

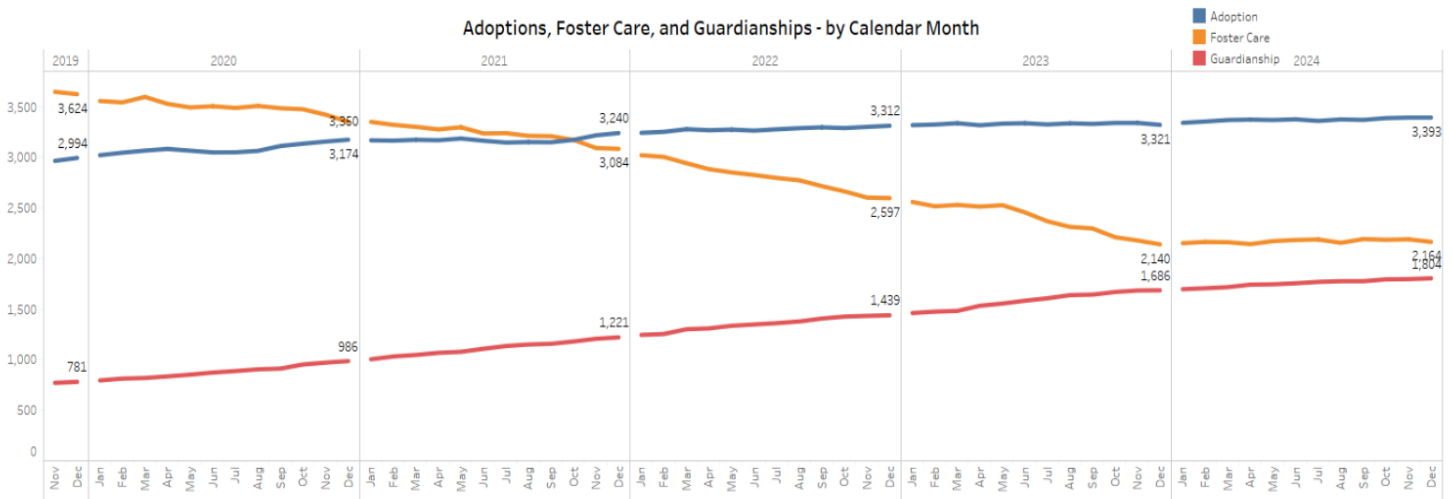
FOSTER CARE, SUBSIDIZED ADOPTION, AND GUARDIANSHIP CASELOAD ADJUSTMENT CHANGE PACKAGES

Summary:

Child & Family Services Division (CFSD) performs subsidized adoption, subsidized guardianship, and foster care caseload projections monthly. The methodology for these projections has been utilized to perform projections into FY 2026 and FY 2027 to inform present law decision package requests for the 2027 Biennium.

Caseload Assumptions:

CFSD uses long-term growth trends to project future funding needs. Historically, there was an increase in the number of children in foster care leading to the highest number of children in foster care placements in 2018. The foster care caseload has been consistently declining since that date, with fewer children entering care. The adoption and guardianship caseloads have experienced long-term slow growth. The Department expects these trends to continue into 2026 and 2027.



Projected Growth Rates:

Foster care is projected to stabilize with an approximate continued 2.00% decline through the 2027 biennium. The following table details the number of children in foster care at the end of each state fiscal year.

Subsidized Adoption has historically seen a high growth rate. However, as the number of children entering foster care decreases, it is anticipated that the adoption growth rate



will stabilize at 2.3% through the 2027 biennium. The following table details the number of children in adoption placements at the end of each state fiscal year.

Guardianship assistance is projected to stabilize at 5.5% through the 2027 biennium. The following table details the number of children in guardianship placements at the end of each state fiscal year.

