

THE PROPOSED 2016 DSS BUDGET
A PRESENTATION TO:
COMMITTEE ON BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS
OF THE
WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2015

Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

Philippe M. Gille
First Deputy Commissioner

Our Mission

“The aid, care and support of the needy are public concerns and shall be provided by the state and by such of its subdivisions, and in such manner and by such means, as the legislature may from time to time determine.”

NYS Constitution Article XVII Section 1

The mission of the Westchester County Department of Social Services is:

- to empower its customers to become independent; and
- to ensure the health, safety and protection of vulnerable adults and children.

However, these are not two separate missions!

BUDGET IN BRIEF

... very brief

The good news



- Child Care subsidies funded at same level as last year.
- Position count is stable. No layoffs in proposed budget.
- Technology investment in customer service continues:
 - Front-end scanning of all NPA SNAP mailed applications and documents;
 - Self-service document scanning kiosks at district offices for customers.

The challenges



- Child Care subsidy program: significant Federal changes will reduce available slots.
- NPA SNAP: over 9,000 ABAWDs lose work activity exemption as of April 1, 2016.
- Position count is flat: restructuring must occur from within current allocation.
- Safety Net expense cut \$3M.
- TA Day Care spending continues to be short of MOE.

WHAT WE DO

The lives we touch

Adult Protective Services (APS)

An 80-year-old woman had been completely dependent on her husband for financial support and completion of household responsibilities (e.g. bill payment, grocery shopping, transportation to medical appointments). Prior to his death, he asked a mutual friend to assist with her daily living activities and financial affairs. Yet once he passed away, this “friend” violated all of the husband’s wishes and endangered this vulnerable adult. Using verbal threats of nursing home placement, coupled with more aggressive behavior, the elderly woman was forced into actions not in her self-interest. The \$54,000 that the husband left for her needs was quickly squandered.

With the assistance of the local police department, the “friend” has not returned to her home. APS providing intensive case management in way of weekly home visits, transportation to medical appointments, and assistance with grocery shopping and banking. In order to maintain her safely in the community, the County Attorney prevailed in a petition to New York State Supreme Court for the appointment of a legal guardian over her person and property.

Due to this comprehensive intervention from DSS, this elderly woman has since remained safely in her home.

Child Welfare (CW)/Child Protective Services (CPS)

A 15-year old boy with severe kidney disorder who required dialysis three times a week was depressed, with poor hygiene, and refused to attend school. In addition, his family allowed him to miss dialysis and disregard his special diet. He was in the custody of his maternal grandmother and her husband, but the grandmother herself suffered from serious illnesses. His mother also lived in the home, but had no child care responsibilities due to her own severe mental deficits.

The child's medical professionals were concerned that his life was in danger and filed a CPS report. Despite intensive services provided at home to help resolve the child welfare concerns, the mental health challenges of the family were too severe, so the child was taken into foster care to ensure that not only his medical needs were met, but his social and mental health needs as well.

The child resisted and ran away twice. After two exhaustive searches to locate and place him, CPS coordinated with medical, mental health, and educational professionals to formulate a plan that addressed his needs. Today, the child is in placement and doing extremely well. Though his grandmother passed away, her husband now provides the child with the familial support he needs. His mother is working with CPS to take a more active role in her son's life. Additionally, the child is back on the kidney donor list, attends dialysis regularly, is back on track educationally and has shown marked social improvement.

Child Welfare (CW)/Preventive Services (PS)

Mr. RM became a widower and single father of four children when his wife became gravely ill and died soon thereafter. Left with only his income to support the family, he began to struggle significantly. He could not meet the basic emotional needs of the children, nor maintain sanitary conditions in the home; both he and the eldest son were abusing substances. Thus, Child Protective Services became involved in February 2014 and a Preventive Service (PS) Case was opened.

The case manager's effective intervention resulted in the securing of a therapist who waived her fee and made home visits to work with the family on issues such as: bereavement and grief counseling, child and adolescent issues, parenting, and working as a family to maintain the home and support one another.

In the 18 months that PS was involved, Mr. RM successfully completed parenting classes and a substance abuse program, became gainfully employed with two jobs, applied for food stamps, developed money management skills, and maintained a sanitary home for the children. The eldest son also engaged in substance abuse treatment and maintained his sobriety.

Family success endures. The two eldest children have graduated from high school, the two youngest children are currently attending school, and Mr. RM continues to work two jobs. Additionally, he was able to obtain donations from the community to assist with the purchase of food. Due to the family's progress, the therapist successfully closed her case and PS was successful in maintaining a safe home environment and preventing foster care placement.

Fatherhood Initiative: Steve

Steve was referred to the Fatherhood Initiative while residing in a county homeless shelter.

Though he was looking to secure housing and permanent employment, as well as reconnect with his daughter, licensing and insurance fees prevented him from working in his trade.

OTHA, Central Program Office and the Fatherhood Initiative collaborated to obtain a grant for Steve to cover the cost of setting up his trade and move out of the homeless shelter.

He now lives in Pelham, is happily employed, and is grateful and volunteers with support groups for fathers in similar situations.

Office of Program Integrity (OPI)

A SNAP Eligibility Examiner made a fraud referral regarding a recipient who claimed to be a single mother of three. The recipient was suspected of not only being married, but also living in Mount Vernon with her husband who was concurrently acting as her landlord.

A subsequent investigation determined all of the above to be true, in addition to the fact that the husband was gainfully employed. The mother was thus found to have knowingly and willfully attempted to defraud the DSS for \$23,208.00 in (SNAP) benefits.

The District Attorney obtained an order to reimburse the Department for the full amount and to be disqualified from SNAP for the maximum period permitted under the circumstances (12 months).

OUR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Child Welfare

- **Child Protective Services** (CPS) investigates all reports of alleged child abuse and neglect on the day the report is received in order to better ensure the safety and well-being of children in Westchester County.
- **Preventive Services** lessen the risk of foster care placement by responding to the service needs of families with children at risk of and are sometimes mandated (**MPS**) but not always: e.g. Community Optional Preventive Services or **COPS**.
- **Foster Care** is temporary out-of-home care for children who cannot be safely left to the custody of parents or other caretakers. The range of care is from placement with a family to a specialized residential facility.
- **Adoption Services** are provided before, during, and after the legal process to children who are unable to return to their birth families and to the families who adopt them.

Child Welfare and Adult Protective Services

- **Independent Living** prepares children in the care and custody of the Commissioner who are “aging out” for life on their own as responsible adults.
- **Missing Children (AWOLs):** A private investigator collects personal testimony and database information to profile missing (foster care) children, engage those connected to them to care for their safety and well-being and thereby eventually locate and bring the AWOL child to safety.

Adult Protective Services

- Provides intervention and investigation of, and an assessment/service plan for immediate and ongoing needs, through family and community outreach.
- Immediate objectives on referrals are:
 - to assess the safety of the individual adult and, if needed,
 - how to best mitigate the risk to such an adult in the community who is
 - unable to protect himself or herself from abuse by others or
 - whose physical and/or mental impairment results in self-neglect.

Temporary Assistance Programs

- **Cash assistance programs for emergencies** (**EAA**: Emergency Assistance to Adults, **EAF**: Emergency Assistance to Families, **ESNA**: Emergency Safety Net Assistance)
- **Cash assistance programs for on-going financial needs** (**TANF**: Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, **SNA**: Safety Net Assistance to Adults and **SNF**: Safety Net Assistance to Families.)
- **Child care subsidies** for temporary assistance households and low-income households earning up to 200% of the Federal Poverty Level for employment-related purposes. Title XX child care subsidies are available for households with income up to 275%, 255% or 225% of the FPL, depending upon family size.
- **HEAP**: the Home Energy Assistance Program is a federally funded program designed to help low income households meet rising energy costs. HEAP has four components: Regular, Emergency, Heating Equipment Repair/Replacement, and Cooling Assistance.

T.A . Programs (cont'd.)

- Medical Assistance (**Medicaid**) is available to help individuals who cannot afford to pay for their medical care. Each of the programs offered has unique eligibility criteria.
 - Beginning January 1, 2014, pregnant women, minor children, parents and caretaker relatives of minor children, and singles and childless couples who are under age 65 and not in receipt of Medicare now have their eligibility determined using a Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) budgetary methodology with a higher income allowance at 223%, 154%, or 138% of the Federal Poverty Level. MAGI applicants apply directly to New York State using the New York State of Health Benefit Exchange (HBE).
 - Since Medical Assistance is scheduled for State take-over over a multi-year transition, applications for SSI-related individuals and for MAGI individuals with spend-downs or in need of Long Term Care services continue to be accepted and processed by local district Departments of Social Services.
 - Many individuals receiving Medical Assistance in Westchester County receive services through enrollment in a Managed Care plan of their choice.
- **SNAP**: the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly Food Stamps).
- **Temporary housing assistance for homeless** households whether single, a childless couple or a family with children.

Fair Hearings

Fair Hearings, also known as **Administrative Hearings**, are available to applicants and recipients to appeal adverse agency decisions, whether by the local social services district or a determination by OTDA.

Customers have a right to prompt and impartial hearings (NYS administrative law judges preside) and timely hearing decisions.

On average there are 425 to 440 requests for Fair Hearings per month in Westchester County. If made within the proper timeframe, they are “Aid-to-Continue” until the ALJ issues a determination. Due to the workload, there is often a “double” calendar.

After hours and emergencies

- The Department's **Emergency Services** unit, based at 85 Court Street in White Plains, provides after-hours and weekend coverage for all services emergencies, including investigation of child abuse reports from the state central registry, placements in temporary housing and responding to “no food” emergencies.
- When caseworkers are not available on site, caseworkers are available on call to respond to any immediate need for a field visit when Emergency Services has shut down for the night.
- The Department is a key participant in the county's **emergency planning and assistance for disasters**. During an emergency, the department is responsible for operating reception centers for residents who might be displaced from their homes.

Services to the General Public

- **The Office of Child Support Enforcement** assists in the collection of support payments for both public assistance households and non-public assistance households on request.
- **The Office of Veterans' Services** is available to assist all Veterans in Westchester County and their dependents in receiving the maximum benefits to which they are entitled.
- **The Westchester-Putnam Workforce Development Board oversees the workforce development system that includes four** One-Stop Career Centers in Mount Vernon, Peekskill and White Plains and Carmel; taps both public and private resources to ensure jobseekers and workers are adequately prepared to meet demands and requirements of the local & regional workforce; works with businesses to identify and find solutions for their varied workforce needs. This involves helping job seekers and the under-employed find and retain their jobs; and assisting employers in locating, training and retaining a skilled workforce.

Other Mandated Activities

Administration and Finance.

- Budget (including reimbursements)
- Contracts
- Facilities, inventory and supplies
- General and Revenue accounting
- IT
- Management and supervision
- Payment Processing
- Payroll and Personnel
- Recoupment, recoveries and resources
- Representative Payees
- Vendor Relations

Domestic Violence Liaison.

Office of Program Integrity.

- Computer matches
- Field investigations
- Front End Detection
- Investigation of fraud allegations and referrals
- OMIG liaison
- School Attendance of 16/17 year olds
- Vendor Audit and Performance Analysis

Office of Work Activities.

- Assessment: exempt or non-exempt?
- Assignment to work activities.
- Case management of individual employment plans.
- Conciliation and sanctions.
- Monitoring of temporary incapacities.
- Referral of permanently exempt to SSI.

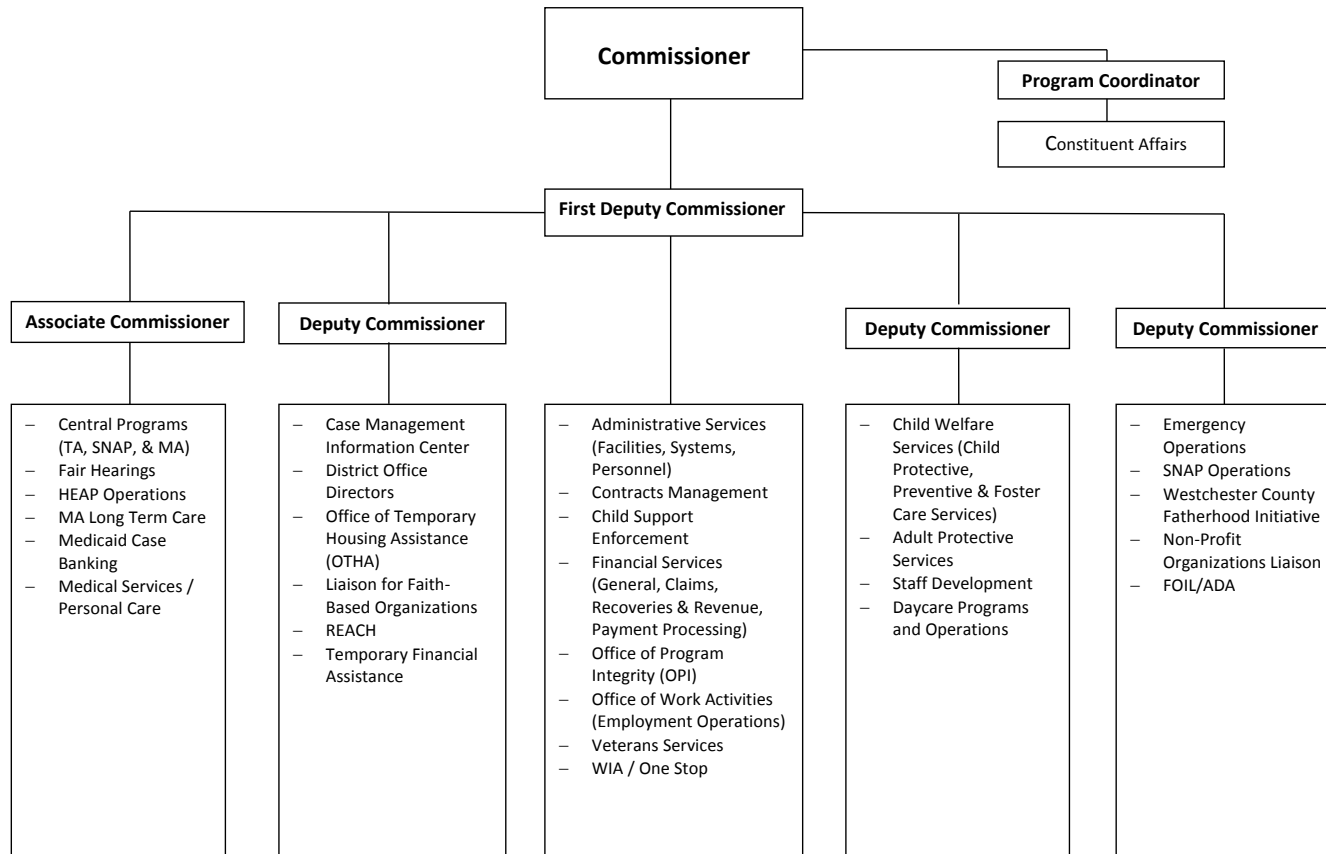
HOW WE ARE ORGANIZED

Table of organization

Accessing services

Hotline numbers

November 2015 Table of Organization



The Commissioner of Social Services is appointed by the County Executive, subject to confirmation by the Board of Legislators.

