



VISION

ALASKA INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES ARE SAFE AND HEALTHY

MISSION

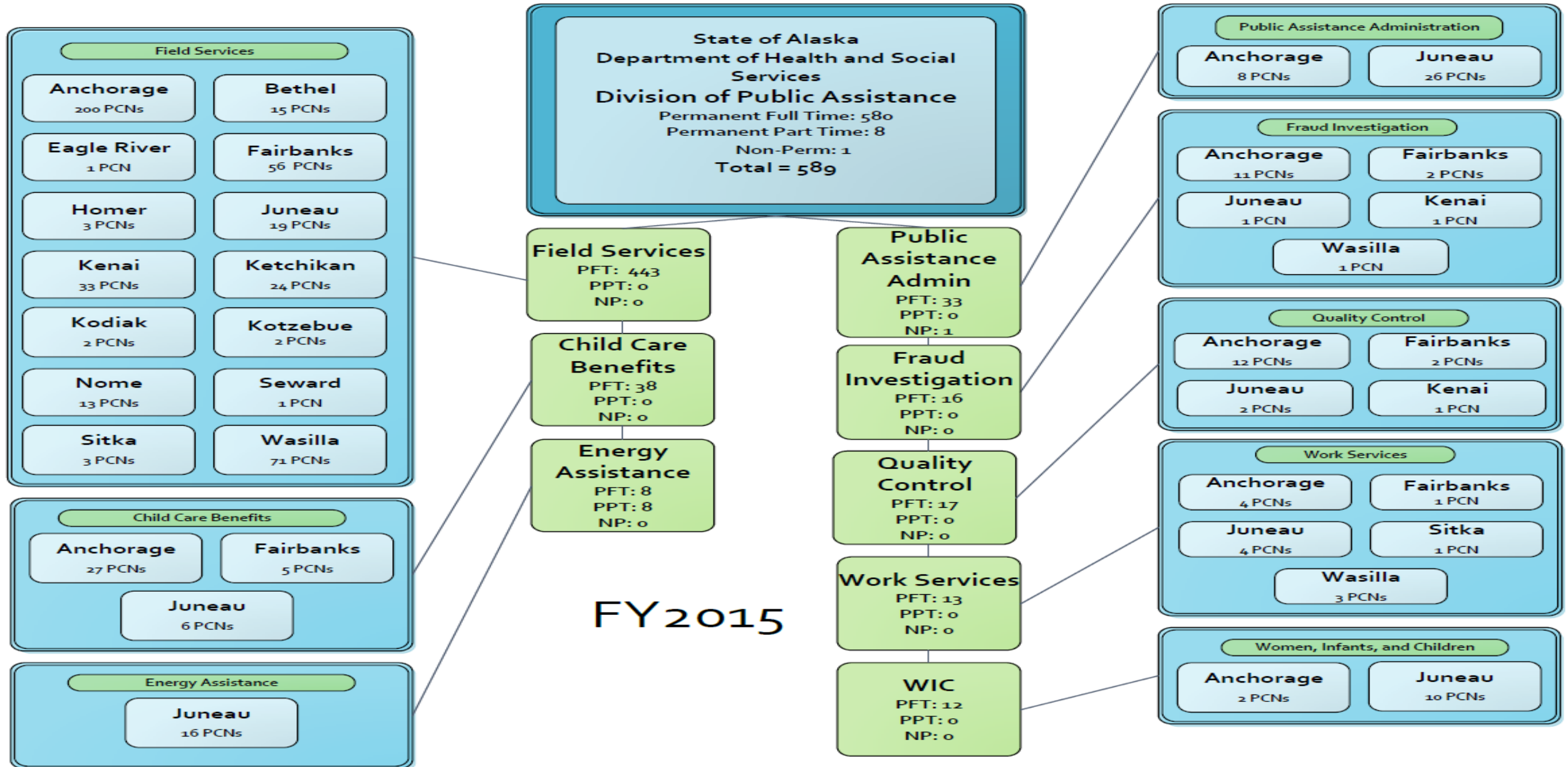
TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF ALASKANS

