

CALIFORNIA
CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

AB 1811: FAMILY CODE 17556

FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2020

Prepared by the Data Performance Analysis Branch

Questions regarding this data please call (916) 464-5863

Published March 2022

Table of Contents

| | PAGE |
|--|------|
| Executive Summary | 2 |
| Statutory Requirements..... | 2 |
| Performance Topics | |
| Cases to Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Ratio..... | 3 |
| Collections Distributed to Families and Recoupment Collections..... | 6 |
| Cost Avoidance..... | 9 |
| Number of Families (Participants) Served by the Child Support Program..... | 12 |
| Definitions | 14 |



Executive Summary

This report is submitted to meet the provisions within Assembly Bill (AB) 1811, Chapter 35, Statutes of 2018 and pursuant to Family Code (FC) section 17556, requiring the Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) to provide a report to the Legislature on specific topics related to child support collections. These topics include: case-to-staff ratios for each local child support agency; collections to families and recoupment collections to county, state, and federal government agencies; cost avoidance benefits; and the number of families served by the Child Support Program.

Statutory Requirements

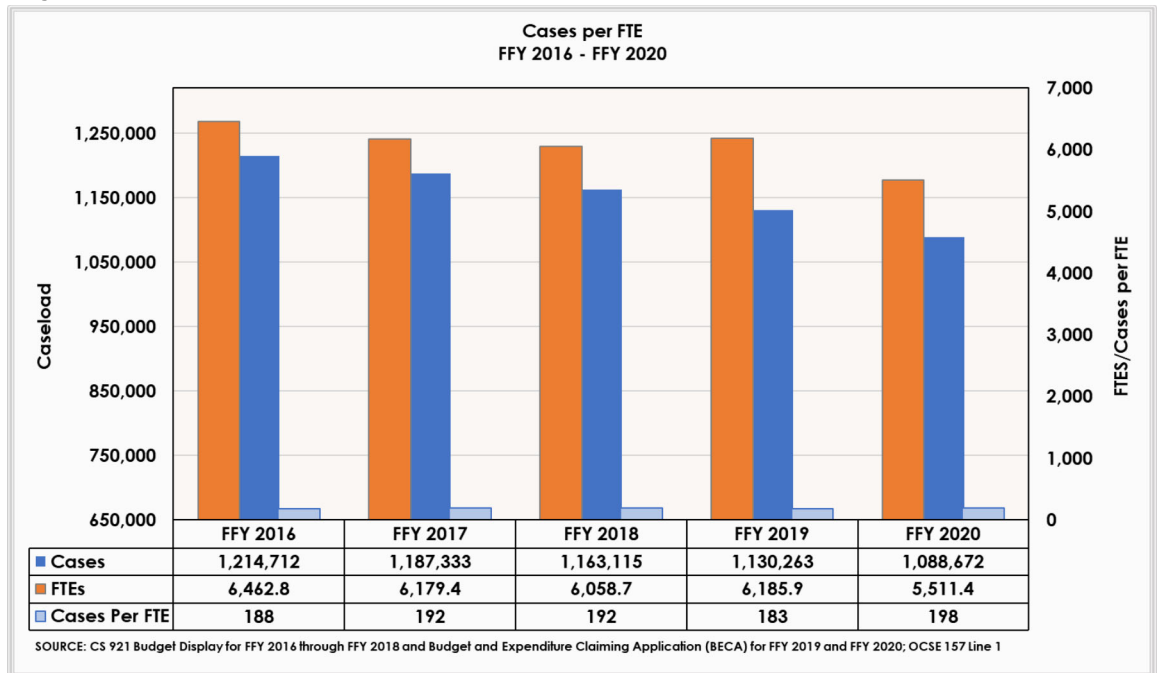
This report satisfies the requirement of FC section 17556 requiring a report of data compiled on California's Child Support Program to be submitted on or before March 1, 2022.

CASES TO FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE) RATIO

Cases are the number of IV-D cases open (OCSE 157, Line 1) on the last day of the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY). In FFY 2020, the number of opened cases were 1,088,672. A full-time position reflects 1.0 FTE and fractional time base (part-time) positions may be reported by tenths of a position. There were 5,511.4 FTE staff in FFY 2020.

From FFY 2016 to FFY 2020, both the number of cases and FTEs declined (see figure 1). Cases decreased by 126,040 or 10.4 percent, while FTEs decreased by 951.4 or 14.7 percent. In FFY 2020, there were 198 cases per FTE and 183 cases per FTE in FFY 2019, for a total increase of 15 cases per FTE. On average statewide, an FTE employee provided services to 198 cases in FFY 2020. See Tables A and A.1 on pages 4 and 5.

Figure 1: Cases per FTE



STATE OF CALIFORNIA - HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM STATISTICS

DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2020

TABLE A
CASES TO FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2020

| | Full-Time Equivalents (FTE) | Cases | Cases per FTE |
|---|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| STATEWIDE | 5,511.4 | 1,088,672 | 198 |
| Alameda | 126.8 | 29,725 | 234 |
| Alpine | * | 35 | * |
| Amador | * | 1,104 | * |
| Butte | 62.0 | 9,465 | 153 |
| Calaveras | * | 1,443 | * |
| Colusa | 4.0 | 705 | 176 |
| Contra Costa | 132.0 | 25,963 | 197 |
| Del Norte | 14.2 | 2,185 | 154 |
| El Dorado | 33.0 | 5,197 | 158 |
| Fresno | 216.5 | 58,121 | 268 |
| Glenn | 7.8 | 1,611 | 207 |
| Humboldt | * | 5,018 | * |
| Imperial | 51.0 | 9,664 | 189 |
| Inyo | * | 875 | * |
| Kern | 191.8 | 51,346 | 268 |
| Kings | 43.8 | 8,738 | 199 |
| Lake | 20.0 | 2,585 | 129 |
| Lassen | 7.0 | 1,469 | 210 |
| Los Angeles | 1,320.0 | 227,399 | 172 |
| Madera | 25.5 | 6,431 | 252 |
| Marin | 17.4 | 4,038 | 233 |
| Mariposa | * | 649 | * |
| Mendocino | 20.5 | 3,310 | 161 |
| Merced | * | 14,904 | * |
| Modoc | * | 276 | * |
| Mono | * | 201 | * |
| Monterey | 83.7 | 13,669 | 163 |
| Napa | 28.0 | 3,073 | 110 |
| Nevada | * | 2,549 | * |
| Orange | 352.3 | 60,243 | 171 |
| Placer | 37.4 | 6,622 | 177 |
| Plumas | 5.1 | 774 | 152 |
| Riverside | 305.0 | 76,956 | 252 |
| Sacramento | 271.0 | 69,169 | 255 |
| San Benito | * | 1,823 | * |
| San Bernardino | 421.0 | 97,615 | 232 |
| San Diego | 298.0 | 59,883 | 201 |
| San Francisco | 52.8 | 9,753 | 185 |
| San Joaquin | 114.8 | 33,043 | 288 |
| San Luis Obispo | 27.5 | 3,774 | 137 |
| San Mateo | 63.6 | 8,400 | 132 |
| Santa Barbara | 63.1 | 11,345 | 180 |
| Santa Clara | 183.9 | 28,656 | 156 |
| Santa Cruz | * | 4,863 | * |
| Shasta | 51.2 | 10,049 | 196 |
| Sierra | * | 93 | * |
| Siskiyou | * | 2,399 | * |
| Solano | 85.0 | 14,574 | 171 |
| Sonoma | 71.5 | 10,370 | 145 |
| Stanislaus | 123.1 | 25,186 | 205 |
| Sutter | 20.0 | 4,018 | 201 |
| Tehama | 17.0 | 3,429 | 202 |
| Trinity | * | 807 | * |
| Tulare | 142.9 | 21,823 | 153 |
| Tuolumne | * | 2,247 | * |
| Ventura | 118.5 | 18,669 | 158 |
| Yolo | 37.2 | 6,624 | 178 |
| Yuba | 23.0 | 3,717 | 162 |
| Regionalized Local Child Support Agencies | | | |
| Ama/Alp/Cal/Tuol | 28.0 | 4,829 | 172 |
| Humboldt/Trinity | 33.3 | 5,825 | 175 |
| Inyo/Mono | 6.7 | 1,076 | 161 |
| Merced/Mariposa | 68.4 | 15,553 | 227 |
| Santa Cruz/San Benito | 50.8 | 6,686 | 132 |
| Sierra/Nevada | 16.0 | 2,642 | 165 |
| Siskiyou/Modoc | 18.6 | 2,675 | 144 |

SOURCE: Budget and Expenditure Claiming Application (BECA); OCSE 157 Line 1 (Cases Open at the End of the Fiscal Year)

* No FTE data available for the individual county; therefore, Cases per FTE cannot be calculated.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM STATISTICS

DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2016 - 2020

**TABLE A.1
CASES TO FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT
FEDERAL FISCAL YEARS 2016 - 2020**

| | FFY 2016 | FFY 2017 | FFY 2018 | FFY 2019 | FFY 2020 | 2016 - 2020 % Change |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| STATEWIDE | 188 | 196 | 196 | 186 | 198 | 5.3% |
| Alameda | 155 | 171 | 191 | 196 | 234 | 51.0 |
| Alpine | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Amador | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Butte | 109 | 112 | 103 | 100 | 153 | 40.4 |
| Calaveras | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Colusa | 103 | 116 | 103 | 135 | 176 | 70.9 |
| Contra Costa | 192 | 201 | 199 | 179 | 197 | 2.6 |
| Del Norte | 122 | 105 | 129 | 125 | 154 | 26.2 |
| El Dorado | 142 | 131 | 142 | 147 | 158 | 11.3 |
| Fresno | 260 | 294 | 301 | 259 | 268 | 3.1 |
| Glenn | 207 | 204 | 205 | 203 | 207 | 0.0 |
| Humboldt | 127 | * | * | * | * | * |
| Imperial | 161 | 175 | 165 | 160 | 189 | 17.4 |
| Inyo | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Kern | 296 | 278 | 281 | 240 | 268 | -9.5 |
| Kings | 187 | 198 | 191 | 175 | 199 | 6.4 |
| Lake | 113 | 112 | 113 | 111 | 129 | 14.2 |
| Lassen | 152 | 148 | 159 | 167 | 210 | 38.2 |
| Los Angeles | 183 | 178 | 174 | 161 | 172 | -6.0 |
| Madera | 191 | 207 | 226 | 229 | 252 | 31.9 |
| Marin | 219 | 250 | 212 | 226 | 233 | 6.4 |
| Mariposa | 100 | * | * | * | * | * |
| Mendocino | 108 | 149 | 135 | 126 | 161 | 49.1 |
| Merced | 197 | * | * | * | * | * |
| Modoc | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Mono | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Monterey | 167 | 168 | 170 | 178 | 163 | -2.4 |
| Napa | 118 | 115 | 117 | 116 | 110 | -6.8 |
| Nevada | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Orange | 137 | 142 | 141 | 146 | 171 | 24.8 |
| Placer | 172 | 175 | 163 | 173 | 177 | 2.9 |
| Plumas | 138 | 144 | 139 | 135 | 152 | 10.1 |
| Riverside | 304 | 308 | 308 | 278 | 252 | -17.1 |
| Sacramento | 285 | 284 | 275 | 249 | 255 | -10.5 |
| San Benito | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| San Bernardino | 279 | 290 | 283 | 241 | 232 | -16.8 |
| San Diego | 146 | 163 | 171 | 177 | 201 | 37.7 |
| San Francisco | 154 | 162 | 157 | 152 | 185 | 20.1 |
| San Joaquin | 250 | 263 | 272 | 241 | 288 | 15.2 |
| San Luis Obispo | 119 | 121 | 127 | 129 | 137 | 15.1 |
| San Mateo | 133 | 127 | 126 | 125 | 132 | -0.8 |
| Santa Barbara | 166 | 166 | 176 | 173 | 180 | 8.4 |
| Santa Clara | 147 | 146 | 152 | 155 | 156 | 6.1 |
| Santa Cruz | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Shasta | 154 | 152 | 148 | 148 | 196 | 27.3 |
| Sierra | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Siskiyou | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Solano | 173 | 168 | 175 | 170 | 171 | -1.2 |
| Sonoma | 157 | 156 | 151 | 134 | 145 | -7.6 |
| Stanislaus | 195 | 212 | 203 | 201 | 205 | 5.1 |
| Sutter | 172 | 183 | 193 | 180 | 201 | 16.9 |
| Tehama | 176 | 185 | 187 | 188 | 202 | 14.8 |
| Trinity | 165 | * | * | * | * | * |
| Tulare | 160 | 154 | 142 | 142 | 153 | -4.4 |
| Tuolumne | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Ventura | 115 | 112 | 113 | 115 | 158 | 37.4 |
| Yolo | 175 | 168 | 186 | 177 | 178 | 1.7 |
| Yuba | 134 | 136 | 138 | 150 | 162 | 20.9 |
| Regionalized Local Child Support Agencies | | | | | | |
| Ama/Alp/Cala/Tuol | 131 | 131 | 129 | 149 | 172 | 31.3 |
| Humboldt/Trinity | n/a | 149 | 140 | 138 | 175 | n/a |
| Inyo/Mono | 146 | 154 | 147 | 166 | 161 | 10.3 |
| Merced/Mariposa | n/a | 205 | 200 | 192 | 227 | n/a |
| Santa Cruz/San Benito | 113 | 121 | 130 | 131 | 132 | 16.8 |
| Sierra/Nevada | 186 | 179 | 197 | 197 | 165 | -11.3 |
| Siskiyou/Modoc | 164 | 178 | 189 | 161 | 144 | -12.2 |

