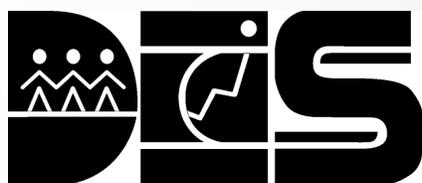


Arizona

Department of Economic Security



Welfare Reform Report

SFY 2004

Every child, adult and family
in the State of Arizona
will be safe and economically secure.

Janet Napolitano, Governor

David A. Berns, Director

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Executive Summary

Purpose

The Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) is pleased to report on the status of welfare reform implementation in the State in compliance with Laws 1997, Chapter 300, Section 76:

“By September 1 of each year, the department of economic security shall submit a report to the president of the senate, speaker of the house of representatives and governor regarding welfare reform implementation. The report shall include information on outcome measures such as length of employment, amount of earned income, hourly wage, hours worked per week, total family income, health coverage, use of child care, issues concerning welfare reform in rural areas, housing, number of out-of-wedlock births, length of deferral for victims of domestic violence, level of participation in job training, education for the transition to self-sufficiency and number of substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect. The information shall be for the most current year and the previous year and shall be compiled in a manner and form that allow an assessment of the effectiveness of welfare reform in this state, including areas in which temporary assistance for needy families is being operated by the Arizona works agency pursuant to title 46, chapter 2, article 9, Arizona Revised Statutes, as added by this act.”

The Department of Economic Security’s Welfare Reform Annual Report for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2004 is the seventh annual report on the status of the State’s welfare reform initiative. This year’s report identifies the accomplishments of previous years but focuses on the initiatives of the Department’s new leadership. These initiatives demonstrate the concrete steps being undertaken to assure that the Department achieves its vision of assuring that “Every child, adult, and family in the State of Arizona will be safe and economically secure”.

Welfare to Work

In the past, the Department of Economic Security measured the success of individual programs rather than an integrated system. Although many families received vital services, beginning in SFY2004 the Department’s new vision is to reframe service delivery to enable programs to share resources to provide services in the most efficient manner. To meet this need, during SFY2004 the Department consolidated the Workforce Investment, Employment Services, and Jobs Administrations into a new Employment Administration. Utilizing this structure in SFY2004, the Department provided employment services to 42,565 Cash Assistance recipients and helped to find employment placements for 20,185 participants. The average hourly wage at placement increased to \$7.94 per hour. The Department was awarded a TANF High Performance Bonus for achieving improvement in the job entry rate for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2003 over FFY2002.

Removing Barriers to Self-sufficiency

Employment has always been the primary goal for the Department while working with TANF Cash Assistance recipients. This does not change under the new vision. However, sustained employment with the possibility for moving to a better job is now included. To accomplish this the Department offers an array of services to help participants achieve success in the workforce. Services were provided to help participants find, maintain, and improve their employment opportunities. The Department and its contractors provided work-related transportation to 21,516 participants in SFY2004, an increase of 16 percent over the previous year. The Fatherhood Program provided services to 69 at-risk fathers, and 28 of the young men graduated from the program during SFY2004. Jobs Program participants engaged in vocational training, postemployment education, or postsecondary education to help them gain skills necessary to become employed. The Department conducted a review of its education and training programs during SFY2004. This reevaluation will enable the Department to better serve the long-term career goals of participants in the future.

Caseload Data

The Cash Assistance caseload began to decrease in January 2004. The caseload had increased during the first half of SFY2004 and reached a high of 53,145 cases in December 2003. The Cash Assistance caseload decreased by 2.6 percent from June 2003 to June 2004. The Food Stamp Program caseload increased by 9.4 percent from June 2003 to June 2004. Arizona's Food Stamp participation increased from serving 56.6 percent of potentially eligible individuals to 67.7 percent. This increase was due in part to outreach efforts conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. The Medical Assistance caseload grew by 2.3 percent during that same time period.

Cash Assistance Program

The Cash Assistance Program implemented a modified grant diversion process that provides applicants with an immediate assessment by an employment case manager. As a result of the new process, the number of families that have benefited from grant diversion increased by 200 percent between June 2004 and October 2004. Grant diversion offers families the opportunity to receive a one-time payment to cover urgent needs and to avoid ongoing reliance on Cash Assistance.

The family benefit cap applies to families that did not choose the grant diversion option. The family benefit cap impacted 13,628 families. These families received a lower Cash Assistance grant than they would have received without the family cap. The family benefit cap has not been demonstrated to reduce out-of-wedlock pregnancies. According to a Policy Brief from the Center for Law and Social Policy, research suggests that family benefit caps may have significant detrimental effects because fewer resources are being provided per child.

The Department applied sanctions to families that did not comply with program requirements. There were 3,143 Cash Assistance cases closed due to a sanction in SFY2004. The Department continued to maintain a high level of payment accuracy and timeliness in the Cash Assistance Program.

Child Care

At the end of SFY2004 there were 47,047 children authorized for child care subsidy. The average monthly number of children served in all child care programs in SFY2004 was 37,872. This represents an 11.2 percent increase from SFY2003. A child care waiting list that was initially implemented in March 2003 reached a high of 4,681 families in March 2004. Families receiving Cash Assistance were not placed on the waiting list. However, the waiting list impacted low income working parents, teen parents in school, and parents in homeless or domestic violence shelters. As a result of careful monitoring of expenditures, the Department was able to offer child care to all families on the waiting list in the last quarter of SFY2004. The Department reinstated the waiting list in September 2004 in order to remain within the SFY2005 appropriation.

Child Welfare Programs

The Department continued to use TANF funds for several child welfare programs to help ensure the safety of Arizona's children. There were 39,180 reports of child maltreatment during SFY2004. Child Protective Services Specialists investigated 87 percent of the reports while the Family Builders Program provided assessment and services for the remaining 13 percent. During SFY2003, the Family Builders Program assessed 2,000 families and provided services to 1,926 of those families. The Arizona Families F.I.R.S.T. program provided a continuum of substance abuse treatment and recovery support services. The program has screened and assessed 7,234 individuals for substance abuse services since the program was implemented in March 2001, including 3,367 individuals referred to the program from April 1, 2003 through April 30, 2004. Healthy Families Arizona, a community-based program that provides services to families with newborns, screened 15,545 mothers for program eligibility during SFY2003. The program served 2,220 mothers and 3,330 children during SFY2003. Guardianship subsidy benefits were provided to a monthly average of 892 children during SFY2004.

TANF-Related Programs and Services

Arizona funds a variety of programs and services with monies from the TANF block grant. These programs and services meet the goals of the 1996 federal welfare reform law and are consistent with the stated vision of the Department. Short-term crisis assistance was provided to 3,826 individuals in SFY2004. A total of 30,858 individuals received emergency homeless shelter services. Lay and legal advocacy services were provided to 11,025 victims of domestic violence in SFY2004. These crisis intervention services helped individuals and families find safety and a path to economic security. TANF funds also enabled community-based organizations to provide 258 marriage and communication skills workshops to help strengthen two parent families. During SFY2004, the Department continued to build on an excellent relationship with our Native American partners that are administering tribal TANF programs.

New Direction

This report highlights the accomplishments of Arizona's existing welfare programs. These accomplishments reflect the beginnings of further success as the Department moves in a new direction that promotes self-sufficiency by making a conscience effort to deliver services in a more integrated manner. In the short term, implementation has had a negative impact on how some services have been delivered and decreases in outcome in some areas have resulted. Department management has already implemented steps to assure that these downward trends are reversed and are confident that future reports will reflect the positive impact of the new direction.

Section I – Welfare to Work

During SFY2004, the Department provided work-related services that gave families receiving Cash Assistance the opportunity to find employment and achieve lasting economic security. The State's Jobs Program has a work-first approach that focuses on moving families from welfare to work. Under the Department's new vision the approach is now being expanded to include a focus on maintaining employment and moving toward a better job.

A demonstration of the Department's effort to improve service delivery during SFY2004 was the consolidation of three employment-related administrations: Workforce Investment, Department of Labor Employment Services, and TANF Jobs, into one "Employment Administration". This merger enables case managers to utilize the resources of each of these areas while providing employment services to TANF Cash Assistance recipients. Participants may receive employment placement assistance, employment related supportive services or may qualify for education or training activities.

In the past, Cash Assistance recipients sometimes had to wait to receive any employment related services. The Department has made a commitment to reduce the time between authorization of Cash Assistance benefits and program contact for participation in employment focused activity. Changes made to the way in which employment services are delivered has resulted in a decrease from approximately 14,000 to 1,400 recipients statewide waiting to be served at any given time. The majority had a waiting time of less than 21 days after becoming eligible for Cash Assistance. In the past, the waiting time had been as long as 8 months.

Participants Receiving Services from the Jobs Program

During SFY2004, the Jobs Program and its contractors provided services to 42,565 TANF Cash Assistance recipients. This compares to 32,008 participants who were served in SFY2003. The Department's Family Assistance Administration refers eligible Cash Assistance recipients to the Jobs Program for services. The Jobs Program and its contractors offer a variety of services that help participants find employment, maintain employment, and improve their career opportunities.

Work Activities

The Department's Jobs Program places participants into work activities that assist in their preparation for employment. A case manager performs a comprehensive assessment of each individual's strengths, skills, and abilities.

The Jobs Program developed a Case Management Screening Guide to obtain participant information regarding work experience, family issues, and needs. The screening tool helps the Jobs participant and the case manager to more fully understand individual needs and identify activities and services that will help overcome barriers to employment.

After the comprehensive assessment, the case manager and the recipient work together to secure the services needed to assist the individual move toward self-sufficiency. Most are placed into employment related activities designed to assist the recipient to transition from Cash Assistance to unsubsidized employment. These activities may include job search, work experience, or work-related training. Those needing additional services to stabilize their situation are directed to resources to receive the assistance they need.

In SFY2004 the Jobs program placed 24,176 participants in work activities. This is a 12.8 percent increase from the SFY 2003 level of 21,442 participants during the time that the Jobs Program expanded their client base by almost 33 percent to provide case management services to those with the most extensive barriers to employment.

Use of the Case Management Screening Guide has improved the provision of services and program interaction with participants which results in faster removal of barriers to employment. The Jobs Program is now in Phase II of improving case management services by designing a performance based case management training to better define and achieve desired outcomes.

Supportive services may include child care, transportation assistance, vocational education training, post-employment training, as well as other services that assist the family to make the transition from welfare to work. The Department collaborates with a number of public and private organizations to find employment and services for participants. Individuals are engaged in various types of work activities to help prepare them for employment. The table below compares the number of participants in each type of work activity for SFY2003 and SFY2004.

Participants in Types of Work Activities

Work Activity	SFY2003	SFY2004
Job Search/Readiness	11,055	13,335
All Work Experience	4,906	5,984
Short-Term Work-Related Training	4,124	3,681
High School/GED	1,357	1,176
Total	21,442	24,176

Unduplicated count

Participants Placed in Employment

The Department helped to find 20,185 jobs for Cash Assistance recipients during SFY2004. This compares to 15,490 in SFY2003; a thirty percent increase.

- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services awarded Arizona a TANF High Performance Bonus of more than \$4 million for achieving improvement in the job entry rate for FFY2003 over FFY2002.

Average Hourly Wage at Placement

In SFY2004, the average hourly wage for participants who were placed in employment was \$7.94 per hour. This represents an increase of 2.5 percent from SFY2003 when the average hourly rate at placement was \$7.75 per hour.

Types of Placements

The Jobs Program and its contractors placed participants in a variety of employment positions during SFY2004. These include placements in the service industry, sales, and professional, technical, and management positions. During SFY2004, the largest number of placements were in the professional, technical, and management category. These placements earned an average hourly wage rate of \$8.69. The chart below shows the number of placements and the average hourly wage rate for each category of employment.

Placements and Hourly Wage by Employment Category for SFY2004

Category of Position*	Number of Placements	Average Hourly Wage Rate
Professional, Technical, and Management	4,986	\$8.69
Clerical	3,960	\$8.18
Sales	4,835	\$7.70
Service	4,615	\$6.85
Agriculture, Fishery, and Forestry	253	\$7.15
Other	1,536	\$8.80

* U.S. Department of Labor Standard Occupational Classifications

Federal Work Participation Rates

Arizona is required to meet work participation rates as defined by the federal welfare law of 1996. The federal law requires states to meet work participation rates for "all families" and a separate rate for "two-parent" families. These rates apply to families that include an adult, or minor child head- of-household, receiving assistance.

Federal law establishes the allowable work activities that are used to compute the mandated work participation rates as well as the required average number of hours of participation per week. The law includes a caseload reduction credit that reduces a state's work participation rate by the decline in the Cash Assistance caseload since FFY1995. Caseload declines due to federal requirements or changes in state eligibility criteria are excluded from the caseload reduction credit.

