



**May 2025 Caseload
Estimating Conference**
RI Department of Human Services
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Caseload Testimony

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May 2025 Caseload Conference

Rhode Island Department of Human Services

The members of the Caseload Estimating Conference have requested that the Department of Human Services (DHS) provide written answers to various questions in addition to the presentation of their estimates. Red text denoting the start of a question and response is highlighted throughout the document.

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Update On Cybersecurity Breach

Question: Please provide an update related to the RI Bridges data breach, including, but not limited to:

- a. The affect on the normal cycle of redeterminations including;
 - i. How backlogs are paced over the remaining months.
 - ii. Impacts to costs
 - iii. Any discrepancies or outliers in reported data provided to Conferees

- b. The effect on cash assistance programs including;
 - i. Including how backlogs are paced over the remaining months
 - ii. Impacts to costs
 - iii. Any discrepancies or outliers in reported data provided to Conferees

Answer: Please see narrative below.

Effect on Redeterminations (Renewals)

The cybersecurity breach significantly disrupted system operations, necessitating a temporary paper-based processing model and the redistribution of scheduled redeterminations to maintain compliance and continuity.

SNAP Renewals

- **Redistributed Cases:**
 - December 2024 & January 2025 cohorts (5,773 total) moved to February 2025
 - February 2025 cohort (4,939) redistributed into March, April, and May
- **Resulting Monthly Caseloads:**
 - February: 5,773 | March: 6,464 | April: 6,772 | May: 5,509

RI Works (RIW) Renewals

- **Redistributed Cases:**
 - December 2024 & January 2025 cohorts (223 total) moved to February
 - February 2025 cohort (146 total) distributed across March–May
- **Monthly Caseloads:**
 - February: 223 | March: 327 | April: 349 | May: 326

Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)

- **Redistributed Cases:**
 - December 2024–January 2025 cohort (1,053 total) moved to February
 - February 2025 cohort (435 total) distributed across March–May
- **Monthly Caseloads:**
 - March: 1,017 | April: 660 | May: 719

This pacing strategy allowed DHS to remain compliant with federal requirements while flattening case volume fluctuations over time. No additional carryover into June is anticipated.

Discrepancies or Outliers in Reported Data

The transition to manual paper processing during the system outage introduced temporary delays in reporting and data entry. RIW Supportive Services payments for the second half of December's benefit was issued onto EBT cards (instead of paper checks) on January 24, 2025. However, given the timing of authorization, utilization, and the month end reporting period, those expenses were not realized in January. After this installment, RIW Supportive Services payments returned to check issuances. DHS maintained compliance with federal timelines for expedited SNAP and standard eligibility determinations. Data integrity is expected to improve further as full RIBridges system functionality is restored.

Effect on Cash Assistance Programs (RIW, GPA, SSP)

Cash assistance programs—including RIW and GPA—continued processing through the paper model without interruption.

- RIW redeterminations were redistributed alongside SNAP and CCAP as outlined above.
- GPA did not require redistribution and continued on schedule.
- All payments were issued on time across SNAP, RIW, and CCAP, maintaining federal compliance.
- CCAP was paid based on enrollment for ten weeks, five batch payments, at an estimated increase of at least \$0.5 million.

Backlog Pacing Over Remaining Months

The structured redistribution plan has successfully mitigated the backlog by spreading workloads over February through May 2025. Given current projections, DHS anticipates clearing all backlogs by the end of May, with no significant surges expected in June.

Federal Changes:

Please provide information related to current and anticipated federal changes and programmatic impacts including;

1. Layoffs and Office closures related to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), and Food and Nutrition Services (FNS)

Federal Changes Response

Monitoring and Assessment Framework

DHS actively monitors federal changes through the HHS Federal Policy and Impact Monitoring and Assessment Initiative, coordinated by the Executive Office of Health and Human Services. This structure allows for cross-agency tracking of anticipated federal policy shifts affecting non-Medicaid programs.

Administration for Children and Families (ACF)

As of April 1, 2025, Region 1 staff received Reduction in Force (RIF) notices. The Boston-based Office of Regional Operations is on administrative leave and will officially close on June 2, 2025. This will affect coordination and oversight for programs like child care assistance, child support enforcement, and TANF.

The FY26 Budget includes \$300,000 in federal and restricted receipts to support modernization of the RIKidsBridge child support platform, currently overseen by ACF.

Food and Nutrition Services (FNS)

While no office closures have been announced by FNS, DHS continues to seek:

- Approval of targeted SNAP fraud-prevention rules, including support for PIN resets and card replacement
- Federal support for chip-enabled and mobile wallet EBT technology

As of March 2025, over 2,000 Rhode Island households experienced \$700,000+ in stolen SNAP benefits due to EBT card skimming. A policy brief is being prepared for FNS submission to outline long-term protections and modernization plans.

Programmatic Impacts and Operational Adjustments

Rhode Island DHS has not implemented any state office closures or layoffs in response to federal changes. In fact, the agency has maintained staffing stability and increased FTEs from 680 to 704 between March 2024 and March 2025. This has supported consistent service delivery throughout and after the RIBridges incident.

Modernization efforts—including SNAP Connect, Technology Adoption Days, and expanded self-service options—are key parts of the agency’s strategy to enhance accessibility, improve operational resilience, and respond to shifting federal dynamics.

Rhode Island Works (RIW) Program

RI Works is Rhode Island's name for the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. Authorized under Public Law 104-193 in 1996 (the welfare reform legislation "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act" or PRWORA), the TANF program is a block grant to states to achieve the following purposes:

- Assisting needy families so that children can be cared for in their own homes
- Reducing the dependency of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage
- Preventing out-of-wedlock pregnancies
- Encouraging the formation and maintenance of two-parent families

States create their own programs within the parameters of TANF. RIGL § 40-5.2 authorizes RI Works. It was previously known as the Family Independence Program (FIP) when enacted in 1997. In 2008, it was revised as the RI Works program to align with TANF's employment goals and policies and to help recipient families become employed and self-sufficient. The goal of RI Works is to eliminate or reduce the harmful effects of poverty on families and children by fostering employment and opportunity as a means to economic independence (RIGL § 40-5.2-6 (a)); and to eliminate the stigma of welfare by promoting a philosophy and a perception that the purpose of welfare is to eliminate or reduce the harmful effects of poverty on families and children by promoting work opportunities for all Rhode Island residents (RIGL § 40-5.2-6 (c)).

All activities and services provided through the RI Works program are intended to promote stability and economic progress for families through the provision of supportive services, the development of employment skills and intensive work readiness services. The RI Works program supports adult family members to work by offering the following benefits and services:

- **Cash Assistance** is provided to families experiencing poverty that meet certain regulations
- **Comprehensive Assessment and Service Planning** for families receiving cash assistance
- **Child Care Assistance** is provided to support the family, when needed
- **Employment Supports** which includes assistance with job training, adult education and obtaining employment at livable wages
- **Food Assistance** is provided by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- **Transportation** reimbursement and/or bus passes are available to support preparation for employment
- Parents are strongly encouraged to apply for **Healthcare** while on RI Works

The TANF Block Grant is the funding source for RI Works. In order to draw Rhode Island's \$94.7 million federal grant, the State is required to maintain an historic level of investment in programs that serve low-income families. This investment is called Maintenance of Effort (MOE), and these expenditures are calculated each fiscal year and must be at least 80 percent of historic "qualified"

state expenditures under the former Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) Program. In Rhode Island, 80 percent MOE is \$64.4 million.

Profile of RI Works

Household Breakdown	
Households with 1 parent	64.2%
Households with 2 parents	6.5%
Households with child-only cases	29.3%
Race and Ethnicity	
American Indian or Alaskan Native, Non-Hispanic	1.3 %
Asian, Non-Hispanic	1.4 %
Black or African American, Non-Hispanic	22.4%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	< 0.1%
White, Non-Hispanic	18.2%
Hispanic, including Mexican, Puerto Rican, and Cuban	33.8%
Unable to Determine the Ethnicity or Race	22.9%
Recipients per Household	
1 individual	20.6%
2 individuals	36.1%
3 individuals	23.2%
4+ individuals	20.1%

Self-Reported Education Levels for Adults		
Education Levels	Less Than 8th Grade	2%
	8th Grade	2%
	9th Grade	5%
	10th Grade	7%
	11th Grade	15%
	12th Grade or GED Completed	41%
	Some College, Not Graduated	19%
	Two Year Degree	4%
	Four Year Degree	3%
	Post Four Year Degree	1%
	Unknown	1%

City/Town	City/Town	Cases	Individuals
	Barrington	13	46
	Bristol	19	41
	Burrillville	29	75
	Central Falls	172	457
	Charlestown	1	1
	Coventry	40	84
	Cranston	181	441
	Cumberland	37	96
	East Greenwich	14	26
	East Providence	132	337
	Exeter	3	10
	Foster	6	16
	Glocester	6	14
	Hopkinton	5	11
	Jamestown	4	11
	Johnston	68	164
Lincoln	35	87	
Little Compton	2	5	
Middletown	54	145	

City/Town	City/Town	Cases	Individuals
	Narragansett	4	13
	New Shoreham	0	0
	Newport	131	359
	North Kingstown	26	61
	North Providence	78	187
	North Smithfield	9	23
	Pawtucket	498	1230
	Portsmouth	13	44
	Providence	1507	3899
	Richmond	4	12
	Scituate	2	4
	Smithfield	18	48
	South Kingstown	23	53
	Tiverton	16	35
	Warren	26	58
	Warwick	123	289
	West Greenwich	2	2
	West Warwick	125	319
	Westerly	16	34
Woonsocket	425	1132	
Undetermined	9	26	
Total	3876	9895	

Hardships City/Town and Year	City/Town	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Barrington	0	0	0	2	3
	Bristol	9	0	0	1	2
	Burrillville	0	0	0	1	5
	Central Falls	68	29	52	21	32
	Charlestown	0	0	0	0	0
	Coventry	4	0	4	2	6
	Cranston	7	7	15	11	31
	Cumberland	7	7	15	6	10
	East Greenwich	7	7	15	0	0
	East Providence	7	7	15	15	24
	Exeter	7	7	15	0	0
	Foster	0	0	0	1	3
	Glocester	0	0	2	0	0

City/Town	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Hopkinton	0	0	2	1	2
Jamestown	0	0	8	0	0
Johnston	25	13	29	6	9
Lincoln	31	20	31	1	7
Little Compton	0	0	0	1	1
Middletown	13	23	19	6	18
Narragansett	0	0	0	0	0
New Shoreham	0	0	0	0	0
Newport	64	62	95	23	41
North Kingstown	15	7	9	4	9
North Providence	10	2	23	9	18
North Smithfield	0	0	0	1	1
Pawtucket	153	105	132	33	88
Portsmouth	6	0	1	2	4
Providence	829	524	537	141	320
Richmond	0	0	0	0	0
Scituate	9	0	11	3	3
Smithfield	8	4	11	3	7
South Kingstown	0	0	2	1	2
Tiverton	0	0	0	4	7
Warren	0	0	0	3	4
Warwick	47	42	32	11	21
West Greenwich	0	0	3	0	0
West Warwick	14	4	24	5	25
Westerly	0	0	0	1	1
Woonsocket	131	74	170	48	95
Other/Multiple City	0	2	2	0	0
Total	1,471	946	1,274	367	800

Question: Please provide a profile of current 1-parent, 2-parent, and child-only cases by demographics (such as age and residence) and by duration of benefits.

Question: Please provide a profile of hardship cases by similar criteria as listed above and for the past five years.

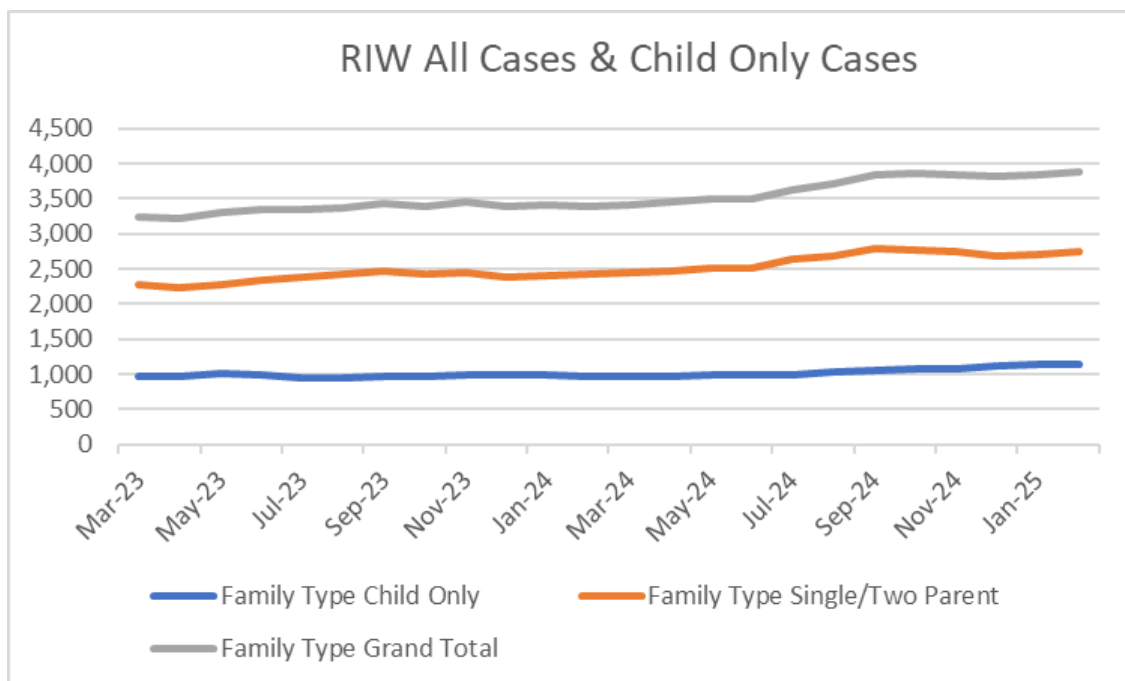
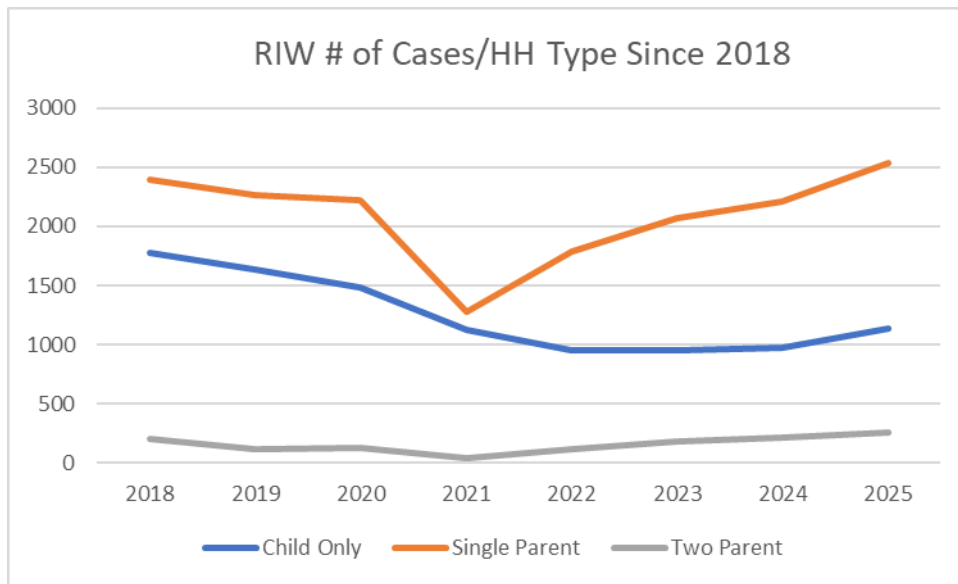
Answer: Please see charts above and below.

Family Type		Months on RI Works				
		0-24	25-48	49-60	>60	Total
	Single-Parent	1,070	598	616	204	2,488
	Two-Parent	184	41	25	4	254
	Total	1254	639	641	208	2742

Duration of Benefits	Year	Median Duration of Benefits
	2020	40
2021	44	
2022	36	
2023	36	
2024	42	

Question: How many child-only cases are included in the estimate for FY 2025 and FY 2026? How many families receive the payment(s)? Please include data for the last five years.

Answer: Currently, the child only cases are at 29.2 percent. We have recently onboarded a vendor to support grandparents, legal guardian and other relatives in accessing benefits. The expectation is the child-only cases will grow to 32 percent of the caseload for FY 2025 and 35 percent for FY 2026. The projection was created using a review of the slight increase from the end of last year to current.



Question: Please provide for the last five years how many parents are currently without a plan due to:

- a. Exemption from employment planning

Answer: 234 cases are **currently active with exemptions**

Exemptions	Yearly Data
2020	300
2021	121
2022	147
2023	155
2024	234

- b. Being between plans

Answer: 26 cases are **currently active without a plan***

***System improvement active in October 2024 to address.**

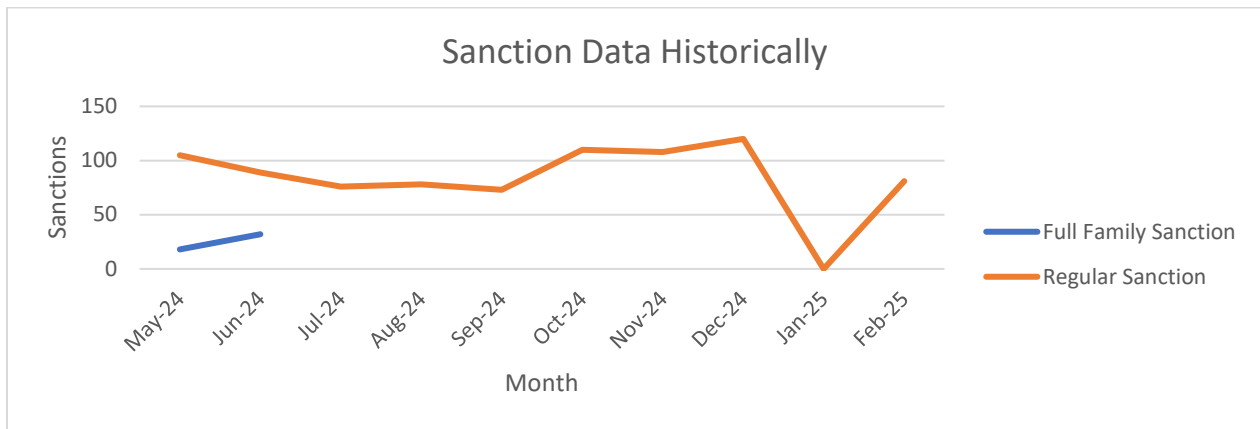
Between Plans	Yearly Data
2020	78
2021	95
2022	66
2023	101
2024	26

- c. Sanction—by month, the number of parents sanctioned for not complying with work requirements in FY2025 and FY2026

Answer: Please see graphs and charts below.

- From July 1, 2024, state law removed the full family sanction. The result is the case will remain open with a decrease in the monthly benefit amount. The benefit amount is based on the number of children and compliant adults, minus the amount owed to any adults under sanction status. The benefit amount will always support the number of eligible children in the household. The statutory change means that cases will remain open to RI Works under sanction status. The number of sanction cases have not increased above the level prior to the change.
- RI Works employment plans are a required component for the eligible adult to maintain an open case. RI Works participants cannot have an open case without an employment plan. A system enhancement that was implemented in the fall of last year was to send out system generated notices earlier to inform parents the employment was expiring and providing direction to remedy. Programmatically, DHS has vendors send notices ensuring

customers know their case is in danger of closing if they are noncompliant with required activities as detailed in their employment plan.



Question: Please provide any available analysis on the impact of the following FY 2025 changes to the RI Works program (cost, cases, other):

- a. Cash assistance payments increasing by 20%
- b. Income disregard increasing from \$300 to \$525
- c. Elimination of full family sanction penalty

Answer: See chart above and narrative below and page 17.

RI Works Trends

The Rhode Island Works program remains stable with a slight increase through SFY25. Due to changes in the RI Works Statute last year, additional increases to RI Works are expected to continue for SFY 2025 and SFY 2026 but at a slower rate.

The expectation is that the caseload will continue to increase as additional families learn they are eligible due to the benefit increase of 20%, increased Earned Income Disregard, and the removal of the Full Family Sanction. The Department estimates the caseload will have a slight increase of 0.5% per month for the next 12 months; this is based on a new projection model implemented for the year, as well as results from the past six months.

DHS has successfully partnered with new community agencies to serve RI Works customers and to further conduct outreach to Rhode Island families who had become unengaged or were never engaged in RI Works. Partnering agencies have increased support for applicants as well as existing RI Works customers. Although the contracts were successfully implemented for two of the agencies, it was not successful with a third larger agency for which there were expectations of a greater reach. Due to this outcome, expectations of growth are less than previously anticipated.

According to the 2024 Rhode Island Kids Count Factbook, 14 percent of children in RI are living in poverty, which equals nearly 28,774 children under the age of 18¹. The RI Works program is providing benefits to roughly 6,000 children or 41 percent of the children living in poverty. This is 0.78 percent of the RI population. RI Works and RI Kids Count have continued discussions with providers regarding innovative ideas to outreach to residents who may be eligible for services but not accessing the program.

RI Works families face multiple barriers to stabilization, usually for multiple generations. The result is chronic trauma needing additional specialized services to help the family stabilize and become self-sufficient. Two new providers were onboarded via last year's RFP for RI Works. One provider added additional behavioral health support to address the specific barriers associated with chronic trauma experienced by deep poverty and insecurities. This agency has been introducing their contracted services to each field office via in-person meetings over the last three months. The goal is to target cases that have not exited the program to employment due to behavioral health concerns. The second agency specializes in financial literacy with a targeted audience of very low income. The agency has success with enrolling our population in classes, developing small business plans, credit repair and protection. The feedback from participants has been overwhelmingly positive.

RI Works Recent Legislative Changes

RI Works had three (3) legislative changes that had an effective date of July 1, 2024. The monthly benefit amount was increased by 20 percent, the Earned Income Disregard was increased from \$300 to \$525, and the Full Family Sanction was removed. Due to the need to update the electronic system, RIBridges, to implement the changes, the changes were made retroactively for the first two (2) months. Families were notified of the changes in July, however, the benefits were provided in August for both the benefit increase and the increase in the Earned Income Disregard. Case closings due to sanctions were suppressed, meaning cases were not closed due to a Full Family Sanction, but the benefit amount was decreased to only include the number of children in the household included on the case.

In the months of July and August, there was a caseload increase of five percent. Post-legislative changes, DHS is seeing an average cost-per-case, from July through March, of approximately \$755, an increase from the \$611 benefit in the prior months. The increases allow more families to access the program and receive a higher benefit amount. Data for the Full Family Sanction was last collected in February 2025. Thus far, the sanction status appears stable prior to the implementation of this change.

¹ https://www.rikidscount.org/Portals/0/2023%20Factbook%20Files/2023FB_Economic%20Well-Being.pdf?ver=2023-05-10-100635-760<https://www.rikidscount.org/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Factbook2022/Economic Well-being section.pdf?ver=2022-05-12-085913-727>

Question: Please provide an update on field office operations and any staffing challenges and any impact on enrollment from those challenges.

