

Child Support Services

Quarterly Narrative

State Fiscal Year 2024 2nd Quarter Ending 12|31|2023

The purpose of this report is to provide a general overview of North Carolina's statewide performance in accordance with General Statutes 110-129.1(a). The performance report can assist in identifying opportunities of improvement for child support offices.

CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM/ENHANCED STANDARDS

SECTION 10.46. G.S. 110-129.1(a):

"(a) In addition to other powers and duties conferred upon the Department of Health and Human Services, Child Support Enforcement Program, by this Chapter or other State law, the Department shall have the following powers and duties:

...

(9) Implement and maintain performance standards for each of the State and county child support enforcement offices across the State. The performance standards shall include the following:

- a. Cost per collections.
- b. Consumer satisfaction.
- c. Paternity establishments.
- d. Administrative costs.
- e. Orders established.
- f. Collections on arrearages.
- g. Location of absent parents.
- h. Other related performance measures.

The Department shall monitor the performance of each office and shall implement a system of reporting that allows each local office to review its performance as well as the performance of other local offices. The Department shall publish an annual performance report that includes the statewide and local office performance of each child support office."

It is important to note – while this report reviews and summarizes numerical data from the "County Quarterly Report", it does not consider various obstacles that the State or counties may face –employee longevity, judicial obstacles, or county budgets – to name a few. It also does not address cost per collections, consumer satisfaction, and administrative costs as this information is not available at this time.

STATEWIDE INCENTIVE & CASELOAD STATS	Report Month	Total Aloc Collections	Total Disbursed Collections	% Pat Est	% Cases Under Order	% Current Collections	% Cases paying towards arrears
STATEWIDE	202112	\$ 328,869,215	\$ 323,467,452	93.36%	84.73%	66.87%	61.26%
STATEWIDE	202212	\$ 320,822,386	\$ 315,154,723	93.14%	85.01%	67.32%	59.21%
STATEWIDE	202312	\$ 316,309,034	\$ 310,735,094	92.25%	86.51%	67.48%	57.59%
STATEWIDE	Change	\$ (4,513,352)	\$ (4,419,629)	-0.89%	1.50%	0.16%	-1.62%
STATEWIDE	SFY2024 GOALS		\$ 647,090,467	98.41%	85.84%	67.69%	69.60%
CQI +/-		N/A	48.02%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
ON TRACK?			NO	NO	YES	YES	NO
STATEWIDE INCENTIVE & CASELOAD STATS	Report Month	Caseload	Average CSUP Obligation	Average Payment Per Order	Average Payment Per Cash Order	Total Cases w/Arrears	Total Arrears Due
STATEWIDE	202112	371,240	\$ 308.05	\$ 1,028.30	\$ 1,165.67	256,710	\$ 1,648,715,731
STATEWIDE	202212	359,767	\$ 319.68	\$ 1,030.44	\$ 1,175.96	247,354	\$ 1,641,539,856
STATEWIDE	202312	339,483	\$ 337.26	\$ 1,058.05	\$ 1,206.24	238,065	\$ 1,645,851,304
DIFFERENCE		-20,284	\$ 17.58	\$ 27.61	\$ 30.28	-9,289	\$ 4,311,448
Report Month	Number of Cases Under Order	Cases W/Cash Order	TOTAL \$ DIST	Number of Cases w/Pymt	Monthly CSUP Due	Total Cases w/Pymt to Arrears	Total Arrears Distributed
202112	314,564	277,495	\$ 323,467,452	195,896	\$ 60,345,236	157,252	\$ 81,523,700
202212	305,845	267,997	\$ 315,154,723	188,386	\$ 60,223,211	146,457	\$ 73,401,944
202312	293,686	257,607	\$ 310,735,094	179,753	\$ 60,623,033	137,100	\$ 66,965,732
DIFFERENCE	-12,159	-10,390	\$ 4,419,629	-8,633	\$ 399,822	-9,357	\$ (6,436,212)

