treatment and SUD treatment needs were identified from the DSHS Research and Data Analysis (RDA) Integrated Client Database. These data were supplied on November 9, 2020.

A total of 31,836 TANF adults from FY 2019 were identified for this measure. Of these, 10,229 were identified in the Integrated Client Database as having an SUD treatment need. A total of 4,723 adults were identified as receiving publicly funded AOD treatment, yielding a treatment rate of 46.3%. Treatment rates in FY 2018 (40.7%) and FY 2019 are the highest on record in this series. However, the percent of TANF adults with treatment needs also rose from 21.7% in FY 2011 to 27.0% in FY 2015, 30.0% in FY 2017 and 32.0% in FY 2019. See page 44 for counts of adults active in SUD treatment through WorkFirst referrals.

Data for each year are recalculated with each update. Changes can occur due to revised definitions and reporting improvements. The fractions in each bar show the numerator and denominator for the year. The decline in the number of adults is associated with TANF caseload declines. See page 68 for similar information on TANF children ages 12 to 17.

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Barometer Measure 25: Mental Health Treatment Received (Adults)



Definition of Measure

Percent of TANF adults identified as in need of mental health treatment where treatment is received.

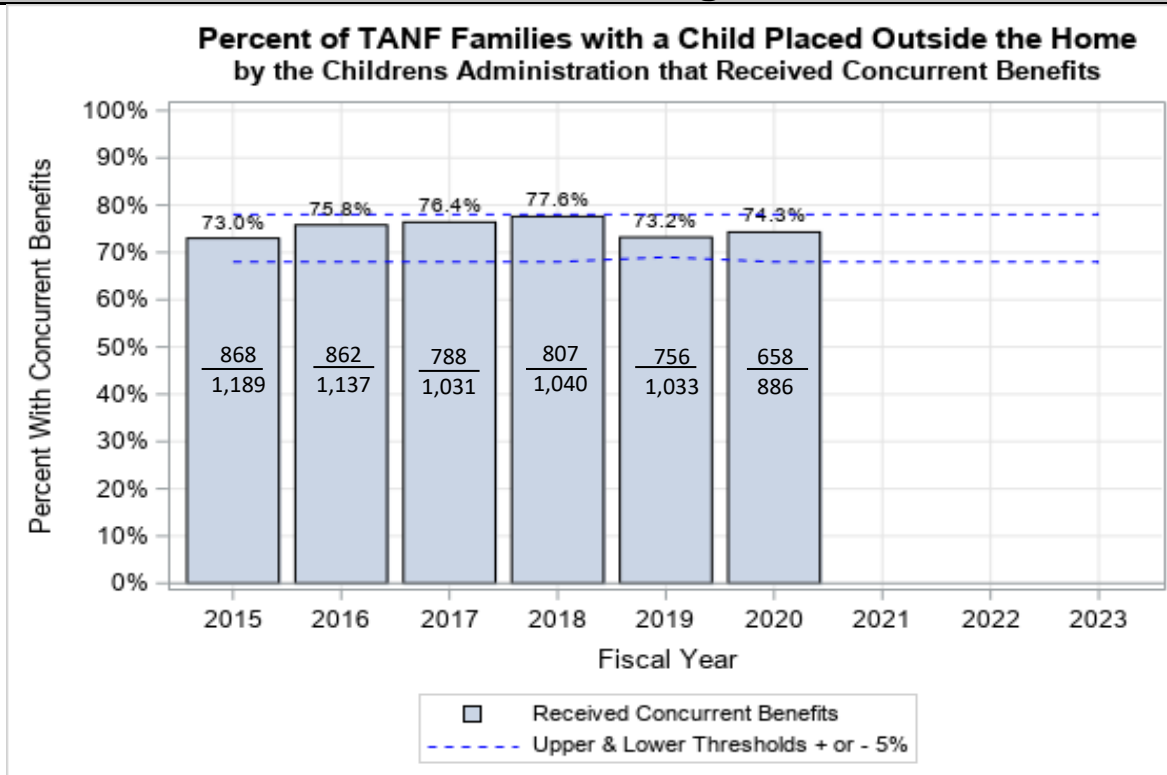
The numerator of this measure is the number of TANF adults who received publicly funded mental health treatment during a fiscal year. The denominator is the number of TANF adults needing mental health treatment. Receipt of mental health services through the Washington State Behavioral Health Organizations or state hospitals, prescribed psychotropic medications, or mental health-related medical diagnoses in the current or prior year are considered indications of mental health need. Receipt of treatment is identified through outpatient mental health services and mental health services provided through the client's Medicaid medical benefit, including management of mental health conditions in a primary care setting and Medicaid-paid tribal mental health encounters. Needs and treatment were identified from the DSHS Research and Data Analysis Integrated Client Database. These data were supplied on November 9, 2020.

A total of 31,836 TANF adults were identified for this measure in FY 2019. Of these, 19,424 adults were identified as having a mental health need. A total of 11,577 of these adults received treatment, yielding a treatment rate of 59.6%. Treatment rates in FY 2018 (58.5%) and FY 2019 are the highest on record in this series. However, the percent of TANF adults with treatment needs also rose from 47.2% in FY 2011 to 52.7% in FY 2015, 57.1% in FY 2017 and 61.0% in FY 2019. See page 44 for counts of adults active in mental health treatment through WorkFirst referrals.

Data for each year are recalculated with each update. Changes can occur due to revised definitions and reporting improvements. The fractions in each bar show the numerator and denominator for the year. The decline in the number of adults is associated with TANF caseload declines. See page 69 for similar information on TANF children.

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Barometer Measure 26: Percent of TANF Families With a Child Outside the Home Receiving Concurrent Benefits



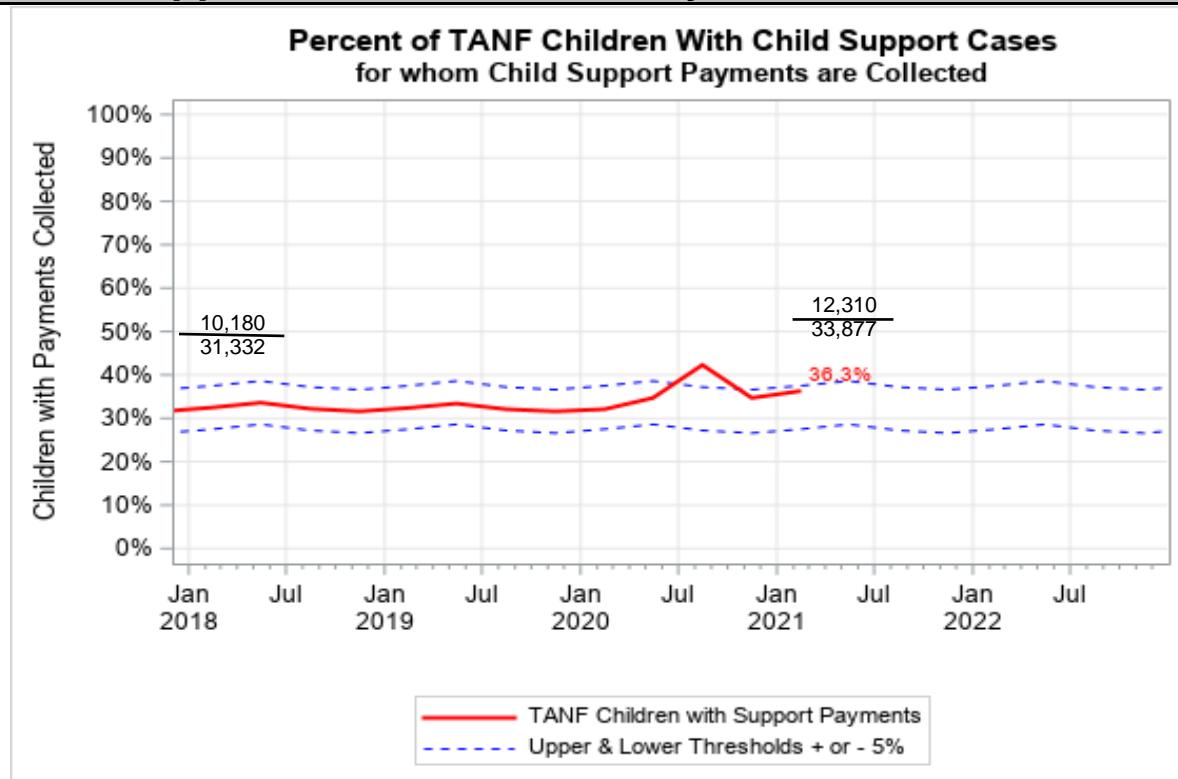
Definition of Measure

Percent of TANF families with a child placed outside the home by the Children's Administration (CA) that received concurrent benefits (when eligible). The numerator of this measure is the number of TANF households receiving a TANF payment through participation in the concurrent benefit program during the fiscal year. The denominator is the number of TANF households in which a child was placed outside the home by CA during the fiscal year. CA was transferred from DSHS to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families in July 2018. Data were obtained from the DSHS Research and Data Analysis Section. Data for placements are as of September 2020. Data for TANF issuances are through June 2020.

A total of 886 TANF households with children removed by CA in FY 2020 were identified for this measure. Of these, 658 or 74.3% were receiving concurrent benefits. The concurrent benefit program allows for the continuation of a TANF cash grant to a family from whom a child has been removed by CA and placed with a licensed or unlicensed caregiver, either of whom could be a relative. CA must expect the absence to be temporary (180 days or less) and that the child will be reunified with the family from which it was removed. For more information see: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/ffa/rda/research-reports/effect-tanf-concurrent-benefits-reunification-children-following-placement-out-home-care>

Results are recalculated every year and revisions can occur. For example, results for FY 2017 were reported as 69.3% in August 2018, 80.9% in August 2019 and 76.4% in September 2020. The number of households receiving concurrent benefits in prior years decreased in this year's report. The number of households with children removed and number with concurrent benefits has declined with the size of the TANF caseload. Numerators and denominators are supplied in the chart to give an indication of the change in program size over time. [Return to Contents](#)

Barometer Measure 27: Percent of TANF Children With Child Support Cases for whom Payments are Collected



Definition of Measure

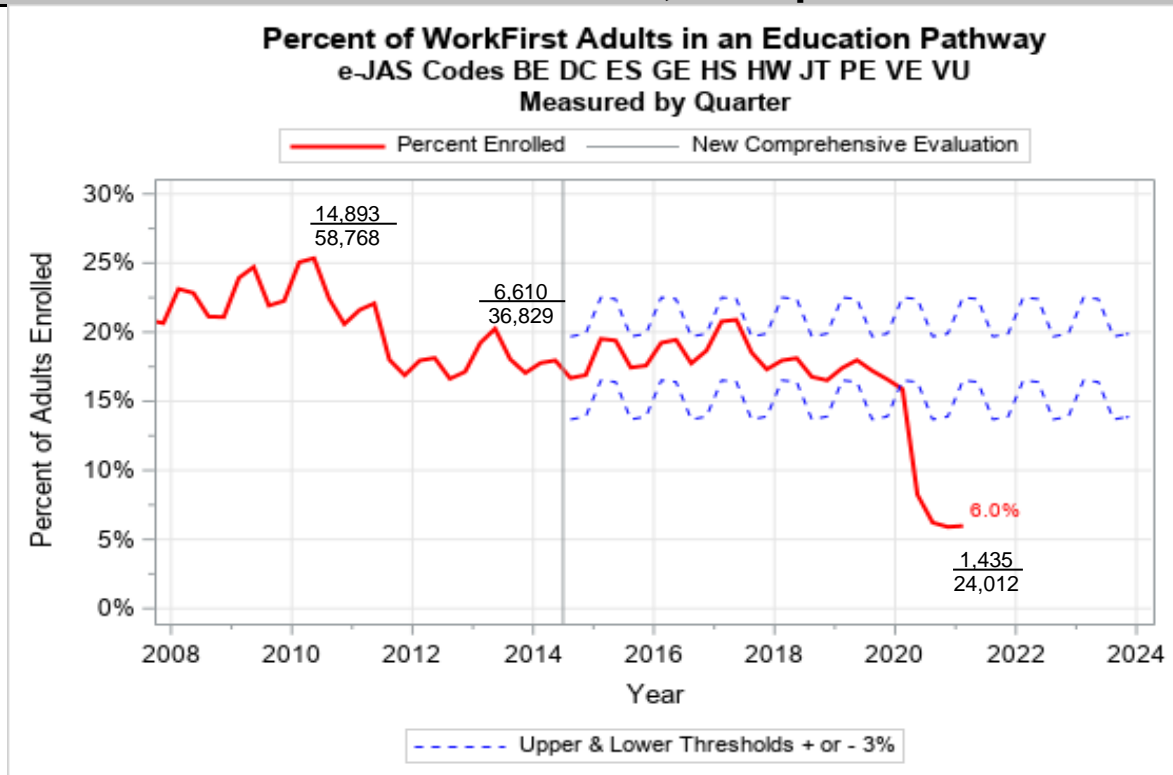
Percent of TANF children with child support cases for whom payments were collected during the quarter. The numerator of this measure is the number of TANF children with a child support payment collected from a non-custodial parent (NCP) during the quarter. The denominator is the total number of TANF/SFA children with an open child support case during the quarter. Data source is DSHS-ESA EMAPS and the Support Enforcement Management System (SEMS). The data shown were produced on April 8, 2021.

An average of 50,210 children received TANF during each quarter of Fiscal Year 2020. Of these, an average of 30,571 TANF children (60.9%) had open child support cases. Payments were received on behalf of an average of 9,993 children, or 32.7% of those with open child support cases. Results in FY 2019 were 30.2% with support payments out of 68.4% of children with open support cases. Payment rates shown in reports through mid-2020 were 3% lower because they did not capture payments from both parents when neither parent had custody of the child. Numerators and denominators for Q1 2018 and Q1 2021 are shown as fractions.

The percent of children receiving payments began to increase sharply during the COVID-19 period. The number of children in TANF increased by 25% between Q1 and Q3 2020. The number of TANF children enrolled in child support rose by 21% but the number with support payments rose by 68%. Child Support Enforcement analysts indicate that much of this increase came from Unemployment Insurance and pandemic relief payments received by non-custodial parents. These sources of income and associated child support dropped in Q4 2020, but rose again in Q1 2021.

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Barometer Measure 28: Adults in Education Pathway All Education Codes, Unduplicated



Definition of Measure

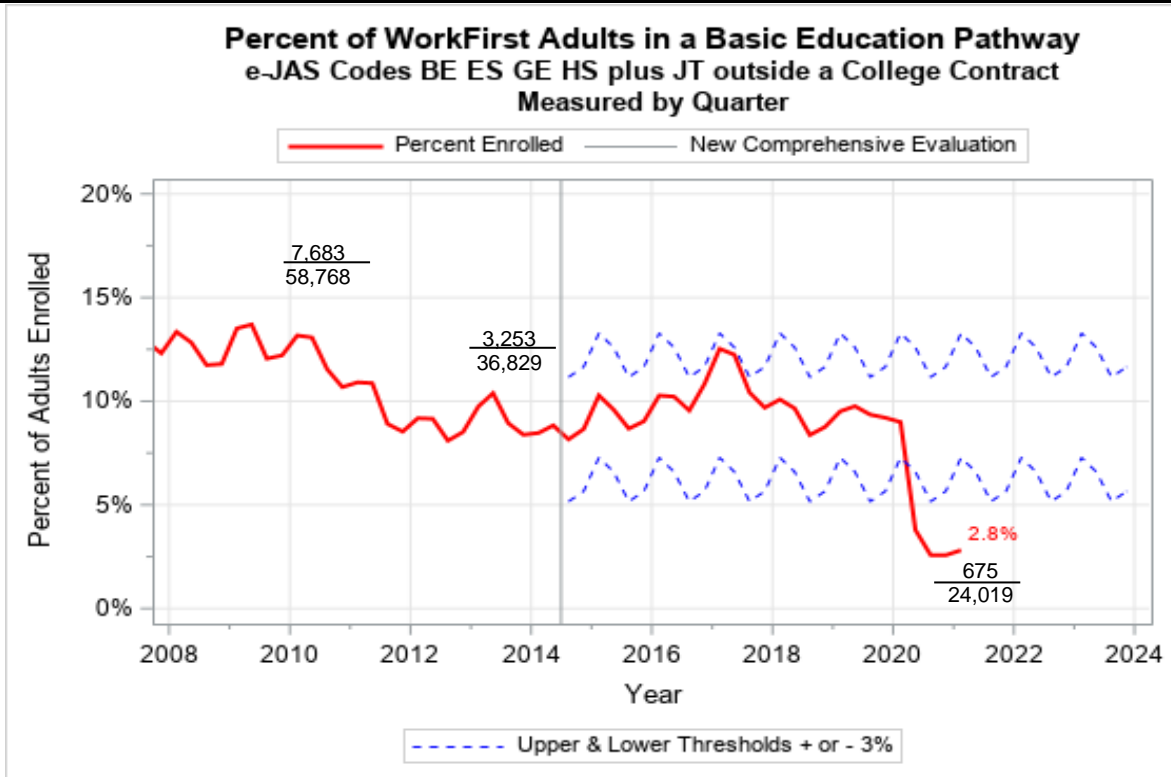
Percent of TANF adults who are engaged in education. The numerator for this measure is the number of TANF adults assigned to one or more of the following e-JAS components during the quarter: BE (basic education), DC (degree completion), ES (English as a second language), GE (GED preparation); HS (attending high school); HW (high wage-high demand training); JT (job skills enhancement training); PE (customized job skills training); VE (vocational education) and VU (vocational education - unapproved). VU is the component used for adults enrolled in full-time vocational education that does not qualify to be counted toward federal work participation requirements. LS (life skills training) is not included in this measure due to stakeholder input. The denominator for this measure is the total number of WorkFirst adults during the quarter. This measure is calculated by OFM using ACES and e-JAS data. Data are from the ACES data warehouse as of May 2021.