Arizona has successfully met the Federal Work Participation Rates every year since the implementation of TANF in FFY1997. This standard continued for FFY2003. By meeting the work participation rates Arizona was able to avoid all TANF related penalties. In addition, States that meet the work participation rates have a lower Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirement, 75 rather than 80 percent. The chart below shows the federal work participation rate requirements and the rates that Arizona achieved.

Federal Work Participation Rates

Federal Fiscal Year (FFY)	Federal Requirement		Less Caseload Reduction	Arizona's Requirement	Arizona's Rate
FFY 2003 (10/1/02 – 9/30/03)	All Families	50%	37%	13%	13.2%*
	Two-Parent	90%	37%	53%	55.3%*

* Estimated work rate for FFY2003. The Department of Health and Human Services has not yet released the official rate.

The continued effort to improve the quality of life and family safety for Arizona's residents has led the Department to embark on a new initiative that incorporates additional activities to assist participants in their long-term goals for financial security. The Department helps to resolve barriers and ensure family safety to allow more active participation from recipients. These activities help participants improve their short-term and long-term circumstances.

Adult Cash Assistance Cases Closed Due to Earned Income

During SFY2004, 25.4 percent of Cash Assistance cases were closed because the family received earned income. The percentage of cases closed due to earned income in SFY2003 was 29.3. The number of participants who leave welfare for work is actually higher than is reflected in the data because many participants become employed and either withdraw from Cash Assistance or do not reapply for benefits.

Job Retention Rate

The job retention rate measures the percentage of individuals placed in employment who were still employed three months after their placement. The job retention rate for SFY2004 was 43.7 percent. This compares with 46.7 percent for SFY2003. The Department provides supportive services that help participants maintain their employment. Many factors contribute to the ability of former Cash Assistance recipients to maintain their employment. The job retention rate may have decreased in SFY2004 due to a period of labor market weakness. The Department has implemented measures such as post-employment case management for up to 24 months to not only assist families to find work, but to also maintain that employment.

Recidivism – Return to Cash Assistance

Recidivism is a measure of the number of participants that return to Cash Assistance. The rate used in this report represents the percentage of participants that did not return to Cash Assistance. The rate is determined by the percentage of Jobs participants who were placed in employment and who remained off Cash Assistance for six consecutive months within the eight months following case closure. During SFY2004, 69.3 percent of the placements did not return to Cash Assistance compared with 72.1 percent who did not return in SFY2003.

Section II – Removing Barriers to Self-Sufficiency

The Department provides supportive services that help families overcome barriers to employment. These services give families the help they need to find, maintain, and improve their employment opportunities. Supportive services may include transportation, child care, medical assistance, services for victims of domestic violence, as well as education and training programs.

The Department continues to strive toward assisting and improving the safety and security of Arizona's adults and families. By removing barriers and offering long-term solutions to improving skills, finding employment opportunities, and preparing for career advancement, the Department helps ensure long-term financial security and independence that lends itself to a safer family environment.

The Department contracts with public, private-for-profit, and non-profit organizations to provide barrier-removal supportive services. The contractors include community-based and faith-based organizations. The Department has contracts for the following services that enable individuals to participate in work activities that lead to economic security:

- Assessment (Medical and Psycho-Social)
- Career Preparation (Personal Development and Employment Preparation)
- Counseling (Short-Term Individual Therapy)
- Occupational/Vocational Training
- Teen Parent Programs
- Transportation

Transportation Services

The Department provides contracted transportation services to allow participants to participate in work activities and to commute to and from their place of employment. In SFY2004, there were 21,516 participants who received work-related transportation assistance. This compares with 18,547 participants who received transportation assistance during SFY2003. Some transportation services include bus tickets, van routes, car repairs, and taxi services.

A Transportation Related Expenses (TRE) allowance is available to participants who incur transportation expenses while engaging in work activities. An established allowance is available to assist participants with out-of-pocket transportation expenses. Please refer to [Appendix #1](#) for the number of individuals receiving transportation assistance by county.

Fatherhood Program

The Fatherhood Program provides services to assist young fathers in becoming self-sufficient, to share in the responsibility of supporting their children, and to be an active parent to their children. These services include remedial education, high school/GED preparation, vocational training, job search/readiness/placement activities, life-skills training, and mentoring. The Fatherhood Program serves at risk fathers age 16 to 26 years old. The Fatherhood Program is currently under the guidance of the Division of Child Support Enforcement. The total number of participants for SFY2004 was 69, an increase from SFY2003 when there were 38 participants. Twenty-eight of the participants graduated from the program in SFY2004. A study of the outcome of the Fatherhood Program is currently being conducted.

Education and Training

The Jobs Program contracts with public and private vendors throughout the state who provide education and training opportunities for Jobs Program participants. The Department used SFY2004 to review and revise the internal and external education and training programs. Although this reevaluation of the outcomes of contracted providers and employment retention in specific fields has resulted in a temporary reduction in several of the education and training areas, this reevaluation will enable the Department to better serve the long-term career goals of participants. The Department is also incorporating additional activities that help prepare participants for careers.

Participants receive training and obtain employment in areas such as general office and clerical, hospitality, sales, accounting, and computer technology. During SFY2004, there were 194 participants who were enrolled in vocational education. This compares with 2,841 participants who were enrolled in the vocational education in SFY2003.

The Post-Employment Education Program provides educational training to current or former Jobs Program participants who are employed in unsubsidized employment. This program emphasizes the importance of improving employment skills and affords former recipients with the opportunity to enhance their wages and career advancement opportunities. Training expenses are limited to \$2,500 and have a two-year time limit. The Jobs Program contracts for these services. In SFY2004, 18 individuals were referred for these services. There were 43 participants in the program in SFY2003.

When it is determined that a participant's employability would be enhanced through post-secondary education and the participant is already engaged in actual work activities for a minimum of 25 hours per week (35 hours per week for two-parent families), post-secondary education activities can be offered. Post-secondary means all programs at accredited two and four year colleges; and vocational and technical schools. In SFY2004 there were 231 participants engaged in post-secondary education compared to 1,184 in SFY2003.

Shelter/Utility Assistance

The Department offers assistance in the form of shelter/utility assistance to eligible Cash Assistance recipients who have an emergent need that cannot be met by their own resources and income. In SFY2004, there were 1,608 participants that received shelter/utility assistance. This compares with 2,064 participants that received shelter/utility assistance in SFY2003.

Job Readiness

Job Readiness (Career Preparation) services consist of three tracks designed to assist the participant to prepare for, obtain, and maintain employment. The Job Readiness workshops provide soft skill training, resume services, job development and placement assistance. The workshops are available to participants who need short-term assistance to obtain employment. A total of 1,014 individuals participated in Job Readiness activities during SFY2004. Arizona is implementing additional activities that are designed to improve employment readiness, and to encourage participation even for individuals who can meet only minimal participation levels.

Fair Labor Standards Act Supplemental Payments

The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) Supplemental Payment allows a supplement to be paid to TANF Cash Assistance recipients based on the total hours of unpaid work experience per month. This supplemental payment ensures compliance with the minimum wage requirements under federal law. The Department issued FLSA supplemental payments totaling \$452,952 for 807 participants in SFY2004. This compares with \$419,252 in supplemental payments issued in SFY2003.

Substance Abuse Treatment

The Arizona Families F.I.R.S.T. (Families in Recovery Succeeding Together) Program offers comprehensive substance abuse treatment services to families whose substance abuse is a significant barrier to the maintenance, preservation, or reunification of families, or for recipients of Cash Assistance whose substance abuse is a significant barrier to maintaining or obtaining employment. Please refer to [page 28](#) of this report for additional information about Arizona Families F.I.R.S.T.

In SFY2004, employment case managers referred 20 Cash Assistance recipients to the program for substance abuse treatment services. There were 40 Jobs Program participants who were referred for substance abuse treatment in SFY2003. The Department is incorporating an enhanced screening tool to assist case managers to identify when substance abuse treatment services may be useful.

Transitional Medical Assistance

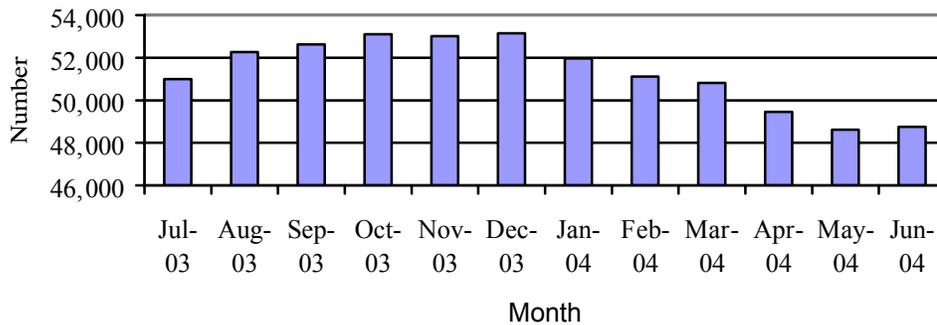
Once a Cash Assistance and Medical Assistance recipient transitions from welfare to work one of the significant barriers to maintaining self-sufficiency is the potential loss of health care coverage. Participants who become ineligible for the Medical Assistance Program under Section 1931 of the Social Security Act due to employment may receive up to 12 months of Transitional Medical Assistance (TMA).

TMA is provided by the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) to eligible participants. An average of 51,075 individuals received TMA each month in SFY2004. This compares to an average of 52,175 individuals who received TMA each month in SFY2003. TMA is only one category of medical assistance provided by AHCCCS. Overall participation in medical assistance provided by AHCCCS has increased.

Section III – Caseload Data

Arizona’s Cash Assistance caseload began to decrease in January 2004. The caseload had increased during the first half of SFY2004 and reached a high point of 53,145 cases in December 2003. The caseload decreased during the second half of the fiscal year and by June 2004 the caseload had decreased to 48,747 cases. This compares with 50,280 Cash Assistance cases in June 2003. The Cash Assistance caseload decreased approximately 3 percent from June 2003 to June 2004. The total number of Cash Assistance cases in June 2004 includes 516 two-parent cases, and 1,086 cases with benefits of less than \$100 that were paid with state maintenance of effort (MOE) funds. Please turn to [Appendix #4](#) for a detailed breakdown of the changes in the Cash Assistance caseload for each of Arizona’s counties during the past two years. The chart below shows the combined Cash Assistance caseload for each month during SFY2004.

Cash Assistance Cases



Two-Parent Cases

The two-parent caseload decreased by approximately 28 percent during SFY2004. There were 537 two-parent cases in June 2004. There were 746 two-parent cases in June 2003.

Child-Only Cases

Child-only cases are those that do not have an adult in the assistance unit. In SFY2004, there were 19,359 child-only cases. This compares to 19,057 child-only cases in SFY2003.

Approximately 40.1 percent of the Cash Assistance caseload in June 2004 were comprised of child-only cases. In June 2003, child-only cases represented 37.9 percent of the Cash Assistance caseload.

Caseload Data

The Food Stamp Program caseload increased by 9.4 percent during SFY2004 to 208,721 cases. Medical Assistance (MA) cases increased by 2.3 percent during SFY2004. In June 2004 there were 830,830 MA cases. The following chart depicts the changes in the caseloads from June 2003 to June 2004.

Program Caseloads

Program		June 2003	June 2004	Change
Cash Assistance	Cases*	49,534**	48,210**	-2.6%
	Recipients	125,600**	111,672**	-11.0%
Two-Parent Employment Program	Cases	746**	537**	-28.0%
	Recipients	2,911**	2,009**	-30.9%
Food Stamps	Cases	190,954	208,721	+9.4%
	Recipients	491,250	530,432	+7.9%
Medical Assistance***	Cases	811,527	830,830	+2.3%

Note: Please refer to [Appendix #5](#) and [Appendix #6](#) for additional caseload and demographic information.

* Includes 19,359 child-only cases in June 2004 and 19,057 child-only cases in June 2003.

** Includes Cash Assistance cases under \$100 paid with state MOE funds.

*** Medical Assistance are one-person cases. The number of recipients is the same as the number of cases for these programs.

Food Stamp Program Participation

Arizona's Food Stamp Program participation has increased from serving 56.6 percent of potentially eligible individuals to 67.7 percent. This ranks Arizona as 22nd in the nation in serving potentially eligible participants. In order to increase participation in the program, an outreach plan was developed in partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). Outreach strategies included:

- Partnerships with the Department's Aging and Adult Administration to assist low income seniors in applying for the program and providing nutritional information to seniors.

- Partnerships with the Arizona Department of Health Services (DHS) Office of Women, Infants and Children (WIC); farmers markets; faith-based organizations; food banks; and the Arizona food marketing alliance to distribute food stamp applications and promotion of healthy nutrition information.
- Participation in the Veteran’s Administration “Stand Downs” annual project to reach homeless veterans access to multiple programs including the Food Stamp Program.
- USDA ran public service announcements in March 2004 and April 2004 promoting the program.