House Health and Social Services Committee - FY2016 Division Overview

Ron Kreher | Interim Director
Division of Public Assistance

February 26, 2015

Division Organization Chart



FY2015



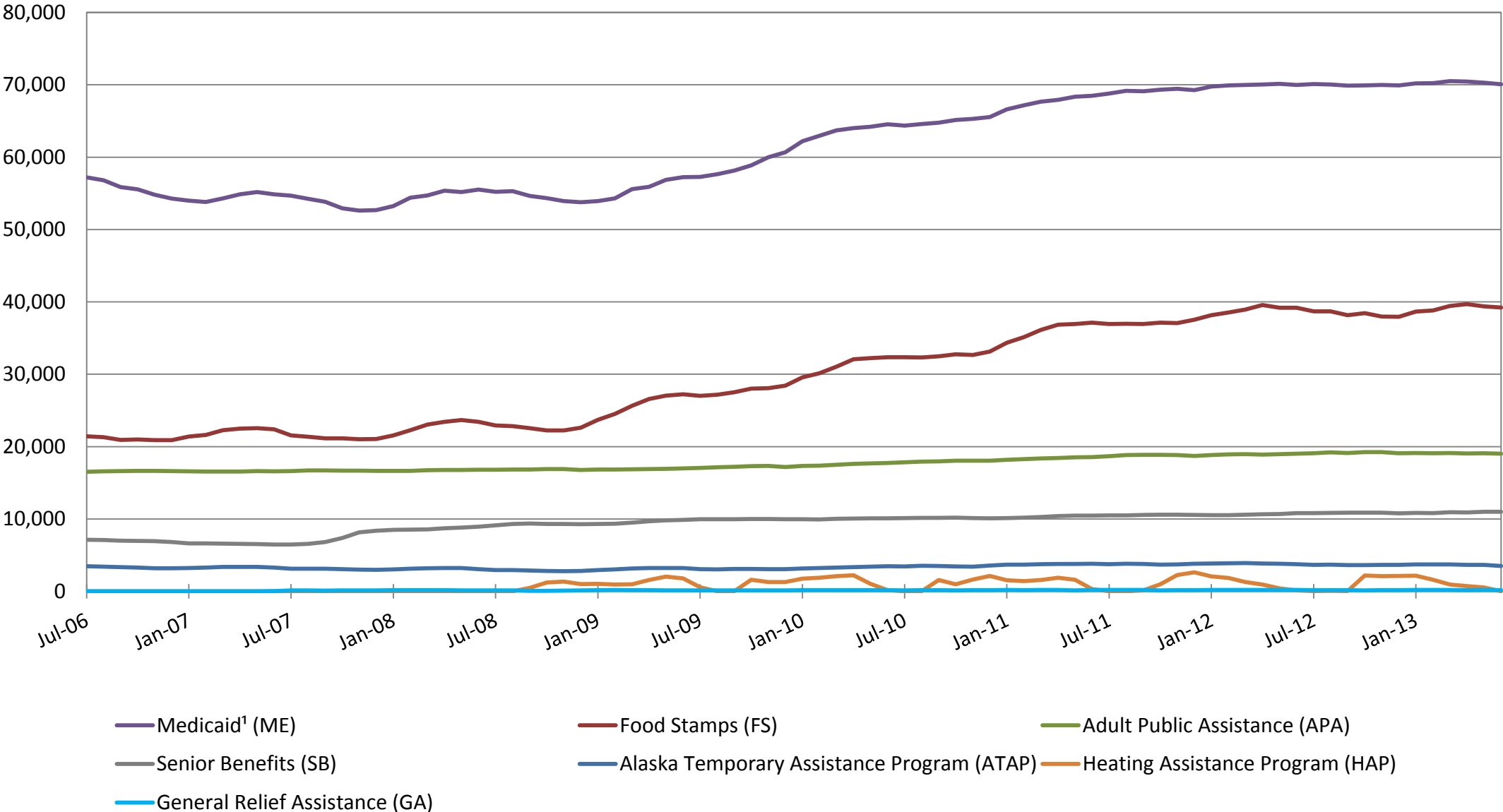
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Division Overview

- Mission: To Promote self-sufficiency and provide for basic living expenses to Alaskans in need.
- **589 FT/PT Positions**
 - 76% of Work Force supports benefit determination and issuance
- **155,120 - Total service population Nov. 2014**
 - 20.7 Avg. % of Alaska's population receiving welfare
 - 18.6 Avg. % U.S population receiving welfare (2009 Census Data)



DPA Caseload History FY2007-2014

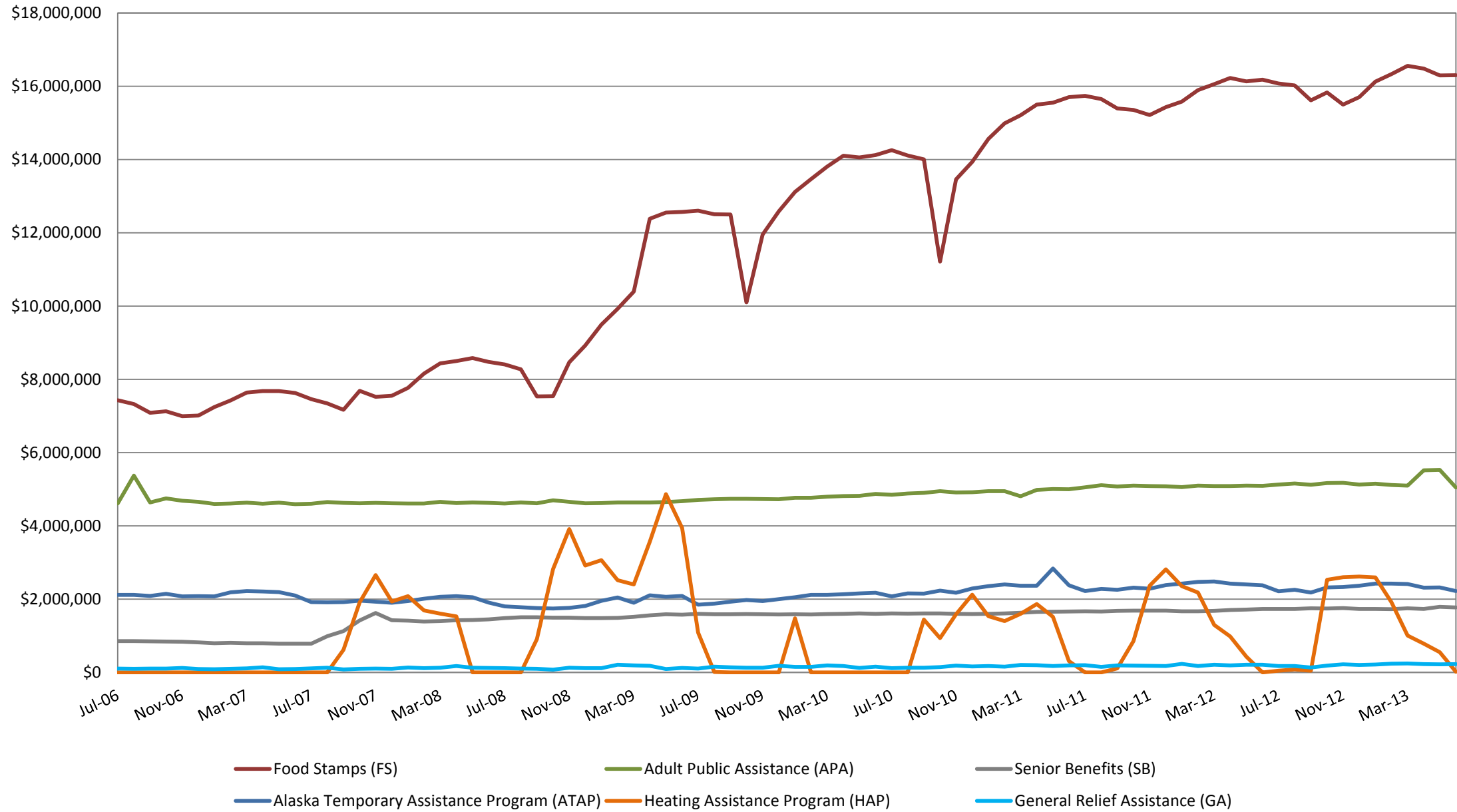


¹ Medicaid data are estimates and may vary from data reported by Health Care Services.