Leadership Groupings

- Senior Staff (11):
 - Commissioner, First Deputy Commissioner, Deputy Commissioners, Associate Commissioners.
 - Lead managers of Fiscal Operations, Program Integrity, Temporary Housing Assistance.
 - Meet weekly and as needed.
- Managers and Directors (31):
 - All managers responsible for an office or a program area; deputies attend when the lead manager is unavailable.
 - Meet monthly.
- Leadership (87):
 - All staff Job Group 12 and above.
 - Meet quarterly.

How to access our services

- ***By phone: 995-3333***
 - **Case Management Information Center**
 - Automated Response System for Information
 - Customer Service Agents for Information and Referral and Inquiries from Applicants and Recipients
 - Services in English and Spanish languages
 - ***In Person:*** five locations
 - Child Care Subsidies: 10 County Center Road, White Plains
 - District Offices: Mount Vernon, Yonkers, Peekskill and White Plains
- ***On-line:*** Mybenefits.ny.gov
 - Health Insurance information
 - Information about benefit programs
 - On-line SNAP applications and transactions
 - On-line HEAP applications

Important State and Local Hotlines

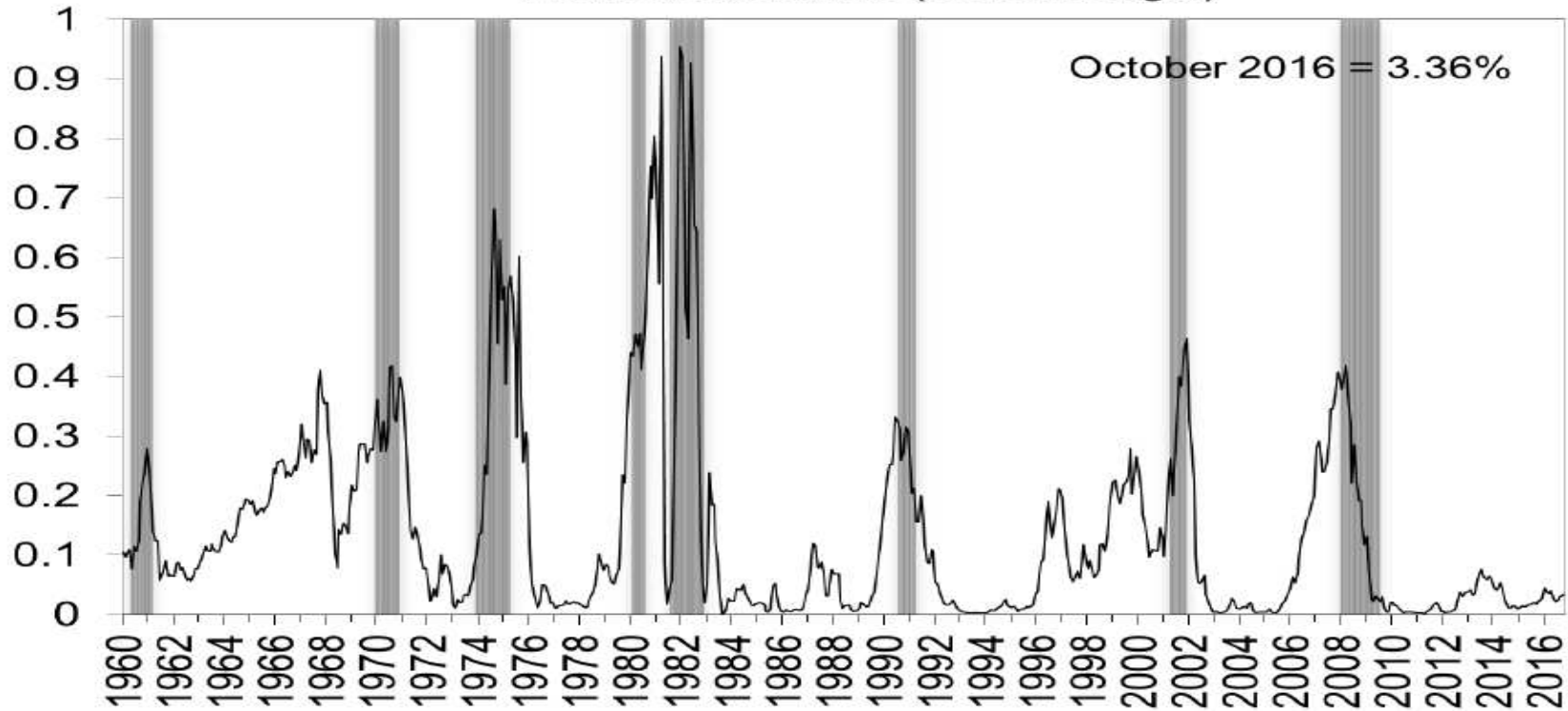
- **Adult Protective Services**
 - **Adult Protective Services Intake Line 914-995-2259**
- **Child Protective Services:**
 - **State Central Register for Child Abuse 800- 342-3720**
 - **State Central Number for Mandated Reporters 800-635-1522**
 - **Westchester Juvenile Sex Trafficking Hotline- 855-690-7233 (SAFE)**
- **Child Support Hotline**
 - **1-800-846-0773**
- **Medicaid Enrollment:**
 - **NYS Health Options Line 855-693-6765**
 - **NYS Medicaid Help Line 800-541-2831**
 - **Navigators: Westchester County DOH 914-813-5192**
 - **Navigators: Community Service Society of NY 914-968-4717**
- **Westchester County DSS:**
 - **Case Management Information Center: (914) 995-3333**
 - **After hours and weekends: Emergency Services (914) 995-2099**

THE ECONOMY

Assumptions, environment and parameters

Assumption 1: Low Risk of Recession

Probability of US Recession Predicted by Treasury Spread*
 Twelve Months Ahead (month averages)



*Parameters estimated using data from January 1959 to December 2009, recession probabilities predicted using data through October 2015. The parameter estimates are $\alpha = -0.5333$, $\beta = -0.6330$.

Updated November 3, 2015

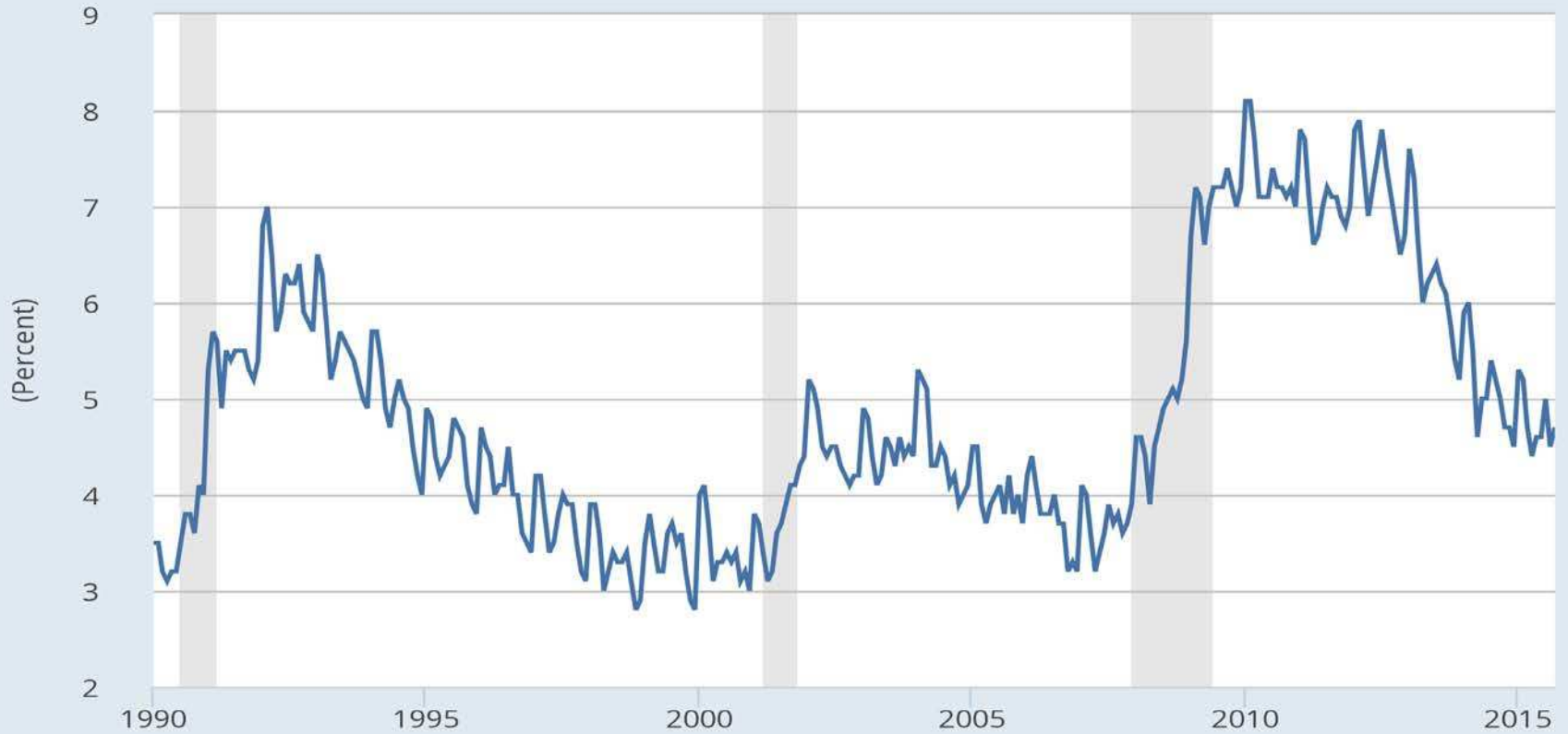
Assumption 2: Real GDP growth is modest



Assumption 3: Unemployment improves ...



— Unemployment Rate in Westchester County, NY



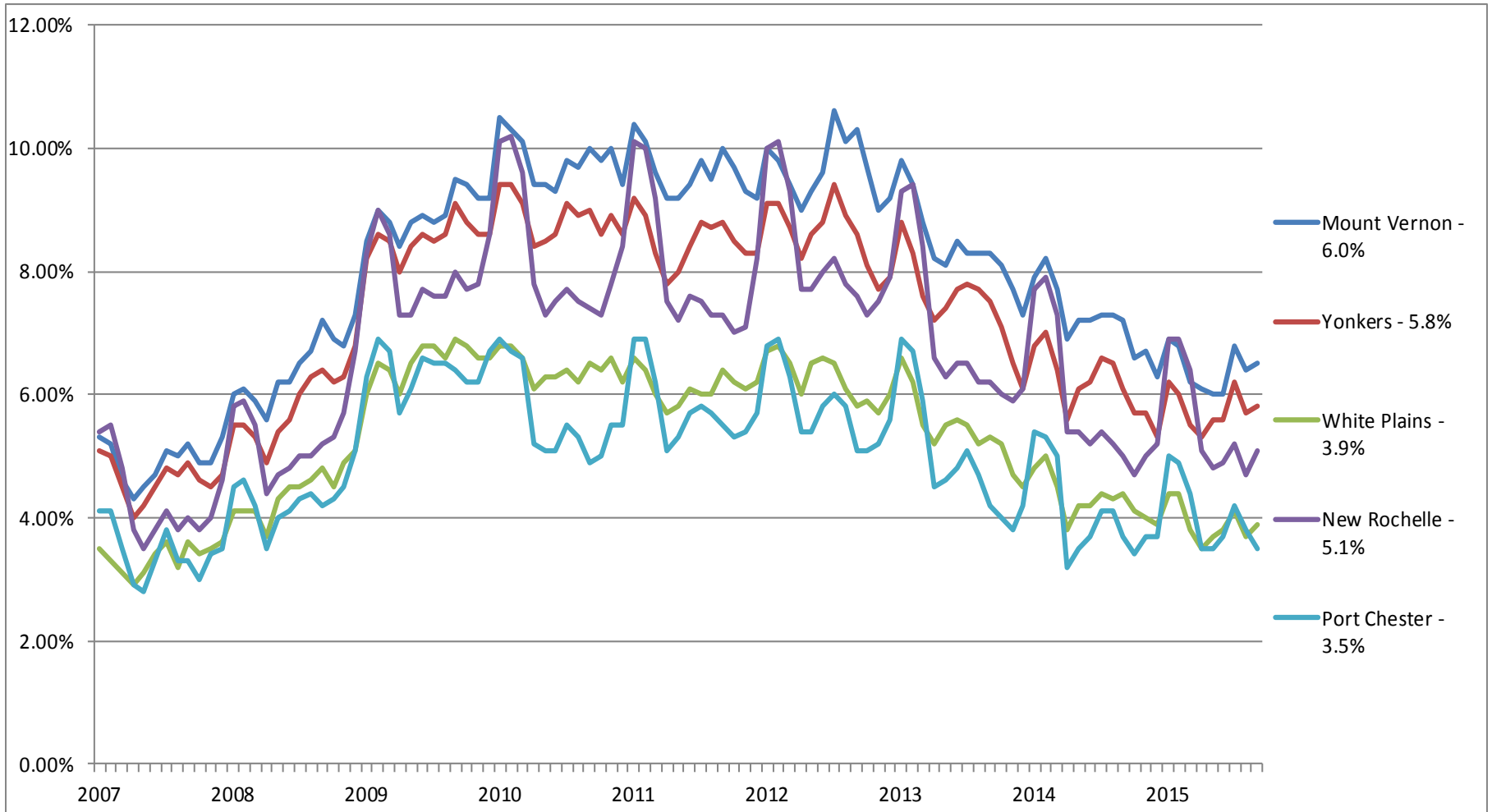
Source: US. Bureau of Labor Statistics
research.stlouisfed.org

myf.red/g/2A2i

... but workforce participation does not.