Length of Time on Cash Assistance

The average length of time on Cash Assistance for the current episode was 13.3 months in June 2004. This represents an increase from June 2003 when the average length of time on assistance was 11.7 months.

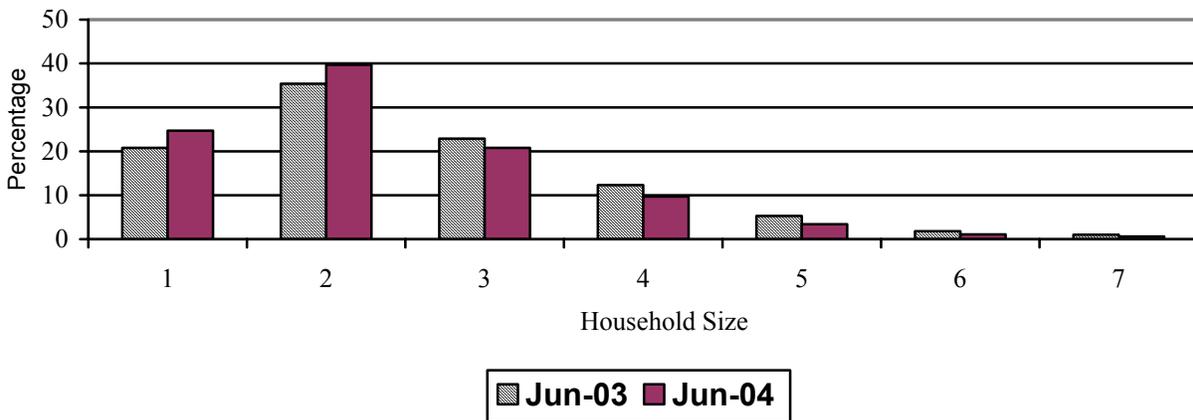
The average length of time on Cash Assistance for the current episode for adults (excluding child-only cases) was 8.4 months in June 2004. The average stay for adults increased from June 2003 when it was 7.7 months.

The Department is taking steps to reduce the average length of time families remain on assistance. Adults are receiving employment services much sooner after receipt of Cash Assistance under the new service delivery model. Assuming the overall employment outlook remains constant, this early engagement is anticipated to reduce the length of time on assistance in the future.

Household Size

The household size of the Cash Assistance caseload is depicted in the following chart. The most common household size is a family of two. Two-person households comprise 39.7 percent of the Cash Assistance caseload. In June 2004, 20.8 percent of the caseload consisted of three-person families. Less than 15 percent of Cash Assistance cases had more than three persons in the home.

Cash Assistance Household Size



Section IV – Cash Assistance Program

Arizona's Cash Assistance Program provides temporary cash assistance and supportive services to children, individuals, and their families. Individuals who are eligible for cash payments may be eligible for work-related services and child care.

Grant Diversion

Grant diversion offers needy families the opportunity to receive a one-time lump-sum payment to cover an urgent need that presents a barrier to employment. A grant diversion payment is available only once during a 12-month period. Grant diversion recipients are referred to the Jobs Program for case management and supportive services.

The grant diversion process has been modified to improve outcomes from prior years. Under the revised process, which includes immediate assessment by an employment case manager, the number of families who have benefited from grant diversion has increased to 200 since June 2004.

Sanctions

Arizona's Cash Assistance Program sanctions participants who do not comply with work requirements, child support enforcement, immunization, or school attendance.

Sanction Schedule

- First incidence of noncompliance without good cause: participants receive a 25 percent reduction in grant amount for one month.
- Second incidence of noncompliance without good cause: participants receive a 50 percent reduction in grant amount for one month.
- Third incidence of noncompliance without good cause: termination of the Cash Assistance grant for a minimum of one month.

The Department works with participants to identify the cause for non-compliance prior to imposition of a sanction. When services are needed, the case manager refers the participant to available service providers. The participant is not subject to sanction during the time they are working with a service provider to address an identified barrier. The Department ensures the participant is given every opportunity to comply with each of the requirements before a sanction is imposed.

There were 3,143 Cash Assistance cases closed due to sanctions in SFY2004. This represents an increase in the number of sanction closures from SFY2003 when there were 1,623. The increase in sanctions occurred both for noncompliance with child support enforcement, and failure to comply with work requirements. [Appendix #9](#) contains a series of charts that provides information about the number of Cash Assistance cases by

county impacted by the 25 percent, 50 percent, and case closures due to sanctions in SFY2004 and SFY2003.

Approximately 77 percent of the Cash Assistance cases that were closed due to a sanction in SFY2004 were the result of noncompliance with work requirements without good cause. In SFY2003, approximately 88 percent of case closures due to a sanction were a result of noncompliance with work requirements. There were 730 case closures due to noncompliance with child support enforcement in SFY2004 compared to 187 such closures in SFY2003.

Unwed Minor Parents

Unwed minor parents, with some exceptions, must live with an adult in order to receive Cash Assistance. Teen parents and their children may continue to be eligible for Medicaid, Food Stamps, child care, and other supportive services through the Jobs Program.

During SFY2004, approximately 70 teen parents were ineligible for Cash Assistance each month. This compares with 72 teen parents who were ineligible for Cash Assistance each month in SFY2003.

As a result of the teen parent provision, approximately \$61,272 less Cash Assistance benefits were issued in SFY2004. This compares to \$62,136 less Cash Assistance benefits issued in SFY2003 due to the unwed minor parent policy. [Appendix #8](#) provides details about the total number of months that teen parents are subject to the unwed minor parent policy in each county.

Family Benefit Cap

Arizona's Cash Assistance Program includes a family benefit cap provision that places a limit on a family's grant regardless of the birth of additional children after the parent or relative is receiving Cash Assistance. The family benefit cap has been a part of Arizona's Cash Assistance Program since 1995. In SFY2004, 13,628 families were subject to the family benefit cap. This compares to 11,709 families that were subject to the family benefit cap in SFY2003.

As a result of Arizona's family benefit cap, there were 124,111 cumulative months in which children were not eligible for Cash Assistance in SFY2004. This was an increase from SFY2003 when there were 100,025 cumulative months in which children were not eligible for Cash Assistance benefits. In SFY2004, \$8,935,992 Cash Assistance benefits were not issued due to the family benefit cap. For more detailed information about the number of Cash Assistance cases with benefit-capped children during the past two fiscal years, please refer to [Appendix #7](#).

According to the Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP), in a Policy Brief entitled “Lifting the Lid Off the Family Cap: States Revisit Problematic Policy for Welfare Mothers” dated December 2003, research suggests that family benefit caps have not been demonstrated to reduce out-of-wedlock births. The following is an excerpt from the CLASP Policy Brief:

Since 2001, a number of studies and research reviews have sought to identify the role of family cap policies in fertility behavior. A review of state level welfare policies to reduce subsequent non-marital births considered the role of family cap, earnings disregard, work exemptions, work requirements and sanctions established prior to TANF. The researchers concluded that none of the policies influenced women’s childbearing behavior – in fact, they noted that “even the family cap policy, which was designed for the sole purpose of reducing additional births, had no significant association with subsequent non-marital childbearing”. Another study looked at the effect of eight types of state welfare policies on marital and pregnancy transitions among those entering adulthood, including the family cap, and found “weak or inconsistent effects.” A study using a different data set found “no systematic effect of the family cap on fertility among women age 15 to 34.” The researcher noted: If this empirical study result is correct, then the widespread adoption of the family cap as a state welfare policy appears ineffective at best and misguided at worst. Women are not responding by having fewer additional births, and consequently, fewer resources are being provided per child on welfare.

Accuracy and Timeliness

Cash Assistance payment accuracy, timeliness, and ultimately customer satisfaction are driven in part by factors unrelated to the Cash Assistance program. Increases in Food Stamp and Medicaid applications affect the workload of staff who are also responsible for completing Cash Assistance applications. Caseload growth and staffing reductions contributed to decreases in payment accuracy and timeliness in SFY2004.

Payment Accuracy. The Cash Assistance payment accuracy rate for SFY2004 was 90.9 percent. This compares to a payment accuracy rate of 95.6 percent in SFY2003.

Timeliness. The Department’s Cash Assistance timeliness rate was 92 percent in SFY2004. This compares with a timeliness rate of 96.5 percent in SFY2003.

Preventing Fraud and Abuse

The Department takes action to prevent fraud and abuse in welfare programs. In SFY2004, there were 68 cases that were referred for prosecution. 52 of the referrals were prosecuted. There were 44 cases referred for prosecution in SFY2003.

The benefit dollar amount referred for prosecution in SFY2004 was \$359,200. This was an increase from SFY2003 when the dollar amount referred for prosecution was \$146,976.

Section V – Child Care

With the passage of Laws 1997, Chapter 300, state statute defined child care assistance eligibility and established service priorities for various populations. Laws 1997, Chapter 300, strengthened the State's child care program by providing child care assistance to families on Cash Assistance who are participating in work activities and to employed families who have recently left welfare. This means that any eligible (i.e. Cash Assistance related) family who needs child care assistance will receive it. This assistance is a significant component of Arizona's welfare program. The impact of the Child Care Program has resulted in the following:

- There were 47,047 children authorized¹ for child care subsidy at the end of June 2004. As a result of careful monitoring of expenditures, the Department was able to offer child care to all families on the waiting list in the last quarter of SFY2004. This compares with 44,153 children authorized for child care, and 4,838 children on the waiting list as of June 2003.
- The SFY2004 appropriation for child care was less than what was expended in SFY2003. As a result, state appropriations were not sufficient for the Department to serve all eligible low-income families. This, in addition to program growth in Cash Assistance and Child Protective Services related child care, required the Department to continue a waiting list for services until June 2004. The waiting list was initially implemented in March 2003.
- The child care assistance waiting list affects applicants who are low income working (non-Cash Assistance related) parents, teen parents in school and parents in "special circumstances (e.g. in homeless or domestic violence shelters). The waiting list does not apply to Cash Assistance recipients, families eligible for Transitional Child Care (TCC) or families receiving services as a component of a Child Protective Services Case Plan.

As of the end of SFY2004, there were no families on the waiting list for child care assistance. On average, service months in SFY2004 began with a reported waiting list count of 6,056. The only month not beginning with families on the waiting list was June 2004. The remaining eleven-months in the fiscal year began with waiting list child counts ranging from 4,638 in August 2003 to 9,362 at the beginning of March 2004.

¹ Of the children authorized for child care assistance, 87.3% utilize service at any point in time.

The Department completed an analysis of child care expenditure data available at the end of May 2004 and determined that sufficient Child Care resources were available to eliminate the remainder of the waiting list in June 2004. The waiting list was eliminated because there were less families qualifying for the mandatory programs than originally estimated and there was greater attrition from the waiting list due to changing family circumstances (e.g. increased income, other child care arrangements made, re-location, or families are discouraged by long-standing waiting list and do not re-apply as required).

On June 2, 2004, the Department sent notices to the families of approximately 6,800 children on the waiting list that child subsidies were now available. In addition, DES was able to serve the estimated 500 additional children whose families applied during June. With this action families with incomes up to 165 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (an income of \$25,188 for a family of 3) were able to receive child care assistance. Many working families between 100 percent and 165 percent of poverty were on the waiting list for up to 15 months (some remained on the waiting list since its inception in March 2003).

Based on the Department's assumptions about growth in the CPS and mandatory child care populations, families returned to service in June were not put on a waiting list. The impact of this action did not change the projected average monthly number of children (over 41,000) and families (approximately 23,000) to be served under the final SFY2005 appropriation. However, the Department does project the need to reestablish a waiting list during SFY2005.

- As a result of the necessity to operate with a waiting list in SFY2004, of all the child care eligibility program categories, the low-income (non-CPS, and non-Cash Assistance related) program experienced the most significant change in caseload growth. The 2004 fiscal year began with 24,246 children authorized for child care assistance in this category. At the end of June 2004, there was a comparable number (24,650) of children authorized in this low-income category. By the end of March 2004, however, the number of children authorized for service² in this category dropped to a low of 18,686 children. This was 22.9 percent below the level at the start of the year as the Department had to ensure that attrition from the program was sufficient to hold spending within the appropriation limits. When it was determined that adequate funding would be available, an additional number of families were authorized for service again near fiscal year end.

² The number of children "authorized for service" does not include children on the waiting list.

- The Department recognizes the importance of child care to families leaving welfare for work. Transitional Child Care (TCC) allows Cash Assistance recipients who lose cash benefits because of employment to receive up to 24 months of child care subsidy as long as they meet income eligibility requirements. Families are eligible for child care subsidies so that they may maintain employment and reduce the likelihood of returning to welfare.

After the 24 month limit on Transitional Child Care, if families are still eligible for services, they continue to receive child care assistance through the low-income working child care program. The number of children authorized to receive first and second year TCC grew from 9,776 at the end of SFY2003 to 10,966 at the end of SFY2004, an increase of 12.2 percent.