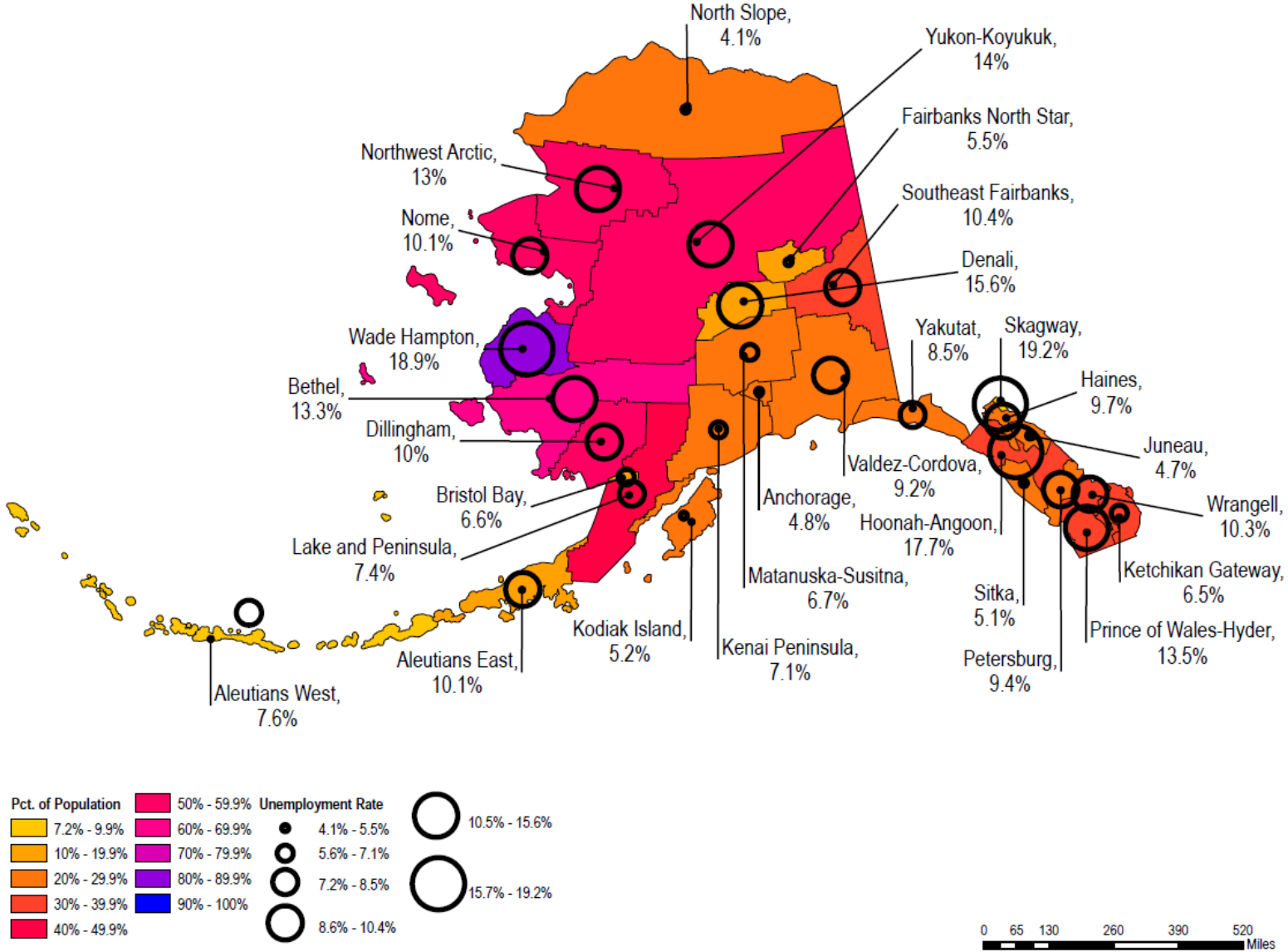
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DPA Benefit History FY2007-2014



