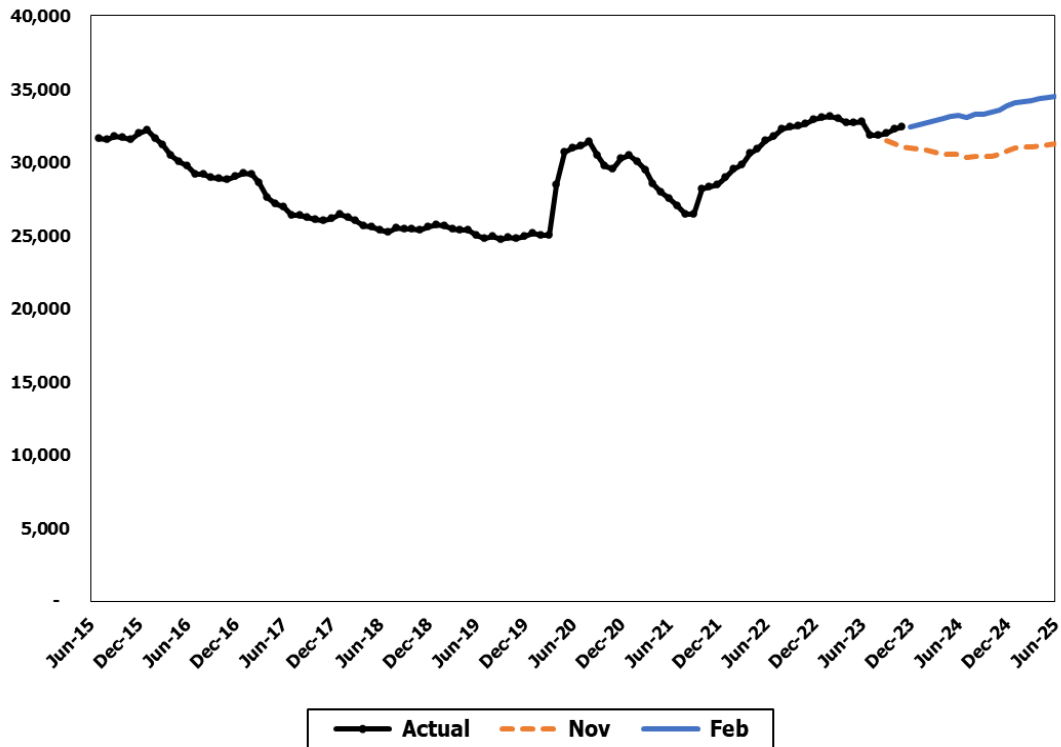


TANF Assistance Units (Courtesy Forecast)



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	Nov-23 Forecast	Feb-24 Forecast	Nov to Feb Difference	Percent Difference
2024	31,040	32,501	1,461	4.7%
2025	30,791	33,833	3,042	9.9%

The February 2024 forecast is, on average, 2,251 cases or 7.3% percent higher than the November 2023 forecast for the 2023-25 Biennium. The variance in the current forecast is driven by recent larger-than-normal numbers of immigrants utilizing WorkFirst; the flow of immigrants is driven by a combination of worldwide social conditions and federal policy, both very hard to predict. We have also removed the step for Child Only cases converting to licensed foster care; the program has been in effect at DCYF since October 2023, but there is no evidence for impact of this program to the TANF caseload.

Tracking the Current Forecast

Month	Nov-23			Percent
	Forecast	Actual	Variance	Variance
Sep-23	31,473	31,972	499	1.6%
Oct-23	31,273	32,273	1,000	3.2%
Nov-23	31,074	32,384	1,310	4.2%

Actuals are tracking, on average, 936 cases or 3.0% percent above the November forecast.

Fiscal Year Caseload Change

	Fiscal Year	Caseload	Change from Prior Year	Percent Change
Actual	2016	31,287		
	2017	28,556	-2,731	-8.7%
	2018	26,032	-2,525	-8.8%
	2019	25,424	-608	-2.3%
	2020	26,182	758	3.0%
	2021	29,701	3,519	13.4%
	2022	28,843	-858	-2.9%
	2023	32,646	3,803	13.2%
Forecast	2024	32,501	-145	-0.4%
	2025	33,833	1,332	4.1%

Risks to the Forecast

Risks to this forecast are moderately high. As an additional risk, the impact of the end of the COVID TLE and the beginning of the unemployment hardship TLE policy has been reflected in only five months of data, though the step has been tracking well. This caseload is also heavily influenced by changing economic conditions.