

Medical Assistance

SFY

2024

Provides state and federally-funded medical assistance to low-income individuals with disabilities, older adults, refugees, qualified immigrants, and adults receiving Medicare benefits.

ESA Briefing
Book

Table of Contents

Medical Assistance Overview3

Medical Assistance Clients by Program Type, SFY 2024.....4

Total Medical Assistance Caseload, SFY 2015 – 20245

Alien Emergency Medical Clients, SFY 2015 – 20246

Healthcare for Workers with Disabilities Clients, SFY 2015 – 20247

Long-Term Care Medical Clients, SFY 2015 – 20248

Medicare Savings Program Caseload, SFY 2015 – 20249

Refugee Medical Assistance Caseload, SFY 2015 – 2024 10

SSI Medicaid Clients, SFY 2015 – 2024 11

SSI Related Medicaid Caseload, SFY 2015 – 2024 12

Medical Care Services Caseload, SFY 2015 – 2024..... 13

Medical Assistance Clients by County, June 2024 Snapshot..... 14

Medical Assistance Clients by Density of Residential Zip Code, June 2024 Snapshot 15

Medical Assistance Overview

This chapter summarizes data for clients who receive medical assistance through the Economic Services Administration (ESA), Developmental Disabilities Administration, or the Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (AL TSA)¹. Implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) significantly changed ESA Medicaid Service Delivery. In SFY 2013 and 2014, Medicaid eligibility determination for all families, pregnant women, and children transitioned to the Health Benefit Exchange (HBE).² ESA continues to determine eligibility for medical assistance programs for persons who are aged, blind, or disabled.

Additional information, including the eligibility criteria, funding sources, and services/benefits provided, is available in the **Program Descriptions** section of the Briefing Book.

TECHNICAL NOTES:

DATA SOURCES: Data for this chapter is based on the ESA Automated Client Eligibility System (ACES) database as of August 2024.

DATA NOTE:

- If counts of clients and cases served by a medical program are nearly identical, only clients are reported for that program.
- All reports of 10-year client trends reflect the monthly average for each state fiscal year (SFY).

¹ Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (AL TSA) and Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) are ESA partners; therefore, some AL TSA and DDA clients and programs are included in this report.

² Rules and eligibility processes for determining Medicaid changed significantly effective October 1, 2013 due to implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Under a federal option, Washington state created a state-run Health Benefit Exchange (HBE) portal called the Washington Healthplanfinder (HPF). In addition to providing health insurance access to individuals and employers, the HPF provides eligibility determination for Medicaid programs through a simplified automated system that is no longer tied to eligibility for ESA-administered public assistance programs. The management of medical assistance eligibility and related IT system processes were moved from ESA and the Automated Client Eligibility System (ACES) to the Health Care Authority (HCA) and the HBE. Families and pregnant women with Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) below the required federal poverty level (FPL) began accessing Medicaid through the HBE on October 1, 2013. Washington state also opted to participate in Medicaid Expansion, which qualifies eligible individuals with MAGI below 138% FPL for Medicaid. These individuals began accessing Medicaid through HBE beginning January 1, 2014.

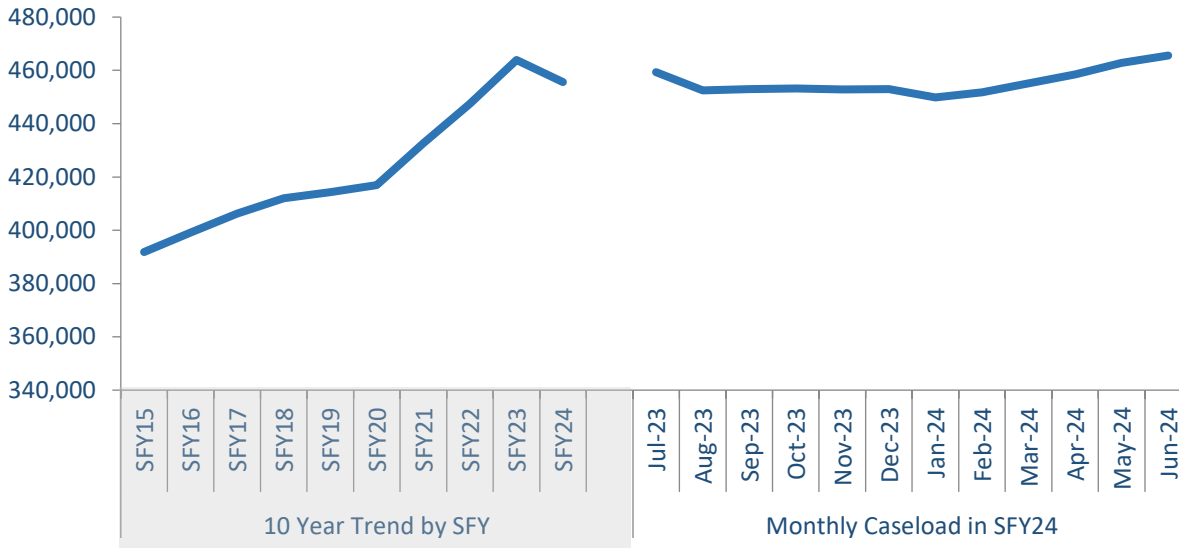
Medical Assistance Clients by Program Type, SFY 2024