- The average monthly number of children served (paid) in all child care programs was 42,725 in SFY2003 and 37,872 in SFY2004. This represents an 11.2 percent decrease from SFY2003 to SFY2004.
- In SFY2003, the average monthly payment per child was \$289.25. In SFY2004 the average monthly cost per child was \$302.73. A legislatively approved adjustment to the maximum reimbursement rates occurred in October 2001. At that time reimbursement rates were adjusted to allow reimbursement up to the 75th percentile of the 1998 Child Care Market Rate Survey. There have been no further rate adjustments since that time.
- The Child Care Administration expended \$125 million in SFY2001, \$141.8 million in SFY2002, and \$156.7 million in SFY2003. In SFY2004 the funding for Child Care Administration subsidy payments was reduced and expenditures were limited to \$146.3 million through continued implementation of the waiting list. (These amounts include expenditures for client services and “quality set aside activities”). This represents a 13.4 percent increase from SFY2001 to SFY2002, and a 10.5 percent increase from SFY2002 to SFY2003. However, expenditures decreased 6.6 percent from SFY2003 to SFY2004.
- The amount of co-payments that parents made toward the cost of care was \$14.1 million in both SFY2001 and SFY2002, and \$14.7 million in 2003. Because of the lower average monthly number of children receiving child care assistance in SFY2004, co-payments for the year fell to \$11.3 million with the waiting list primarily accountable for the decrease. In addition to the Department required co-payments, parents are also responsible for any charges that result from a provider’s rates being above the allowable state reimbursement maximums and/or other charges a provider may require (e.g. registration or extra activity fees).

- Required co-payments are based on a family's gross income. Refer to [Appendix 3](#) for Child Care Assistance Gross Monthly Income Eligibility Chart & Fee Schedule.

The Child Care Program continues to play a vital role in the Cash Assistance Program by helping families achieve and maintain self sufficiency and by providing leadership in the area of services to families and children.

Increasing the Supply of Child Care Providers

With welfare reform being undertaken at both the federal and state level, the Department anticipated that an increased number of working families who would require child care. To assist communities in addressing the need of an adequate supply of quality child care, through community based contracts, the Department initiated and has maintained the following projects:

Entry Level Training - Provides two-week employment preparation training to individuals interested in the field of child care. In SFY2004, child care programs benefited from 260 individuals completing this basic training course.

Recruiting Providers - Recruits and provides orientation and training to individuals interested in becoming Department-certified family child care providers. As a result, 457 new certified child care homes became available in SFY2004. Family child care is often the only option in certain areas of the state and is also the primary option for non-traditional hour care (e.g. weekends, and night time).

Assisting Jobs Families in Finding Care: Federal TANF regulations state that the parent may not be sanctioned if unable to work because of the inability to obtain child care. The Department has policies and procedures in place to assist families who are having difficulty in finding care. In SFY2004, of the 15,727 referrals received for child care services for Jobs Program participants, there were only 15 instances when child care was determined to be unavailable.

Improving the Quality of Child Care

The following activities, primarily delivered through community-based organizations, are designed to improve the quality of child care.

Provider Quality Incentive Payments- The Enhanced Rate for Accredited Program allows DES eligible low income families to enroll their children in programs providing higher quality of care by paying accredited providers up to 10% over the DES maximum rates. 3.4% (107) of licensed center and certified family child care providers who are contracted with DES are now accredited and eligible for the enhanced rates. Approximately 2,400 DES eligible children per month benefit from receiving care in accredited programs.

Child Care Resource and Referral System - As required by A.R.S.41-1967, community based contractors provide services to families who need assistance locating child care, provides training and technical assistance to child care providers and matches parents seeking child care to all forms of lawful child care. In SFY 2004, there were 19,801 calls for assistance in searching for child care providers and 35,198 searches via the Internet (Internet option available since February 2004).

Child Care Provider Registry for Unregulated Providers: State statute requires the Department's contracted Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) system to list unregulated child care providers only if they meet certain minimal standards, such as background checks. This statutory change was enacted in April 2002. As of June 30, 2004, over 700 providers have met the new standards and are listed on this CCR&R Registry.

Program Improvement Project: This project (called the Arizona Self-Study Project) provides technical assistance and resources to assist child care providers to improve the child care program they offer to children and families and to pursue national accreditation. 150 child care providers are enrolled in the project on an annual basis.

Opportunities for Child Care Provider Training: Available training courses include the Child Development Associate (CDA) project, a statewide infant/toddler training institute, technical assistance and training to programs serving children with special needs, and a variety of other early education training topics. In SFY2004, over 13,928 individuals participated in these training courses.

Professional Development Registry. The Department has initiated the Statewide Child Care and Early Education Development System (S*CCEEDS). S*CCEEDS documents and tracks the education and work experience of child care practitioners via a career ladder system. Through June 30, 2004, 2,206 practitioners, 442 trainers, and 665 trainings have been registered in the System.

Note: Child care data cited in this report includes statistical information that encompasses children authorized and payments made for both the Department and Arizona Works child care programs. Data has been adjusted from the previous Welfare Reform Annual Report to reflect updated data from previous years. Additionally, data reported for SFY2004 may in some instances be estimated, as final data was still being compiled at the time this report was published.

Section VI – Child Welfare Programs

The Department uses TANF funds to support several programs within child welfare that help ensure the safety of Arizona's children. These programs are provided based on the identified needs of the child and family. 39,180 reports of child maltreatment were received during SFY2004. Of these, Child Protective Services (CPS) Specialists investigated 34,052 reports (87 percent). The remaining 5,128 (13 percent) reports of child maltreatment were referred to the Family Builders Program for assessment and services. The substantiation rate for SFY2003 was updated to 11 percent to reflect the results of the CPS appeals process. The substantiation rate for SFY2004 is currently 11.53 percent. This percentage is not considered final until the results of the CPS appeals process is completed for all proposed substantiated reports taken during this reporting period.

TANF supports the funding of the following Programs: Family Builders, Arizona Families F.I.R.S.T. (Families in Recovery Succeeding Together), Healthy Families Arizona, and Permanent Guardianship.

Family Builders

The Family Builders Program was originally designed as an alternative response to low priority reports of child maltreatment. Effective July 1, 2004, this program was redesigned as a result of HB 2024 (46th Legislature, 2nd Special Session), to serve families after the CPS investigation is completed. These services are available to families with children at low, moderate or moderate high risk of future maltreatment whose needs cannot be sufficiently met through referral to community resources and do not require more intensive in-home services. The program uses a strength-based, family-centered practice approach and seeks to reduce the reoccurrence of subsequent substantiated child abuse and neglect reports. Services available to families include: family assessment, case management, child day care, parenting skills training, parent aide services, respite services, referrals to community services, supportive intervention and guidance counseling, assistance in housing search and relocation, assistance with transportation, emergency services, and intensive family preservation services.

The Family Builders Program accomplished the following in SFY2003 (SFY 2004 data is not yet available):

- Assessed 2,000 families.
- Provided services to 1,926 (96 percent) of the 2,000 families assessed.
- Only 8 (0.9 percent) of the 1,926 families had a substantiated report during the time the family was receiving services.
- Only 3 families (0.16 percent) of the 1,926 families received a substantiated report of child maltreatment within 6 months of exiting the Program.

During SFY2004, the Family Builders Program was redesigned to better address the services needs of this population and to better ensure the safety of children. The redesign included revising contracts to include in-home monitoring, service planning, and intervention services.

Future plans are to expand the Program statewide to create a better accessibility to services for families.

Arizona Families F.I.R.S.T.

The Arizona Families F.I.R.S.T. program provides a continuum of services that are family centered, child focused, comprehensive, coordinated, flexible, community based, accessible and culturally responsive. Substance abuse treatment and recovery support services are provided by contracted community providers via out-patient and residential settings. The services strive to be seamless, fiscally responsible, and provide for customer-friendly services to eligible persons. The program design emphasizes outreach, engagement, aftercare and support services in addition to traditional substance abuse treatment. Substance abuse treatment services are offered in a variety of modalities including education, outpatient, intensive outpatient and residential treatment. Several residential providers allow children to remain with their parent during treatment. In addition to treatment services, essential elements based on family and community needs are incorporated into the service delivery such as gender-specific treatment, services for children, and motivational interviewing to assist the entire family in its recovery.

The Arizona Families F.I.R.S.T. Program has accomplished the following:

- 7,234 individuals have received an opportunity to be screened and assessed for substance abuse treatment services since program implementation in March, 2001. This figure includes 3,367 clients referred to the program from April 1, 2003, through April 30, 2004.
- Of all clients referred during the annual reporting period of April 2002, through March 31, 2003, 68 percent engaged in services.
- Of the clients referred, 70 percent have participated in substance abuse assessment.
- Eighty-two percent of participants were enrolled in the Title XIX Program.
- Treatment utilization patterns have increased.
- There has been a perceivable increase in the availability and timeliness of substance abuse treatment services (James Bell Associates).

During SFY2004, the Arizona Families F.I.R.S.T. Program continued to address both routine and systemic issues. An Interagency Service Agreement was established with the University of Arizona to assume the role of the program evaluator.

This exciting partnership will build on early successes and learnings to improve the evaluation process. The Division of Children, Youth and Families' Child Welfare Training Institute curriculum was enhanced to provide more curriculum related to substance abuse including additional information on methamphetamine use as an ongoing practice issue.

Plans are to continue to improve the collaborations between the Arizona Families F.I.R.S.T. providers, Department staff and the community. Continued efforts will be made to improve the service delivery system including ready access to services in all geographic areas of Arizona.

Healthy Families Arizona

The Healthy Families Arizona Program is a community based multi-disciplinary program serving families pre-natally and at the birth of a newborn and is designed to reduce stress, enhance family functioning, promote child health and development, enhance parent/child interaction, and minimize the incidence of abuse and neglect within a multi-cultural environment. This voluntary home visitation program provides a Family Support Specialist (FSS) who assists the family in obtaining concrete services as well as provide emotional support, informal counseling, role modeling, effective life coping skills, bonding, education on child development, and developmental assessments so that early identification of any learning disabilities, physical handicaps, or behavioral health needs are determined.

The FSS provides education on the importance of preventive health care, assistance and encouragement to assess comprehensive private and public preschool and other school readiness programs, and assistance in applying for private and public financial assistance, including employment services. The FSS works closely with the child's pediatrician in monitoring the child's health. Families may be visited anywhere from weekly to quarterly according to the family's level of need. Program services are available until the child reaches five years of age.

As a result of the passage of SB 1149 (Chapter 18, Laws 2004), the Healthy Families Arizona Program, effective August 24, 2004, was expanded to offer services to pregnant women and their families and persons with a prior substantiated report of child maltreatment (prior statute allowed service delivery after the birth of a child and prohibited providing services to a person with a prior substantiated child maltreatment report). Statute was also amended to require the Program to offer education on successful marriage.

In the past year, it was estimated that only 6 percent of eligible newborns in Arizona could be served under the existing funding level. To address this service gap, the Arizona legislature in SFY2004 appropriated increased State funding and authorized TANF funding to expand this successful Program. Contracts entered into with the Healthy Families Arizona Program providers included proposed expansion plans based on demographics and risk factors.

The Healthy Families Arizona Program accomplished the following in SFY2003 (SFY2004 data not yet available):

- Screened 15,545 mothers of newborns for program eligibility.
- Served 2,220 mothers and 3,330 children.
- 99.3 percent of the families served did not have a substantiated report of child maltreatment.
- 62 percent of the participants had reduced parental stress as measured by the Parenting Stress Index after six months of service delivery.
- By two months of age 95.1 percent of babies were immunized and at 12 months, 92 percent were immunized.

Plans are to continue to expand the Healthy Families Arizona Program throughout Arizona.

Subsidized Guardianship

The Subsidized Guardianship Program provides a monthly partial reimbursement to caretakers appointed as permanent guardians of children in the care, custody and control of the Department. These are children for whom reunification and adoption have been ruled out as unachievable or contrary to the child's best interest. Medical services are provided to Title XIX children through the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System.

For SFY2004, the monthly average number of children receiving guardianship subsidy benefits was 892. The total number of children receiving guardianship subsidy on April 30, 2004, was 952. Many of the permanent homes supported by Subsidized Guardianship are kinship placements. The Department continues to experience growth in this important Program.

Plans are to continue to educate staff and others about the importance of permanency for children and the benefits of the Guardianship Subsidy Program.

Section VII – TANF-Related Programs and Services

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds support a variety of programs and services that meet the four goals of the 1996 federal welfare laws. These include programs for families and children in crisis, tribal initiatives, and marriage and communication skills workshops that strengthen families.

