



Minnesota Department of **Human Services** _____

December 2011 General Assistance Caseload: Active Cases and Eligible People

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General Assistance in December 2011

The General Assistance (GA) program provides monthly cash grants to childless adults and some children that are not living with their parents. Program recipients must have assets of less than \$1,000 and countable net income must be less than the maximum grant amount which is \$203 for most cases. This report provides a snapshot of the household, demographic, and economic characteristics of GA households and eligible people in December 2011.

For this report, GA cases were separated into three categories:

- Community cases were cases where the members resided in their own housing, either alone or with others,
- Residential Facility cases¹ were cases where the members resided in a facility at some point during the month, and
- Children on GA were cases where the eligible person was a child, living either independently or with others but not a legal guardian or parent.

In December 2011 there were 21,704 eligible people receiving GA in 21,580 cases. As seen in Figure 1, December cases increased by 9 percent in the previous year, which is within the normal yearly increase of between 7 and 10 percent. The small decrease between December 2009 and December 2010 (174 cases less) was anomalous and may reflect the end of General Assistance Medical Care (GAMC) in 2010.

The typical GA-eligible person is a 43-year-old white male, who has never married, has a high school diploma, and is a U.S. citizen. Two-thirds of all GA-eligible people were male, but adults in Residential Facility cases were the most likely to be male (76 percent compared to 59 percent in Community cases) and never married (71 percent compared to 60 percent in Community cases). More than two-thirds of GA-eligible adults had at least a high school diploma. More than half of GA-eligible people were white, but blacks and American Indians were over-represented compared to their proportion of the total Minnesota population. According to the 2005 - 2009 American Community Survey (ACS) estimates, blacks made up 4 percent and American Indians made up 1 percent of Minnesota's population. Thirty-one percent of GA-eligible people reported a race of black and 7 percent reported that they identified as American Indian. (Table 1)

Unlike adults receiving GA, 70 percent of the small numbers of GA-eligible children were black and 54 percent were female. In previous reports a higher proportion of GA-eligible children were not U.S. citizens as compared to eligible adults, but the proportions were equal in December 2011. (Table 1)

Thirty-two percent of GA-eligible people had a current Interim Assistance Agreement (IAA)²; 38 percent of adults in Community cases had an IAA agreement, compared to 18

¹ See the Notes and Definitions section for information on how these case types were calculated.

² An IAA is an agreement that allows state or county agencies to seek repayment of GA benefits issued while an application for other maintenance benefits, typically Supplemental Security Income or Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Income, is pending.

percent of Facility cases and none of the Children cases.³ The percent with an IAA has not changed in recent report years. Seven percent received Medical Assistance (MA) due to a determination by a State Medical Review Team (SMRT) which identifies people likely to qualify for Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Thirteen percent reported homelessness, but this measure is believed to undercount actual homelessness. (Table 2)

The most common GA eligibility reason for people in Community cases was being ill or incapacitated (67 percent) and for Residential Facility cases it was being the resident of a facility (77 percent). Children on GA cases were most likely to be eligible because they were age 16 or 17 and living independently of their parents or guardian (64 percent) or living with an unrelated adult who was not the child's legal guardian (30 percent). (Table 2)

The average General Assistance grant was \$165. The maximum grant for an adult is \$203 and for a child \$250. Overall, 27 percent of cases received only a Personal Needs Allowance of \$89, including 85 percent of Residential Facility Cases and 5 percent of Community Cases. Three-quarters of December 2011 GA cases were also eligible for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program⁴ (SNAP) in December 2011. Community cases were mostly likely to be Food Support eligible (92 percent). Facility residents who receive more than half of their meals from the institution are generally ineligible for SNAP with some exceptions.⁵ Ninety-three percent of cases had at least one person eligible for Medical Assistance (MA).⁶ (Table 3)

The average length of the current spell of GA usage was 17 months and cumulatively over the past nine years the average total time on GA was 25 months. Thirty-seven percent of cases had used 6 months or less of GA in the most current spell and 41 percent had used 12 months or less over the last nine years. (Table 3)