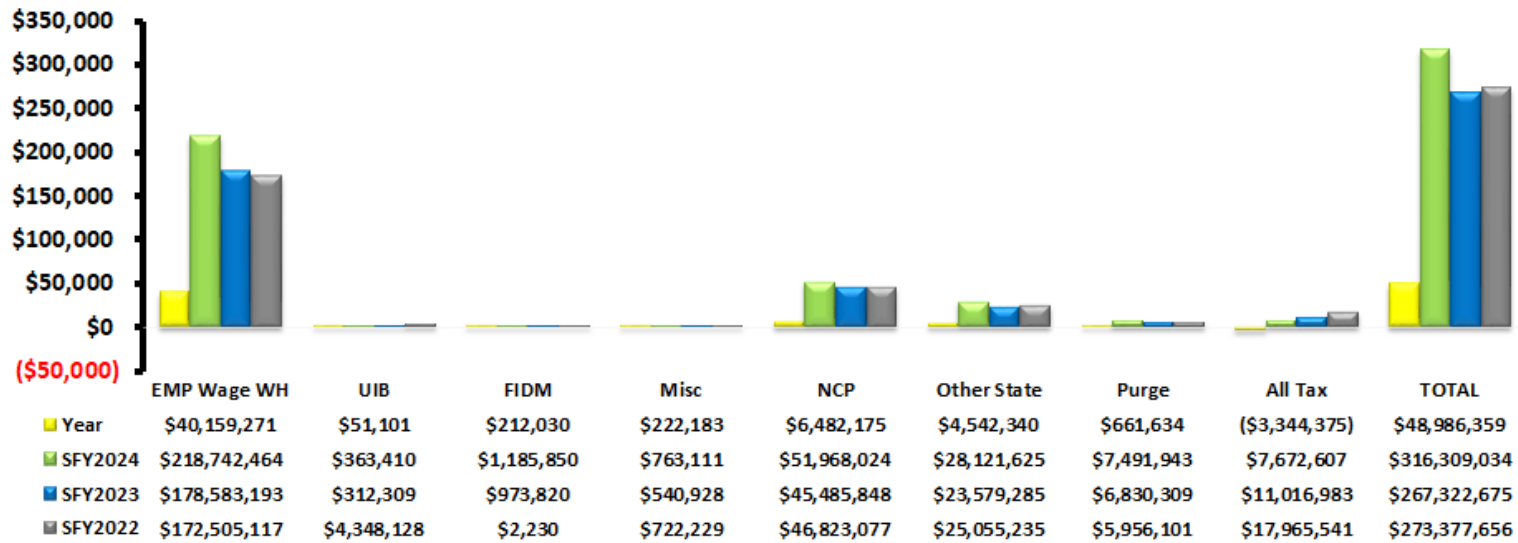
STATEWIDE CASE & ACTIVITY INFORMATION	Total	%
Total IVD Cases open	339,483	100.00%
Non-Interstate Cases	290,743	85.64%
Initiating Interstate	28,048	8.26%
Responding Interstate	20,692	6.10%
Staffing Report As of 12/31/2023	1,314	

STATEWIDE CASELOAD	Total	% OF CASELOAD
AFDC	8,791	2.59%
ARRF	2,771	0.82%
ARRN	56,352	16.60%
ARRP	5,362	1.58%
ARRS	2,025	0.60%
IVE	5,696	1.68%
MAO	152,684	44.98%
NPA	102,090	30.07%
SFHF	3,712	1.09%

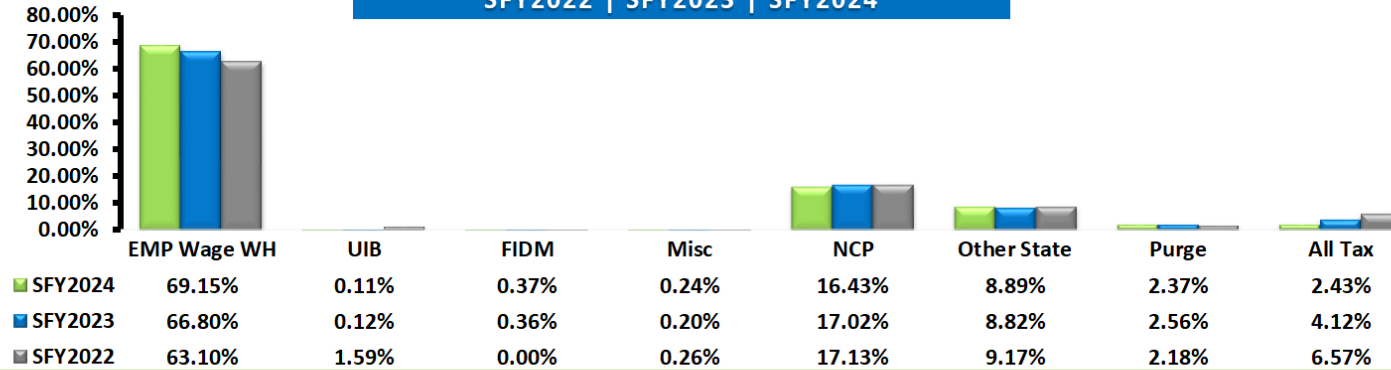
STATEWIDE SELF ASSESSMENT	Report Month	Case Closure	Enforcement	Establishment	Expedited Process 12 Month	Expedited Process 6 Month
STATEWIDE	202112	98.66%	78.55%	65.38%	93.44%	84.27%
STATEWIDE	202212	98.33%	78.63%	65.31%	93.71%	84.87%
STATEWIDE	202312	98.67%	77.95%	65.69%	93.70%	84.20%
STATEWIDE	Change	0.34%	-0.68%	0.38%	-0.01%	-0.67%
STANDARDS		90%	75%	75%	90%	75%