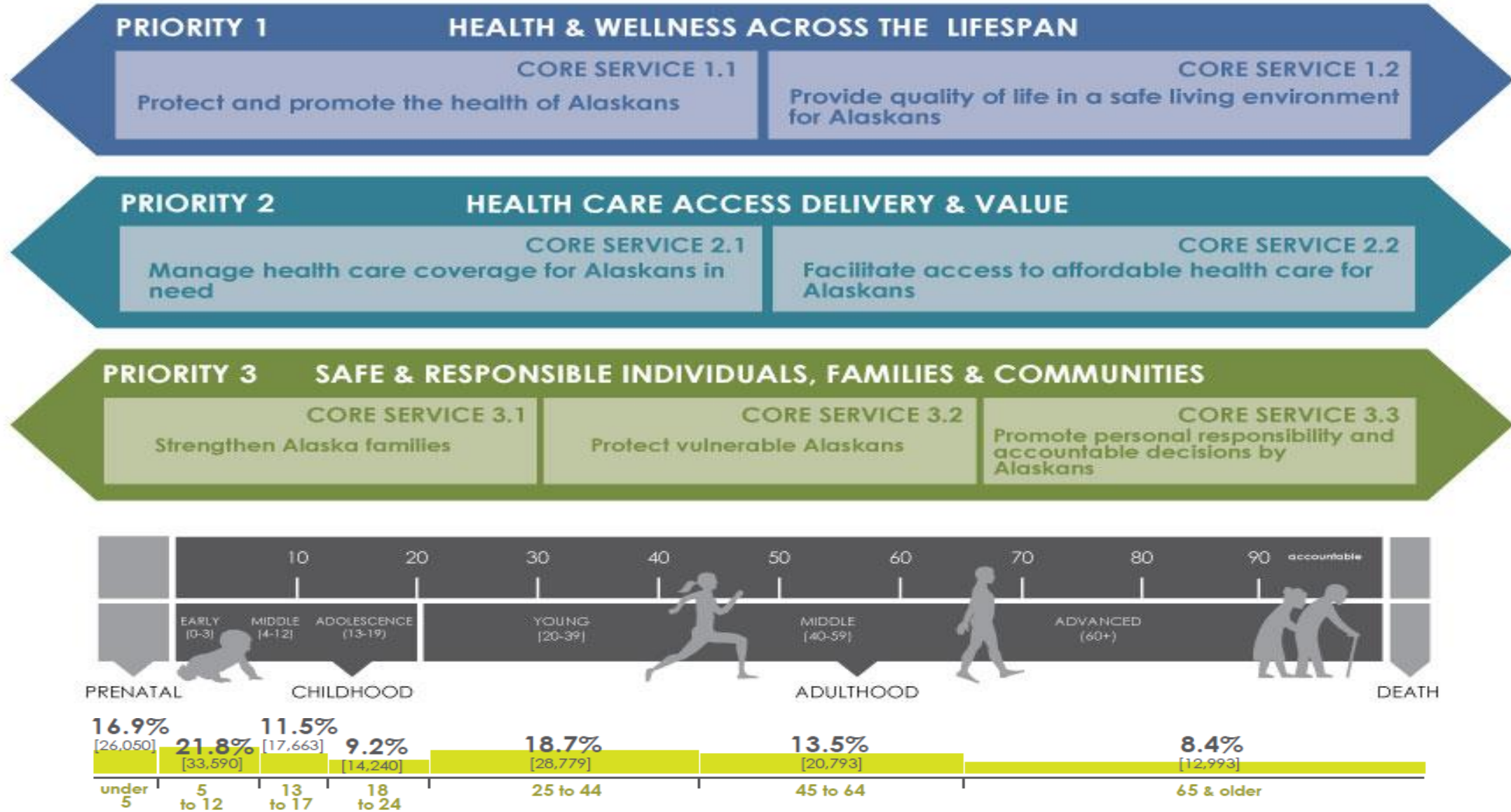
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DPA Recipients as a Percentage of Census Area Population & Unemployment Rate, SFY 2014



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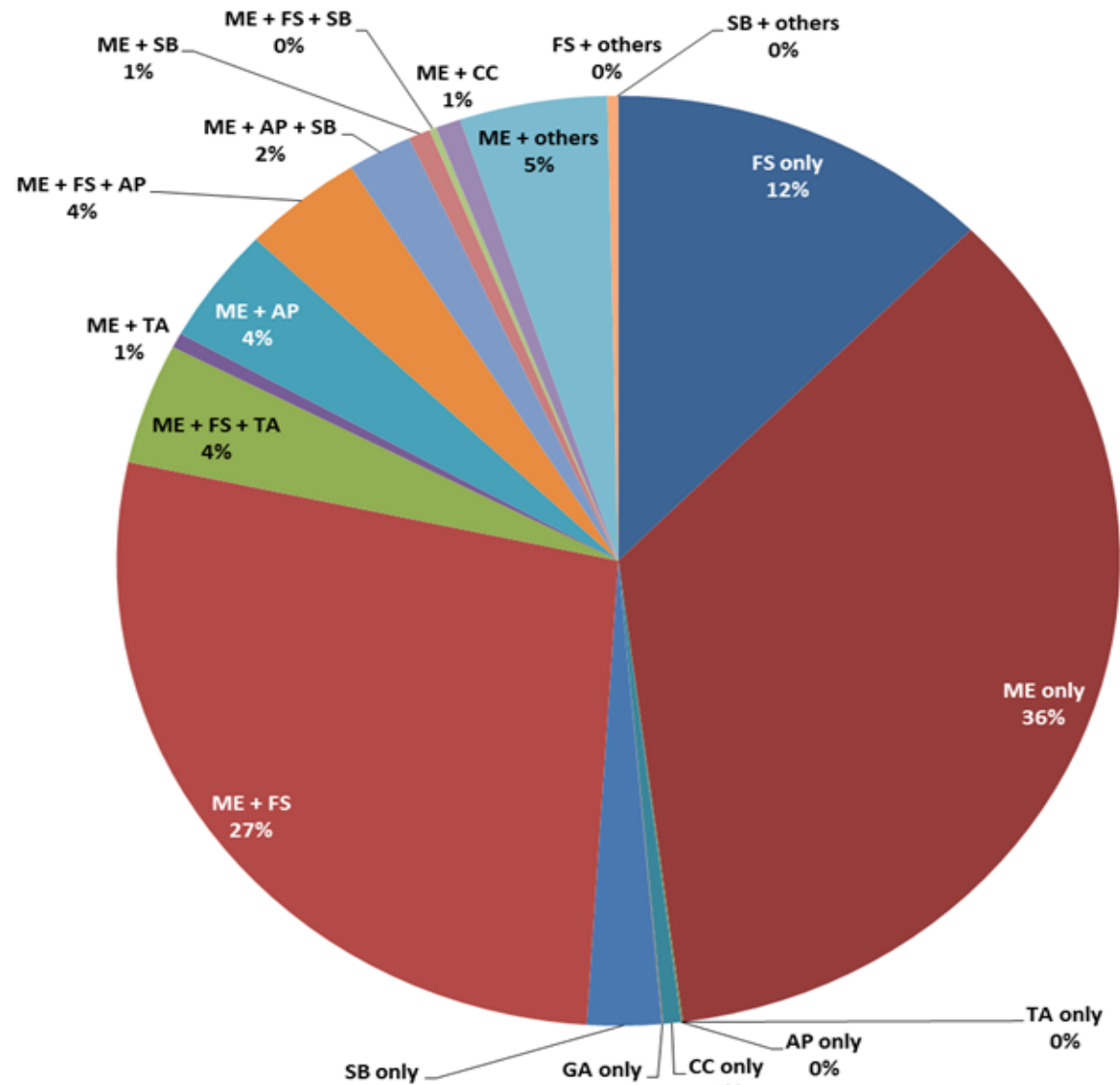
DPA Service Population