Very few cases had earned income reported in the Department of Human Services administrative database. Two percent of cases reported earned income for December 2011. The average amount of gross income for all cases with reported work was \$459. Eleven percent of all cases had wages reported to Minnesota's Unemployment Insurance (UI) system for the fourth quarter 2011, which included December. Quarterly wages for cases with reported wages averaged \$1,445. (Table 3)

Twenty-four percent of December 2011 GA cases had never received public cash assistance in Minnesota prior to 2011. Most of these new cases (86 percent) were Minnesota residents prior to 2011. (Table 3)

³ The definition of a current IAA changed since the December 2007 report. Previous reports limited the definition of a current IAA to cases in which the IAA was signed within the last twelve months. It now includes all cases with a SSI application regardless of the date which reflects that under Social Security Administration rules the agreement remains in effect as long as the claim is active.

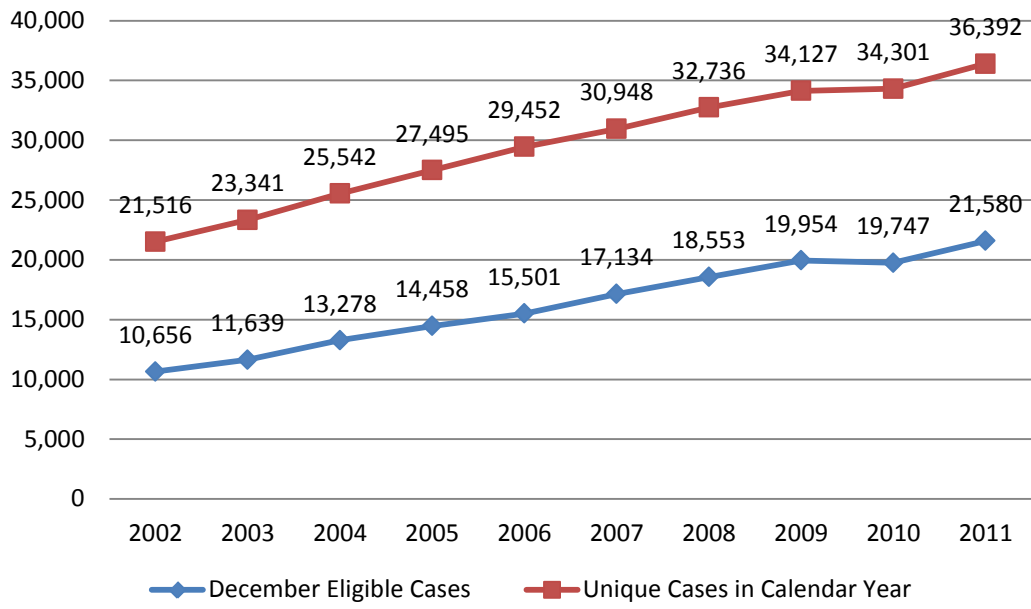
⁴ Minnesota's food stamps program, Food Support, was renamed the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The United State Department of Agriculture renamed Food Stamps SNAP in 2008.

⁵ Combined Manual 0011.12 Institutional Residence

⁶ As of June 1, 2010, GAMC enrollees were either transferred to MinnesotaCare or enrolled with hospitals participating in a Coordinated Care Delivery System (CCDS). For more information see DHS Bulletin #10-21-07.

Sixty percent of GA cases live in either Hennepin or Ramsey Counties, Minnesota's core urban counties. (Table 4)

Figure 1. Active December GA Cases and in Calendar Year Unique GA Cases, 2002 to 2011