Short Term Crisis Services and Emergency Shelter Services

TANF funding is used to provide assistance to households who have an emergent basic need that cannot be met immediately with their own income or resources. Funding for the Short Term Crisis Services (STCS) Program is used for crisis assistance and case management services and is used to prevent eviction or mortgage foreclosures, utility-shut offs, and to assist low income households obtain or maintain employment. The program experienced a drop in the total number of households served as utility bills, rental obligations and/or arrearages, and mortgage payments were higher in SFY2004 when compared to SFY2003, leaving funds available for fewer applicants. The charts below compare the number of participants who received Crisis Assistance, Homeless Emergency Shelter Services, or Domestic Violence Emergency and Transitional Shelter in SFY2003 and SFY2004.

Crisis Assistance

Measure	Households Participating SFY2003	Households Participating SFY2004
Utility Assistance Payments	1,004	692
Eviction Prevention/Mortgage Payments	3,644	3,097
Special Needs	84	37
Total	4,732	3,826

Homeless Emergency Shelter

Persons Receiving Shelter Services	SFY2003	SFY2004
	27,891	30,858

Domestic Violence Emergency and Transitional Shelter

Measure	Women and Children SFY2003	Women and Children SFY2004
Sheltered in Crisis Shelters	9,307*	9,616
Sheltered in Transitional Shelters	428*	429
Counseling Hours in Shelter	106,225*	146,156

* SFY2003 data is revised.

Lay and Legal Advocacy for Domestic Violence Victims

Arizona uses TANF funds to provide legal and lay-legal advocacy services for domestic violence victims and their children who have an income of less than 250 percent of the Federal Poverty level (FPL). The legal and lay-legal advocacy services include a range of legal assistance covering all civil matters that assist the victims and their children to become safe and self-sufficient. Attorneys and lay-legal advocates provide these services. The outreach for the services includes domestic violence programs and extends beyond shelters, since not all victims in need of legal assistance contact the domestic violence programs. The services also target under-served populations including rural, Native American, immigrant, and non-English speaking populations. The table below compares the number of domestic violence victims served for each type of service in SFY2003 and SFY2004.

Services for Domestic Violence Victims

Number of Victims Served and Type of Service	SFY2003	SFY2004
Victims receiving services in self-help clinics	3,216	3,594
Victims receiving services from attorney or paralegal	3,551	5,711
Victims receiving services from lay and legal advocates	2,034	1,720
TOTAL – Victims Served	8,801	11,025

Tribal Welfare Reform Activities

Hopi Tribal TANF Program. The Hopi Tribe has had an approved Tribal TANF program since May 2001. The tribe began operating their tribal TANF program on February 1, 2004. However, the state continues to conduct TANF eligibility for Hopi TANF cases, while the Hopi Tribal TANF program conducts intensive case management activities to support the clients during their transition off of welfare benefits.

Navajo Nation TANF Program. The Navajo Nation has had an approved Tribal TANF program since October 2000. The tribe opened their tribal TANF program doors in March 2002. The Department successfully transferred all state-managed TANF cases involving Navajo families over to the Navajo Nation TANF Program at the end of December 2002. The Department continues to provide technical support and assistance.

Pascua Yaqui Tribal TANF Program. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe has had an approved Tribal TANF program since November 1997. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe opted to contract back with the Department to provide services based on tribal policies. The Department continues to provide technical support and assistance at the tribe's request.

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community TANF Program (SRPMIC). In July 1999, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community began operating their TANF program. The State continues to administer the Food Stamps and Medical Assistance programs. SRPMIC is the only Tribe that currently has all of its welfare reform programs, including state-administered programs, in one building on the reservation.

White Mountain Apache Tribal TANF Program. The White Mountain Apache Tribe has had an approved Tribal TANF program since April 1998. The tribe is working closely with the Department to transition the TANF program operations over to the tribe by January 1, 2005. The Department is working with the tribe to co-locate state-administered program within the tribal social services department to ensure quality and efficient customer service to tribal members.

Other Tribal TANF Programs. The Department respects the sovereignty of tribes and supports their efforts to become more autonomous. Other Arizona tribes, such as the Tohono O'odham and San Carlos Apache, have expressed interest in developing Tribal TANF plans. The Department is working with representatives from these governments to offer assistance in the development and implementation of their Tribal TANF programs.

The Department is also entering into Intergovernmental Agreements with the Hopi, San Carlos Apache, and White Mountain Apache tribes to operate tribal TANF employment programs. These three tribes will assume responsibility for Jobs case management and delivery of supportive services to assist their tribal members in the work participation component of welfare reform.

Marriage and Communication Skills

Marriage and communications skills workshops promote healthy marriages and strong two-parent families. These workshops are designed to improve communication and relationship skills for couples who are planning to marry or who are already married. During SFY2004, five organizations provided 258 workshops. This compares with 370 workshops in SFY2003. Approximately 850 workshops were conducted since the program started.

Couples were required to pay 15 percent of the cost of the workshop. Parents whose income was below 150 percent of the FPL qualified for a voucher that paid for the cost of the workshops. Vouchers were provided to 94 couples during SFY2004. Forty vouchers were provided in SFY2003.

The Department developed and began distributing a *Marriage Handbook* during SFY2002. The *Marriage Handbook* is provided free of charge to marriage license applicants and is distributed by the Clerks of the County Court. During SFY2004, 26,915 copies in English, and 1,850 copies in Spanish, were distributed. Over 118,615 copies in English and 17,650 copies in Spanish have been provided to the Clerks of the County Court since the start of the program. A copy of the *Marriage Handbook* is also available on the Department's web page www.de.state.az.us/marriage.

Out-of-Wedlock Births

The teen birth rate in Arizona continued to decrease. The teen birth rate per 1,000 births in Arizona was 59.7 in 2002, the most recent data available. This compares with 63.3 in 2001. The teen birth rate in Arizona declined by 26 percent from 1991 to 2002. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), teen birth rates are at their lowest rate in more than 60 years. Although the rates are falling at a faster rate than the national average, the rate among girls aged 15 to 19 in Arizona is still the second highest in the nation. Every week 65 babies are born to teenage mothers in Arizona. The following chart compares the Arizona teen birth rate to the national teen birth rate for this age group. Arizona's decrease from 1991 to 2002 is less than the national average by exactly five percentage points.

BIRTH RATES FOR TEENS 15–19 YEARS OF AGE

Births per 1000

	1991	2000	2001	2002	Percent Change 1991-2002
Arizona	80.7	67.6	63.3	59.7	-26.0%
United States	62.1	48.7	45.8	42.9	-31.0%

Source: DHHS National Center for Health Statistics

The chart below compares Arizona's non-marital births for the past five years. The percentage of non-marital births increased slightly to 41.2 percent in 2003.

NON-MARITAL BIRTHS

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Non-Marital Births	29,924	31,272	33,438	33,583	35,116	37,394
Non-Marital Births Percentage	38.4%	38.8%	39.3%	39.4%	40.2%	41.2%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services

Beginning in SFY1997, the Arizona State Legislature appropriated \$2 million of TANF funds annually to the Department for a Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program. The Department entered into an Interagency Service Agreement (ISA) with the Arizona Department of Health Services (DHS), the State entity responsible for such programs, to administer the State's Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program. Beginning in SFY2002, TANF funds were no longer available for the program. The State Legislature appropriated other funding for the program from Proposition 204 (Tobacco Settlement) and Tobacco Tax directly to DHS. DHS utilized federal Title V, Section 510(b) abstinence grant funds, Tobacco Tax and Proposition 204 funds to continue the program for SFY2004.

For SFY2004, DHS released a new Request for Proposal for the abstinence program since previous contract awards expired after five years. Due to the cut back of additional state funds for the program in addition to the federal grant funds, DHS only awarded contracts to 7 community-based organizations for programs to promote sexual abstinence until marriage. The program only covered five counties in SFY2004, where it had covered eleven counties in prior years. Organizations that were funded include a local health department, faith-based and community-based organizations, and community partnerships. A listing of the funded programs by county, and a description of their program for each organization, is included in [Appendix #10](#).

Appendices

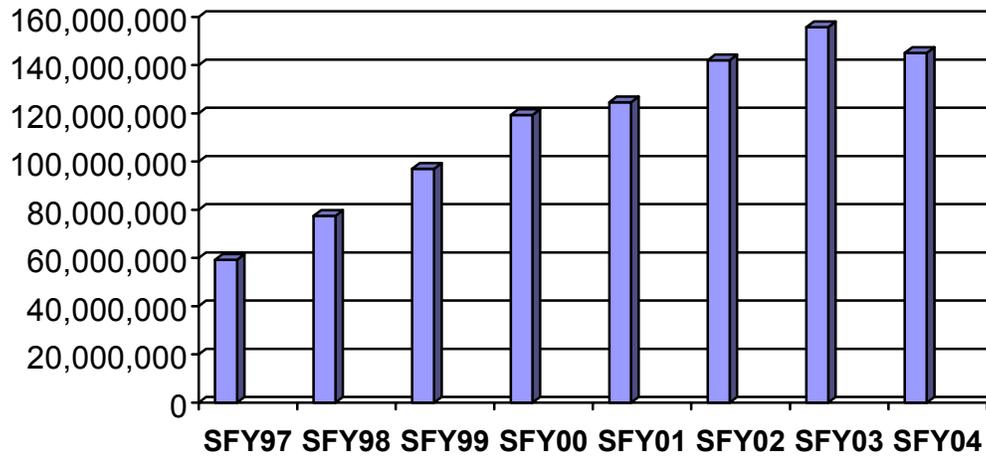
- Appendix 1 Transportation Assistance
- Appendix 2 Child Care Program Expenditures
- Appendix 3 Child Care Assistance Gross Monthly Income Eligibility Chart & Fee Schedule
- Appendix 4 Average Cash Assistance Cases, Recipients, Payments by County
- Appendix 5 Cash Assistance Caseload Demographics
- Appendix 6 Food Stamps and Medical Assistance Caseload Data
- Appendix 7 Cash Assistance Cases with Family Benefit Cap Children
- Appendix 8 Teen Parents Not Eligible for Cash Assistance Due to Minor Parent Provisions
- Appendix 9 Cash Assistance Cases - Sanction Data
- Appendix 10 Teen Pregnancy Prevention Programs

Transportation Assistance

COUNTY	SFY2003	SFY2004
APACHE	662	155
COCHISE	946	931
COCONINO	278	238
GILA	595	581
GRAHAM	249	428
GREENLEE	31	70
LA PAZ	97	82
MARICOPA	7,182	9,240
MOHAVE	797	971
NAVAJO	661	697
PIMA	4,648	5,344
PINAL	843	1,155
SANTA CRUZ	262	231
YAVAPAI	292	370
YUMA	1,004	1,023
TOTAL	18,547	21,516

Unduplicated Count

Child Care Program Expenditures



**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY
DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION SERVICES - CHILD CARE ADMINISTRATION**

CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE GROSS MONTHLY INCOME ELIGIBILITY CHART & FEE SCHEDULE (EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2003)

Family Size ↓	<u>FEE LEVEL 1 (L1)</u> INCOME MAXIMUM EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN 85% FPL*	<u>FEE LEVEL 2 (L2)</u> INCOME MAXIMUM EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN 100% FPL*	<u>FEE LEVEL 3 (L3)</u> INCOME MAXIMUM EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN 135% FPL*	<u>FEE LEVEL 4 (L4)</u> INCOME MAXIMUM EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN 145% FPL*	<u>FEE LEVEL 5 (L5)</u> INCOME MAXIMUM EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN 155% FPL*	<u>FEE LEVEL 6 (L6)</u> INCOME MAXIMUM EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN 165% FPL*
1	0 – 637	638 – 749	750 – 1,012	1,013 – 1,087	1,088 – 1,161	1,162 – 1,236
2	0 – 859	860 – 1,010	1,011 – 1,364	1,365 – 1,465	1,466 – 1,566	1,567 – 1,667
3	0 – 1,082	1,083 – 1,272	1,273 – 1,718	1,719 – 1,845	1,846 – 1,972	1,973 – 2,099
4	0 – 1,304	1,305 – 1,534	1,535 – 2,071	2,072 – 2,225	2,226 – 2,378	2,379 – 2,532
5	0 – 1,526	1,527 – 1,795	1,796 – 2,424	2,425 – 2,603	2,604 – 2,783	2,784 – 2,962
6	0 – 1,749	1,750 – 2,057	2,058 – 2,777	2,778 – 2,983	2,984 – 3,189	3,190 – 3,395

MINIMUM REQUIRED CO-PAYMENTS

1st child in care	full day = \$1.00 part day = \$.50	full day = \$2.00 part day = \$1.00	full day = \$3.00 part day = \$1.50	full day = \$5.00 part day = \$2.50	full day = \$7.00 part day = \$3.50	Full day = \$10.00 part day = \$5.00
2nd child in care	full day = \$.50 part day = \$.25	full day = \$1.00 part day = \$.50	full day = \$1.50 part day = \$.75	full day = \$2.50 part day = \$1.25	full day = \$3.50 part day = \$1.75	full day = \$5.00 part day = \$2.50
3rd child in care	full day = \$.50 part day = \$.25	full day = \$1.00 part day = \$.50	full day = \$1.50 part day = \$.75	full day = \$2.50 part day = \$1.25	full day = \$3.50 part day = \$1.75	full day = \$5.00 part day = \$2.50

No minimum required co-pay for 4th {or more} child in care. Full day = six or more hours; part day = less than six hours.