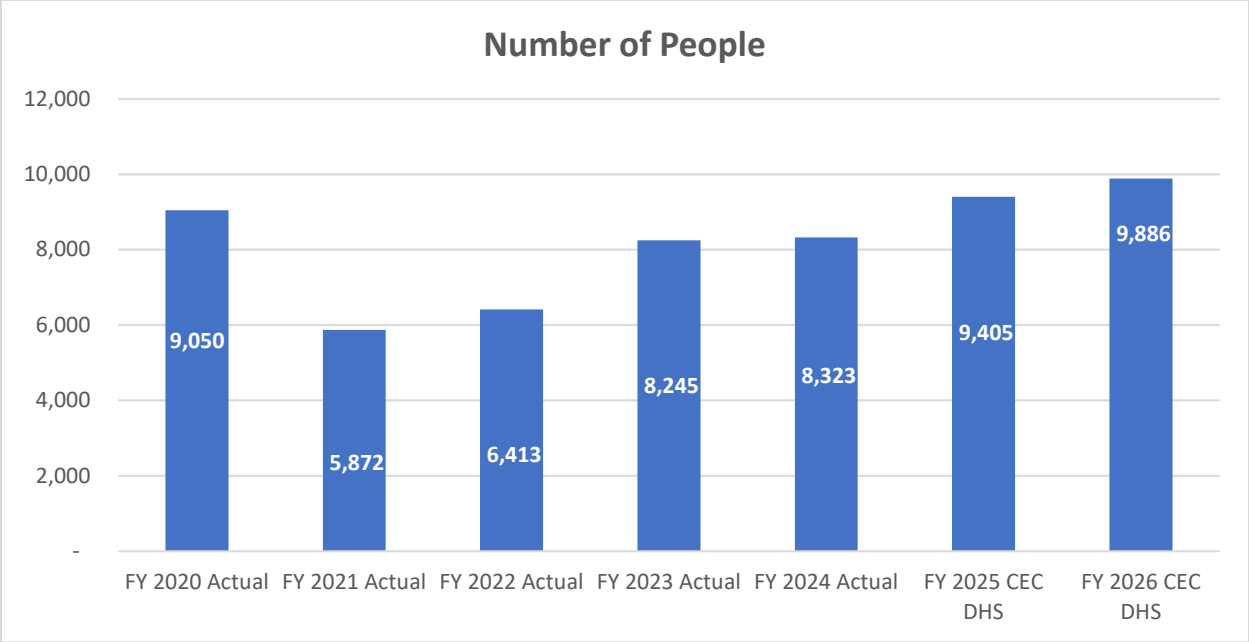
Answer: As of March 2025, DHS reports 4,493 pending applications across all programs, with 1,290 requiring state action. The largest concentrations of overdue applications remain in complex Medicaid (445), undetermined medical (263), SNAP (99), and CCAP (73). This is a substantial improvement from October 2024, when over 6,500 SNAP cases were pending.

To accelerate application processing, DHS piloted a call-in model ahead of the statewide launch of SNAP Connect on April 21, 2025. This flexible interview approach allows customers to call before scheduled appointments, significantly reducing no-shows and improving processing throughout. SNAP Connect eliminates cold calls and integrates with automated reminders and the HealthyRhode mobile app.

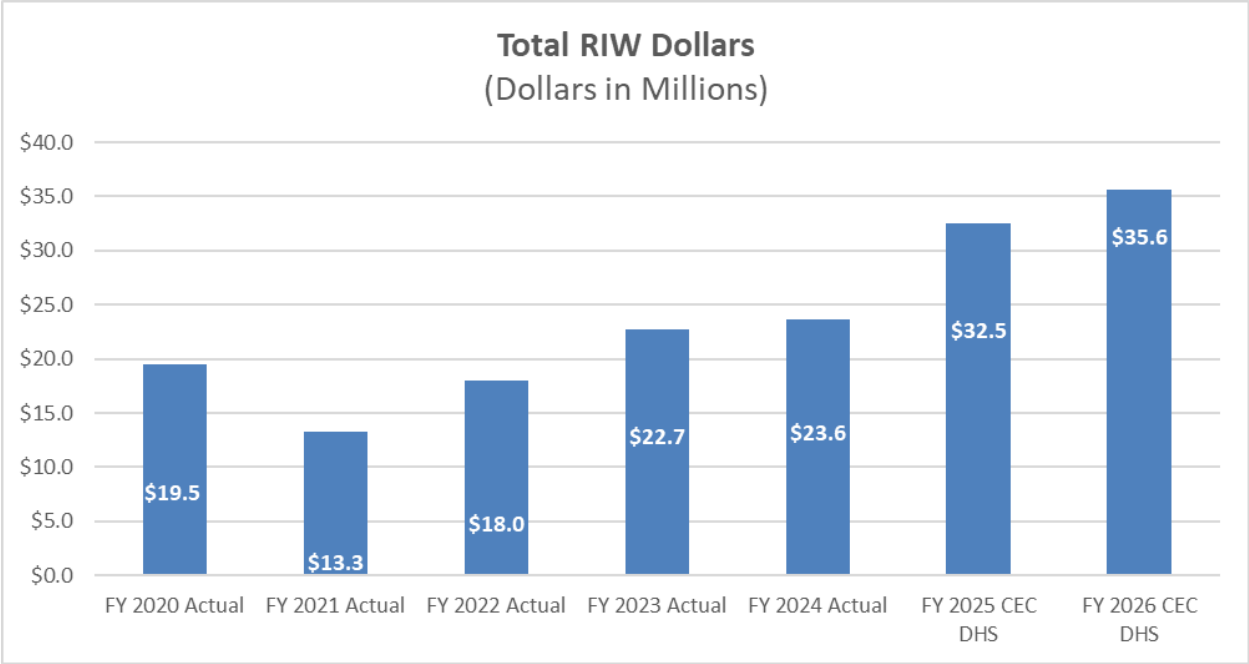
Field operations continue to evolve. The Holden Street regional office remains the primary walk-in location, featuring expanded staffing and a Document Scanning Center. The Shepard Building is launching as an appointment-only site, with structured scheduling, reduced wait times, and designated Processing Wednesdays for focused casework. Between February and March 2025, DHS completed 1,844 tasks during these dedicated processing days statewide. Staffing improvements have contributed to operational recovery. Between January and December 2024, DHS reduced its vacancy rate from 11.7% to 9.6% and hired nine additional staff in early 2025. Over 105 hours of in-person training have been delivered since mid-February, and the Rhode Island Learning Center has logged over 11,900 course completions, covering SNAP policy, Medicaid eligibility, CRM use, fraud prevention, and more.

Call Center performance has also stabilized. From January 26 through March 2, 2025, the average wait time was 26 minutes, and self-service functions have been fully restored, allowing customers to independently check their status, appointments, and notices.

DHS has made measurable progress in reducing backlogs, restoring system functionality, and modernizing service delivery. Through coordinated field office realignment, expanded customer support, and continued staff investments, the agency is well-positioned to meet ongoing demand. The phased rollout of SNAP Connect and the stabilization of RIBridges further support timely and equitable access to services for all Rhode Islanders.

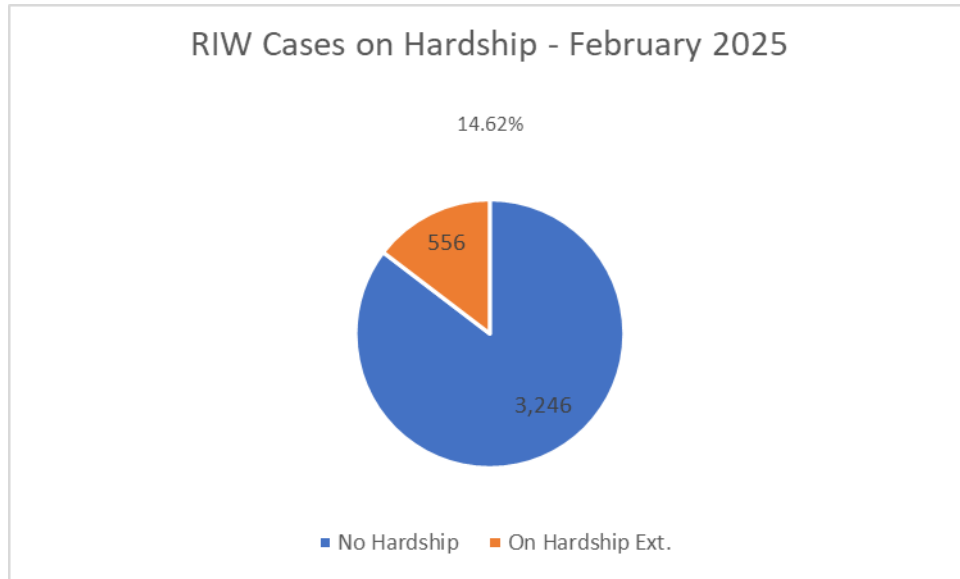


Prior to the benefit increase in July 2024, the RI Works caseload was fairly stable, with only marginal average month-over-month increases. The DHS May Caseload estimate for SFY25 continues to use a 0.5 percent increase month-over-month based on the monthly average for the last six months. The SFY26 projection continues the same 0.5 percent until March 2026. Community agencies have partnered with DHS to provide support to families applying for RI Works, which is a factor in the increase in growth rates.



Hardships Extensions

Hardship extensions are available to families reaching time limits. There are five criteria in DHS regulations for hardship extensions. Currently, hardship extensions are granted for six-month increments. Cases classified as “hardship” cannot have employment plan exemptions, cannot be “between plans”, and cannot be under sanction.



The number of hardships as a percentage of the total caseload remains below the federal statutory ceiling of 20 percent. Rhode Island’s hardship cases constitute approximately 14.62 percent of the state caseload. Rhode Island’s hardship cases are now counted only after a case exceeds 60 months on the RI Works benefit. RI Works vendors continue additional programming to target the cases exceeding 60 months on their state time clock.

Work Participation Rate (WPR) Overview

RI Works parents are required to participate in employment preparation activities and must do so for a minimum number of hours per week on average for the month, per Federal TANF regulations. The required minimum hours differ based on the age of the youngest child and whether there is a second parent in the household.

- Parents whose youngest child is under the age of six must participate for a minimum of 20 hours per week.
- Parents whose youngest child is six or older must participate for a minimum of 30 hours per week.
- Two-parent families must participate for a minimum of 35 hours per week.

Not all RI Works parents are required to participate in employment-related activities. Some are exempt for reasons including being disabled, caring for a child under the age of one, caring for a disabled child or family member, or being in the third trimester of pregnancy and medically

unable to work. Others are exempt because they are “child-only” cases where the payment is entirely for the child(ren), and the parents or caretaker relatives do not receive a cash payment for themselves (i.e., parent on SSI or children in kinship care).

Unless exempt, parents receiving a cash payment are required to comply with an employment plan. Parents can be sanctioned or closed if they are not meeting the minimum required employment plan hours without good cause. If parents can provide good cause for a failure to comply with their employment plans, then their case will not be sanctioned or closed. Occasionally, parents have ended their planned activities without new employment plans, also referred to as “between plans.”

Question: Please provide the “all families” and “two-parent families” work participation rate for FY 2026, along with a work participation rate target. Please include data for the past five years.

Answer:

- FY 2019 Required all families: Required 0.0 percent (met 8.9 percent)
Required 2-parent families: Required 31.2 percent (not met 11.8 percent)
- FY 2020 Required all families: Required 0.0 percent (met 6.8 percent)
Required 2-parent families: Required 27.6 percent (not met 7.3 percent)
- FY 2021 Required all families: Required 0.0 percent (met 6.5 percent)
Required 2-parent families: Required 26.3 percent (not met 8.0 percent)
- FY 2022 Required all families: Required 0.0 percent (met 7.6 percent)
Required 2-parent families: Required 15.2 percent (not met 8.6 percent)
- FY 2023 Required all families: Required 0.0 percent (met 11.6).
Required 2-parent families: Required 14.5 percent (not met 12.9 percent)
(preliminary results)
- FY 2024 is not yet available.

Federal Work Participation Rate (WPR) data is derived from a quarterly data interface that is reviewed by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF). The State cannot currently calculate WPR. Instead, ACF provides the State with feedback based on data submissions.

Question: Please provide an update on the status of current or potential federal penalties associated with the work participation rate.

Answer: Through discussions with the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), DHS agreed to reducing the FFY 2024 TANF block grant by \$865,532 to resolve all prior work participation rate penalties. Per an ACF letter dated December 5, 2024, there are no pending penalties.

2025 & 2026 TANF Budget							
Line Seq	Agency	LIS Name	FY 25 Enacted Budget	FY25 Governor's Recommended	FY25 Expenditures as of 3/31/25 (RIFANS)	FY26 Governor's Recommended	Description of the Services Funded by TANF
2025105	079	TANF/EA- CM Program- Federal Share	827,024	888,375	1,078,099	885,184	DCYF for TANF eligible youth to be served
2075108	079	TANF/EA- CWP Program- Federal Share	6,372,345	6,690,962	6,285,163	6,958,601	DCYF for TANF eligible youth to be served
2075145	079	TANF/SSBG Grant	659,469	300,000	183	300,000	DCYF for TANF eligible youth to be served
2075148	079	TANF - HCBS	1,063,162	1,072,692	558	1,070,174	DCYF for TANF eligible youth to be served
2075150	079	TANF - SSBG Transfer	2,653,005	2,534,033	1,285	2,888,732	DCYF for TANF eligible youth to be served
2075155	079	TANF - DCYF Hoteling	261,383	985,765	(1,003,913)	640,943	DCYF Hoteling for TANF eligible youth to be served
2075156	079	TANF - DCYF Hoteling SSBG Transfer	927,833	5,785,967	308,587	5,411,268	DCYF Hoteling for TANF eligible youth to be served
2170182	075	DHS Home Visiting Coop	200,000	200,000	-	200,000	RIDOH for RIW parents in the Family Visiting
2255108	069	Early Head Start Supplemental Support	3,000,000	3,000,000	1,888,516	3,000,000	Funding of head start care with TANF funds
2275116	069	FIP CM and Work Programs	10,100,000	15,406,000	6,368,830	14,106,000	Contracted vendors engaging in direct services for RIW parents
2275121	069	FIP Administration	5,256,720	5,354,872	4,220,225	7,002,946	Administrative funds for DHS
2275177	069	TANF - Subsidized Employment Enhancement	200,000	200,000	13,148	200,000	Contract to provide services to homeless families
2275186	069	UHIP - TANF Federal Allocation	585,219	771,592	408,293	49,525	Administrative funds for UHIP
2275202	069	UHIP - Non lapd TANF Federal	598,920	273,393	47,160	-	Administrative funds for UHIP
2400101	069	FIP/TANF - Regular	32,222,050	34,941,000	25,372,838	36,783,200	Cost for TANF/RIW benefits to families
2400107	069	AFDC Catastrophic Aid	3,600	1,800	400	2,400	Costs for families who have experienced a catastrophic event like fire or flood
2400110	069	Child Care - SSBG Reallocation	-	-	-	-	Funding of low income child care with TANF funds
2400112	069	Child Care - TANF Funds	44,597,933	38,857,402	17,724,002	41,441,661	Funding of low income child care with TANF funds
2400114	069	RIPTA Transportation Benefit	441,891	515,240	9,676	531,620	Funding of bus passes for RIW parents
2400115	069	Child Care Assistance Enhancement	-	-	-	-	Funding of low income child care with TANF funds
2725162	072	Project Opportunity	1,350,000	1,350,000	721,631	1,350,000	Adult Education (ABE, ESL, GED)
4889506	069	ARP DIRECT - Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund	-	-	119	-	PEAF funding
Total			\$ 111,320,544	\$ 119,089,093	\$ 63,565,780	\$ 122,822,234	

Fiscal Year	Awarded	Expensed	Planned Expenses	Cumulative Carry Forward
SFY 2020	\$94,294,105	\$85,644,437	\$ -	\$15,800,878
SFY 2021	\$94,608,671	\$69,204,618	\$ -	\$41,204,931
SFY 2022	\$95,675,713	\$60,891,460	\$ -	\$75,989,184
SFY 2023	\$94,708,016	\$72,545,481	\$ -	\$98,151,719
SFY 2024	\$93,842,484	\$83,406,354	\$ -	\$108,587,849
SFY 2025	\$94,700,000	\$63,565,780	\$ 55,534,141	\$84,187,928
SFY 2026	\$94,700,000	\$ -	\$ 122,822,234	\$56,065,694
SFY 2027	\$94,700,000	\$ -	\$ 111,867,220	\$38,898,474
SFY 2028	\$94,700,000	\$ -	\$ 111,867,220	\$21,731,254
SFY 2029	\$94,700,000	\$ -	\$ 111,867,220	\$4,564,034

Question: Please update FY2025 and FY2026 TANF block grant estimates. Include the balance of any unspent funds from prior years and report any plans for its use.

Answer: See above. The projected TANF carryforward amounts have remained stable since the last caseload testimony and include the newly revised estimates for RIW and CCAP caseloads and increases in projected contracts supporting the TANF population. The carryforward balance is directly attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic. Current work support contracts with increased focus around housing insecurity for the TANF population total around \$15 million annually. Another \$500,000 is allocated for a collaborative project with Refugee Services and TANF customers addressing their unique mental health needs. Finally, support in the amount of \$18 million in both FY 2025 and 2026 is passthrough to DCYF.

Question: Transportation: Please provide the basis for the agency projection for transportation costs? What is the utilization for bus passes and how has it changed in the last five years?

Answer: Projected transportation costs are calculated by a presumed usage rate of total RI Works persons multiplied by the adjusted cost of the monthly bus pass. We have not seen a fluctuation in the 5.5 percent of persons on RI Works currently utilizing their bus pass option from MTM for the last couple of years. DHS has seen no change and is continuing to project a usage at 5.5 percent for the remainder of FY 2025 and FY 2026. Trends over the past five years have significantly dropped the transportation costs, both the increased virtual training with virtual participation hours. The RIPTA voucher program will be largely for ADA and expanded paratransit, this population is unlikely to affect the RI Works transportation costs. There are multiple programs offered by other programs that support shared populations.

TANF Maintenance of Effort (MOE)

The TANF Maintenance of Effort (MOE) is a requirement that a state must spend at least a specified amount of state funds for benefits and services for families in need each year. A broad array of benefits and services for low-income families with children can count toward satisfying a state's MOE obligation. A state may count any state funds used for TANF program services or any funds that meet the federal TANF purposes as TANF MOE toward the required \$64.4 million benchmark.

Federal Law allows six types of expenditures that can be counted toward MOE requirements:

1. Cash assistance
2. Child care assistance
3. Educational activities designed to increase self-sufficiency
4. Job training and work
5. Any other use of funds reasonably calculated to accomplish a TANF purpose

6. Administrative costs in connection with other allowable purposes

The consequences for not meeting the MOE are that the TANF grant will be reduced the following year on a dollar-for-dollar basis, and the state will be required to expend additional state funds in its TANF program to the amount by which the state fell short of meeting the MOE.

Question: Please indicate how the state will meet its maintenance of effort (MOE) requirement and identify which MOE items are state costs and which are in-kind contributions.

Answer: DHS seeks MOE from both state agencies and other philanthropic agencies statewide. MOE is calculated using the methods provided by a previous vendor. DHS exceeded the MOE requirement by \$13.4 million in 2024.

State Costs: \$60,378,124

In-kind: \$15,317,566

For FY 2020 and future years, the Department has been instructed by ACF to calculate MOE differently by removing a provision previously allowed due to a prior law grandfathering. The grandfathering has ended. This significantly reduces the amount of allowable expenditures and MOE allowed from DCYF Residential. The Department is working on utilizing other avenues to collect the MOE.

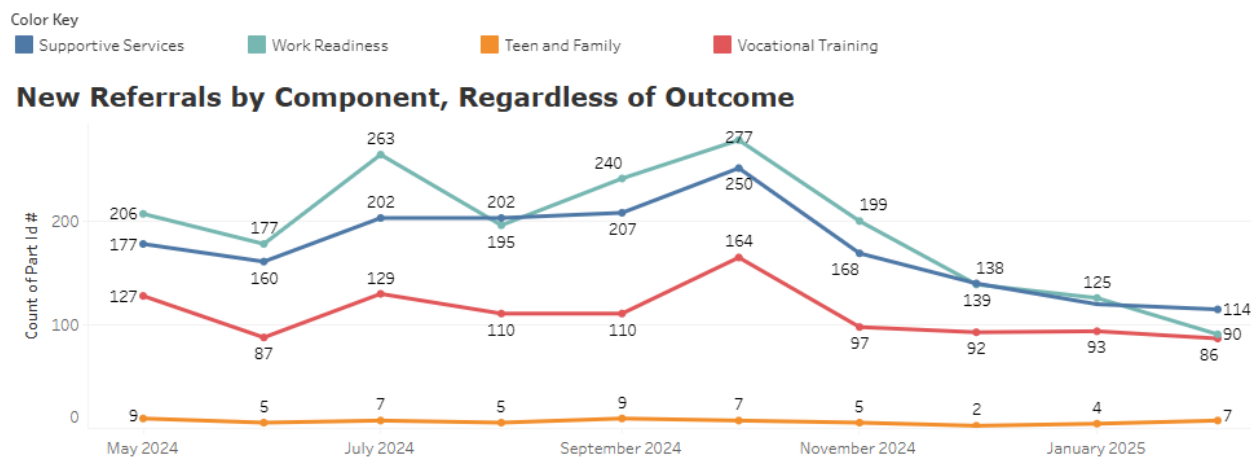
The tables below show MOE expenditures by category and community organizations:

	FFY 2021 Reported to ACF	FFY 2022 Reported to ACF	FFY 2023 Reported to ACF	FFY 2024 Reported to ACF	FFY 2025 Projected to ACF
RIW Admin - DHS	\$4,740,191	\$3,855,901	\$4,829,497	\$5,289,294	\$5,000,000
Child Care MOE DHS	\$5,351,126	\$5,351,126	\$5,321,207	\$5,321,126	\$4,000,000
Emergency Assistance - DCYF	\$1,635,450	\$1,131,567	\$1,734,050	\$1,817,429	\$1,800,000
DCYF Other	\$16,084,231	\$15,774,162	\$25,201,254	\$18,272,718	\$18,000,000
DEFRA (Child Support Pass-Thru)	\$208,803	\$217,814	\$232,095	\$280,233	\$280,000
RIDE Adult Ed	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	\$1,151,165	\$1,131,644	\$1,100,000
CAP Agencies (Leg. Grants)	\$287,820	\$210,180	\$210,960	\$226,200	\$220,000
Head Start	\$1,190,000	\$1,190,000	\$1,188,618	\$1,190,000	\$1,190,000
SSI	\$2,472,240	\$2,228,503	\$2,209,901	\$2,227,599	\$2,200,000
GWB-DLT Youth Work Readiness	\$442,080	\$754,407	\$966,433	\$848,968	\$840,000
Earned Income Tax Credit	\$15,963,386	\$19,364,568	\$18,656,693	\$20,439,680	\$20,400,000
Property Tax Relief Program (Circuit Breaker)	\$120,234	\$121,851	\$164,945	\$150,108	\$120,000
DCYF Residential	\$2,982,641	\$4,174,996	\$3,624,546	\$5,163,737	\$5,000,000
Weatherization	\$6,979,035	\$5,159,377	\$7,284,662	\$7,954,370	\$7,900,000
Rhode Island Food Bank	\$3,218,941	\$2,900,173	\$3,537,371	\$940,955	\$900,000
Community Organizations (Listed Below)	\$2,338,768	\$2,172,515	\$2,242,561	\$2,387,124	\$2,346,000
OPC / Promise	\$0	\$4,389,791	\$4,138,215	\$4,141,348	\$0
Total	\$65,064,947	\$70,046,931	\$82,694,173	\$77,782,533	\$71,296,000

	FFY 2021 Reported to ACF	FFY 2022 Reported to ACF	FFY 2023 Reported to ACF	FFY 2024 Reported to ACF	FFY 2025 Projected to ACF
Roman Catholic Diocese of Providence	\$25,036	\$111,513	\$51,243	\$45,752	\$40,000
The Salvation Army	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
United Way of Rhode Island	\$310,145	\$0	\$284,688	\$302,587	\$300,000
Boys and Girls Club	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Rhode Island Foundation	\$480,709	\$466,077	\$236,913	\$327,311	\$300,000
SStarbirth	\$35,363	\$41,999	\$50,386	\$55,045	\$55,000
Crossroads	\$390,104	\$87,227	\$175,871	\$134,376	\$175,000
Dorcas International Institute	\$24,170	\$12,720	\$220,680	\$106,231	\$100,000
Non-Violence Institute	\$0	\$1,080	\$0	\$0	\$0
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence	\$2,427	\$390,329	\$149,625	\$171,341	\$170,000
Com CAP	\$70,814	\$8,566	\$5,971	\$6,876	\$6,000
Genesis Center	\$0	\$53,004	\$67,184	\$237,605	\$200,000
Total	\$2,338,768	\$2,172,515	\$2,242,561	\$2,387,124	\$2,346,000

RI Works Contracted Vendors

There are three original contracted vendors that support the RI Works customers with basic services. These vendors provide support to customers through the four program components: Supportive Services, Youth Services, Vocational Training and Job Readiness, Employment & Retention. The programs provided to RI Works families streamline supportive services, education and/or training programs with the goal of stabilizing families. The vendors' programs result in more parents being engaged in work activities that would be reflected in higher wages and assisting them in obtaining successful employment outcomes.