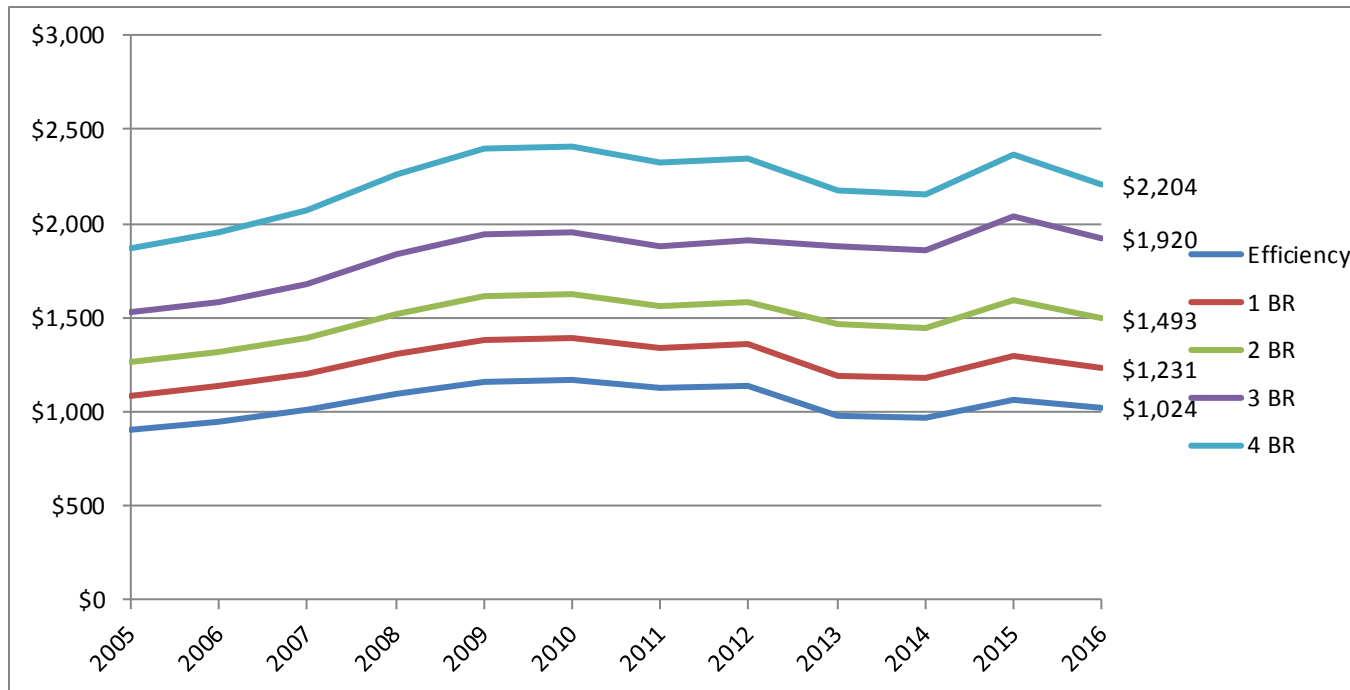


Unemployment is highest where DSS caseloads are highest.

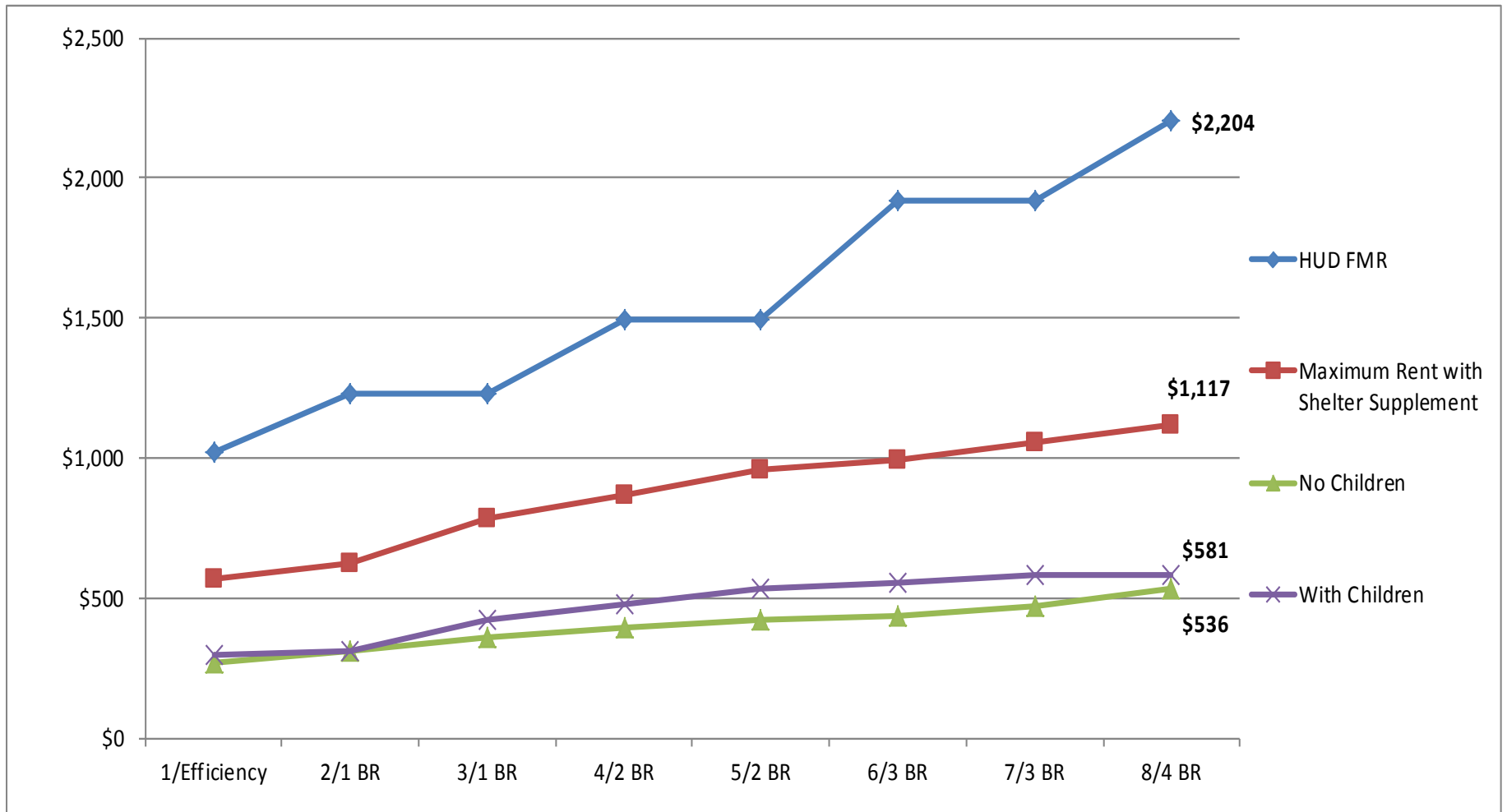


Assumption 4: Housing at market cost, remains out of reach for our customers.

HUD Fair Market Rents (FMRs)



NYS TA Shelter Allowances vs. FMR



BENEFIT LEVELS

Temporary Assistance “Cash” Grants

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>1 (Single)</u>	<u>1*</u>	<u>2*</u>	<u>3*</u>	<u>4*</u>	<u>5*</u>	<u>Additional</u>
Food, Clothing and Incidentals	\$ 158.00	\$ 158.00	\$ 252.00	\$ 336.00	\$ 433.00	\$ 534.00	\$ 85.00
Home Energy Assistance (HEA)	\$ 14.10	\$ 14.10	\$ 22.50	\$ 30.00	\$ 38.70	\$ 47.70	\$ 7.50
Supplemental HEA	\$ 11.00	\$ 11.00	\$ 17.00	\$ 23.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 37.00	\$ 5.00
Shelter Allowance	\$ 271.00	\$ 295.00	\$ 314.00	\$ 426.00	\$ 479.00	\$ 533.00	**
TOTAL MONTHLY ALLOWANCE	\$ 454.10	\$ 478.10	\$ 605.50	\$ 815.00	\$ 980.70	\$ 1,151.70	

* with child in household

** maximum is \$581 for 7 or more

SNAP (formerly Food Stamps)

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
Maximum Benefit	\$ 194.00	\$ 357.00	\$ 511.00	\$ 649.00
	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>
	\$ 771.00	\$ 925.00	\$1,022.00	\$1,169.00
	Each additional <u>member</u>			
	\$ 146.00			

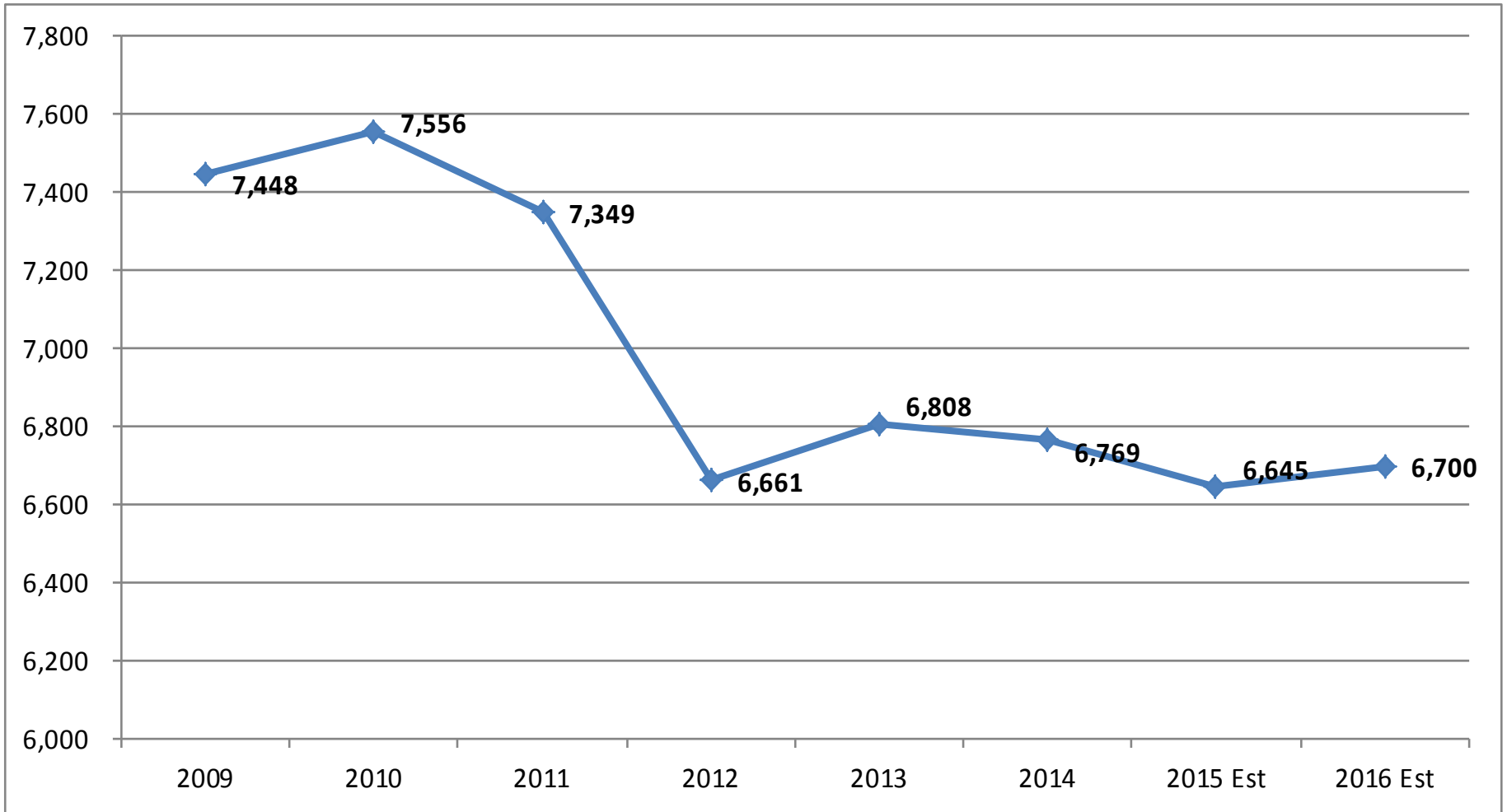
2015 NYS SSI SSP (Supplemental Security Income)

<u>Household (HH) Size</u>	<u>1 (Single)</u>	<u>Couple</u>
Living Alone	\$ 820.00	\$ 1,204.00
Living with Others	\$ 756.00	\$ 1,146.00
Living in HH of another	\$ 511.67	\$ 779.34