Families receiving child care assistance based upon involvement with Child Protective Services/Foster Care, the JOBS Program, or those who are receiving cash assistance and who are employed, may not have an assigned fee level and may not have a minimum required co-payment. However, all families may be responsible for charges above the Minimum Required Co-Payments if a provider's rates exceed allowable state reimbursement maximums and/or the provider has other additional charges.

* Federal Poverty Level (FPL)

** This amount is equal to the Federal Child Care & Development Fund statutory limit (for eligibility for child care assistance) of 85% of the state median income.

AVERAGE CASH ASSISTANCE CASES, RECIPIENTS, PAYMENTS BY COUNTY* - SFY2004

COUNTY	AVERAGE CASES PER MONTH	AVERAGE RECIPIENTS PER MONTH	AVERAGE TOTAL PAYMENTS PER MONTH	AVERAGE PAYMENT PER CASE	AVERAGE PAYMENT PER RECIPIENT	TOTAL PAYMENTS
APACHE	145	345	\$40,209	\$277.15	\$116.56	\$482,508
COCHISE	1,328	2,991	\$360,851	\$271.59	\$120.83	\$4,330,207
COCONINO	402	901	\$106,112	\$263.85	\$117.88	\$1,273,342
GILA	883	2,141	\$251,190	\$284.54	\$117.43	\$3,014,282
GREENLEE	72	177	\$20,098	\$280.12	\$114.07	\$241,181
GRAHAM	511	1,147	\$139,800	\$273.81	\$121.98	\$1,677,605
LA PAZ	250	615	\$69,853	\$279.50	\$113.70	\$838,236
MARICOPA	28,644	68,477	\$8,061,116	\$281.42	\$117.80	\$96,733,390
MOHAVE	1,739	4,032	\$481,717	\$277.03	\$119.56	\$5,780,607
NAVAJO	1,422	3,516	\$400,708	\$281.83	\$114.01	\$4,808,497
PIMA	8,732	20,256	\$2,425,304	\$277.72	\$119.86	\$29,103,649
PINAL	2,537	6,298	\$714,917	\$281.69	\$113.70	\$8,579,007
SANTA CRUZ	364	879	\$100,946	\$277.57	\$115.07	\$1,311,350
YAVAPAI	824	1,797	\$215,850	\$261.96	\$120.12	\$2,590,201
YUMA	1,551	3,743	\$431,154	\$277.98	\$115.28	\$5,173,851
TOTAL	49,404	117,315	\$13,819,826	\$279.73	\$117.80	\$165,837,913

*Excludes two-parent households and unduplicated cases, recipients, and payments.

NOTE: Navajo Nation started their own TANF Program in March 2002.

AVERAGE CASH ASSISTANCE CASES, RECIPIENTS, PAYMENTS BY COUNTY* - SFY2003

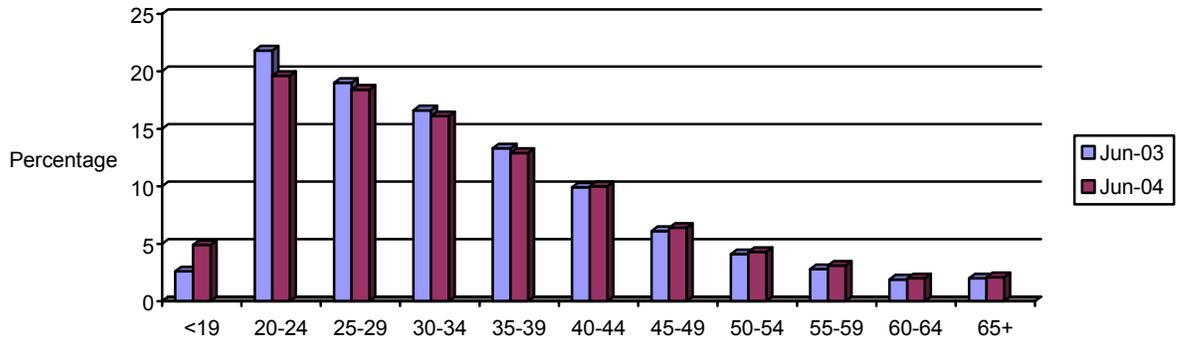
COUNTY	AVERAGE CASES PER MONTH	AVERAGE RECIPIENTS PER MONTH	AVERAGE TOTAL PAYMENTS PER MONTH	AVERAGE PAYMENT PER CASE	AVERAGE PAYMENT PER RECIPIENT	TOTAL PAYMENTS
APACHE	284	799	\$77,163	\$273.79	\$96.55	\$925,956
COCHISE	1,336	3,306	\$365,903	\$273.83	\$110.68	\$4,390,481
COCONINO	516	1,335	\$144,773	\$280.79	\$108.48	\$1,737,274
GILA	876	2,302	\$249,900	\$285.19	\$108.58	\$2,998,799
GREENLEE	74	185	\$21,314	\$288.36	\$115.53	\$255,773
GRAHAM	496	1,186	\$136,519	\$275.15	\$115.13	\$1,638,232
LA PAZ	235	630	\$66,187	\$281.85	\$104.99	\$794,240
MARICOPA	24,910	63,360	\$7,007,911	\$281.33	\$110.60	\$84,094,936
MOHAVE	1,603	3,868	\$441,851	\$275.68	\$114.25	\$5,302,214
NAVAJO	1,603	4,184	\$449,078	\$280.09	\$107.33	\$5,388,941
PIMA	8,387	21,011	\$2,346,997	\$279.82	\$111.70	\$28,163,965
PINAL	2,391	6,463	\$675,670	\$282.54	\$104.55	\$8,108,040
SANTA CRUZ	377	973	\$103,990	\$275.96	\$106.88	\$1,247,879
YAVAPAI	801	1,853	\$214,532	\$267.69	\$115.78	\$2,574,381
YUMA	1,413	3,649	\$391,975	\$277.32	\$107.42	\$4,703,701
TOTAL	45,300	115,104	\$12,693,763	\$280.22	\$110.28	\$152,325,172

*Excludes two-parent households and unduplicated cases, recipients, and payments.

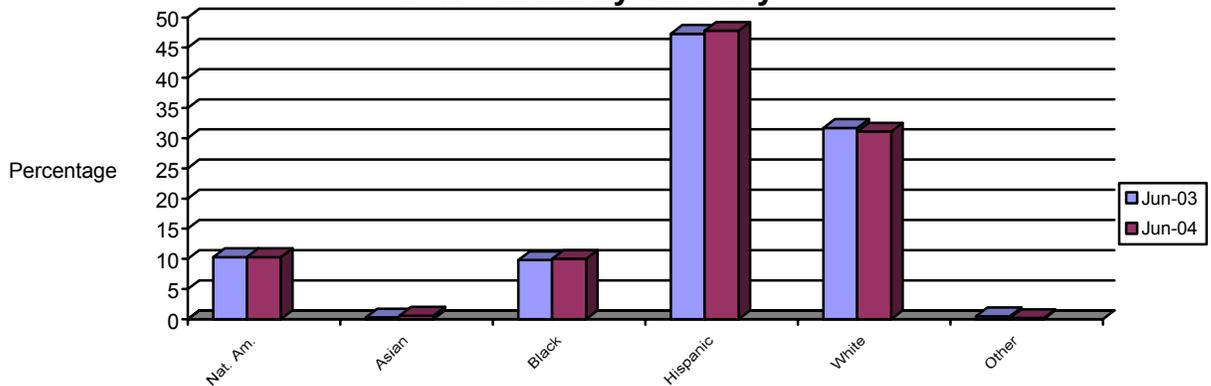
NOTE: Navajo Nation started their own TANF Program in March 2002.

CASH ASSISTANCE CASELOAD DEMOGRAPHICS

Distribution of TANF Cases by Age of Head of Household



TANF Cases by Ethnicity

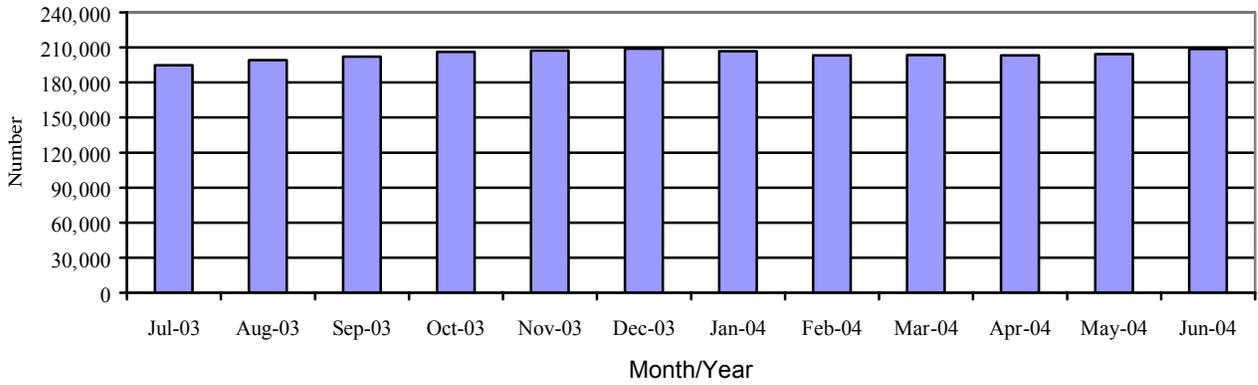


Appendix #6

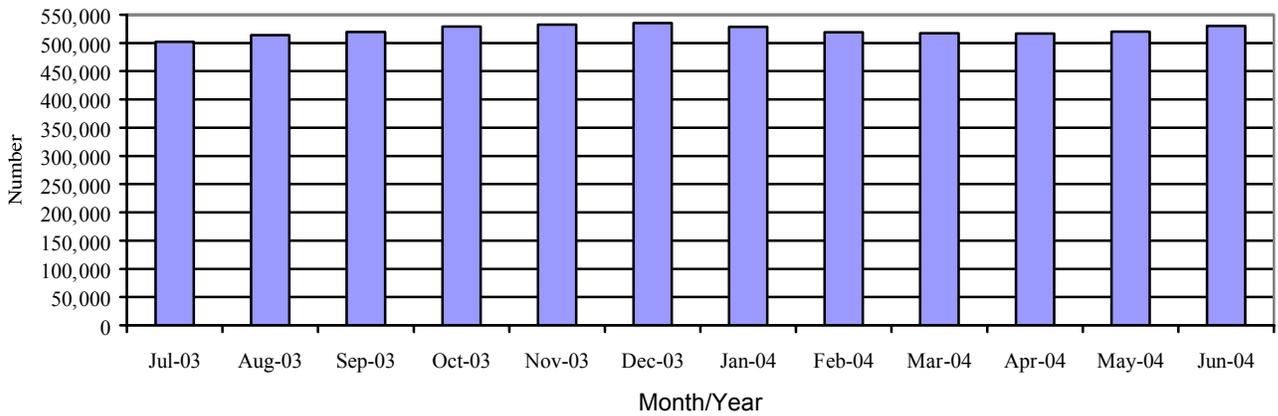
FOOD STAMPS AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE CASELOAD DATA

The following four charts show the caseload changes each month during SFY2004 for Food Stamps (Cases and Recipients), General Assistance, and Medical Assistance cases.