An average of 19,102 adults were enrolled in WorkFirst during the first three quarters of FY 2020. An average of 3,160 adults were enrolled in one of the education pathway components during each of those quarters. Use of education components dropped from 16.5% in the first three quarters of FY 2020 to 8.2% in Q2 2020, 6.1% in Q3 2020, 5.9% in Q4 2020 and 6.0% in Q1 2021 due to the effects of the COVID-19 emergency. The average percent of WorkFirst adults enrolled in the education pathway was 19.5% in FY 2017, 18.0% in FY 2018 and 17.2% in FY 2019.

For monthly enrollment in many of these components, see pages 33-34 and 37-38. Numerators and denominators for Q2 2010, Q2 2014 and Q1 2021 are shown as fractions. Counts on pages 75-80 include adults without grants who were paid through Community Jobs.

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Barometer Measure 29: Basic Education Pathway including English as a Second Language



Definition of Measure

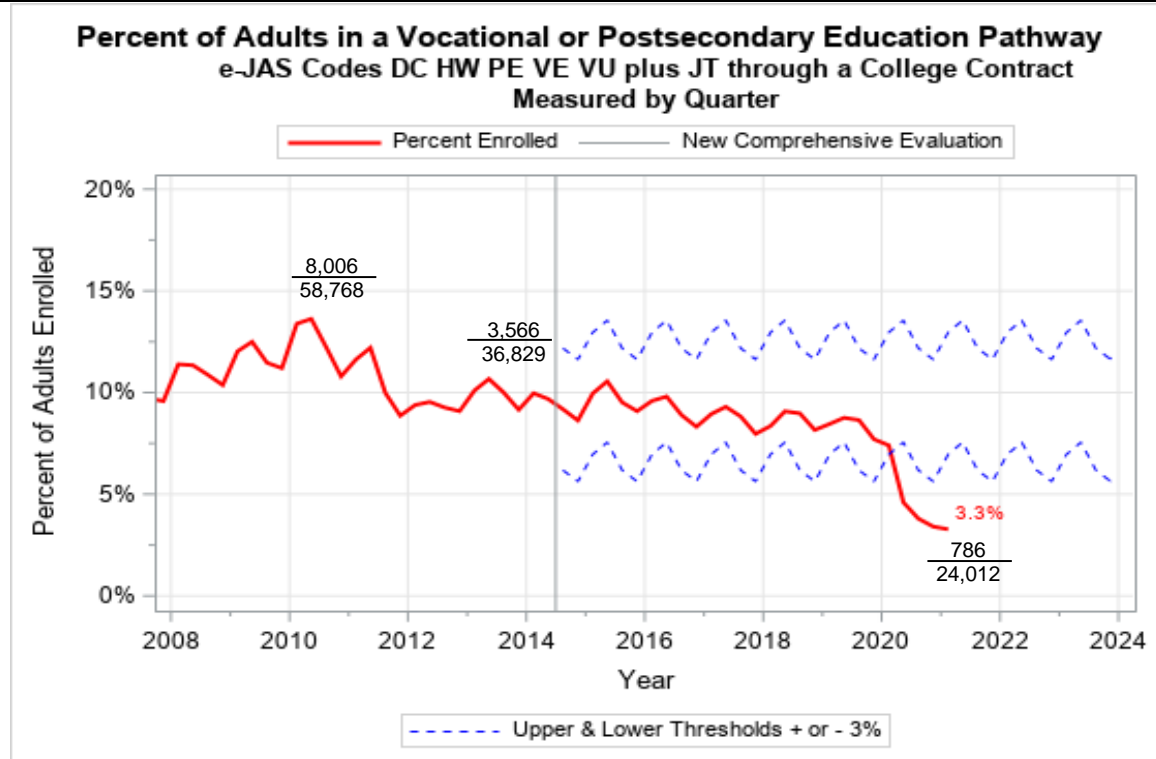
Percent of TANF adults who are engaged in basic education. The numerator for this measure is the number of TANF adults assigned to one or more of the following e-JAS components during the quarter: BE (basic education), ES (English as a second language), GE (high school equivalency preparation), HS (attending high school), and JT if provided outside a CTC college contract. JT outside the CTC college contract setting is short-term training related to employment that is not related to a specific occupation -- often it is part-time English as a second language training. JT within a CTC college contract is usually vocational education and is included as part of Barometer 30. The denominator of this measure is the total number of WorkFirst adults during the quarter. This measure is calculated by OFM using ACES and e-JAS data. Data are from the ACES data warehouse as of May 2021.

An average of 19,102 adults were enrolled in WorkFirst during the first three quarters of FY 2020. An average of 1,753 adults were enrolled in one of the basic education pathway components during those three quarters. Use of the basic education pathway components dropped from 9.2% during the first three quarters of FY 2020 to 3.8% in Q2 2020, 2.6% in Q3 and Q4 of 2020 and 2.8% in Q1 2021 due to the effects of the COVID-19 emergency. The average percent of WorkFirst adults enrolled in the education pathway was 11.2% in FY 2017, 10.0% in FY 2018 and 9.1% in FY 2019.

For monthly enrollment in these components, see pages 37-38. Outcomes for basic education at SBCTC colleges are provided on pages 98-99. Numerators and denominators for Q2 2010, Q2 2014 and Q1 2021 are shown as fractions.

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Barometer Measure 30: Vocational Education Pathway



Definition of Measure

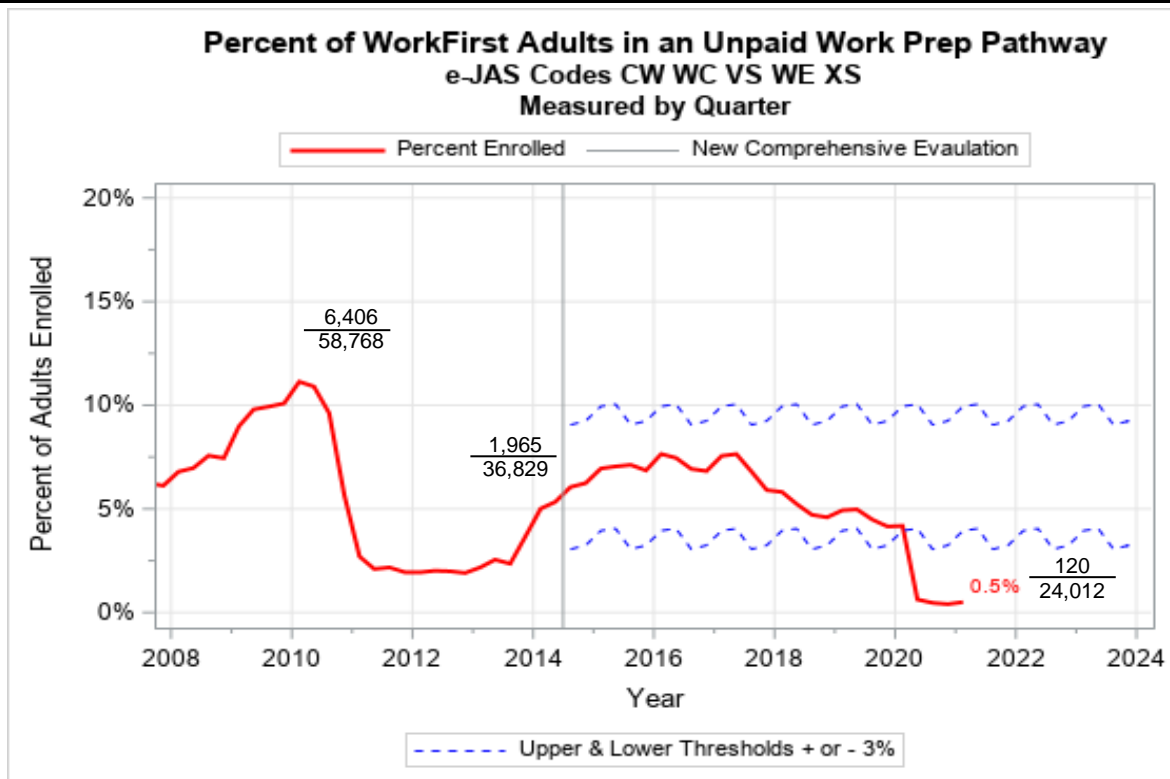
Percent of TANF adults who are engaged vocational or postsecondary education. The numerator for this measure is the number of TANF adults assigned to one or more of the following e-JAS components during the quarter: DC (degree completion), HW (high wage high demand training), PE (customized job skills training), VE (vocational education), and VU (vocational education - unapproved). DC is used for adults who are enrolled in a 4-year college or university. JT (job skills training) is used in CTC college contract settings to indicate vocational education. JT in other settings indicates basic education. VE can include enrollment in I-BEST, a CTC program that combines vocational education with basic skill training. VU is the component used when an adult is enrolled in full-time vocational or postsecondary education that does not count toward federal work participation requirements. The denominator for this measure is the number of WorkFirst adults during the quarter. The measure is calculated by OFM using ACES and e-JAS data. Data are from the ACES data warehouse as of May 2021.

An average of 19,102 adults were enrolled in WorkFirst during the first three quarters of FY 2020. An average of 1,512 adults were enrolled in one of the postsecondary education pathway components during those quarters. Use of these components dropped from 7.9% during the first three quarters of FY 2020 to 4.6% in Q2 2020, 3.8% in Q3, 3.4% in Q4 and 3.3% in Q1 2021 due to the effects of the COVID-19 emergency. The average percent of WorkFirst adults enrolled in the postsecondary education pathway was 8.9% in FY 2017 and 8.6% in FYs 2018 and 2019. For monthly enrollment in these components, see pages 33-34. Employment related outcomes for vocational and postsecondary education are provided on pages 55-56, 58, 85, 89, and 93. Educational outcomes for vocational and postsecondary education are provided on pages 100-101.

Numerators and denominators for Q2 2010, Q2 2014 and Q1 2021 are shown as fractions.

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Barometer Measure 31: Unpaid Work Preparation Work Experience Programs and Voluntary Services



Definition of Measure

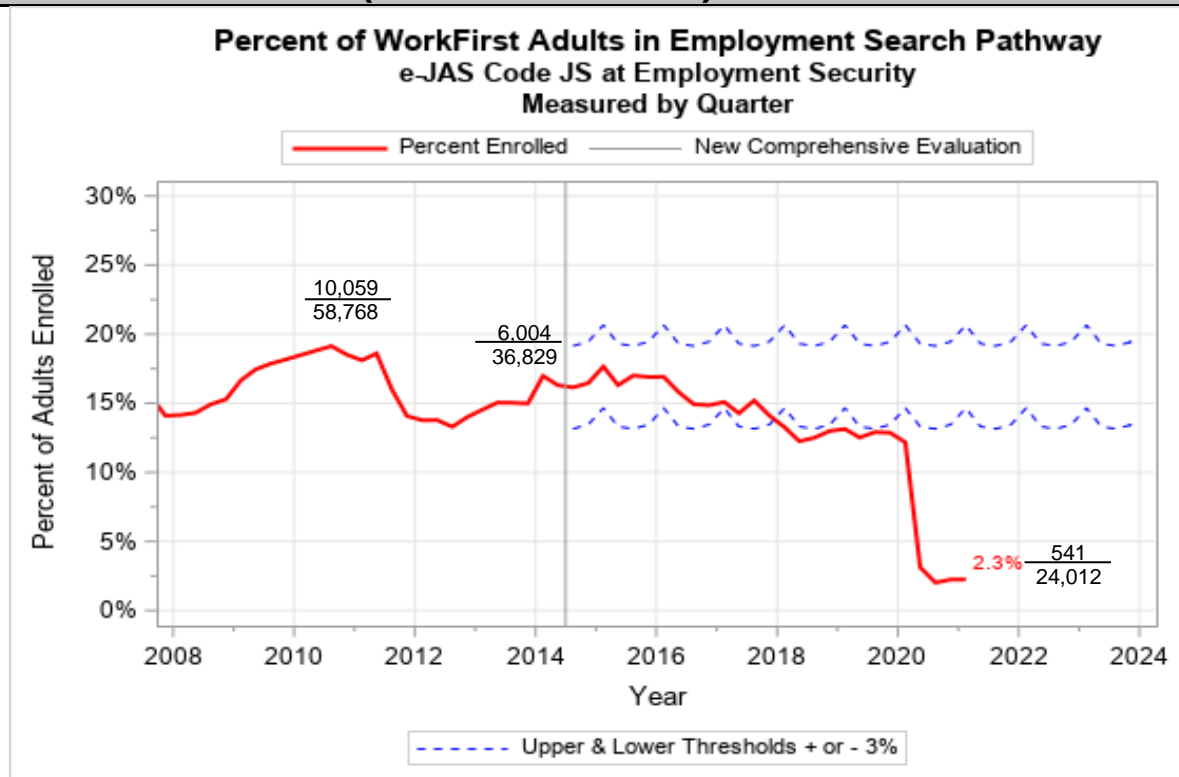
Percent of TANF adults who are engaged in an unpaid work experience or volunteer activity. The numerator for this measure is the number of TANF adults assigned to one or more of the following e-JAS components during the quarter: CW and WC (Community Works); VS (Voluntary Community Service); WE (Work Experience); and XS (Structured Community Service). CW was unpaid community service arranged by Department of Commerce contractors. It was phased out in late 2010 for budget reasons. A revised version coded as WC was re-introduced in the fall of 2013. VS is used by parents who volunteer at their children's preschool or daycare programs. WE is currently used by Limited English Program contractors, Commerce contractors, and community colleges. The denominator for this measure is the number of WorkFirst adults during the quarter. The measure is calculated by OFM using ACES and e-JAS data. Data are from the ACES data warehouse as of May 2021.

An average of 19,102 adults were enrolled in WorkFirst during the first three quarters of FY 2020. An average of 815 adults were enrolled in an unpaid work preparation component during those quarters. Use of unpaid work components was 2.0% in FY 2012 after the phase out of the CW and XS components. Use dropped from 4.3% during the first three quarters of FY 2020 to 0.6% during Q2 2020, 0.5% in Q3, 0.4% in Q4 and 0.5% in Q1 2021 due to the effects of the COVID-19 emergency. The average percent of WorkFirst adults enrolled in unpaid work activities was 7.2% in FY 2017, 5.9% in FY 2018 and 4.8% in FY 2019.

For monthly enrollment in these components, see pages 35-36. Numerators and denominators for Q2 2010, Q2 2014 and Q1 2021 are shown as fractions.