Program Type	Description	Avg. Monthly Clients
Alien Emergency Medicaid (AEM) ³	Federally funded program for immigrants who would qualify for full-scope Medicaid except for their immigration status. Coverage is limited to emergency medical conditions.	207
Healthcare for Workers with Disabilities	Medical assistance for disabled persons who are working and do not receive SSI. Premium amounts are based on income.	1,737
Long Term Care	Coverage for people residing in a medical institution, receiving home and community based waiver services, or receiving hospice services.	104,689
Medicare Savings Program	Programs that pay Medicare premiums, coinsurance, and deductibles for low-income Medicare beneficiaries. Income limits vary by program, from 110% to 200% FPL.	211,643
Refugee Medical	Medical assistance for refugees and certain humanitarian immigrants who are ineligible for Medicaid. Eligibility ends after the first twelve months of residency in the U.S. or grant of an eligible immigration status.	9
SSI Medicaid	Medical assistance for aged, blind or disabled persons who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI). The Social Security Administration determines eligibility for SSI using income rules based on Title XVI of the Social Security Act.	97,357
SSI Related Medicaid	Medical assistance for low-income aged, blind, or disabled persons who do not receive SSI cash benefits.	47,349
Medical Care Services (MCS) ⁴	State funded medical assistance for lawfully present recipients of Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) cash assistance or the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral program who cannot access federally funded Medicaid due to their immigration status. MCS also provides coverage to adult recipients of ABD, HEN and State Family Assistance (SFA) who are Survivors of Certain Crimes.	1,539

³ Counts are restricted to clients 65 and older who are served by DSHS (ESA and ALISA only).

⁴ Under [HB 1748](#) and [TSSB 5164](#), MCS was expanded to survivors of certain crimes (SCC) who receive ABD cash, HEN Referral, or State Family Assistance (SFA).

Total Medical Assistance Caseload, SFY 2015 – 2024

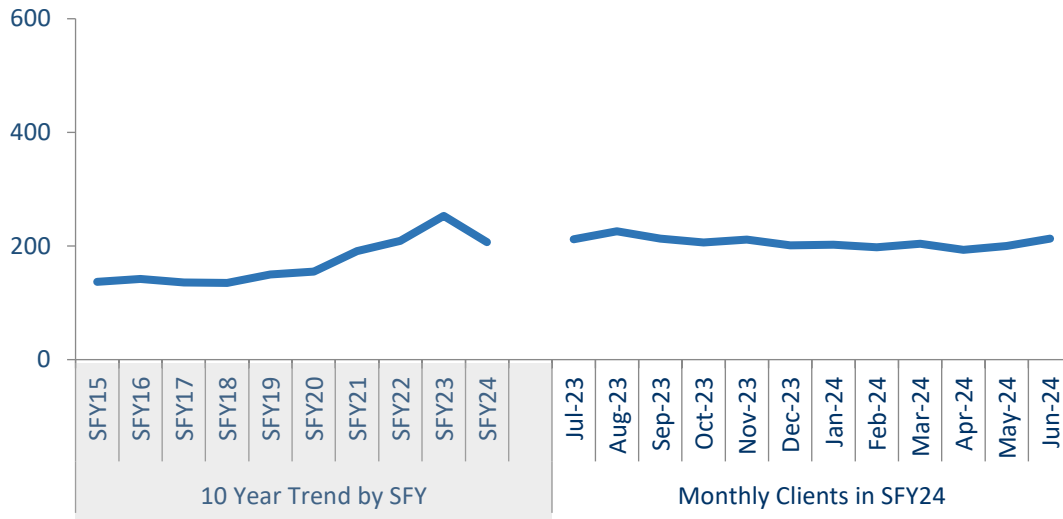


SFY	Mo. Avg. Caseload	SFY	Mo. Avg. Caseload
SFY15	391,828	SFY20	416,950
SFY16	399,159	SFY21	432,653
SFY17	406,260	SFY22	447,487
SFY18	412,042	SFY23	463,873
SFY19	414,320	SFY24	455,623

