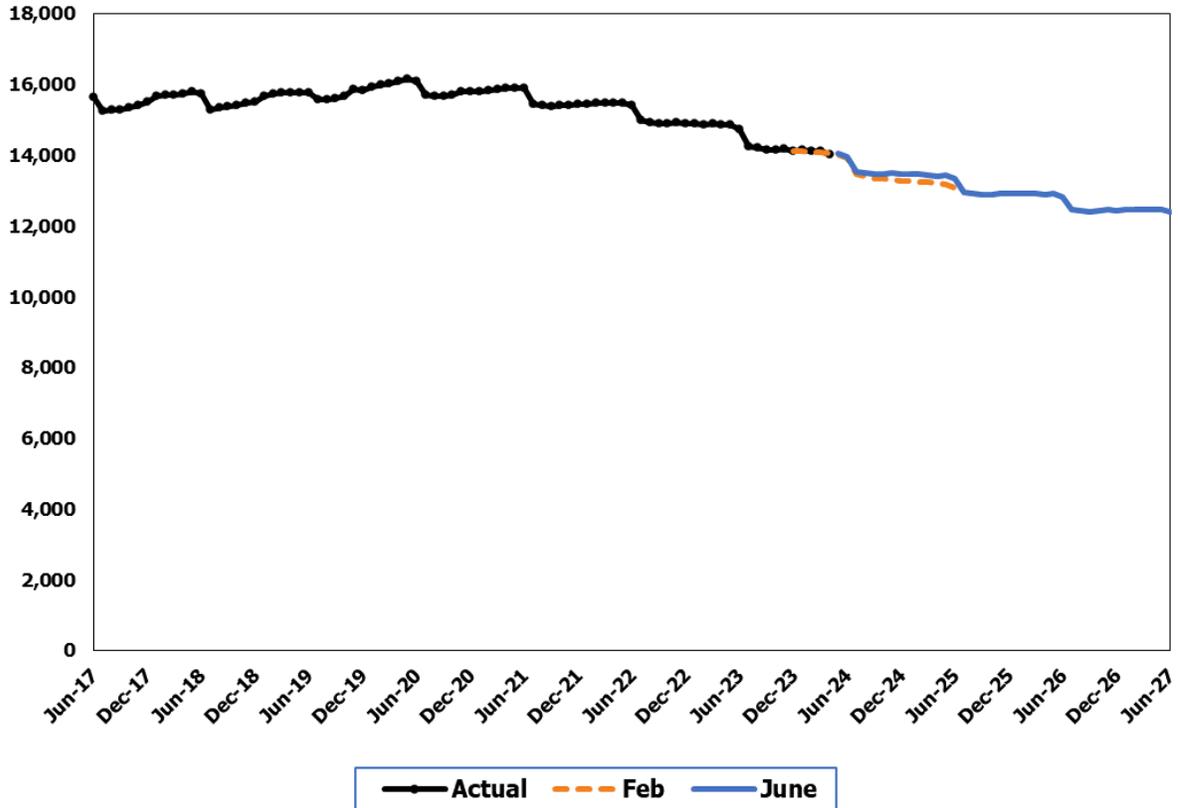


Adoption Support Maintenance Payments



The Adoption Support Maintenance Payment (ASMP) caseload forecast includes eligible adoptive families receiving monthly adoption support maintenance payments.

Forecast Comparisons (Fiscal Year Averages)

Fiscal Year	Feb-24 Forecast	Jun-24 Forecast	Feb to Jun Difference	Percent Difference
2024	14,093	14,113	19	0.1%
2025	13,275	13,447	172	1.3%
2026		12,897		
2027		12,442		

The June 2024 forecast is, on average, 96 cases or 0.7 percent higher than the February forecast for the 2023-25 Biennium.

Tracking the Current Forecast

Month	Feb-24		Variance	Percent
	Forecast	Actual		Variance
Dec-23	14,113	14,115	2	0.0%
Jan-24	14,104	14,134	30	0.2%
Feb-24	14,084	14,121	37	0.3%
Mar-24	14,071	14,098	27	0.2%
Apr-24	14,040	14,026	-14	-0.1%

Actuals are tracking, on average, 16 cases or 0.1 percent above the February forecast.

Fiscal Year Caseload Change

	Fiscal Year	Caseload	Change from Prior Year	Percent Change
Actual	2018	15,530		
	2019	15,566	36	0.2%
	2020	15,859	293	1.9%
	2021	15,782	-77	-0.5%
	2022	15,430	-352	-2.2%
	2023	14,874	-555	-3.6%
Forecast	2024	14,113	-762	-5.1%
	2025	13,447	-665	-4.7%
	2026	12,897	-550	-4.1%
	2027	12,442	-455	-3.5%

While the COVID-19 pandemic had a smaller initial impact on the ASMP caseload than on some other services for children and youth, average case counts have moved gradually lower since FY 2020. It is possible that the decline in the number of children in foster care over the last several years is having a downstream impact on adoptions.

This forecast includes a step adjustment to reflect the impact of expanded guardianship supports under ESSB 5214 (Chapter 221, Laws of 2023), which is expected to result in both an increase in the number of children placed into guardianship and a corresponding reduction in adoptions.

Risks to the Forecast

ASMP has historically had a stable caseload. The risk level for this forecast remains relatively low but is higher than in prior years due to the uncertainty surrounding both the downward trend observed since FY 2020 and the degree to which guardianships may take the place of some adoptions.