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Barometer Measure 32: Employment Search Pathway (ESD Job Search)



Definition of Measure

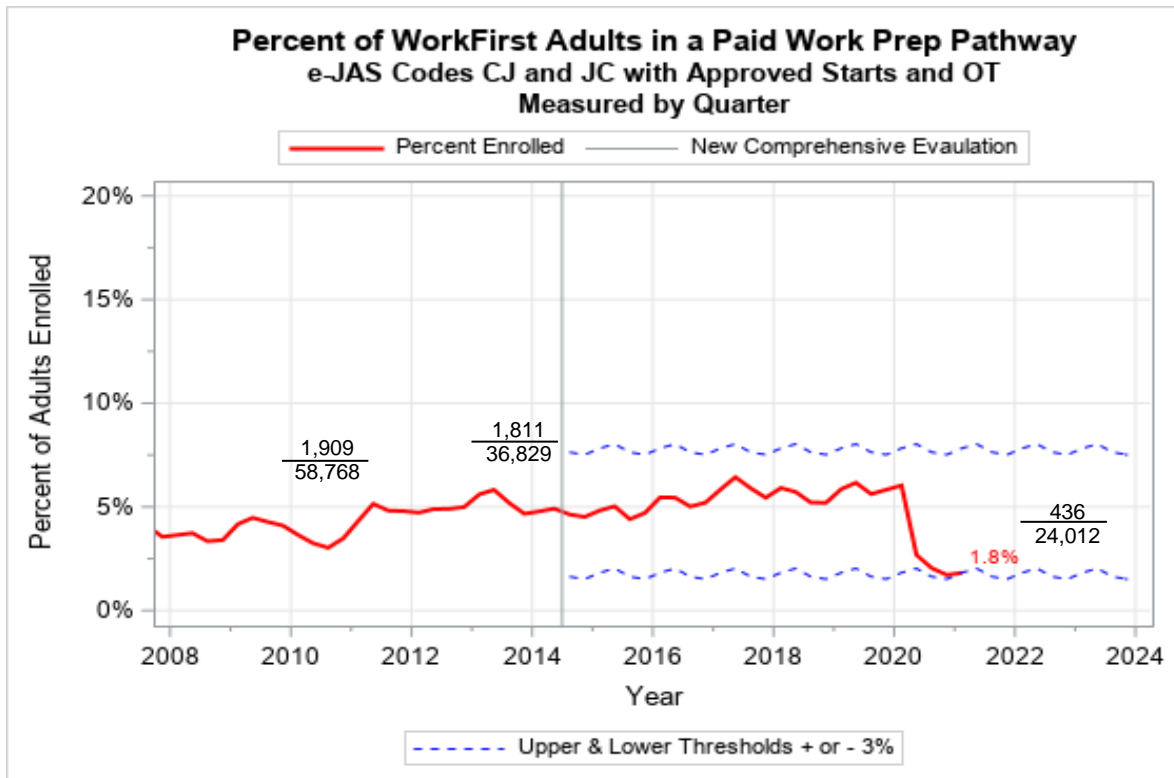
Percent of TANF adults in Employment Security (ESD) job search. The numerator for this measure is the number of TANF adults assigned to ESD job search in the quarter. This is counted using the e-JAS component code JS when no contractor code is supplied to identify a non-ESD provider. ESD redesigned its job search services in 2011 and has offered them under the name of Career Scope since July 2012. The denominator for this measure is the number of TANF adults during the quarter. This measure is calculated by OFM using ACES and e-JAS data. Data are from the ACES data warehouse as of May 2021.

An average of 19,102 adults were enrolled in WorkFirst during the first three quarters of FY 2020. An average of 2,416 adults were enrolled in ESD job search/Career Scope during those quarters. Use of the pathway dropped after July 2011 with the voluntary suspension of work requirements under ESSB 5921. A Lean project to improve communication between DSHS and ESD was implemented in January 2014. The percent of WorkFirst adults served in ESD job search was 14.9% in calendar year 2013, before the Lean project. Percents rose to 16.5% during calendar year 2014 and 16.6% during FY 2015. Average use dropped to 14.8% in FY 2017, 13.7% in FY 2018 and 12.8% in FY 2019. Use dropped from 12.7% in the first three quarters of FY 2020 to 3.1% in Q2 2020, 2.0% in Q3, 2.2% in Q4 and 2.3% in Q1 2021 due to the impacts of the COVID-19 emergency.

For monthly enrollment in this pathway, see pages 31-32. Employment related outcomes for this pathway are provided on pages 55-57, 84, 88, and 92. Numerators and denominators for Q2 2010, Q2 2014 and Q1 2021 are shown as fractions.

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Barometer Measure 33: Paid Work Preparation Pathway Community Jobs, Job Connection, and OJT



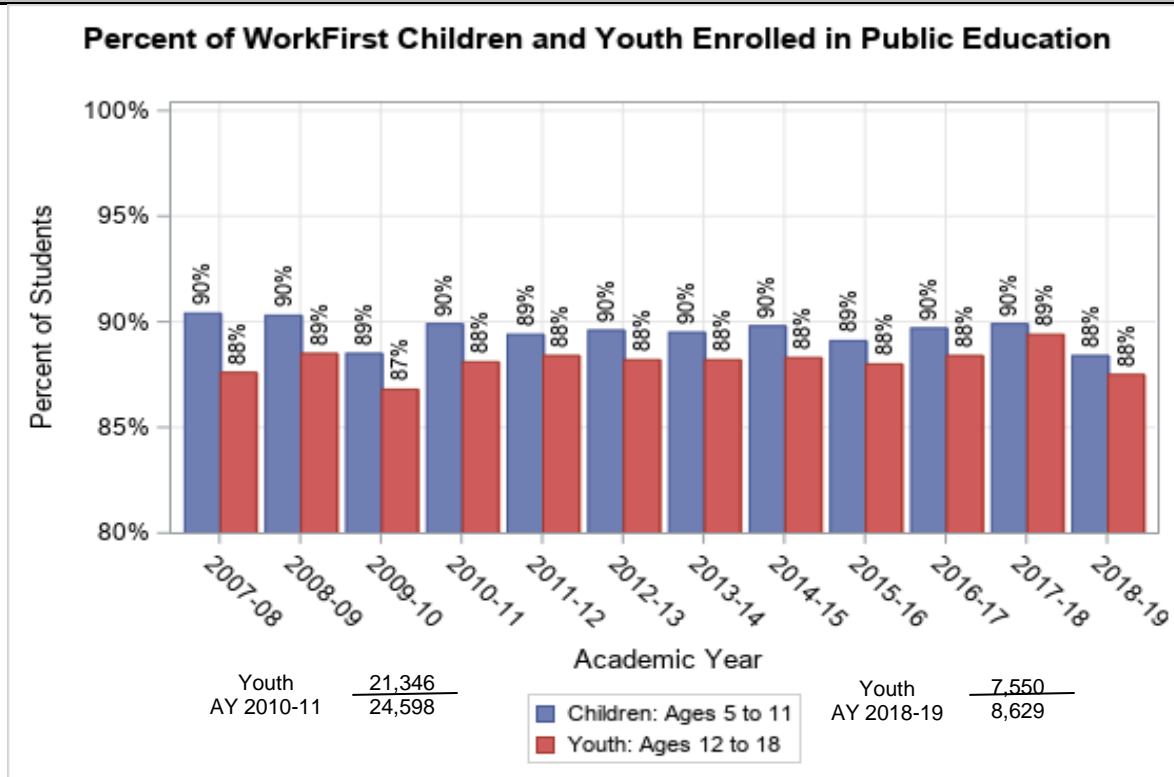
Definition of Measure

Percent of TANF adults who are engaged in a paid work preparation activity. The numerator of this measure is the number of TANF adults assigned to one or more of the following e-JAS components during the quarter: CJ (Community Jobs); JC (Job Connection); and OT (On the Job Training). Community Jobs and Job Connections are operated by the Department of Commerce. Community Jobs may last for up to 6 months and are developed for WorkFirst adults with barriers to employment. Job Connection placements were shorter and provided a work record for adults without recent work history but without other barriers to employment. The two Commerce programs were combined in July 2016. OT is provided to a handful of WorkFirst adults through the Employment Security Department. The measure does not include work study programs for college students. The denominator for this measure is the number of WorkFirst adults during the quarter. This measure is calculated by OFM using e-JAS data. Data are from the ACES data warehouse as of May 2021.

An average of 19,102 adults were enrolled in WorkFirst during the first three quarters of FY 2020. An average of 1,113 adults were enrolled one of the paid work preparation pathway components during those quarters. Use dropped from 5.8% in the first three quarters of FY 2020 to 2.7% in Q2 2020, 2.0% in Q3, 1.7% in Q4 and 1.8% in Q1 2021 due to the impacts of the COVID-19 emergency. The average percent of WorkFirst adults enrolled in paid work preparation activities was 5.6% in FY 2017, 5.7% in FY 2018 and 5.6% in FY 2019 -- up from 4.7% in FY 2015.

For monthly enrollment in these components, see pages 35-36. Employment related outcomes for this group of components are provided on pages 55-56, 59, 86, 90, and 94. Numerators and denominators for Q2 2010, Q2 2014 and Q1 2021 are shown as fractions. [Return to Contents](#)

Barometer Measure 34: Percent of TANF Children and Youth Enrolled in K-12 Public Education



Definition of Measure

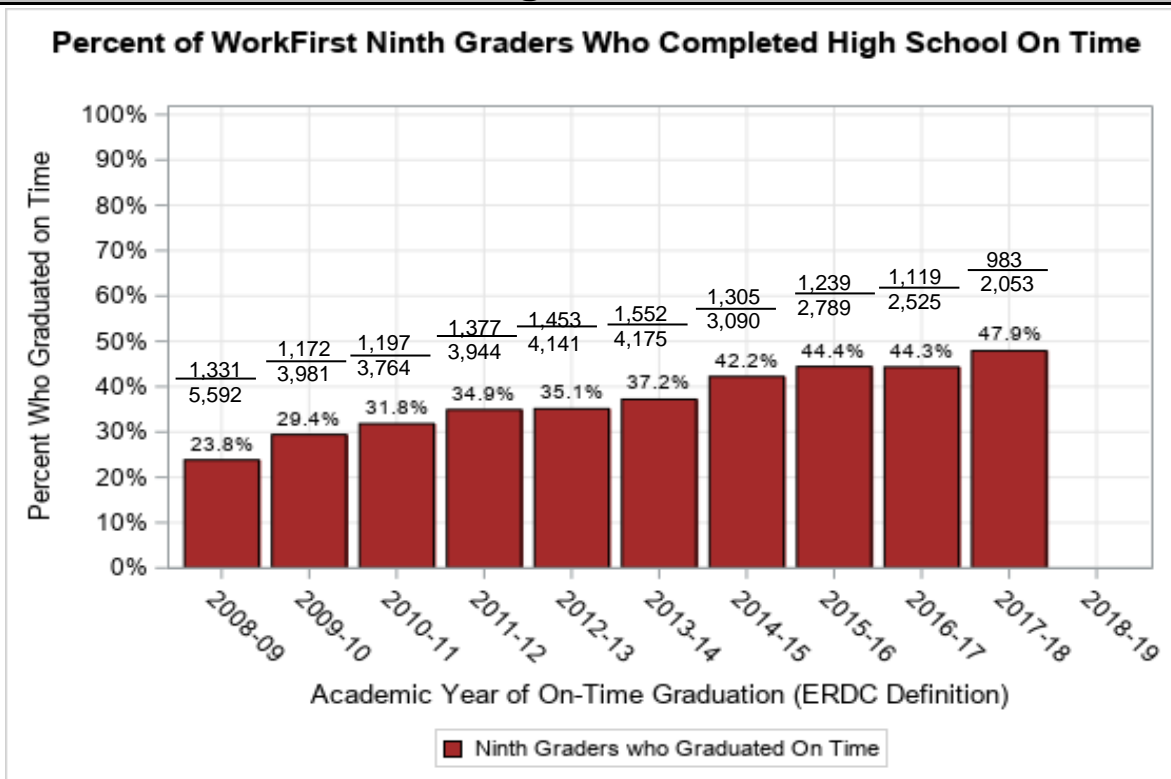
Percent of TANF children who were enrolled in public education during the school year. The numerator of this measure is the number of children in WorkFirst households who were enrolled in public schools in Washington State for one or more months during the academic year (AY). Children from Child Only TANF cases were not included. Academic years run from September through August. Results were calculated by OFM's Education Research Data Center (ERDC).

A total of 66,104 children between the ages of 5 and 18 received TANF (not including Child Only cases) during AY 2010-11; 25,508 during AY 2018-19. After clean-up of identifiers needed for matching, ERDC staff found school enrollment records for 58,076 children in AY 2010-11 and 22,465 in AY 2018-19. Separate enrollment measures were calculated for younger children (ages 5 to 11) and older children (ages 12 to 18). School enrollment of WorkFirst children reached a low point during AY 2009-10, which corresponds to the worst year of the great recession and the high point of WorkFirst caseloads. The highest WorkFirst caseloads were reached during AY 2010-11 -- the highest month in December 2010.

School enrollment of WorkFirst children has not shown much change since AY 2010-11. It reached its highest levels in 2017-18 but fell off slightly in 2018-19. ERDC will be checking to see if the results for 2018-19 remain low the next time results are calculated. It is possible that the lower results come from incomplete reporting for the 2018-19 school year. Numerators and denominators for youth ages 12 to 18 in AYs 2010-11 and 2018-19 are shown as fractions.

These results were based on new identity matching completed by the ERDC. This analysis was completed in September 2020. [Return to Contents](#)

Barometer Measure 35: Percent of TANF Youth who Graduated from High School On Time



Definition of Measure

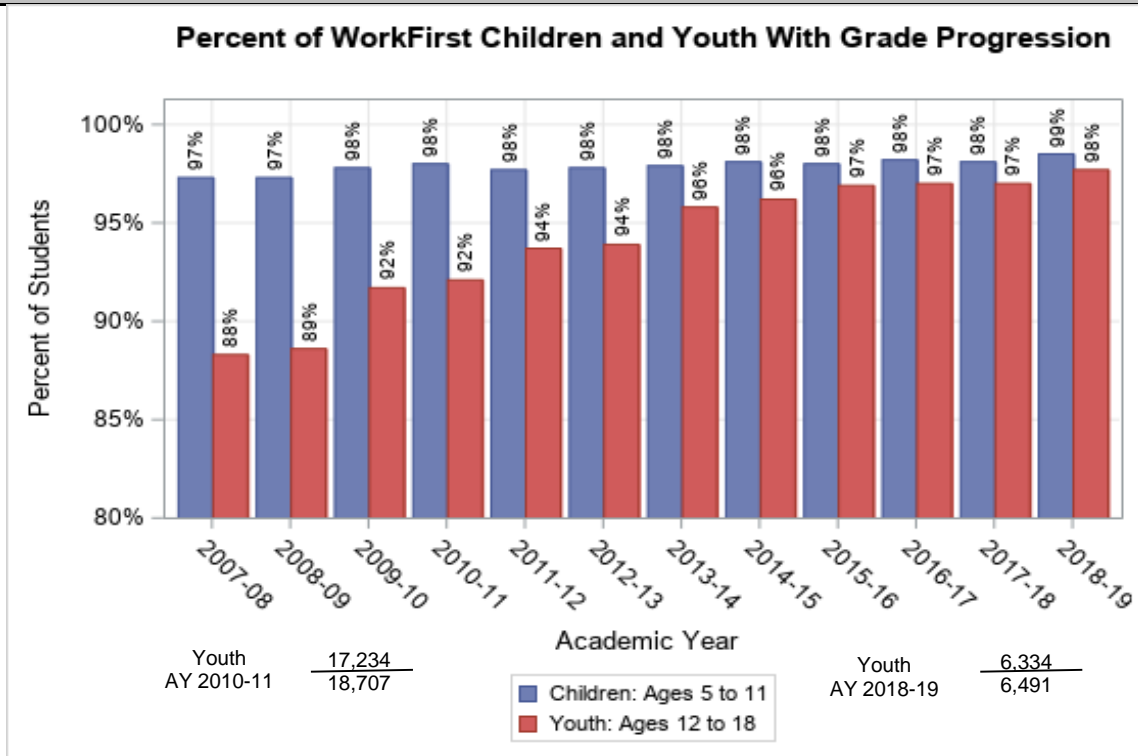
Percent of TANF youth who graduate on time. The numerator of this measure is the number of ninth graders in WorkFirst households who graduated within four academic years. Youth in Child Only cases were not included. Results for 2008-09 are for youth who were TANF recipients and first-time ninth-graders during the 2005-06 school year. Results for 2010-11 are for first-time ninth graders from the 2007-08 school year, and so on. Data for 2017-18 came from graduation records in that school year for first-time TANF ninth graders from the 2014-15 academic year. Results were calculated by OFM's Education Research and Data Center (ERDC).