STATEWIDE SELF ASSESSMENT	Report Month	Interstate	Medical	Review and Adjustment Inclusive	Review and Adjustment Needed
STATEWIDE	202112	82.17%	85.68%	98.79%	88.73%
STATEWIDE	202212	81.14%	86.30%	98.89%	90.87%
STATEWIDE	202312	83.37%	86.44%	98.75%	90.70%
STATEWIDE	Change	2.23%	0.14%	-0.14%	-0.17%
STANDARDS		75%	75%	75%	75%

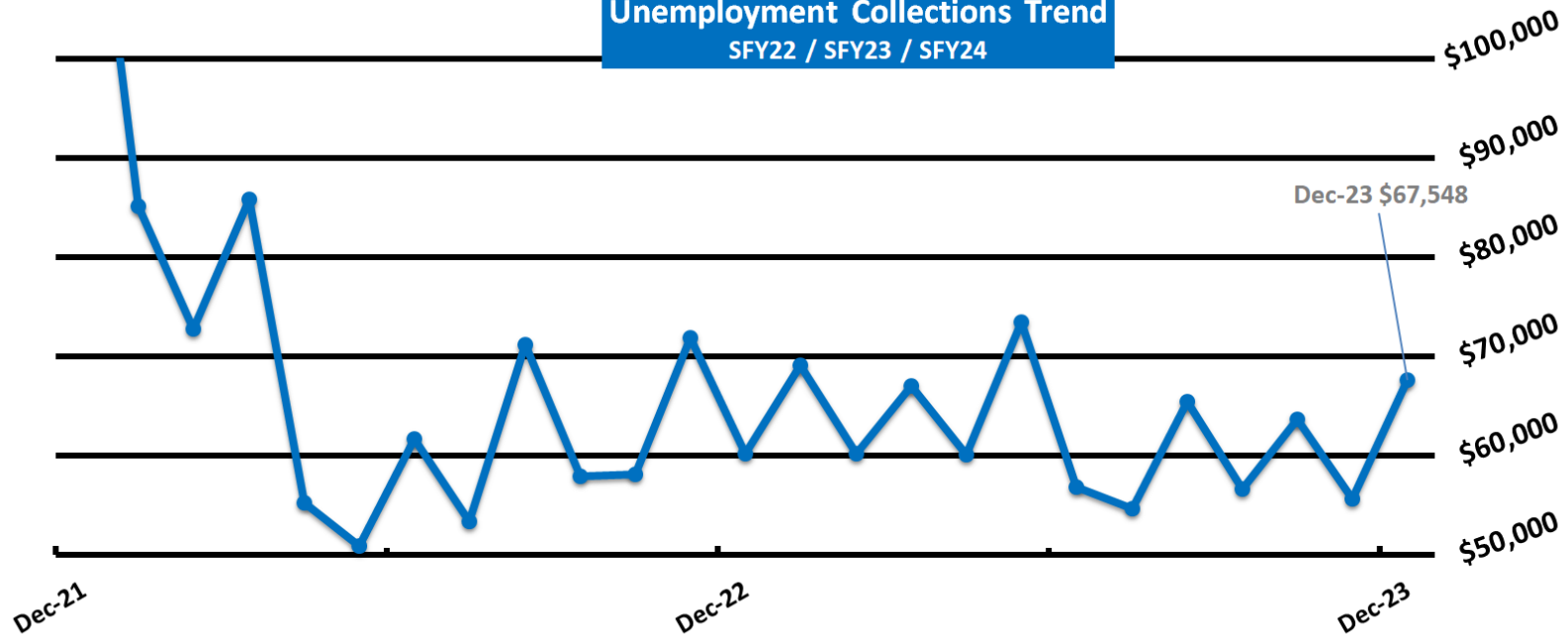
COLLECTIONS COMPARISON SFY2022 | SFY2023 | SFY2024