Food Stamp Cases

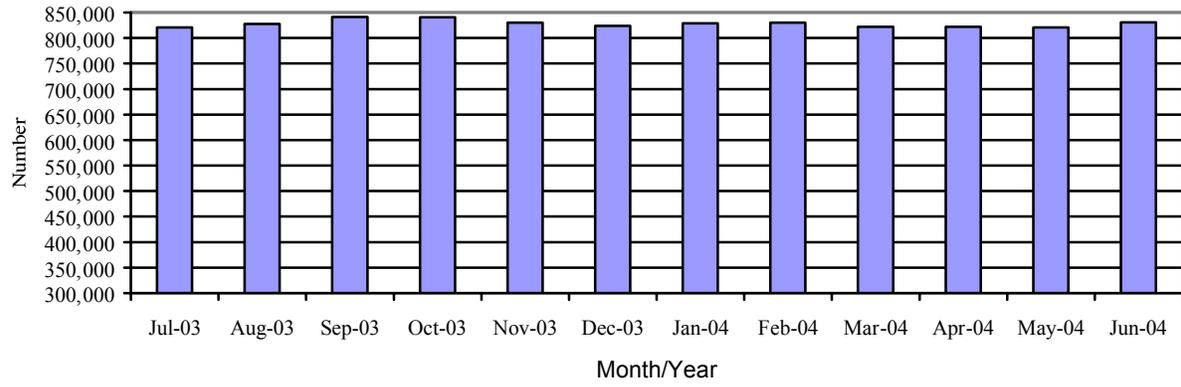


Food Stamp Recipients



Appendix #6 continued

Medical Assistance Cases



Appendix #7

CASH ASSISTANCE CASES WITH FAMILY BENEFIT CAP CHILDREN - SFY2004

COUNTY	Jul-03	Aug-03	Sep-03	Oct-03	Nov-03	Dec-03	Jan-04	Feb-04	Mar-04	Apr-04	May-04	Jun-04	TOTAL
APACHE	27	28	43	40	44	45	40	39	39	37	41	36	459
COCHISE	331	334	351	344	338	339	350	347	333	348	330	324	4,069
COCONINO	41	37	34	33	34	39	40	45	52	49	41	44	489
GILA	258	252	258	280	281	282	278	272	284	276	272	277	3,270
GREENLEE	12	11	13	11	10	9	10	8	10	12	9	7	122
GRAHAM	98	100	99	102	03	99	103	104	114	103	100	103	1,218
LA PAZ	62	75	66	65	66	69	71	70	64	68	75	75	826
MARICOPA	5,739	5,849	5,986	6,137	6,245	6,343	6,330	6,369	6,464	6,351	6,357	6,501	74,673
MOHAVE	197	219	226	221	211	222	217	231	230	238	224	222	2,658
NAVAJO	81	86	78	78	83	72	77	76	84	81	88	94	978
PIMA	1,636	1,701	1,736	1,794	1,800	1,799	1,781	1,818	1,862	1,868	1,863	1,894	21,552
PINAL	642	647	641	653	658	691	690	662	661	671	658	633	7,907
SANTA CRUZ	90	89	82	91	90	90	90	84	76	78	74	71	1,005
YAVAPAI	87	91	93	90	85	86	83	85	74	79	80	82	1,015
YUMA	310	319	316	327	329	316	305	320	326	313	315	313	3,809
OTHER	6	10	12	3	4	3	1	2	7	5	4	4	61
TOTAL	9,617	9,848	10,034	10,271	10,371	10,504	10,466	10,532	10,680	10,577	10,531	10,680	124,111

Note: Duplicate count

Appendix #7

CASH ASSISTANCE CASES WITH FAMILY BENEFIT CAP CHILDREN - SFY2003

COUNTY	Jul-02	Aug-02	Sep-02	Oct-02	Nov-02	Dec-02	Jan-03	Feb-03	Mar-03	Apr-03	May-03	Jun-03	TOTAL
APACHE	29	28	30	29	32	31	33	30	30	30	28	28	358
COCHISE	292	305	300	308	312	334	328	328	316	310	323	340	3,796
COCONINO	52	55	50	51	53	54	51	45	47	37	38	42	575
GILA	186	200	213	231	244	252	260	259	253	246	264	251	2,859
GREENLEE	2	1	3	6	7	8	8	9	8	9	10	11	82
GRAHAM	56	65	64	78	75	84	89	86	87	88	94	95	961
LA PAZ	40	44	43	53	50	52	51	51	54	57	64	57	616
MARICOPA	3,850	3,999	4,105	4,512	4,712	4,904	5,019	5,133	5,278	5,403	5,577	5,641	58,133
MOHAVE	150	161	169	176	188	184	184	186	175	191	185	195	2,144
NAVAJO	58	58	56	63	70	66	71	80	72	73	80	84	831
PIMA	1,274	1,361	1,393	1,406	1,428	1,460	1,506	1,536	1,548	1,567	1,595	1,621	17,695
PINAL	458	496	510	535	568	567	606	642	639	652	641	646	6,960
SANTA CRUZ	65	69	70	65	70	73	73	82	81	85	82	79	894
YAVAPAI	75	74	68	68	63	67	70	75	88	91	85	94	918
YUMA	229	233	243	259	254	263	272	257	252	270	289	305	3,126
OTHER	8	9	5	7	8	3	3	6	8	10	6	4	77
TOTAL	6,824	7,158	7,322	7,847	8,134	8,402	8,624	8,805	8,936	9,119	9,361	9,493	100,025

Note: Duplicate count

TEEN PARENTS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR CASH ASSISTANCE DUE TO MINOR PARENT PROVISIONS - SFY2004

COUNTY	Jul-03	Aug-03	Sep-03	Oct-03	Nov-03	Dec-03	Jan-04	Feb-04	Mar-04	Apr-04	May-04	Jun-04	TOTAL
								1					
APACHE	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
COCHISE	2	2	2	1	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	26
COCONINO	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
GILA	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
GRAHAM	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	11
LA PAZ	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	10
MARICOPA	45	44	43	42	42	41	41	41	42	39	40	40	500
MOHAVE	0	0	0	2	2	4	3	3	6	5	4	3	32
NAVAJO	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	3	11
PIMA	13	14	10	11	12	12	9	8	11	9	6	10	125
PINAL	3	3	3	4	4	6	8	5	8	5	6	5	60
SANTA CRUZ	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
YAVAPAI	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	6
YUMA	2	2	2	3	4	5	6	4	6	6	6	2	48
OTHER	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	71	69	62	66	70	74	74	66	79	73	71	70	845

Note: Duplicate Count

TEEN PARENTS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR CASH ASSISTANCE DUE TO MINOR PARENT PROVISIONS - SFY2003

COUNTY	Jul-02	Aug-02	Sep-02	Oct-02	Nov-02	Dec-02	Jan-03	Feb-03	Mar-03	Apr-03	May-03	Jun-03	TOTAL
APACHE	2	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
COCHISE	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	3	3	1	0	0	12
COCONINO	0	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	2	3	2	2	20
GILA	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	5
GREENLEE	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
GRAHAM	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
LA PAZ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
MARICOPA	34	42	36	42	37	35	34	39	38	43	47	51	478
MOHAVE	3	2	5	6	2	2	4	4	2	2	0	0	32
NAVAJO	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	13
PIMA	15	20	20	24	24	22	17	13	10	10	9	9	193
PINAL	7	5	5	5	5	6	3	5	4	1	2	1	49
SANTA CRUZ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
YAVAPAI	1	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	11
YUMA	0	4	5	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	2	2	37
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	65	78	77	87	77	74	67	74	64	66	64	70	863

Note: Duplicate Count

**CASH ASSISTANCE CASES – 25% SANCTION
SFY2004**

COUNTY	Jul-03	Aug-03	Sep-03	Oct-03	Nov-03	Dec-03	Jan-04	Feb-04	Mar-04	Apr-04	May-04	Jun-04	TOTAL
APACHE	0	01	01	1	2	1	0	1	2	1	1	0	9
COCHISE	13	9	4	9	9	2	9	17	17	12	17	11	129
COCONINO	9	5	2	5	5	3	9	11	9	4	11	7	80
GILA	7	5	5	7	7	2	5	15	4	3	6	7	73
GREENLEE	1	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	7
GRAHAM	5	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	4	2	31
LA PAZ	0	1	0	1	1	3	2	0	0	1	0	1	10
MARICOPA	137	106	141	130	176	189	201	146	140	270	301	245	2,182
MOHAVE	6	6	17	15	17	24	21	19	17	40	35	17	234
NAVAJO	4	3	5	6	2	7	8	7	3	5	5	1	56
PIMA	42	36	27	25	42	52	27	47	44	28	53	60	483
PINAL	13	31	17	16	19	24	19	29	24	32	32	28	284
SANTA CRUZ	2	6	3	4	11	2	5	0	0	7	0	4	44
YAVAPAI	9	9	10	13	10	15	33	30	17	24	24	13	207
YUMA	6	8	14	5	9	3	6	11	13	15	17	13	120
OTHER	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	6
TOTAL	255	230	252	238	313	327	346	334	297	446	507	410	3,955

**CASH ASSISTANCE CASES – 25% SANCTION
SFY2003**

COUNTY	Jul-02	Aug-02	Sep-02	Oct-02	Nov-02	Dec-02	Jan-03	Feb-03	Mar-03	Apr-03	May-03	Jun-03	TOTAL
APACHE	0	1	1	2	4	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	13
COCHISE	8	8	4	2	4	14	6	13	12	4	14	12	101
COCONINO	2	0	1	1	3	4	1	4	5	4	3	5	33
GILA	3	3	2	1	0	1	4	2	6	7	10	3	42
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
GRAHAM	2	0	1	2	1	0	0	2	1	2	1	2	14
LA PAZ	5	4	4	2	0	2	0	1	2	0	2	0	22
MARICOPA	78	129	83	38	37	26	60	89	112	139	146	112	1,049
MOHAVE	11	17	9	20	15	10	5	7	10	10	12	5	131
NAVAJO	4	5	9	14	7	8	6	7	8	4	5	0	77
PIMA	11	15	12	13	11	5	12	14	22	31	45	34	225
PINAL	10	29	6	10	6	12	15	5	11	24	26	23	177
SANTA CRUZ	7	1	1	7	0	5	5	2	1	1	4	5	39
YAVAPAI	13	8	14	11	8	11	7	8	6	5	9	10	110
YUMA	7	6	9	8	4	9	3	6	4	6	2	10	74
OTHER	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
TOTAL	161	227	158	132	100	107	124	160	202	240	279	222	2,112

**CASH ASSISTANCE CASES – 50% SANCTION
SFY2004**

COUNTY	Jul-03	Aug-03	Sep-03	Oct-03	Nov-03	Dec-03	Jan-04	Feb-04	Mar-04	Apr-04	May-04	Jun-04	TOTAL
APACHE	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	1	1	0	9	0	16
COCHISE	9	5	7	3	6	7	8	7	17	7	0	15	91
COCONINO	3	5	4	2	4	1	5	8	6	8	4	7	57
GILA	3	4	2	4	7	4	2	4	8	3	2	3	46
GREENLEE	1	1	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	8
GRAHAM	1	4	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	14
LA PAZ	1	1	0	0	2	1	4	0	0	0	0	1	10
MARICOPA	62	69	82	96	84	87	120	98	105	108	145	148	1,204
MOHAVE	2	6	10	8	4	12	14	12	17	12	21	25	143
NAVAJO	1	2	4	5	1	3	6	6	5	3	4	4	44
PIMA	20	29	23	21	28	29	33	21	34	27	24	39	328
PINAL	15	10	13	20	12	11	18	17	30	20	20	28	214
SANTA CRUZ	2	1	2	2	0	1	5	2	0	7	2	0	24
YAVAPAI	6	4	4	7	6	8	5	26	16	15	15	9	121
YUMA	10	6	4	5	5	8	3	1	6	13	12	14	87
OTHER	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	2	2	10
TOTAL	136	149	155	177	164	176	227	204	246	225	262	296	2,417

**CASH ASSISTANCE CASES – 50% SANCTION
SFY2003**

COUNTY	Jul-02	Aug-02	Sep-02	Oct-02	Nov-02	Dec-02	Jan-03	Feb-03	Mar-03	Apr-03	May-03	Jun-03	TOTAL
APACHE	6	1	0	1	4	1	0	0	1	1	3	0	18
COCHISE	11	2	6	5	3	4	11	4	7	13	0	11	77
COCONINO	1	1	0	0	1	3	3	0	0	1	3	1	14
GILA	2	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	3	6	7	5	29
GREENLEE	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
GRAHAM	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	11
LA PAZ	2	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	9
MARICOPA	93	63	71	40	28	25	34	44	60	92	97	100	747
MOHAVE	6	7	6	10	19	12	0	3	6	8	4	9	90
NAVAJO	2	6	7	11	15	6	10	1	6	10	3	9	86
PIMA	9	5	11	8	5	10	9	9	10	25	23	26	150
PINAL	11	6	23	6	10	6	13	10	5	14	19	20	143
SANTA CRUZ	3	2	1	1	5	2	1	3	1	2	0	4	25
YAVAPAI	14	10	7	6	10	9	7	4	2	5	2	8	84
YUMA	4	4	6	3	3	6	6	2	4	2	1	2	43
OTHER	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	6
TOTAL	169	115	144	94	103	85	94	80	105	181	166	197	1,533