SFY 2024	# of Cases ⁵	# of Clients
July	459,372	321,503
August	452,430	315,970
September	452,999	316,395
October	453,174	316,875
November	452,880	317,035
December	452,991	317,248
January	449,795	315,141
February	451,826	315,766
March	455,184	317,100
April	458,491	318,598
May	462,762	320,312
June	465,571	321,080
Mo. Avg.	455,623	317,752
Annual Unduplicated	570,222	370,086

⁵ These counts are of unique case numbers. Each client is assigned a case number for each medical program enrolled. A client may be enrolled in more than one medical program during the month (for example, both the Long-Term Care program and the Medicare Savings Program). When this happens, multiple case numbers are assigned—one for each medical program. As a result, the monthly number of medical assistance cases is greater than the number of medical clients.

Alien Emergency Medical Clients⁶, SFY 2015 – 2024

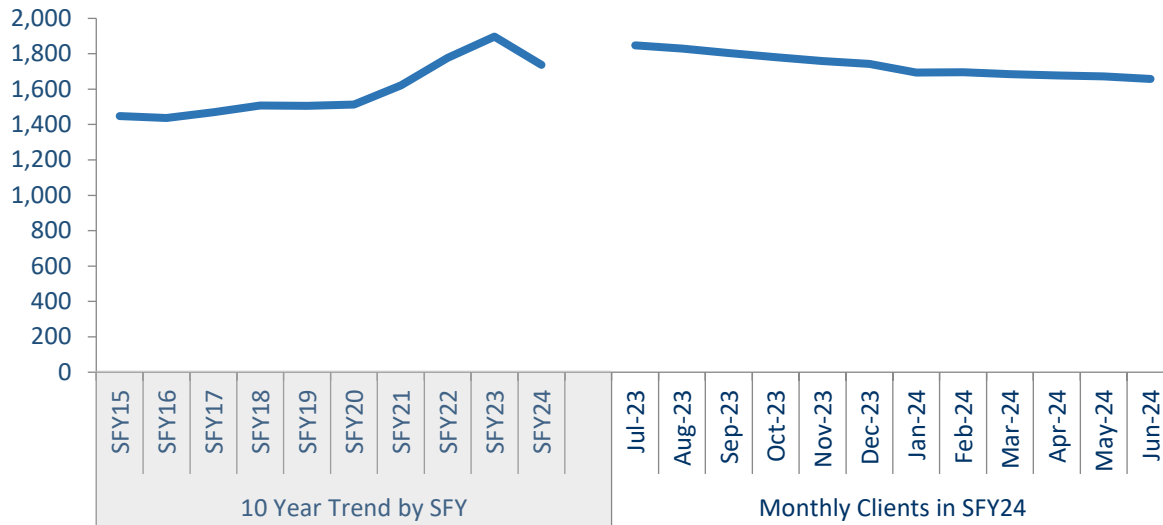


SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients	SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients
SFY15	137	SFY20	155
SFY16	142	SFY21	191
SFY17	136	SFY22	209
SFY18	135	SFY23	253
SFY19	150	SFY24	207

SFY 2024	# of Clients
July	212
August	226
September	213
October	206
November	211
December	201
January	202
February	198
March	204
April	193
May	200
June	213
Mo. Avg.	207
Annual Unduplicated	644

⁶ Counts are restricted to clients 65 and older who are served by DSHS (ESA and AL TSA only).