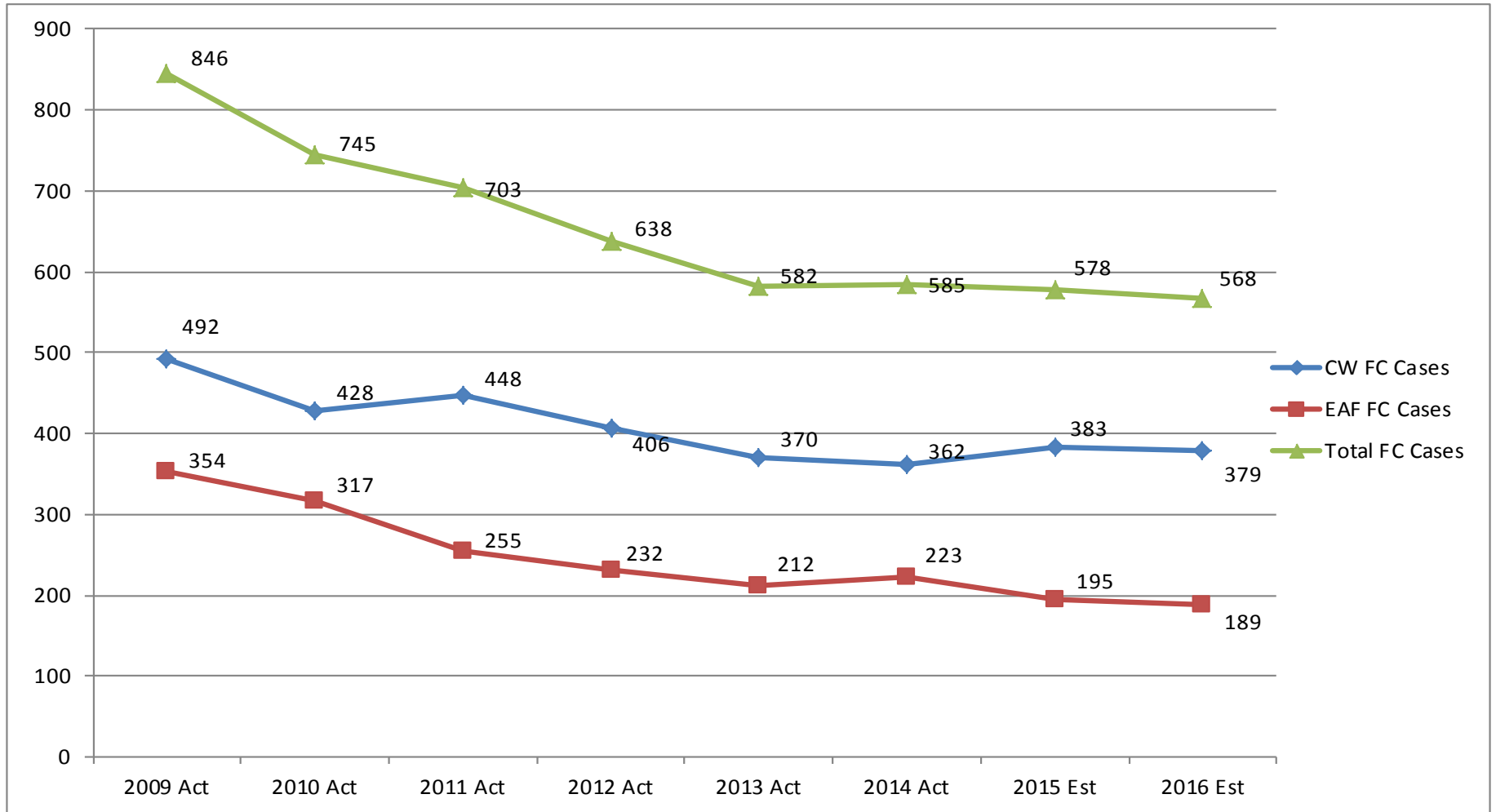
THE TRENDS

CHILD WELFARE
NPA Medicaid
NPA SNAP
TANF, SNF and SNA
Other programs
Staffing

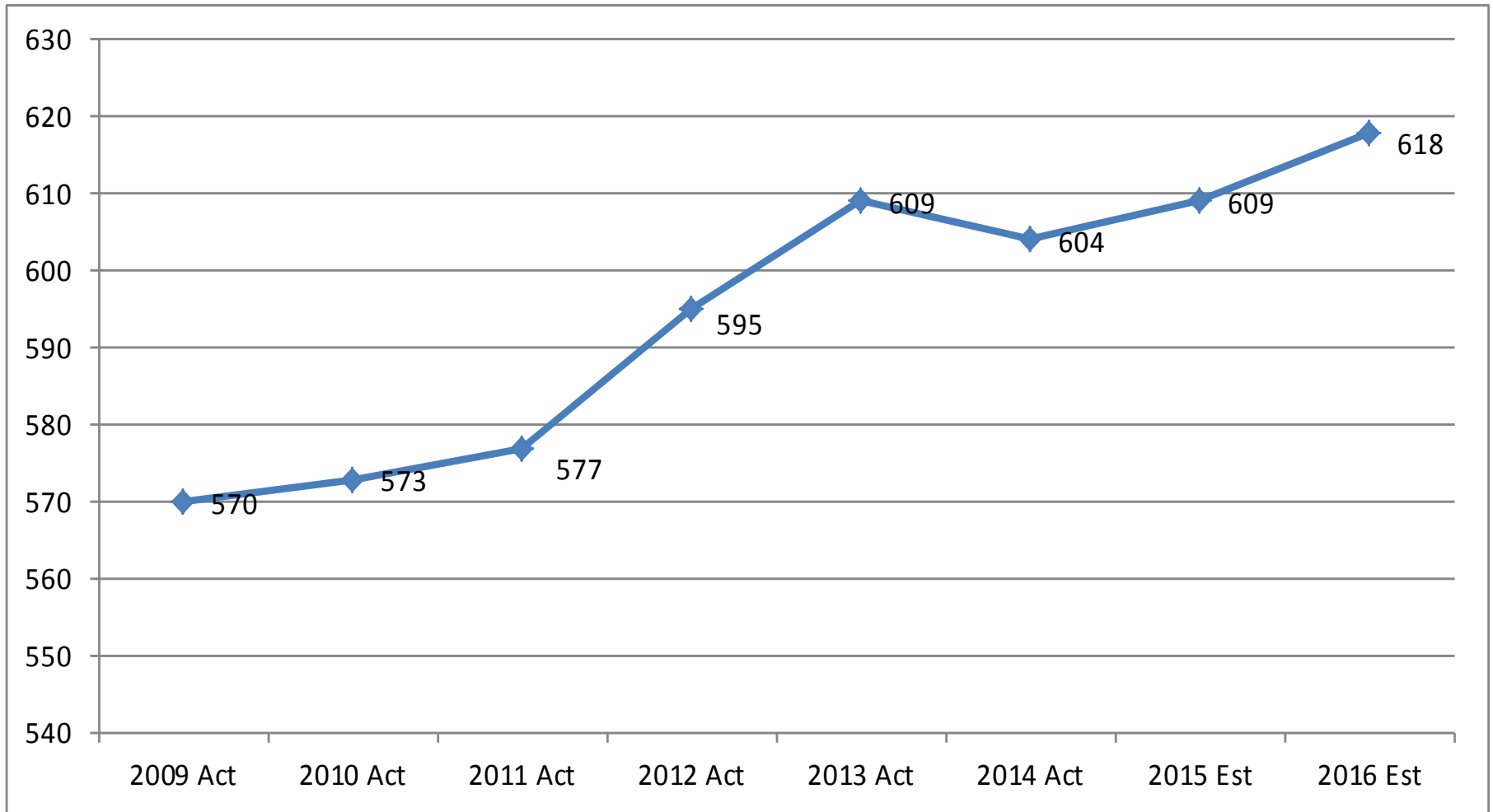
State Central Registry CPS Calls



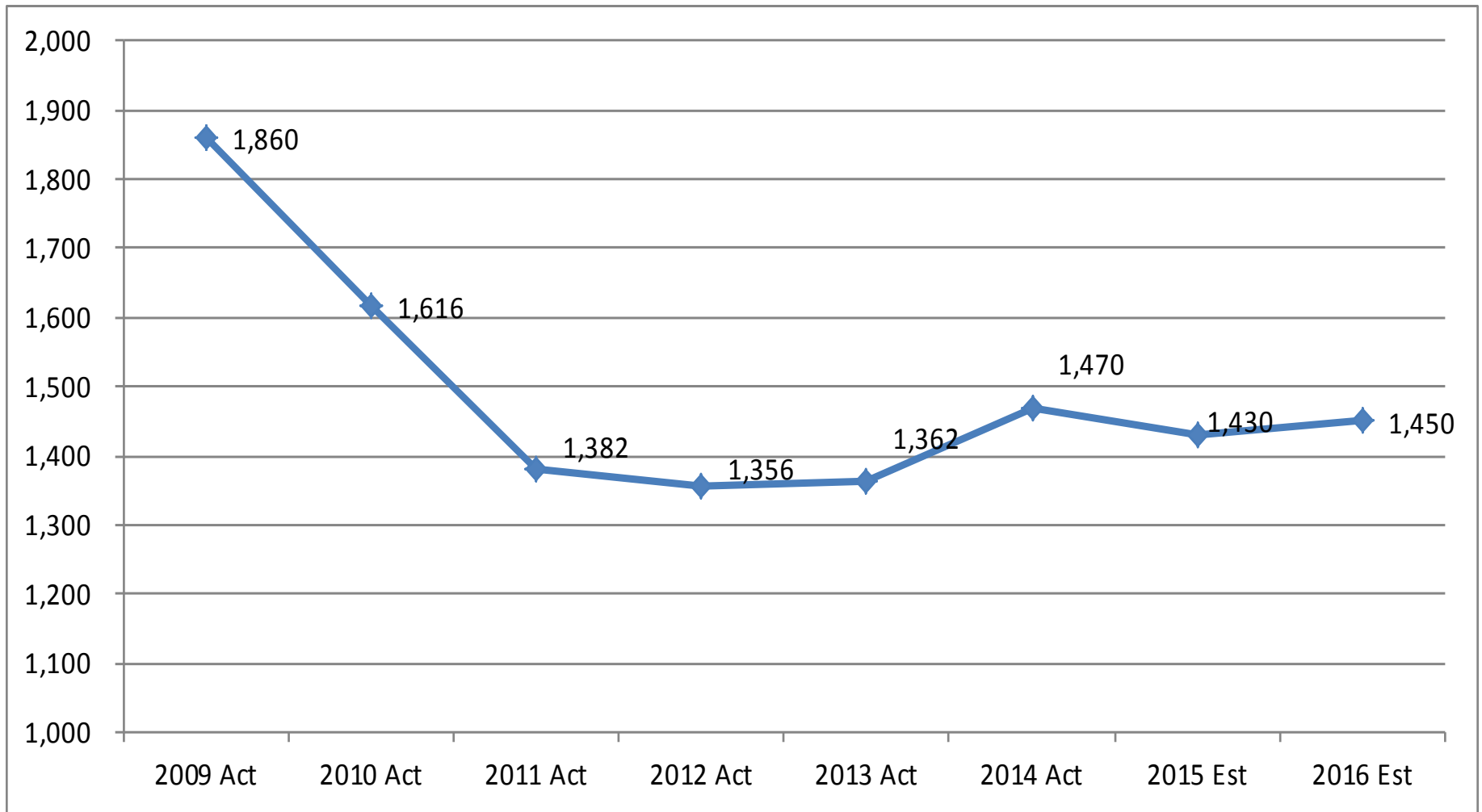
Child Welfare/EAF Foster Care Cases



Adoption Cases



Child Preventive Cases

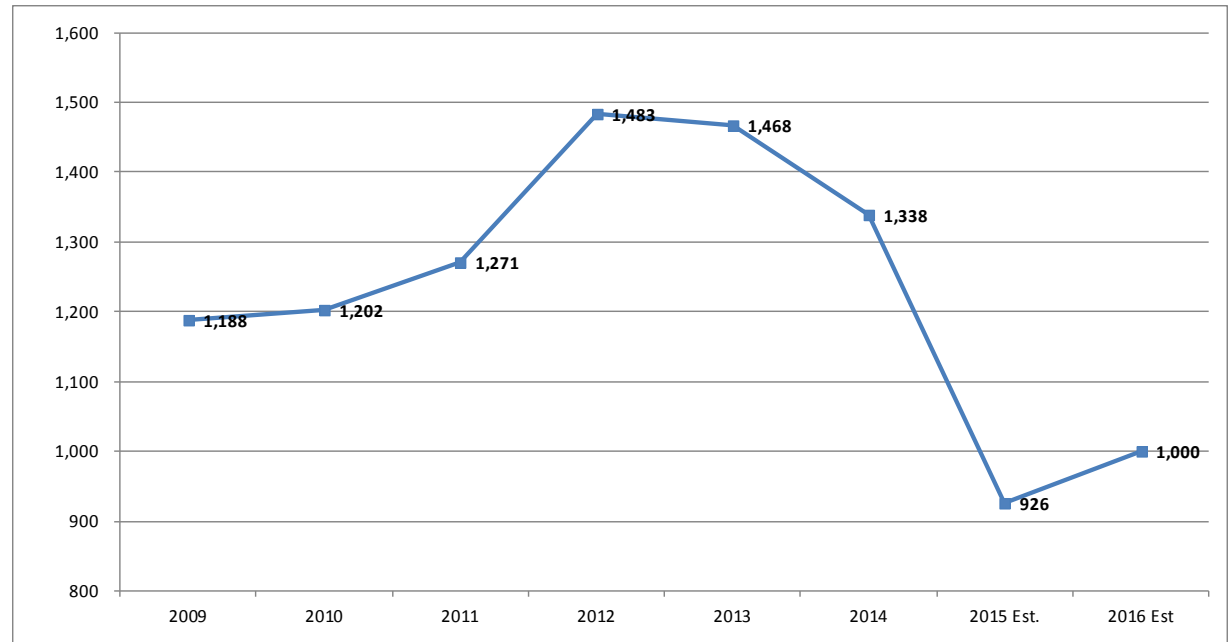


Adult Protective Services Caseload

Figures through 2013 reflect all referrals as “intakes.” For 2015, the equivalent count is projected to be 1,715 and projected to rise to 1,800 in 2016.

