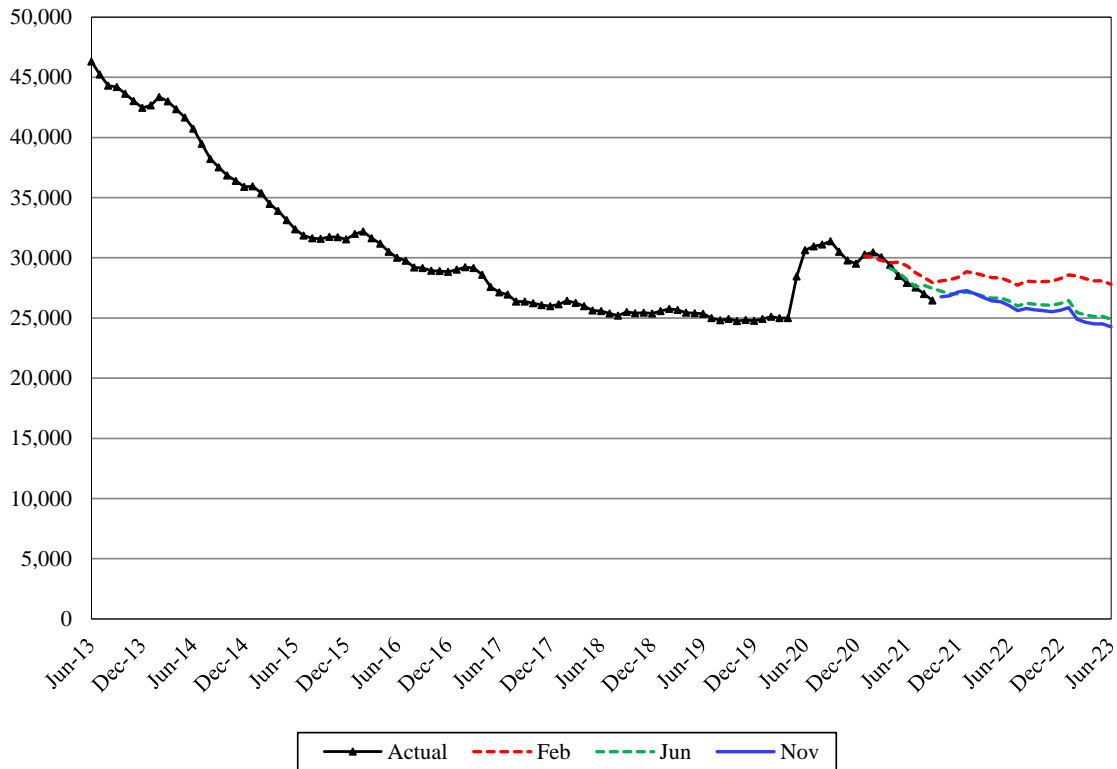


Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Caseload Forecast Council
November 9, 2021

TANF Assistance Units (Courtesy Forecast)



The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) forecast combines two forecasts: one for WorkFirst or “All Family” cases that include children and their parents and one for “Child Only” cases in which the parents or guardians do not receive part of the grant and are not subject to work requirements. WorkFirst cases made up 52% of the caseload during calendar year 2019.

Forecast Comparisons (Fiscal Year Averages)

Fiscal Year	Feb-21 Forecast	Jun-21 Forecast	Nov-21 Forecast	Feb to Nov Difference	Percent Difference	Jun to Nov Difference	Percent Difference
2022	28,377	27,058	26,793	-1,584	-5.6%	-265	-1.0%
2023	28,119	25,751	25,212	-2,907	-10.3%	-538	-2.1%

The November 2021 forecast is 402 cases or 1.5 percent lower than the June 2021 forecast for the 2021-23 Biennium.

Tracking the Current Forecast

	Jun-21 Forecast	Actual	Variance	Percent Variance
Apr-21	29,121	29,433	312	1.1%
May-21	28,793	28,491	-302	-1.0%
Jun-21	28,147	27,920	-227	-0.8%
Jul-21	27,620	27,529	-91	-0.3%
Aug-21	27,708	26,988	-720	-2.6%
Sep-21	27,462	26,451	-1,011	-3.7%

Actuals have been tracking, on average, 340 cases or 1.2 percent below the June 2021 forecast. Based on recent actuals, it appears that there is a continuing downward trend in the non-COVID-related cases. In the near term, however, the forecast predicts that the downward trend will be arrested by increases in WorkFirst related to the expected influx of Afghan refugees and a substantial increase in approved applications starting in September when COVID-related federal unemployment benefits expired.

Fiscal Year Caseload Change

	Fiscal Year	Caseload	Change from Prior Year	Percent Change
<i>Actual</i>	2014	43,051		
	2015	35,796	-7,255	-16.9%
	2016	31,461	-4,335	-12.1%
	2017	28,791	-2,671	-8.5%
	2018	26,162	-2,628	-9.1%
	2019	25,457	-705	-2.7%
	2020	25,684	227	0.9%
	2021	29,988	4,303	16.8%
<i>Forecast</i>	2022	26,793	-3,195	-10.7%
	2023	25,212	-1,581	-5.9%

Risks to the Forecast

Risks to this forecast are high. Estimates are based on current law and policy, but COVID-19 emergency policies are subject to change. Estimated increases due to Afghan refugees and the expiration of federal unemployment are based on the very limited information available currently.