Tables

Table 1. Demographic Characteristics of GA-eligible People, December 2011

General Assistance Recipient Characteristics		Total Eligible People	Adult GA		Children on GA
			Community	Residential Facility	
ELIGIBLE PEOPLE	Count	21,704	15,698	5,881	125
	Percent of All Eligible Persons	100.0%	72.3%	27.1%	0.6%
AGE	Mean	43.1	44.3	40.5	14.7
	Median	45	47	42	17
	Minimum	0	18	17	0
	Maximum	96	95	96	17
	< 18	125	0	0	125
		0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	18 - 19	536	387	149	0
		2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	0.0%
	20 - 29	3,637	2,397	1,240	0
		16.8%	15.3%	21.1%	0.0%
	30 - 39	3,603	2,405	1,198	0
		16.6%	15.3%	20.4%	0.0%
	40 - 49	5,862	4,108	1,754	0
		27.0%	26.2%	29.8%	0.0%
50 - 61	7,185	5,756	1,429	0	
	33.1%	36.7%	24.3%	0.0%	
62 - 64	465	396	69	0	
	2.1%	2.5%	1.2%	0.0%	
65 and older	291	249	42	0	
	1.3%	1.6%	0.7%	0.0%	
GENDER	Female	7,911	6,452	1,391	68
		36.4%	41.1%	23.7%	54.4%
	Male	13,793	9,246	4,490	57
	63.6%	58.9%	76.3%	45.6%	
EDUCATION	None or Pre-1st Grade or Unknown	1,290	1,023	252	15
		5.9%	6.5%	4.3%	12.0%
	Grade School	373	278	71	24
		1.7%	1.8%	1.2%	19.2%
	Some High School	4,888	3,496	1,307	85
		22.5%	22.3%	22.2%	68.0%
	High School Graduate	12,225	8,773	3,451	1
		56.3%	55.9%	58.7%	0.8%
	Some Post-Secondary	2,136	1,551	585	0
		9.8%	9.9%	9.9%	0.0%
	College Graduate	336	241	95	0
	1.5%	1.5%	1.6%	0.0%	
Graduate Degree	456	336	120	0	
	2.1%	2.1%	2.0%	0.0%	
High School Graduate or Higher	15,153	10,901	4,251	1	
	69.8%	69.4%	72.3%	0.8%	

Table 1 – page 2

General Assistance Recipient Characteristics		Total Eligible Persons	Adult GA		Children on GA	
			Community	Residential Facility		
MARITAL STATUS	Married	509 2.3%	493 3.1%	16 0.3%	0 0.0%	
	Never Married	13,705 63.1%	9,388 59.8%	4,192 71.3%	125 100.0%	
	Previously Married	6,979 32.2%	5,364 34.2%	1,615 27.5%	0 0.0%	
	Widowed	512 2.4%	454 2.9%	58 1.0%	0 0.0%	
	RACE/ETHNICITY	Asian	673 3.1%	602 3.8%	67 1.1%	4 3.2%
	Black	6,777 31.2%	5,027 32.0%	1,663 28.3%	87 69.6%	
Hispanic	599 2.8%	445 2.8%	152 2.6%	2 1.6%		
American Indian	1,515 7.0%	1,080 6.9%	429 7.3%	6 4.8%		
White	11,801 54.4%	8,325 53.0%	3,452 58.7%	24 19.2%		
Multiple	160 0.7%	115 0.7%	43 0.7%	2 1.6%		
CITIZENSHIP	Non-U.S.	1,583 7.3%	1,369 8.7%	204 3.5%	10 8.0%	
	U.S.	20,121 92.7%	14,329 91.3%	5,677 96.5%	115 92.0%	