The contracts are based on performance metrics that incentivize the vendors to assist parents in obtaining long-term employment at a living wage. DHS will continue to request vendors to provide extensive data to the Department on a monthly basis so that progress and trends can be tracked and changes can be put into effect as needed.

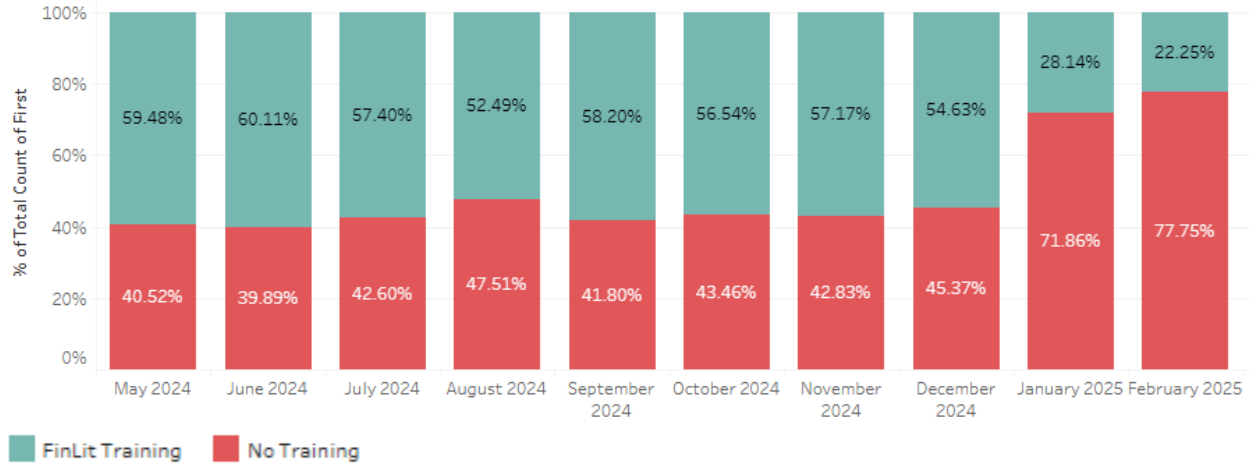
DHS utilized the Grant Management System to solicit new RI Works vendors in 2024, providing a broader array of services that focused on key areas. A subpopulation of RI Works families need specialized support to become work-ready. As mentioned previously, a vendor has been added to focus on mental health barriers specific to employment. This vendor will also provide consultation for DHS staff on mental health interventions. Another vendor will focus on personalized financial literacy that includes credit repair and small business plan development. This vendor can provide college credits for RI Works participants who complete a more in-depth financial literacy course. New vendors were also selected on their ability to reach specialized populations facing barriers to accessing services. These selections were based on location and subject matter expertise, such as those with immigration barriers, those experiencing homelessness, BIPOC populations, and those with unidentified barriers.

Additionally, DHS has added a pilot across the larger supportive contracts and Crossroads to address housing instability through the Housing Stability Pilot (HSP). HSP is used to mitigate the effects of trauma and stress related to housing insecurity, allowing RI Works participants to focus on work readiness. HSP is a homeless prevention program that is assisting low-income families

who meet eligibility criteria. The short-term assistance is being used to prevent evictions and assist in establishing housing for participants.

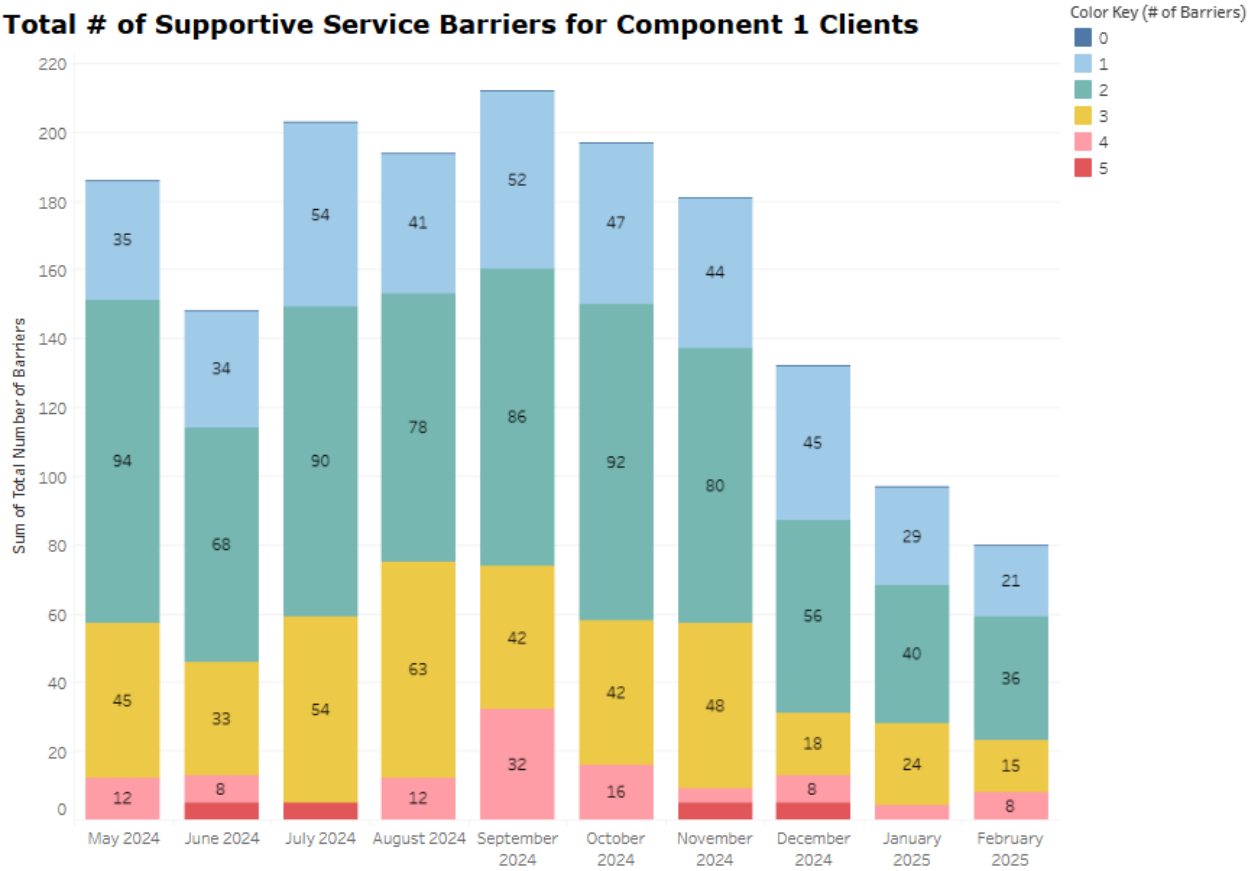
Financial Literacy to ensure that RI Works families become more aware of financial issues on their path to self-sufficiency. DHS has required all service vendors to integrate financial literacy into their curricula. This is being accomplished by having all RI Works customers referred to the new financial literacy vendor so they may receive the specialized services.

Financial Literacy: All Participants Monthly



- **Supportive Services** to assist RI Works families in resolving barriers and issues that may be hindering them from becoming employed and on a path to self-sufficiency. The most common problems faced by RI Works customers include:
 - Mental Health Challenges
 - Unstable Housing/Homelessness
 - Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence
 - Low Education Attainment
 - Unaddressed Disabilities
 - Substance Use Disorder

Total # of Supportive Service Barriers for Component 1 Clients



RI Works staff analyze vendor data monthly and can provide immediate feedback to vendors who are either struggling or being highly effective with working with RI Works families. The completion of vocational training programs can have a significant effect on obtaining long-term, sustainable employment.

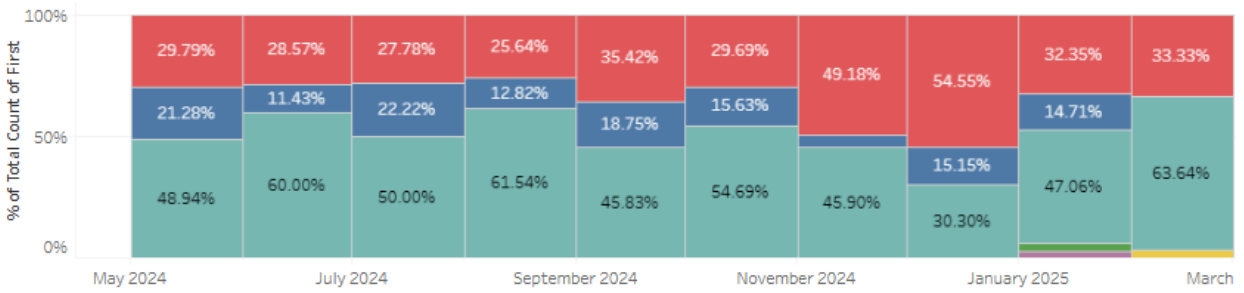
RI Works vendors prepare customers for employment by providing assistance with resumes and cover letters, interview skills, and counsel on appropriate workplace behavior. RI Works vendors also make referrals for customers to acquire appropriate attire for interviews and work. There are multiple work-readiness strategies pursuant to 45 CFR 261.2, including subsidized employment, paid or unpaid work experience, on-the-job training, job search and job readiness activities, and community service. All RI Works customers are required to attend financial literacy counseling to prepare parents for budgeting their future income. When a customer is placed at a training site or employed, vendors provide job coaching, including performance feedback, to customers and also support employers in order to assure an effective match and maximize job retention.

In the past year, 539 parents have entered employment, and 145 participated in a work experience activity, including both subsidized and unsubsidized work experience. The average wage for these job placements was \$17.96 per hour. Nineteen percent of job placements are for wages at or over \$20 per hour. In the past year, 237 customers retained employment for at least six months, and 557 customers achieved the benchmark of earning over \$4000 in the fifth quarter after the start of their employment plans, following WIOA standards. Vendors were paid more than \$680,000 in

performance payments due to job retention. Additionally, in the past year, 129 participants have completed their Vocational Training Program. A total of 419 RI Works parents have participated in vocational training programs this past year.

Color Key
 <= 20 Hrs >= 30 Hrs 40.00
 Between 20-30 Hrs 20 to 25 up to 20

Hours Breakdown of New Jobs Each Month - Stacked Column Chart



Question: Please identify the strategies the RI Works Program is preparing its beneficiaries for in workforce readiness.

- a. Please identify the industries in which the RI Works Program beneficiaries receive workforce development.

Answer: Working with RI Works parents includes wraparound supportive services, adult education, vocational training, and job readiness. Depending on the parent or caretaker’s education or work history, the RI Works vendors create a family goal and employment goal. Goals are updated with every new employment plan. Working with this population often means mitigating multi-generational barriers to longtime sustaining employment. In order to ensure success, the RI Works vendors must monitor labor market statistics in critical fields, ensuring job availability and wages high enough to sustain a family.

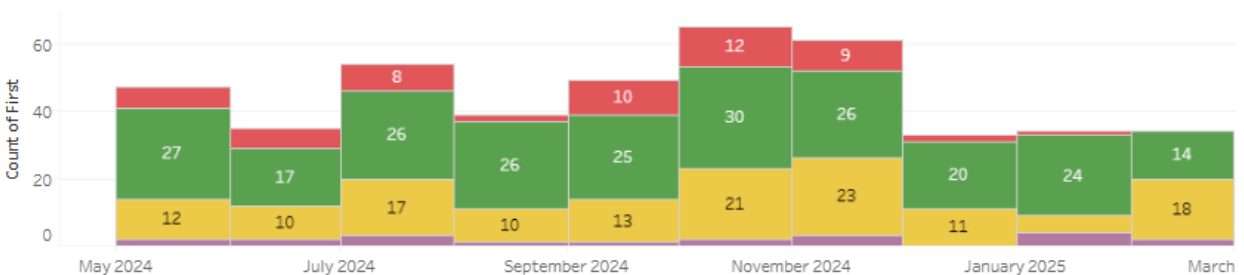
RI Works participants have completed a variety of vocational trainings that include the following industries:

Approximately 70% are Healthcare related, including LPN, C.N.A., Patient Care Tech, Phlebotomy, Medical Assistant, Dental Assistant, Billing and Coding, and Registered Nurse. The other 30% of industries include: Early Childhood Education, Business Management, Graphic Design, Cosmetology, Massage Therapy, Culinary Arts, Computer Programming, and CDL Training.

Color Key

■ Under \$15/Hr
 ■ \$15 to \$20/hr
 ■ \$20 to \$25/hr
 ■ Above \$25/hr

Wage Breakdown of New Jobs Each Month - Counts



Potential Federal Law Changes

TANF has again been temporarily authorized by a continuing resolution. There has been communication from federal partners that continuing resolutions will eventually lead to the replacement of the current TANF law. There is no current movement on the TANF bills, detailed in section one (1) below, in Washington.

Changes from the Fiscal Responsibility Act²

Four Key Portions of FRA:

- 1) Work Participation Rate Changes effective 2025
 - a) Caseload Reduction Credit (CRC) Reset to 2015
 - b) Elimination of Small Checks Scheme
- 2) Focus on Work Outcomes:
 - a) Pilots
 - b) Outcomes-Based Reporting

1.a. The change to the caseload reduction credit (CRC) will alter the year of comparison from Federal FY 2005 to Federal FY 2015, active October 1, 2025. The Department will have less CRC applied to the WPR penalty to help reduce the federally required percentages of 50 percent for one-parent families and 90 percent for two-parent families. ACF has predicted the single-parent WPR requirement will rise from zero percent to 11 percent after the FRA's implementation to the CRC.

1.b. Rhode Island is not affected by the elimination of small checks. Changes will be effective in Federal FY 2026.

2a. The Administration for Children canceled the implementation of the pilots. Reportedly, they will be reissued to adhere to the objectives of the current administration.

2.b. The Department has already been utilizing "Work Outcomes" according to WIOA since 2018. The FRA will collect data in a pilot, utilizing WIOA and other metrics. Outcome-based reporting is already completed through the WIOA and active contract management for TANF. A few changes to RIBridges reporting will be required.

The Department selected the Public Consulting Group from an RFP process completed in 2024. PCG is assisting in the MOE calculation, WPR calculation and the CRC calculation to improve process and outcomes.

Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)

The Starting Right Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) supports the dual purpose of promoting the healthy development and school success of children, while also supporting low-income families who need child care to work, attend approved training, or college degree programs.

Evidence suggests that access to high quality early care and education serves as a key economic driver by ensuring parents and caretakers can participate in the workforce or workforce preparation programs. Eligibility for CCAP is based on either participation in the Rhode Island Works cash assistance program (RIW) or on income-based eligibility for families working or enrolled in an approved training or college degree program.

Families receiving RIW benefits who need child care to comply with their employment and training plan receive child care with no copayment requirements. Income-based eligibility for child care consists of a two-tiered eligibility structure. Effective January 1, 2025, initial eligibility is available to families with income up to 261 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) (~66 percent of State Median Income (SMI) or \$69,557 for a family of three).

Families who are determined eligible at the first tier (defined as income up to 261% FPL as of January 1, 2025) may then utilize transitional child care to continue to access child care subsidies if their income rises above the initial eligibility threshold of 261 percent FPL but remains under 300 percent of FPL (~ 76 percent of State Median Income (SMI) or \$79,950 for a family of three).

Income-eligible families are subject to a graduated co-payment based on family income ranging between zero (for those earning 100 percent FPL or less) to a maximum of seven percent of a family's income (for those earning between 150 percent FPL to 300 percent FPL). As of January 1, 2022, DHS lowered the copay cap from 14 percent (14%) to the Health and Human Services general affordability guideline and the national standard of seven percent (7%). The updated 2024 CCDF Rule now requires state lead agencies to cap family co-pays at seven percent (7%).

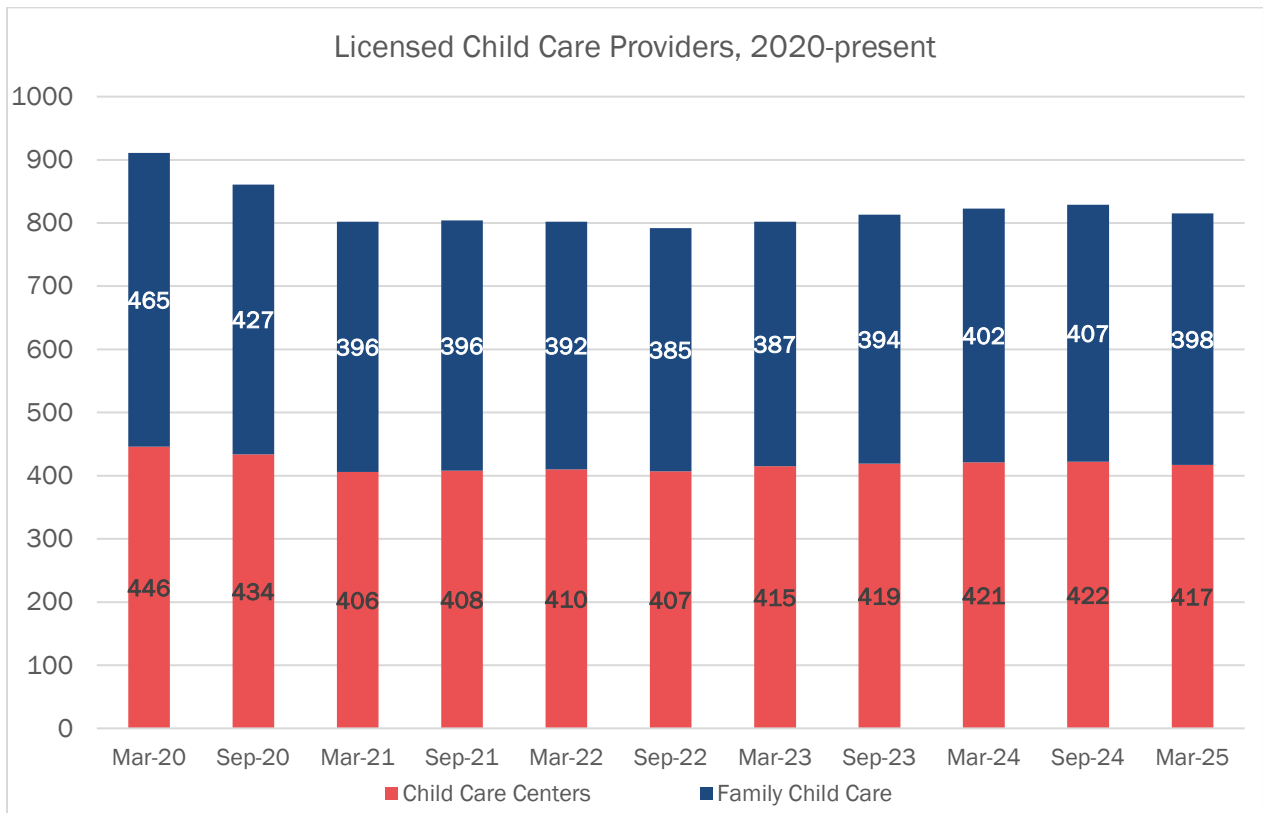
The Office of Child Care (OCC) continues to track child care trends closely to measure the ongoing state of the child care sector and recognizes it as critical to the state of the RI economy. This includes regular review of CCAP enrollments, licensed capacity, and movement within the evidence-based quality framework.

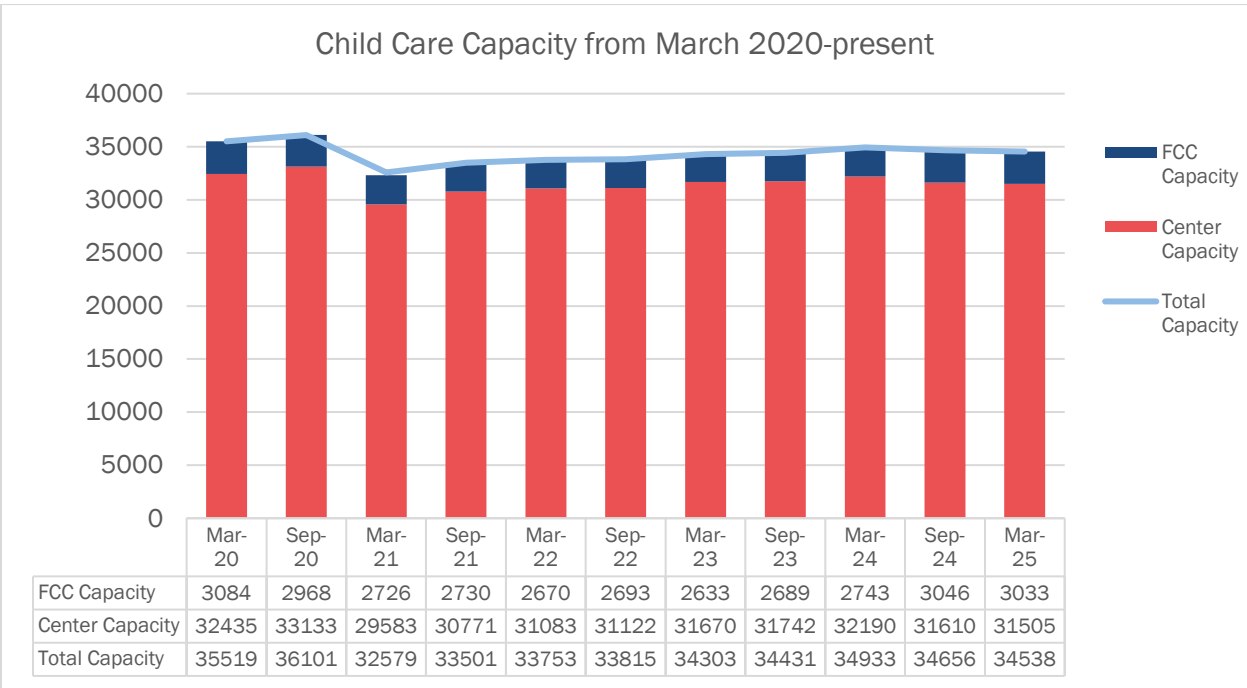
Question: Please provide the total number of licensed child care providers and the number of child care slots in the state, including the providers that do not participate in the CCAP program for the last five years.

