

“JUST THE FACTS”

*A Monthly Public Assistance Update from the
Illinois Department of Human Services*

July 2011

Summary

Total cases receiving Public Assistance in Illinois rose by 3,179 (6,794 persons) in July 2011. MANG cases were primarily responsible for the increase. Aided cases numbered 1,620,959 (2,940,383 persons), up 5.4 percent from year-earlier totals.

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

Benefits

- *Total TANF Benefits:* A 780 case (2,351 person) increase left a total 45,481 families (115,161 persons) receiving TANF benefits in July. The caseload was 32.3 percent higher than the July 2010 total.
- *“0” Grant Cases:* There were 3,401 “0” grant cases (9,606 persons) included this month, up 106 cases and 329 persons from June 2011.
- *TANF-Basic:* TANF-Basic (primarily single-parent) families rose by 750 cases (2,224 persons) to 44,270 cases (110,070 persons).
- *Two-Parent Cases:* Two-parent cases increased by 30 (127 persons) to a total of 1,211 cases (5,091 persons) in July, 2011.

TANF Program Detail

- *Applications:* The number of TANF applications received in July fell by 195 to a total of 9,406. New applications and re-applications both decreased. Receipts included: 8,165 applications for the Basic sector and 1,241 applications for the two-parent sector. There were 2,704 applications pending for the combined program this month, an increase of 496 applications over June levels.
- *Approvals:* There were 3,530 assistance approvals this month, including 2,132 new grants (down 239 from June 2011) and 1,080 reinstatements (down 79). A reinstatement is defined as approval of any case that was active within the previous 24 months.

Reasons for Case Openings

There were 3,282 July 2011 TANF openings for which reasons were available, up 78 from the June level. This total includes 3147 cases from the Basic sector and 135 cases from the two-parent sector. Reasons for opening cases included the following:

REASONS FOR CASE OPENINGS	% OF TOTAL CASE OPENINGS
Reinstatement after remedying Previous non-cooperation	1.4
Living below agency standards	82.5
Loss of employment	0.9
Loss of other benefits	2.0
Parent leaving home	0.1
Increased medical needs	4.4
Loss of unemployment benefits	4.1
All other reasons	4.6

Reasons for Case Closings

Reasons were available for 2,483 July 2011 TANF case closings – up by 50 cases from June. This total includes 2,361 cases from the Basic sector and 122 cases from the two-parent sector. Reasons for closing cases included the following:

REASONS FOR CASE CLOSINGS	% OF TOTAL CASE CLOSINGS
Earned Income	30.0
Other Financial	4.6
Non-compliance*	37.3
Non-financial	28.1

* 47 cases canceled in June 2011 for non-compliance related reasons were reinstated by July 2011 after complying. These cases had no break in assistance.

Assistance to the Aged, Blind or Disabled (AABD)

The total number of July 2011 AABD cases was up 188 or 0.6 percent from the number of cases a year earlier. The increase was largely attributable to Disability Assistance, where the number of cases rose by 309 or 1.3 percent from July 2010 levels.

- *One-Person AABD Cases:* One-person cases receiving grants through AABD rose by 3 in July, to a total of 29,429. This total includes 5,606 persons who qualified for Old Age Assistance; 114 persons who qualified for Blind Assistance; and 23,709 persons who qualified for Disability Assistance.
- *“0” Grant Status:* Persons in “0” grant status rose by 261 to 1,954.
- *State Supplemental Payments:* Individuals receiving State Supplemental Payments were down 258 to 27,475.

Medical Assistance – No Grant

Both AABD and Family Health Plans clients were responsible for an increase of 3,405 cases (4,998 persons) counted as receiving Medical Assistance in July 2011. This resulted in a program total of 1,277,922 cases (2,451,498 persons).

- *MANG:* MANG recipients represent 79 percent of total cases and 83 percent of total persons. MANG cases increased 3.3 percent from their July 2010 levels, when they represented 80 percent of all cases.
- *Family Health Plans:* Families increased by 2,298 to 770,205 in July 2011.
- *AABD Clients:* AABD clients who were categorically qualified for Medical Only rose by 1,984 to 450,263 one-person cases. This total includes 155,088 cases for which Qualified Medical Beneficiary (QMB) payments were made, and 34,878 beneficiaries of Specified Low Income Beneficiary (SLIB) payments for Medicare coverage. AABD Group Care clients totaled 67,733.
- *Foster Care:* Foster Care Assistance aided 47,566 children during this time period.

Medical Assistance – No Grant

- *GA:* State funding for the cash portion of the General Assistance (GA) program was eliminated July 1, 2011. All Downstate assistance was discontinued. Chicago clients will continue to receive Medical and SNAP benefits. In July 2011, a total 9,001 one-person cases received Transitional Assistance (TA). The Number of families aided by Family and Children’s Assistance (F&CA) totaled 887 (1,184 persons).
- *P3 Cases:* Cash Assistance for Chicago PE cases was also eliminated July 1, 2011. These are disabled one-person cases with SSI applications or appeals pending. A total of 252 P3 cases were aided in July.

Applications – All Programs

- In July 2011, application receipts for all programs excluding SNAP decreased by 3,059 to a total of 64,451. This count includes: 47,943 applications for Medical Assistance, 9,406 for TANF, 4,989 for AABD grants, and 2,110 for TA/F&CA in Chicago. SNAP applications received through Intake and Income Maintenance fell by 12,090 to 162,278.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

- SNAP Assistance was given to 864,369 Illinois households in July 2011. Of this total, 596,494 households also received cash or medical assistance through other public assistance programs.
- There were 267,875 additional households not receiving other Public Assistance, which receive Non-Assistance SNAP administered by the Department of Human Services.