Table 2. General Assistance: People and Policy, December 2011

General Assistance Recipient Characteristics		Total Eligible Persons	Adult GA		Children on GA	
			Community	Residential Facility		
ELIGIBLE PEOPLE	Count	21,704	15,698	5,881	125	
	Percent of All Eligible Persons	100.0%	72.3%	27.1%	0.6%	
HOMELESS		2,853 13.1%	2,410 15.4%	443 7.5%	0 0.0%	
INTERIM ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT PENDING		6,932 31.9%	5,905 37.6%	1,027 17.5%	0 0.0%	
SMRT MEDICAL ASSISTANCE		1,591 7.3%	1,059 6.7%	532 9.0%	0 0.0%	
GA ELIGIBILITY BASIS	III/Incapacitated or Care for III	11,413 52.6%	10,439 66.5%	974 16.6%	0 0.0%	
	Resident of a Facility	5,208 24.0%	704 4.5%	4,504 76.6%	0 0.0%	
	Advanced Age	3,833 17.7%	3,559 22.7%	274 4.7%	0 0.0%	
	ESL/Homemaker in Full-time School	441 2.0%	440 2.8%	1 0.0%	0 0.0%	
	SSI/RSDI Pending	234 1.1%	221 1.4%	13 0.2%	0 0.0%	
	Age 16 or 17/Social Services	83 0.4%	3 0.0%	0 0.0%	80 64.0%	
	Unemployable	71 0.3%	67 0.4%	4 0.1%	0 0.0%	
	Minor Living with Unrelated Adult	38 0.2%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	38 30.4%	
	Other	384 1.8%	266 1.7%	111 1.9%	7 5.6%	
	FACILITY TYPE	Group Residential Housing	3,924 18.1%	0 0.0%	3,924 66.7%	0 0.0%
		Rule 31 Chemical Dependency	713 3.3%	0 0.0%	713 12.1%	0 0.0%
State Operated Services Facility		192 0.9%	0 0.0%	192 3.3%	0 0.0%	
Adult Foster Care		258 1.2%	0 0.0%	258 4.4%	0 0.0%	
Rule 36 Mental Illness		130 0.6%	0 0.0%	130 2.2%	0 0.0%	
Family Violence Shelter		86 0.4%	0 0.0%	86 1.5%	0 0.0%	
Other		242 1.1%	0 0.0%	242 4.1%	0 0.0%	

Table 2A. GA-eligible People: GA Eligibility Basis by Length of Current Eligibility Spell and Cumulative GA Eligibility Months between 2003 and 2011, December 2011

	Ill/Incapacitated or Care for Ill		Resident of a Facility		Advanced Age		ESL/Homemaker in School		SSI or RSDI Pending/Appeal	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
TOTAL GA-ELIGIBLE PEOPLE	11,411	100.0%	5,208	100.0%	3,833	100.0%	441	100.0%	234	100.0%
LENGTH OF CURRENT SPELL										
1 - 6 Months	4,304	37.7%	2,223	42.7%	1,040	27.1%	168	38.1%	89	38.0%
7 - 12 Months	2,503	21.9%	861	16.5%	754	19.7%	125	28.3%	37	15.8%
13 - 18 Months	1,447	12.7%	574	11.0%	504	13.1%	56	12.7%	39	16.7%
19 - 24 Months	870	7.6%	387	7.4%	337	8.8%	42	9.5%	19	8.1%
25 Months or More	2,287	20.0%	1,163	22.3%	1,198	31.3%	50	11.3%	50	21.4%
CUMULATIVE MONTHS: 2002 to 2010										
1 - 12 Months	4,600	40.3%	2,199	42.2%	1,394	36.4%	257	58.3%	100	42.7%
13 - 24 Months	2,625	23.0%	1,048	20.1%	842	22.0%	114	25.9%	63	26.9%
25 - 36 Months	1,600	14.0%	684	13.1%	515	13.4%	47	10.7%	30	12.8%
37 - 48 Months	999	8.8%	409	7.9%	402	10.5%	16	3.6%	18	7.7%
49 Months or More	1,587	13.9%	868	16.7%	680	17.7%	7	1.6%	23	9.8%