- a. Please provide the number of children enrolled in CCAP by age group, provider type, and star rating.
- b. Please provide updated data since the previous conference on the impact of DHS strategies to bolster FCCP seats including the most recent number of FCCPs considering expansion and future plans or strategies.
- c. Please provide an update to the federal awards received or anticipated for activities in response to the COVID-19 PHE, or other stimulus funding, as well as any planned uses and how much of each award will be used for such activity. Please provide spend to date and available balance for each award by item (planned use).
- d. Please, if possible, provide a child to staff ratio.

Answer:

The first table below shows the current number of DHS-licensed providers as of March 1, 2025, as well as from caseload reports back to March 2020. This provides the current total number of licensed child care providers in the State for the last five years, including providers who have not participated in the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP).





Licensed child care programming and capacity has decreased slightly since last caseload, with a net loss of 14 programs and a loss of about 118 total seats between provider types.

Family child care programs continue to be a key part of RI’s early childhood care and education infrastructure. To ensure high quality family child care (FCC) remains a key focus of quality improvement supports, DHS and RIDE worked collaboratively with the support of Federal Preschool Development Grant dollars to examine family child care and understand what supports are needed to ensure they are able to deliver the highest quality care possible. This could potentially also lead to them becoming RI Pre K providers in alignment with federal standards.

The findings indicated that preliminary support steps are necessary. FCCs in RI are also CCAP providers and are uniquely positioned to offer care to families quicker than centers as they typically do not have the same length of waiting lists and tend to have more flexibility with non-standard hours.

DHS continued to bolster the Family Child Care community in a number of ways. To meet the need to provide additional supports to FCCs for quality and also take steps to meet new ACF requirements to offer contracted CCAP slots, DHS earmarked \$700,000 of new PDG funding to implement a contracted slots pilot which will achieve two key objectives. These objectives include: (1) Ensure access for CCAP families and prepare to meet ACF requirements and (2) Provide FCCs with the funding necessary to sustain operations and offer high quality care and education through a guaranteed revenue stream.

From a technical assistance perspective, DHS has streamlined the process of outreach and support starting at orientation online. This includes scheduled touchpoints for questions and support and then additional touchpoints at completion of each module to again provide support as needed.

Once the orientation and accompanying pre-licensure modules (otherwise known as “first steps”) are completed, technical assistance supports the provider in completing the application (if requested) and completes a walkthrough of the space. The Department indicates on the application once it is received, who is assigned from the technical assistance perspective and involves them in communication and additional walkthroughs to fully support the applicant through the process, while reducing barriers that may have caused the applicant to stop the process in the past.

CCAP enrollment, as a subset of total enrollment, is broken down by age group (Infant/Toddler, Preschool and School-Age). For example, of the 2,325 preschool-aged children in center-based care who have CCAP benefits, 597 are enrolled in a center with a BrightStars rating of 4 Stars and 318 are enrolled in a center with a BrightStars rating of 5 Stars – meaning 39.4% of CCAP preschoolers are enrolled in a high quality program. Most infants, toddlers and preschool age children are enrolled for full time care, while most school age children are enrolled for three quartertime care.

Enrollment in center-based programs increased from 4,573 to 5,190 (13.5%) since last caseload reported in September 2024 with the biggest gains in the school age category from 1,465 to 1,783 (21.7%). Enrollment in family child care programs increased from 1,550 to 1,729 (11.6%) with increases spread almost evenly across all three age categories. DHS has provided this information as part of caseload testimony since 2020 and will continue to provide it moving forward in this format to highlight patterns.

CCAP Enrollment by BrightStars Rating - Center-Based Providers September 2024 to March 2025												
2024/2025	Sept	Mar	Sept	Mar	Sept	Mar	Sept	Mar	Sept	March	Sept	March
Age Group	1 star		2 star		3 star		4 star		5 star		TOTAL	
Infant/Toddlers	255	258	338	278	175	194	263	249	67	107	1,098	1,086
Preschoolers	492	517	524	472	288	417	525	597	181	318	2,010	2,321
School-Age	416	512	326	296	224	351	400	466	99	158	1,465	1,783
TOTAL	1,163	1,287	1,188	1,046	687	962	1,188	1,312	347	583	4,573	5,190

CCAP Enrollment by BrightStars Rating - Family & Group Family September 2024 to March 2025												
2024/2025	Sept	Mar	Sept	Mar	Sept	Mar	Sept	Mar	Sept	Mar	Sept	Mar
Age Group	1 star		2 Star		3 Star		4 Star		5 Star		TOTAL	
Infant/Toddlers	239	291	223	232	38	33	13	10	0	4	513	570
Preschoolers	281	330	280	305	38	34	14	14	0	6	613	689
School-Age	195	204	197	230	27	31	5	5	0	0	424	470
TOTAL	715	825	700	767	103	98	32	29	0	10	1,550	1,729

CCAP Children Enrolled by Bright Stars Rating, Time and Age Category												
	Sept	Mar	Sept	Mar	Sept	Mar	Sept	Mar	Sept	Mar	Sept	Mar
Brightstars Rating	1		2		3		4		5		Total	
Full Time												
Infant/Toddlers	438	474	506	449	196	209	246	242	57	92	1,443	1,466
Preschoolers	583	656	620	600	219	325	366	434	87	168	1,875	2,183
School-Age	306	319	207	176	34	79	171	201	10	12	728	787
¼ Time												
Infant/Toddlers	56	73	51	55	17	16	28	16	5	8	157	168
Preschoolers	142	139	100	118	73	81	118	118	48	87	481	543
School-Age	223	278	165	201	143	201	173	180	64	112	768	972
Half Time												
Infant/Toddlers	0	2	4	6	0	1	1	1	4	10	9	20
Preschoolers	45	50	78	55	31	38	50	49	40	59	244	251
School-Age	80	117	130	137	70	94	56	85	25	33	361	466
⅓ Time												
Infant/Toddlers	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	2
Preschoolers	3	2	6	4	3	10	5	10	6	10	23	33
School-Age	2	2	21	12	4	5	5	1	0	1	32	28
Grand Total	1,878	2,112	1,888	1,813	790	1,060	1,220	1,341	347	593	6,123	6,919

Total Licensed Child Care Participation in BrightStars by Provider Type – March 2025			
Star Rating	Center-Based	Family Child Care	Total
1-Star	105	204	309
2-star	71	140	211
3-star	65	13	78
4-star	65	8	73
5-star	54	3	57
Total	360	368	728

Percentage of CCAP Children Enrolled in 4- and 5-Star Programs							
Dec 2020	Dec 2021	Sept 2022	Feb 2023	Sept 2023	Feb 2024	Sept 2024	Feb 2025
21%	24%	26%	26%	23%	23%	26%	28%

Since the previous caseload, looking at the enrollment trends for CCAP children specifically across the last six months, total CCAP enrollments for both center-based care and family child care

increased, with almost the entire increase being in infant and toddler enrollment across both provider types. There was a slight decrease in school age enrollment across the board, and preschool CCAP enrollment also went down slightly. The charts below illustrate averages each month while the previous information focuses on end-of-month point-in-time for enrollment based on Brightstars rating.

Center Based Providers - Total w DCYF				
	Infant/Toddler Enrollments	Preschool Enrollments	SA Enrollments	Total Enrollments
Sep-24	1002	2508	1846	5356
Oct-24	1059	2482	1825	5366
Nov-24	1110	2551	1874	5535
Dec-24	1129	2521	1852	5502
Jan-25	1180	2526	1860	5566
Feb-25	1182	2499	1832	5513
Trend: Sep to Feb	180	-9	-14	157

Family Based Providers - Total with DCYF				
	Infant/Toddler Enrollments	Preschool Enrollments	SA Enrollments	Total Enrollments
Sep-24	490	694	478	1662
Oct-24	508	690	479	1677
Nov-24	528	675	473	1676
Dec-24	533	661	462	1656
Jan-25	572	682	468	1722
Feb-25	595	697	467	1759
Trend: Sep to Feb	105	3	-11	97

The DHS is still unable to provide a staff-to-child ratio for active children and staff in the ECE community, although the agency has taken continued steps in that direction since last caseload. DHS can provide information on capacity of the entire system based on licensed program data, as well as the number of CCAP children who are enrolled in programs, which are both provided in this caseload.

The CCAP enrollment number does not account for a large portion of the early childhood population, consisting of families who are paying privately for care in more than 800 programs statewide. Currently, DHS does not have the ability to capture private pay attendance and enrollment. Additional options are being explored for an upcoming release of RI Start Early System (RISES) system.

The workforce registry went live in February 2024 with about 2,500 employees voluntarily making a profile in the system within the first month of launch. This is believed to be a little more

than 50% of current workforce. As of March 2025, there are 7,305. and RISES is able to collect significant data on the early educators in our sector to inform future decision making.

Workforce Registry Participants – Early Childhood Staff		
March 2024	September 2024	March 2025
2,504	4,926	7,305

In response to recommendations from the RI Pre K Expansion report required in the FY23 Budget Article 10, the need to develop an infant toddler strategic plan was identified. With the support of federal Preschool Development Grant (PDG) Planning Dollars, DHS contracted with a vendor to develop an infant toddler strategic plan. The report demonstrated that RI is strategically and incrementally taking steps to have live capacity data re: the availability of licensed child care in the state.

A recommendation from the plan, in alignment with RI’s ECCE strategic plan and OCC objectives, is to integrate child care management system data (used by providers) into the RI Start Early System (RISES). A preliminary step to understanding how to achieve this complex project is to understand the current landscape of Child Care Management Systems (CCMS) in the state of RI and develop an interoperability plan for data integration. Additional options are being explored for possible use later this year, as the DHS is in the process of executing a contract with the vendor to conduct this work. The final report with recommendations for how to position RI to be closer to having real time capacity data is expected in September 2025. From there, the Department plans on working with the recommendations to inform next steps in integrating real time data into our RISES system.

Federal Funding and Initiatives to Support Child Care Recovery

The State has been in receipt of pandemic response federal funding of approximately \$125 million dollars specifically dedicated to child care programming since March 2020. All CRRSA CCDF, CARES CCDF and ARPA Stabilization have been spent as of September 30, 2023. ARPA CCDF had a liquidation deadline of September 30, 2024. All funds have been liquidated.

The Department received ARPA SFRF (State Fiscal Recovery Funds) that are still being utilized for the child care sector. The projects, allocations, and spending to date is outlined below.

Project	Completion Date	Allocation	DHS spend to date as of March 2025
Child Care Family Provider Support	Completed	\$455,957	\$455,957
Child Care Retention Bonuses	Completed	\$37,398,404	\$37,312,513*
Child Care Workforce Registry	Completed	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Program Quality Improvement Grants	December 2025	\$1,145,639	\$737,094
TEACH Early Educator Scholarship	March 2026	\$2,000,000	\$583,525
TOTAL SFRF DOLLARS		\$42,000,000	\$40,089,089

*Awaiting one remaining invoice for final administration costs.

The TEACH program continues to be a success story with both CCDF and SFRF dollars. Since the last caseload, TEACH awarded scholarships to 138 early childhood educators.

These TEACH scholars so far have earned a total of 831 college credits in the early childhood field. Of these new scholars, 51% are first generation college students. Twenty-two percent have indicated that a high school diploma is the highest level of education they had obtained before becoming a TEACH scholar and furthering their education in the field. Also, during this period of time, three scholarship recipients obtained their associate’s degree and continued on to a four-year college to obtain their bachelor’s degree. One scholar simultaneously worked to obtain her CDA credential and the certificate of undergraduate studies at RIC.

Along with the 138 scholars, 96 child care employers have participated in TEACH to support their staff in their TEACH journey, benefitting more than 8,399 children who are served in those programs.

Child Care Caseload Trends and Projections

Question: Please fill out the DHS excel file for the FY 2025 and FY 2026 estimates by fund source and line sequence.

- a. For the Child Care Development Block grant
 - i. Do the general revenues meet or exceed the required match? If required match is exceeded, please explain why.
 - ii. Please include the balance of any unspent funds from prior years and report any plans for use.
 - iii. Would the federal Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) rule change have any impact on spending and general revenue match?

Answer: See the narrative and tables below.

CCDBG Funding			
Fiscal Year	Mandatory	Matching	Discretionary
FY2024 Carryforward	\$0	\$0	\$3,218,923
FY2025 Carryforward	\$3,125,752	\$3,931,998	\$10,987,145

The table represents Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) funding available for SFY26 expenditures after SFY25 expenditures are liquidated. In addition to providing subsidies to offset the cost of child care, DHS funds a variety of initiatives that support early care and education for providers to enhance the quality of their programs.

DHS also provides workforce development opportunities for the current and future child care owners, providers and educators. Discretionary funding supports these initiatives, as well as the CCAP administrative and systems costs and various Family Child Care Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) payment practices. The Rhode Island Start Early System (RISES), which is an

online data infrastructure used by providers, educators and consumers with the goal of achieving long-term early learning initiatives, (including universally available RI Pre-K and increased access to high-quality child care), is also funded using discretionary dollars. Additionally, to support the ongoing LearnERS program, the department entered a new contract with the Rhode Island Association for the Education of Young Children to continue this work, reducing the number of participants and the number of cohorts that are offered throughout the year to ensure that the program is sustainable with discretionary funding after the SFRF dollars have been exhausted.

The FFY 2025 FMAP rate is 56.31% with an increase in FFY 2026 to 57.50%. This in turn will provide a slight decrease to the state’s matching requirement in SFY26.

May 2025 Caseload		
General Revenue	SFY25	SFY26
Maintenance of Effort (MOE)	\$5,321,126	\$5,321,126
State Match	\$4,769,671	\$4,540,412
General Revenue Total	\$10,090,797	\$9,861,538

General revenues are budgeted to meet the required match, with an additional \$30,000 level funded every year as a sign of the state’s commitment to contribute to the program. The DHS Cash Array Excel file for the FY 2025 and FY 2026 estimates by fund source and line sequence is included with the caseload documents as Appendix A.

The 2024 CCDF Final Rule will have an impact on agency spending and any potential state match moving into SFY26 and SFY27. The rule went into effect on April 30, 2024. Rhode Island was approved for a temporary waiver for an extension of up to two years to come into compliance. Rhode Island has already implemented many of the required changes, including the cap on family co-payments at seven percent of income, posting online current information about the scale for parent co-payments, and expanding sustainable payment practices. The Office of Child Care applied for and was accepted to receive technical assistance from ACF and partners for implementing the required changes. A cross-department work group is formed and engaged in this work.

Rhode Island requested, and was approved for, a waiver for the following rule changes:

- § 98.45(m)(1) — Pay providers prospectively
- § 98.45(m)(2) — Use enrollment-based payment
- § 98.16(z), § 98.30(b)(1), and § 98.50(a)(3) — Some grants or contracts for direct services for infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children in underserved geographic areas

The 2024 CCDF Final Rule requires states pay providers before or at the time of service. Currently, Rhode Island pays providers in bi-weekly batch payments after services have been provided and attendance has been submitted. There will be a substantial fiscal impact for

implementing a system to pay providers prospectively, to monitor payments and to implement a systematized recoupment process based on disenrollments/non-attendance when prospective payment has been issued.

The 2024 CCDF Final Rule requires states to implement enrollment-based provider payments. Rhode Island currently pays providers based on child attendance with flexibility in the attendance policy. Provided a child attends a portion of the payment week, a provider can be paid for that week. Provided a child is not absent for more than two weeks in a row (and provided the family has provided an adequate absent notice) a provider can be paid for up to two weeks of absence.

However, to meet the federal requirement of payment based on enrollment, restrictions around weekly attendance and family notice will be revised. Because Rhode Island has already implemented a flexible absence policy, DHS does not anticipate a large fiscal impact for enrollment-based payments. However, there will be some impact as to revise current policy to meet the federal requirements. The final rule also requires states to provide child care services through grants or contracts to increase the supply and quality of child care for infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children in underserved geographic areas.

Currently, Rhode Island does not have a system to contract with providers to serve specific populations but is developing an implementation plan to meet federal requirements. Rhode Island is in receipt of Preschool Development Grant funding that will support piloting the grants and contracts as required by the CCDF final rule.

Question: Please provide an update on the disenrollment trends.

Answer: See narrative below.

Providers are required to disenroll children who no longer attend their program or when DHS or a parent requests disenrollment. If a second provider enrolls a child who is already enrolled, the system disenrolls the child from the existing provider to avoid duplicate enrollments. Over the 12-month period from February 2024 through March 2025, approximately 3,872 children who disenrolled from their CCAP program did not reenroll with another provider during their benefit period.

Currently, there is no mechanism for tracking disenrollment reasons other than termination of benefits or failure to recertify. Between February 2024 and March 2025, of the 3,872 children who disenrolled and did not re-enroll, approximately 1,145 were disenrolled because of the termination/non-renewal of benefits (approximately 30% of the disenrollments).

While other reasons for disenrollment are not currently tracked in the system, family reasons for disenrolling may include: fluctuation in parent employment, seasonal need for summer care

ending in August, age up to kindergarten, entry into state pre-k, changing to a provider that better meets a family’s needs, moving away from an area or out of state, finding alternative non-licensed care, or aging out of subsidy eligibility.

Providers have until the beginning of the school year to adjust enrollments for school-age children in their care for the fall schedule (which prevents providers from enrolling school age children during regular school hours) and those not adjusted are auto-disenrolled. The Office of Child Care sends multiple reminders to providers prior to disenrolling these school age children and a reminder to re-enroll if the school age children are attending in the fall.

Children who are absent with no notice are considered non-attending for the week and providers do not receive payment. If a child is absent with no notice for 10 consecutive days, providers are asked to confirm with the family the intent to return or disenroll the child from their program. In any case, providers will not receive payment for the child showing absent without notice.

Question: Please provide an update to the part-time and permanent closure trends for providers. Are there any new providers that have been or are waiting to be licensed? Please provide the underlying assumptions the Department is utilizing to assess the financial health and stability of child care providers. Please note any changes since the November conference, including details on rates being paid, assumed capacity (including seats and staff lost), and any other impacts on providers.

Answer: See table and narrative below.

Openings and closures of Child Care Centers and Family Child Care providers slowed during this last caseload period. In the chart below, you can see there was a net loss of 14 programs, which includes five child care centers and nine family child care providers. While one new child care center was opened and 12 new family child care programs, it was offset by a loss of six child care centers and 20 family child care programs.

	Provider Opening and Closings in Child Care October 2024-March 2025		
	Openings	Closings	+/-
Family Child Care providers	11	20	9
Center providers	1	6	5
Total	12	26	14

- While six center providers closed in the last six months, half of them were school-age programs only and closed due to lack of enrollment in their programs, which is a continued issue encountered with licensed school age programs.
- As mentioned in earlier caseloads, the Department had several older FCCs which remained opened through COVID to support their current enrollment and families but

have chosen not to renew. In over 75% of the family child care closures, they have closed due to retirement.

- For centers, the Department has seen a significant increase in requests for changes of capacity from preschool/pre-k classrooms to infant/toddler classrooms based on needs of families. A few have reported it is because they are in cities/towns where there has been a significant increase in RI State pre-k which has significantly reduced their enrollment. While infant/toddler care is a high need, adding more slots for this age group for already existing programs will reflect a significant decrease in total seats due to both staff child ratio and square footage requirements.
- The Department’s licensing team is actively working with 12 new center providers, and all of these are groups who are in the process of purchasing/building new facilities, not purchasing already existing one. Of these new providers, 10 will be servicing mixed age groups, while one is preschool only, and one is school age only. None of these are at the point of submitting applications but all have had a walkthrough and a space confirmed for use, so they are not included in the opening numbers at this time.
- Four new FCC applications are also currently being processed. There are nine additional FCCs who completed orientation since January 1 and were referred to the Center for First Steps and technical assistance support to complete the application process.

In FY2025, through payment cycle 18, an average of 5,953 children were served in the CCAP each week. This represents a 3.3% increase in the average number of children served since last state fiscal year and a 4.2% increase from this same time last year. During this period, there was a notable 9.8% growth in the number of school-age children served. In addition, this period saw an modest increase of 4.2% in toddler children served and a 1.1% increase in preschool children served. Infant children served declined during this period by 2.2%.

Number of Children by Age Grouping		
Category	# of Children	% of Total
Infant	527	8.9%
Toddler	1078	18.1%
Preschool	2323	39.0%
School Age	2025	34.0%
Total	5953	100%

Based on average through Batch 21

May, 2025		
Number of Children by Provider Type		
	# of Children	# of Providers
Family Based	1,466	324
Center Based	4,487	309
Total	5,953	633

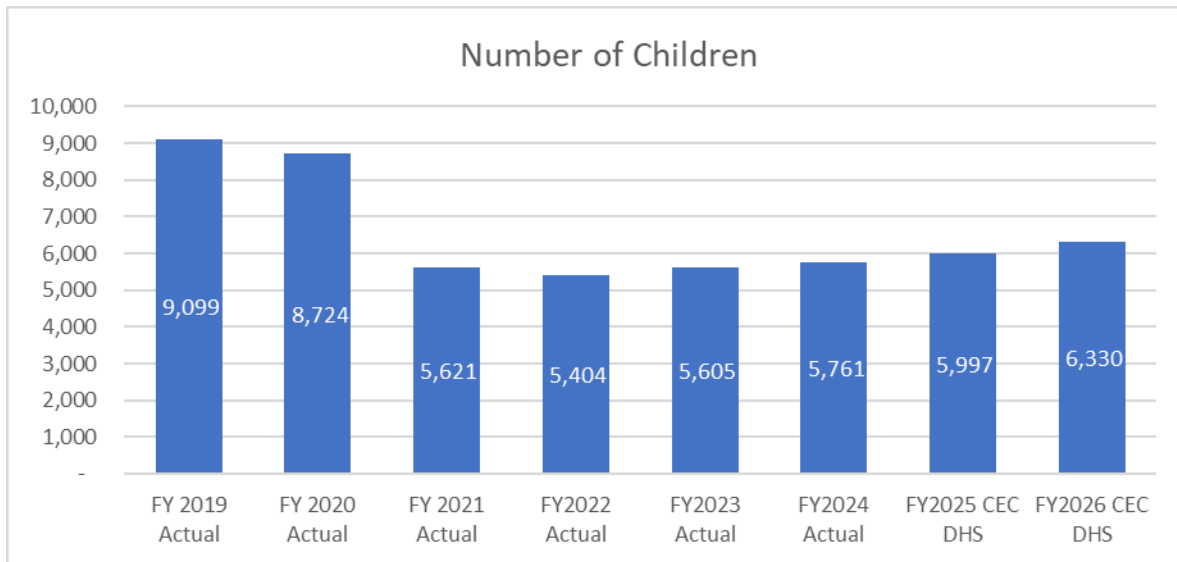
Based on average through Batch 21

Since the same period last year, the number of providers serving CCAP children has not changed. There was a small decline of 0.6% in the number of family-based providers (two providers) who served CCAP children. The number of center-based providers serving CCAP children did, however, increase by two throughout that same period.

The number of providers serving CCAP children since the end of FY24 has increased by 3.3% or 23. While this increase is encouraging and continues to show growth with programs looking to enroll subsidized families, it represents a much smaller increase than what was seen in previous

years. Both center-based and family-based care capacity, inclusive of CCAP children, has increased over the last year but is beginning to steady as providers also retire and close programs. This slight decline in growth of providers who service CCAP children highlights the need for support in this sector and the importance of the department’s work.

