

“JUST THE FACTS”

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

Summary

Total cases receiving Public Assistance in Illinois climbed 153,114 cases (248,433 persons) in August 2020 from August 2019. Aided cases numbered 1,928,494 (3,127,812 persons) in August 2020, up 8.62% from year-earlier totals.

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

- **Total TANF Benefits:** There were 26,490 TANF cases (70,705 persons) in August 2020, up 320 cases and 1,074 persons from July 2020. The caseload was 24.93% higher than the August 2019 total.
- **TANF-Basic:** In August 2020, TANF-Basic (primarily single-parent) families increased, from July 2020, by 316 cases (1,022 persons) for a total of 25,168 cases (64,691 persons).
- **Two-Parent Cases:** Two-parent cases increased in August 2020 by 4 (52 persons) from July 2020 for a total of 1,322 cases (6,014 persons).
- **Approvals:** There were 1,378 assistance approvals this month, including 550 new grants (down 43 since July 2020) and 214 reinstatements (down 22 since July 2020). A reinstatement is defined as approval of any case that was active within the previous 24 months.
- **TANF Cancelled due to earnings:** In August 2020 there were 100 cases cancelled due to earnings from new employer or increased earnings from an existing employer.
- **Total Grant amount:** \$11,409,577 was the total in August 2020. This is \$314,675 less than the total in July 2020. August 2020 shows a 33.10% increase from August 2019.

Assistance to the Aged, Blind or Disabled (AABD)

The total number of August 2020 AABD Cash cases was up 499 cases or 2.62% from the number of cases a year earlier.

- **AABD Case Details:** AABD cash cases decreased by 101 cases in August 2020 from July 2020 for a total of 19,519 cases. This total includes 9,466 persons who qualified for Old Age Assistance; 128 persons who qualified for Blind Assistance; and 9,925 persons who qualified for Disability Assistance. The total grant amount shows a 1.06% increase from July 2020 (\$2,240,528) to August 2020 (\$2,264,204).

Medical Assistance – No Grant (MANG)

August 2020 had a program total of 1,769,218 cases (2,882,464 persons). Of the total MANG cases, there were 68,415 cases (119,209 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 August 2020 show a 9.66% increase (155,818 cases) since August 2019.

- **MANG:** MANG recipients represent 91.74% of total cases and 92.16% of total persons in August 2020. In August 2019, MANG recipients represented 93.00% of total cases.
- **Family Health Plans:** Families increased in August 2020 by 7,449 to 725,623 cases from totals in July 2020. Persons also increased in August by 20,805 to 1,805,545 persons.
- **ACA Adult:** ACA Adult saw an increase of 9,474 cases from July 2020 for a total of 707,482 cases in August. Persons increased by 9,815 for an August 2020 total of 732,200.
- **AABD Clients:** AABD customers who were categorically qualified for Medical Only decreased 1.07% in August 2020 from July 2020 to 336,113 cases.
- **Foster Care:** Foster Care Assistance totals were not available at the time of this report.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

- SNAP Assistance was given to 1,072,385 Illinois households (1,969,988 persons) in August 2020. This is an increase of 180,314 households from August 2019 levels.
- A total of 113,267 households (155,124 persons) received SNAP with no other assistance in August 2020. This is an increase of 32,172 households from August 2019 levels.
- The total SNAP assistance amount for August of 2020 was \$353,683,882*. This is an increase of \$130,309,503 from August of 2019.

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

PROGRAM	CASES	PERSONS
TANF	26,490	70,705
AABD Cash	19,519	19,519
Family Health Plans	725,623	1,805,545
AABD MANG	336,113	344,719
ACA	707,482	732,200
SNAP with no other assistance	113,267	155,124
Foster Care	N/A	N/A
Refugees Cash & Medical	98	98
Total	1,928,592	3,127,910

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 July 2020, an estimated 123,072 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 2020, an estimated 3,766 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 July 2020, there were 127 children enrolled in Migrant and Seasonal Head Start.

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 5,832 households in shelters during April through June 2020. Of those, 462 were households with children.
- **The Emergency Food Program** served 258,230 households (duplicative) in August 2020.
- **The Homeless Prevention Program** helps families in existing homes and helps others secure affordable housing. During April-June 2020, 1,526 households were served. Of those, 730 were families (Households with children under age 18).
- **The Supportive Housing Program** funds governments and agencies which serve families and transitional facility residents. In the April-June 2020 quarter, 974,709 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 served 1,492 clients in August of 2020.
- **Of the refugees served**, 425 received employment services, and 93% of the clients entering employment were still employed 90 days later during the 4th Quarter of FY20.
- **The Outreach and Interpretation project** assures access to IDHS benefits. This program has served 3,583 in August of 2020.

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 162 customers during the April - June 2020 quarter.
- **The Estimated Donated Funds Initiative** aided 4,943 customers with 30,687 rides provided for Senior's during the April - June 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	July 2020	SFY 2020 Average	SFY 2019 Average
Referrals	2,362	2,813	3,333
Active IFSP's	18,659	22,474	22,812
0-3 Participation Rate	12.90%	10.41%	4.88%
Under 1 Participation Rate	.91%	1.30%	1.38%
% With Medicaid	51.0%	51.2%	52.0%
% With Insurance	38.8%	38.8%	39.1%
% With Fees	27.0%	28.8%	28.5%

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 July 2020
Pregnant Women	12,333
Breastfeeding Women	12,939
Postpartum Women	10,927
Infants	46,005
Children	73,129
Total	155,333

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 began March 16, 2020 in DHS Region 4. We are currently set to go live in the last DHS Region to be converted, Region 1 – Cook County on Tuesday, September 8.

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 July 2020

Location	Medicaid	Non-Medicaid	Total
Statewide	29,834	7,044	36,878

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>