Table 3. Economic Characteristics of GA Cases, December 2011

General Assistance Case Characteristics		Total Paid Cases	Adult GA		Children on GA
			Community	Residential Facility	
Cases	Count	21,580	15,577	5,878	125
		100.0%	72.2%	27.2%	0.6%
GA GRANT AMOUNT	Mean of All Cases	\$165	\$189	\$101	\$227
	Median	\$203	\$203	\$89	\$250
	Personal Needs Allowance Only	5,709	710	4,999	0
		26.5%	4.6%	85.0%	0.0%
SNAP*	Mean of Cases Receiving	\$190	\$190.52	\$190	\$168
	Count of Cases Receiving	16,407	14,347	1,983	77
		76.0%	92.1%	33.7%	61.6%
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE	Eligible Person in Case	20,080	14,826	5,135	119
		93.0%	95.2%	87.4%	95.2%
GA USAGE: LENGTH OF CURRENT SPELL	Mean	17.0	16.7	18.0	8.7
	Median	10	10	10	6
	1 - 6 Months	8,007	5,647	2,290	70
		37.1%	36.3%	39.0%	56.0%
	7 - 12 Months	4,388	3,353	1,004	31
		20.3%	21.5%	17.1%	24.8%
	13 - 18 Months	2,655	1,971	668	16
	12.3%	12.7%	11.4%	12.8%	
19 to 24 Months	1,687	1,236	447	4	
	7.8%	7.9%	7.6%	3.2%	
25 Months or More	4,841	3,368	1,469	4	
	22.4%	21.6%	25.0%	3.2%	
GA USAGE CUMULATIVE MONTHS 2003 TO 2011	Mean	24.6	23.7	27.1	9.9
	Median	17	16	19	6
	1 - 12 Months	8,786	6,416	2,272	98
		40.7%	41.2%	38.7%	78.4%
	13 to 24 Months	4,774	3,565	1,188	21
		22.1%	22.9%	20.2%	16.8%
	25 to 36 Months	2,924	2,088	836	0
	13.5%	13.4%	14.2%	0.0%	
37 to 48 Months	1,867	1,359	507	1	
	8.7%	8.7%	8.6%	0.8%	
49 Months or More	3,227	2,147	1,075	5	
	15.0%	13.8%	18.3%	4.0%	
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IN MINNESOTA: USE IN 2011	Emergency Assistance/Emergency General Assistance	1,034	902	402	0
		4.8%	5.8%	6.8%	0.0%
	Group Residential Housing	6,111	1,691	4,420	0
		28.3%	10.9%	75.2%	0.0%
	Minnesota Family Investment Program	449	334	115	0
		2.1%	2.1%	2.0%	0.0%
Minnesota Supplemental Aid	295	270	25	0	
	1.4%	1.7%	0.4%	0.0%	
Refugee Cash Assistance	90	88	2	0	
	0.4%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	

Table 3 – page 2

General Assistance Case Characteristics		Total Paid Cases	Adult GA		Children on GA	
			Community	Residential Facility		
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IN MINNESOTA: USE IN 2003 TO 2011	Emergency Assistance/Emergency General Assistance	5,839 27.1%	4,248 27.3%	1,591 27.1%	0 0.0%	
	Group Residential Housing	8,215 38.1%	3,547 22.8%	4,668 79.4%	0 0.0%	
	Minnesota Family Investment Program	2,784 12.9%	2,192 14.1%	591 10.1%	1 0.8%	
	Minnesota Supplemental Aid	295 1.4%	270 1.7%	25 0.4%	0 0.0%	
	Refugee Cash Assistance	298 1.4%	285 1.8%	13 0.2%	0 0.0%	
	EARNED INCOME: DEC. 2011	Mean for Cases with Earned Income	\$459	\$609	\$254	\$924
	Median	\$215	\$400	\$121	\$284	
UI WAGES: 4TH QUARTER 2011	Count of Cases with Earned Income	522	296	223	3	
	Percent of All Cases	2.4%	1.9%	3.8%	2.4%	
	Mean for Cases with UI Wages	\$1,445	\$1,543	\$1,180	\$997	
Median	\$873	\$948	\$697	\$870		
NEW CASES IN 2011	Count of Cases with UI Wages	2,336	1,715	608	13	
	Percent of All Cases	10.8%	11.0%	10.3%	10.4%	
NEW CASES IN 2011	Minnesota Resident before 2011	4,499	3,275	1,140	84	
	Percent of New Cases	85.7%	85.6%	86.2%	86.6%	
	State Entry Date in 2011	748	552	183	13	
	Percent of New Cases	14.3%	14.4%	13.8%	13.4%	
	Total of New Cases	5,247	3,827	1,323	97	
Percent of Cases in Column	24.3%	24.6%	22.5%	77.6%		

* Minnesota's Food Support program was renamed the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in 2011.

