

“JUST THE FACTS”

A Monthly Assistance Update from the
Illinois Department of Human Services
April 2020

Summary

Total cases receiving Public Assistance in Illinois climbed 131,227 cases (165,830 persons) in April 2020 from April 2019. Aided cases numbered 1,849,583 (2,980,412 persons) in April 2020, up 7.64% from year-earlier totals.

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

- **Total TANF Benefits:** There were 22,581 TANF cases (59,102 persons) in April 2020. up 2,195 cases and 623 persons from March 2020. The caseload was 11.77% percent higher than the April 2019 total.
- **TANF-Basic:** In April 2020, TANF-Basic (primarily single-parent) families increased, from March 2020, by 128 cases (373 persons) for a total of 21,635 cases (54,673 persons).
- **Two-Parent Cases:** Two-parent cases increased in April 2020 by 64 (250 persons) from March 2020 for a total of 946 cases (4,429 persons).
- **Approvals:** There were 1,107 assistance approvals this month, including 433 new grants (up 42 since March 2020) and 183 reinstatements (down 71 since March 2020). A reinstatement is defined as approval of any case that was active within the previous 24 months.
- **TANF Cancelled due to earnings:** In April 2020 there were 51 cases cancelled due to earnings from new employer or increased earnings from an existing employer.
- **Total Grant amount:** \$9,167,158 was the total in April 2020. This is \$96,951 more than the total in March 2020. April 2020 shows a 12.95% increase from April 2019.

Assistance to the Aged, Blind or Disabled (AABD)

The total number of April 2020 AABD Cash cases was up 115 cases or .60% from the number of cases a year earlier.

- **AABD Case Details:** AABD cash cases increased by 46 cases in April 2020 from March 2020 for a total of 19,236 cases. This total includes 9,457 persons who qualified for Old Age Assistance; 99 persons who qualified for Blind Assistance; and 9,565 persons who qualified for Disability Assistance. The total grant amount shows a 1.07% increase from March 2020 (\$2,145,390) to April 2020 (\$2,168,368).

Medical Assistance – No Grant (MANG)

April 2020 had a program total of 1,703,279 cases (2,756,710 persons). Of the total MANG cases, there were 67,096 cases (117,415 MANG persons) in All Kids, Disabled Workers, Breast and Cervical Cancer, Veteran Care, Medically Fragile Technology Dependent, and Department of Corrections programs. Overall, MANG cases in April 2020 show a 6.54% increase (104,575 cases) since April 2019.

- **MANG:** MANG recipients represent 92.09% of total cases and 92.49% of total persons in April 2020. In April 2019, MANG recipients represented 93.04% of total cases.
- **Family Health Plans:** Families increased in April 2020 by 11,110 to 692,054 cases from totals in March 2020. Persons also increased in April by 30,987 to 1,715,501.
- **ACA Adult:** ACA Adult saw an increase of 32,663 cases from March 2020 for a total of 643,309 cases in April. Persons increased by 34,151 for an April 2020 total of 665,461.
- **AABD Clients:** AABD customers who were categorically qualified for Medical Only increased 4.52% in April 2020 from March 2020 to 333,219 cases.
- **Foster Care:** Foster Care Assistance aided 42,529 in April of 2020. This is a decrease of 4,576 persons since March 2020.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

- SNAP Assistance was given to 985,911 Illinois households (1,907,895 persons) in April 2020. This is an increase of 121,033 households from April 2019 levels.
- A total of 104,487 households (157,421 persons) received SNAP with no other assistance in April 2020. This is an increase of 24,159 households from April 2019 levels.
- The total SNAP assistance amount for April of 2020 was \$328,635,551*. This is an increase of \$112,002,684 from April of 2019.

FISCAL YEAR 2020 SUMMARY OF CASES AND PERSONS AS OF APRIL 2020

PROGRAM	CASES	PERSONS
TANF	22,851	59,102
AABD Cash	19,236	19,236
Family Health Plans	692,054	1,715,501
AABD MANG	325,387	333,219
ACA	643,309	665,461
SNAP with no other assistance	104,487	157,421
Foster Care	42,529	42,529
Refugees Cash & Medical	95	95
Total	1,849,948	2,992,564

Child Care¹

Child Care Services are available to families with income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. Families must be working or enrolled in approved education or training activities. Families cost-share with co-payments based on income and family size. 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 March 2020, an estimated 123,574 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 March 2020, an estimated 5,581 children were served by contract.
- **The Migrant Head Start Program** provides childcare and health and social services for preschool children of migrant and seasonal farm workers. Services are provided by local community-based agencies. In March 2020, the centers were closed for the 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 and Transitional Housing Program** served 2,429 households in shelters during January through March 2020. Of those, 687 were households with children.
- **The Emergency Food Program** served 422,350 households (duplicative) from January through March 2020.
- **The Homeless Prevention Program** helps families in existing homes and helps others secure affordable housing. During January-March 2020, 1,441 households were served. Of those, 785 were families (Households with children under age 18).
- **The Supportive Housing Program** funds governments and agencies which serve families and transitional facility residents. In January-March 2020, 831,652 nights of Supportive Housing were provided.