Numerators and denominators are shown as fractions in the chart for each academic year. The number of first time ninth-graders during any academic year is smaller than one might expect, due to the relatively small number of older children in WorkFirst households. These children are tracked on to graduation using academic records, regardless of whether their families continued to use the WorkFirst program. WorkFirst caseload declines do not affect results until the 2014-15 academic year -- three years after the caseload peak in 2010-11.

These results were based on new identity matching completed by the ERDC. While the numerators and denominators reported in the current analysis are consistently higher than in 2018, the percent of on time graduation is similar to the results obtained earlier. This analysis was completed in September 2020.

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Barometer Measure 36: Percent of TANF Children and Youth who Progressed to the Next Grade as Expected



Definition of Measure

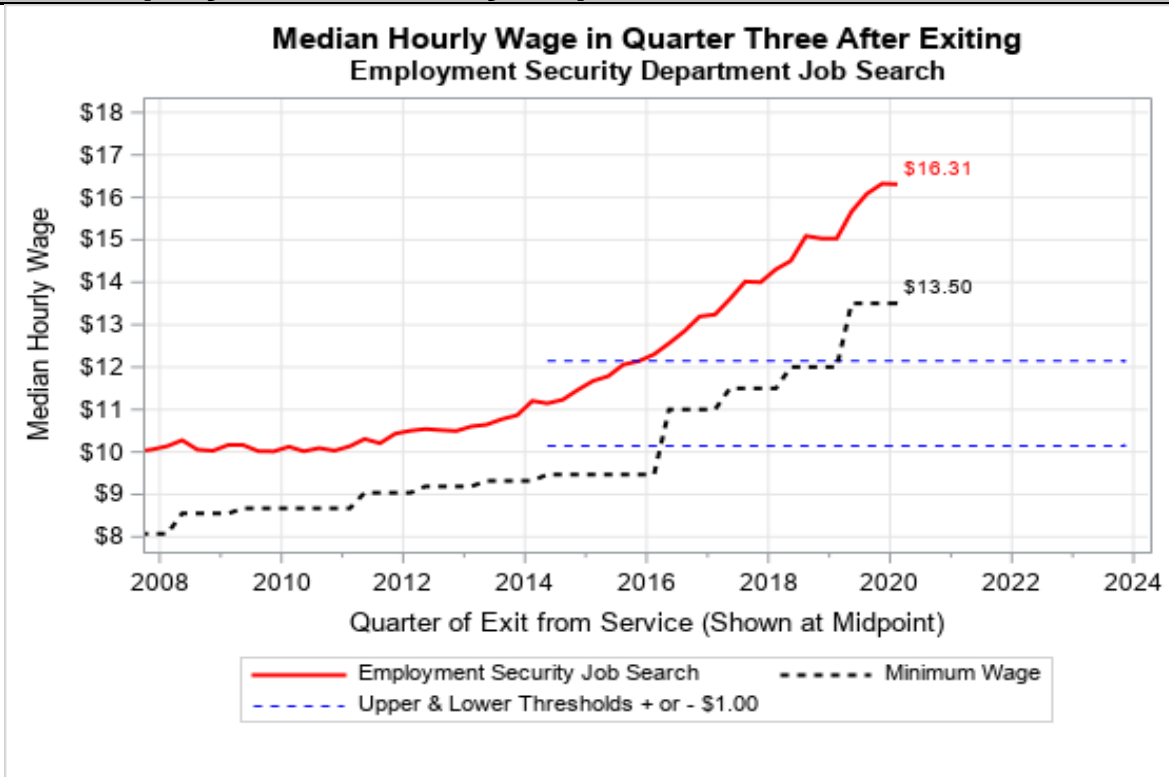
Percent of TANF school-age children in a given year who progressed to the next grade level as expected. This measure uses children in WorkFirst households during the academic year (AY) who had valid grade information for the prior AY in public schools in Washington State. Children in Child Only cases were not included. Academic years run from September through August. Results were calculated by OFM's Education Research Data Center (ERDC).

A total of 55,150 TANF children ages 5 to 18, excluding children from Child Only cases, were enrolled in school during AY 2010-11 and usable for analysis; 20,557 during AY 2018-19. Some 96% of the TANF students identified in AY 2010-11 and 98% of the TANF students from AY 2018-19 had progressed by one grade level by the beginning of next academic year. Separate progression measures were calculated for younger children ages 5 to 11 and older children ages 12 to 18. Progression is relatively high among younger children. Progression began to increase during AY 2009-10 for older children, in a pattern that is consistent with the gains seen in school enrollment and on-time-graduation. School records are used to measure grade progression for these children, regardless of whether their families continued to use the WorkFirst program. Numerators and denominators for youth ages 12 to 18 in AYs 2010-11 and 2018-19 are shown as fractions.

These results were based on new identity matching completed by the ERDC. While the numerators and denominators reported in the current analysis are consistently higher than in 2018, the percent of children progressing to the next grade level is very close to the results obtained earlier. This analysis was completed in September 2020.

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Barometer Measure 37: Hourly Wage Rate after Exiting Employment Security Department Job Search



Definition of Measure

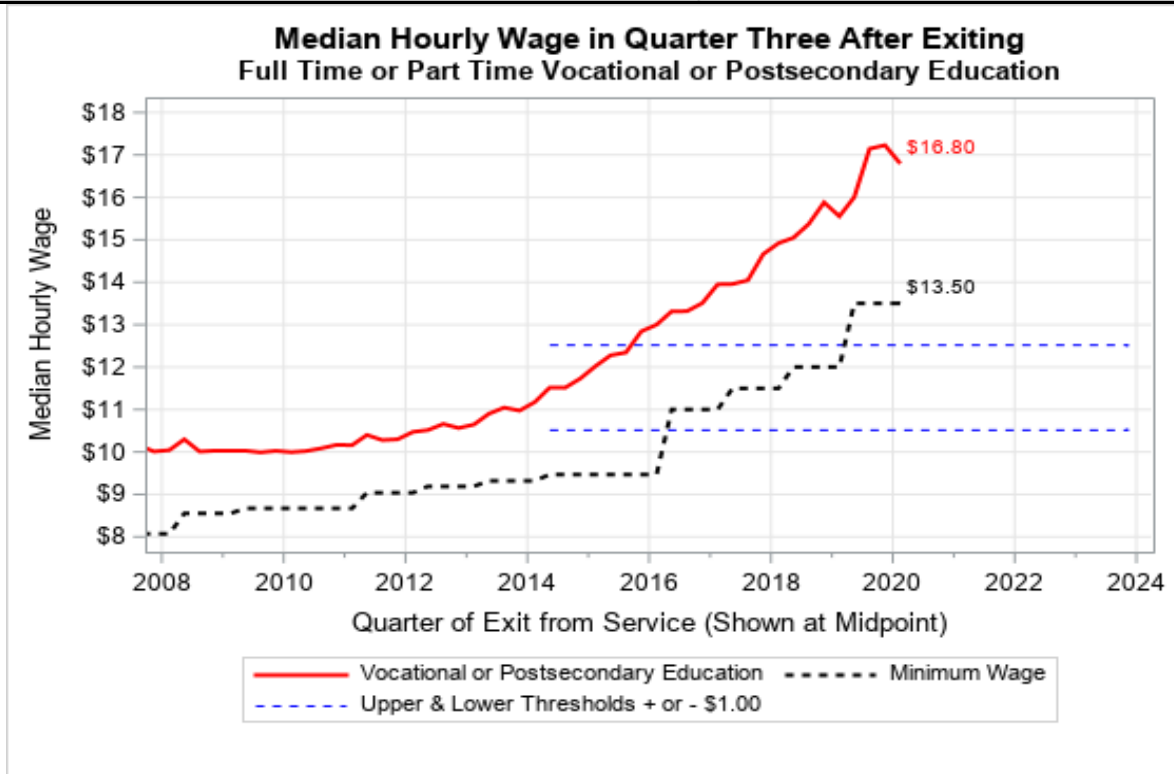
Median hourly wage rate in the third quarter after exit from Employment Security job search. The median wage is the wage rate at the center of the distribution from the lowest wage to the highest wage obtained. Wage rates are based on UI wage records of earnings and work hours. Records have been cleaned to throw out records without earnings or where work hours were missing for the quarter. Earnings and hours were combined across multiple jobs if more than one job was held during the quarter. Extremely high or low wage rates were also dropped.

An average of 886 adults had earning records during the third quarter following exit from Employment Security job search from each quarter of fiscal year 2019. An average of 859 per quarter (97.0%) had clean earnings and work hour information necessary to calculate wage rates. The average of the four quarterly medians was \$10.27 per hour during 2011, \$11.00 in FY 2014, \$11.54 in FY 2015, \$12.27 in FY 2016, \$13.22 in FY 2017, \$14.21 in FY 2018 and \$15.20 in FY 2019.

The thresholds for this measure are based on results from 2015 when the minimum wage was \$9.47 per hour. Results shown above run through Q1 2020, which was the fourth quarter exposed to the \$13.50 minimum wage. Approximately 4% of ESD job finders in Q1 2020 lived in Seattle. Seattle had a minimum wage higher than \$13.50 per hour for large employers and some smaller employers. Q1 2020 was the third quarter affected by the COVID-19 emergency.

This measure is calculated by OFM, using data from ACES and e-JAS from the ACES data warehouse and Unemployment Insurance wage records from the Department of Employment Security. Data were obtained from the Department of Employment Security in May 2021. [Return to Contents](#)

Barometer Measure 38: Hourly Wage Rate after Exiting Vocational and Postsecondary Education



Definition of Measure

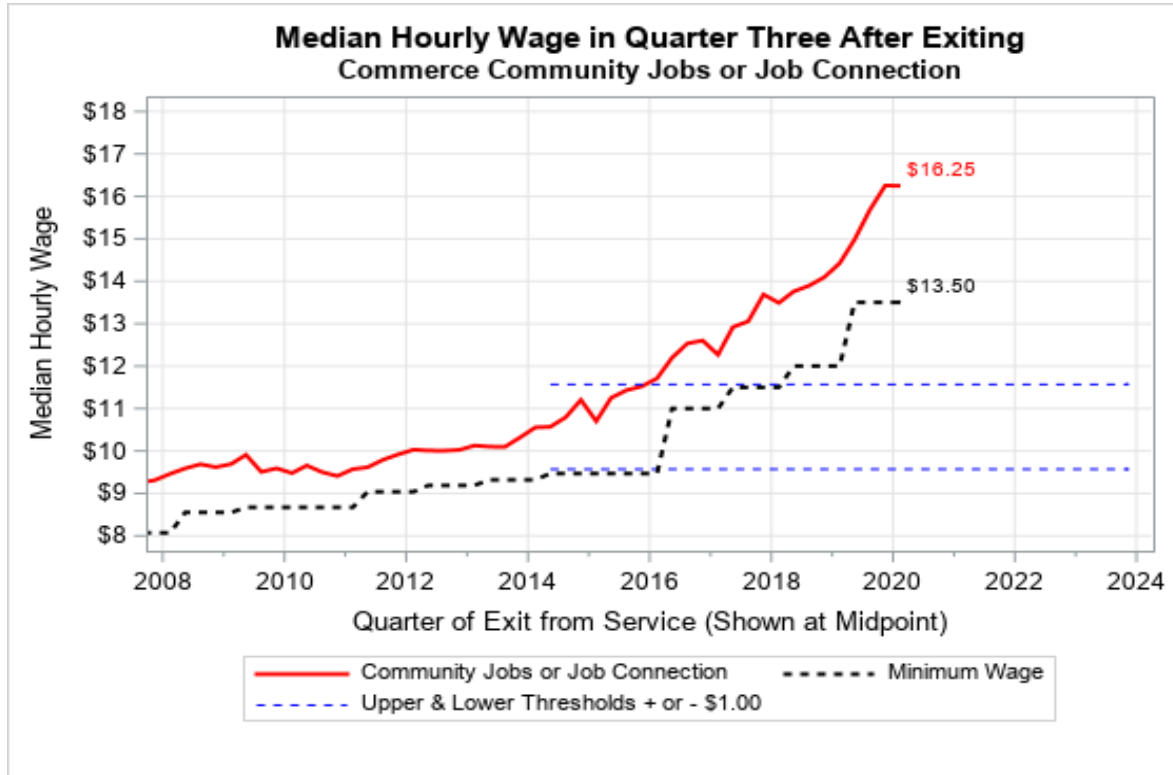
Median hourly wage rate in the third quarter after exit from vocational or postsecondary education. The median wage is the wage rate at the center of the distribution from the lowest wage to the highest wage obtained. Wage rates are based on UI wage records of earnings and work hours. Records have been cleaned to throw out records without earnings or where work hours were missing for the quarter. Earnings and hours were combined across multiple jobs if more than one job was held during the quarter. Extremely high or low wage rates were also dropped.

An average of 308 adults had earning records during the third quarter following exit from vocational or postsecondary education from each quarter of fiscal year 2019. An average of 300 per quarter (97.4%) had clean earnings and work hour information necessary to calculate wage rates. The average of the four quarterly medians was \$10.29 per hour during 2011, \$11.18 in FY 2014, \$11.89 in FY 2015, \$12.87 in FY 2016, \$13.69 in FY 2017, \$14.67 in FY 2018 and \$15.70 in FY 2019.

The thresholds for this measure are based on results from 2015 when the minimum wage was \$9.47 per hour. Results shown above run through Q1 2020, which was the fourth quarter exposed to the \$13.50 minimum wage. Approximately 8% of vocational or postsecondary education job finders in Q1 2020 lived in Seattle. Seattle had a minimum wage higher than \$13.50 per hour for large employers and some smaller employers. Q1 2020 was the third quarter affected by the COVID-19 emergency.

This measure is calculated by OFM, using data from ACES and e-JAS from the ACES data warehouse and Unemployment Insurance wage records from the Department of Employment Security. Data were obtained from the Department of Employment Security in May 2021. [Return to Contents](#)

Barometer Measure 39: Hourly Wage Rate after Exiting Paid Work Prep (Community Jobs or Job Connection)



Definition of Measure

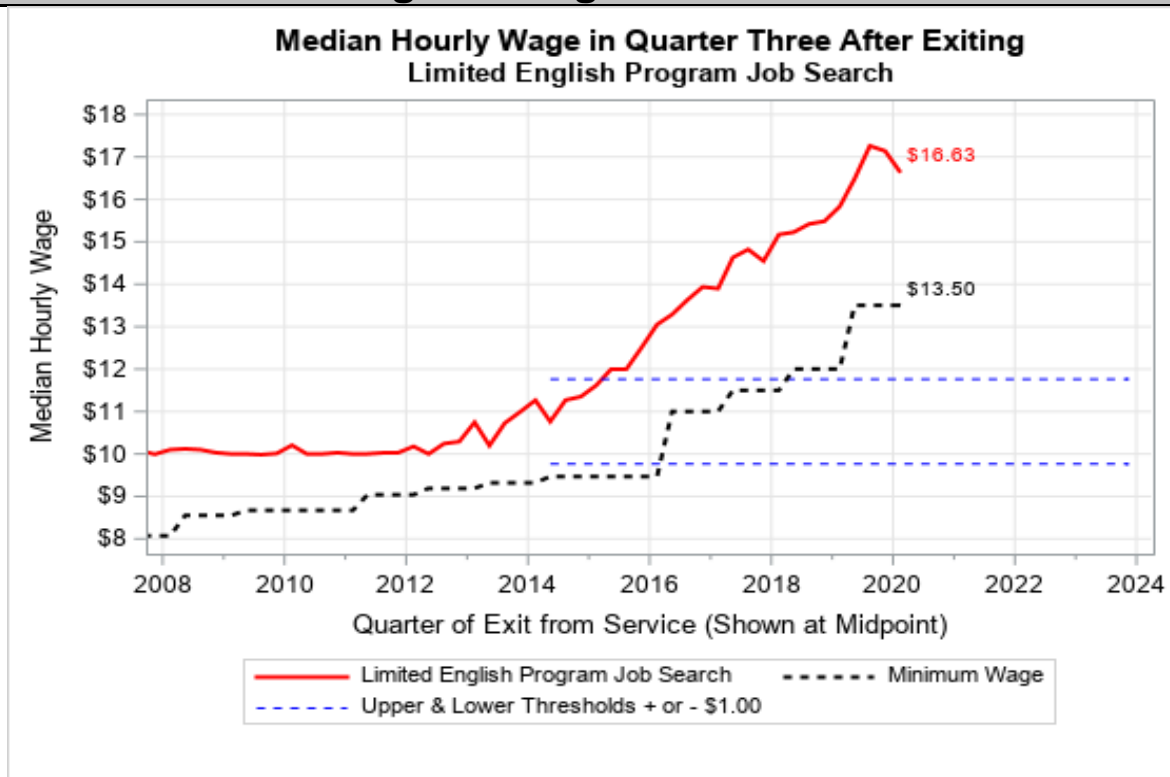
Median hourly wage rate in the third quarter after exit from Community Jobs or Job Connection, the paid work preparation programs offered by WorkFirst through the Department of Commerce. The median wage is the wage rate at the center of the distribution from the lowest wage to the highest wage obtained. Wage rates are based on UI wage records of earnings and work hours. Records have been cleaned to throw out records without earnings or where work hours were missing for the quarter. Earnings and hours were combined across multiple jobs if more than one job was held during the quarter. Extremely high or low wage rates were also dropped.