SFY	Foster Care	Subsidized Adoption	Guardianship	Children in Care	FC Growth	SA Growth %	GU Growth	TOTAL Growth
2020	3,505	3,049	873	7,427				
2021	3,236	3,164	1,108	7,508	-7.67%	3.77%	26.92%	1.09%
2022	2,825	3,264	1,348	7,437	-12.70%	3.16%	21.66%	-0.95%
2023	2,456	3,337	1,583	7,376	-13.06%	2.24%	17.43%	-0.82%
2024	2,183	3,343	1,755	7,281	-11.12%	0.18%	10.87%	-1.29%
2025	2,139	3,420	1,854	7,413	-2.02%	2.30%	5.64%	1.81%
2026	2,097	3,499	1,956	7,552	-1.96%	2.30%	5.50%	1.87%
2027	2,055	3,579	2,064	7,698	-2.00%	2.30%	5.50%	1.93%

The following tables show the actual SFY 2024 expenses, the 2025 starting point, and projected costs through the 2027 biennium costs for foster care, subsidized adoption, and guardianship. The table below represents the total caseload, FMAP requests, and change package details.

SFY 2026 and 2027 Budget Request:

The budget requests for CFSD are represented in two parts. The Department requests caseload adjustments as a deviation from base budget funding and FMAP to reflect changes to the IVE reimbursable children in care.

TOTAL REQUEST

PGRM	RL	RL_DESCRIPTION	FUND	24 Actual	2025 Base	2026 Request	2027 Request	2026 Change Package	2027 Change Package	
3	69010-03-03-02	Foster Care	1100	\$21,352,352	\$18,299,294	\$22,883,235	\$22,840,130	\$4,583,941	\$4,540,836	
			2209	\$1,325,219	\$1,433,000	\$1,428,781	\$1,426,720	(\$4,219)	(\$6,280)	
			3109	\$1,895,310	\$1,976,440	\$2,169,430	\$2,171,684	\$192,990	\$195,244	
			3530	\$4,855,561	\$7,224,855	\$5,646,723	\$5,733,396	(\$1,578,132)	(\$1,491,459)	
	69010-03-03-02 Total				\$29,428,442	\$28,933,589	\$32,128,169	\$32,171,930	\$3,194,580	\$3,238,341
	69010-03-03-03	Adoption	1100	\$11,093,392	\$10,984,330	\$12,508,823	\$12,561,497	\$1,524,493	\$1,577,167	
			3531	\$15,425,277	\$16,074,824	\$16,752,280	\$16,761,102	\$677,456	\$686,278	
	69010-03-03-03 Total				\$26,518,669	\$27,059,154	\$29,261,103	\$29,322,599	\$2,201,949	\$2,263,445
	69010-03-03-04	Guardianship	1100	\$6,790,339	\$7,519,481	\$8,505,459	\$8,667,421	\$985,978	\$1,147,940	
			3529	\$3,878,435	\$5,299,928	\$5,200,402	\$5,253,244	(\$99,526)	(\$46,684)	
69010-03-03-04 Total				\$10,668,774	\$12,819,409	\$13,705,861	\$13,920,665	\$886,452	\$1,101,256	
Grand Total				\$66,615,885	\$68,812,152	\$75,095,133	\$75,415,194	\$6,282,981	\$6,603,042	