**CASH ASSISTANCE CASES CLOSED DUE TO SANCTIONS*
SFY2004**

COUNTY	Jul-03	Aug-03	Sep-03	Oct-03	Nov-03	Dec-03	Jan-04	Feb-04	Mar-04	Apr-04	May-04	Jun-04	TOTAL
APACHE	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	1	4	1	1	12
COCHISE	10	7	6	9	4	9	14	10	20	11	8	14	122
COCONINO	1	2	4	3	4	2	2	5	4	4	4	5	40
GILA	6	3	3	2	6	7	5	9	4	9	4	5	63
GREENLEE	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	6
GRAHAM	3	1	1	0	4	1	1	0	1	1	2	1	16
LA PAZ	0	0	1	0	1	1	2	3	0	0	1	2	11
MARICOPA	119	67	91	95	111	117	133	96	111	205	181	192	1,518
MOHAVE	4	2	12	8	11	7	12	14	18	36	12	27	163
NAVAJO	6	3	3	6	7	6	10	9	7	8	4	3	72
PIMA	32	22	32	36	28	35	44	37	42	30	46	52	436
PINAL	16	19	19	32	29	16	23	38	42	55	31	42	362
SANTA CRUZ	2	2	2	2	2	0	7	8	4	0	6	2	37
YAVAPAI	7	11	1	6	7	9	20	15	21	23	16	18	154
YUMA	10	15	10	28	9	9	6	4	5	11	19	26	126
OTHER	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	5
TOTAL	217	154	188	201	224	220	280	252	283	398	336	390	3,143

*First month of ineligibility

**CASH ASSISTANCE CASES CLOSED DUE TO SANCTIONS*
SFY2003**

COUNTY	Jul-02	Aug-02	Sep-02	Oct-02	Nov-02	Dec-02	Jan-03	Feb-03	Mar-03	Apr-03	May-03	Jun-03	TOTAL
APACHE	4	6	0	3	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	1	19
COCHISE	3	12	3	6	3	8	6	12	12	7	18	14	104
COCONINO	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	1	0	0	2	16
GILA	7	1	0	0	5	0	1	1	1	7	3	5	31
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRAHAM	1	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	3	14
LA PAZ	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	5
MARICOPA	67	83	67	52	43	24	60	76	73	113	152	117	927
MOHAVE	4	5	3	4	7	2	3	3	4	5	11	13	64
NAVAJO	6	8	12	11	17	8	10	9	9	13	8	6	117
PIMA	20	20	8	11	12	12	17	22	17	16	30	42	227
PINAL	13	29	13	24	16	19	7	9	13	12	26	20	201
SANTA CRUZ	4	2	2	4	5	2	2	5	2	3	8	1	40
YAVAPAI	10	11	8	14	10	5	6	11	2	5	8	6	96
YUMA	7	5	3	8	6	8	7	5	6	3	2	4	64
OTHER	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	3
TOTAL	148	187	126	139	125	93	122	158	141	187	267	235	1,928

*First month of ineligibility

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Programs

MARICOPA COUNTY

Catholic Social Services of Central and Northern Arizona (CSS)

Target Population: Youth in grades 6 through 12, parents, youth workers, and adults committed to youth and high-risk children of all ages. CSS is the only funded provider of services in Maricopa County. Group presentations and educational opportunities are offered to schools, churches, youth groups, group homes and other social service agencies. Seven curricula are offered: *Choosing the Best Way*, *Choosing The Best Path*, *Choosing The Best Life*, *Navigator*, *Game Plan in Spanish*, *Wait Training*, and *FACTS for Parents*. The goal of the program is to stress abstinence until marriage through the provision of a variety of curricula that meet the needs of the community and the identified target group. Computerized dolls were used with the Baby Think It Over program with selected high-risk schools in the county.

NAVAJO COUNTY

Arizona Psychology Services

Target population: Youth in grades 6 through 12, parents, and high-risk youth. The Abstinence-Only Project (AOP) is a consortium of northeastern Arizona educational and community-based organizations under the direction of a private sector psychology practice venture entitled Arizona Psychology Associates (APS). The partnership includes area schools in Winslow, Holbrook, Blue Ridge and Joseph City, and the support of county and city governments as well as local businesses.

The objectives of AOP are directed toward children and young adults in Navajo County, Arizona with the goal of teaching sexual abstinence as the behavioral standard prior to marriage, and thereby reducing the unwed birth rate for the targeted age group.

The programmatic components of AOP include using the *Choosing The Best Life* curriculum for grades 9th – 12th and *Choosing the Best Path* curriculum for grades 7th - 8th in regular physical education or health classes during the regular school day. Parent classes will also be taught using *Choosing The Best Parent Training Program* and the Big Talk Book. Each of these elements is designed to provide information as well as skills to assist the individual in selecting sexual abstinence before marriage as a viable and healthy choice.

PIMA COUNTY

Pima Prevention Partnership (PPP)

Target population: Youth in grades 6 through 12, parents, high-risk children of all ages, and adults ages 20 through 45. PPP continues to provide abstinence education program called “B-Unique”, to various target groups in the Tucson area. The target geographic area is focused on the Southside of Tucson and is primarily a Hispanic, Spanish-speaking population.

PPP subcontracted with five individual instructors and two community agencies to supplement existing abstinence education in area schools. PPP continues to provide services to parents of youth in grades 6 through 12, middle school youth in grades 6 through 8, high school youth in grades 9 through 12, young adults and adults. The target areas are those areas of Tucson that are not currently receiving service through another provider. A range of curricula is being used to meet the needs of the wide target population. PPP has slightly modified the *Choosing The Best Way, Path and Life* and *WAIT Training* curricula to meet the needs of their populations. PPP has developed an after school program called “PALS”, for youth who interested in promoting the abstinence message.

Child and Family Resources, Inc. (Tucson)

Target population: Youth in grades 6 through 8 and their parents. *Girl Talk* and *Guy Talk (GT)* programs emphasize abstinence-only education within a broader prevention context. The twelve-session, gender and developmentally tailored curricula, use social skills training and psycho-educational methods to equip middle school youth with the tools they need to build personal strengths and resist pressures to engage in premarital sexual activity. Companion curricula for each program are distributed to parents of all participants. Programs are offered to both girls and boys but there is more interest and participation in the *Girl Talk* classes by schools.

The GT programs are offered through school-based clubs both in school and after school during the school year. Program service is also provided at the Child and Family Teen Parenting program. The educators for the program, who receive extensive training from the author of the curriculum, are students at the University of Arizona.

Pima Youth Partnership (PYP)

Target population: Youth in grades 6 through 12, parents, and high-risk youth of all ages. The goal of PYP is to facilitate the development of abstinence education programs for Pima County rural communities. These communities are Marana, Catalina, the Pasqua Yacqui Tribe, and the Tohono O’odham Nation. Curriculum offered includes *Choosing The Best Path* for grades 6 through 8, *Choosing The Best Life* for grades 9 through 12, and *Plain Talk for Parents*. Programs are provided to high-risk youth at the Catalina Mountain Boys School, a detention center for boys up to age 18. Native American youth are reached on the Tohono O’odham Nation in the San Simon School and the Santa Rosa Boarding Schools. Services are also provided at residential group homes in the rural areas.

PINAL COUNTY

Pinal County Health Department

Target population: Youth in grades 6 through 12. The Pinal County Health Department in collaboration with the Pinal County cities of Apache Junction, Coolidge, Florence, Superior, Maricopa, and the local schools, provide abstinence-only education to youth and adults in Pinal County. Curriculum offered include *Sex Can Wait 6th – 8th grades (middle school version)* 9th – 12th *Sex Can Wait (high school version)* and *WAIT Training*.

The program provides the following services for youth throughout Pinal County: (1) classroom education for grades 6 through 12, (2) a youth development club for grades 6 through 8, and (3) parent/adult workshops on teen sexuality issues. The program serves five school districts in Pinal County with a minimum of eight hours of instruction per classroom. The program also developed a traveling drama team that provides hour-long performances about abstinence to students in grades 5 through 8.

YAVAPAI COUNTY

Catholic Social Services of Central & Northern Arizona (CSS-Yavapai)

Target population: Youth in grades 6 through 12, parents, youth workers, and adults committed to youth, and high-risk children of all ages. Services are provided in health education classes in local schools during school hours and after school and at local community agencies. Curricula offered include *Choosing The Best Way and Path* for 6th – 8th grades and *Choosing The Best Life and WAIT Training for 9th – 12th grades*. Abstinence education in Yavapai County is a separate component of the Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Program (TAPP), a community coalition in central Yavapai County. The lead agency is Catholic Social Services with other collaborators being the Yavapai County Health Department, West Yavapai Guidance Clinic, Yavapai Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and Prescott Unified School District. Abstinence education expanded throughout the county providing services to the Verde Valley and central Yavapai County.

In the past, the focus has been primarily on the Prescott area, which varies culturally from the Verde Valley. Efforts will be made to serve Verde Valley, but resources are limited. Abstinence education in Yavapai County will lead group presentations in schools, churches, youth groups, and other community organizations. A Catholic Social Services subcontractor, Humboldt Unified School District, is providing additional services in the middle schools. Other program activities offered include youth development projects and TAPP players, a drama group, a sports program for teen girls, and an after prom/grad night alternative event. The program also collaborates with other local agencies to present the Teen Maze project in the local high schools.

Arizona Department of Health Services Abstinence Only Education Program

Accomplishments

Local Projects

The program issued a new Request for Proposal in the spring of 2003 and awarded seven contracts to local projects in July 2003, for the sixth year of implementation to provide community-based abstinence education services. Due to state funding reductions and lack of program support, only seven awards were made, all previous program contractors, covering only five counties.

The abstinence media campaign was dramatically reduced due to the reduction of state funds and lack of support for the program. On a limited basis, the media contractor continued to provide the sexcanwait.com website and the call to action hotline. The contractor conducted a 2004 creative calendar contest and developed a calendar.

During the sixth year of programming, a total of 28,053 participants received at least one or more abstinence only education sessions. Of this number served in the sixth year, an estimated total of 19,805 students (70.6 percent), attended all the program sessions. The majority of those participants were school based (59 percent) and in 7th through 10th grade, with an average age of 13.8 years old. Approximately 42 percent of the students were Hispanic, 36 percent White, 6 percent Native American, and the remaining percentage African American, Asian and other minorities. The majority of the programming occurred in over 700 schools, most of which was in Maricopa and Pima Counties, throughout the state during school hours.

During the sixth year, contractors began to participate on a statewide advisory group called Arizona Partners for Abstinence Education (APAE). The group was started in response to the need for advocacy to gain support for continuation of the Title V Abstinence Program. The group was successful in gaining support to encourage the continuation of the program through the submittal of the SFY2004 grant application. Meetings are held monthly through out the state and membership includes state contractors as well as community members.

Media Campaign

A new vendor contract was developed with Cooley Advertising and Public Relations to provide limited media services for the sixth year of the program. All paid and public service television, radio and print media were stopped due to the reduced funding and lack of support. The only services that were provided during FY04 were the continuation of the sexcanwait.com website, the call to action hotline and the creative calendar contest. The calendar was created using the artwork and writings of the students and distributed to contractors and other interested agencies. Limited program funds provided for new abstinence pledge cards and other promotional materials. The Program had an educational booth at Arizona State University West, South Mountain High School, and at the Adolescent Health Care Conference in April 2004. Many brochures and promotional items were distributed to interested adults and children.

Evaluation Component

The contract with LeCroy and Milligan Associates from Tucson expired after five years. The services of an outside independent evaluator for the program were not approved for SFY2004 due to lack of support. The individual contractors are now responsible for their individual program evaluations. Final evaluation reports are not yet available for all the contractors for SFY 2004. Preliminary reports received indicate a small but significant increase in pro - abstinence attitudes and intentions to abstain.

LeCroy & Milligan Associates completed the fifth year final annual evaluation report, including the data collected for each project, in October 2003. Results from the fifth year evaluation indicate that the program appears to have had an impact on the teen birth rates, helping to lower the number of teen births over the five-year period. Significant outcome findings include: 1) the follow-up study indicated that virgin students had a 95 percent success rate and that non-virgins had a 52 percent abstinence success rate 6 months post program; and 2) the program positively influenced the risk and protective factors related to the long term outcomes of pregnancy and sex before marriage. Students and parents who participated in a workshop about abstinence continued to express high satisfaction with the program and educators. On average, adults and teens say that due to the program, they feel somewhat more knowledgeable about sexuality, somewhat more in control of their behavior and decisions about sex, and have more clarity about their attitudes and values about sex. Teens showed a gradual drift in the positive direction toward support of the abstinence message after the program.

Meetings/Conferences/Site Visits

Throughout 2003 and 2004, quarterly technical assistance meetings were held in Phoenix locations for the abstinence only education program contractors. Speakers were brought in to provide additional information and education related to abstinence only education. Topics included: training session on sexually transmitted diseases, current Arizona teen pregnancy and birth statistics, sexual conduct with a minor laws, drug and alcohol use among youth and domestic violence. The program was successful in completing seven site visits between December 2003 and June 2004. Over 30 abstinence education class observations were made. Many issues were covered and technical assistance was provided if necessary. Final reports were compiled for each contractor.

Coordination with Other State Agencies

The program coordinated with the Department of Education to provide input on a quarterly basis on their HIV/AIDS Materials Review Committee during 2003-2004.



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