An average of 258 adults had earning records during the third quarter following exit from Community Jobs from each quarter of fiscal year 2019. An average of 253 per quarter (97.9%) had clean earnings and work hour information necessary to calculate wage rates. The average of the four quarterly medians was \$9.73 per hour during 2011, \$10.39 in FY 2014, \$10.99 in FY 2015, \$11.72 in FY 2016, \$12.58 in FY 2017, \$13.50 in FY 2018 and \$14.35 in FY 2019.

The thresholds for this measure are based on results from 2015 when the minimum wage was \$9.47 per hour. Results shown above run through Q1 2020, which was the fourth quarter exposed to the \$13.50 minimum wage. Approximately 11% of Community Jobs job finders in Q1 2020 lived in Seattle. Seattle had a minimum wage higher than \$13.50 per hour for large employers and some smaller employers. Q1 2020 was the third quarter affected by the COVID-19 emergency.

This measure is calculated by OFM, using data from ACES and e-JAS from the ACES data warehouse and Unemployment Insurance wage records from the Department of Employment Security. Data were obtained from the Department of Employment Security in May 2021. [Return to Contents](#)

Barometer Measure 40: Hourly Wage Rate after Exiting Limited English Program Job Search



Definition of Measure

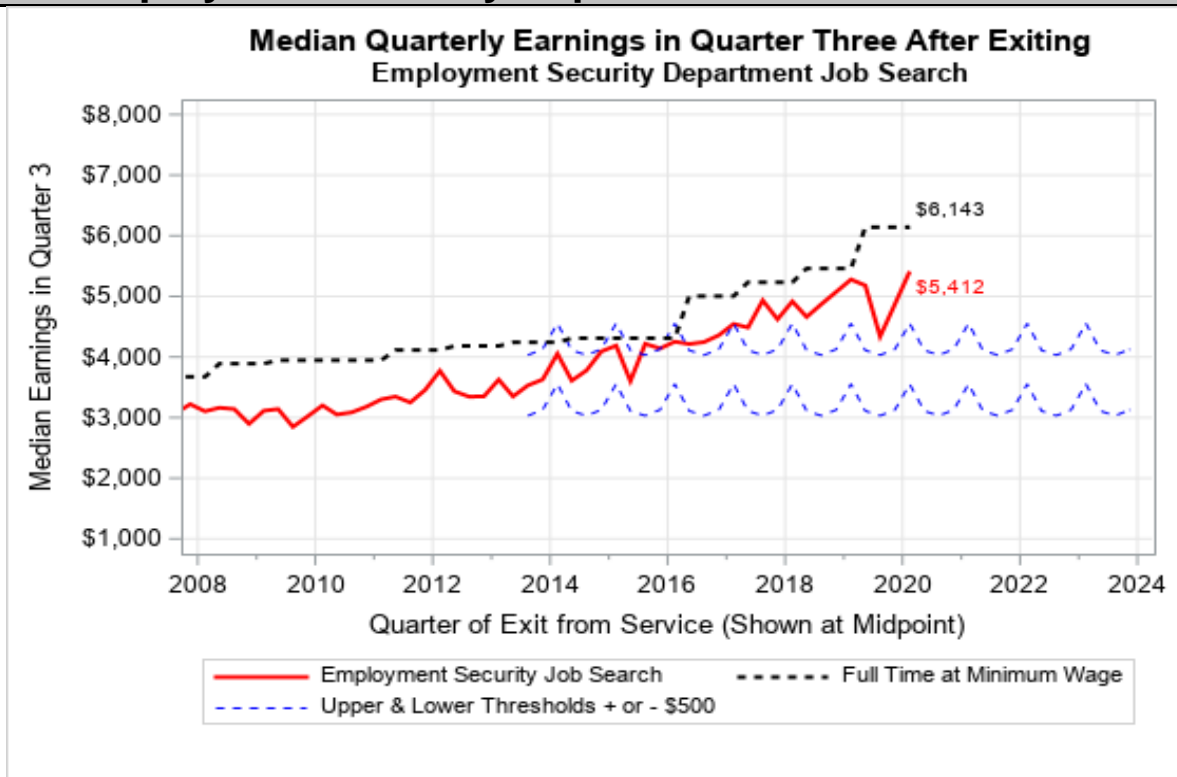
Median hourly wage rate in the third quarter after exit from Limited English Program job search. The median wage is the wage rate at the center of the distribution from the lowest wage to the highest wage obtained. Wage rates are based on UI wage records of earnings and work hours. Records have been cleaned to throw out records without earnings or where work hours were missing for the quarter. Earnings and hours were combined across multiple jobs if more than one job was held during the quarter. Extremely high or low wage rates were also dropped.

An average of 154 adults had earning records during the third quarter following exit from Limited English Program job search from each quarter of fiscal year 2019. An average of 147 per quarter (95.1%) had clean earnings and work hour information necessary to calculate wage rates. The average of the four quarterly medians was \$10.02 per hour during 2011, \$10.94 in FY 2014, \$11.56 in FY 2015, \$12.71 in FY 2016, \$14.03 in FY 2017, \$14.94 in FY 2018 and \$15.80 in FY 2019.

The thresholds for this measure are based on results from 2015 when the minimum wage was \$9.47 per hour. Results shown above run through Q1 2020, which was the fourth quarter exposed to the \$13.50 minimum wage. Approximately 21% of LEP job finders in Q1 2020 lived in Seattle, more than in the other programs. Seattle had a minimum wage higher than \$13.50 per hour for large employers and some smaller employers. Q1 2020 was the third quarter affected by the COVID-19 emergency.

This measure is calculated by OFM, using data from ACES and e-JAS from the ACES data warehouse and Unemployment Insurance wage records from the Department of Employment Security. Data were obtained from the Department of Employment Security in May 2021. [Return to Contents](#)

Barometer Measure 41: Quarterly Earnings after Exiting Employment Security Department Job Search



Definition of Measure

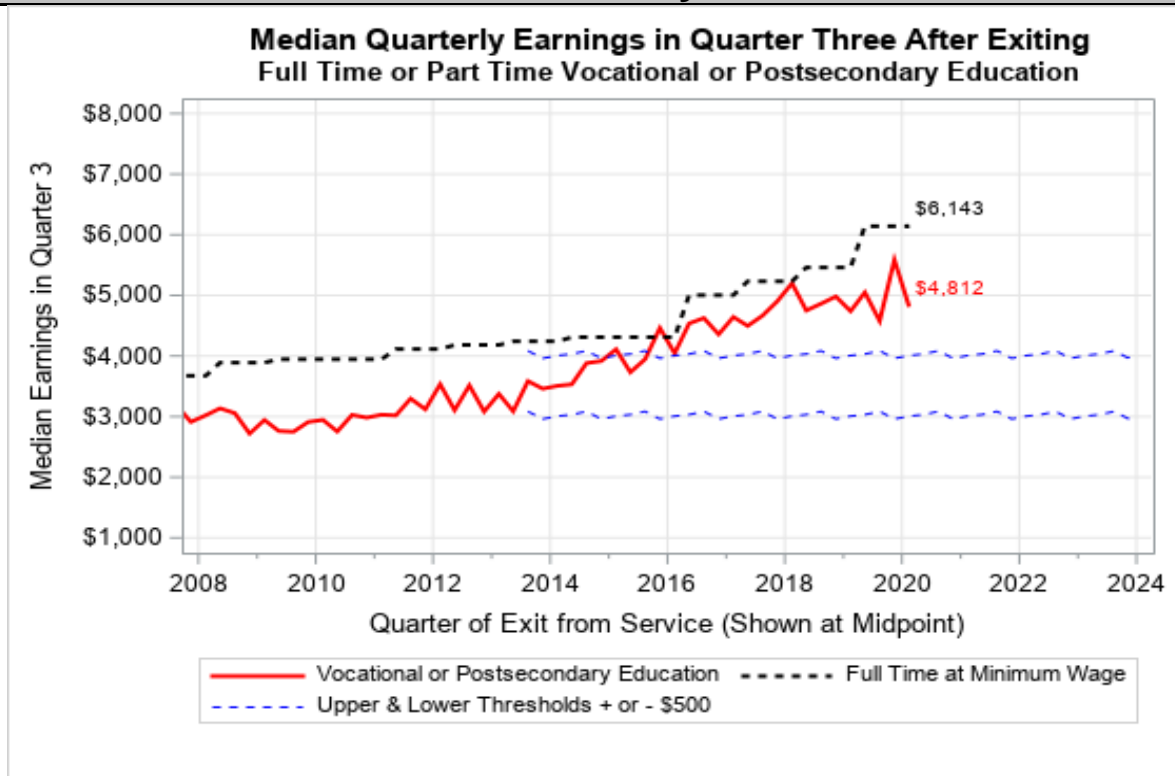
Median quarterly earnings during the third quarter after exit from Employment Security job search. Median earnings are the earnings at the center of the distribution from lowest earnings to highest earnings obtained. Earnings are based on UI wage records and earnings from multiple jobs were combined. However, records with more than 800 combined work hours reported in the quarter were dropped due to the possibility that more than one person might be included in the totals.

An average of 886 adults were employed during the third quarter following exit from Employment Security job search from each quarter of fiscal year 2019. An average of 876 per quarter (98.9%) had clean earnings records used to calculate median earnings. Thresholds for this measure were calculated from the four quarters of fiscal year 2014. The average of the four quarterly medians was \$3,338 during 2011, \$3,706 in FY 2014, \$3,916 in FY 2015, \$4,206 in FY 2016, \$4,409 in FY 2017, \$4,783 in FY 2018 and \$5,102 in FY 2019. The state minimum wage in effect during the third quarter after exit was multiplied by 455 hours (equivalent to 35 hours per week) to provide a reference line indicating full-time earnings at the state minimum wage. Results shown above run through Q1 2020, the third quarter affected by the COVID-19 emergency. Hourly wage rates of ESD job finders were similar in Q4 2019 and Q1 2020, so the increase in earnings seen in Q1 2020 must stem from increased work hours, showing a recovery from initial pandemic impacts.

This measure is calculated by OFM, using data from ACES and e-JAS from the ACES data warehouse and Unemployment Insurance wage records from the Department of Employment Security. Data were obtained from the Department of Employment Security in May 2021.

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Barometer Measure 42: Quarterly Earnings after Exiting Vocational and Postsecondary Education



Definition of Measure

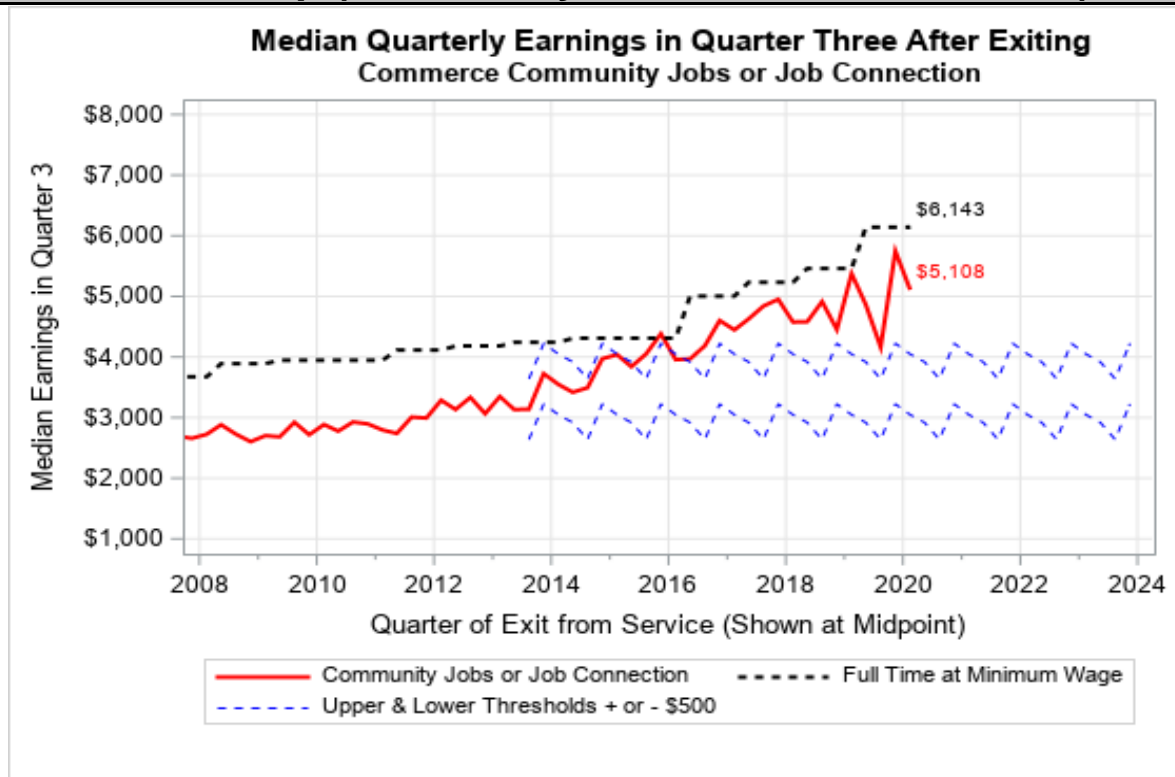
Median quarterly earnings during the third quarter after exit from vocational or postsecondary education. Median earnings are the earnings at the center of the distribution from lowest earnings to highest earnings obtained. Earnings are based on UI wage records and earnings from multiple jobs were combined. However, records with more than 800 combined work hours reported in the quarter were dropped due to the possibility that more than one person might be included in the totals.

An average of 308 adults were employed during the third quarter following exit from vocational or postsecondary education from each quarter of fiscal year 2019. An average of 305 per quarter (98.9%) had clean earnings records used to calculate median earnings. Thresholds for this measure were calculated from the four quarters of fiscal year 2014. The average of the four quarterly medians was \$3,117 during 2011, \$3,521 in FY 2014, \$3,910 in FY 2015, \$4,247 in FY 2016, \$4,531 in FY 2017, \$4,879 in FY 2018 and \$4,908 in FY 2019. The state minimum wage in effect during the third quarter after exit was multiplied by 455 hours (equivalent to 35 hours per week) to provide a reference line indicating full-time earnings at the state minimum wage. Results shown above run through Q1 2020, the third quarter affected by the COVID-19 emergency. Wage rates and the work hours of job finders both declined between Q4 2019 and Q1 2020 producing a drop in quarterly earnings.

Vocational or postsecondary education includes education provided by SBCTC colleges but also includes education provided by public and private four year colleges and by private career schools. In FY 2019, 85% of vocational or postsecondary education was provided by SBCTC colleges.