% of COLLECTIONS BY PAY SOURCE COMPARISON SFY2022 | SFY2023 | SFY2024



Unemployment Collections Trend SFY22 / SFY23 / SFY24



SUMMARY

- Caseload size has decreased 20,284 cases from December 2022.
- 69.15% of total net collections is received via 'Income Withholding', while 16.43% of total net collections are attributed to direct payments by non-custodial parents.

Self-assessment and Incentives

- Statewide Incentives show the most significant increase in '%Cases Under Order', a 1.50% increase over last year bringing the score to 85.84%.
- Statewide Self-Assessment show the most increase in 'Interstate', a 2.23% rise over last year bringing the score to 83.37%.

STATEWIDE SUMMARY

Staffing

The following compares staffing numbers reported for the same quarter of the respective state fiscal years.

Staffing	Authorized Supervisors	Frozen Supervisors	Unfrozen Supervisors	Vacant Supervisors	Authorized Agents	Frozen Agents	Unfrozen Agents	Vacant Agents	Authorized Clerks	Frozen Clerks	Unfrozen Clerks	Vacant Clerks
12.31.2022	213.51	0.00	213.51	NA	951.18	1.00	950.18	NA	206.15	1.00	205.15	NA
12.31.2023	208.01	0.00	208.01	9.00	956.63	1.00	955.63	65.63	187.15	0.00	187.15	18.50
Difference	-5.50	0.00	-5.50	NA	5.46	0.00	5.46	NA	-19.00	-1.00	-18.00	NA
% of Change	-2.58%	0.00%	-2.58%	NA	0.57%	0.00%	0.57%	NA	-9.22%	-100.00%	-8.77%	NA

Tracking IVD Atty, Paralegal, Other & Vacant Positions effective 03/2023

Staffing Cont.	Authorized Atty/Para/Other	Frozen Atty/Para/Other	Unfrozen Atty/Para/Other	Vacant Atty/Para/Other	Total Authorized Staff	Total Frozen Staff	Total Unfrozen Staff	Total Vacant Staff	Total Filled Staff IV-D Services FTE's
12.31.2022	NA	NA	NA	NA	1368.84	2.00	1366.84	NA	1366.84
12.31.2023	59.35	0.00	59.35	3.00	1411.14	1.00	1410.14	96.13	1314.01
Difference	NA	NA	NA	NA	42.31	-1.00	43.31	NA	-52.82
% of Change	NA	NA	NA	NA	3.09%	-50.00%	3.17%	NA	-3.86%