Table 4. County and Region of GA Cases, December 2011

County/Region/ State	Total Cases & Percent of State	Adult GA Number and Percent of County		Children on GA Number and Percent of County
		Community	Residential Facility	
AITKIN	46 0.2%	42 91.3%	4 8.7%	0 0.0%
ANOKA	736 3.4%	608 82.6%	124 16.8%	4 0.5%
BECKER	146 0.7%	120 82.2%	26 17.8%	0 0.0%
BELTRAMI	132 0.6%	93 70.5%	39 29.5%	0 0.0%
BENTON	160 0.7%	112 70.0%	48 30.0%	0 0.0%
BIG STONE	5 0.0%	4 80.0%	1 20.0%	0 0.0%
BLUE EARTH	204 0.9%	150 73.5%	53 26.0%	1 0.5%
BROWN	42 0.2%	33 78.6%	9 21.4%	0 0.0%
CARLTON	122 0.6%	85 69.7%	37 30.3%	0 0.0%
CARVER	97 0.4%	78 80.4%	19 19.6%	0 0.0%
CASS	121 0.6%	94 77.7%	26 21.5%	1 0.8%
CHIPPEWA	11 0.1%	6 54.5%	5 45.5%	0 0.0%
CHISAGO	68 0.3%	61 89.7%	7 10.3%	0 0.0%
CLAY	223 1.0%	145 65.0%	78 35.0%	0 0.0%
CLEARWATER	35 0.2%	32 91.4%	3 8.6%	0 0.0%
COOK	7 0.0%	6 85.7%	1 14.3%	0 0.0%
COTTONWOOD	32 0.1%	27 84.4%	5 15.6%	0 0.0%
CROW WING	174 0.8%	93 53.4%	81 46.6%	0 0.0%
DAKOTA	727 3.4%	568 78.1%	159 21.9%	0 0.0%
DODGE	26 0.1%	19 73.1%	7 26.9%	0 0.0%
DOUGLAS	94 0.4%	67 71.3%	27 28.7%	0 0.0%
FARIBAULT	26 0.1%	21 80.8%	5 19.2%	0 0.0%
FILLMORE	26 0.1%	21 80.8%	5 19.2%	0 0.0%
FREEBORN	56 0.3%	48 85.7%	8 14.3%	0 0.0%
GOODHUE	58 0.3%	50 86.2%	8 13.8%	0 0.0%
GRANT	15 0.1%	13 86.7%	2 13.3%	0 0.0%
HENNEPIN	9,751 45.2%	6,553 67.2%	3,118 32.0%	80 0.8%

Table 4 – page 2

County/Region/ State	Total Cases & Percent of State	Adult GA Number and Percent of County		Children on GA Number and Percent of County
		Community	Residential Facility	
HOUSTON	28 0.1%	23 82.1%	5 17.9%	0 0.0%
HUBBARD	56 0.3%	48 85.7%	8 14.3%	0 0.0%
ISANTI	82 0.4%	49 59.8%	32 39.0%	1 1.2%
ITASCA	208 1.0%	167 80.3%	41 19.7%	0 0.0%
JACKSON	14 0.1%	10 71.4%	4 28.6%	0 0.0%
KANABEC	50 0.2%	32 64.0%	18 36.0%	0 0.0%
KANDIYOHI	127 0.6%	97 76.4%	29 22.8%	1 0.8%
KITTSOON	7 0.0%	4 57.1%	3 42.9%	0 0.0%
KOOCHICHING	27 0.1%	22 81.5%	5 18.5%	0 0.0%
LAC QUI PARLE	9 0.0%	8 88.9%	1 11.1%	0 0.0%
LAKE	21 0.1%	12 57.1%	9 42.9%	0 0.0%
LAKE OF THE WOODS	8 0.0%	6 75.0%	2 25.0%	0 0.0%
LE SUEUR	45 0.2%	33 73.3%	12 26.7%	0 0.0%
LINCOLN	5 0.0%	4 80.0%	1 20.0%	0 0.0%
LYON	85 0.4%	65 76.5%	19 22.4%	1 1.2%
MCLEOD	43 0.2%	33 76.7%	10 23.3%	0 0.0%
MAHNOMEN	85 0.4%	65 76.5%	20 23.5%	0 0.0%
MARSHALL	9 0.0%	7 77.8%	2 22.2%	0 0.0%
MARTIN	61 0.3%	50 82.0%	11 18.0%	0 0.0%
MEEKER	43 0.2%	36 67.9%	7 32.1%	0 0.0%
MILLE LACS	78 0.4%	53 67.9%	25 32.1%	0 0.0%
MORRISON	76 0.4%	57 75.0%	19 25.0%	0 0.0%
MOWER	85 0.4%	63 74.1%	22 25.9%	0 0.0%
MURRAY	12 0.1%	9 75.0%	3 25.0%	0 0.0%
NICOLLET	56 0.3%	42 75.0%	14 25.0%	0 0.0%
NOBLES	43 0.2%	36 83.7%	7 16.3%	0 0.0%
NORMAN	10 0.0%	9 90.0%	1 10.0%	0 0.0%