This measure is calculated by OFM, using data from ACES and e-JAS from the ACES data warehouse and Unemployment Insurance wage records from the Department of Employment Security. Data were obtained from the Department of Employment Security in May 2021. [Return to Contents](#)

Barometer Measure 43: Quarterly Earnings after Exiting Paid Work Prep (Community Jobs or Job Connection)



Definition of Measure

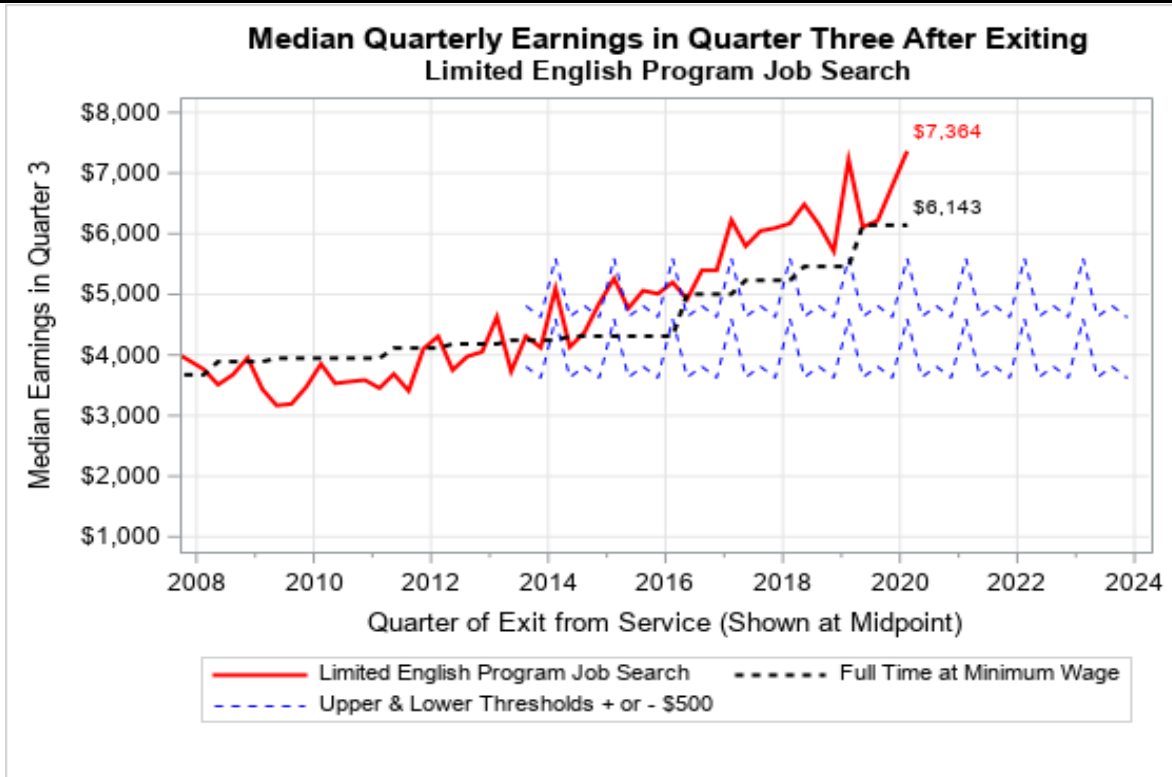
Median quarterly earnings during the third quarter after exit from Community Jobs or Job Connection, the paid work preparation programs offered by WorkFirst through the Department of Commerce. Median earnings are the earnings at the center of the distribution from lowest earnings to highest earnings obtained. Earnings are based on UI wage records and earnings from multiple jobs were combined. However, records with more than 800 combined work hours reported in the quarter were dropped due to the possibility that more than one person might be included in the totals.

An average of 258 adults were employed during the third quarter following exit from Community Jobs from each quarter of fiscal year 2019. An average of 257 per quarter (99.3%) had clean earnings records used to calculate median earnings. Thresholds for this measure were calculated from the four quarters of fiscal year 2014. The average of the four quarterly medians was \$2,884 during 2011, \$3,457 in FY 2014, \$3,836 in FY 2015, \$4,089 in FY 2016, \$4,466 in FY 2017, \$4,737 in FY 2018 and \$4,901 in FY 2019. The state minimum wage in effect during the third quarter after exit was multiplied by 455 hours (equivalent to 35 hours per week) to provide a reference line indicating full-time earnings at the state minimum wage. Results shown above run through Q1 2020, the third quarter affected by the COVID-19 emergency. The drop in earnings that occurred between Q4 2019 and Q1 2020 came from reduced work hours. Hourly wage rates in the two quarters were almost the same.

This measure is calculated by OFM, using data from ACES and e-JAS from the ACES data warehouse and Unemployment Insurance wage records from the Department of Employment Security. Data were obtained from the Department of Employment Security in May 2021.

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Barometer Measure 44: Quarterly Earnings after Exiting Limited English Program Job Search



Definition of Measure

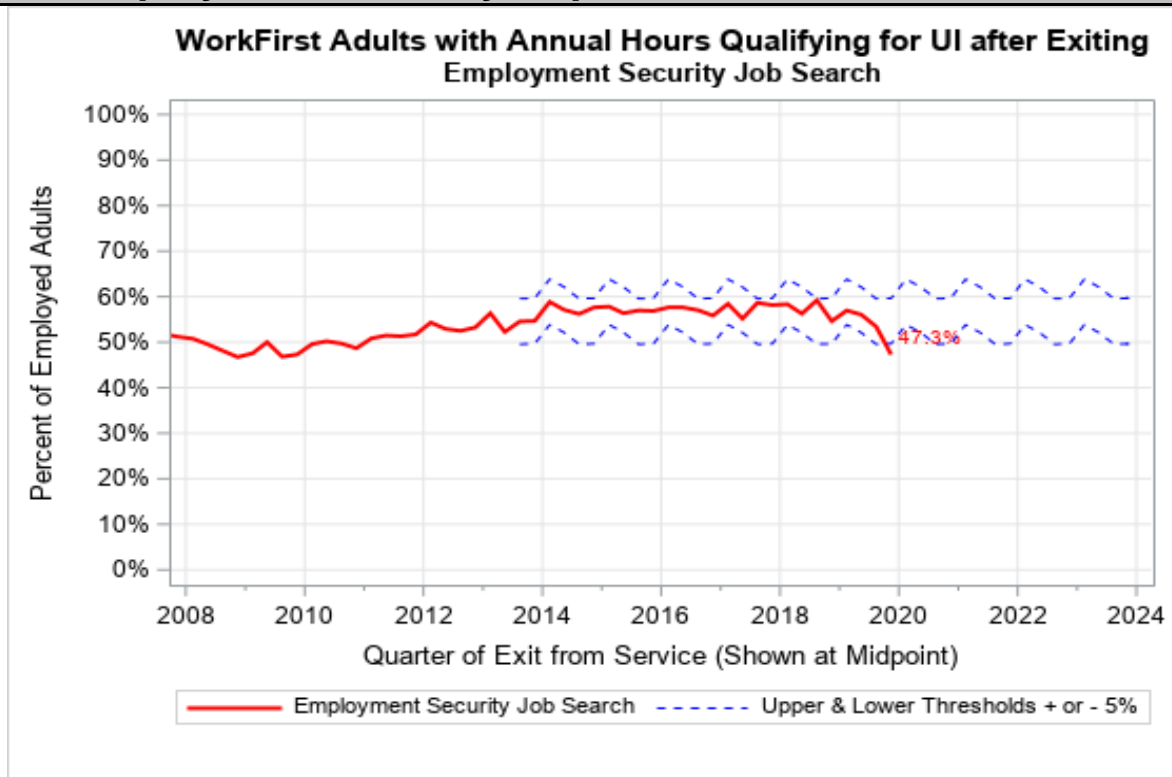
Median quarterly earnings during the third quarter after exit from Limited English Program job search. Median earnings are the earnings at the center of the distribution from lowest earnings to highest earnings obtained. Earnings are based on UI wage records and earnings from multiple jobs were combined. However, records with more than 800 combined work hours reported in the quarter were dropped due to the possibility that more than one person might be included in the totals.

An average of 154 adults were employed during the third quarter following exit from Limited English Program job search from each quarter of fiscal year 2019. An average of 149 per quarter (96.8%) had clean earnings records used to calculate median earnings. Data cleaning protocols increase the likelihood that the high earnings shown here are real and do not result from data integrity problems. Thresholds for this measure were calculated from the four quarters of fiscal year 2014. The average of the four quarterly medians was \$3,662 during 2011, \$4,414 in FY 2014, \$4,815 in FY 2015, \$5,047 in FY 2016, \$5,703 in FY 2017, \$6,199 in FY 2018 and \$6,297 in FY 2019. The state minimum wage in effect during the quarter after exit was multiplied by 455 hours (equivalent to 35 hours per week) to provide a reference line indicating full-time earnings at the state minimum wage. Results shown above run through Q1 2020, the third quarter affected by the COVID-19 emergency. The relatively high earnings for LEP job search reflect, in part, the concentration of LEP job search enrollees in Seattle and King County. Hourly wage rates of job finders dropped between Q4 2019 and Q1 2020, so the increase in earnings in Q1 2020 resulted from increased work hours.

This measure is calculated by OFM, using data from ACES and e-JAS from the ACES data warehouse and Unemployment Insurance wage records from the Department of Employment Security. Data were obtained from the Department of Employment Security in May 2021.

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Barometer Measure 45: Hours Worked in the Year After Employment Security Department Job Search



Definition of Measure

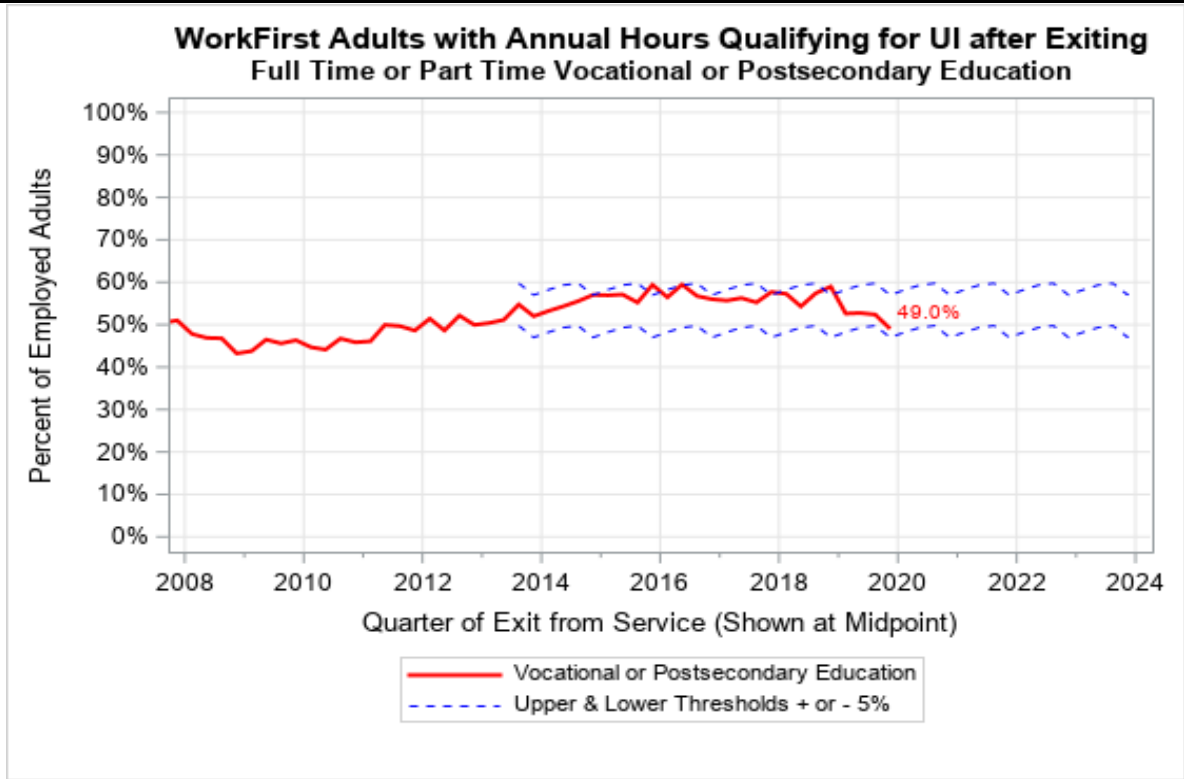
The numerator of this measure is the number of workers with employment records in UI wage records with 680 or more hours reported across the first, second, third and fourth quarters after leaving Employment Security job search. The denominator is the total number of Employment Security job search exiters employed during any of those quarters. Workers with more than 800 hours reported in any quarter are excluded from this measure. That might indicate that employment by two or more workers could have been reported on one Social Security Number.

The figure of 680 hours in a year was chosen because workers with 680 hours in the past year are eligible to receive Unemployment Insurance if they meet the other requirements of that program.

An average of 1,147 WorkFirst adults had clean earning records during one or more of the four quarters following Employment Security job search after each quarter of fiscal year 2019. An average of 651 of those WorkFirst adults worked for 680 hours or more during those quarters. Thresholds for this measure were calculated from the four quarters of fiscal year 2014. The average of the four quarterly 680 hour work rates was 51.3% in calendar 2011, 56.3% in FY 2014, 57.0% in FY 2015, 57.3% in FY 2016, 56.6% in FY 2017, 57.9% in FY 2018 and 56.7% in FY 2019. Results shown run through Q4 2019. The rates in Q3 and Q4 2019 were 6 to 7 percentage points lower than in Q3 and Q4 of 2018. Three of the four quarters in outcomes for Q4 2019 include impacts from the COVID-19 emergency.

This measure is calculated by OFM, using data from ACES and e-JAS from the ACES data warehouse and Unemployment Insurance wage records from the Department of Employment Security. Data were obtained from the Department of Employment Security in May 2021. [Return to Contents](#)

Barometer Measure 46: Hours Worked in the Year After Vocational and Postsecondary Education



Definition of Measure

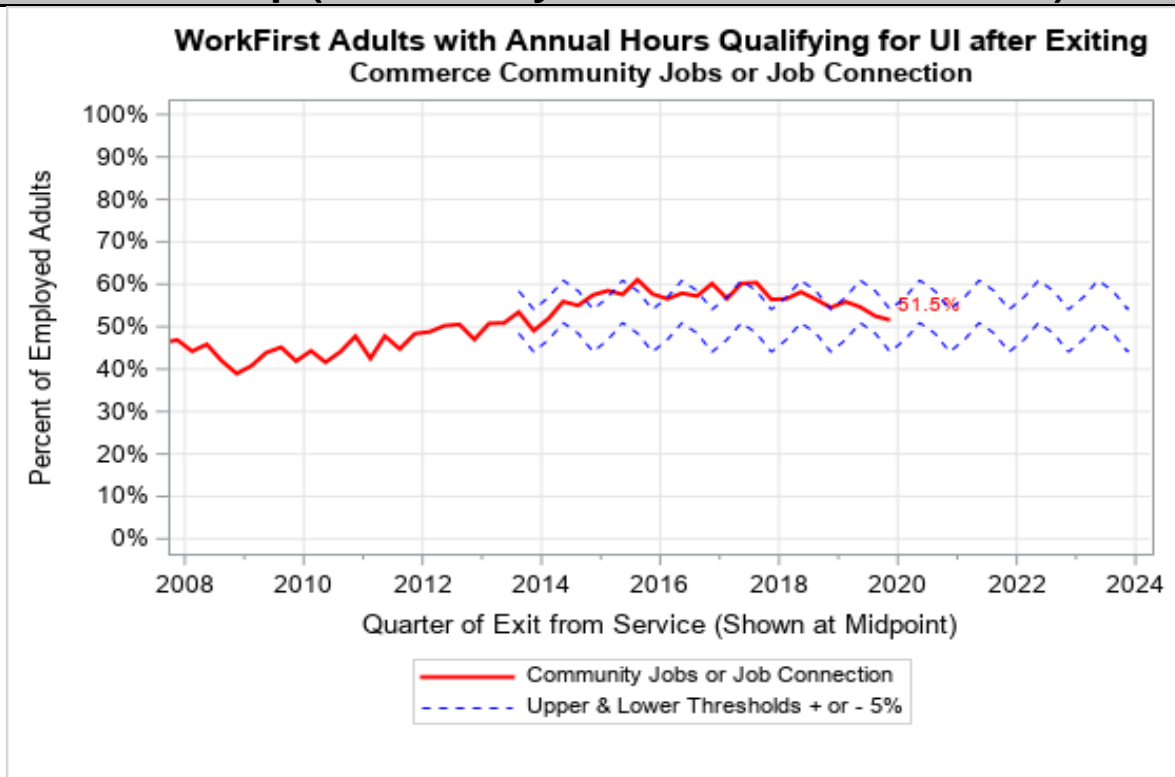
The numerator of this measure is the number of workers with employment records in UI wage records with 680 or more hours reported across the first, second, third and fourth quarters after leaving vocational or postsecondary education. The denominator is the total number of vocational or postsecondary education exiters employed during any of those quarters. Workers with more than 800 hours reported in any quarter are excluded from this measure. That might indicate that employment by two or more workers could have been reported on one Social Security Number.

The figure of 680 hours in a year was chosen because workers with 680 hours in the past year are eligible to receive Unemployment Insurance if they meet the other requirements of that program.