Healthcare for Workers with Disabilities Clients⁷, SFY 2015 – 2024

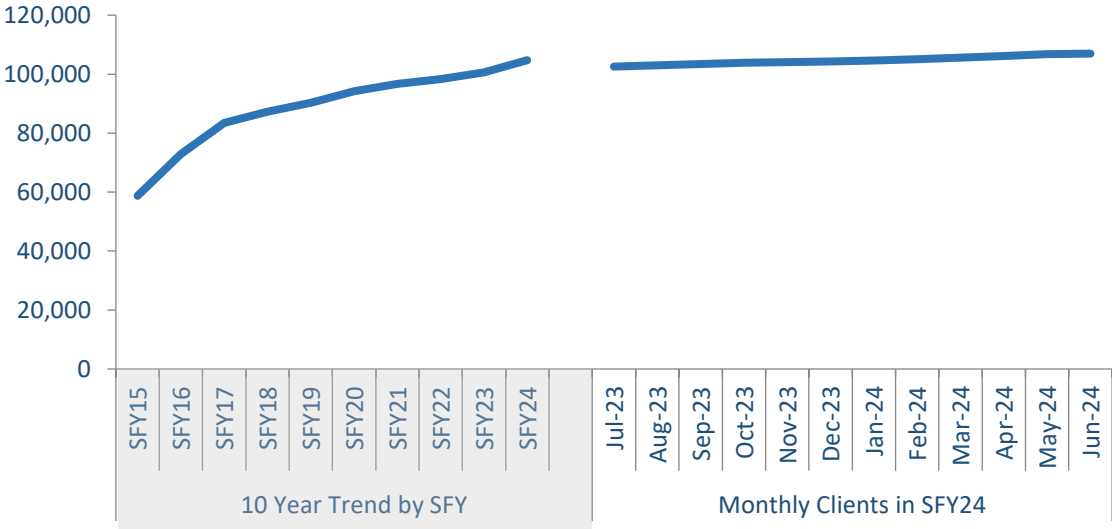


SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients	SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients
SFY15	1,447	SFY20	1,513
SFY16	1,437	SFY21	1,621
SFY17	1,470	SFY22	1,777
SFY18	1,508	SFY23	1,897
SFY19	1,506	SFY24	1,737

SFY 2024	# of Clients
July	1,847
August	1,830
September	1,805
October	1,781
November	1,759
December	1,743
January	1,694
February	1,696
March	1,685
April	1,677
May	1,673
June	1,658
Mo. Avg.	1,737
Annual Unduplicated	2,077

⁷ Healthcare for Workers with Disabilities is administered by DDA and ALTSA only.

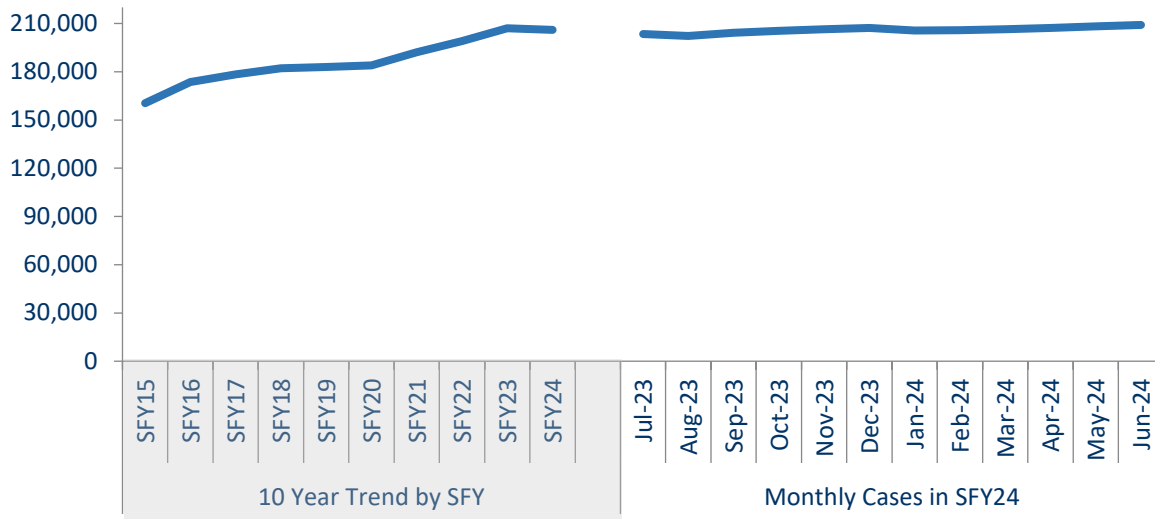
Long-Term Care Medical Clients, SFY 2015 – 2024



SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients	SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients
SFY15	58,724	SFY20	94,185
SFY16	72,875	SFY21	96,734
SFY17	83,409	SFY22	98,296
SFY18	87,219	SFY23	100,583
SFY19	90,257	SFY24	104,689

SFY 2024	# of Clients
July	102,601
August	103,006
September	103,423
October	103,827
November	104,125
December	104,316
January	104,584
February	105,003
March	105,552
April	106,138
May	106,738
June	106,951
Mo. Avg.	104,689
Annual Unduplicated	122,210