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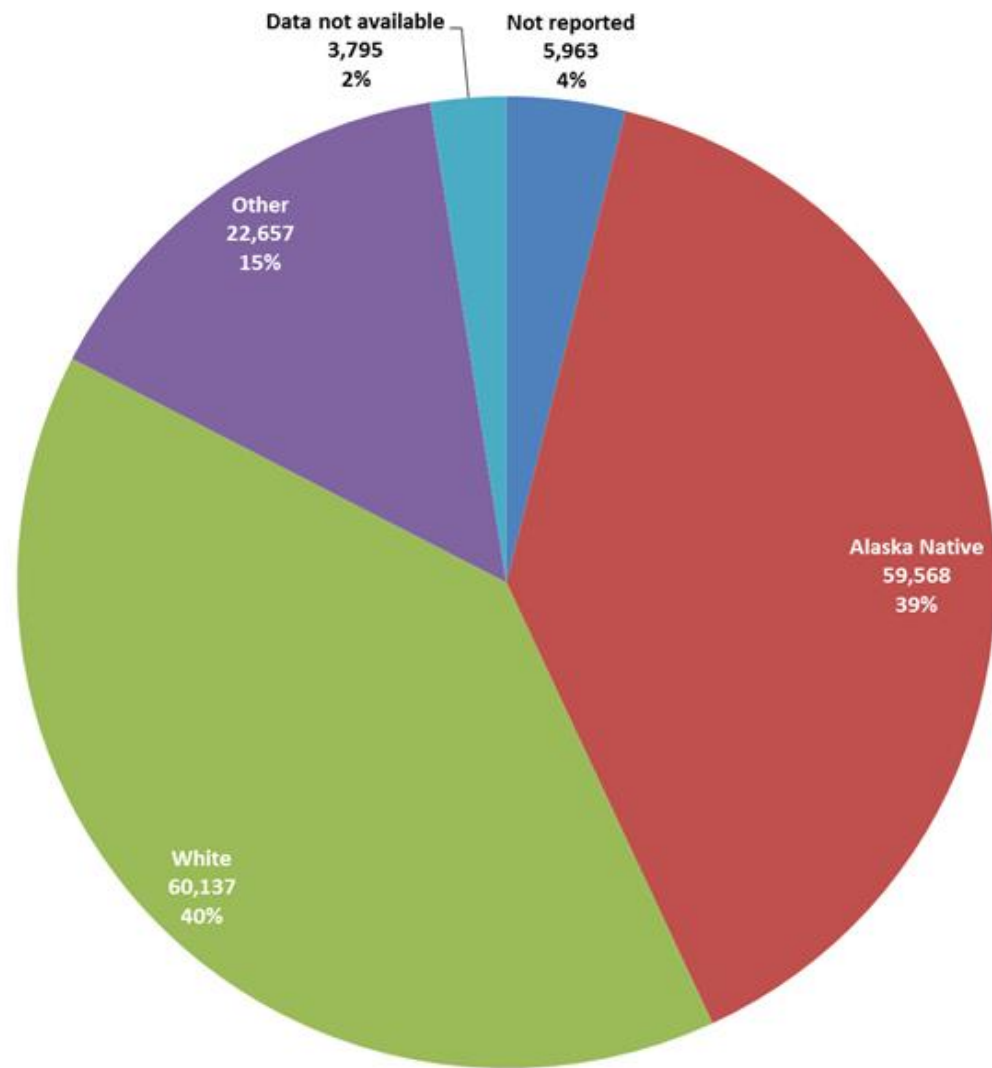
Individual Recipients – November 2014

Combination	Recipients	Percent
FS only	19,246	12%
ME only	55,194	36%
TA only	74	0%
AP only	2	0%
CC only	783	1%
GA only	37	0%
SB only	3,723	2%
ME + FS	42,540	27%
ME + FS + TA	6,513	4%
ME + TA	803	1%
ME + AP	6,258	4%
ME + FS + AP	6,063	4%
ME + AP + SB	3,241	2%
ME + SB	1,108	1%
ME + FS + SB	346	0%
ME + CC	1,261	1%
ME + others	7,391	5%
FS + others	530	0%
SB + others	7	0%
Total	155,120	100%
FS	Food Stamps	
ME	Medicaid	
AP	Adult Public Assistance	
CC	Child Care	
GA	General Relief Assistance	
SB	Senior Benefits	
TA	Alaska Temporary Assistance Program	