SOURCE: CS 921 Budget Display for FFY 2016 through FFY 2018 and Budget and Expenditure Claiming Application (BECA) for FFY 2019 and FFY 2020;

OCSE 157 Line 1 (Cases Open at the End of the Fiscal Year)

Note: Reporting the regionalization of Merced/Mariposa and Humboldt/Trinity did not begin until October 2016; therefore, prior data is not applicable (n/a).

* No FTE data available for the individual county; therefore, Cases per FTE cannot be calculated.

COLLECTIONS DISTRIBUTED TO FAMILIES AND RECOUPMENT COLLECTIONS

In Federal Fiscal Year 2020, the California Department of Child Support Services distributed a total of \$2.4 billion in child support payments to families. When a current child support payment is collected for a party receiving public assistance benefits, the custodial party will receive the first \$50 of the child support payment, which is referred to as a “disregard.” The balance of the payment is used to reimburse federal, state and county governments for the cost of the public assistance benefits (see figure 2). Of the total collections received in FFY 2020, \$464.7 million was recouped by government agencies (\$208.3 million federal share, \$231.6 million state share, and \$24.8 million county share, see figure 3). See Tables B and B.1 on pages 7 and 8.

Figure 2: Collections Distributed to Families Compared to Recoupment Collections

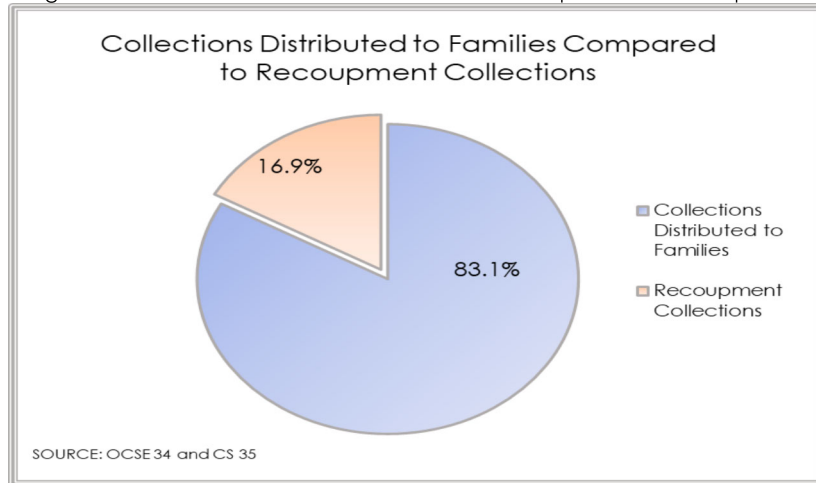
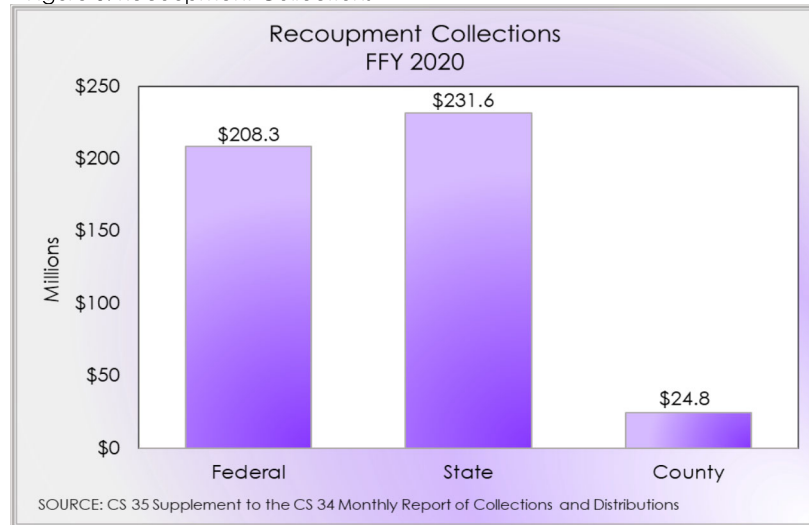


Figure 3: Recoupment Collections



STATE OF CALIFORNIA - HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM STATISTICS

DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2020

TABLE B
DISTRIBUTED COLLECTIONS
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2020

| | Sent to Other States | Sent to Other Countries | Disregard | Distributed as Medical Support | Distributed to Family or Foster Care | Total |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| STATEWIDE | \$96,702,216 | \$2,289,759 | \$18,212,778 | \$3,349,847 | \$2,283,333,326 | \$2,403,887,927 |
| Alameda | 3,636,785 | 99,226 | 424,737 | 93,233 | 74,381,568 | 78,635,549 |
| Alpine | 0 | 0 | 0 | 312 | 35,743 | 36,055 |
| Amador | 118,972 | 720 | 14,493 | 5,136 | 2,965,570 | 3,104,891 |
| Butte | 844,791 | 968 | 190,131 | 33,757 | 15,053,938 | 16,123,585 |
| Calaveras | 64,799 | 0 | 22,211 | 10,231 | 3,130,154 | 3,227,394 |
| Colusa | 35,169 | 0 | 5,950 | 1,762 | 1,787,236 | 1,830,116 |
| Contra Costa | 2,562,500 | 67,688 | 422,861 | 189,438 | 70,420,006 | 73,662,494 |
| Del Norte | 205,288 | 3,976 | 40,759 | 5,823 | 2,382,112 | 2,637,958 |
| El Dorado | 470,092 | 4,880 | 88,462 | 45,330 | 11,969,586 | 12,578,350 |
| Fresno | 2,759,751 | 50,402 | 1,141,174 | 92,700 | 79,986,528 | 84,030,555 |
| Glenn | 109,741 | 2,046 | 35,328 | 1,141 | 2,955,704 | 3,103,959 |
| Humboldt | 470,692 | 1,499 | 91,520 | 7,631 | 7,455,294 | 8,026,637 |
| Imperial | 536,339 | 2,889 | 228,003 | 7,902 | 23,372,180 | 24,147,313 |
| Inyo | 78,990 | 300 | 7,654 | 2,578 | 1,775,992 | 1,865,515 |
| Kern | 2,698,826 | 6,988 | 901,130 | 40,153 | 79,337,754 | 82,984,851 |
| Kings | 548,898 | 0 | 191,660 | 9,369 | 14,163,961 | 14,913,888 |
| Lake | 277,818 | 0 | 58,699 | 1,660 | 4,019,360 | 4,357,537 |
| Lassen | 155,527 | 0 | 31,521 | 6,526 | 2,258,973 | 2,452,546 |
| Los Angeles | 23,303,343 | 711,412 | 3,645,931 | 540,258 | 451,705,921 | 479,906,866 |
| Madera | 297,115 | 0 | 202,365 | 1,207 | 9,647,850 | 10,148,537 |
| Marin | 583,378 | 33,705 | 33,910 | 69,647 | 11,729,316 | 12,449,956 |
| Mariposa | 61,329 | 0 | 12,051 | 53 | 1,019,630 | 1,093,063 |
| Mendocino | 282,594 | 0 | 54,750 | 14,358 | 5,064,720 | 5,416,422 |
| Merced | 692,194 | 21,486 | 413,202 | 13,983 | 23,451,724 | 24,592,589 |
| Modoc | 22,314 | 0 | 5,901 | 0 | 386,550 | 414,764 |
| Mono | 32,811 | 0 | 567 | 1,453 | 637,414 | 672,245 |
| Monterey | 1,289,454 | 30,869 | 220,068 | 29,269 | 39,910,944 | 41,480,604 |
| Napa | 349,875 | 7,438 | 32,913 | 72,482 | 9,656,188 | 10,118,895 |
| Nevada | 321,339 | 11,104 | 42,919 | 31,634 | 5,847,047 | 6,254,042 |
| Orange | 5,358,122 | 84,036 | 900,598 | 289,222 | 174,452,083 | 181,084,061 |
| Placer | 720,716 | 21,219 | 89,412 | 82,675 | 26,110,904 | 27,024,925 |
| Plumas | 126,691 | 0 | 15,143 | 4,497 | 1,718,740 | 1,865,072 |
| Riverside | 6,216,086 | 120,490 | 1,378,334 | 22,565 | 161,851,192 | 169,588,667 |
| Sacramento | 6,057,903 | 79,052 | 983,710 | 158,072 | 114,329,101 | 121,607,838 |
| San Benito | 128,766 | 1,398 | 34,826 | 13,477 | 5,195,658 | 5,374,124 |
| San Bernardino | 5,693,403 | 152,013 | 1,869,185 | 201,964 | 175,028,071 | 182,944,635 |
| San Diego | 11,371,553 | 205,753 | 716,064 | 424,083 | 158,111,385 | 170,828,839 |
| San Francisco | 887,269 | 60,595 | 147,211 | 32,074 | 23,036,756 | 24,163,906 |
| San Joaquin | 2,347,306 | 26,939 | 480,392 | 62,282 | 58,013,919 | 60,930,838 |
| San Luis Obispo | 511,966 | 15,508 | 83,817 | 15,522 | 13,176,067 | 13,802,882 |
| San Mateo | 1,362,590 | 106,708 | 58,527 | 57,868 | 29,283,121 | 30,868,814 |
| Santa Barbara | 868,655 | 14,707 | 209,984 | 49,722 | 26,759,368 | 27,902,437 |
| Santa Clara | 2,766,745 | 157,074 | 328,126 | 130,073 | 83,558,100 | 86,940,119 |
| Santa Cruz | 488,058 | 20,470 | 95,823 | 20,050 | 12,615,249 | 13,239,649 |
| Shasta | 814,046 | 17,889 | 187,401 | 37,138 | 15,888,921 | 16,945,395 |
| Sierra | 11,753 | 0 | 650 | 0 | 158,017 | 170,420 |
| Siskiyou | 240,530 | 0 | 40,842 | 7,357 | 3,212,535 | 3,501,263 |
| Solano | 1,713,468 | 30,786 | 259,509 | 66,064 | 36,946,845 | 39,016,672 |
| Sonoma | 858,189 | 8,017 | 151,264 | 46,458 | 29,517,372 | 30,581,301 |
| Stanislaus | 1,499,348 | 7,145 | 492,387 | 32,547 | 49,796,446 | 51,827,874 |
| Sutter | 258,618 | 6,788 | 77,729 | 14,537 | 7,532,600 | 7,890,271 |
| Tehama | 212,368 | 51 | 84,210 | 10,641 | 5,622,665 | 5,929,935 |
| Trinity | 25,937 | 9,622 | 9,352 | 2,635 | 1,480,729 | 1,528,275 |
| Tulare | 773,359 | 1,870 | 422,234 | 21,745 | 36,458,179 | 37,677,387 |
| Tuolumne | 160,689 | 0 | 35,610 | 2,687 | 4,713,995 | 4,912,981 |
| Ventura | 1,711,396 | 54,316 | 334,188 | 165,253 | 52,381,346 | 54,646,500 |
| Yolo | 350,984 | 6,704 | 83,492 | 37,644 | 14,204,064 | 14,682,888 |
| Yuba | 354,980 | 23,010 | 81,890 | 11,968 | 5,670,935 | 6,142,782 |
| Regionalized Local Child Support Agencies | | | | | | |
| Ama/Alp/Cala/Tuol | 344,460 | 720 | 72,313 | 18,366 | 10,845,462 | 11,281,322 |
| Humboldt/Trinity | 496,630 | 11,122 | 100,872 | 10,266 | 8,936,022 | 9,554,912 |
| Inyo/Mono | 111,801 | 300 | 8,221 | 4,032 | 2,413,406 | 2,537,759 |
| Merced/Mariposa | 753,523 | 21,486 | 425,253 | 14,036 | 24,471,354 | 25,685,652 |
| Santa Cruz/San Benito | 616,824 | 21,868 | 130,649 | 33,527 | 17,810,907 | 18,613,774 |
| Sierra/Nevada | 333,092 | 11,104 | 43,569 | 31,634 | 6,005,064 | 6,424,462 |
| Siskiyou/Modoc | 262,844 | 0 | 46,742 | 7,357 | 3,599,085 | 3,916,027 |