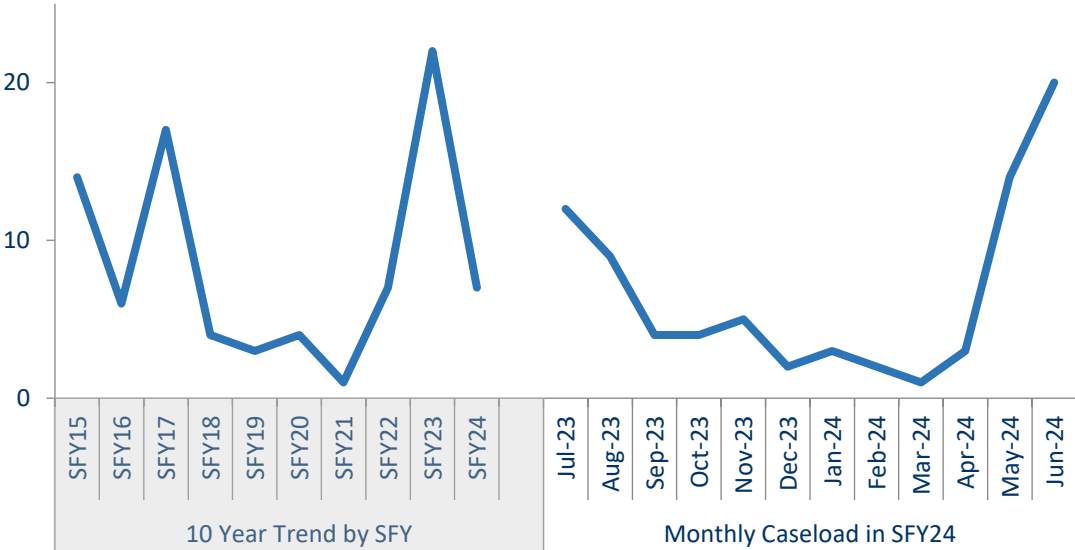
Medicare Savings Program Caseload, SFY 2015 – 2024



SFY	Mo. Avg. Cases	SFY	Mo. Avg. Cases
SFY15	160,438	SFY20	183,978
SFY16	173,520	SFY21	192,165
SFY17	178,338	SFY22	199,133
SFY18	182,238	SFY23	206,988
SFY19	182,956	SFY24	205,950

SFY 2024	# of Cases	# of Clients
July	203,494	208,910
August	202,258	207,664
September	204,178	209,685
October	205,437	211,064
November	206,408	212,108
December	207,161	212,896
January	205,676	211,388
February	205,782	211,481
March	206,479	212,199
April	207,155	212,998
May	208,293	214,249
June	209,077	215,078
Mo. Avg.	205,950	211,643
Annual Unduplicated	243,483	245,719

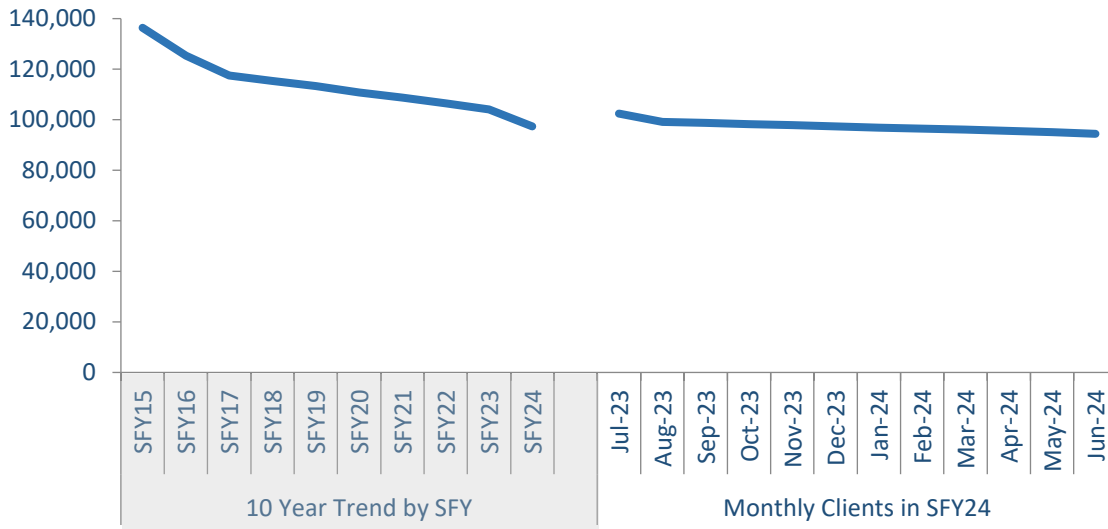
Refugee Medical Assistance Caseload, SFY 2015 – 2024