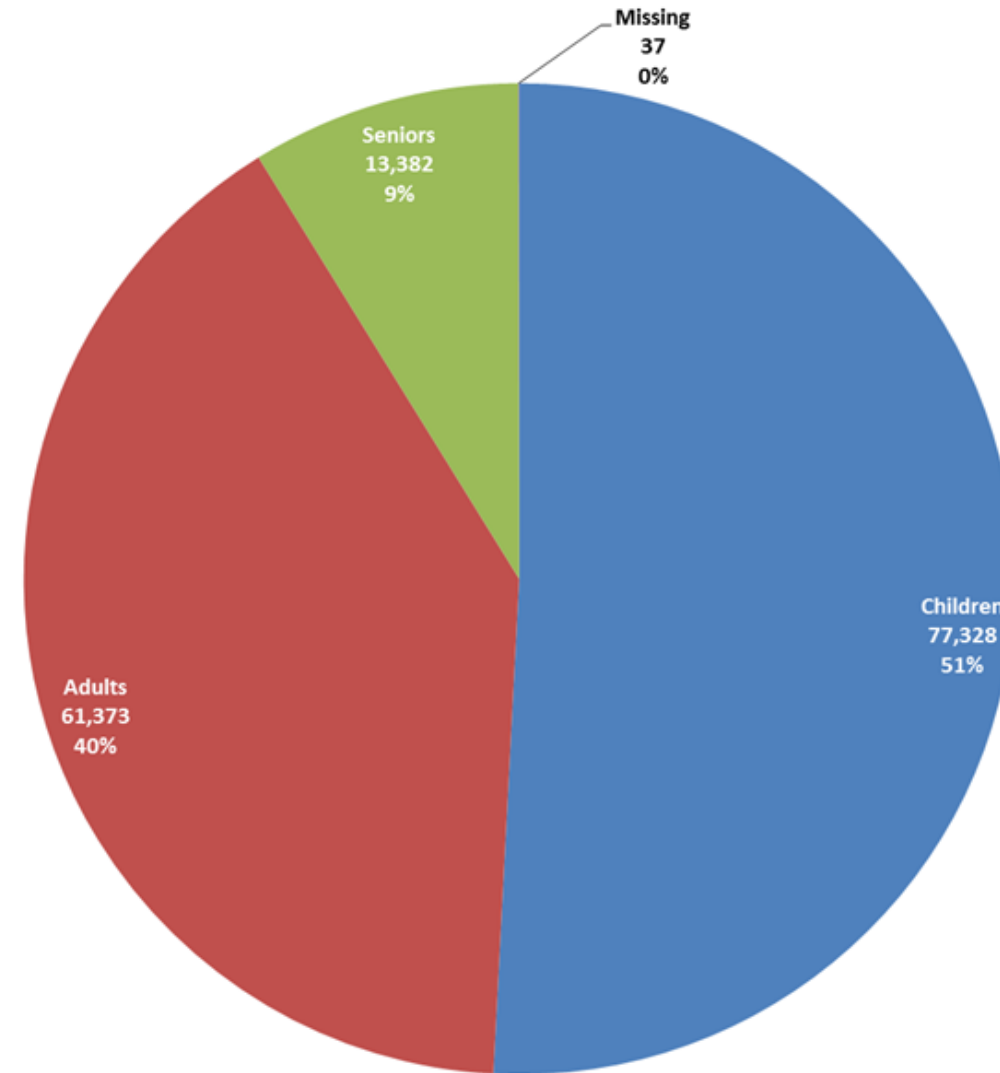
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Race, All Programs – November 2014



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Age, All Programs – November 2014



Children: 0 – 18 years
Adults: 19 – 64 years
Seniors: 65+ years

Age data is not available for recipients of only General Relief Assistance



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Public Assistance Core Services

Determine Eligibility		
		SFY2014 Average Monthly Recipients
	Medicaid	115,591
	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	90,833
	Adult Public Assistance	18,853
	Woman, Infant and Children	20,735
	Alaska Temporary Assistance	9,523
	Heating Assistance	12,323 (Annual)
	Senior Benefits	11,086
	Farmers Market Nutrition Program	5,965 (Annual)
	Child Care Assistance	4,706
	Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program	2,350 (Annual)
	Commodity Supplemental Food Program	2,100 (Annual)
	General Relief	172
	Chronic and Acute Medical Assistance	492



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Public Assistance Core Services

Issue Benefits		
		SFY2014 Annual Expenditures
	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	\$181,551,444
	Adult Public Assistance	\$59,493,505
	Woman, Infant and Children	\$16,842,502
	Alaska Temporary Assistance	\$28,179,521
	Heating Assistance	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alaska Heating Assistance Program 	\$4,109,516
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low Income Heating Assistance Program 	\$9,254,202
	Senior Benefits	\$21,656,528
	Farmers Market Nutrition Program	\$179,000
	Child Care Assistance	\$1,739,326 (Monthly)
	Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program	\$87,700
	Commodity Supplemental Food	\$153,000
	General Relief	\$2,835,437



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Public Assistance Core Services

Monitor Beneficiary and Provider Compliance

Child Care Community Outreach Efforts

Child Care Licensing

Benefit Recovery

Quality Assurance

Vendor Compliance Review and Monitoring

Fraud Investigation

- Referral and Investigate
- Data Mining
- Fraud Detection

Home and Site Visits

Research and Analysis



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Public Assistance Core Services

Individual and Family Support Services

Work Services

- Job Search and Work Activities
- Employment and Self Sufficiency Planning
- Supportive Services
- Skills Development
- Job Training
- Families First and Self-Sufficiency Activities

Policy and Program Review and Development



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Public Assistance Core Services

Individual and Family Support Services

Women, Infants and Children

- Breastfeeding Promotion and Support
- Health and Nutrition Education
- Access to Healthy Foods
- Nutrition Assessment
- Referral other Health and Social Services
- Immunization Referrals and Motor Voter Registration Assistance
- Access to Locally-Grown Fresh Fruits and Vegetables



