

Social Services Estimating Conference
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Assistance Payments
November 17, 2025
Executive Summary

The Social Services Estimating Conference convened on November 17, 2025, to revise the forecast through FY 2030-31. Relative to the prior forecast, the Conference adopted a combined caseload for the four component programs that is lower in all years. As a result, the accompanying expenditure forecast for the grouped programs is also lower throughout.

The revised caseload estimates for both the Relative Caregiver and the Child Only programs continue to decline. Previously colored by legislation passed during the 2022 Session (CS/SB 7034: Child Welfare), it appears that those caseload effects have largely stabilized. At this point, the Conference believes that the continued drop in these categories and other linked programs is more related to persistently falling child poverty rates. Based on data through October 2025, the Conference lowered the projected caseloads for the two programs in FY 2025-26 and allowed these adjustments to percolate across the entire forecast horizon, essentially producing flat forecasts for both programs.

According to the Department of Children and Families, the number of new applicants is significantly lower than expected for both the Families with Adult and Unemployed Parent programs. This results in lower caseloads than previously adopted for both programs, with the FY 2025-26 level remaining unchanged throughout the remaining years of the forecast.

Overall expenditures for FY 2024-25 were a revised \$80.4 million. They are expected to drop to \$62.8 million in FY 2025-26, a \$12.1 million decline from the prior forecast of \$75.0 million and \$22.7 million below the appropriated level. Similarly, total expenditures are lower than the prior forecast for FY 2026-27 by \$10.3 million, producing a new projection of \$63.1 million for the year and staying at that level through the forecast horizon.

The first table below provides the new caseload and expenditure projections for the combined total of the four component programs. The second table provides these projections for each program individually.

TANF CASELOAD AND EXPENDITURE FORECAST

Fiscal Year	Caseload			Expenditures (\$ mill.)		
	July	November	Diff.	July	November	Diff.
Total Program						
FY 2025-26	22,973	19,263	-3,711	75.0	62.8	-12.1
FY 2026-27	22,523	19,346	-3,177	73.4	63.1	-10.3
FY 2027-28	21,376	19,346	-2,030	69.3	63.1	-6.2
FY 2028-29	21,231	19,346	-1,885	68.8	63.1	-5.7
FY 2029-30	21,179	19,346	-1,833	68.6	63.1	-5.5
FY 2030-31	21,120	19,346	-1,774	68.4	63.1	-5.3

NOTE: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

TANF CASELOAD AND EXPENDITURE FORECAST DETAIL

Fiscal Year	Caseload			Expenditures (\$ mill.)		
	July	November	Diff.	July	November	Diff.
Relative Caregiver						
FY 2025-26	6,146	5,509	-637	23.6	21.1	-2.5
FY 2026-27	6,146	5,547	-599	23.6	21.2	-2.4
FY 2027-28	6,146	5,547	-599	23.6	21.2	-2.4
FY 2028-29	6,146	5,547	-599	23.6	21.2	-2.4
FY 2029-30	6,146	5,547	-599	23.6	21.2	-2.4
FY 2030-31	6,146	5,547	-599	23.6	21.2	-2.4
Child Only Cases						
FY 2025-26	6,440	5,855	-585	16.1	14.6	-1.5
FY 2026-27	6,440	5,901	-539	16.1	14.6	-1.4
FY 2027-28	6,440	5,901	-539	16.1	14.6	-1.4
FY 2028-29	6,440	5,901	-539	16.1	14.6	-1.4
FY 2029-30	6,440	5,901	-539	16.1	14.6	-1.4
FY 2030-31	6,440	5,901	-539	16.1	14.6	-1.4
Families with Adult						
FY 2025-26	8,170	6,776	-1,394	27.1	22.9	-4.1
FY 2026-27	7,974	6,776	-1,198	26.4	23.1	-3.4
FY 2027-28	7,424	6,776	-648	24.6	23.1	-1.6
FY 2028-29	7,424	6,776	-648	24.6	23.1	-1.6
FY 2029-30	7,424	6,776	-648	24.6	23.1	-1.6
FY 2030-31	7,424	6,776	-648	24.6	23.1	-1.6
Unemployed Parent						
FY 2025-26	2,217	1,122	-1,095	8.2	4.2	-4.0
FY 2026-27	1,963	1,122	-841	7.3	4.2	-3.1
FY 2027-28	1,366	1,122	-244	5.1	4.2	-0.9
FY 2028-29	1,221	1,122	-99	4.5	4.2	-0.3
FY 2029-30	1,169	1,122	-47	4.3	4.2	-0.1
FY 2030-31	1,110	1,122	12	4.1	4.2	0.1

NOTE: Numbers may not add due to rounding.