In general, families utilize child care subsidy programs for relatively short periods of time, but frequently return to the subsidy program after they exit. The overall number of children enrolled in child care throughout FY25 is 28.1% higher than the average amount of children enrolled in any given pay period. This percentage represents a decline in the overall churn of families utilizing the program.

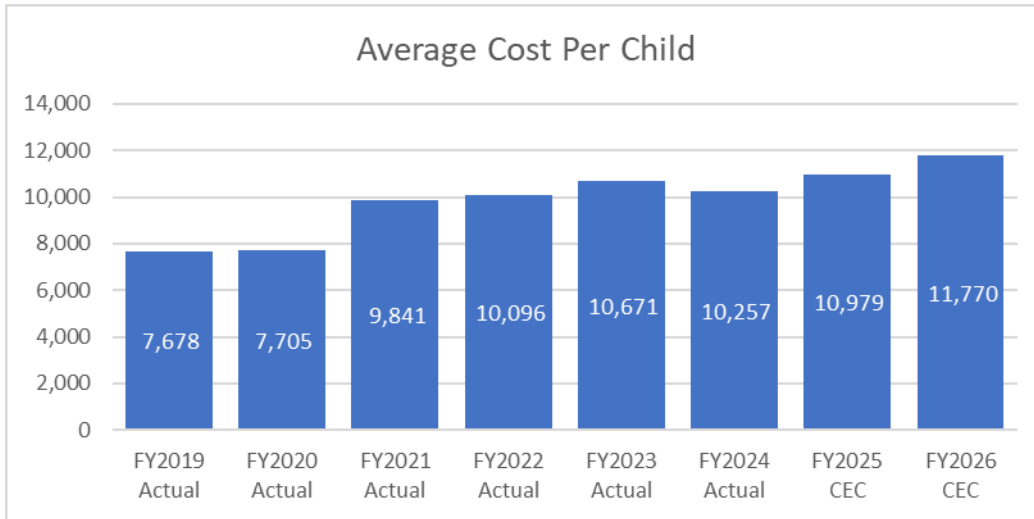


The five batches prior to the RIBridges Data Breach, managed by Deloitte, saw an average of 5,792 children served. DHS made the decision to pay providers based on enrollment upon learning of the system shutdown. This mitigation to policy had been utilized during COVID, and implementation of this policy during the breach did not require a waiver.

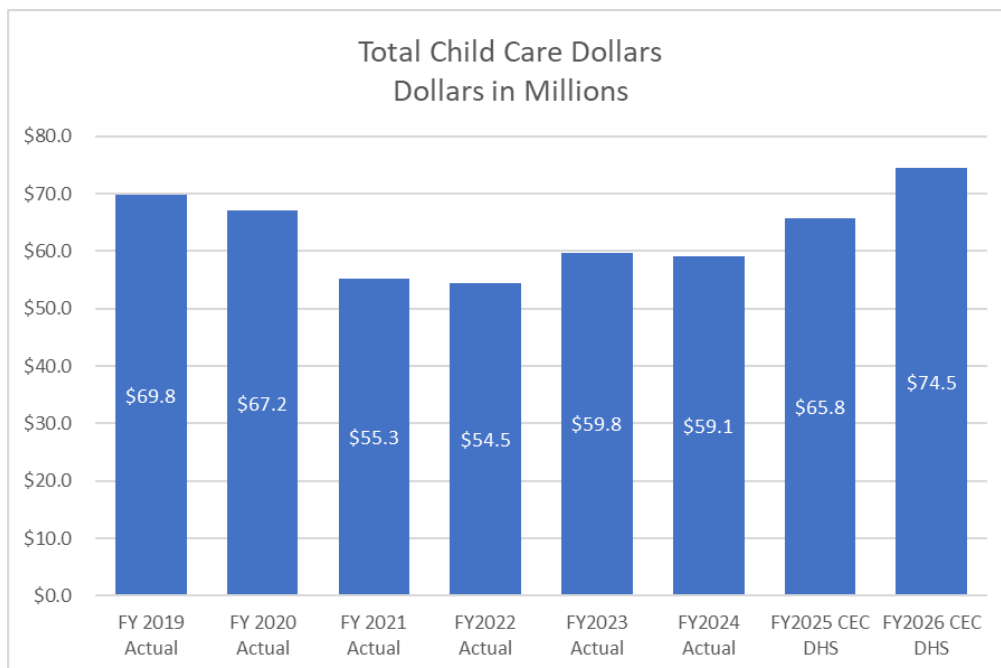
For 10 weeks, five batch periods, the department paid on enrollment in lieu of attendance. This increased the average number of children paid during this period to 6,122, an increase of an average 330 children. In addition, the department instructed child care providers to continue taking CCAP children regardless of their eligibility status, and in some cases, the child moved from one provider to another resulting in duplicate payment. The estimated cost of paying based on enrollment (versus attendance) as a result of the RIBridges data breach is currently estimated to be at least \$0.5 million.

When comparing the average growth seen since the beginning of the state fiscal year through December 2024, to the batch-over-batch growth rate for the entirety of the state fiscal year, the average number of children served by CCAP increased by 0.6%. The expansion of eligibility to 261% of the federal poverty level directly attributed to this growth. Overall, DHS experienced an

average 0.2% batch-over-batch growth of number of children through Batch 21. This is applied to the FY25 forecast. The average caseload in FY2025 is predicted to grow by 4.1% over FY24 due to both factors.



As a result of the July 1, 2024, legislated 5% center-based increase and the 2.5% family-based increase negotiated in the collective bargaining agreement, DHS is expecting the cost-per-child to increase to \$10,979 in FY25, a 7.0% increase from FY24. This increase, along with the increase in the number of children due to FPL expansion, is expected to increase the cost of subsidies in FY25 by 11.4% compared to FY24. When factoring in the CCAP for Child Care Workers Pilot, the FY25 estimate is in line with the November Caseload Adopted estimates. The expected growth in the number of children served in FY26 will increase the cost of subsidies in FY26 by 13.2%.



Listed separately are the projections for the FY 2025 and FY 2026 CCAP for Child Care Staff Pilot, the extended pilot offering CCAP benefits to subsidize the cost of child care for eligible early childhood educators and staff working in DHS licensed programs. Additionally, rate increases for both licensed centers and family child care providers, as well as the cost to increase the CCAP population to 261% FPL are included.

	FY2025	
	Average # of Children	Amount
Base	5,997	\$62,433,534
Child Care for Child Care Workers	326	\$4,232,287
Family Child Care Provider Rate Increase 7/1/24		\$368,536
Licensed Center Increase 7/1/24		\$2,509,671
Increase to 261 FPL 1/1/25		\$529,200
		\$70,073,227

	FY2026	
	Average # of Children	Amount
Base	6,330	\$69,184,535
Child Care for Child Care Workers	247	\$2,525,839
Family Child Care Provider Rate Increase 7/1/24		\$417,920
Licensed Center Increase 7/1/24		\$2,845,966
Increase to 261 FPL 1/1/25		\$2,055,850
		\$77,030,110

Question: What percentage of the families eligible for the state subsidized program have children enrolled in one of the child care settings? Please provide any data on the number of families not using the benefit.

Answer: See narrative below.

There are approximately 4,512 families (6,851 children) who have requested and been approved for CCAP benefits who have enrolled with a CCAP provider and billed for benefit services. There are 159 families (245 children) in RIBridges who have requested and been approved for CCAP benefits but who have not enrolled with a CCAP provider or billed for CCAP benefit services. This equates to approximately 3.4% of all approved cases not utilizing the benefit. This could be for several reasons such as parent employment patterns, including flexibility to work remotely, challenges finding providers with available slots depending on the age of the children and/or the desired location, or because of reduced capacity related to staffing shortages.

Currently, there is no mechanism for tracking a parent’s reason for not using their CCAP certificate.

Question: Please provide updated assumptions for child care assistance for individuals enrolled in either URI, RIC or CCRI for FY2025 and FY2026?

Answer: See narrative below.

The FY 2023 enacted budget authorized Child Care Assistance for College. CCAP for College provides the support parents need to advance their education, professional skills and marketability in the workforce by providing child care subsidies that allow them to pursue an associates or Bachelors degree full-time or part-time in combination with work hours. For families, higher education is an important step on a parent’s path to economic success and financial stability and this program can provide the security of knowing their children can attend the quality child care program of their choosing allowing them to focus on their higher education. A total of 69 children benefited from CCAP for College in FY24.

From July 2024 through March 2025 eighty-two (82) families representing 150 children were approved for CCAP benefits through CCAP for College. In March 2025 there were 72 active cases with 127 children. The number of children enrolled and paid through Batch 21 is 108, with an average of 42 children paid per batch. The average cost per batch through Batch 21 was \$18,021.93 with the cost of subsidies for FY25 expected to reach \$425,823.87.

The total number of CCAP providers who enrolled children approved for benefits under CCAP for College was 78, with an average of 29 providers per batch period submitting for payment. Family child providers represent 21.8% and 78.2% were Center-based providers.

DHS anticipates continued small but steady demand, with increased awareness resulting from partnership with CCRI, RIC, and URI. The program allows eligible students enrolled in degree programs at CCRI, RIC and URI to combine part-time work hours with part-time college credit hours to meet the approved activity requirements to support the schedule and needs of student parents. FY26 is expected to see the number of children served per batch period increase to 46 at a cost of \$482,844.75.

Question: Please provide updated data and assumptions on the Child Care Pilot in which childcare educators and administrative staff receive free child care including:

- a. Enrollment and expenses
- b. Details regarding enrollees by occupation and CCAP status
- c. Details regarding applicants that were denied enrollment in the pilot.

Answer: See narrative and table below.

The initial pilot application was open from August 23, 2023- July 31, 2024. The pilot was renewed for an additional year, starting August 1, 2024- July 31, 2025.

As of March 31, 2025, a total of 1,030 applications have been received for the CCAP for Child Care Pilot. Of these, 73.20% (754 applications) have been approved.

Application Status	Child Care Center	Family Child Care Home	Grand Total	Percent of Total
Approved	712	42	754	73.20%
<i>Approved-Active</i>	391	22	413	40.10%
<i>Approved-Closed</i>	321	20	341	33.11%
Denied	131	5	136	13.20%
Canceled	107	12	119	11.55%
In Review	18	3	21	2.04%
Grand Total	968	62	1030	100%

Currently, only 413 of the approved applicants have an “Approved-Active” application. This means they may actively use their child care benefit as their household is still within their 12-month benefit period. There are 341 households who have an “Approved-Closed” application; meaning their household may no longer use their child care benefit as their 12-month benefit period has closed.

As of March 31, 2025, there were 22 approved family child care providers actively participating in the pilot. Of these, 15 submitted their renewal applications and are now utilizing their second year of the pilot benefit.

Application Status	Initial Pilot Year	Extended Pilot Year			Grand Total
	Initial Pilot Application	New Application	Renewal Application	Blank ³	
Approved- Active	3	4	15		22
Approved- Closed	20				20
Canceled	9	1	1	1	12
Denied	3		2		5
In Review		3			3
Grand Total	35	8	18	1	62

As of the same time period, there were 391 actively approved center-based educators participating in the pilot. Of these, 172 submitted their renewal application and are now utilizing their second year of pilot benefits.

Application Status	Initial Pilot Year	Extended Pilot Year			Grand Total
	Initial Pilot Application	New Application	Renewal Application	Blank ⁴	
Approved- Active	92	127	172		391
Approved- Closed	320		1		321
Canceled	62	22	10	13	107
Denied	87	25	19		131
In Review		12	6		18
Grand Total	561	186	208	13	968

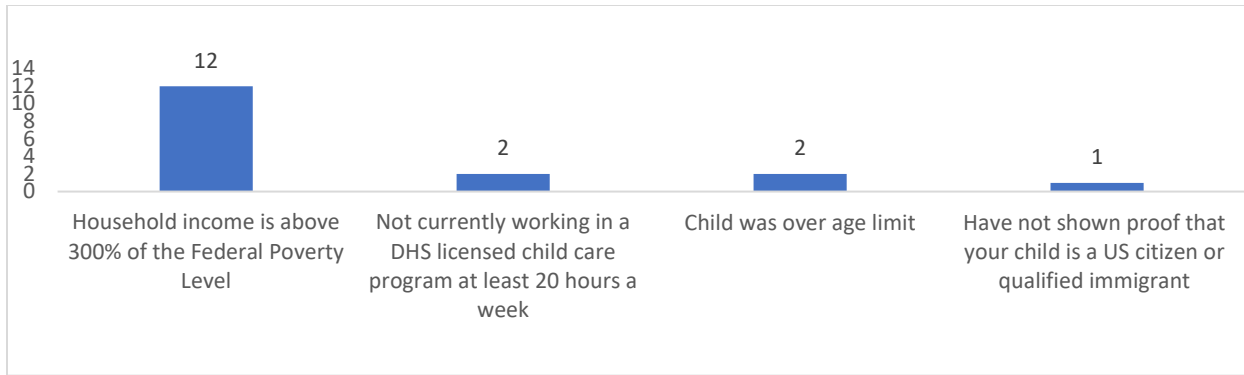
Approved pilot participants can reapply for a second year of benefits up to 30 days prior to the expiration of their pilot benefit. As of March 31, 2025, 360 of the 435 approved pilot participants were eligible to submit a renewal application.

Approved Applicant Submitted a Renewal App?	Count	Percent
No	144	33.10%
Not yet eligible for renewal	75	17.24%
Yes	216	49.66%
Total	435	100.00%

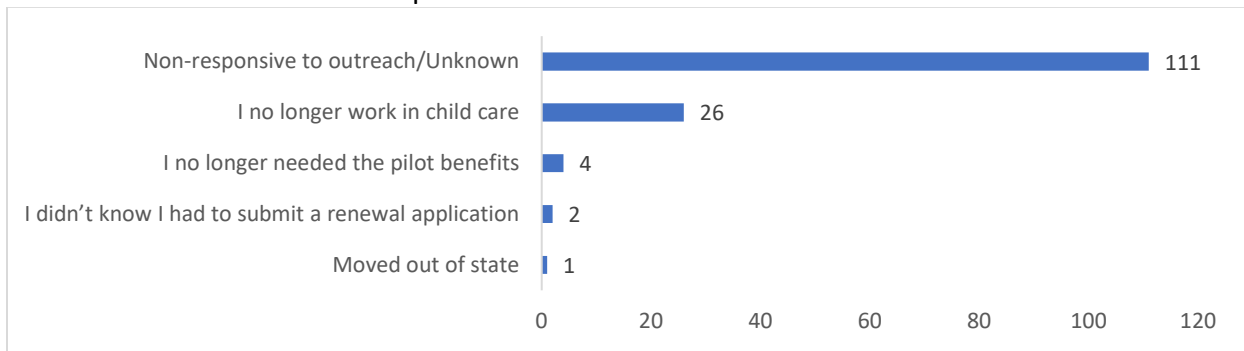
Of the half of applicants submitting a renewal application, 87.5% of the applications were approved and 7% (17) of applications were denied. The most common denial reason is the household was over the 300% FPL threshold.

³ The category “Blank” in the tables below are applicants who utilized the initial application form instead of the extended pilot application. These were cancelled and the applicants reapplied using the correct form.

⁴ The category “Blank” in the tables below are applicants who utilized the initial application form instead of the extended pilot application. These were cancelled and the applicants reapplied using the correct form.



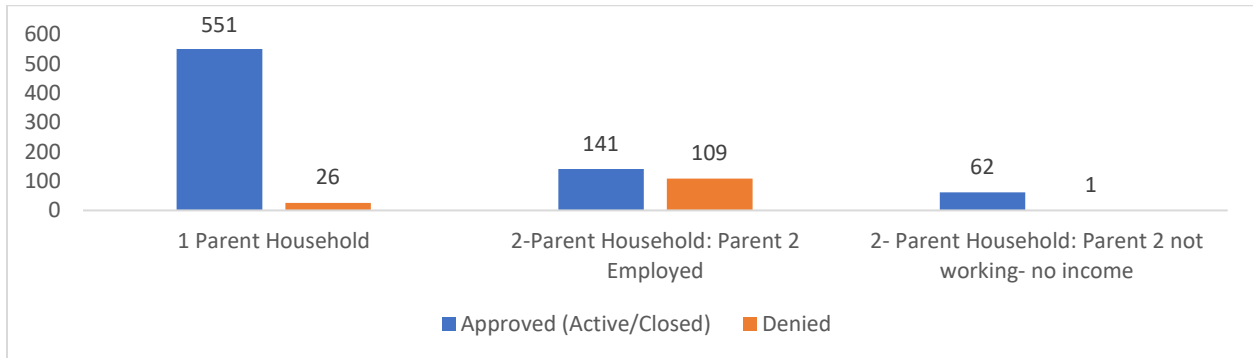
Outreach is being conducted to better understand why applicants may not be submitting a renewal application. To date, less than a quarter of applicants eligible to submit a renewal but who have not done so have responded to outreach.



Approximately 13.2% of applications received to date have been denied. Of the denied applications, the majority were from early educators working in a child care center (96.3%). The most common reason an application was denied was failing to meet the household income requirement for the pilot.

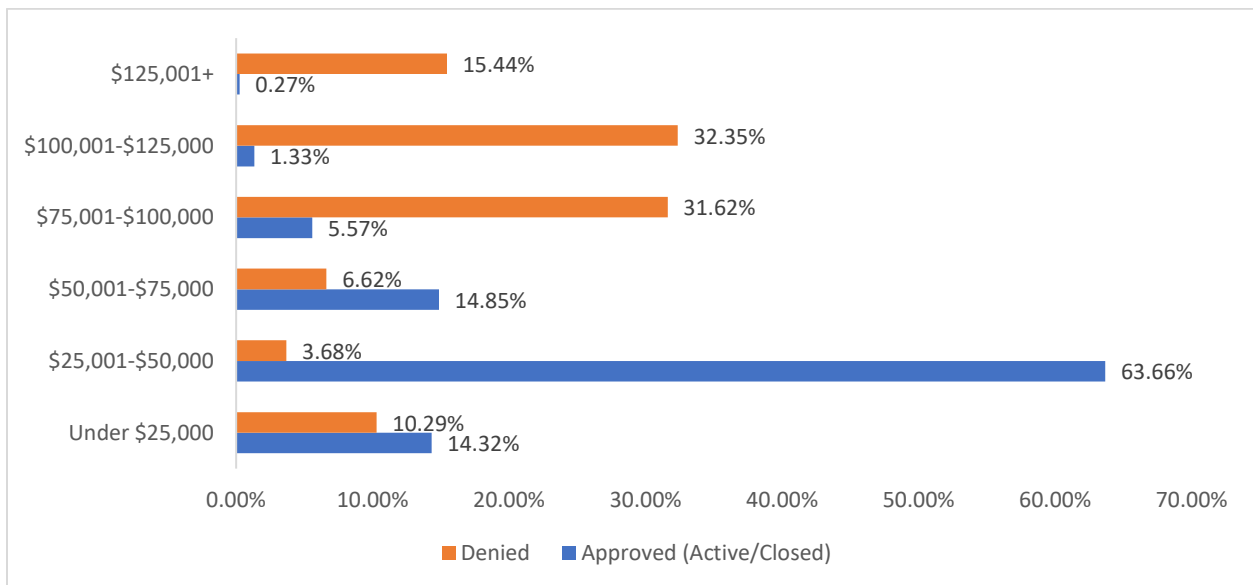
Denial Reason	Percent
Household income is above 300% of the Federal Poverty Level	81.6%
Not currently working in a DHS licensed child care program at least 20 hours a week	8.1%
Parent and/or child are not residents of Rhode Island	5.1%
DHS records show currently approved to participate in DHS CCAP with a \$0 copay, meaning participating in the pilot adds no additional benefit for your family.	2.2%
Child is not between ages 6 weeks and 13 years old	1.5%
Household income is above 300% of the Federal Poverty Level. Family not living in RI.	0.7%
Have not shown proof that your child is a US citizen or qualified immigrant	0.7%

Most denied applications were two-parent households, where both parents were working, and were denied for being over the income requirement. In the following section, “Approved” includes both “Approved-Active” and “Approved-Closed” applications.



Count of Parents in Household	Approved (Active/Closed)	Denied
1-Parent	\$33,697.40	\$35,411.39 ⁵
2-Parent	\$58,640.48	\$103,543.37

When considering household income, nearly half (47.79%) of denied applications represented a household income of more than \$100,000; less than 1.59% of approved applications represented this household income bracket.



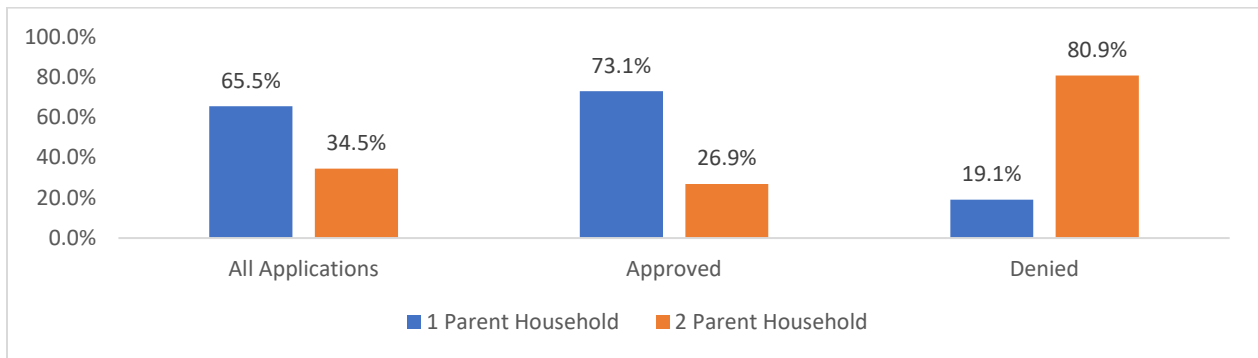
⁵ The 300% FPL threshold in 2024 for a household size of 2 was \$61,300 and the average 1-parent income for denied applications falls below this threshold. It is important to note denied applications include those who were denied based on residency and employment requirements.

The following data represents all applications, unless specifically noted as Approved (Approved-Active and Approved-Closed) or Denied.

The most common job titles are outlined in the table below:

All Applications (n=1030)	Approved Applications (n=754)	Denied Applications (n= 136)
Toddler Assistant Teacher (11.17%)	Toddler Assistant Teacher (11.8%)	Toddler Assistant Teacher (11.76%)
Preschool Assistant Teacher (10.97%)	Toddler Lead Teacher (11.8%)	Infant Lead Teacher (11.76%)
Toddler Lead Teacher (10.39%)	Preschool Assistant Teacher (10.61%)	Director (10.29%)
Preschool Lead Teacher (9.71%)	Infant Assistant Teacher (9.95%)	Preschool Assistant Teacher (9.56%)

Most applicants represent a one-parent household (65.5%). Among approved applications, the representation of a one-parent household increases to 73.1%.



In two-parent households, the 2nd parent is more likely to be employed than not working (80.2% vs. 19.8%, across all 1,030 applications).