Table 4 – page 3

County/Region/ State	Total Cases & Percent of State	Adult GA Number and Percent of County		Children on GA Number and Percent of County
		Community	Residential Facility	
OLMSTED	394 1.8%	199 50.5%	195 49.5%	0 0.0%
OTTER TAIL	129 0.6%	99 76.7%	30 23.3%	0 0.0%
PENNINGTON	29 0.1%	23 79.3%	6 20.7%	0 0.0%
PINE	89 0.4%	76 85.4%	13 14.6%	0 0.0%
PIPESTONE	23 0.1%	20 87.0%	3 13.0%	0 0.0%
POLK	114 0.5%	96 84.2%	18 15.8%	0 0.0%
POPE	27 0.1%	24 88.9%	3 11.1%	0 0.0%
RAMSEY	3,252 15.1%	2,649 81.5%	583 17.9%	20 0.6%
RED LAKE	9 0.0%	8 88.9%	1 11.1%	0 0.0%
REDWOOD	31 0.1%	19 61.3%	12 38.7%	0 0.0%
RENVILLE	46 0.2%	35 76.1%	11 23.9%	0 0.0%
RICE	97 0.4%	73 75.3%	24 24.7%	0 0.0%
ROCK	14 0.1%	9 64.3%	5 35.7%	0 0.0%
ROSEAU	21 0.1%	16 76.2%	5 23.8%	0 0.0%
ST. LOUIS	1,363 6.3%	1,035 75.9%	322 23.6%	6 0.4%
SCOTT	91 0.4%	77 84.6%	14 15.4%	0 0.0%
SHERBURNE	140 0.6%	97 69.3%	43 30.7%	0 0.0%
SIBLEY	8 0.0%	8 100.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%
STEARNS	392 1.8%	254 64.8%	130 33.2%	8 2.0%
STEELE	91 0.4%	61 67.0%	30 33.0%	0 0.0%
STEVENS	17 0.1%	12 70.6%	5 29.4%	0 0.0%
SWIFT	19 0.1%	14 73.7%	5 26.3%	0 0.0%
TODD	62 0.3%	47 75.8%	15 24.2%	0 0.0%
TRAVERSE	16 0.1%	13 81.3%	3 18.8%	0 0.0%
WABASHA	29 0.1%	24 82.8%	5 17.2%	0 0.0%
WADENA	88 0.4%	41 46.6%	47 53.4%	0 0.0%

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County/Region/ State	Total Cases & Percent of State	Adult GA Number and Percent of County		Children on GA Number and Percent of County
		Community	Residential Facility	
WASECA	39 0.2%	30 76.9%	9 23.1%	0 0.0%
WASHINGTON	183 0.8%	146 79.8%	37 20.2%	0 0.0%
WATONWAN	17 0.1%	16 94.1%	1 5.9%	0 0.0%
WILKIN	16 0.1%	13 81.3%	3 18.8%	0 0.0%
WINONA	114 0.53%	77 67.5%	36 31.6%	1 0.9%
WRIGHT	85 0.4%	60 70.6%	25 29.4%	0 0.0%
YELLOW MEDICINE	22 0.1%	17 77.3%	4 21.1%	1 5.3%
NORTHWEST	199 0.9%	163 81.9%	36 18.1%	0 0.0%
WEST CENTRAL	1,520 7.0%	1,082 71.2%	437 28.8%	1 0.1%
NORTHEAST	1,794 8.3%	1,369 76.3%	419 23.4%	6 0.3%
CENTRAL	1,110 5.1%	777 70.0%	323 29.1%	10 0.9%
SOUTHWEST	325 1.5%	248 76.3%	75 23.1%	2 0.6%
SOUTH CENTRAL	498 2.3%	383 76.9%	114 22.9%	1 0.2%
SOUTHEAST	1,004 4.7%	658 65.5%	345 34.4%	1 0.1%
METRO SUBURBAN	2,127 9.9%	1,695 79.7%	428 20.1%	4 0.2%
CORE METRO	13,003 60.3%	9,202 70.8%	3,701 28.5%	100 0.8%
MINNESOTA	21,580 100.0%	15,577 72.2%	5,878 27.2%	125 0.6%