SOURCE: OCSE 34 Lines 4b, 4c, 7a, 7c, and 7d

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM STATISTICSDEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2020**TABLE B.1
RECOUPMENT COLLECTIONS
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2020**

| | Federal | State | County | Total |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| STATEWIDE | \$208,266,749 | \$231,588,077 | \$24,844,428 | \$464,699,254 |
| Alameda | 5,775,165 | 6,719,309 | 761,852 | 13,256,326 |
| Alpine | 5,359 | 4,997 | 363 | 10,719 |
| Amador | 175,508 | 176,927 | 20,852 | 373,287 |
| Butte | 2,377,688 | 2,613,240 | 374,693 | 5,365,621 |
| Calaveras | 218,447 | 233,866 | 34,382 | 486,694 |
| Colusa | 92,546 | 98,328 | 20,859 | 211,733 |
| Contra Costa | 3,797,367 | 4,366,417 | 568,768 | 8,732,552 |
| Del Norte | 485,673 | 512,876 | 78,004 | 1,076,553 |
| El Dorado | 1,181,999 | 1,139,229 | 278,111 | 2,599,339 |
| Fresno | 13,476,111 | 15,167,095 | 1,757,198 | 30,400,404 |
| Glenn | 352,614 | 348,562 | 78,666 | 779,842 |
| Humboldt | 1,037,085 | 1,143,136 | 169,830 | 2,350,052 |
| Imperial | 1,875,568 | 1,900,801 | 167,408 | 3,943,778 |
| Inyo | 103,801 | 104,957 | 10,667 | 219,424 |
| Kern | 8,661,338 | 9,111,382 | 1,223,202 | 18,995,923 |
| Kings | 1,488,738 | 1,618,670 | 158,837 | 3,266,245 |
| Lake | 564,202 | 591,984 | 53,637 | 1,209,823 |
| Lassen | 268,258 | 298,280 | 48,990 | 615,529 |
| Los Angeles | 45,137,332 | 50,342,124 | 3,697,798 | 99,177,255 |
| Madera | 1,381,367 | 1,541,467 | 206,259 | 3,129,093 |
| Marin | 350,786 | 403,590 | 59,481 | 813,857 |
| Mariposa | 104,676 | 112,836 | 10,040 | 227,552 |
| Mendocino | 632,684 | 658,501 | 70,054 | 1,361,239 |
| Merced | 3,222,819 | 3,764,997 | 307,564 | 7,295,380 |
| Modoc | 66,217 | 57,940 | 7,879 | 132,036 |
| Mono | 10,244 | 9,483 | 762 | 20,488 |
| Monterey | 3,223,992 | 3,259,550 | 442,900 | 6,926,441 |
| Napa | 608,160 | 576,463 | 155,071 | 1,339,694 |
| Nevada | 390,339 | 409,517 | 49,478 | 849,333 |
| Orange | 8,793,817 | 9,307,683 | 1,079,118 | 19,180,618 |
| Placer | 1,018,751 | 1,114,713 | 180,527 | 2,313,991 |
| Plumas | 136,412 | 143,139 | 16,202 | 295,754 |
| Riverside | 14,861,138 | 16,166,102 | 1,921,520 | 32,948,761 |
| Sacramento | 11,489,736 | 14,049,915 | 1,798,515 | 27,338,166 |
| San Benito | 387,072 | 415,914 | 44,590 | 847,575 |
| San Bernardino | 19,096,201 | 20,397,605 | 2,281,664 | 41,775,471 |
| San Diego | 11,975,268 | 13,926,963 | 1,373,159 | 27,275,389 |
| San Francisco | 1,917,431 | 2,221,829 | 304,897 | 4,444,157 |
| San Joaquin | 4,851,047 | 5,288,731 | 580,456 | 10,720,234 |
| San Luis Obispo | 600,263 | 705,725 | 46,095 | 1,352,083 |
| San Mateo | 1,221,707 | 1,259,253 | 201,567 | 2,682,527 |
| Santa Barbara | 2,196,100 | 2,333,942 | 337,803 | 4,867,846 |
| Santa Clara | 6,705,488 | 7,478,410 | 842,619 | 15,026,517 |
| Santa Cruz | 957,094 | 1,092,369 | 123,458 | 2,172,921 |
| Shasta | 2,196,864 | 2,324,017 | 329,805 | 4,850,686 |
| Sierra | 11,760 | 10,310 | 1,796 | 23,866 |
| Siskiyou | 396,705 | 453,467 | 70,505 | 920,677 |
| Solano | 2,699,605 | 3,226,255 | 333,510 | 6,259,370 |
| Sonoma | 1,693,198 | 1,921,707 | 208,800 | 3,823,704 |
| Stanislaus | 5,632,374 | 6,503,086 | 583,513 | 12,718,973 |
| Sutter | 831,962 | 870,198 | 114,190 | 1,816,350 |
| Tehama | 838,710 | 892,723 | 135,084 | 1,866,518 |
| Trinity | 107,650 | 104,955 | 14,685 | 227,289 |
| Tulare | 4,316,875 | 5,220,633 | 451,456 | 9,988,964 |
| Tuolumne | 357,241 | 389,677 | 44,804 | 791,722 |
| Ventura | 3,731,261 | 4,197,751 | 323,998 | 8,253,010 |
| Yolo | 1,323,859 | 1,334,134 | 192,342 | 2,850,335 |
| Yuba | 855,077 | 950,348 | 94,147 | 1,899,571 |
| Regionalized Local Child Support Agencies | | | | |
| Ama/Alp/Cala/Tuol | 756,554 | 805,467 | 100,401 | 1,662,422 |
| Humboldt/Trinity | 1,144,735 | 1,248,091 | 184,515 | 2,577,341 |
| Inyo/Mono | 114,045 | 114,439 | 11,429 | 239,913 |
| Merced/Mariposa | 3,327,495 | 3,877,833 | 317,604 | 7,522,932 |
| Santa Cruz/San Benito | 1,344,166 | 1,508,283 | 168,048 | 3,020,496 |
| Sierra/Nevada | 402,099 | 419,827 | 51,273 | 873,200 |
| Siskiyou/Modoc | 462,922 | 511,407 | 78,385 | 1,052,713 |