An average of 385 WorkFirst adults had clean earning records during one or more of the four quarters following vocational or postsecondary education after each quarter of fiscal year 2019. An average of 214 of those WorkFirst adults worked for 680 hours or more during those quarters. Thresholds for this measure were calculated from the four quarters of fiscal year 2014. The average of the four quarterly 680 hour work rates was 48.6% in calendar 2011, 53.6% in FY 2014, 56.6% in FY 2015, 57.7% in FY 2016, 56.2% in FY 2017, 56.1% in FY 2018 and 55.5% in FY 2019. Results shown above run through Q4 2019. The rate in Q4 2019 was 10 percentage points lower than in Q4 2018. Three of the four quarters in outcomes for Q4 2019 include impacts of the COVID-19 emergency.

This measure is calculated by OFM, using data from ACES and e-JAS from the ACES data warehouse and Unemployment Insurance wage records from the Department of Employment Security. Data were obtained from the Department of Employment Security in May 2021. [Return to Contents](#)

Barometer Measure 47: Hours Worked in the Year After Paid Work Prep (Community Jobs or Job Connection)



Definition of Measure

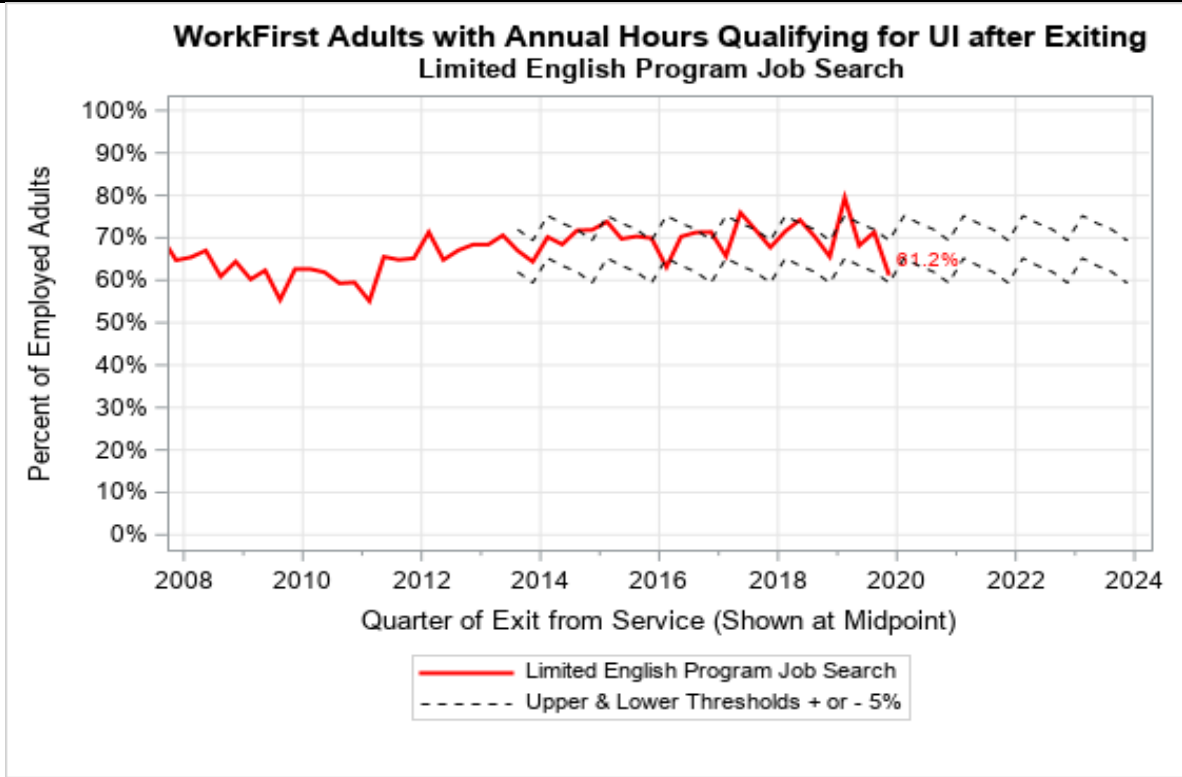
The numerator of this measure is the number of workers with employment records in UI wage records with 680 or more hours reported across the first, second, third and fourth quarters after leaving Community Jobs or Job Connection. The denominator is the total number of Community Jobs or Job Connection exiters employed during any of those quarters. Workers with more than 800 hours reported in any quarter are excluded from this measure. That might indicate that employment by two or more workers could have been reported on one Social Security Number.

The figure of 680 hours in a year was chosen because workers with 680 hours in the past year are eligible to receive Unemployment Insurance if they meet the other requirements of that program.

An average of 344 WorkFirst adults had clean earning records during one or more of the four quarters following Community Jobs or Job Connection after each quarter of fiscal year 2019. An average of 190 of those WorkFirst adults worked for 680 hours or more during those quarters. Thresholds for this measure were calculated from the four quarters of fiscal year 2014. The average of the four quarterly 680 hour work rates was 45.8% in calendar 2011, 52.6% in FY 2014, 57.2% in FY 2015, 58.3% in FY 2016, 58.6% in FY 2017, 57.9% in FY 2018 and 55.4% in FY 2019. Results shown above run through Q4 2019. The rate in Q4 2019 was 3 percentage points lower than in Q4 2018. Three of the four quarters of outcomes in Q4 2019 include impacts from the COVID-19 emergency.

This measure is calculated by OFM, using data from ACES and e-JAS from the ACES data warehouse and Unemployment Insurance wage records from the Department of Employment Security. Data were obtained from the Department of Employment Security in May 2021. [Return to Contents](#)

Barometer Measure 48: Hours Worked in the Year After Limited English Program Job Search



Definition of Measure

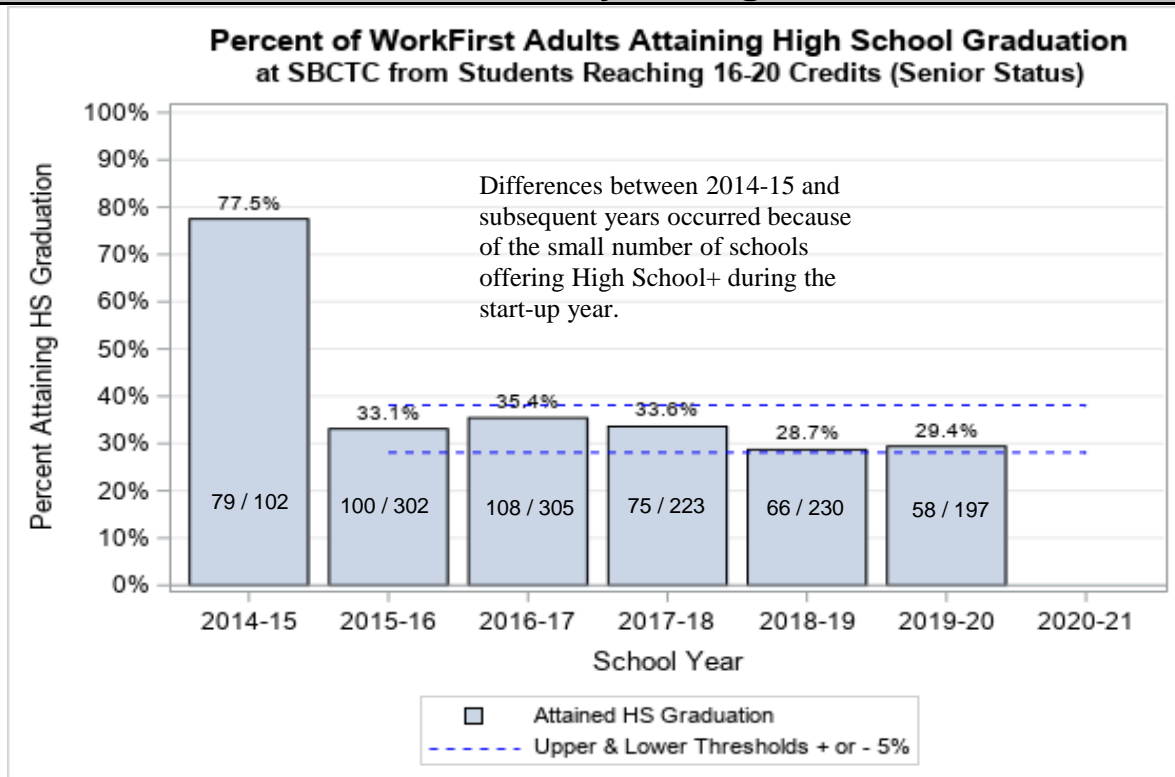
The numerator of this measure is the number of workers with employment records in UI wage records with 680 or more hours reported across the first, second, third and fourth quarters after leaving Limited English Program job search. The denominator is the total number of Limited English Program job search exiters employed during any of those quarters. Workers with more than 800 hours reported in any quarter are excluded from this measure. That might indicate that employment by two or more workers could have been reported on one Social Security Number.

The figure of 680 hours in a year was chosen because workers with 680 hours in the past year are eligible to receive Unemployment Insurance if they meet the other requirements of that program.

An average of 176 WorkFirst adults had clean earning records during one or more of the four quarters following Limited English Program job search after each quarter of fiscal year 2019. An average of 124 of those WorkFirst adults worked for 680 hours or more during those quarters. Thresholds for this measure were calculated from the four quarters of fiscal year 2014. The average of the four quarterly 680 hour work rates was 62.7% in calendar 2011, 67.5% in FY 2014, 71.8% in FY 2015, 68.4% in FY 2016, 71.1% in FY 2017, 71.4% in FY 2018 and 70.9% in FY 2019. Results shown above run through Q4 2019. The rate in Q4 2019 was 4 percentage points lower than in Q4 2018. Three of the four quarters of outcomes for Q4 2019 include impacts from the COVID-19 emergency.

This measure is calculated by OFM, using data from ACES and e-JAS from the ACES data warehouse and Unemployment Insurance wage records from the Department of Employment Security. Data were obtained from the Department of Employment Security in May 2021. [Return to Contents](#)

Barometer Measure 49: Adults Attaining High School Graduation at Community Colleges



Definition of Measure

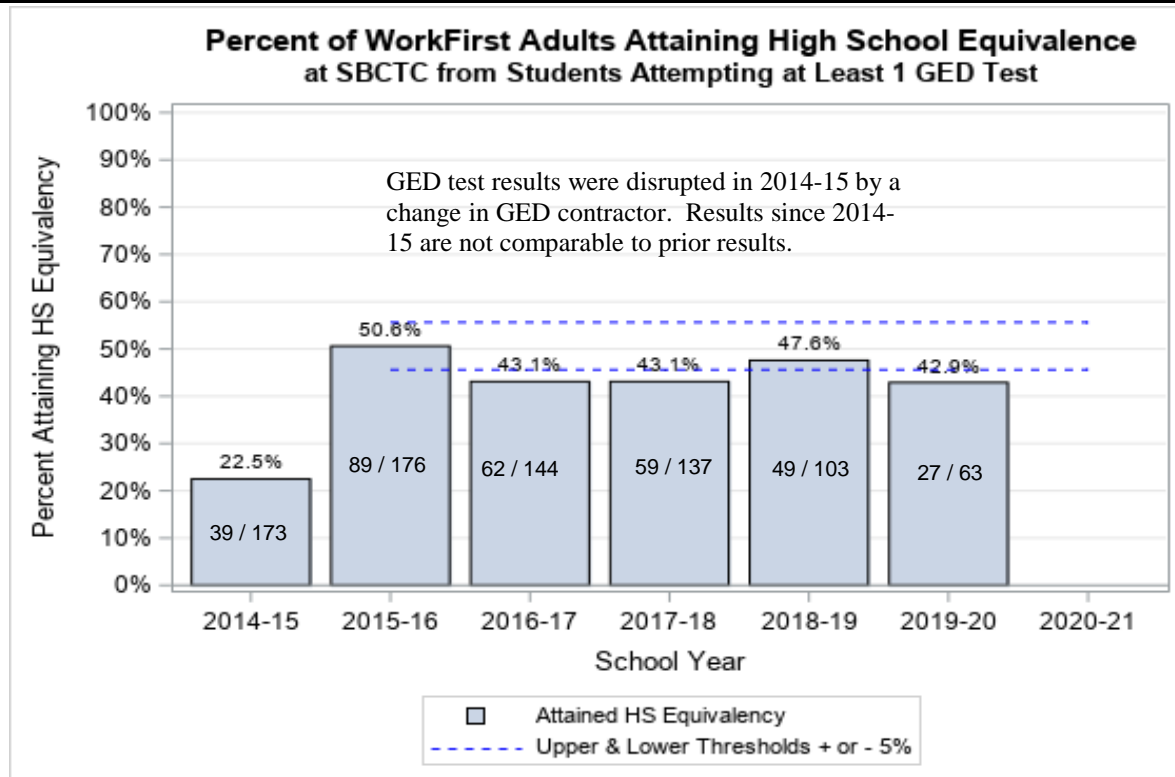
Percent of TANF adults attaining a high school diploma through SBCTC programs. The denominator of this measure is the number of WorkFirst students who were in senior status and working toward high school completion during the school year. The numerator of this measure is the number of WorkFirst students who earned a high school diploma through High School Completion or High School+ programs. Data were prepared by the Policy Research Unit of SBCTC.

The SBCTC accountability system identified 197 WorkFirst students who had reached senior status in High School Completion or High School+ programs during the 2019-20 school year, 58 of whom earned a high school diploma during the year. The High School+ program began as the High School 21+ program during 2014-15 school year. Results during that year were based on smaller numbers of WorkFirst students: 79 graduates out of 102 students in senior status at 13 colleges. Age limits were expanded during 2018-19 school year. That appears to have lowered graduation rates, as older students tend to be less likely to graduate. Results were also affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, which interrupted the spring quarter of the 2019-20 school year.

Two of the 34 SBCTC colleges are not offering WorkFirst high school completion programs. Another ten did not have any WorkFirst students who reached senior status during the 2019-20 school year. SBCTC has calculated the performance for each of the 22 colleges offering high school completion programs to WorkFirst students who had attained senior status. Results are available on request.

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Barometer Measure 50: Adults Attaining High School Equivalency at Community Colleges



Definition of Measure

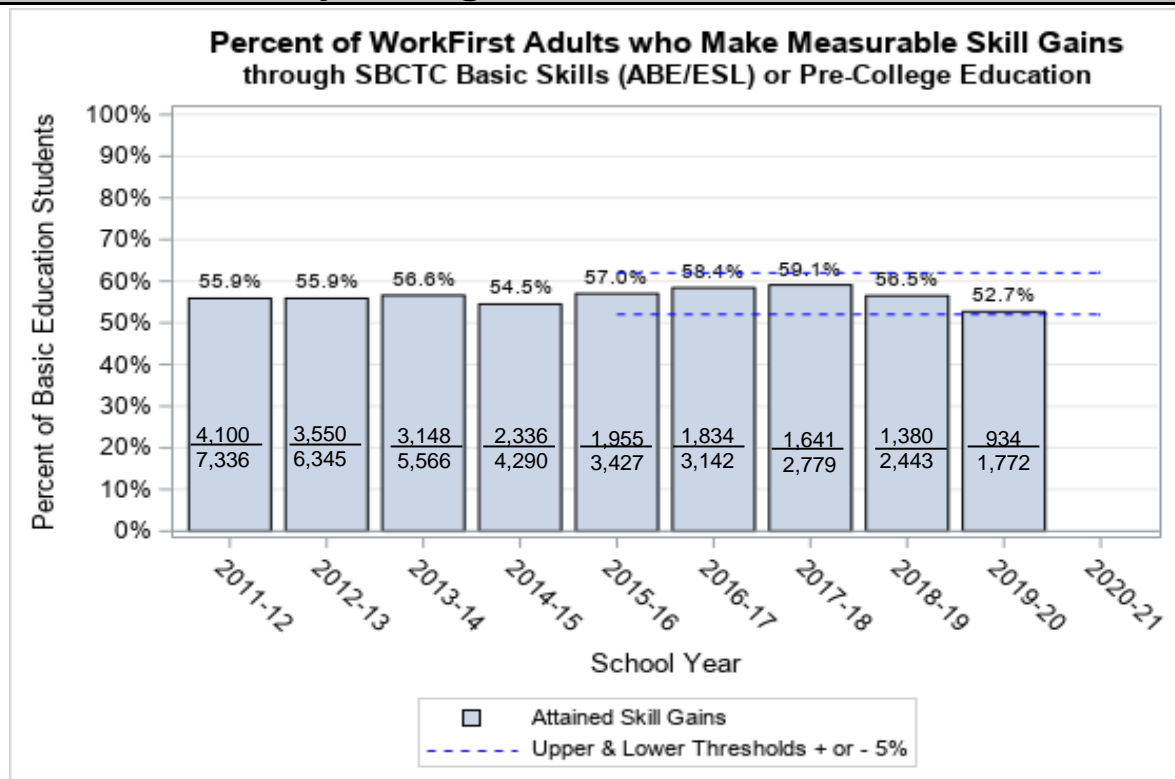
Percent of TANF adults attaining the equivalent of a high school diploma through SBCTC programs. The denominator of this measure is the number of WorkFirst Students in ABE-3, ABE-4, GED-1 and GED-2 level programs who attempted at least one of five GED tests during the school year. The numerator is the number of WorkFirst students in those programs who passed all 5 tests and attained high school equivalency. Data were prepared by the Policy Research Unit of SBCTC.