The most common household size among applicants (1,030) are as follows:

- 3-person household: 33.01%
- 2-person household: 29.71%
- 4-person household: 18.16%

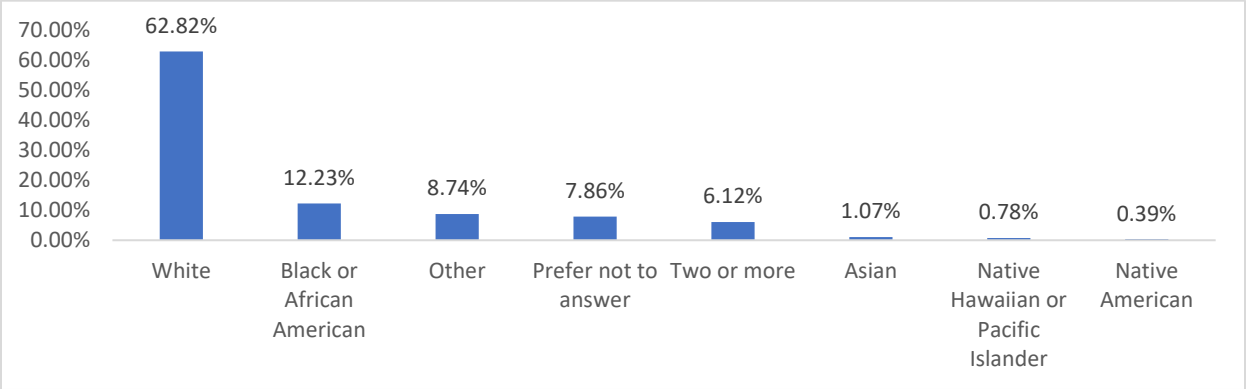
Among approved applications (570), two-person households (36.47%) and three-person households (33.69%) were most represented.

The majority of all applicants (72.14%) are earning an estimated income of \$50,000 or less. Similarly, 77.98% of approved applicants (both Active and Closed) are earning an estimated income of \$50,000 or less.

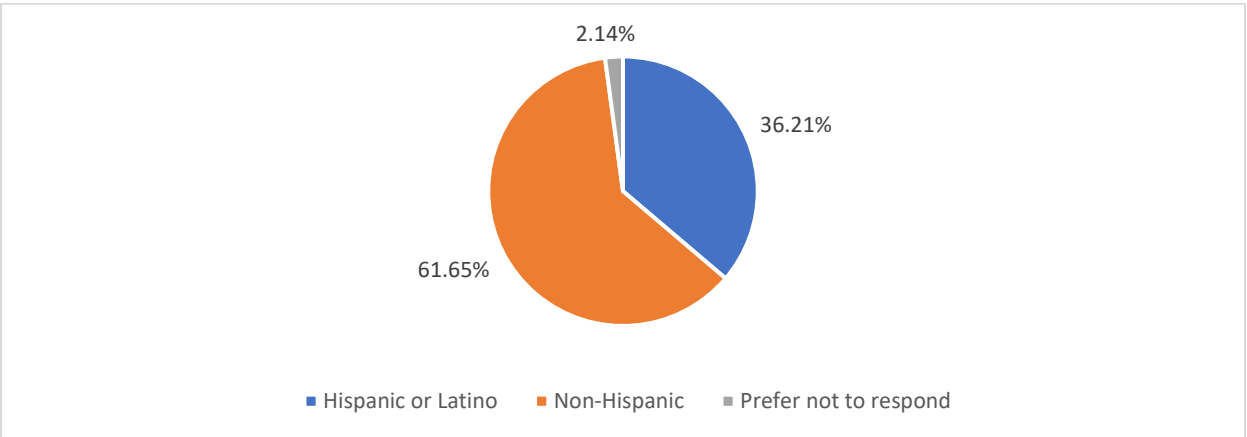
Income Category	All Applicants		Approved Applicants	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Under \$25,000	241	23.40%	108	14.32%
\$25,001-\$50,000	502	48.74%	480	63.66%
\$50,001-\$75,000	123	11.94%	112	14.85%
\$75,001-\$100,000	87	8.45%	42	5.57%
\$100,001-\$125,000	54	5.24%	10	1.33%
\$125,001+	23	2.23%	2	0.27%
Grand Total	1,030	100%	754	100%

Applicants (1,030) for the CCAP for Child Care pilot most frequently identify as:

- White (62.82%)
- Black or African American (12.23%)
- Other (8.74%)



The majority identify as non-Hispanic (61.65%), followed by Hispanic or Latino (36.21%). Overwhelmingly, applicants identify as women (98.15%).



For most applicants (64.27%), a high school diploma or GED is their highest level of education.

Highest Level of Education	Count	Percent
Middle School	8	0.78%
High school diploma or GED	662	64.27%
Associate degree	153	14.85%
Bachelor's degree	149	14.47%
Master's degree	44	4.27%
Ph.D. or professional degree	14	1.36%
Grand Total	1030	100%

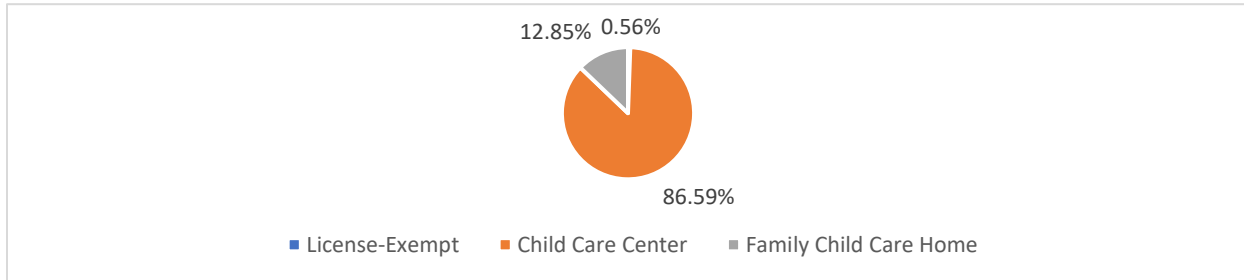
As of March 31, 2025, a total of 1,121 children have been approved to participate in the pilot. Of these, 55.4% are categorized as “Approved-Active” (count: 621), meaning they are still within their 12-month benefit period. Forty-four percent of the approved children are “Approved-Closed” (count: 500), meaning their 12-month benefit period has closed. Children approved to participate in the pilot are most commonly Infant/Toddlers (39.34%).

Age Category	Approved-Active	Approved-Closed	Total Approved	Total Approved Percent
Infant/Toddler	239	202	441	39.34%
Preschool	228	175	403	35.95%
School Age	154	123	277	24.71%
Grand Total	621	500	1121	100.00%

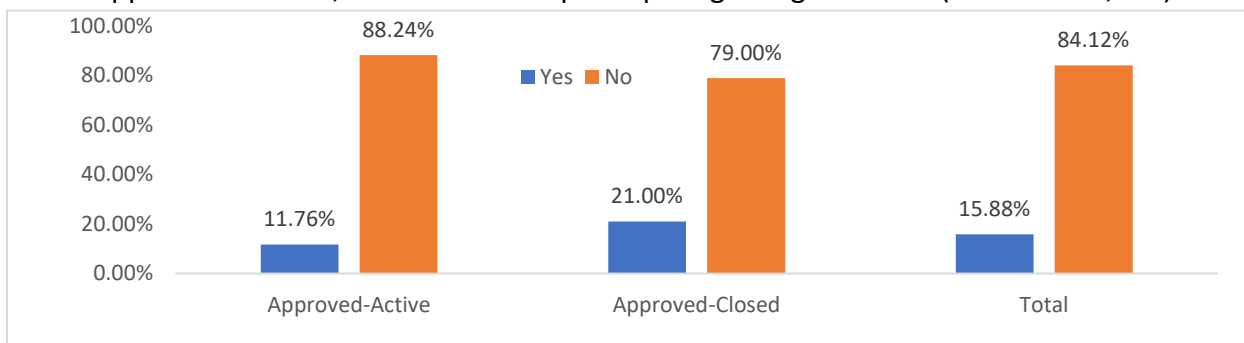
Of the 621 children with an active approval, 77% are enrolled in a CCAP program. Most children are enrolled Full Time (count: 345).

Enrollment Hours	Count	Percent
Enrolled	479	77.1%
Full Time (30+ hours weekly)	345	55.6%
Three Quarter Time (20-29 hours weekly)	99	15.9%
Half Time (10-19 hours weekly)	33	5.3%
Quarter Time (9 hours or less)	2	0.3%
No Active Enrollment	142	22.9%
Grand Total	621	100.0%

Approved children are enrolled across 179 DHS licensed, CCAP participating programs; 23 of these (13.77%) are Family Child Care Homes, one is License-Exempt, and 155 are Child Care Centers.



Of the approved children, 15.88% are also participating in regular CCAP (178 of the 1,121).



Expenses

As of March 2025, \$6,038,450 has been disbursed as payments to CCAP programs. Of which, \$5,657,797 has been adjusted on to the caseload accounts. Based on current enrollment, recent application trends, and approval rates, it is estimated that the pilot will support approximately 915 children at a cost of \$9,351,498 for an average cost of \$10,220 per subsidy.

Full Pilot Forecast			
Type	Copay Only	Tuition	Total
Pilot - > 200% FPL	\$ 7,899	\$ 616,612	\$ 624,511
CCAP Eligible - < 200% FPL	\$ 138,011	\$ 8,070,732	\$ 8,208,743
Currently CCAP	\$ 518,244	\$ -	\$ 518,244
Total	\$ 664,153	\$ 8,687,344	\$ 9,351,498

The currently enrolled forecast of \$7,862,323 is based on the cost of 815 children enrolled at one point during the pilot. As of March 2025, 479 children are currently enrolled. Participants have been categorized for financial analysis in three ways:

- Pilot: Over > 200% FPL and both copay and tuition paid – 7%
- CCAP Eligible: < 200% FPL and both copay and tuition paid – 87%
- Currently CCAP: Tuition paid through traditional subsidy process; paying copay only – 6%

Current Enrollment Forecast - March 2025			
Type	Copay Only	Tuition	Total
Pilot - > 200% FPL	\$ 6,659	\$ 518,312	\$ 524,971
CCAP Eligible - < 200% FPL	\$ 116,349	\$ 6,784,100	\$ 6,900,449
Currently CCAP	\$ 436,903	\$ -	\$ 436,903
Total	\$ 559,911	\$ 7,302,412	\$ 7,862,323

The estimated monthly enrolled children of 25 is based on the average number of approved applications over the last six months. The forecast of 25 new children monthly is 77% of the monthly average of 32 approved applications. This is the percent of approved children that have ultimately utilized the benefit. It is predicted that an additional 25 children would utilize the pilot each month for a total of 100 new children through July 31, 2025.

An average cost per child of \$10,220 was calculated factoring the overall enrollments, current enrollments, and copay only children. Utilizing this methodology, an additional \$1,489,175 is forecasted for children who enroll from April 2025 through July 2025 and use the full 12-month certification.

Future Enrollment Forecast - April 2025 - July, 2025			
Type	Copay Only	Tuition	Total
Pilot - > 200% FPL	\$ 1,240	\$ 98,300	\$ 99,540
CCAP Eligible - < 200% FPL	\$ 21,662	\$ 1,286,633	\$ 1,308,294
Currently CCAP	\$ 81,341	\$ -	\$ 81,341
Total	\$ 104,242	\$ 1,384,933	\$ 1,489,175

Finally, based on currently FPL levels of participants, it is expected that TANF can support 90% of the total cost.

FY and Funding Splits			
Fiscal Year	Full Tuition	TANF	CCDBG
FY 24	\$ 2,562,347	\$ 2,089,813	\$ 472,534
FY 25	\$ 4,232,287	\$ 3,949,647	\$ 282,640
FY 26	\$ 2,525,839	\$ 2,357,159	\$ 168,680
FY 27	\$ 31,024	\$ 28,953	\$ 2,072
Total	\$ 9,351,498	\$ 8,425,572	\$ 925,926

Question: Please provide an update regarding the Step Up to Wage\$ pilot program including, but not limited to,

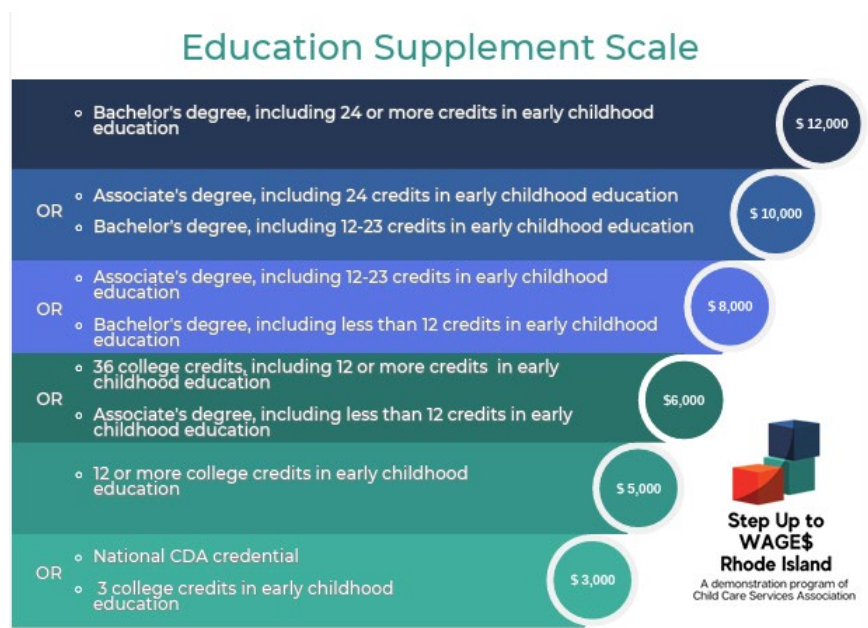
- a. Number of total applicants
- b. Reasons for denial
- c. Demographic Breakdown of applicants
- d. Updated grant status and funding commitments

Answer: See narrative below.

The Step Up to WAGE\$ pilot is an education-based salary supplement for educators working with infant/toddler children in a licensed child care center or family child care home. It is a demonstration program of Early Years, previously Child Care Services Association (CCSA), a national leader in supporting states efforts to strengthen accessible and affordable high-quality early care and education by providing support for families, communities and the workforce.

Step Up to WAGE\$ is an on-ramp program designed to position states to successfully implement the evidence-based Child Care WAGE\$ program. Research demonstrates that the quality-of-care children receive is lowered by high turnover rates and inadequate teacher education. To mitigate detrimental impacts to the quality of education RI’s youngest learners are receiving and ensure RI’s child care educators workforce is compensated RI launched this model.

To be eligible for the RI Step Up to WAGE\$ Program educators must meet the program model and state defined eligibility criteria. Educators must be earning at or below \$23 per hour and working with infant/toddler children in a licensed early childhood setting, for at least 10 hours per week to be eligible to participate. The supplement recipient must also hold a level of education outlined in the Step Up to WAGE\$ Supplement Scale. More information regarding the educational qualifications criteria can be located in the chart below.



Over the course of this pilot, Step up to WAGE\$ increased retention, education and compensation of early childhood professionals in RI. The applications for the original Step Up to WAGE\$ opened to the provider community on May 15, 2023, and concluded in January, 2025.

The pilot received 609 applications. To meet budgetary constraints, DHS limited the number of applications accepted. Of the initial 609 applicants, 44% were awarded in the first round of payments. The remaining 56% were denied due to lack of funding. Of those 56%, some may have been initially selected but deemed ineligible upon an eligibility criteria overview.

For the first application window of Step Up to WAGE\$, the budget projected approximately three payment rounds. The first round of payments was issued to 271 applicants employed at 135 unique child care programs in RI with varying levels of education and compensation levels. When the vendor assessed applicant eligibility for round two of payments of the 271 initial recipients, 231 maintained eligibility for a second payment. The final payment resulted in 225 applicants receiving payment upon eligibility assessment. To date \$2,389,451 has been awarded directly to qualifying educators employed at 123 different programs in RI. There are 6,619 children that have been cared for by a WAGE\$ recipient since its inception.

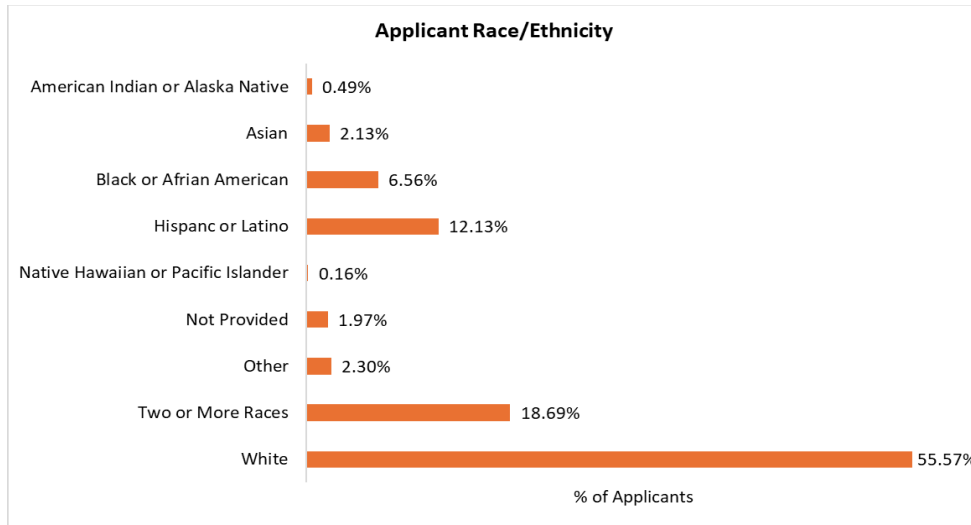
Not all of the 271 initial recipients were eligible to receive payments in rounds two and three of the funding. This resulted in a participation decline over the course of the funding windows. Of the initial recipients there was a decline of 64 recipients that were deemed ineligible for payment by the final window.

To remain eligible for payments participants must continue employment with the same child care program and meet the compensation requirements. The primary reason participants were not continuously eligible for payment at each round was due to their level of compensation, with applicants having received raises over the course of the program putting them over the \$23/hr compensation cap to remain eligible for funding.

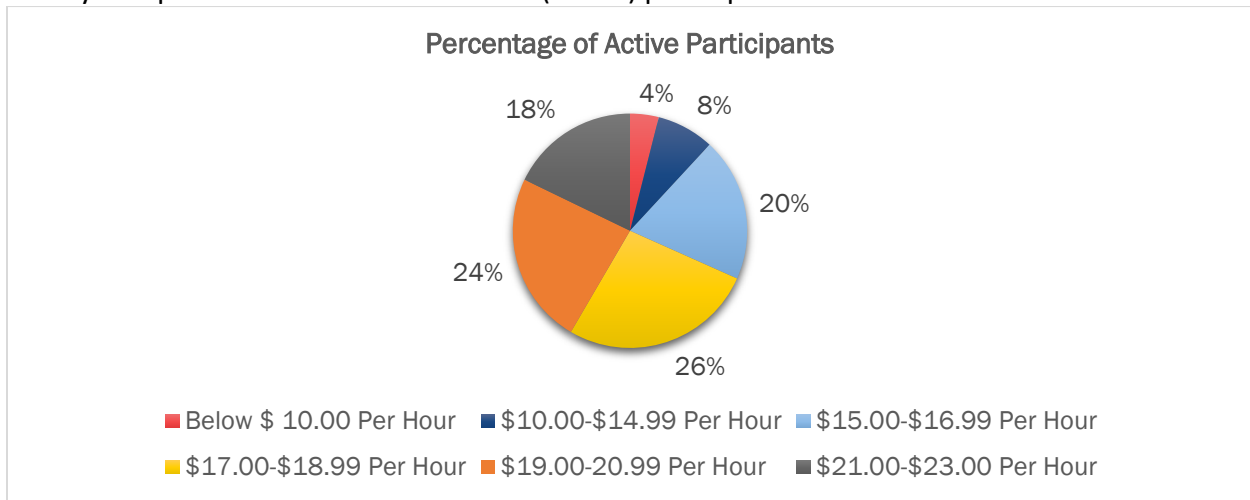
Ineligibility Criteria	# of Participants	% of Participants
Over Income	16	34.8%
Participant Request	2	4.3%
Left Center	23	50.0%
Employed less than 10 hours weekly	2	4.3%
Position Change	1	2.2%
Center Closure	1	2.2%
Laid Off	1	2.2%
Total	46	100.0%

Applicant Demographics:

Demographic information is collected for applicants and confirmed for awarded participants through the eligibility criteria confirmation process. Per request, race/ethnicity information for applicants can be found below. Additional information re: awarded participants is also included.



Hourly compensation levels for awarded (active) participants.



Education levels for active participants (not including one-time bonus payment to waitlisted participants).

Education Levels	Number of Active Participants	Percentage of Active Participants
3 ECE Hours	18	8%
CDA	35	15%
12 ECE Hours	40	17%
36 Gen Ed Hours – including 12 in ECE	27	12%
Associates Degree with < 12 ECE Hours	7	3%
Associates Degree with > 12 ECE Hours	12	5%
Associates Degree with > 24 ECE Hours	45	20%
Bachelor's Degree with < 12 ECE Hours	12	5%
Bachelor's Degree with > 12 ECE Hours	9	4%
Bachelor's Degree with > 24 ECE Hours	21	9%
Master's Degree with > 24 ECE Hours	5	2%
TOTAL:	231	100%

Program Results:

Increasing education levels current active participants: 10% have submitted documentation to verifying that they have completed coursework since beginning this program as they are continuing to work on their education above and beyond what they have already accomplished. Eight percent of participants have submitted documentation verifying that they have obtained enough education to move up a level on the supplement scale.

Retention: The initial program showed approximately a 94% retention rate and has been incredibly successful for child care educators. Ninety-three percent of recipients stated WAGE\$ supplement has helped ease financial stress. Eighty-two of recipients stated the WAGE\$ supplement has made them feel more appreciated and recognized for their work in the field and 89% of recipients stated WAGE\$ supplement has made it possible for them to be able to pay bills.

Additional Payments:

Underspend allocation: DHS was able to authorize an additional round of payments to educators on the waitlist as a result of assessed underspend on other federally funded PDG activities once reconciliation of the federal award occurred. As a result, DHS was able to provide an additional one-time bonus to 99 individuals from the initial waiting list a total of \$361,425.

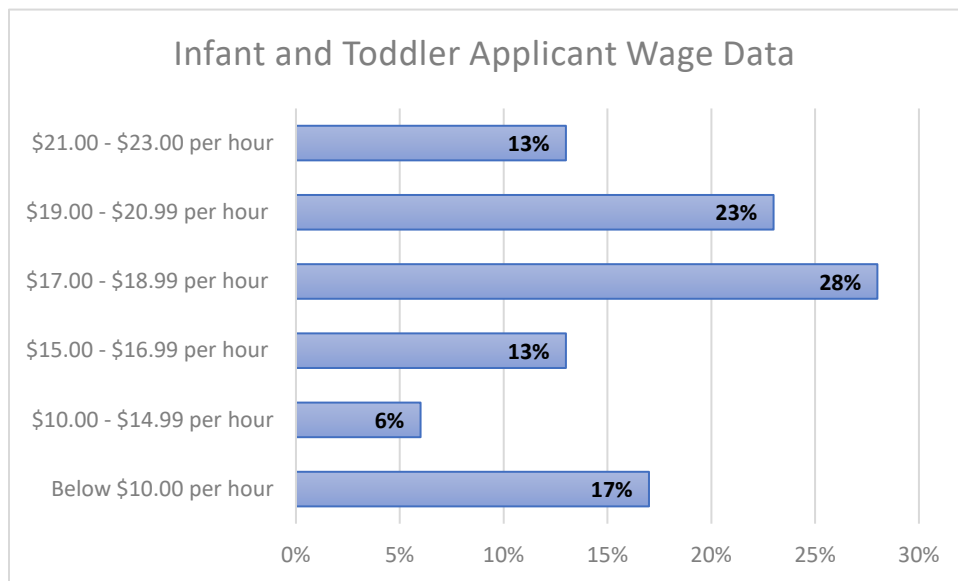
Infant Toddler Set-Aside: The FY23 Enacted State Budget Article 10 charged the RI Department of Education (RIDE), the RI Department of Human Services (DHS), and the Children’s Cabinet with developing an RI Pre-K expansion plan to reach 5000 RI Pre-K seats by 2028. The report recommended **ensuring funding be allocated to the infant toddler infrastructure.**

With the sunset of the Pandemic Retention Bonuses provided to early childhood educators in licensed child care programs, and the demand for high quality infant toddler care that exceeds existing capacity, DHS utilized RI pre-k funding from RIDE to provide an additional round of applications for the infant toddler sector which is important to mitigating teacher turnover.