SOURCE: CS 35 Supplement to the OCSE 34 Monthly Report of Collections and Distributions

COST AVOIDANCE

Every year, the amount of child support collected and disbursed directly to families or recouped as cost recovery for public assistance programs (CalWORKs, KinGAP, and Foster Care) is measured in both actuals for completed years and estimates for future years. However, these estimates do not include an estimate of cost avoidance due to decreased expenditures for governmental programs.

According to the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE), “cost avoidance occurs across a broad array of social welfare programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Medicaid, the Children’s Health Insurance Program, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and public and subsidized housing. In an era of resource scarcity, child support is well-positioned to play a leading role in reducing government costs associated with social welfare programs.”¹ In accordance with Family Code Section 17556, this report provides information on cost avoidance benefits for other governmental programs.

While not frequently discussed, cost avoidance for other governmental programs has long been recognized at both the national and state level as a benefit of the Child Support Program. A study and subsequent report for the nation, titled “Child Support Cost Avoidance in 1999, Final Report”, was completed and published by Laura Wheaton of The Urban Institute on June 6, 2003, for the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement. It researched the following hypothesis about cost avoidance related to child support:

“[T]he goal of promoting self-sufficiency suggests some financial benefits for the government, since increased levels of financial stability and independence mean that families require less assistance from the government in other areas, such as food, housing, and medical assistance. These financial benefits referred to here as “cost avoidance” accrue not just from former welfare recipients, but also from families whose child support (when combined with other income) has enabled them to avoid welfare entirely and to reduce or eliminate their need for assistance from other government programs.”

¹ “The Story Behind the Numbers-The Child Support Program is a Good Investment”, Office of Child Support Enforcement, Administration for Children and Families (December 2016), Page 14.

This nationwide report asserts that cost avoidance cannot be calculated, it can only be estimated or inferred because it cannot be directly measured. Furthermore, the nationwide report asserts that the \$2.6 billion in fiscal year 1999 savings is a lower bound estimate.

After the nationwide report, a follow-up report was prepared and published on February 27, 2004, for the Child Support Directors Association of California that focused on California only. This follow-up report was titled "Cost Avoidance and Cost Recovery in California's Child Support Program: SFY 2000-01."

This report discussed that while there are many government programs that likely have cost avoidance due to the California Child Support Program, the primary governmental programs with cost avoidance in California are:

- CalWORKs
- Food Stamps/CalFresh
- Medi-Cal
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Public/Subsidized Housing

The report calculated the cost avoidance for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2000-01 for these programs as displayed in Table 1 below.

Table 1: California Cost Avoidance: Federal and California Share, SFY 2000-01
(millions of dollars)

| | Federal Share | California Share | Total |
|---|---------------|------------------|--------------|
| Entitlement Programs | | | |
| Food Stamps | 66.7 | 0 | 66.7 |
| Medi-Cal ¹ | 14.6 | 13.9 | 28.6 |
| SSI ² | 16.4 | 0 | 16.4 |
| Total | 97.7 | 13.9 | 111.6 |
| Block Grant/Discretionary Programs | | | |
| CalWORKs | 0 | 113.1 | 113.1 |
| Housing ³ | 4.1 | 4.1 | 8.2 |
| Total | 4.1 | 117.2 | 121.3 |
| All Programs | 101.8 | 131.1 | 233.0 |

SOURCE: Urban Institute's TRIM3 microsimulation model, using data from the March 2001 and March 2002 Current Population Survey. Results are adjusted to reflect levels of child support distributions report in California's CS 800 & 820 reports for SFY 2000-01.

¹ Medi-Cal cost avoidance is split into federal and California shares in accordance with the FY2001 FMAP (federal medical assistance percentage).

² The estimates do not include the state supplemental portion of SSI.

³ Cost avoidance for the public and subsidized housing programs initially benefits local housing authorities, but may eventually result in lower federal spending. Therefore, a 50/50 split between the federal government and California is assumed.

In the absence of updated microsimulation models and either nationwide or California cost avoidance studies, a methodology for cost avoidance for SFY 2020-21 has been designed that relies on SFY 2000-01 non-assistance collections and SFY 2000-01 estimated cost avoidance by the microsimulation model. The ratios of costs avoided for each government program per dollar of non-assistance collection from SFY 2000-01 were multiplied by SFY 2020-21 non-assistance collections to estimate cost avoidance by program (Federal and California share) for SFY 2020-21. When reviewing these estimates, it is important to note that these estimates continue to be based on assumptions from the studies referenced above. See Table 2 below.