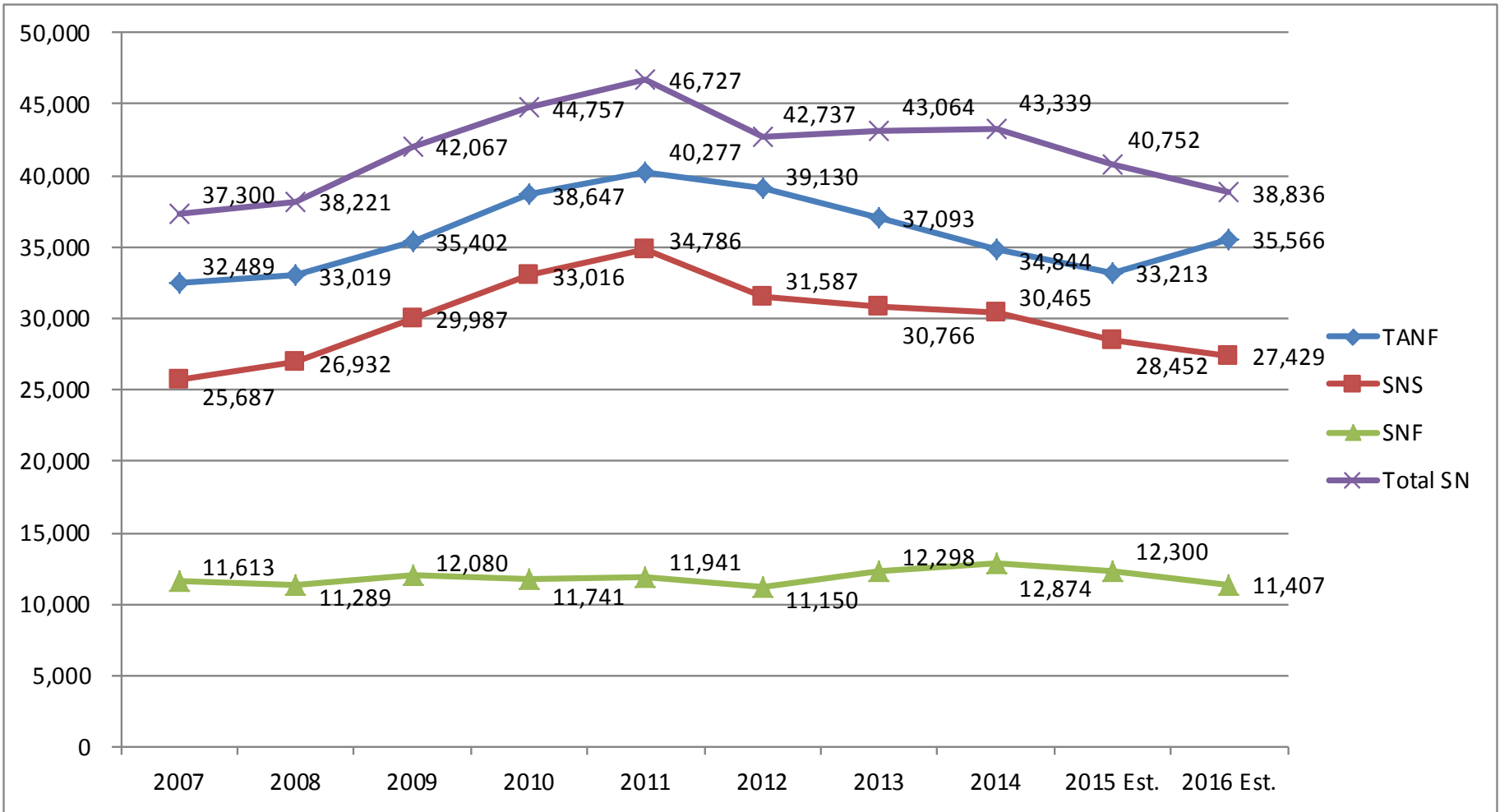
Beginning in 2014, APS instituted a “triage” unit to screen all referrals. Referrals handled without a formal intake (i.e. assignment of a caseworker) are not reflected in the counts for 2015 and 2016.

Examples of cases that are not now considered an “intake” are requests for information and referrals to a community partner.

