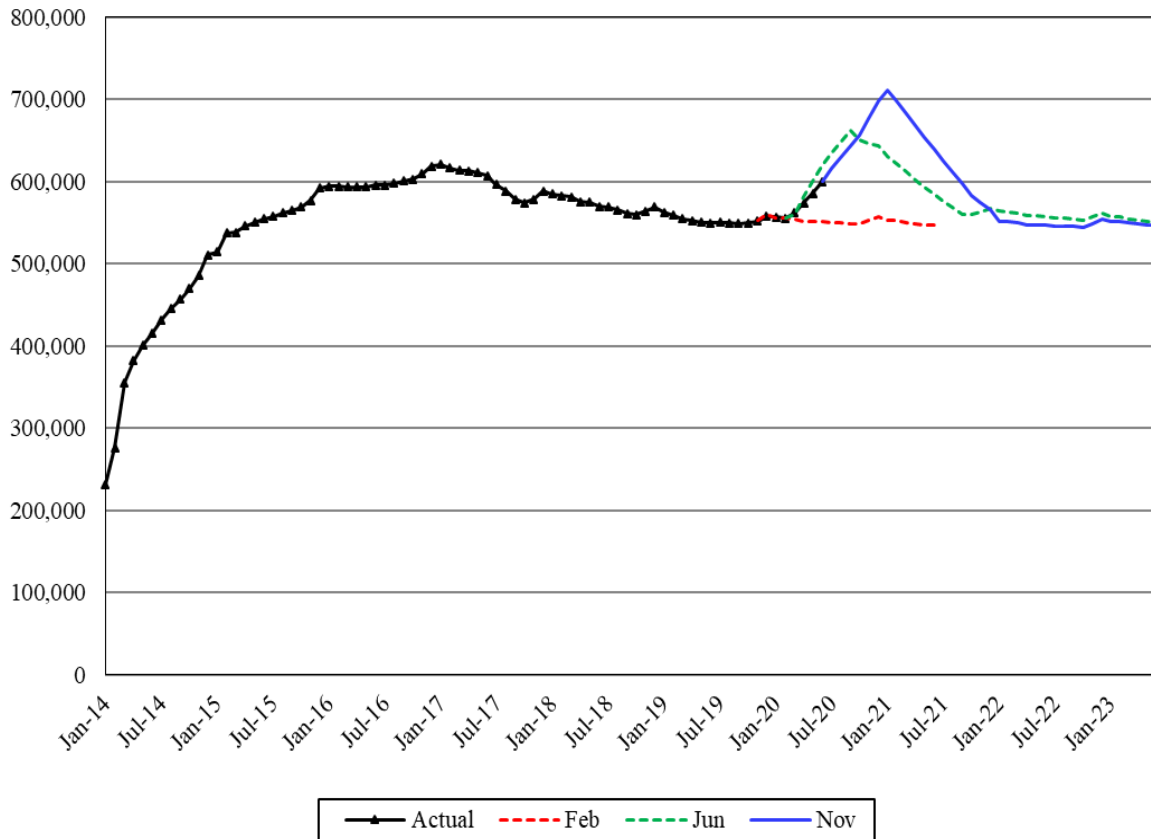


Medical Assistance Low Income Adults

Caseload Forecast Council
November 10, 2020

Low Income Adults



The Low Income Adults forecast began in January 2014 with the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), and reflects the extension of Medicaid eligibility to all adults under 138 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL).

Forecast Comparisons (Fiscal Year Averages)

Fiscal Year	Feb-20 Forecast	Jun-20 Forecast	Nov-20 Forecast	Feb to Nov Difference	Percent Difference	Jun to Nov Difference	Percent Difference
2021	550,385	627,349	664,154	113,769	20.7%	36,805	5.9%
2022		563,050	570,864			7,814	1.4%
2023		554,908	548,209			-6,699	-1.2%

The November 2020 forecast is 113,769 cases or 20.7 percent higher than the February 2020 forecast for FY 2021 and, on average, 558 cases or 0.1 percent higher than the June 2020 forecast for the 2021-23 Biennium.

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Tracking the Current Forecast

	Jun-20 Forecast	Actual	Variance	Percent Variance
Mar-20	560,302	561,891	1,589	0.3%
Apr-20	581,105	574,256	-6,849	-1.2%
May-20	600,853	585,505	-15,348	-2.6%
Jun-20	620,748	599,606	-21,141	-3.4%

Actuals have been tracking, on average, 10,437 cases or 1.8 percent below the June 2020 forecast for the past four months.

The November 2020 forecast change is mainly due to the progression of the COVID-19 impact and related policy changes at both the federal and state levels. The June forecast overstated the impact of unemployment on new enrollments to this caseload, therefore the November forecast modified the forecast model by incorporating the COVID-19 experience in the past months. Another important change is that the federal Public Health Emergency (PHE) period is extended from September 2020 to January 2021.

Fiscal Year Caseload Change

	Fiscal Year	Caseload	Change from Prior Year	Percent Change
<i>Actual</i>	2014	343,690		
	2015	503,343	159,653	46.5%
	2016	582,138	78,796	15.7%
	2017	608,860	26,721	4.6%
	2018	581,123	-27,736	-4.6%
	2019	559,716	-21,407	-3.7%
	2020	561,714	1,998	0.4%
<i>Forecast</i>	2021	664,154	102,440	18.2%
	2022	570,864	-93,290	-14.0%
	2023	548,209	-22,655	-4.0%

Recent caseload growth is not stable, mainly due to improvements in the post eligibility review process and residency checks. In the following years, this caseload will be impacted by COVID-19 and then is projected to return to the previous caseload trajectory.

Risks to the Forecast

Risks to this forecast are high because of the uncertainty of the COVID-19 impact and corresponding economic impacts and policy impacts.