- **The Refugee and Immigrant Citizenship Initiative** funds the provision of English language, civics and U.S. history instruction as well as application services. This program has been reinstated and has served 2,359 clients in the 2nd Quarter of SFY2020
- **Of the refugees served**, 449 received employment services, and 81% of the clients entering employment were still employed 90 days later from July 1, 2019–December 31, 2019.
- **The Outreach and Interpretation project** assures access to IDHS benefits. This program has been reinstated and has served 2,773 in the 2nd Quarter of SFY2020.

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 240 customers during the January- March 2020 quarter.
- **The Estimated Donated Funds Initiative** aided 5,697 customers with 53,840 rides provided for Senior’s during the January-March 2020 quarter.

Early Intervention (EI)¹

The Illinois Early Intervention (EI) program serves infants and toddlers ages birth to 3 years old with developmental delays or disabilities and their family in one or more of the following areas of development: adaptive, cognitive, communication/speech, physical and social emotional. EI is part of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part C for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities. Annually, the EI program serves approximately 23,000 children throughout the state and maintains 25 regional intake entities called Child and Family Connections (CFC) offices. CFCs handle referrals, intake and service coordination for infants and toddlers referred to EI and coordinates the eligibility determination process and manages eligible infants and toddlers with Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSPs) through transition.

Early Intervention services include, but are not limited to developmental evaluations and assessments, communication/speech therapy, developmental therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, service coordination, psychological, and other counseling services and assistive technology. Evaluations, assessments, service plan development and service coordination are provided to families at no cost. Ongoing EI services are paid for by public insurance (i.e., Medicaid/All Kids), a family's private health insurance, when appropriate, state general revenue and other program funds. Families are assessed a family participation fee based on a sliding scale which considers their ability to pay.

Program Statistics - Early Intervention

Indicator	March 2020	SFY 2019 Average	SFY 2018 Average
Referrals	2,277	3,333	3,091
Active IFSP’s	22,714	22,812	21,981
0-3 Participation Rate	15.70%	4.88%	4.71%
Under 1 Participation Rate	1.40%	1.38%	1.42%
% With Medicaid	50.60%	52.0%	54.9%
% With Insurance	38.80%	39.1%	38.7%
% With Fees	28.90%	28.5%	28.4%

What's New in EI

The Bureau is finalizing our State Systemic Improvement Plan to improve child outcomes through two coherent improvement strategies of implementing the Child Outcomes Survey practice with fidelity and to have Family

Engagement processes developed, measured and put into practice. This work aligns with evidence-based services utilizing the Division of Early Childhood’s Recommended Practices.

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)¹

The purpose of WIC is to provide nutrition education and counseling, breastfeeding promotion and support, nutritious supplemental foods and referrals to services for eligible pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children to age five. The program has been housed under the Department of Human Services since 1997. In order to be eligible, participants must be at 185% of the federal poverty level, be a resident of the State of Illinois, and have a nutrition risk.

Program Statistics – WIC

Eligibility Category	Clients in March 2020
Pregnant Women	13,511
Breastfeeding Women	13,881
Postpartum Women	12,210
Infants	48,750
Children	80,186
Total	168,538

What's New in WIC

WIC Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) implementation activities are underway and include the creation of a new management information system (MIS) to replace the existing Cornerstone system. USDA has mandated full implementation of EBT by October 1, 2020. The Pilot roll-out of both the EBT and MIS is scheduled for March 16, 2020 in DHS Region 4.

Family Case Management¹

The program target population is low income families (below 200% of the federal poverty level) with a pregnant woman, an infant. The goals of the program are to help women have healthy babies and to reduce the rates of infant mortality and very low birth weight. To achieve these goals the program conducts outreach activities to inform expectant women and new mothers of available services and then assists them with obtaining prenatal and well-childcare. The program works with community agencies to address barriers to accessing medical services, such as childcare, transportation, housing, food, mental health needs and substance abuse services. Services are provided statewide through local Health Departments, Federally Qualified Health Centers and community-based organizations. Home visits by program staff are provided in the first year of life.

Program Statistics – Family Case Management

Active Participant Counts for March 2020

Location	Medicaid	Non-Medicaid	Total
Cook County	9,169	3,456	12,625
Downstate	17,811	4,444	22,255
Statewide	26,980	7,900	34,880

Bureau of Program & Performance Management

¹ Current month’s Child Care, Early Intervention, Women, Infants, and Children, and Family Case Management data is not released until the end of the following month resulting in a one-month lag for this report.

* Increase due to COVID19 – see Policy Memo - <http://intranet.dhs.illinois.gov/oneweb/page.aspx?item=123562>