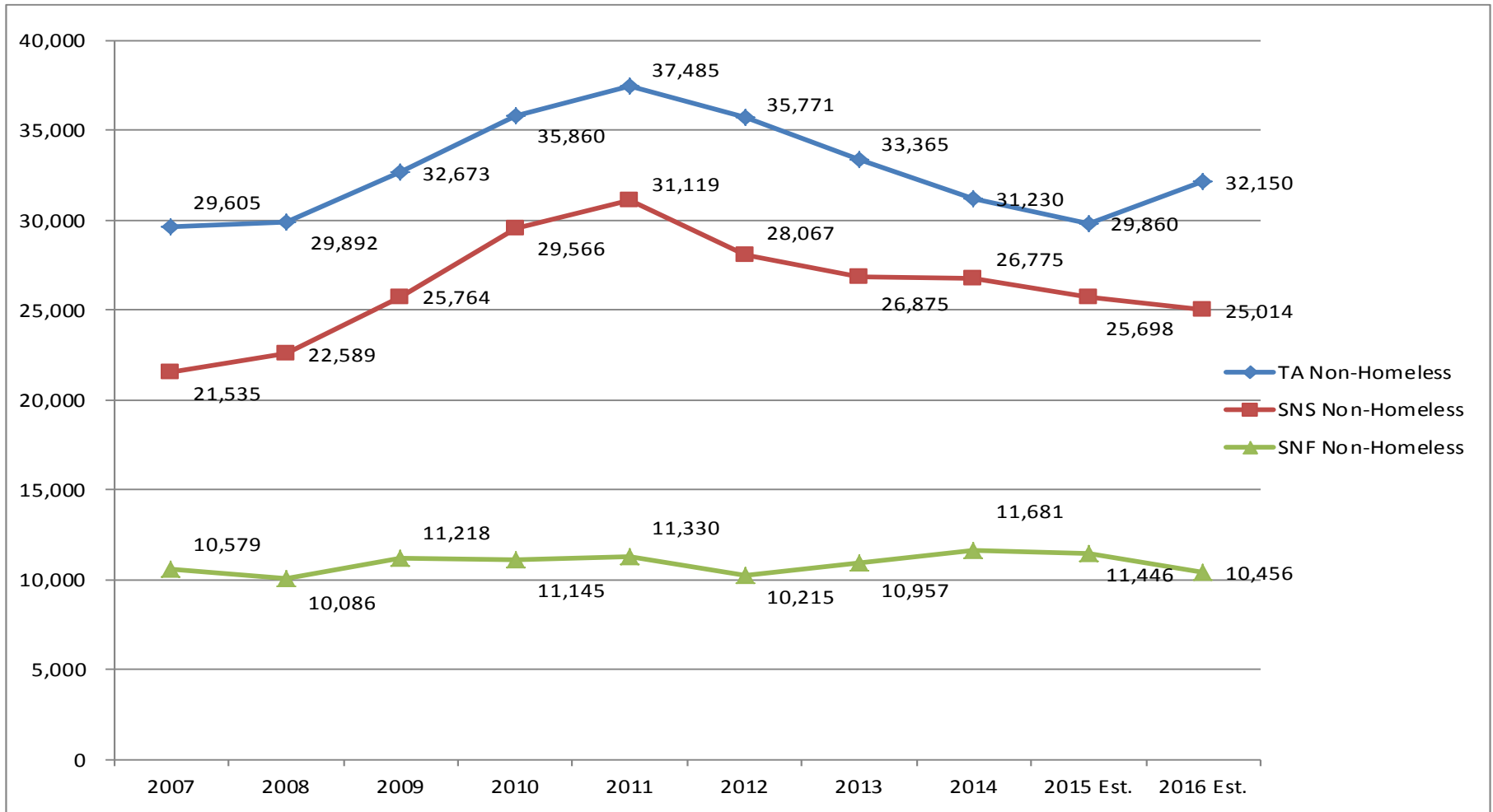


Note: methodology change in 2015

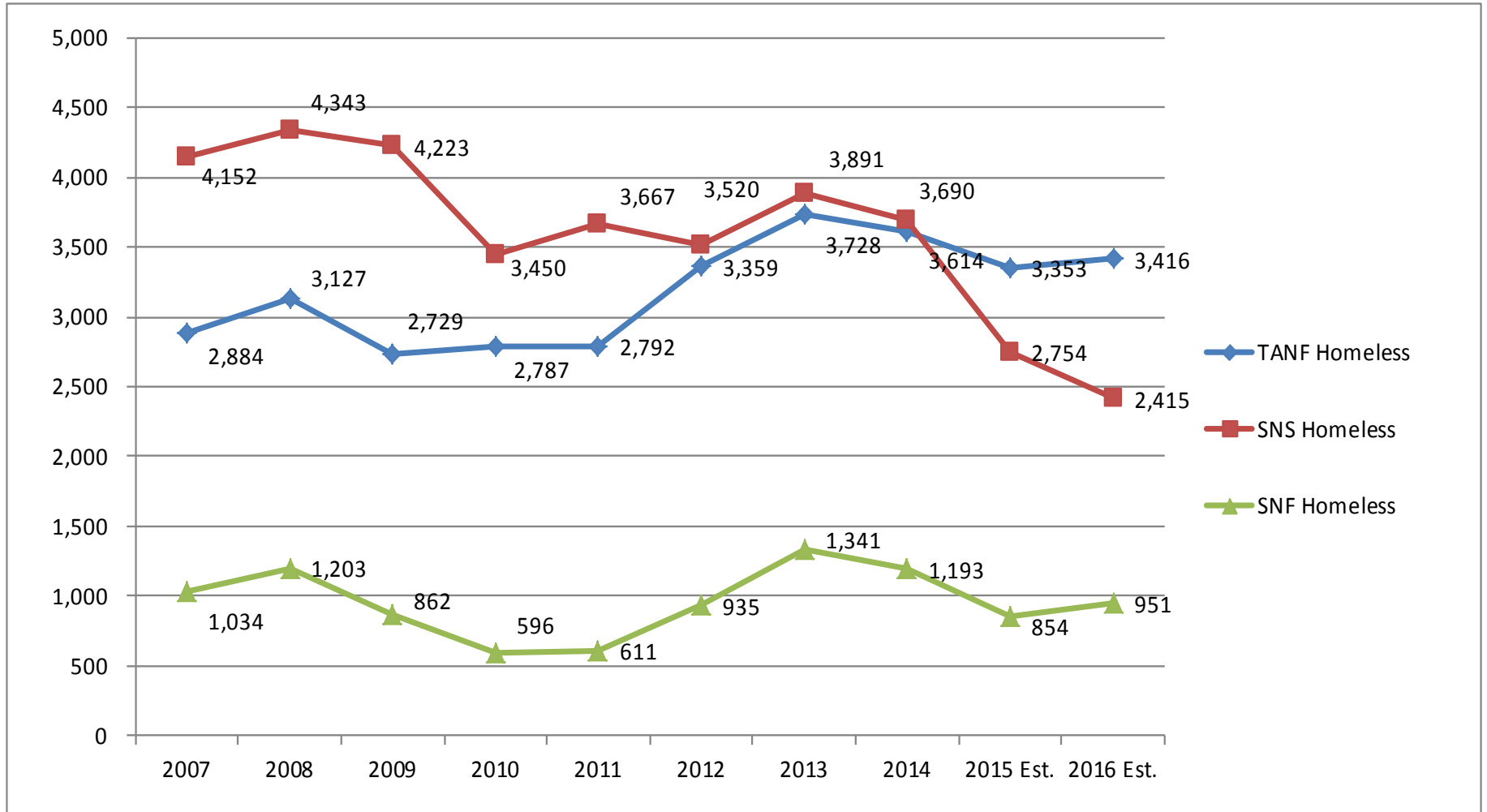
SN and TANF Caseload Trends



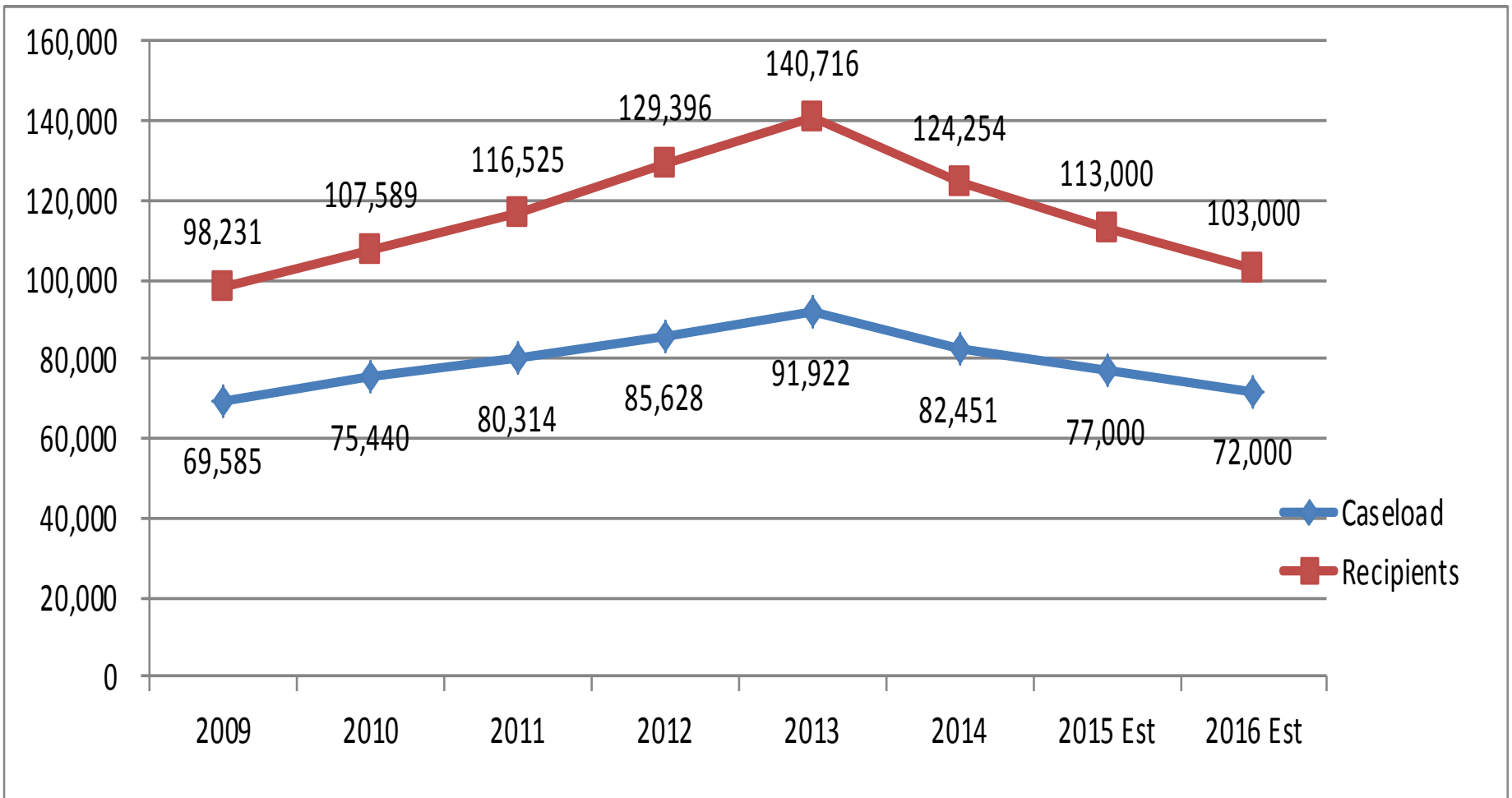
SNS, SNF, and TANF Non-Homeless Cases



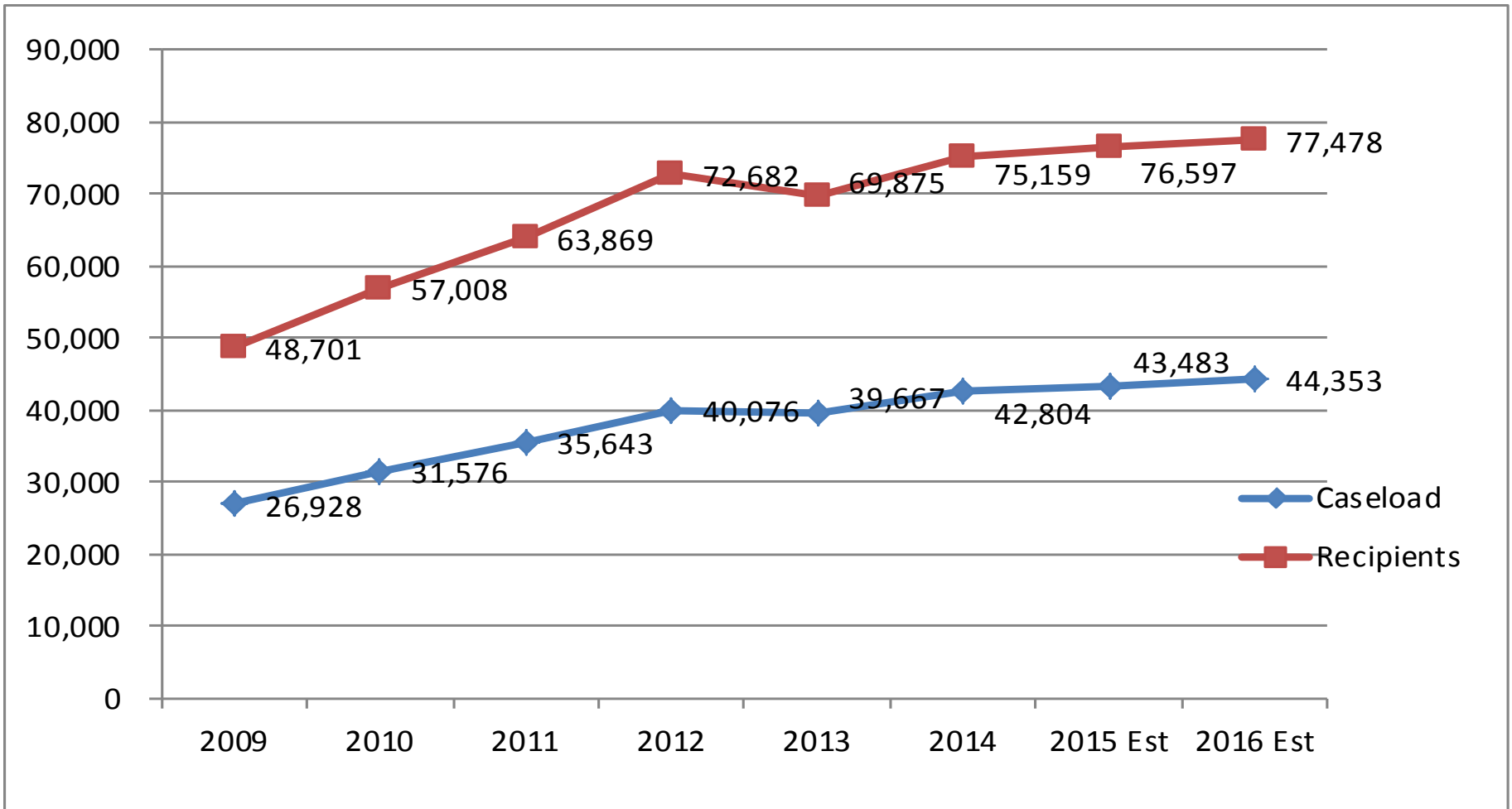
SNS (-), SNF (-), TANF (0) Homeless Cases



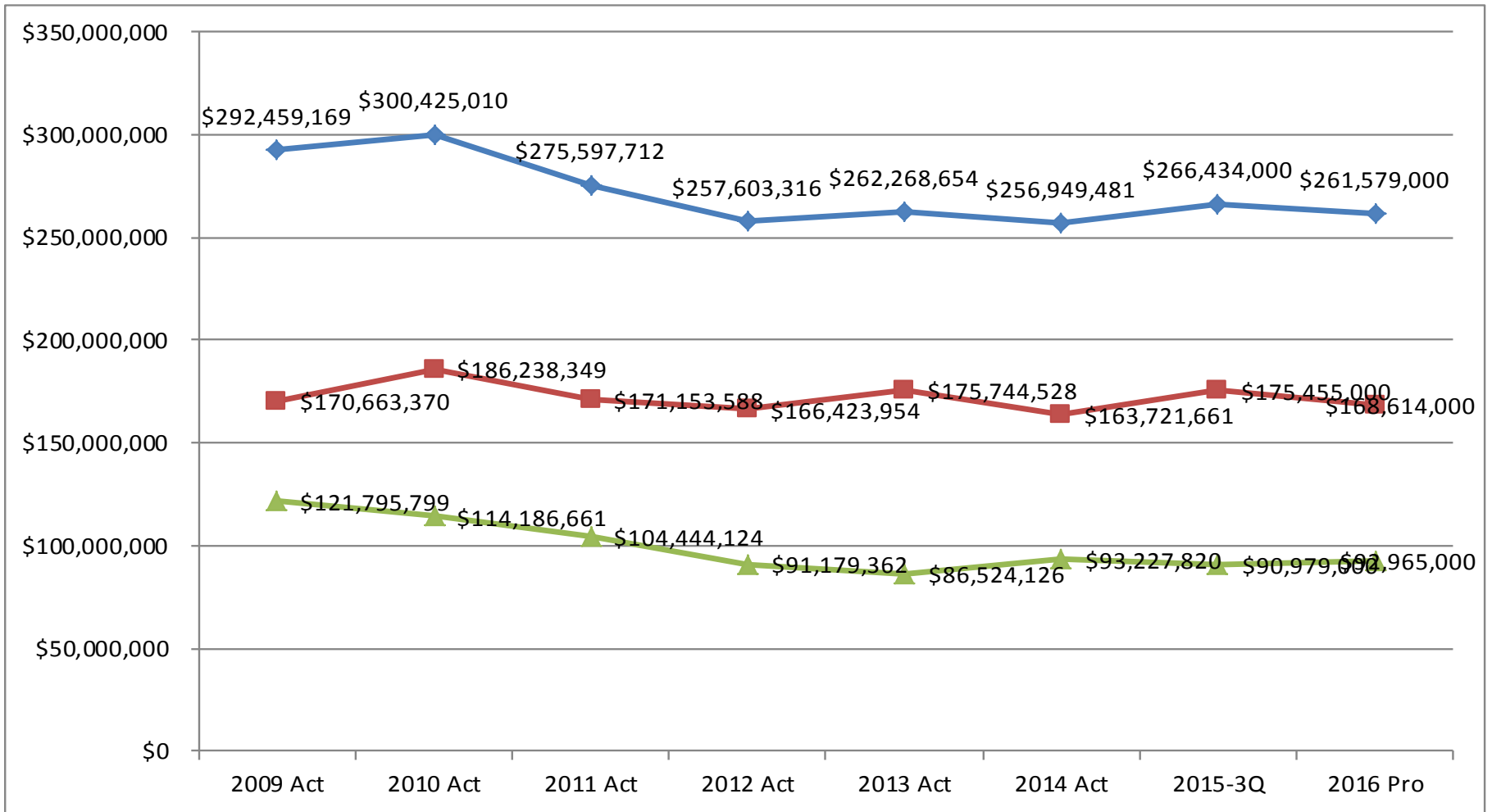
Medicaid Cases Handled By WCDSS (-)



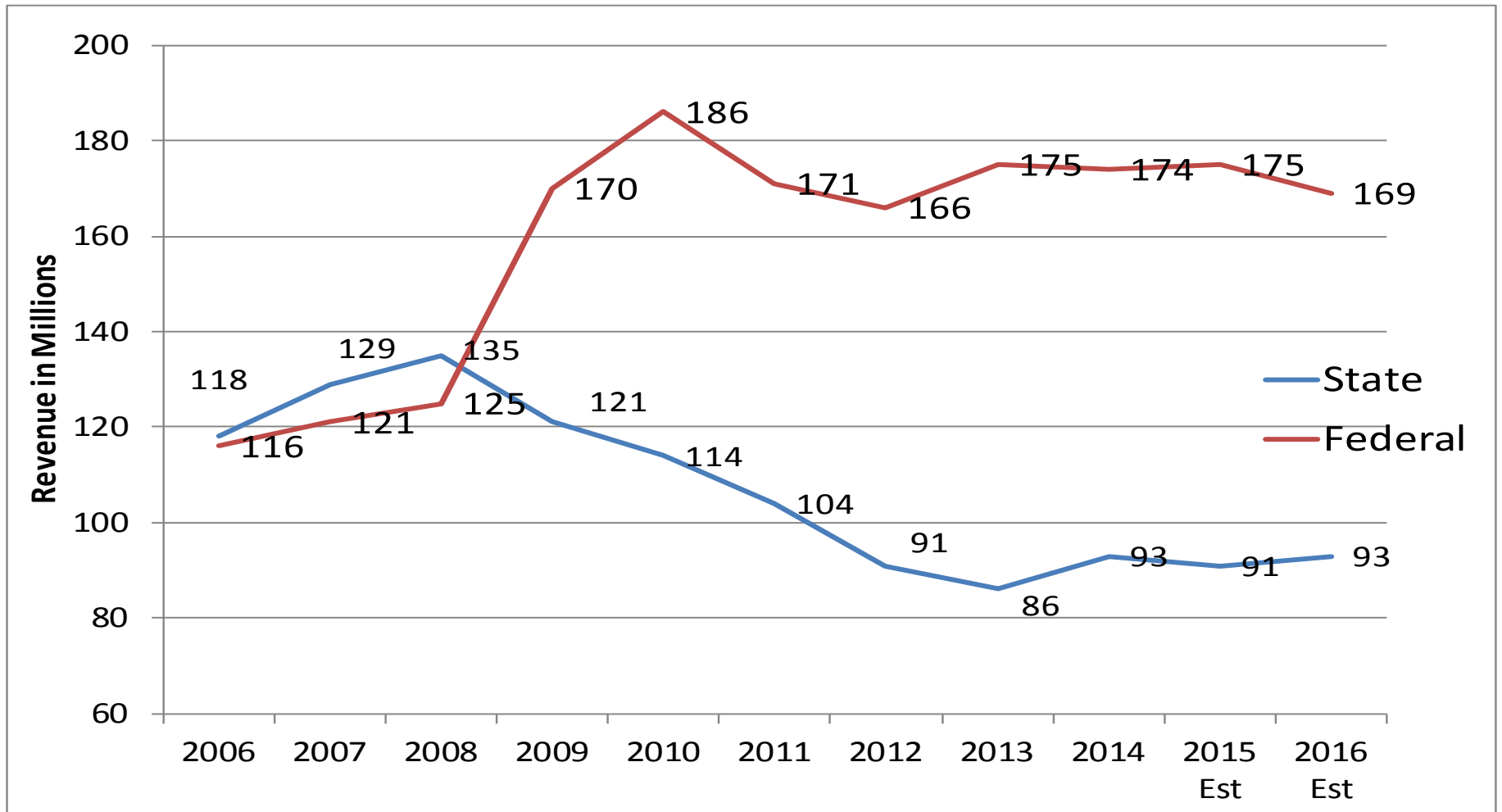
SNAP Cases *(formerly Food Stamps)* (+)



Federal (red) vs. State Aid (green)