Tracking IVD Atty, Paralegal, Other & Vacant Positions effective 03/2023

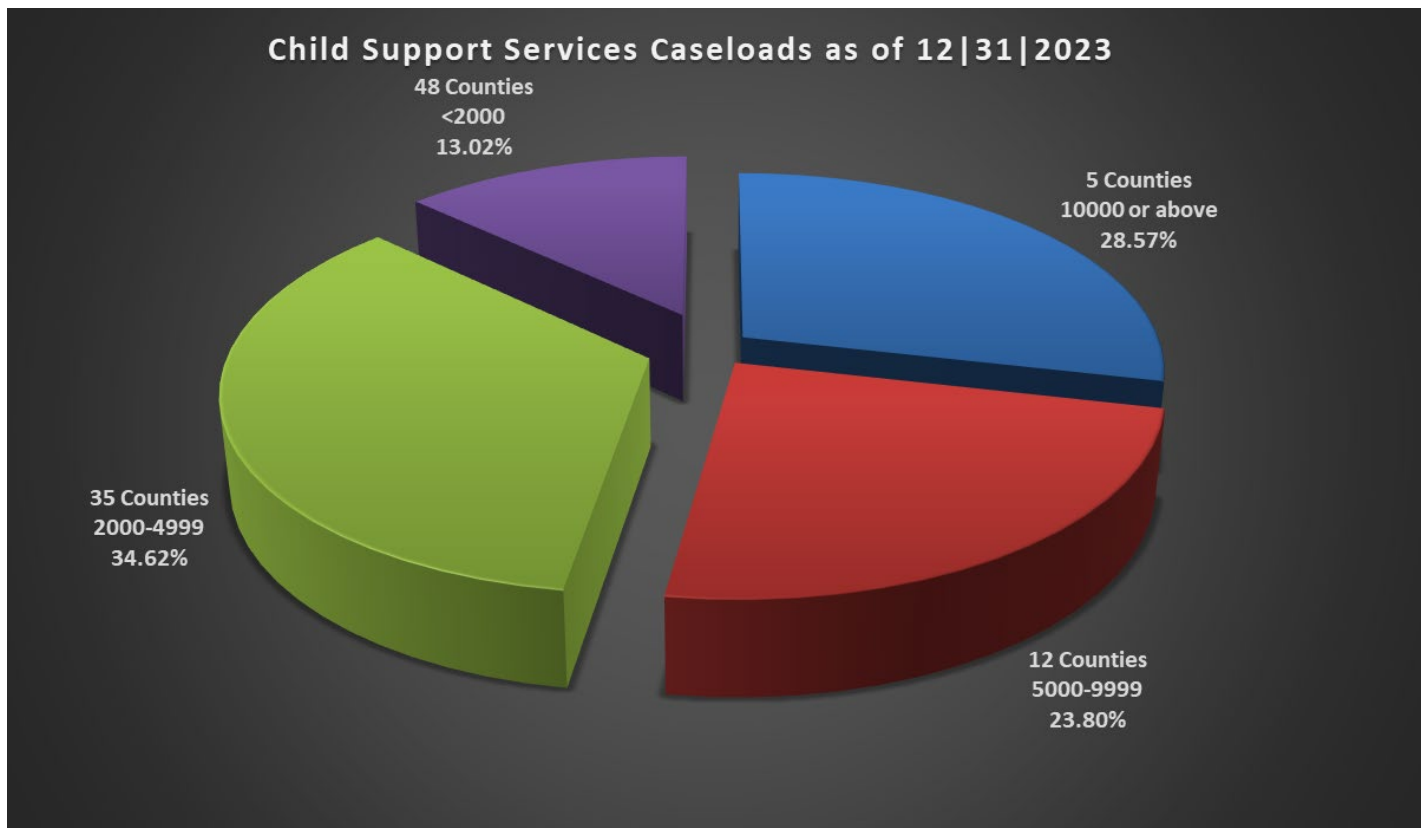
Summary of staffing changes this quarter vs. the same quarter previous year:

- Unfrozen Supervisors decreased -2.58%
- Unfrozen Agents increased 0.57%.
- Unfrozen Clerks decreased -8.77%
- Unfrozen Atty/Para/Other – No change *(Tracking eff. 03/2023)*
- Total Unfrozen Staff increased 3.17%

COUNTY SUMMARY

One of the tools used in composing this narrative is the Excel file – CSS Master Report which contains Incentives, Agent Activity, Staffing, Self-Assessment scores, as well as a 5 Factor report which reports county performance in the areas of Total Collections per Unfrozen Staff, Percentage of Cases Under Order, Percentage of Paternity Establishment, Percentage of Current Collections, and Percentage of Cases paying towards Arrears. Comparison data in these areas is provided for counties as well as some additional reference information such as case load size, cases per agent, Self-Assessment scores and unemployment data as available from the North Carolina Department of Commerce - Division of Employment Security. Sources of information are the Office of Child Support Enforcement OCSE-157 report, XPTR IVD Collections Report, the Agent Statistical Report, and Self-Assessment scores for all categories by county via Client Services Data Warehouse, as well as staffing as provided by field staff/regional representatives.

Statewide Caseload – 339,483 cases



Unemployment data*

Unemployment rates for counties ranged from **2.60%** in Swain County to **5.90 %** in Scotland County.

The statewide unemployment rate was **3.40%** as of November 2023.

Unemployment Rates by County Caseload Size	
10000 and above	3.56%
5000-9999	3.44%
4999-2000	3.81%
less than 2000	3.45%
Statewide Average	3.40%

Caseload / Agent

Caseloads per agent ranged from **170** in Swain County to **1,016** in Perquimans County. The statewide average caseload per agent was **355**.

Average Cases per Agent by County Caseload Size	
10000 and above	378.71
5000-9999	429.18
4999-2000	343.06
less than 2000	357.48
Statewide	355.25

**Source is the North Carolina Department of Commerce – Division of Employment Security – Unadjusted (not seasonally adjusted) rate. It is normal to report not-seasonally-adjusted data for the current unemployment rate.*