SFY	Mo. Avg. Cases	SFY	Mo. Avg. Cases
SFY15	14	SFY20	4
SFY16	6	SFY21	1
SFY17	17	SFY22	7
SFY18	4	SFY23	22
SFY19	3	SFY24	7

SFY 2024	# of Cases	# of Clients
July	12	14
August	9	10
September	4	4
October	4	6
November	5	7
December	2	2
January	3	3
February	2	2
March	1	1
April	3	7
May	14	22
June	20	27
Mo. Avg.	7	9
Annual Unduplicated	42	57

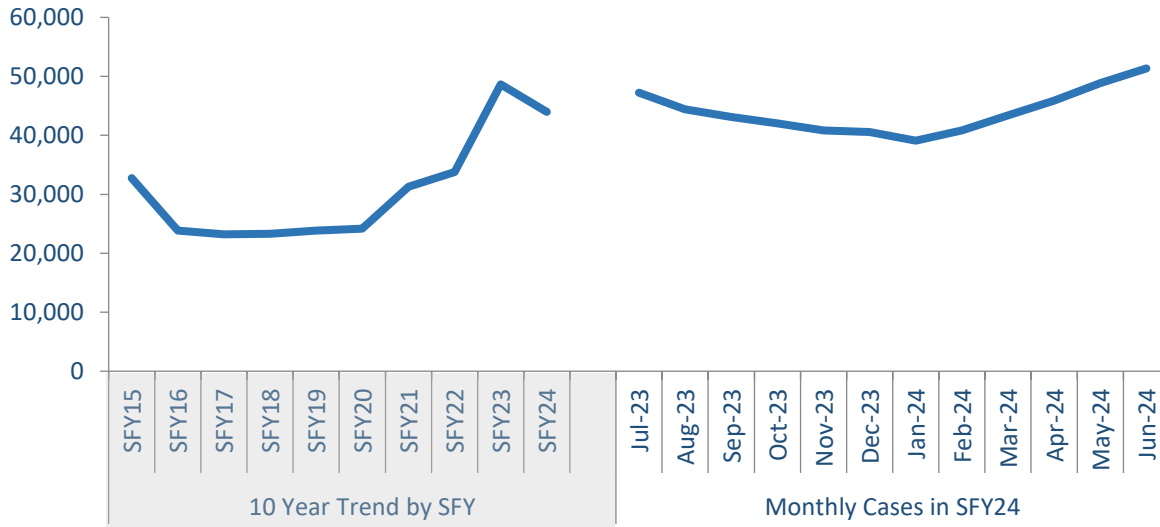
SSI Medicaid Clients, SFY 2015 – 2024



SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients	SFY	Mo. Avg. Clients
SFY15	136,374	SFY20	110,739
SFY16	125,278	SFY21	108,752
SFY17	117,461	SFY22	106,512
SFY18	115,279	SFY23	104,105
SFY19	113,251	SFY24	97,357

SFY 2024	# of Clients
July	102,484
August	99,156
September	98,745
October	98,295
November	97,923
December	97,307
January	96,826
February	96,478
March	96,028
April	95,572
May	95,055
June	94,417
Mo. Avg.	97,357
Annual Unduplicated	113,556