Table 2: SFY 2020-21 Estimated Cost Avoidance Per Dollar of \$2.086 Billion in Non-Assistance Collections
(millions of dollars)

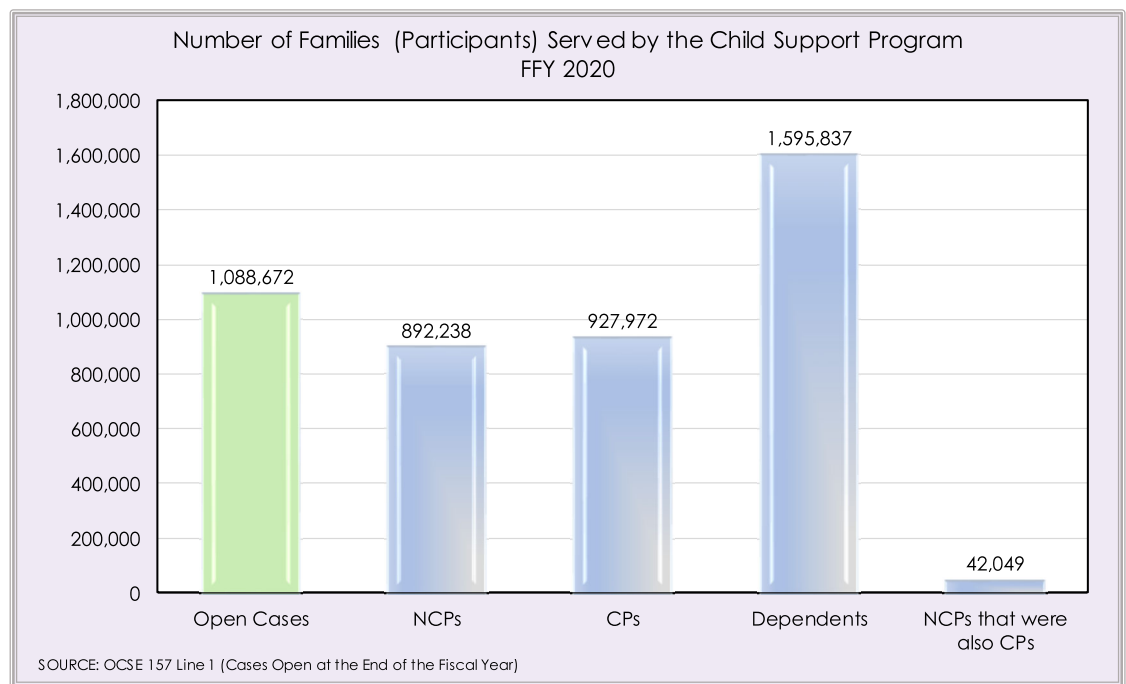
| | Federal Share | California Share | Total |
|---|---------------|------------------|-------|
| Entitlement Programs | | | |
| Food Stamps | 107.0 | 0.0 | 107.0 |
| Medi-Cal | 23.4 | 22.3 | 45.7 |
| SSI | 26.3 | 0.0 | 26.3 |
| Total | 156.8 | 22.3 | 179.1 |
| Block Grant / Discretionary Programs | | | |
| CalWORKs | 0.0 | 181.5 | 181.5 |
| Housing | 6.6 | 6.6 | 13.2 |
| Total | 6.6 | 188.1 | 194.6 |
| All Programs | 163.3 | 210.4 | 373.7 |

NUMBER OF FAMILIES (PARTICIPANTS) SERVED BY THE CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM

As the definition of what constitutes a family continues to evolve and change with time, DCSS in-turn opted to concentrate on the number of participants served by the Child Support Program.

Of all the open cases reported in FFY 2020, there were 892,238 non-custodial parents (NCPs), 927,972 custodial parties (CPs), 1,595,837 dependents, and 42,049 of the NCPs were also CPs on a separate case (see Figure 4). See Table C on page 13.

Figure 4: Number of Families (Participants) Served by the Child Support Program



STATE OF CALIFORNIA - HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM STATISTICS

DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2020

TABLE C
NUMBER OF FAMILIES (PARTICIPANTS) SERVED
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2020

| | Non-Custodial Parent (NCP) | Custodial Party (CP) | Dependent |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| STATEWIDE | 892,238 | 927,972 | 1,595,837 |
| Alameda | 26,450 | 25,694 | 40,690 |
| Alpine | 28 | 32 | 49 |
| Amador | 1,035 | 949 | 1,512 |
| Butte | 7,930 | 7,704 | 12,706 |
| Calaveras | 1,320 | 1,237 | 2,028 |
| Colusa | 655 | 601 | 1,051 |
| Contra Costa | 23,244 | 22,640 | 36,347 |
| Del Norte | 1,751 | 1,691 | 2,784 |
| El Dorado | 4,528 | 4,127 | 6,928 |
| Fresno | 46,234 | 45,905 | 86,988 |
| Glenn | 1,357 | 1,233 | 2,150 |
| Humboldt | 4,219 | 4,172 | 6,711 |
| Imperial | 8,345 | 8,153 | 14,879 |
| Inyo | 747 | 736 | 1,229 |
| Kern | 41,728 | 40,758 | 76,139 |
| Kings | 7,399 | 6,992 | 12,632 |
| Lake | 2,358 | 2,217 | 3,629 |
| Lassen | 1,235 | 1,142 | 1,880 |
| Los Angeles | 203,735 | 207,910 | 351,893 |
| Madera | 5,561 | 5,094 | 9,457 |
| Marin | 3,667 | 3,661 | 5,985 |
| Mariposa | 586 | 550 | 879 |
| Mendocino | 2,870 | 2,818 | 4,659 |
| Merced | 12,687 | 12,355 | 22,264 |
| Modoc | 245 | 237 | 386 |
| Mono | 195 | 193 | 294 |
| Monterey | 11,659 | 11,546 | 20,191 |
| Napa | 2,716 | 2,594 | 4,295 |
| Nevada | 2,337 | 2,195 | 3,493 |
| Orange | 55,527 | 54,322 | 92,032 |
| Placer | 6,173 | 5,902 | 9,462 |
| Plumas | 686 | 645 | 1,045 |
| Riverside | 68,384 | 65,958 | 115,896 |
| Sacramento | 56,967 | 56,578 | 95,941 |
| San Benito | 1,628 | 1,568 | 2,706 |
| San Bernardino | 85,817 | 80,851 | 144,783 |
| San Diego | 54,172 | 53,556 | 88,083 |
| San Francisco | 8,550 | 8,512 | 12,937 |
| San Joaquin | 28,583 | 27,350 | 48,565 |
| San Luis Obispo | 3,561 | 3,441 | 5,438 |
| San Mateo | 7,766 | 7,463 | 11,936 |
| Santa Barbara | 9,826 | 9,567 | 16,466 |
| Santa Clara | 24,530 | 25,188 | 41,520 |
| Santa Cruz | 4,396 | 4,287 | 7,098 |
| Shasta | 8,209 | 8,049 | 13,072 |
| Sierra | 82 | 77 | 115 |
| Siskiyou | 2,084 | 2,001 | 3,437 |
| Solano | 12,763 | 12,631 | 19,903 |
| Sonoma | 9,009 | 9,120 | 14,293 |
| Stanislaus | 21,842 | 21,187 | 36,339 |
| Sutter | 3,521 | 3,265 | 5,746 |
| Tehama | 2,912 | 2,692 | 4,637 |
| Trinity | 711 | 714 | 1,052 |
| Tulare | 18,497 | 18,804 | 33,991 |
| Tuolumne | 1,957 | 1,887 | 2,899 |
| Ventura | 16,425 | 16,724 | 27,939 |
| Yolo | 5,771 | 5,565 | 9,435 |
| Yuba | 3,288 | 3,105 | 5,213 |
| Regionalized Local Child Support Agencies | | | |
| Ama/Alp/Cal/Tuol | 4,293 | 4,087 | 6,468 |
| Humboldt/Trinity | 4,888 | 4,840 | 7,724 |
| Inyo/Mono | 936 | 926 | 1,522 |
| Merced/Mariposa | 13,250 | 12,901 | 23,141 |
| Santa Cruz/San Benito | 6,010 | 5,851 | 9,804 |
| Sierra/Nevada | 2,416 | 2,271 | 3,608 |
| Siskiyou/Modoc | 2,318 | 2,228 | 3,811 |

SOURCE: OCSE 157 Line 1 (Cases Open at the End of the Fiscal Year)

Note: Duplicate counting may occur across counties if a participant is on more than one case in a different county. Duplicate counting will not occur if a participant is on more than one case within a county. Therefore, the sum of the county totals will not equal the Statewide totals.

DEFINITIONS

- **IV-D Case** – A case in which a state provides child support services as directed by the state or tribal Child Support Program that is authorized by Title IV-D of the Social Security Act. A IV-D case is comprised of:
 - A dependent child or children
 - A custodial party who may be a parent, caretaker relative or other custodian, including an entity such as a foster care agency; and
 - A noncustodial parent or parents, a mother, a father, or a putative father whose paternity has not been legally established.

- **California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs)** - The public assistance program that implements the requirements set forth in the federal act Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA). Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), which replaced Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). Federally mandated changes in the new welfare program set time limits on cash assistance and include a requirement that recipients participate in a "Welfare to Work" plan. CalWORKs replaces all AFDC programs in California and is administered by the California Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA).

- **Custodial Party (CP)** - The person having primary care, custody and control over the child(ren) and who is/are receiving or has applied to receive services under Title IV-D of the Federal Social Security Act (commencing with Section 651 of Title 42 of the United States Code).

- **Dependent** - A person who is under the care of a parent, relative, or other caretaker and cannot live on his/her own. Most children who are eligible to receive child support must be dependents. The child ceases to be a dependent when he or she reaches the "age of emancipation," as determined by state or tribal law, but may remain eligible for child support for a period after he or she is emancipated or reaches the "age of majority" depending on the state's or tribe's provisions.

- **Disregard** - Up to the first \$50 of a current support collection made on behalf of a current assistance case receiving CalWORKs aid.

- **Distributed** – “Distributed” or “distribution” means the allocation of child support collected to the various types of debt (e.g., monthly support obligations, arrears, ordered arrears) within a child support case as specified in 45 CFR 302.51 (45 CFR 309.115 for procedures governing tribal child support programs); the process of how the total child support payment amount is divided between all those owed under the support orders, including reimbursement for public assistance.
- **Food Stamps/CalFresh (federally known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP)** – Provides monthly food benefits to individuals and families with low-income and provides economic benefits to communities. CalFresh is the largest food program in California and provides an essential hunger safety net. CalFresh is federally mandated and in California, is state-supervised and county-operated.
- **Kinship Guardian Assistance Program (KinGAP)** - The Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment Program under which public assistance is provided on behalf of children in long-term placements with relatives, as specified in Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code commencing with Section 11360.
- **Medi-Cal Program** - California's medical assistance program provided under the State Plan approved under Title XIX of the Social Security Act.
- **Noncustodial Parent (NCP)** - The parent of the child(ren) that may be or is obligated to pay child support.
- **Public Assistance** - Any amount paid under the TANF, CalWORKs program, as specified in 22 CCR Section 110112, or foster care, or any Medi-Cal benefit, for the benefit of any dependent child or the caretaker or child. Eligibility is based on need and varies between programs. Applicants for certain types of public assistance (for example, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families or TANF) are automatically referred to their state or tribal child support agency, which will identify and locate the noncustodial parent, establish paternity where appropriate, and obtain child support payments. This allows the state or tribe to recoup or defray some of its public assistance expenditures with funds from the noncustodial parent and may enable the custodial party to become self-sufficient.

- **Public Housing** - Provides decent and safe rental housing for eligible low-income families, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.
- **Recoupment** - The amount of support that was collected that has been applied to reimburse in whole or in part the unreimbursed assistance pool (UAP) which is used to reimburse the federal, state, and county governments for aid paid to the family.
- **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** - A federal income supplement program funded by general tax revenues designed to help aged, blind, and disabled people, who have little or no income.