

“JUST THE FACTS”

A Monthly Assistance Update from the
Illinois Department of Human Services

January 2020

Summary

Total cases receiving Public Assistance in Illinois rose by 26,866 cases (27,844 persons) in January 2020 from January 2019. Aided cases numbered 1,767,027 (2,873,946 persons), up 1.54% from year-earlier totals.

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

Benefits

- **Total TANF Benefits:** There were 22,082 TANF cases (57,445 persons) in January 2020, up 742 cases and 2,423 persons from December 2019. The caseload was 2.2 percent higher than the January 2019 total.
- **TANF-Basic:** In January 2020, TANF-Basic (primarily single-parent) families increased, from December 2019, by 696 cases (2,236 persons) for a total of 21,258 cases (53,509 persons).
- **Two-Parent Cases:** Two-parent cases increased in January 2020 by 46 (187 persons) from December 2019 for a total of 824 cases (3,936 persons).
- **Approvals:** There were 1264 assistance approvals this month, including 445 new grants (down 1109 from December 2019) and 337 reinstatements (up 49 from December 2019). A reinstatement is defined as approval of any case that was active within the previous 24 months.
- **TANF Cancelled due to earnings:** In January 2020 there were 124 cases cancelled due to earnings from new employer or increased earnings from an existing employer.
- **Total Grant amount:** \$9,083,499 was the total in January 2020. This is an increase of \$224,159 from December of 2019. January 2020 is up 5.1% from January 2019

Assistance to the Aged, Blind or Disabled (AABD)

The total number of January 2020 AABD Cash cases was up 77 cases from the number of cases in January 2019.

- **AABD Case Details:** AABD cash cases decreased by 131 in January 2020 from December 2019 for a total of 19,100. This total includes 9,264 persons who qualified for Old Age Assistance; 118 persons who qualified for Blind Assistance; and 9,718 persons who qualified for Disability Assistance. The total grant amount shows a 4.5% decrease from December 2019 (\$2,264,231) to January 2020 (\$2,161,077).

Medical Assistance – No Grant

January 2020 had a program total of 1,602,763 cases (2,624,984 persons). Of the total cases, there were 69,058 MANG cases and 121,032 MANG persons in All Kids, Disabled Workers, Breast and Cervical Cancer, Veteran Care, Medically Fragile Technology Dependent, and Department of Corrections programs. ACA Adult had the largest decrease (decreased by 4,062 cases) for an overall decrease of 5,680 MANG cases since December of 2019.

- **MANG:** MANG recipients represent 90.7 percent of total cases and 91.3 percent of total persons in January 2020. MANG cases decreased 0.65% (10,487 cases) from their January 2019 levels, when they represented 92.7 percent of all cases.
- **Family Health Plans:** Families decreased by 1,521 to 679,060 cases from December 2019 to January 2020. Persons decreased by 3,687 to 1,681,116.
- **ACA Adult:** ACA Adult saw a decrease of 4,062 cases from December 2019 for a total of 607,109 cases in January 2020. Persons decreased by 4,124 for a January 2020 total of 627,274.

- **AABD Clients:** AABD customers who were categorically qualified for Medical Only decreased .03% in January 2020 from December 2019 to 316,594 cases.
- **Foster Care:** Foster Care Assistance aided 41,670 in January of 2020. This is an increase of 175 persons since December of 2019.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

- SNAP Assistance was given to 899,422 Illinois households (1,758,969 persons) in January 2020. This is a 0.94 percent decrease (8,532 households) from January 2019 levels.
- A total of 81,412 households (123,562 persons) received SNAP with no other assistance in January 2020. This is a 5.65 percent (4,873 households) decrease from January 2019 levels.
- The total SNAP assistance amount for January of 2020 was \$222,452,705.

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

PROGRAM	CASES	PERSONS
TANF	22,082	57,445
AABD Cash	19,100	19,100
Family Health Plans	679,060	1,681,116
AABD MANG	316,594	316,594
ACA	607,109	627,274
SNAP with no other assistance	81,412	123,562
Foster Care	41,670	41,670
Refugees Cash & Medical	126	126
Total	1,767,153	2,866,887

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 December 2019, an estimated 128,899 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 December 2019, an estimated 6,128 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 December 2019, the centers were closed for the winter 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 2,757 households in shelters during October-December 2019. Of those, 345 were households with children.
- **The Emergency Food Program** served 176,637 households (duplicative) from October-December 2019.

- **The Homeless Prevention Program** helps families in existing homes and helps others secure affordable housing. During October-December 2019, 1,803 households were served. Of those, 1,093 were families (Households with children under age 18).
- **The Supportive Housing Program** funds governments and agencies which serve families and transitional facility residents. In October-December 2019, 703,059 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 485 customers during the October-December 2019 quarter.
- **The Estimated Donated Funds Initiative** aided 5,260 customers with 70,226 rides provided for Senior’s during the October-December 2019 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	December 2019	SFY 2019 Average	SFY 2018 Average
Referrals	2,598	3,333	3,091
Active IFSP's	23,397	22,812	21,981
0-3 Participation Rate	7.76%	4.88%	4.71%
Under 1 Participation Rate	1.36%	1.38%	1.42%
% With Medicaid	50.90%	52.0%	54.9%
% With Insurance	38.80%	39.1%	38.7%
% With Fees	28.40%	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 December 2019
Pregnant Women	13,320
Breastfeeding Women	14,212
Postpartum Women	13,348
Infants	49,382
Children	80,943
Total	171,205

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 Management

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 December

2019

Location	Medicaid	Non-Medicaid	Total
Cook County	9,329	3,353	12,682
Downstate	22,628	6,104	28,732
Statewide	31,957	9,457	41,414

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