SSI Related Medicaid Caseload, SFY 2015 – 2024

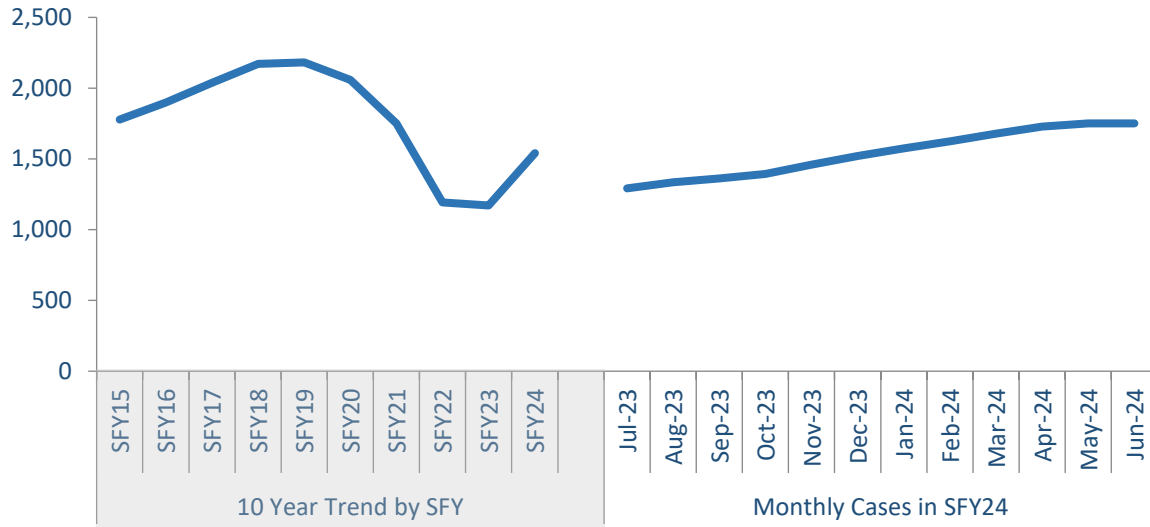


SFY	Mo. Avg. Cases	SFY	Mo. Avg. Cases
SFY15	32,758	SFY20	24,184
SFY16	23,832	SFY21	31,274
SFY17	23,211	SFY22	33,759
SFY18	23,319	SFY23 ⁸	48,618
SFY19	23,859	SFY24	43,957

SFY 2024	# of Cases	# of Clients
July	47,237	49,916
August	44,407	47,051
September	43,084	45,784
October	42,046	44,840
November	40,808	43,559
December	40,579	43,484
January	39,073	41,931
February	40,827	44,143
March	43,368	47,177
April	45,865	50,215
May	48,847	53,610
June	51,342	56,474
Mo. Avg.	43,957	47,349
Annual Unduplicated	84,317	87,720

⁸ HCA and its partners (including DSHS) suspended all medical terminations as part of the continuous Medicaid enrollment during the COVID pandemic between March 2020 and March 2023. As a result, there was an increase in medical caseload during this time. Beginning April 1, 2023, HCA and DSHS began the medical eligibility redetermination, a requirement of all states by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 passed by the U.S. Congress on December 29, 2023.