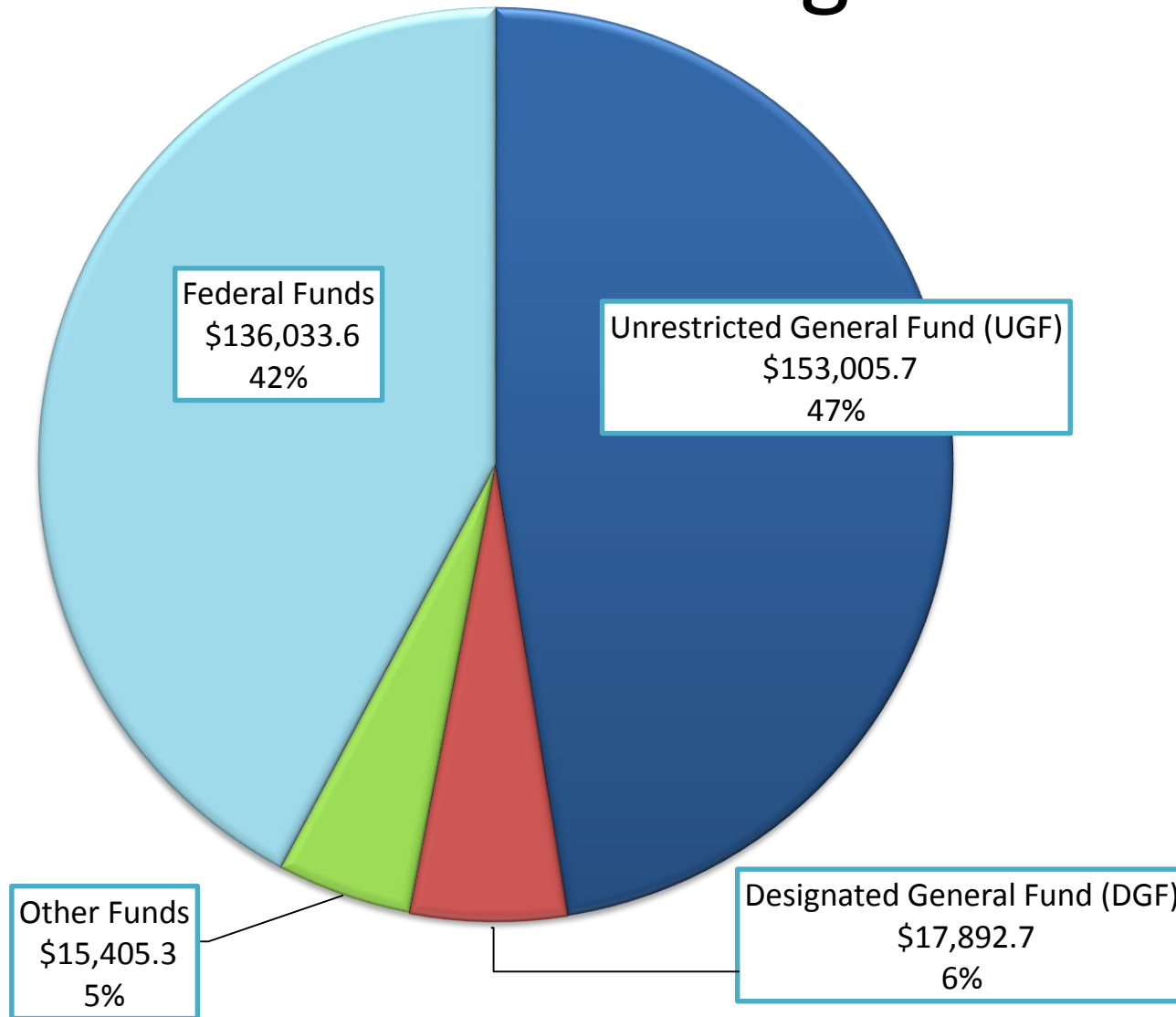
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DPA Budget Overview

- **\$322,337.3** - SFY16 Operating Budget Request
- **11.9%** - % of DHSS SFY16 Operating Budget Request
- **76%** - Issued to clients or vendors
- **24%** - Administrative Costs