The SBCTC accountability system identified 63 WorkFirst students taking one or more of the tests necessary to receive equivalency during the 2019-20 academic year. Twenty-seven of these students passed all required tests, yielding a completion rate of 42.9%. Equivalency tests were provided by a new contract beginning in 2014-15 and test takers who had not completed by that time needed to start over on a new set of tests. SBCTC also adopted a new school completion program (High School+) in May 2014. The completion rate during the 2014-15 school year stems from this transition. 173 WorkFirst students attempted one or more tests during 2014-15 but only 39 passed all required tests. The declining number of students in this measure stems from the reduced size of the WorkFirst program, but changes in the GED program and in SBCTC data systems also play a part. The COVID-19 pandemic also interrupted the spring quarter of the 2019-20 school year.

Two of the 34 SBCTC colleges are not offering WorkFirst high school equivalency programs. Another 17 SBCTC colleges did not have any WorkFirst students taking equivalency tests during the 2019-20 school year. Over half of the test takers in the 2019-20 school year were at two colleges. Results for the 15 colleges with outcomes are available on request.

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Barometer Measure 51: Adults in ESL or Basic Education at Community Colleges with Measurable Skill Gains



Definition of Measure

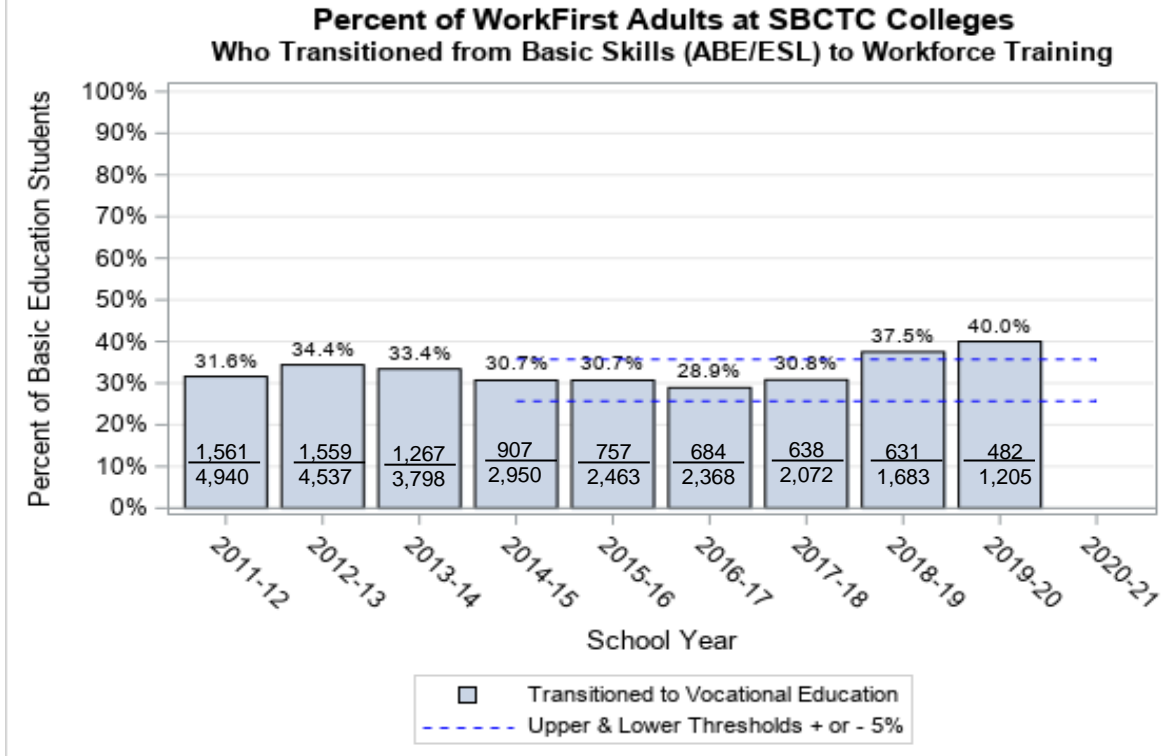
Percent of TANF adults attempting pre-college education or basic skills education in SBCTC programs who had measurable skill gains. The numerator of this measure is the number of students coded as WorkFirst during the year and enrolled in pre-college or adult basic education programs who had skill gains during the year (achievement points > 0). Points are awarded for improvements in scores on CASAS assessment tests, for earning a high school diploma or equivalent, and for achievement points related to academic courses, if any. The denominator of this measure is the number of WorkFirst students who attempted pre-college education or basic skill programs during current or previous academic year. Data were prepared by the Policy Research Unit of SBCTC.

Some 1,772 WorkFirst students were enrolled in basic skills or pre-college education programs during the 2018-19 or 2019-20 academic years. 934 of these students attained skill gains or other momentum points during 2019-20, yielding an achievement rate of 52.7%. Percentage results have been similar across the years, but the program is one-quarter the size that it was during the 2011-12 school year. Student enrollments have been dropping since 2011 as WorkFirst caseloads declined. The COVID-19 pandemic also affected enrollments and outcomes by disrupting the spring quarter of the 2019-20 school year.

One of the 34 SBCTC colleges is not participating in the WorkFirst program and two had no WorkFirst students enrolled in pre-college or adult basic education programs during the 2018-19 or 2019-20 school years. SBCTC has calculated performance for each of the 31 colleges serving WorkFirst pre-college or basic education students. These results are available on request.

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Barometer Measure 52: Adults in ESL or Basic Education who Transition to Training at Community Colleges



Definition of Measure

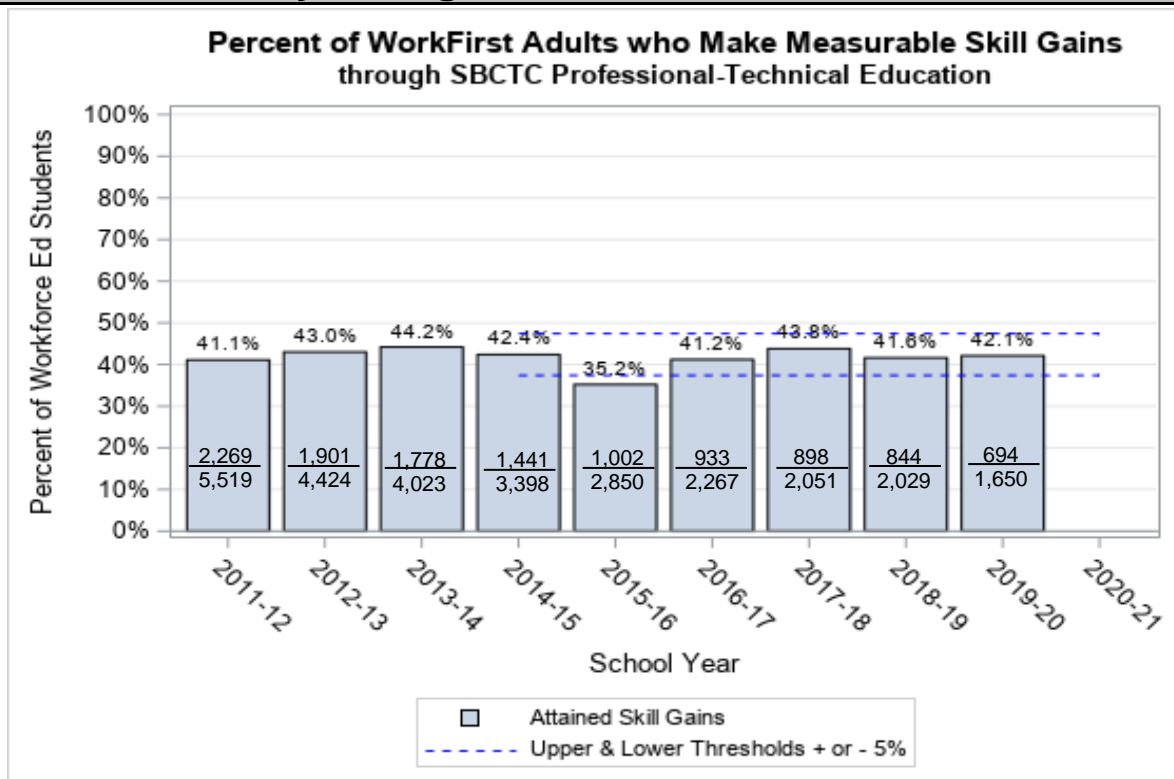
Percent of TANF adults attempting basic skills education in SBCTC programs who later enrolled in professional-technical (workforce) programs. The numerator of this measure is the number of students in the denominator of the measure who enrolled in workforce courses during the academic year. The denominator of this measure is the number of WorkFirst students who attempted basic skills programs during the current or previous academic year. Data were prepared by the Policy Research Unit of SBCTC.

Some 1,205 WorkFirst students were enrolled in basic skills programs during the 2018-19 or 2019-20 academic years. 482 of these WorkFirst students enrolled in professional-technical courses at SBCTC colleges during the 2019-20 school year, yielding a transition rate of 40.0%. Student enrollments have been dropping since 2011 as WorkFirst caseloads decline. The COVID-19 pandemic also interrupted the spring quarter of the 2019-20 academic year. The number of students in this measure is 76% lower than during the 2011-12 academic year. Transition to workforce training increased to record levels during the 2018-19 school year and increased again during the 2019-20 school year.

One of the 34 SBCTC colleges is not participating in the WorkFirst program and two had no WorkFirst students enrolled in adult basic education programs during the 2018-19 or 2019-20 school years. SBCTC has calculated performance for each of the 31 colleges serving WorkFirst adult basic education students. These results are available on request.

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Barometer Measure 53: Adults in Workforce Education at Community Colleges with Measurable Skill Gains



Definition of Measure

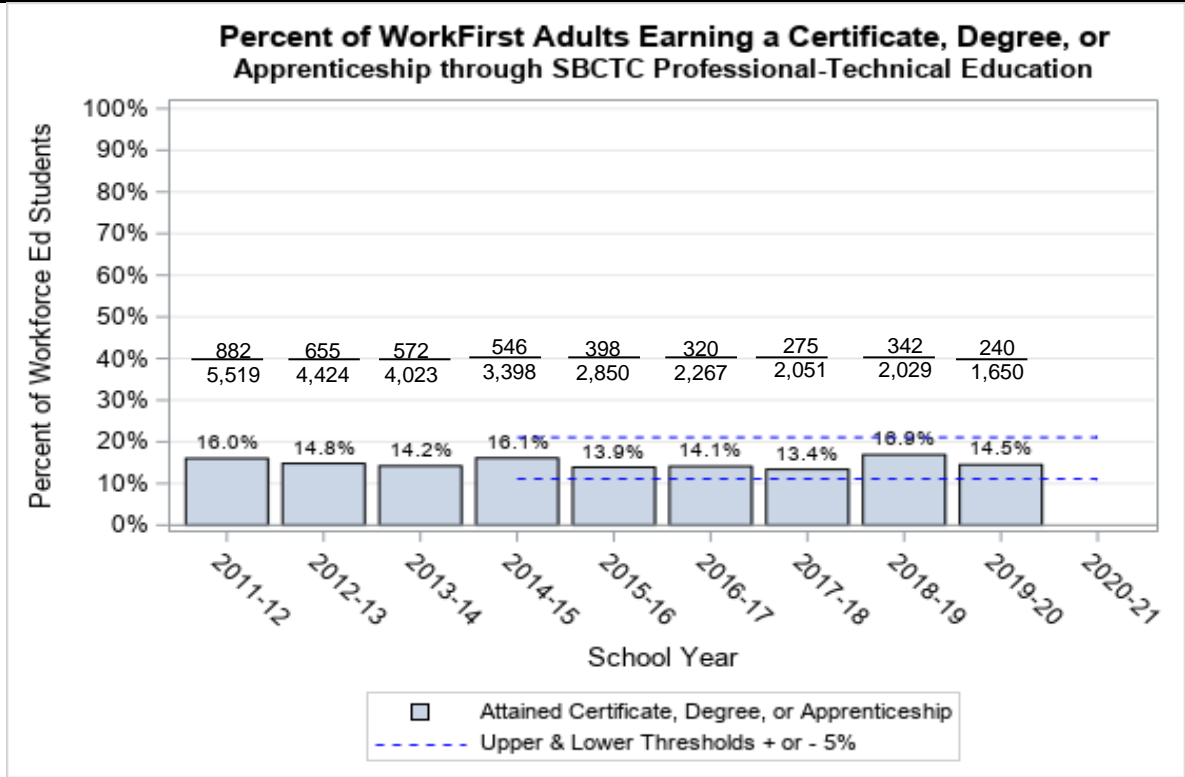
Percent of TANF adults attempting vocational education in SBCTC programs who earned college credit. The numerator of this measure is all award seeking students coded as WorkFirst during the year, except those in basic skills or English as a Second Language (ESL), who achieved the 15, 30, or 45 college level credit momentum point as measured in the SBCTC accountability system. The denominator of this measure is all award seeking WorkFirst students except those in basic skills or ESL programs during the year. Data were prepared by the Policy Research Unit of SBCTC.

A total of 1,650 WorkFirst award seeking students (excluding basic skills and ESL students) were enrolled at SBCTC colleges during the 2019-20 academic year. 694 of these students were awarded momentum points for attaining 15, 30, or 45 college credits during the year, yielding a rate of 42.1%. Student enrollments have been dropping as WorkFirst caseloads decline. The COVID-19 pandemic also interrupted the spring quarter of the 2019-20 academic year. The number of students in this measure is 70% lower than during the 2011-12 academic year.

One of the 34 SBCTC colleges is not participating in the WorkFirst program and two had no award seeking WorkFirst students during the 2019-20 school year. SBCTC has calculated performance for each of the 31 colleges serving WorkFirst award seeking students. These results are available on request.

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Barometer Measure 54: Adults Earning Certificates, Degrees or Apprenticeships at Community Colleges



Definition of Measure

Percent of TANF adults attempting workforce education in SBCTC programs who attain workforce certificates, degrees, or apprenticeship completions. The numerator of this measure is all award seeking students coded as WorkFirst during the year, except those in basic skills or English as a Second Language (ESL), who achieved the momentum point for certificates, degrees, or apprenticeship completion as measured in the SBCTC accountability system. The numerator does not include short 1 to 19 credit certificates. The denominator of this measure is all award seeking WorkFirst students except those in Basic Skills and ESL. Data were prepared by the Policy Research Unit of SBCTC.

A total of 1,650 WorkFirst award seeking students (excluding basic skills and ESL students) were enrolled at SBCTC colleges during the 2019-20 academic year. 240 of these students were awarded momentum points for attaining a qualifying certificate, degree, or apprenticeship completion during the year, yielding a rate of 14.5%. Student enrollments have been dropping as WorkFirst caseloads decline. The COVID-19 pandemic also interrupted the spring quarter of the 2019-20 academic year.

Completion rates are low, in part, because only 22.6% of adults sent to SBCTC have spent 12 or more months in professional-technical (workforce) education while in WorkFirst since July 2011: 56.9% spent 6 months or less; 35.7% spent 3 months or less. Length has increased since July 2017 under 2SSB 5347, which makes it easier to seek more than one year of education in WorkFirst. In December 2016, only 9.4% of WorkFirst adults sent to SBCTC had spent 12 or more months in professional-technical education (measured from 2006).

One of the 34 SBCTC colleges is not participating in the WorkFirst program and two had no award seeking WorkFirst students during the 2019-20 school year. SBCTC has calculated performance for each of the 31 colleges serving WorkFirst award seeking students. Results are available on request.

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