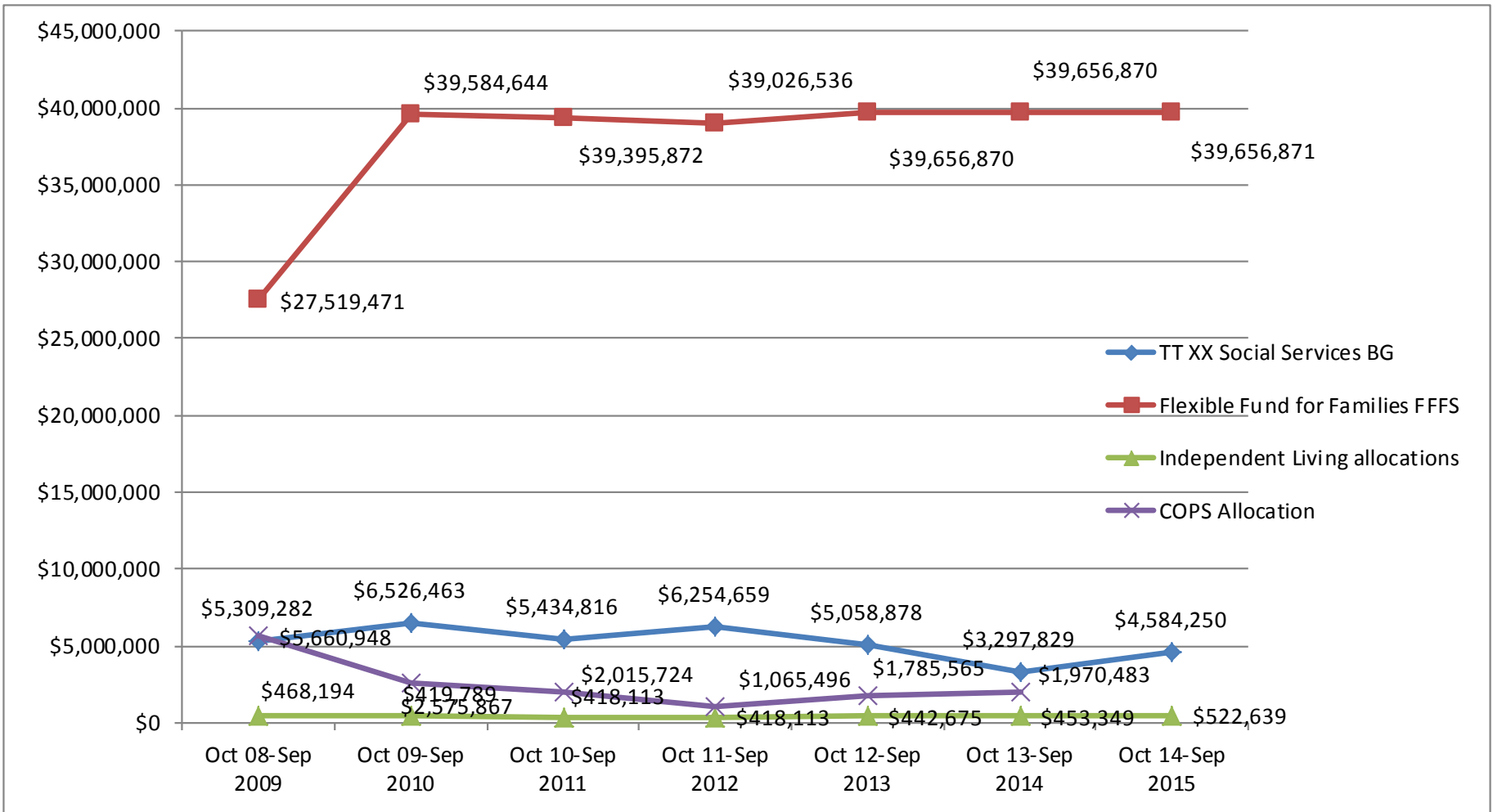
Federal versus State Revenue *(in \$M)*



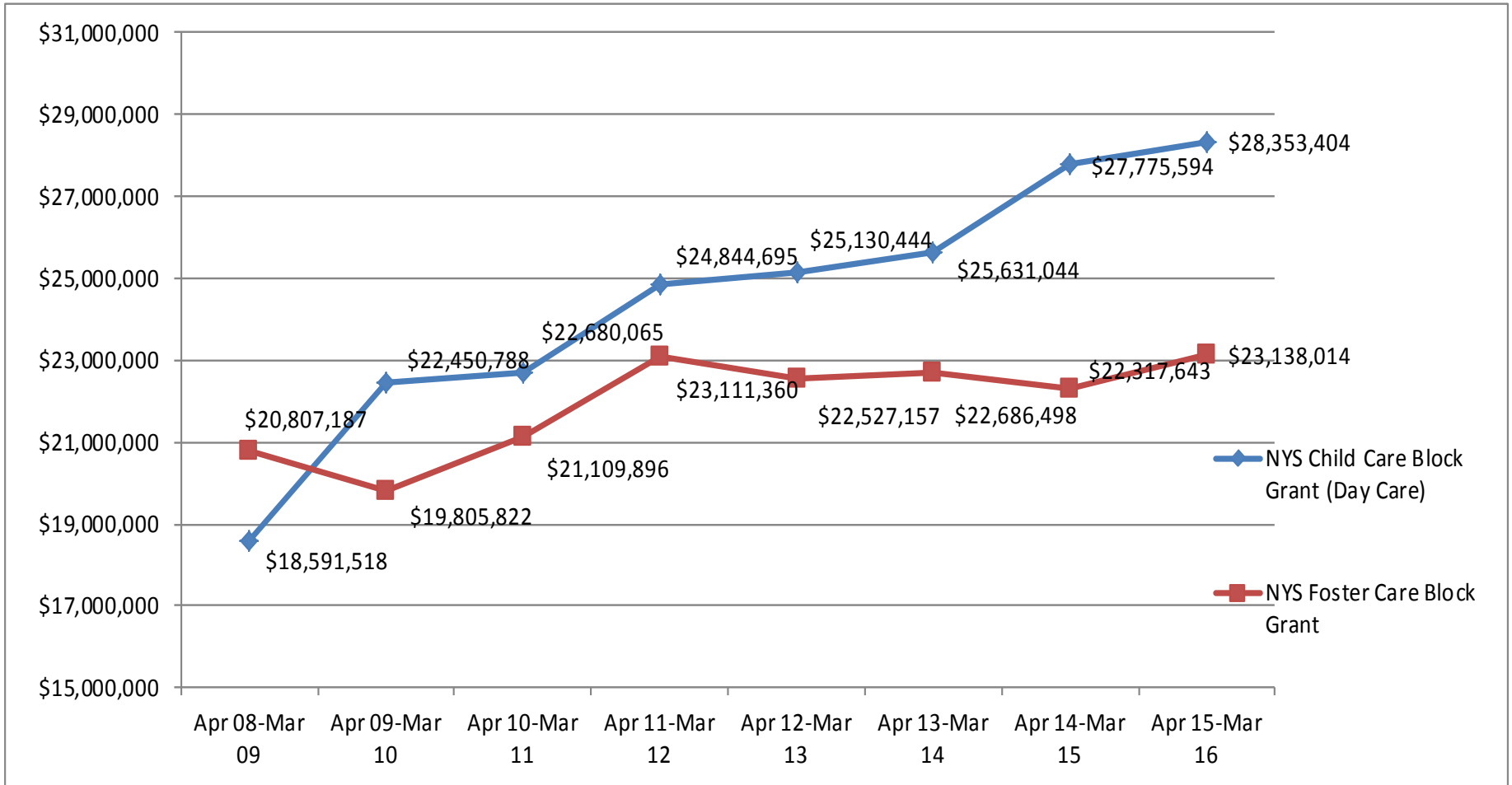
Federal Non-Block Grant Revenues (+)

Year	FMAP	Child care ARRA	Other ARRA	Total FMAP/ARRA
2008	\$6,673,130	\$ -	\$ -	\$6,673,130
2009	\$29,375,258	\$ -	\$4,756,271	\$34,131,529
2010	\$37,206,344	\$1,787,752	\$1,245,691	\$40,239,787
2011	\$14,179,854	\$1,688,006	\$2,650	\$15,870,510
2012	\$1,653,353	\$ -	\$785,674	\$2,439,027
2013	\$1,931,040	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,931,040
2014	\$5,206,752	\$ -	\$ -	\$5,206,752
2015	\$11,984,984	\$ -	\$ -	\$11,984,984
2016 Est	\$14,170,003	\$ -	\$ -	\$14,170,003

Federal Block Grant Allocations (0)



NYS Child Block Grant Allocations (+)



2015: SOME HIGHLIGHTS

AGING-OUT FOSTER CHILDREN

Westchester Building Futures (WBF)

DSS was awarded an HHS-ACF federal grant (\$670,000/year for three years), and is now implementing Phase II of the program titled Westchester Building Futures (WBF). The program is aimed at developing a model intervention for those youth/young adults at-risk of homelessness and with Child Welfare involvement.

The heart of WBF's intervention will be its efforts to engage these at-risk youth/young adults in a process that will help them secure the services/supports needed to avoid homelessness, while concurrently strengthening their independent living skills.

The foundation of these engagement efforts is the peer-to-peer navigator program, which matches alumni of the foster care system (referred to as 'peer navigators') with at-risk youth/young adults who are or have been involved with the foster care system. With the help of experienced professionals, these peer navigators – called "Bravehearts" – are helping at-risk youth with housing, education, employment, permanent connections, and social and emotional well-being.

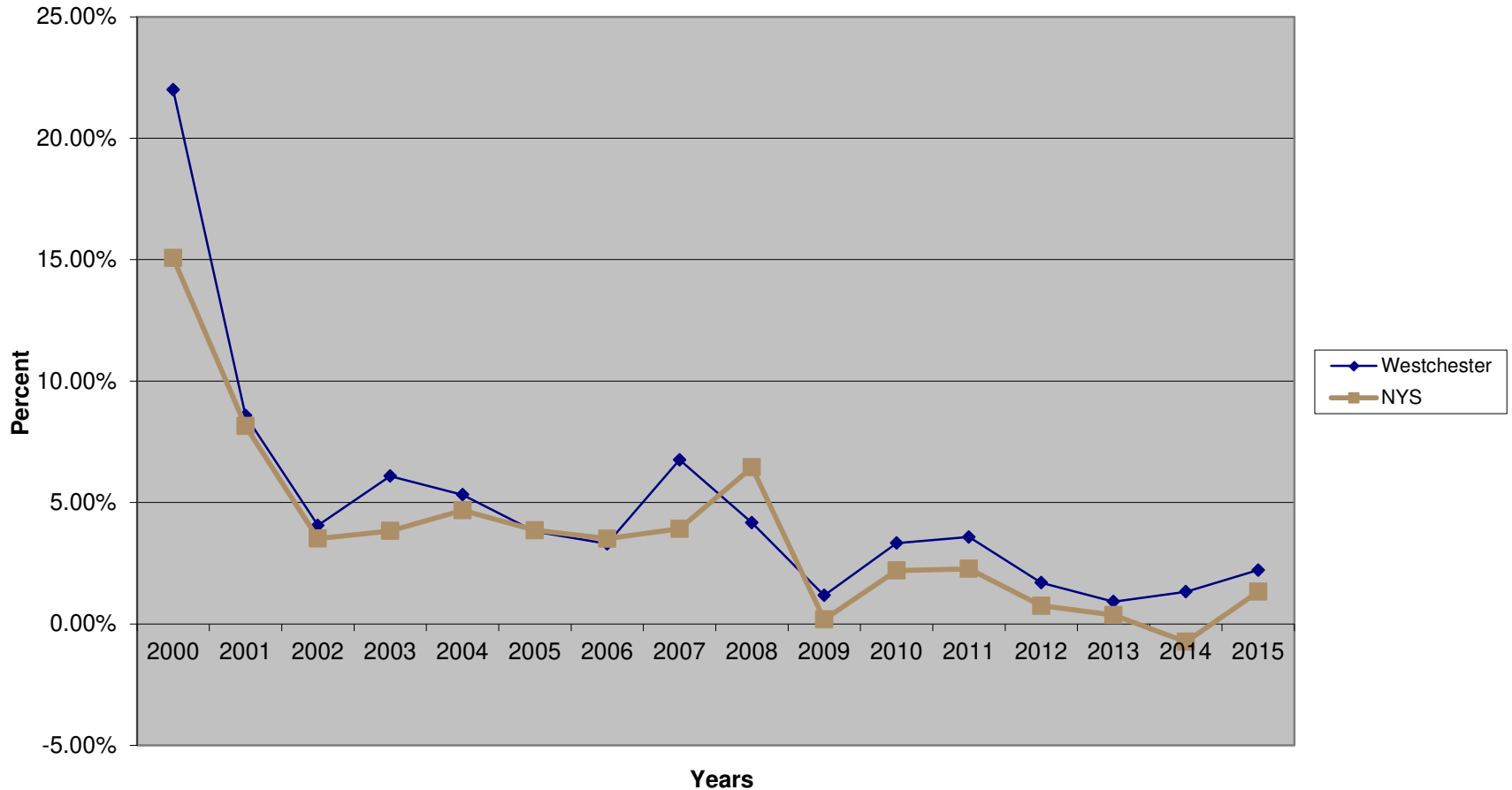
CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

Historical collections vs. NYS average

Meet the team and our partners

Historical Support Collections Data

**Percent Change in Child Support Collections by year:
Westchester County vs. NYS Average**



AUGUST 2015: CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS MONTH IN WESTCHESTER

Department of Social Services collected more than \$75 million in child support in 2014, a new high.

The Office of Child Support Enforcement handles roughly 21,000 cases annually.

Duties range from establishing paternity and issuing support orders to collecting payments and ensuring that more children receive the financial support to which they are entitled.



COMBATTING HOMELESSNESS

The chronically homeless
Veterans

“Turning Point” grant

(for chronically homeless)

Westchester County’s Continuum of Care partnership was awarded a \$2.1 million federal grant to continue its efforts to get people out of shelters and into permanent housing.

The Turning Point grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development will cover leasing and moving costs as well as administrative services to get up to 100 chronically homeless into 90 permanent housing units.

The grant reinforces the partnership between the county’s Departments of Social Services and Community Mental Health and local nonprofit partners in ending homelessness.

Veteran Homelessness

The population of homeless veterans in the county is at “functional zero” meaning there are no known homeless veterans living on the streets in Westchester.

Since the Westchester Patriot Housing Initiative was launched in August of 2013 with the goal of ending homelessness among veterans by the end of 2015, permanent housing has been secured for 329 previously homeless veterans.

Westchester’s effort has been lauded by leaders from HUD and the VA for its aggressive, comprehensive and innovative efforts.

The Department of Social Services’ Office of Temporary Housing Assistance is an active partner in the Patriot Housing Initiative.

FIGHTING FRAUD

Restructuring of Office of Program Integrity continues to pay off ...