- Step Up to Wages is currently open for a second-round application process for infant and toddler educators only. The application for that opened on March 12, 2025, and is currently open. It has been supported with marketing. The original applicants from the first round of funding were contacted to verify population served. If they were an infant or toddler educator and were eligible for the award, they will be receiving it. So far, there are 128 previous applicants that are currently eligible, and their confirmation is in process.
- Once the initial application was closed, the vendor kept a “future contact list” and individually contacted all of them to encourage them to apply if they met the qualifications.
- There were emails sent to every educator in the workforce registry, and specific information sent to those in the registry who identify as an infant and toddler employee.

To date, there have been more than 200 new applications that are going through the confirmation process. DHS anticipates this funding to be awarded to applicants by the end of June 2025.

Currently, about 50% of the applicants are lead teachers in an infant or toddler classroom, while the remaining 50% is evenly split between family child care educators and assistant teachers. More than 28% of the applicants are currently making between \$17.00-\$18.99 per hour.



Moving to WAGE\$ with 2024-2027 Preschool Development B-5 Renewal Grant Award:

In September 2024, Rhode Island was awarded a Preschool Development B-5 Renewal Grant. This award is approximately \$4.95 million dollars annually for three years. DHS is the lead agency with cross-departmental partnerships at EOHHS, RIDE and RIDOH. The renewal grant application priorities included the following required grant activities:

- **Activity 1:** Update comprehensive statewide B-5 needs assessment
- **Activity 2:** Update comprehensive statewide B-5 strategic plan
- **Activity 3:** Maximize family participation and engagement in the B-5 system
- **Activity 4:** Support the B-5 workforce
- **Activity 5:** Support program quality improvements
- **Activity 6:** Subaward to enhance quality and expand access to programs & services
- **Bonus 1:** Increase workforce pay and benefits
- **Bonus 2:** Support social-emotional development and mental health

In response to Bonus 1, DHS will be utilizing new PDG funding of \$1.1 million dollars a year to implement the WAGE\$ Model in FY26.

Question: Please provide any information on contract negotiations with SEIU on behalf of the family child care providers and potential program impacts for FY2026.

Answer: See narrative below.

The Department is preparing for negotiations with SEIU for the upcoming contract that is slated to begin July 1, 2025. DHS anticipates beginning active contract negotiations in April 2025.

Question: Please provide any available analysis on the impact of the following FY 2025 changes to the CCAP program (cost, enrollment, other):

- a. Increase eligibility from 200% to 261% of poverty
- b. Increase of payments for center-based childcare providers by 5% across all age groups and tiers
- c. Youth summer camp licensing

Answer: See narrative below.

The increase in the entry income limit from 200% FPL to 261% FPL effective January 1, 2025, had an immediate impact for Rhode Island’s families. As of the first of the year, with minimum wage at \$15/hr and many places paying more than that to recruit staff, a two-parent household making minimum wage previously wouldn’t qualify for CCAP. With the new income entry limit and the current 2025 FPL, a family of three can earn up to \$69,557 and be income eligible for CCAP benefits. A family of four can earn up to \$83,912, and a family of five can earn up to \$98,267. Since January 1, 2025, 80 children whose families earned up to 261% FPL were enrolled and served. This means that 60 families who were previously denied CCAP benefits due to their income are now eligible under the updated 261% FPL level. The number of children served is expected to increase to 162 by fiscal year end at a cost of \$529,200. The number of children expected to be enrolled and served in FY26 is 337 at a cost of \$ \$2,055,850.

The increase of payments for center-based child care providers by five percent across all groups and tiers can be analyzed by cost by looking at current CCAP enrollment numbers in center-based care and the adjusted cost based on the rate increase for the current caseload only – if there was no movement up the quality continuum or no increase/decrease of programming.

CCAP Enrollment by Brightstars Rating - March 2025						
	1 Star	2 Star	3 Star	4 Star	5 Star	TOTAL
<i>Infants/Toddlers</i>	261	279	195	249	107	1091
<i>Preschoolers</i>	518	475	417	597	318	2325
<i>School-Age</i>	512	298	351	466	158	1785
TOTAL	1291	1052	963	1312	583	5201

Using the numbers above and calculating the difference in rates by star rating, the annual additional cost to implement quality rates with the increase is calculated below. The first table does not include CCAP for Child Care pilot-only children, which are separate and included in the second table. It is important to note that this calculation is based on enrollment numbers only in both tables below and assumes full time rates,. Payment costs are addressed earlier in the caseload document and are reflective of current caseload, attendance policy, CCAP statuses and the different co-payment amounts.

Additional Annual Cost to Implement 5% increase – CCAP children

Centers	1 star	2 star	3 star	4 star	5 star	TOTALS
Infant/Toddler	\$179,829	\$195,858	\$142,974	\$187,099	\$83,460	\$789,220
Preschool	\$303,030	\$290,225	\$263,461	\$388,050	\$214,968	\$1,459,734
School-Age	\$266,240	\$158,834	\$200,772	\$288,361	\$102,700	\$1,016,907
TOTALS	\$749,099	\$644,917	\$607,207	\$863,509	\$401,128	\$3,265,860

Additional Annual Cost to Implement 5% increase – CCAP for Child Care Pilot Children

Centers	1 star	2 star	3 star	4 star	5 star	TOTALS
Infant/Toddler	\$36,517	\$36,504	\$24,196	\$28,553	\$11,700	\$137,470
Preschool	\$31,005	\$23,218	\$14,531	\$26,000	\$18,928	\$113,682
School-Age	\$15,600	\$13,858	\$6,864	\$15,470	\$7,800	\$59,592
TOTALS	\$83,122	\$73,580	\$45,591	\$70,023	\$38,428	\$310,744

While there is a cost implication annually for the numbers as noted above, DHS does not anticipate any changes to enrollment other than potential provider movement up the quality continuum as a result of an increase in rates.

Assessment of youth summer camp licensing considers an entry level assessment of camp related programs based on thorough research on Rhode Island summer camps versus child care licensure. The Department is currently in the promulgation process of the new summer camp regulations and will use summer 2025 to gather information and pilot workflows and processes for the coming years.

Through research on Rhode Island camps, there are approximately 13 camps in Rhode Island that can be found that might have interest in taking CCAP based on:

- Quality of camp – ensuring that they are able to follow federal compliance for taking subsidized children, we used the list found on: <https://ricamp.org/camps-comparison/>
- Licensed versus non licensed – using this list of camps, several already have licensed child care center spaces as they operate full year with a summer camp component that has already been approved by licensing.
- Camps that charge families– free camps or already subsidized camps cannot apply to be licensed because they cannot take money from the federal government if they are not alternatively charging families who don't qualify.

Based on the information above, there are thirteen camps that would qualify and hit this benchmark to take subsidized children. Currently, the average school-age only program serves about 100 school aged children, resulting in an estimated 100 children in each of these potential 13 camps.

Typically, 16.6% of licensed spaces are filled with CCAP children as Rhode Island averages about 34,860 child care seats, and about 5,787 CCAP subsidies over the last five years. Of these 100 children per camp and 13 camps, youth camp licensing would service about 1,300 total kids.

With a 16.6% CCAP utilization rate, that would equate to 216 children utilizing their CCAP certificate for youth camps. With these 216 children, assuming the full time, one star school age rate (\$210.00)– there will be an additional cost of \$453,600 for 10 weeks of summer. The benefit of this cost is the ability to allow families who wouldn't typically be able to afford summer camp an opportunity to receive care for these summer months at a discounted rate in a safe, licensed program.

State Supplemental Payment (SSP) Program

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal program that provides monthly cash payments to individuals in need. SSI is for people who are 65 or older, as well as blind or individuals with a disability of any age, including children. To qualify for SSI, individuals must also have little or no income and few resources. DHS administers the State supplemental portion of monthly SSI benefits to eligible residents of Rhode Island. The Social Security Administration (SSA) sends the Federal portion of SSI benefits. The DHS issues a separate payment for the State Supplemental Payment (SSP). Payment (SSP).

Question: Please provide the number of SSI recipients in each category (persons, personal needs allowance, assisted living).

Answer: See narrative below.

	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Adopted	FY 2025 May CEC DHS	FY 2026 May CEC DHS
SSP						
Persons	32,695	31,630	30,900	30,655	30,753	30,736
Cost / Person	\$ 44	\$ 44	\$ 45	\$ 45.09	\$ 44.85	\$ 44.76
Cash Payments	\$ 17,366,916	\$ 16,508,974	\$ 16,571,658	\$ 16,586,807	\$ 16,551,119	\$ 16,510,139
Transaction Fees	\$ 55,000	\$ 56,033	\$ 59,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 72,000
Total Dollars	\$17,421,916	\$16,565,007	\$16,630,658	\$16,646,807	\$16,616,119	\$16,582,139

As of March 2025, there are a total of 30,767 SSP recipients. 29,743 individual/couple payments, 656 personal needs allowance payments, and 368 assisted living payments. More detail can be found in Appendix A.

Over the last six month the SSP caseload has remained flat, ending a two-year period of small declines. This is primarily due to the number of applications declining over this period. The FY 2025 and 2026 projections factors in zero growth for individual payments and nominal decreases in personal needs allowance and assisted living payments to reflect current trends. These assumptions bring the average number of persons to 30,753 and 30,736 for FY 2025 and FY 2026, respectively.

The administrative transaction fee increased to \$59,000 for FY 2024. Per the Federal SSA and based on the projected caseload, the transaction fee is estimated at \$65,000 for FY2025 and \$72,000 for FY2026. The cost per person is not calculated to include transaction fees.

The total moving costs were \$284,366 in FY 2024. DHS estimates the cost of \$261,744 and \$264,000 respectively, for FY 2025 and FY 2026.

Question: Please provide the number of individuals residing in a non-Medicaid funded assisted living facility and receiving the \$206 payment and the total cost for FY 2025 and FY 2026.

Answer: See narrative below.

Each month the Department issues cash payments of \$206 for individuals in assisted living facilities. As of March 2025, there are three individuals within one facility. Long-term Services and Support (LTSS) staff continue to work with Medicaid eligible facilities to get their residences enrolled in LTSS to ensure that Assisted Living billing for Medicaid LTSS approved SSI recipients follows the established Medicaid Tier billing process for reimbursement. As of March 2024, a total of 30 SSI recipients currently residing at the three facilities (Bristol, Charlesgate and Community Alliance) are now active on LTSS allowing the facility to follow the billing process for Medicaid Eligibility Facilities instead of the department issuing cash payments.

The FY 2025 projection of \$16,480 is based on year-to-date expenses through March plus a projected average of three individuals for the remaining facility.

	FY 2024 Q1	FY 2024 Q2	FY 2024 Q3	FY 2024 Q4	FY24 Total	FY 2025 Q1	FY 2025 DHS Projected	FY 2026 DHS Projected
Bristol Assisted Living	\$5,768	\$5,150	\$0	\$0	\$10,918	\$0	\$0	\$0
Charlesgate	\$2,266	\$4,326	\$4,326	\$0	\$10,918	\$0	\$0	\$0
Community Care Alliance	\$8,446	\$9,064	\$7,622	\$0	\$25,132	\$0	\$0	\$0
Franciscan Missionaries	\$7,004	\$6,798	\$6,386	\$6,798	\$26,986	\$6,798	\$16,480	\$7,416
Total	\$23,484	\$25,338	\$18,334	\$6,798	\$73,954	\$6,798	\$16,480	\$7,416

The number of quarterly cases in each facility is shown below. DHS cost projections align with its methodology for the cash payments in both FY 2025 and FY 2026.

	FY 2024 Q1	FY 2024 Q2	FY 2024 Q3	FY 2024 Q4	FY2024 Average DHS	FY 25 Average DHS Projected	FY 26 Average DHS Projected
Bristol Assisted Living	9	8	0	0	4	0	0
Charlesgate	4	7	7	0	4	0	0
Community Care Alliance	14	15	12	0	10	0	0
Franciscan Missionaries	11	11	10	11	11	7	3
Total	38	41	30	11	30	7	3

General Public Assistance (GPA) Program

The General Public Assistance (GPA) program is intended as a program of last resort for the neediest individuals in the State. GPA provides a small cash benefit to adults aged 18 and over who have very limited income and resources and have an illness or medical condition that keeps them from working while they await an SSI determination. To qualify, an individual must earn less than \$327 a month and cannot qualify for other federal assistance programs other than Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). In addition, the program provides supplemental assistance for funerals and burials.

As of March 2025, there are 686 GPA Bridge cases. This is 10 cases fewer than the November 2024 DHS projection for the month of March 2025. Over the last six months the GPA case count increased an average of 2% as projected at the November Caseload Estimating Conference. Applications received are up slightly over the last six months compared to the six months prior to the November CEC, averaging 203 per month compared to 187 per month. However, the approval rate was down from 26% to 23%.

The current projection uses growth of 2% month over month, consistent with both the last six- and 12-month average growth rate. This gives rise to the number of cases reaching an average of 642 in SFY25 and 829 in SFY26 at a cost of \$1,250,898 and \$1,680,914 each year, net of recoveries, respectively.

Question: For FY 2025 and FY 2026, please provide an estimate of the expenses for the burial assistance program.

Answer: See narrative below.

The total cost for GPA burials during FY 2024 was \$648,676 providing 603 burials. This amount is slightly less than the \$650,000 FY 2024 Final Enacted. Through March 2025, the cost of GPA burials is \$480,588 for 459 decedents. Based on FY 2024 and the comparable monthly average to date, the FY 2025 burials are estimated at \$642,588 and FY 2026 is estimated at \$650,000.

	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Adopted	FY 2025 May CEC DHS	FY 2026 May CEC DHS
GPA						
Persons - Bridge	114	352	533	650	642	829
Cost / Person	\$178	\$154	\$140	\$160.15	\$162.37	\$168.97
Cash Payments - Bridge	\$243,731	\$651,968	\$879,114	\$1,249,170	\$1,250,898	\$1,680,914
Burials	\$589,380	\$586,422	\$648,676	\$650,000	\$642,588	\$650,000
Total Dollars	\$833,111	\$1,238,390	\$1,527,790	\$1,899,170	\$1,893,486	\$2,330,914



Appendix A

Rhode Island Department of Human Services

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Department of Human Services
Public Assistance Caseloads & Expenditures
May 2025 Caseload

	FY 2022 Actual*	FY 2023 Actual*	FY 2024 Actual*	FY 2025 Adopted November	FY 2025 May CEC DHS	FY 2026 Adopted November	FY 2026 May CEC DHS
TANF / RI Works							
Persons	6,413	8,245	8,323	9,400	9,405	9,700	9,886
Cost / Person	\$ 235	\$ 236	\$ 236	\$ 295.00	\$ 288.23	\$ 300.50	\$ 300.00
Cash Payments	\$ 18,047,084	\$ 22,718,650	\$ 23,550,151	\$ 33,276,000	\$ 32,530,032	\$ 34,978,200	\$ 35,591,302
Supportive Services	\$ 635,640	\$ 866,589	\$ 880,476	\$ 980,000	\$ 934,085	\$ 1,025,000	\$ 1,024,318
Clothing - Children	\$ 379,641	\$ 684,576	\$ 655,800	\$ 685,000	\$ 697,782	\$ 780,000	\$ 750,000
PEAF	\$ -	\$ 2,676,205	\$ 298,277	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Catastrophic	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,615	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,400	\$ 1,200
Transportation	\$ 435,429	\$ 416,609	\$ 434,866	\$ 515,240	\$ 540,278	\$ 531,620	\$ 538,318
Total Dollars	\$ 19,498,794	\$ 27,365,244	\$ 25,821,170	\$ 35,458,040	\$ 34,703,177	\$ 37,317,220	\$ 37,905,138
Child Care							
Subsidies	5,404	5,605	6,099	6,400	6,323	6,500	6,577
Cost / Subsidy (Annual)	\$ 10,096	\$ 10,671	\$ 10,108	\$ 11,200	\$ 11,082	\$ 11,390	\$ 11,712
Total Dollars	\$ 54,559,282	\$ 59,810,183	\$ 61,651,009	\$ 71,680,000	\$ 70,073,227	\$ 74,035,000	\$ 77,030,110
SSP							
Persons	32,695	31,630	30,900	30,655	30,753	30,700	30,736
Cost / Person	\$ 44	\$ 44	\$ 45	\$ 45.09	\$ 44.85	\$ 45.00	\$ 44.76
Cash Payments	\$ 17,366,916	\$ 16,508,974	\$ 16,571,658	\$ 16,586,807	\$ 16,551,119	\$ 16,578,000	\$ 16,510,139
Trans. Fees	\$ 55,000	\$ 56,033	\$ 59,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 72,000
Total Dollars	\$ 17,421,916	\$ 16,565,007	\$ 16,630,658	\$ 16,646,807	\$ 16,616,119	\$ 16,638,000	\$ 16,582,139
GPA							
Persons Total - Bridge	114	352	533	650	642	790	829
Cost / Person	\$ 178	\$ 154	\$ 140	\$ 160	\$ 162.37	\$ 168.00	\$ 168.97
Cash Payments - Bridge	\$ 243,731	\$ 651,968	\$ 879,114	\$ 1,249,170	\$ 1,250,898	\$ 1,592,640	\$ 1,680,914
Burials	\$ 589,380	\$ 586,422	\$ 648,676	\$ 650,000	\$ 642,588	\$ 650,000	\$ 650,000
Total Dollars	\$ 833,111	\$ 1,238,390	\$ 1,527,790	\$ 1,899,170	\$ 1,893,486	\$ 2,242,640	\$ 2,330,914
Grand Total Dollars	\$ 92,313,103	\$ 104,978,824	\$ 105,630,627	\$ 125,684,017	\$ 123,286,009	\$ 130,232,860	\$ 133,848,301

* Note: Prior year actuals includes adjustment in cost per person/subsidy to agree to RIFANS.

**Department of Human Services
Rhode Island Works (TANF) Caseload and Expenditures
May 2025 Caseload**

Rhode Island Works SFY 2024	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Persons	8,211	8,354	8,308	8,182	8,280	8,445	8,223	8,257	8,331	8,314	8,486	8,486	8,323
Cases	3,240	3,234	3,261	3,210	3,262	3,279	3,226	3,242	3,290	3,287	3,348	3,348	3,269
Persons/case	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Average cost per person	\$ 235	\$ 232	\$ 235	\$ 242	\$ 237	\$ 229	\$ 240	\$ 233	\$ 235	\$ 240	\$ 236	\$ 237	\$ 236
Average cost per case	\$ 594	\$ 599	\$ 599	\$ 603	\$ 603	\$ 590	\$ 611	\$ 593	\$ 596	\$ 607	\$ 597	\$ 600	\$ 601
Regular	\$ 1,780,016	\$ 1,782,483	\$ 1,802,107	\$ 1,828,019	\$ 1,813,166	\$ 1,784,136	\$ 1,817,508	\$ 1,769,452	\$ 1,804,451	\$ 1,836,696	\$ 1,841,242	\$ 1,848,876	\$ 21,708,152
Two Parent	\$ 145,822	\$ 153,308	\$ 149,935	\$ 154,008	\$ 152,756	\$ 150,310	\$ 153,122	\$ 152,188	\$ 155,198	\$ 157,971	\$ 158,362	\$ 159,019	\$ 1,841,999
Total	\$ 1,925,838	\$ 1,935,791	\$ 1,952,042	\$ 1,982,027	\$ 1,965,922	\$ 1,934,446	\$ 1,970,630	\$ 1,921,640	\$ 1,959,649	\$ 1,994,667	\$ 1,999,604	\$ 2,007,895	\$ 23,550,151
Catastrophic	\$-	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 201	\$ 200	\$ 599	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$ 1,600
PEAF	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$ 298,277	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$ 298,277
Clothing	\$-	\$ 627,100	\$ 25,500	\$ 3,200	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$ 655,800
Supportive Services	\$ 64,059	\$ 66,873	\$ 69,237	\$ 81,780	\$ 68,316	\$ 66,825	\$ 80,352	\$ 63,207	\$ 68,166	\$ 87,372	\$ 74,583	\$ 89,706	\$ 880,476
Transportation	\$ 30,541	\$ 34,748	\$ 48,183	\$ 39,120	\$ 38,378	\$ 40,593	\$ 27,349	\$ 32,629	\$ 33,124	\$ 31,773	\$ 35,651	\$ 42,777	\$ 434,866
Total	\$ 2,020,438	\$ 2,664,712	\$ 2,095,162	\$ 2,106,328	\$ 2,072,816	\$ 2,340,740	\$ 2,078,331	\$ 2,017,476	\$ 2,061,139	\$ 2,113,812	\$ 2,109,838	\$ 2,140,378	\$ 25,821,170

Rhode Island Works SFY 2025	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Persons	8,965	9,409	9,225	9,507	9,296	8,892	9,704	9,645	9,533	9,515	9,562	9,610	9,405
Cases	3,554	3,731	3,688	3,769	3,702	3,547	3,873	3,799	3,787	3,806	3,825	3,844	3,744
Persons/case	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Average cost per person	\$ 163.00	\$ 363.32	\$ 312.00	\$ 283.00	\$ 287.00	\$ 293.00	\$ 281.00	\$ 286.23	\$ 290.25	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 288.23
Average cost per case	\$ 411.00	\$ 916.00	\$ 780.00	\$ 713.00	\$ 722.00	\$ 734.00	\$ 705.00	\$ 726.70	\$ 731.00	\$ 755.00	\$ 755.00	\$ 755.00	\$ 725.31
Regular	\$ 1,336,868	\$ 3,126,439	\$ 2,630,545	\$ 2,456,516	\$ 2,444,145	\$ 2,382,010	\$ 2,495,625	\$ 2,524,880	\$ 2,531,127	\$ 2,602,664	\$ 2,667,913	\$ 2,681,252	\$ 29,879,984
Two Parent	\$ 124,870	\$ 292,025	\$ 245,706	\$ 229,451	\$ 228,296	\$ 222,492	\$ 233,104	\$ 235,837	\$ 235,830	\$ 199,812	\$ 200,811	\$ 201,815	\$ 2,650,048
Total	\$ 1,461,738	\$ 3,418,464	\$ 2,876,251	\$ 2,685,967	\$ 2,672,441	\$ 2,604,502	\$ 2,728,729	\$ 2,760,717	\$ 2,766,957	\$ 2,854,451	\$ 2,868,724	\$ 2,883,067	\$ 32,530,032
Catastrophic	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 1,000
Clothing	\$ 581,800	\$ 100,282	\$ -	\$ 15,700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 697,782
Supportive Services	\$ 71,958	\$ 69,840	\$ 93,183	\$ 74,715	\$ 74,916	\$ 38,049	\$ -	\$ 145,101	\$ 118,635	\$ 82,151	\$ 82,562	\$ 82,975	\$ 934,085
Transportation	\$ 45,128	\$ 46,365	\$ 52,388	\$ 49,665	\$ 46,695	\$ 46,860	\$ 40,343	\$ 40,178	\$ 42,488	\$ 43,174	\$ 43,389	\$ 43,606	\$ 540,278
Total	\$ 2,160,624	\$ 3,634,951	\$ 3,021,822	\$ 2,826,247	\$ 2,794,052	\$ 2,689,411	\$ 2,769,072	\$ 2,945,996	\$ 2,928,280	\$ 2,979,976	\$ 2,994,875	\$ 3,009,848	\$ 34,703,177