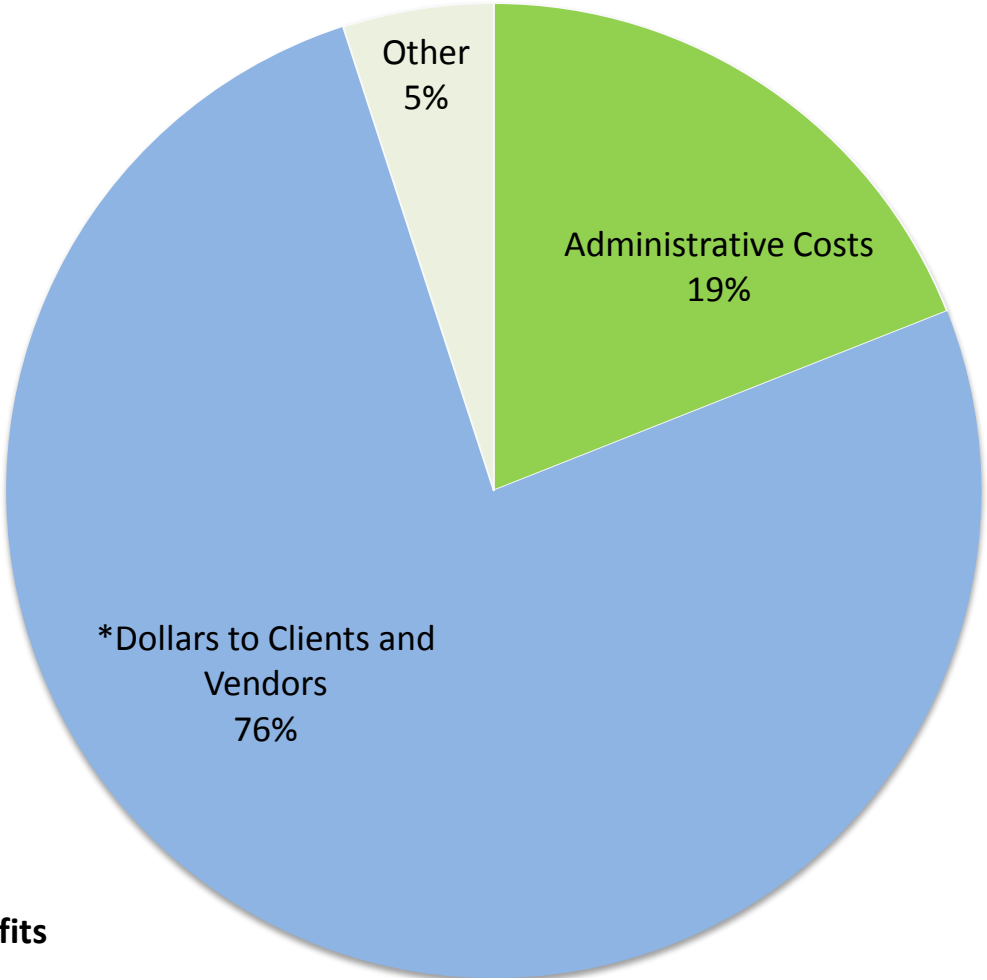


Division Overall Funding Detail



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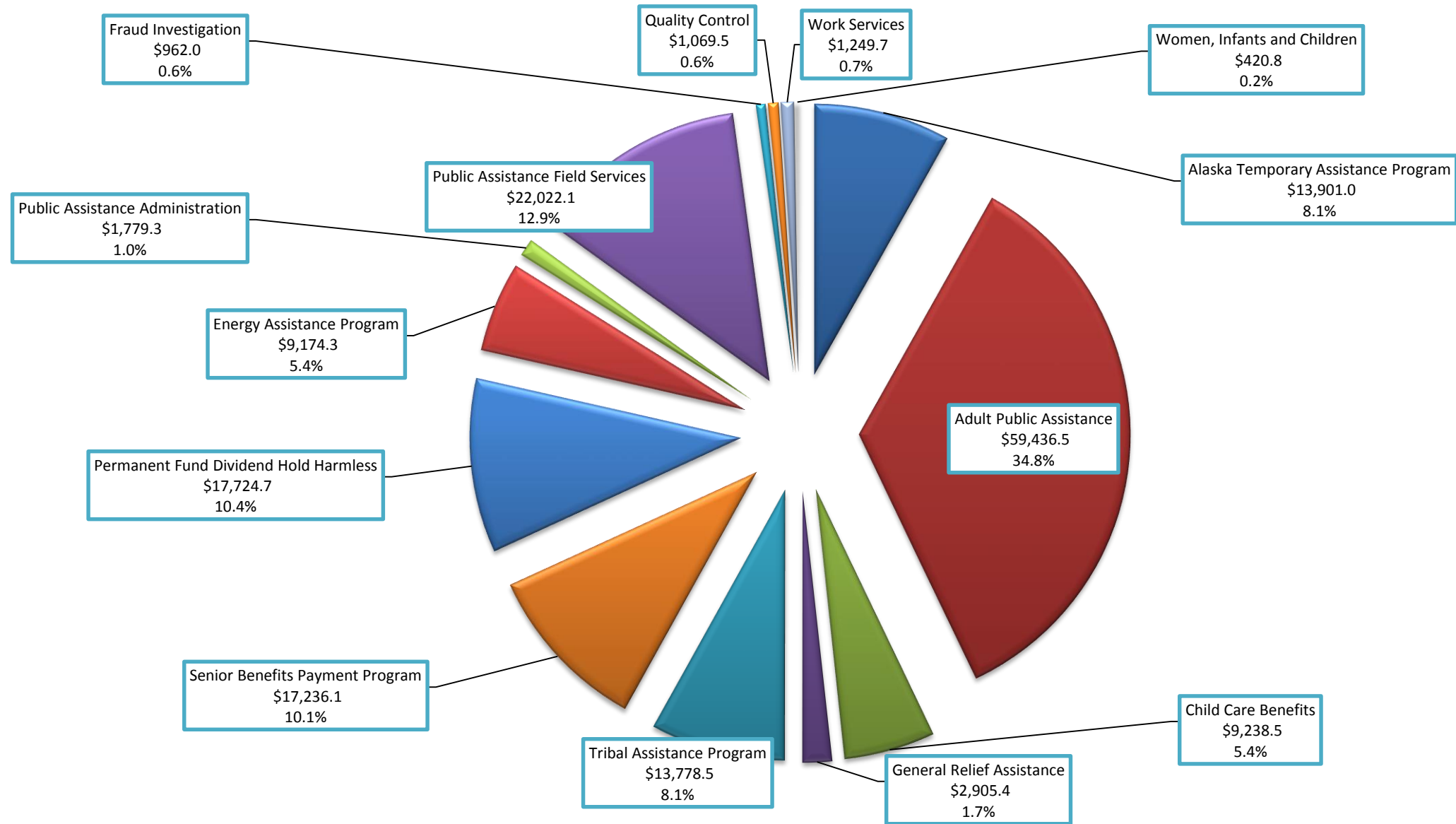
FY2014 Public Assistance Expenditures



*Excludes federal SNAP (aka Food Stamps) benefits



Breakdown of General Funds



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Public Assistance

FY2016 Governor's Operating Budget Transactions

Alaska Temporary Assistance Program	(1,072.6) DGF	Reduce projected lapse balance.
Adult Public Assistance	(2,372.4) UGF	Reduce projected lapse balance.
Tribal Assistance Program	(681.8) UGF	Reduce projected lapse balance.
Senior Benefits Program	(5,091.6) UGF	20% reduction to the two lower payment levels of the program.
Energy Assistance Program	(3,500.0) UGF	Reduce projected lapse balance.
Field Services	1,385.6 (Fed) 1,385.7 (MHTAAR)	Increment for Medicaid expansion.



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Recent Successes

- \$907,161 in bonus awards for outstanding performance administering the Food Stamp Program in FFY 2013
- Major steps in development of a Quality Recognition & Improvement System with *thread*, Alaska's statewide Child Care Resource and Referral Network and other early childhood partners



Recent Successes

- \$7.78 million - the SFY14 combined amount of cost avoidance, fraud claims and direct savings imposed for program disqualifications
- Successful implementation of the SPIRIT system for the Women, Infants and Children's program.
- Pilot of Hospital Presumptive Eligibility



Current Challenges

Public Assistance Applications Out of Timeframes

Program	12/1/2014	2/16/15	2/23/15
Medicaid	6,325	7,242	7,441
All Other Programs	3,662	3,413	3,243
Total	9,987	10,655	10,684

- Most urgent challenge the division is addressing serious workload issues in advance of Medicaid Expansion.
- Leveraging technology effectively to reduce operational costs
- Business Process Improvements
- Implementing changes mandated by reauthorization of the Child Care and Development Block Grant in Nov. 2014



Moving Forward

- Risk of potential increase to caseloads due to economic changes associated with the state revenue streams are anticipated.
- The division is looking at long range programmatic impacts of minimum wage increases.
- Pursuing Partnerships
 - Office of Children’s Services
 - Public Health Section of Women’s, Children’s & Family Health
 - Department of Labor – Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
 - Tribal Organizations – Health Care, Tribal TANF, & Tribal Child Care



QUESTIONS?

Thank You

Division of Public Assistance: <http://dhss.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/default.aspx>

Child Care Program: <http://dhss.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/ccare/default.aspx>

WIC Nutrition Education: <http://dhss.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/nutri/wic/wiceducation.aspx>



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