AllKids (KidCare)

- KidCare, which began in January 1998, extends Medical coverage by expanding income eligibility standards (based upon the Federal Poverty Level) for pregnant women, infants born to Medical-eligible pregnant women, and certain other children under the age of 19.
- Between January 5, 1998 and July 1, 2011 a total of 118,286 TANF-Medical Only persons were enrolled in KidCare Phase I due to this expansion of eligibility. Included in this total are 6,709 in the Moms and Babies program and 111,577 in the Assist program.
- Cases ineligible for Medicaid due to excess income may be eligible for KidCare Phase II. October 1998 was the first month of enrollment. Phase II also requires co-pays and sometimes premiums. KidCare Share and KidCare Premium provide essentially the same benefits as Medical Assistance. A total of 32,419 Share and 30,804 Premium persons had enrolled by July 1. KidCare Rebate reimburses for a portion of health insurance premiums paid for eligible children. Rebate persons totaled 554.

Child Care

Child Care Services are available to families with income below 50 percent of the state median. Families must be working or enrolled in approved education or training activities. Families cost-share with co-payments based on income, family size and number of children in care. Services are delivered through a certificate program and a site-administered contract system.

- **The Certificate Program** eligibility is determined by resource and referral agencies. Parents choose subsidized full or part-time care from any legal care provider that meets their needs. Providers include child-care centers, family homes, group child-care home and in-home and relative care. In July 2011, an estimated 185,124 children were served by certificate.
- **The Site-Administered Contract Program** serves families through a statewide network of contracted licensed centers and family homes. Families apply for care directly with the contracted providers and eligibility is determined on-site by the provider. In July 2011, an estimated 9,900 children were served by contract.
- **The Migrant Head Start Program** provides child care and health and social services for preschool children of migrant and seasonal farm workers. Services are provided by local community based agencies. The program is federally funded and serves approximately 450 children during the harvest season.

Emergency Food, Shelter and Support

Homeless families and individuals receive food, shelter and support services through local not-for-profit organizations. A “continuum of care” includes emergency and transitional housing and assistance in gaining self-sufficiency and permanent housing.

- **The Emergency Food and Shelter Program** gives immediate services to the homeless and those at risk of being homeless. During April-June 2011, 8,522 individuals in 5,549 households were served in shelters.
- **The Emergency Food Program** served 1,070,342 meals from January-March 2011 through more than 650 pantries, soup kitchens and shelters. A total of 2,068,303 individuals were served during this quarter.
- **The Homeless Prevention Program** helps families in existing homes and helps others secure affordable housing. During April-June 2011, 1,585 families were served.
- **The Supportive Housing Program** funds governments and agencies which serve families and transitional facility residents. In April-June 2011 641,287 nights of Supportive Housing were provided.

Emergency Food, Shelter and Support

- **The Refugee and Immigrant Citizenship Initiative** funds the provision of English language, civics and U.S. history instruction as well as application services. During January-March 2011, 2,192 clients had received instruction and 853 were assisted with their citizenship applications.
- **The Refugee Social Service Program** served a total of 832 clients during the October 2010-January 2011 period, with 315 entering employment, 207 of whom received health benefits and an average of \$9.26 an hour, while 85 had their cash assistance terminated. A total of 669 refugees were screened for the January – March 2011 period.
- **The Outreach and Interpretation project** assures access to IDHS benefits. In the January-March 2011 period, 14,920 clients received case management, 2,898 received interpreter service, and 7,865 received translation service.
- During the January – March 2011 quarter, the five **suburban health clinics** served 7,218 uninsured immigrants.

Social Service Block Grants

Service funding is provided through the Federal Title XX Social Services Block Grant to manage and monitor contracts which help customers achieve economic self-support and prevent or remedy abuse and neglect.

- **Crisis Nurseries** served an estimated 246 Adults and 221 Children and handled 445 admissions due to Job Related Crisis during the January – March 2011 quarter. *
- **The Estimated Donated Funds Initiative** aided 6,708 Adults and 1,220 Children during the January – March 2011 quarter. Among those served were 2,205 Senior Citizens and 1,732 Developmentally Disabled and/or Mentally Ill customers.

**FISCAL YEAR 2012
SUMMARY OF CASES AND PERSONS
AS OF JULY 2011**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Persons</u>
TANF (PAYMENT CASES)	42,080	105,555
AABD CASH (ST SUPP PAYMENTS)	27,475	27,475
TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE:		
CHICAGO	9,001	9,001
FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S ASSISTANCE:		
CHICAGO	887	1,184
P3	252	252
ZERO GRANTS:		
TANF	3,401	9,606
AABD	1,954	1,954
FAMILY HEALTH PLANS	770,205	1,943,484
AABD MANG	450,263	450,263
NON-ASSISTANCE SNAP	267,875	344,043
FOSTER CARE	47,566	47,566
REFUGEES		
CASH & MEDICAL	300	300
MEDICAL ONLY	150	151
TOTAL	<u>1,621,409</u>	<u>2,940,834</u>

Note: Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) replaced Aid to Families with Dependent Children effective July 1, 1997. Programs terminated in this change comprised AFDC-MAG, AFDC “0” grants, AFDC MANG, and Medical Extensions (AFDC).

Bureau of Program & Performance Management, September, 2011