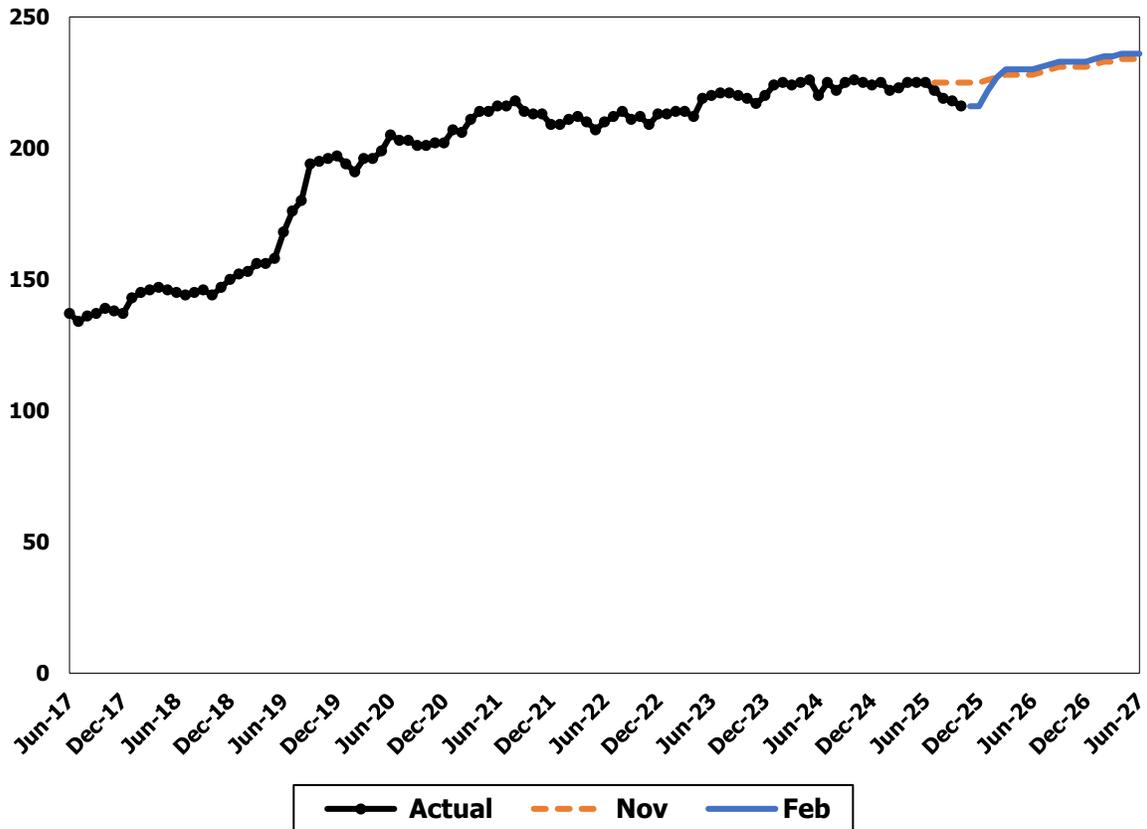


State-Operated Living Alternatives
(Courtesy Forecast)



The 2022 Legislature passed ESSB 5268 which added several new duties to the CFC’s forecast portfolio, including the number of individuals who are expected to reside in state-operated living alternatives (SOLAs) administered by the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA). SOLAs provide community residential services which may include assistance with activities of daily living and behavioral, habilitative, interpersonal, protective, medical, nursing and mobility supports.

Forecast Comparisons (Fiscal Year Averages)

Fiscal Year	Nov-25 Forecast	Feb-26 Forecast	Nov to Feb Difference	Percent Difference
2026	226	223	-3	-1.3%
2027	232	234	2	0.9%

The February 2026 forecast is, on average, one case or 0.2 percent lower than the November 2025 forecast for the 2025-27 biennium.

Forecast Contact:
 Elaine Deschamps
 360-664-9371
 Elaine.deschamps@cfc.wa.gov

Tracking the Current Forecast

Month	Nov-25		Variance	Percent Variance
	Forecast	Actual		
Jul-25	225	222	-3	-1.3%
Aug-25	225	219	-6	-2.7%
Sep-25	225	218	-7	-3.1%
Oct-25	225	216	-9	-4.0%

Actuals are tracking, on average, 5 cases or 2.2 percent below the November 2025 forecast. The recent dip in the caseload is due to higher than usual attrition. Though not yet reflected in the actuals, more clients than usual are in the process of entering the caseload for the months of January and February so this expected increase is reflected in the forecast.

Fiscal Year Caseload Change

	Fiscal Year	Caseload	Change from Prior Year	Percent Change
Actual	2018	141		
	2019	152	11	7.8%
	2020	193	41	27.0%
	2021	207	14	7.3%
	2022	212	5	2.4%
	2023	214	2	0.9%
	2024	222	8	3.7%
	2025	224	2	0.9%
Forecast	2026	223	-1	-0.4%
	2027	234	11	4.9%

The projected growth in the caseload is largely based on funded capacity provided by the legislature. The SOLA program was overspent, and DSHS's funding request for expansion in the 2024 supplemental budget was not funded. The 2025 Legislature funded the program through FY 2025 and the November forecast reflects this level of funded capacity as well as the movement of clients from Rainier School into SOLAs.

Risks to the Forecast

Risks to the SOLA forecast are high, as caseload levels are subject to funded capacity by the legislature.

Forecast Contact:
Elaine Deschamps
360-664-9371
Elaine.deschamps@cfc.wa.gov