Notes and Definitions

Case Types. Children on GA cases were determined by being less than 18 years of age in December 2011. Residential Facility cases were cases with an active facility panel in the DHS administrative database (MAXIS) for December 2011 and a facility entry date on or before December 31, 2011, and a facility exit date that was either blank, a December 2011 date greater than the entry date, or greater than December 31, 2011. Cases that spent part of December in a facility, but not the entire month, were considered Residential Facility cases. Community cases were all other cases that did not meet the criteria for a Residential Facility case or Children on GA case.

Demographic Data. Data that do not affect program eligibility might not be updated after the initial application. Changes in marital status, citizenship, and education level may be underreported.

One person was missing demographic data.

Previously married includes people who were divorced and legally separated. Married includes those living together and spouses not living together.

Recipient Characteristics. The measurement for homelessness is unreliable. People were considered homeless if they had the Homeless Indicator in MAXIS marked “Yes” or had a General Delivery address. These variables are frequently not updated, thus a person who gained housing may still be marked as homeless or a person who had housing and became homeless may still be marked as being housed. This variable does not consider people that are doubled up or otherwise precariously housed as homeless.

Recipients were considered to have a current IAA if they had a current STAT PBEN panel in MAXIS, the state eligibility system, and had an SSI or RSDI application disposition of approved or pending. Previous reports restricted this further by only including those cases in which the SSI or RSDI application was made within the last twelve months, which followed current practice. However, the application could have been made more than twelve months ago and still be an active IAA. The Social Security Administration will accept an IAA that was signed up to a year before the SSI application or anytime after the SSI application was made and it continues in effect as long as the claim is active. The STAT PBEN panel may not be updated to reflect a signing of an IAA or a change in SSI application status.

A recipient was considered to have SMRT Medical Assistance if they had a current STAT DISA panel; a disability start date that was before December 31, 2011, either no disability end date or an end date after December 31, 2011; and a health care disability status that indicated a SMRT review.

The other GA eligibility bases were emancipated minor, family violence, mentally ill or retarded, learning disabled, under protection/court ordered, and family member with no other GA eligibility basis. Some adults have GA eligibility bases that are for minors. This is because their eligibility basis has not been updated since their 18th birthday. Table 2A is

person-level data for GA eligibility basis; span length and cumulative months were the maximum for the case. Therefore, if a case had two eligible people, the longer length of time was used to describe the case. Only the five most common eligibility types are included.

The other facility types were nursing facilities, intensive care facilities, medical hospitals, non-group residential housing, and adult correctional facilities.

Economic Characteristics. Case eligibility for other cash, food, and medical programs was determined by case number. If a member in the case received benefits under a different case number, that person's benefits were not included in this table.

Earned income was self-employment or paid wages reported to MAXIS. Income was either verified retrospective earnings reported in February 2012 for December 2011 or, in the absence of retrospective income, prospective earnings for December 2011.

Unemployment Insurance (UI) wages only include wages that are reported to Minnesota's UI system. Religious, federal government and seasonal or temporary employment are excluded, as well as employment for cash and in other states.

New GA cases in 2011 were December 2011 cases active in a GA case in Minnesota for one or more months in 2011 but receiving no cash in 1992 to 2011 (the period covered by the state administrative database) in MFIP, DWP, GRH, MSA, GA, RCA, AFDC, or Family General Assistance (FGA). The FGA and AFDC programs were replaced by MFIP in 1998. A case could have been active on Food Support or a medical program. Cases new to the state had a 2011 state entry date. Minnesota residents were either lifelong residents or had moved to the state before 2011.

Comments and feedback on this report are welcome as well as suggestions for future reports in this series.