CHANGE PACKAGE SUMMARY

RL_DESCRIPTION	CHANGE_NO	DESCRIPTION	FUND	SFY2024	SFY2025	SFY2026	SFY2027	
				Expense	Base	Request	Request	
Foster Care	BASE	BASE	1100	\$21,352,352	\$18,299,294	\$18,299,294	\$18,299,294	
			2209	\$1,325,219	\$1,433,000	\$1,433,000	\$1,433,000	
			3109	\$1,895,310	\$1,976,440	\$1,976,440	\$1,976,440	
			3530	\$4,855,561	\$7,224,855	\$7,224,855	\$7,224,855	
		BASE Total			\$29,428,442	\$28,933,589	\$28,933,589	\$28,933,589
		BASE Total			\$29,428,442	\$28,933,589	\$28,933,589	\$28,933,589
		3001	Foster Care Caseload Adjustment - CFSD	1100	\$0	\$0	\$4,583,941	\$4,540,836
	2209			\$0	\$0	(\$4,219)	(\$6,280)	
	3109			\$0	\$0	\$192,990	\$195,244	
	3530			\$0	\$0	(\$1,578,132)	(\$1,491,459)	
		Foster Care Caseload Adjustment - CFSD Total			\$0	\$0	\$3,194,580	\$3,238,341
		3001 Total			\$0	\$0	\$3,194,580	\$3,238,341
		3996	Foster Care FMAP Adjustment - CFSD	1100	\$0	\$0	\$6,366	\$93,039
	3530			\$0	\$0	(\$6,366)	(\$93,039)	
		Foster Care FMAP Adjustment - CFSD Total			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	3996 Total			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Foster Care Total				\$29,428,442	\$28,933,589	\$32,128,169	\$32,171,930	
Adoption	BASE	BASE	1100	\$11,093,392	\$10,984,330	\$10,984,330	\$10,984,330	
			3531	\$15,425,277	\$16,074,824	\$16,074,824	\$16,074,824	
				BASE Total		\$26,518,669	\$27,059,154	\$27,059,154
		BASE Total		\$26,518,669	\$27,059,154	\$27,059,154	\$27,059,154	
		3002	Adoption Caseload Adjustment - CFSD	1100	\$0	\$0	\$1,524,493	\$1,577,167
	3531			\$0	\$0	\$677,456	\$686,278	
		Adoption Caseload Adjustment - CFSD Total			\$0	\$0	\$2,201,949	\$2,263,445
		3002 Total			\$0	\$0	\$2,201,949	\$2,263,445
		3997	Adoption FMAP Adjustment - CFSD	1100	\$0	\$0	\$752,196	\$936,177
	3531			\$0	\$0	(\$752,196)	(\$936,177)	
	Adoption FMAP Adjustment - CFSD Total			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
	3997 Total			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Adoption Total				\$26,518,669	\$27,059,154	\$29,261,103	\$29,322,599	
Guardianship	BASE	BASE	1100	\$6,790,339	\$7,519,481	\$7,519,481	\$7,519,481	
			3529	\$3,878,435	\$5,299,928	\$5,299,928	\$5,299,928	
				BASE Total		\$10,668,774	\$12,819,409	\$12,819,409
		BASE Total		\$10,668,774	\$12,819,409	\$12,819,409	\$12,819,409	
		3003	Guardianship Caseload Adjustment - CFSD	1100	\$0	\$0	\$985,978	\$1,147,940
	3529			\$0	\$0	(\$99,526)	(\$46,684)	
		Guardianship Caseload Adjustment - CFSD Total			\$0	\$0	\$886,452	\$1,101,256
		3003 Total			\$0	\$0	\$886,452	\$1,101,256
		3996	Guardianship FMAP Adjustment - CFSD	1100	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	3529			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
	Guardianship FMAP Adjustment - CFSD Total			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
	3996 Total			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Guardianship Total				\$10,668,774	\$12,819,409	\$13,705,861	\$13,920,665	
Grand Total				\$66,615,885	\$68,812,152	\$75,095,133	\$75,415,194	

Caseload Changes:

Caseload packages are calculated by analyzing historical expenses by service category and placement type.

FMAP Changes:

FMAP packages for CFSD reflect the change in the FMAP included in the SFY 2025 base for IVE-reimbursable children in care. Two components determine FMAP changes: the percent of IV-E eligible children by category and the application of new FMAP rates to the projected expense by category.



SFY	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Adoption	3,264	3,337	3,343	3,420	3,499	3,579
IVE	2,915	3,012	3,077	3,116	3,188	3,260
GFO	349	325	266	304	311	319
Foster Care	2,825	2,456	2,183	2,139	2,097	2,055
IVE	905	724	778	721	706	692
GFO	1,920	1,732	1,405	1,418	1,391	1,363
Guardianship	1,348	1,583	1,755	1,854	1,956	2,064
IVE	612	705	752	771	813	858
GFO	736	878	1,003	1,083	1,143	1,206
TOTAL Children	7,437	7,376	7,281	7,413	7,552	7,698

Percent	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Adoption						
IVE	89%	90%	92%	91%	91%	91%
GFO	11%	10%	8%	9%	9%	9%
Foster Care						
IVE	32%	29%	36%	34%	34%	34%
GFO	68%	71%	64%	66%	66%	66%
Guardianship						
IVE	45%	45%	43%	42%	42%	42%
GFO	55%	55%	57%	58%	58%	58%
TOTAL Children						