Rhode Island Works SFY 2026	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Persons	9,658	9,707	9,755	9,804	9,853	9,902	9,952	10,001	10,001	10,001	10,001	10,001	9,886
Cases	3,863	3,883	3,902	3,922	3,941	3,961	3,981	4,001	4,001	4,001	4,001	4,001	3,955
Persons/case	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Average cost per person	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Average cost per case	\$ 755	\$ 755	\$ 755	\$ 755	\$ 755	\$ 755	\$ 755	\$ 755	\$ 755	\$ 755	\$ 755	\$ 755	\$ 755
Regular	\$ 2,693,306	\$ 2,706,773	\$ 2,720,307	\$ 2,733,908	\$ 2,747,578	\$ 2,761,316	\$ 2,775,122	\$ 2,788,998	\$ 2,788,998	\$ 2,788,998	\$ 2,788,998	\$ 2,788,998	\$ 33,083,301
Two Parent	\$ 204,176	\$ 205,197	\$ 206,223	\$ 207,254	\$ 208,290	\$ 209,332	\$ 210,378	\$ 211,430	\$ 211,430	\$ 211,430	\$ 211,430	\$ 211,430	\$ 2,508,000
Total	\$ 2,897,482	\$ 2,911,970	\$ 2,926,530	\$ 2,941,162	\$ 2,955,868	\$ 2,970,648	\$ 2,985,501	\$ 3,000,428	\$ 3,000,428	\$ 3,000,428	\$ 3,000,428	\$ 3,000,428	\$ 35,591,302
Catastrophic	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ 1,200
Clothing	\$ -	\$ 725,000	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750,000
Supportive Services	\$ 83,390	\$ 83,806	\$ 84,226	\$ 84,647	\$ 85,070	\$ 85,495	\$ 85,923	\$ 86,352	\$ 86,352	\$ 86,352	\$ 86,352	\$ 86,352	\$ 1,024,318
Transportation	\$ 43,824	\$ 44,044	\$ 44,264	\$ 44,485	\$ 44,708	\$ 44,931	\$ 45,156	\$ 45,381	\$ 45,381	\$ 45,381	\$ 45,381	\$ 45,381	\$ 538,318
Total	\$ 3,024,896	\$ 3,764,820	\$ 3,080,219	\$ 3,070,294	\$ 3,085,845	\$ 3,101,074	\$ 3,116,779	\$ 3,132,162	\$ 3,132,362	\$ 3,132,362	\$ 3,132,362	\$ 3,132,362	\$ 37,905,138

**RI Department of Human Services
Child Care Caseload and Expenditures
May 2025 Caseload**

Cycle #	2023		2024		2025		2026	
	Total children	Total subsidies	Total children	Total subsidies	Total children	Total subsidies	Total children	Total subsidies
1	5,870	\$ 2,338,018	5,890	\$ 2,371,712	6,169	\$ 2,720,273	6,167	\$ 2,648,937
2	5,876	\$ 2,424,001	5,907	\$ 2,494,244	6,086	\$ 2,693,728	6,180	\$ 2,665,416
3	5,892	\$ 2,404,087	5,991	\$ 2,593,424	6,002	\$ 2,673,649	6,192	\$ 2,681,997
4	5,710	\$ 2,348,194	5,676	\$ 2,390,899	5,766	\$ 2,586,096	6,205	\$ 2,698,681
5	5,870	\$ 2,304,555	5,704	\$ 2,266,807	5,934	\$ 2,549,799	6,218	\$ 2,715,469
6	5,650	\$ 2,329,917	5,494	\$ 2,152,228	5,755	\$ 2,415,556	6,231	\$ 2,732,362
7	5,219	\$ 1,917,013	5,563	\$ 2,184,816	5,825	\$ 2,385,568	6,244	\$ 2,749,360
8	5,130	\$ 1,888,798	5,581	\$ 2,183,761	5,865	\$ 2,372,308	6,257	\$ 2,766,463
9	5,313	\$ 2,057,909	5,594	\$ 2,192,547	5,770	\$ 2,354,597	6,270	\$ 2,783,673
10	5,430	\$ 2,008,052	5,816	\$ 2,302,068	5,814	\$ 2,352,619	6,283	\$ 2,800,990
11	5,343	\$ 1,995,049	5,686	\$ 2,219,436	5,687	\$ 2,334,259	6,297	\$ 2,818,414
12	5,431	\$ 1,978,401	5,774	\$ 2,207,856	6,122	\$ 2,602,526	6,310	\$ 2,835,947
13	5,497	\$ 2,035,899	5,697	\$ 2,241,586	6,149	\$ 2,503,655	6,323	\$ 2,853,589
14	5,534	\$ 2,119,504	5,626	\$ 2,138,422	6,119	\$ 2,665,546	6,336	\$ 2,871,341
15	5,504	\$ 2,153,968	5,710	\$ 2,255,129	6,046	\$ 2,508,197	6,349	\$ 2,889,204
16	5,587	\$ 5,165,806	5,693	\$ 2,217,855	6,174	\$ 2,610,394	6,363	\$ 2,907,177
17	5,650	\$ 2,202,104	5,668	\$ 2,181,494	5,833	\$ 2,396,678	6,376	\$ 2,925,262
18	5,687	\$ 2,194,655	5,794	\$ 2,228,428	6,039	\$ 2,505,138	6,389	\$ 2,943,460
19	5,701	\$ 2,211,396	5,730	\$ 2,231,161	6,052	\$ 2,520,722	6,403	\$ 2,961,771
20	5,722	\$ 2,247,284	5,873	\$ 2,262,323	6,064	\$ 2,536,403	6,416	\$ 2,980,196
21	5,560	\$ 2,230,260	5,859	\$ 2,243,933	6,077	\$ 2,552,182	6,429	\$ 2,998,735
22	5,599	\$ 2,216,395	5,894	\$ 2,290,867	6,090	\$ 2,568,059	6,443	\$ 3,017,390
23	5,800	\$ 2,301,674	5,988	\$ 2,398,454	6,102	\$ 2,584,034	6,456	\$ 3,036,161
24	5,778	\$ 2,313,991	5,874	\$ 2,299,778	6,115	\$ 2,600,109	6,470	\$ 3,055,048
25	5,687	\$ 2,196,302	5,835	\$ 2,226,289	6,128	\$ 2,616,284	6,483	\$ 3,074,053
26	5,692	\$ 2,226,951	5,868	\$ 2,313,145	6,141	\$ 2,632,560	6,497	\$ 3,093,177
Total	5,605	\$ 59,810,183	5,761	\$ 59,088,662	5,997	\$ 65,840,940	6,330	\$ 74,504,271
		10,671		10,257		10,979		11,770

2.8% -1.2%

4.1% 11.4%

5.6% 13.2%

Provider Pilot	
Total children	Total subsidies
339	\$ 2,562,347

Provider Pilot	
Total children	Total subsidies
326	\$ 4,232,287

Provider Pilot	
Total children	Total subsidies
247	\$ 2,525,839

2024	
Total children	Total subsidies
6,099	\$ 61,651,009
	10,108

2025	
Total children	Total subsidies
6,323	\$ 70,073,227
	11,082

2026	
Total children	Total subsidies
6,577	\$ 77,030,110
	11,712

Department of Human Services
Supplemental Security Income (SSI) State Supplement Program (SSP) Caseload and Expenditures
May 2025 Caseload

SSP (SFY 2024)	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Persons	30,025	30,014	29,992	30,030	30,005	29,976	29,999	29,798	29,783	29,731	29,640	29,631	29,885
Personal Needs Allowance	627	630	627	618	622	638	630	685	665	656	667	671	645
Assisted Living	358	359	365	367	369	379	376	374	379	379	373	367	370
Total Persons	31,010	31,003	30,984	31,015	30,996	30,993	31,005	30,857	30,827	30,766	30,680	30,669	30,900
Average cost per person	\$ 43	\$ 45	\$ 46	\$ 46	\$ 45	\$ 46	\$ 45	\$ 44	\$ 45	\$ 44	\$ 45	\$ 42	\$ 45
SSP payroll	\$ 1,246,339	\$ 1,247,460	\$ 1,250,109	\$ 1,252,911	\$ 1,244,962	\$ 1,264,305	\$ 1,255,615	\$ 1,220,930	\$ 1,219,792	\$ 1,208,544	\$ 1,226,547	\$ 1,159,128	\$ 14,796,642
Assisted Living	\$ 82,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 117,000	\$ 107,000	\$ 91,000	\$ 84,000	\$ 98,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 101,850	\$ 88,000	\$ 105,000	\$ 96,000	\$ 1,129,850
Personal Needs Allowance	\$ 13,660	\$ 45,205	\$ 29,635	\$ 28,360	\$ 29,020	\$ 30,770	\$ 28,995	\$ 31,875	\$ 30,610	\$ 30,405	\$ 31,110	\$ 31,155	\$ 360,800
Supplemental	\$ -	\$ 43,518	\$ 30,720	\$ 24,972	\$ 23,468	\$ 37,820	\$ 21,722	\$ 19,770	\$ 26,712	\$ 20,052	\$ 21,230	\$ 14,382	\$ 284,366
Total Payments	\$ 1,341,999	\$ 1,396,183	\$ 1,427,464	\$ 1,413,243	\$ 1,388,450	\$ 1,416,895	\$ 1,404,332	\$ 1,372,575	\$ 1,378,964	\$ 1,347,001	\$ 1,383,887	\$ 1,300,665	\$ 16,571,658
Transaction Costs	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 59,000
Total	\$ 1,346,999	\$ 1,400,183	\$ 1,432,464	\$ 1,418,243	\$ 1,393,450	\$ 1,421,895	\$ 1,409,332	\$ 1,377,575	\$ 1,383,964	\$ 1,352,001	\$ 1,388,887	\$ 1,305,665	\$ 16,630,658

SSP (SFY 2025)	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Persons	29,577	29,619	29,683	29,715	29,765	29,836	29,640	29,771	29,743	29,743	29,743	29,743	29,715
Personal Needs Allowance	690	674	689	692	693	665	661	660	656	653	651	648	669
Assisted Living	375	374	371	367	372	371	366	366	368	367	367	366	369
Total Persons	30,642	30,667	30,743	30,774	30,830	30,872	30,667	30,797	30,767	30,764	30,760	30,757	30,753
Average cost per person	\$ 43.70	\$ 45.97	\$ 46.17	\$ 45.08	\$ 46.05	\$ 45.24	\$ 46.16	\$ 43.56	\$ 41.88	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 44.85
SSP payroll	\$ 1,224,280	\$ 1,237,930	\$ 1,245,166	\$ 1,231,474	\$ 1,267,387	\$ 1,241,457	\$ 1,237,882	\$ 1,218,350	\$ 1,174,190	\$ 1,230,546	\$ 1,230,412	\$ 1,230,278	\$ 14,769,352
Assisted Living	\$ 82,000	\$ 105,000	\$ 96,000	\$ 102,000	\$ 97,000	\$ 79,000	\$ 119,000	\$ 93,000	\$ 85,000	\$ 96,000	\$ 96,000	\$ 96,000	\$ 1,146,000
Personal Needs Allowance	\$ 32,865	\$ 32,460	\$ 32,890	\$ 33,835	\$ 32,615	\$ 31,445	\$ 30,365	\$ 30,275	\$ 29,420	\$ 29,402	\$ 29,284	\$ 29,167	\$ 374,023
Supplemental	\$ -	\$ 34,312	\$ 45,286	\$ 20,046	\$ 22,868	\$ 44,872	\$ 28,360	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 261,744
Total Payments	\$ 1,339,145	\$ 1,409,702	\$ 1,419,342	\$ 1,387,355	\$ 1,419,870	\$ 1,396,774	\$ 1,415,607	\$ 1,341,625	\$ 1,288,610	\$ 1,377,948	\$ 1,377,696	\$ 1,377,445	\$ 16,551,119
Transaction Costs	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 65,000
Total	\$ 1,344,145	\$ 1,414,702	\$ 1,424,342	\$ 1,392,355	\$ 1,424,870	\$ 1,401,774	\$ 1,420,607	\$ 1,347,625	\$ 1,294,610	\$ 1,383,948	\$ 1,383,696	\$ 1,383,445	\$ 16,616,119

SSP (SFY 2026)	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Persons	29,743	29,743	29,743	29,743	29,743	29,743	29,743	29,743	29,743	29,743	29,743	29,743	29,743
Personal Needs Allowance	646	643	640	638	635	633	630	628	625	623	620	618	632
Assisted Living	365	364	364	363	362	361	361	360	359	359	358	357	361
Total Persons	30,754	30,922	30,747	30,895	30,662	30,737	30,734	30,731	30,727	30,724	30,721	30,718	30,736
Average cost per person	\$ 44.78	\$ 44.78	\$ 44.78	\$ 44.77	\$ 44.77	\$ 44.77	\$ 44.76	\$ 44.76	\$ 44.76	\$ 44.75	\$ 44.75	\$ 44.75	\$ 44.76
SSP payroll	\$ 1,230,145	\$ 1,230,013	\$ 1,229,881	\$ 1,229,749	\$ 1,229,618	\$ 1,229,487	\$ 1,229,357	\$ 1,229,228	\$ 1,229,098	\$ 1,228,970	\$ 1,228,841	\$ 1,228,713	\$ 14,753,101
Assisted Living	\$ 96,000	\$ 96,000	\$ 96,000	\$ 96,000	\$ 96,000	\$ 96,000	\$ 96,000	\$ 96,000	\$ 96,000	\$ 96,000	\$ 96,000	\$ 96,000	\$ 1,152,000
Personal Needs Allowance	\$ 29,051	\$ 28,934	\$ 28,819	\$ 28,703	\$ 28,588	\$ 28,474	\$ 28,360	\$ 28,247	\$ 28,134	\$ 28,021	\$ 27,909	\$ 27,798	\$ 341,038
Supplemental	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 264,000
Total Payments	\$ 1,377,196	\$ 1,376,947	\$ 1,335,959	\$ 1,376,452	\$ 1,376,207	\$ 1,375,962	\$ 1,334,222	\$ 1,375,474	\$ 1,333,358	\$ 1,374,991	\$ 1,374,750	\$ 1,374,511	\$ 16,510,139
Transaction Costs	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 72,000
Total	\$ 1,383,196	\$ 1,382,947	\$ 1,341,959	\$ 1,382,452	\$ 1,382,207	\$ 1,381,962	\$ 1,340,222	\$ 1,381,474	\$ 1,339,358	\$ 1,380,991	\$ 1,380,750	\$ 1,380,511	\$ 16,582,139

Department of Human Services
 General Public Assistance (GPA) Caseload and Expenditures
 May 2025 Caseload

GPA (SFY 2024)	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Total Persons	475	501	520	534	534	534	519	517	545	563	572	577	533
Average cost per person / Bridge	\$ 167	\$ 132	\$ 174	\$ 168	\$ 172	\$ 145	\$ 174	\$ 152	\$ 158	\$ 116	\$ 138	\$ (1)	\$ 140
Bridge Payments	\$ 80,237	\$ 95,000	\$ 99,813	\$ 101,788	\$ 103,300	\$ 103,388	\$ 98,275	\$ 99,325	\$ 104,688	\$ 106,575	\$ 108,013	\$ 8,814	\$ 1,109,216
Bridge Recoveries	\$ (12,910)	\$ (29,022)	\$ (9,198)	\$ (12,197)	\$ (11,297)	\$ (26,093)	\$ (8,198)	\$ (20,794)	\$ (18,595)	\$ (41,489)	\$ (29,292)	\$ (9,397)	\$ (228,482)
Total Bridge Payments	\$ 67,327	\$ 65,978	\$ 90,615	\$ 89,591	\$ 92,003	\$ 77,295	\$ 90,077	\$ 78,531	\$ 86,093	\$ 65,086	\$ 78,721	\$ (583)	\$ 880,734
Burials	\$ 36,812	\$ 83,150	\$ 46,907	\$ 45,353	\$ 46,700	\$ 44,732	\$ 79,646	\$ 53,400	\$ 48,590	\$ 55,569	\$ 34,749	\$ 71,449	\$ 647,057
Total	\$ 104,139	\$ 149,128	\$ 137,522	\$ 134,944	\$ 138,703	\$ 122,027	\$ 169,723	\$ 131,931	\$ 134,683	\$ 120,655	\$ 113,470	\$ 70,866	\$ 1,527,971

GPA (SFY 2025)	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Total Persons	589	602	618	600	595	584	633	658	686	699	713	727	642
Average cost per person / Bridge	\$ 157.03	\$ 129.37	\$ 167.47	\$ 153.67	\$ 185.54	\$ 178.59	\$ 153.71	\$ 179.78	\$ 147.30	\$ 164.80	\$ 165.33	\$ 165.86	\$ 162.37
Bridge Payments	\$ 115,400	\$ 115,300	\$ 120,400	\$ 116,200	\$ 116,600	\$ 118,800	\$ 122,300	\$ 127,400	\$ 131,945	\$ 134,150	\$ 136,740	\$ 139,570	\$ 1,494,806
Bridge Recoveries	\$ (22,908)	\$ (37,416)	\$ (16,898)	\$ (23,997)	\$ (6,199)	\$ (14,498)	\$ (24,997)	\$ (9,099)	\$ (30,896)	\$ (19,000)	\$ (19,000)	\$ (19,000)	\$ (243,908)
Total Bridge Payments	\$ 92,492	\$ 77,884	\$ 103,502	\$ 92,203	\$ 110,401	\$ 104,302	\$ 97,303	\$ 118,301	\$ 101,049	\$ 115,150	\$ 117,740	\$ 120,570	\$ 1,250,898
Burials	\$ 28,140	\$ 53,115	\$ 33,386	\$ 96,440	\$ 44,475	\$ 27,750	\$ 71,968	\$ 71,924	\$ 53,390	\$ 54,000	\$ 54,000	\$ 54,000	\$ 642,588
Total	\$ 120,632	\$ 130,999	\$ 136,888	\$ 188,643	\$ 154,876	\$ 132,052	\$ 169,271	\$ 190,225	\$ 154,439	\$ 169,150	\$ 171,740	\$ 174,570	\$ 1,893,486

GPA (SFY 2026)	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Total Persons	741	756	771	787	803	819	835	852	869	886	904	922	829
Average cost per person / Bridge	\$ 166.38	\$ 166.88	\$ 167.37	\$ 167.85	\$ 168.33	\$ 168.79	\$ 169.25	\$ 169.69	\$ 170.13	\$ 170.56	\$ 170.98	\$ 170.28	\$ 168.97
Bridge Payments	\$ 142,361	\$ 145,209	\$ 148,113	\$ 151,075	\$ 154,097	\$ 157,179	\$ 160,322	\$ 163,529	\$ 166,799	\$ 170,135	\$ 173,538	\$ 175,985	\$ 1,908,341
Bridge Recoveries	\$ (19,000)	\$ (19,000)	\$ (19,000)	\$ (19,000)	\$ (19,000)	\$ (19,000)	\$ (19,000)	\$ (19,000)	\$ (19,000)	\$ (19,000)	\$ (19,000)	\$ (19,000)	\$ (228,000)
Total Bridge Payments	\$ 123,361	\$ 126,209	\$ 129,113	\$ 132,075	\$ 135,097	\$ 138,179	\$ 141,322	\$ 144,529	\$ 147,799	\$ 151,135	\$ 154,538	\$ 156,985	\$ 1,680,914
Burials	\$ 54,167	\$ 54,167	\$ 54,167	\$ 54,167	\$ 54,167	\$ 54,167	\$ 54,167	\$ 54,167	\$ 54,167	\$ 54,167	\$ 54,167	\$ 54,163	\$ 650,000
Total	\$ 177,528	\$ 180,376	\$ 183,280	\$ 186,242	\$ 189,264	\$ 192,346	\$ 195,489	\$ 198,696	\$ 201,966	\$ 205,302	\$ 208,705	\$ 211,148	\$ 2,330,914

May 2025 CEC: CASH ASSISTANCE

Fund/ Agency	RIFANS Account	RIFANS NATURAL	Line Sequence	FY 2025 DHS	FY 2026 DHS
CASH ASSISTANCE					
SSI					
10.069	2385101	651120	Aid to the Aged, Blind or Disabled	\$ 16,616,119	\$ 16,582,139
			Total General Revenue	\$ 16,616,119	\$ 16,582,139
			TOTAL - SSI	\$ 16,616,119	\$ 16,582,139
TANF/RIW					
10.069	2400101	651120	FIP/TANF - Regular	\$ 34,161,898	\$ 37,365,620
10.069	2400107	651120	Catastrophic Aid	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,200
10.069	2400114	651120	RIPTA Transportation Benefit	\$ 540,278	\$ 538,318
10.069	4869506	651120	ARP DIRECT: Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund	\$ -	\$ -
			TOTAL FF- TANF/RIW	\$ 34,703,177	\$ 37,905,138
			TOTAL ALL FUNDS- TANF/RIW	\$ 34,703,177	\$ 37,905,138
CHILD CARE					
10.069	2395101	651250	Child Care - Non M.O.E.	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000
10.069	2395102	651250	Child Care	\$ 5,321,126	\$ 5,321,126
10.069	2395103	651250	Child Care - Matching	\$ 4,769,671	\$ 4,540,412
			TOTAL GR- CHILD CARE	\$ 10,120,797	\$ 9,891,538
10.069	2400104	651250	Child Care - Social Services Block Grant	\$ -	\$ -
10.069	2400105	651250	Child Care Mandatory (CCDF)	\$ 6,633,774	\$ 6,633,774
10.069	2400106	651250	Child Care Matching (CCDF)	\$ 6,092,333	\$ 6,092,333
10.069	2400108	651250	Child Care Development Block Grant (DISC)	\$ 8,368,921	\$ 12,970,804
10.069	2400110	651250	Child Care - SSBG	\$ -	\$ -
10.069	2400112	651250	Child Care - TANF Funds	\$ 38,857,402	\$ 41,441,661
10.069	2400115	651250	Child Care Assistance Enhancement	\$ -	\$ -
10.069	4669611	651250	CAA 21: Child Care and Development Block Grant	\$ -	\$ -
10.069	4869513	615250	ARP Direct: Child Care and Development Block Grant	\$ -	\$ -
			TOTAL FF- CHILD CARE	\$ 59,952,430	\$ 67,138,572
			TOTAL ALL FUNDS- CHILD CARE	\$ 70,073,227	\$ 77,030,110
GENERAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE					
10.069	2405101	651120	General Public Assistance (CEC Only)	\$ 1,893,486	\$ 2,330,914
			TOTAL GR- GPA CEC	\$ 1,893,486	\$ 2,330,914
			GRAND TOTAL GR- CEC CASH	\$ 28,630,402	\$ 28,804,591
			GRAND TOTAL FF- CEC CASH	\$ 94,655,607	\$ 105,043,710
			GRAND TOTAL AF- CEC CASH	\$ 123,286,009	\$ 133,848,301