Medical Care Services Caseload, SFY 2015 – 2024

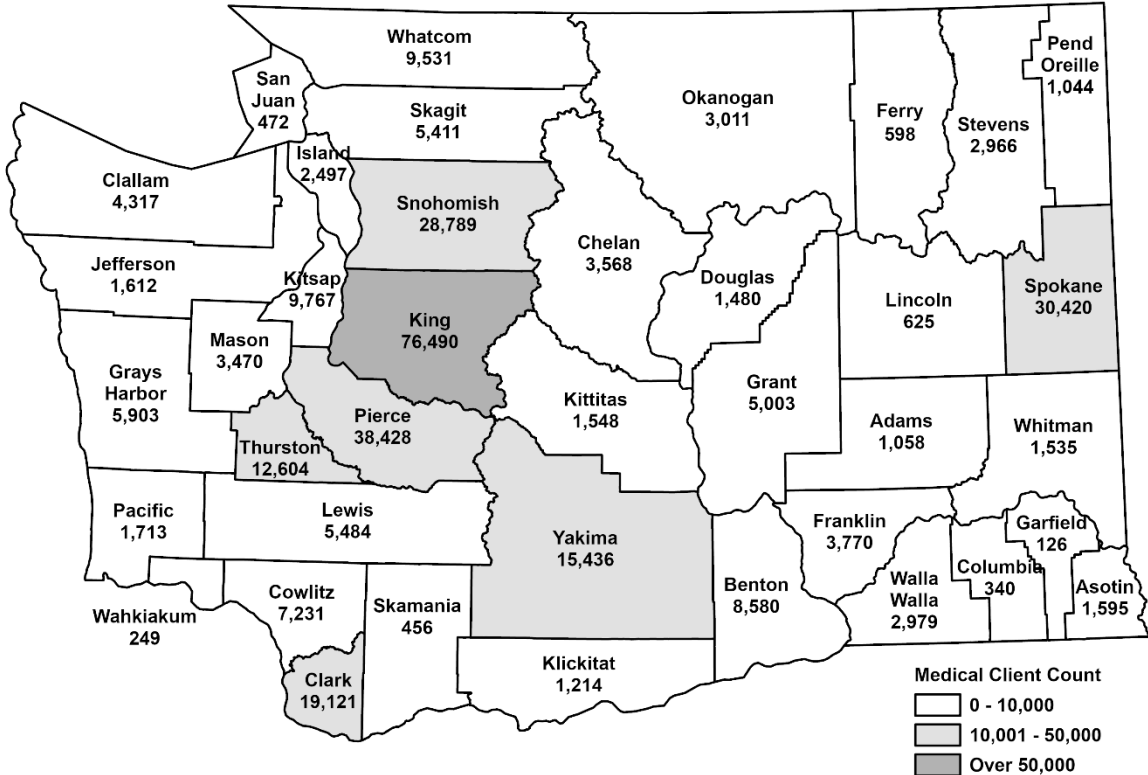


SFY	Mo. Avg. Cases	SFY	Mo. Avg. Cases
SFY15	1,778	SFY20	2,058
SFY16	1,897	SFY21	1,752
SFY17	2,038	SFY22	1,192
SFY18	2,171	SFY23	1,171
SFY19	2,182	SFY24	1,540

SFY 2024	# of Cases	# of Clients
July	1,293	1,292
August	1,336	1,335
September	1,363	1,362
October	1,394	1,392
November	1,460	1,458
December	1,520	1,519
January	1,574	1,574
February	1,624	1,624
March	1,678	1,676
April	1,729	1,728
May	1,751	1,751
June	1,752	1,752
Mo. Avg.	1,540	1,539
Annual Unduplicated	2,455	2,405

Medical Assistance Clients by County, June 2024 Snapshot

Number of Medical Clients by Residential County in Washington State: June 2024

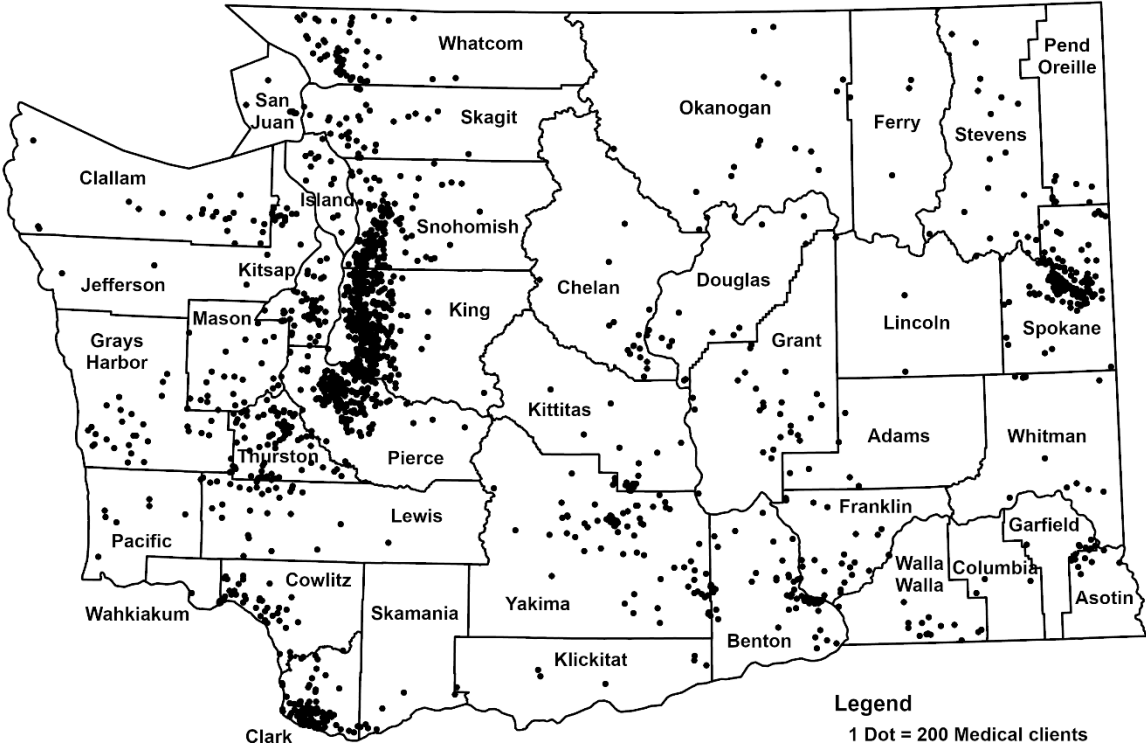


Source: ACES data

Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - Aug. 2024

Medical Assistance Clients by Density of Residential Zip Code, June 2024 Snapshot

Number of Medical Clients by Density of Residential Zip Code in Washington State: June 2024



Source: ACES data

Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - Aug. 2024