Cost avoidance and savings

2014

	Savings
Fraud	
Investigations	\$ 460,656.00
FEDs	
Field Teams	\$ 33,767,760.00
PARIS Matches	\$ 1,599,990.00
DOH PARIS Matches	\$ 4,896,841.00
AFIS	\$ 1,144,822.00
Prison Matches	\$ 1,195,704.00
CC Audit and Review	\$ 603,726.00
BEDs	
Field Team	\$ 139,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 43,808,499.00

2015 (YTD 9/30)

	Savings
Fraud	
Investigations	\$ 247,165.00
FEDs	
Field Teams	\$ 23,486,292.00
PARIS Matches	\$ 696,103.00
DOH PARIS Matches	\$ 2,901,485.00
AFIS	\$ 1,132,181.00
Prison Matches	\$ 484,800.00
CC Audit and Review	\$ 486,209.00
BEDs	
Field Team	\$ 118,097.73
TOTAL	\$ 29,552,332.73

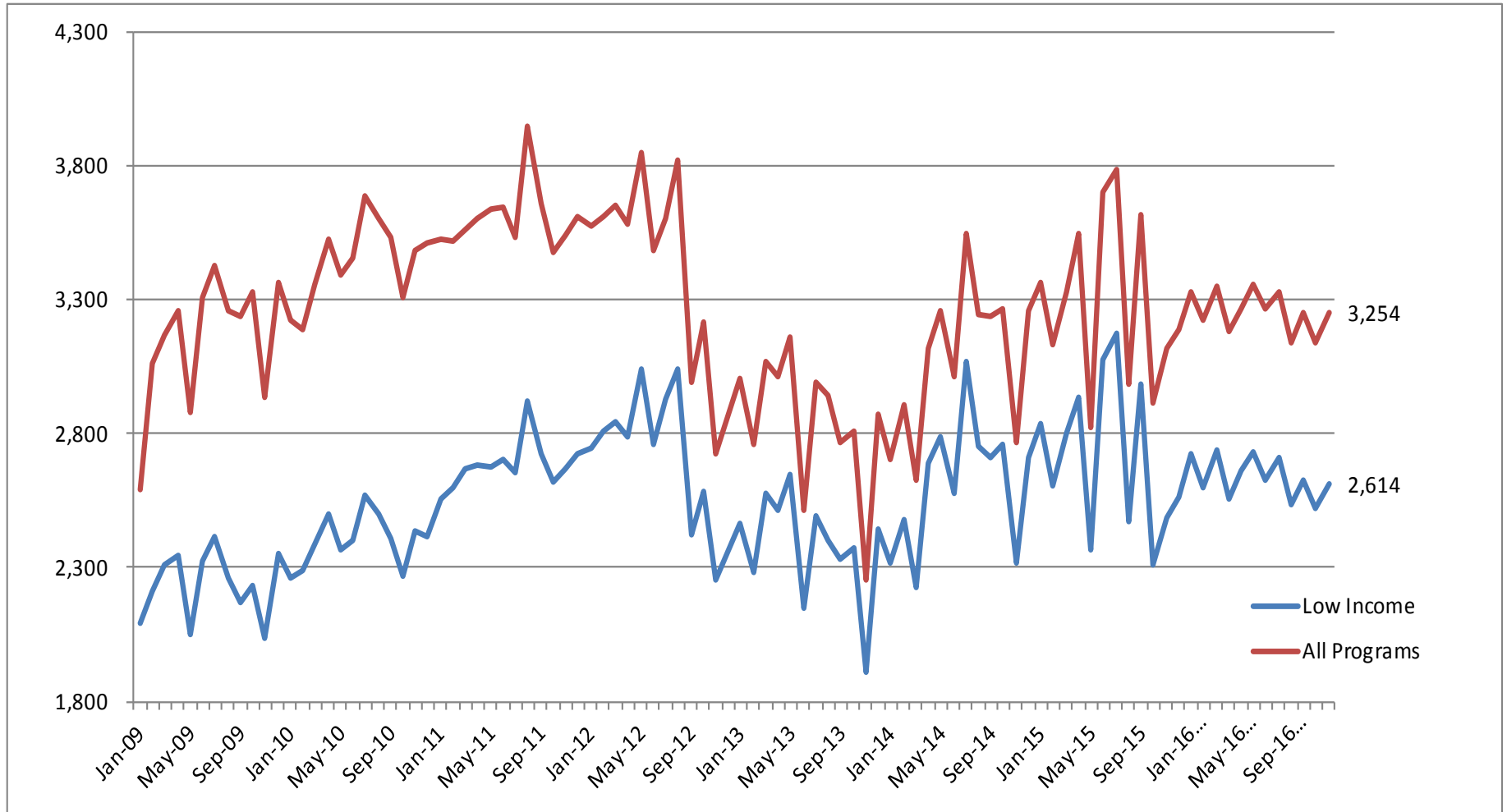
2016: SOME CHALLENGES

CHILD CARE SUBSIDIES

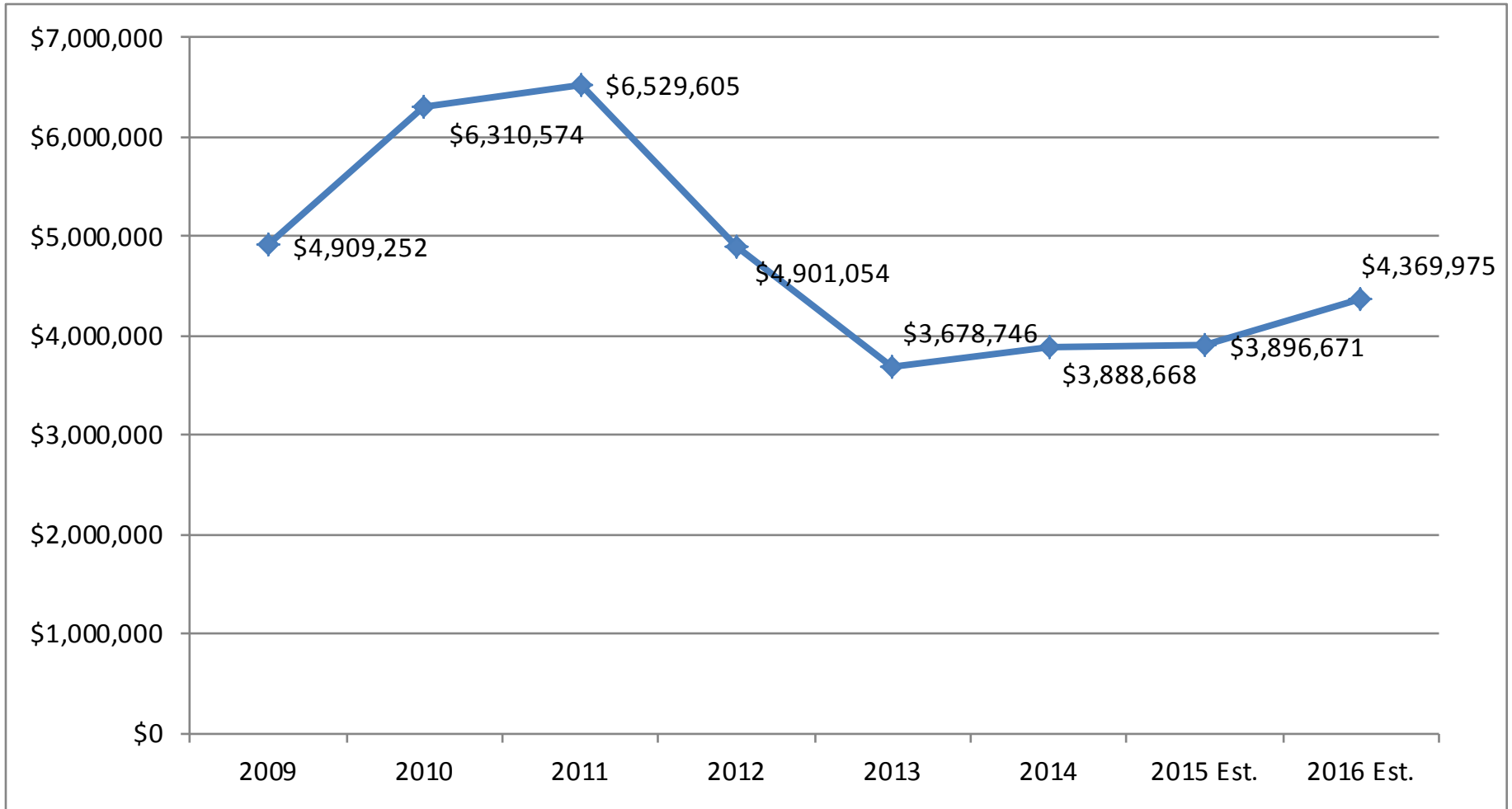
2016 Proposed Budget Numbers

Paid child care subsidy claims

(2016 projections do not include any changes in eligibility standards)

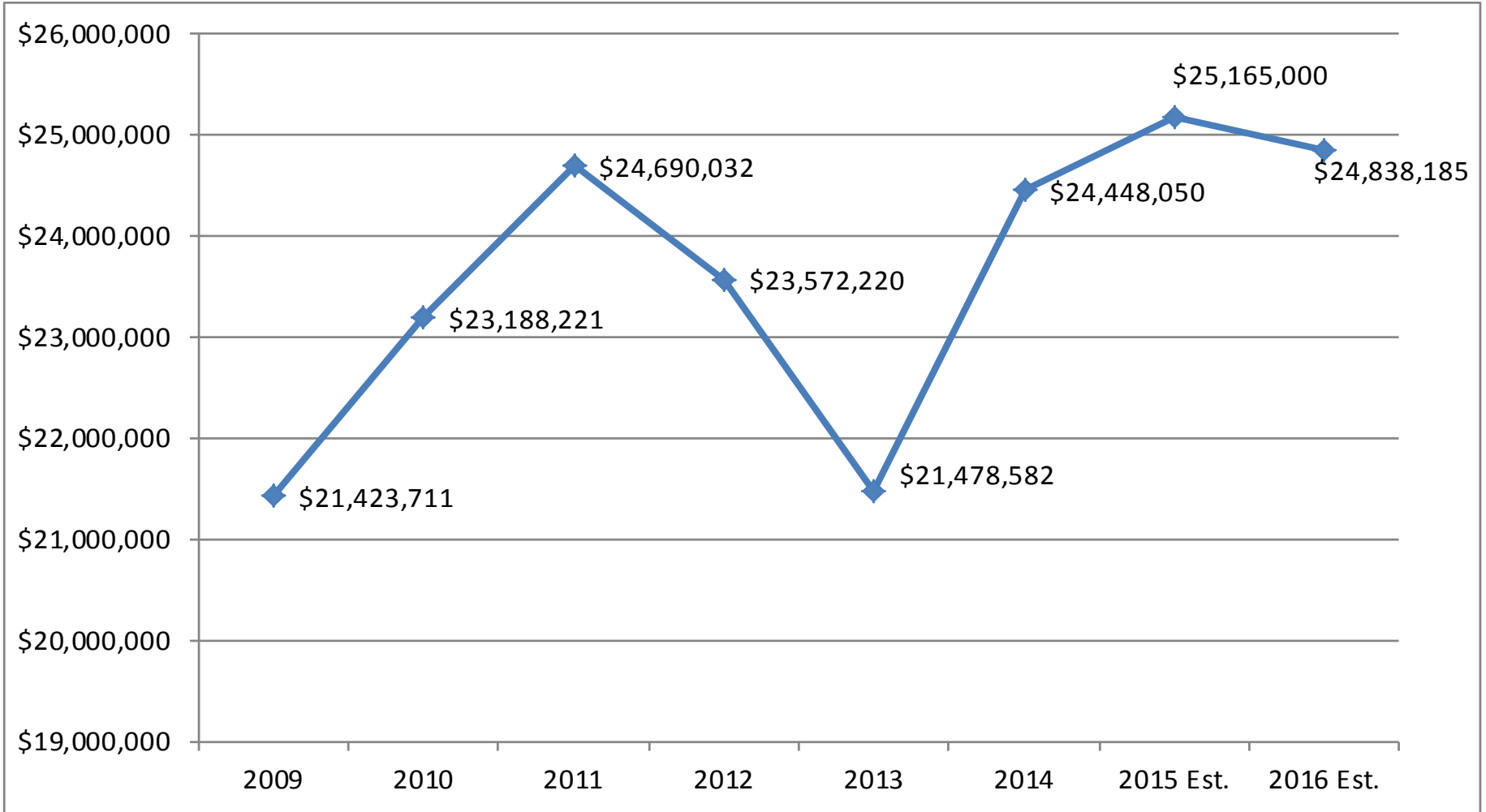


TA Day Care Expenditure



Low-Income Child Care Subsidies Expense

(Note: 2015 Low-Income was budgeted at \$24,740,325. Projected expense is higher.)



Gross Day Care
Expenditures
Budgeted for
2016

Gross Day Care Expenditures Budgeted for 2016

County Fiscal Year 2016

Low Income Day Care	\$ 24,838,185
TA Day Care	\$ 4,369,975
County-funded Day Care	\$ 1,402,980
Admin Expense	\$ 4,000,000
Total DC Expense	\$ 34,611,140
Est. CCBG Allocation	\$ 28,778,705
DC Funded by Tax Levy	\$ 5,832,435

CHILD CARE SUBSIDIES

... how the 2014 federal reauthorization of the Child Care Development Block Grant will affect subsidy availability in the years ahead

How many Low Income slots will level funding “buy” in 2016?

Frankly, that is unknown.

Ultimately, the number of low income slots available in 2016 and beyond will depend on action taken in Albany later this year to implement the 2014 Child Care Development Block Grant federal reauthorization.



No changes until at least June 2016

The New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) Division of Child Care Services is in the preliminary phase of developing its next CCDF State Plan for federal fiscal years 2016-2018. Unlike past CCDF Plans, this plan has been revised to include the new provisions set forth in the **Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014 . . .**

NYS OCFS was informed on March 10, 2015, that the Office of Child Care (OCC) has changed the CCDF Plan timeline. The new deadline for the 2016–2018 State and Territory CCDF Plan is March 1, 2016. OCC anticipates that the revised draft Pre-Print will be issued to states this Spring and that the approval of the new plans will be in June 2016 . . . **The current State and Territory CCDF Plan (FFY 2014-2015) has been extended until June 2016.**

[\(http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/stateplan/\)](http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/stateplan/)

How will this impact providers?

The CCDBG Act will affect providers in many ways, including:

- Significantly expanding background checks
- Training and Professional Development
- Payment Rates and Provider Payment Practices
- Eligibility Policies



Eligibility Policies

States must offer:

- 12-month period before eligibility redetermination
- Eligibility redetermination process cannot unduly disrupt parents' employment
- 3-month grace period for parents who lose their job
- Graduated phase-out of assistance for families whose income has increased, but remains below the federal threshold (85% of the State Median Income)

85% State Median Income Compared To 200% Federal Poverty Level

Family Size	85% NYS Annual SMI (FFY 2015)*	200% FPL (6/1/14-5/31/15)**
1	\$37,296	\$23,340
2	\$48,772	\$31,460
3	\$60,248	\$39,580
4	\$71,724	\$47,700
5	\$83,200	\$55,820
6	\$94,676	\$63,940
7	\$96,827	\$72,060
8	\$98,979	\$80,180
Each Additional Person	3%	

*[Federal Register vol 79(139), July 21, 2014]

**14-OCFS-INF-02, 2014 Income Standards for the Child Care Services Plan



Current NYSCCBG (4/1/15-3/31/16)

Total: \$794,071,409

Westchester share: \$28,353,404 (3.57%).

Cost to implement CCDBG Act of 2014 Health & Safety requirements:

Background clearances:	\$28 million
Licensing and regulatory compliance:	\$34 million
Training and professional development:	<u>\$28 million</u>
	\$90 million

“Without additional Federal funding, the new ... 12-month eligibility redetermination period and the graduated phase out of families leaving the subsidy program ... may put states in the position of closing intake, or even closing active cases, to implement the new subsidy requirement.”

OFFICE OF TEMPORARY HOUSING ASSISTANCE

Consolidations and repurposing

Shelter capacity is better than adequate ... for now.

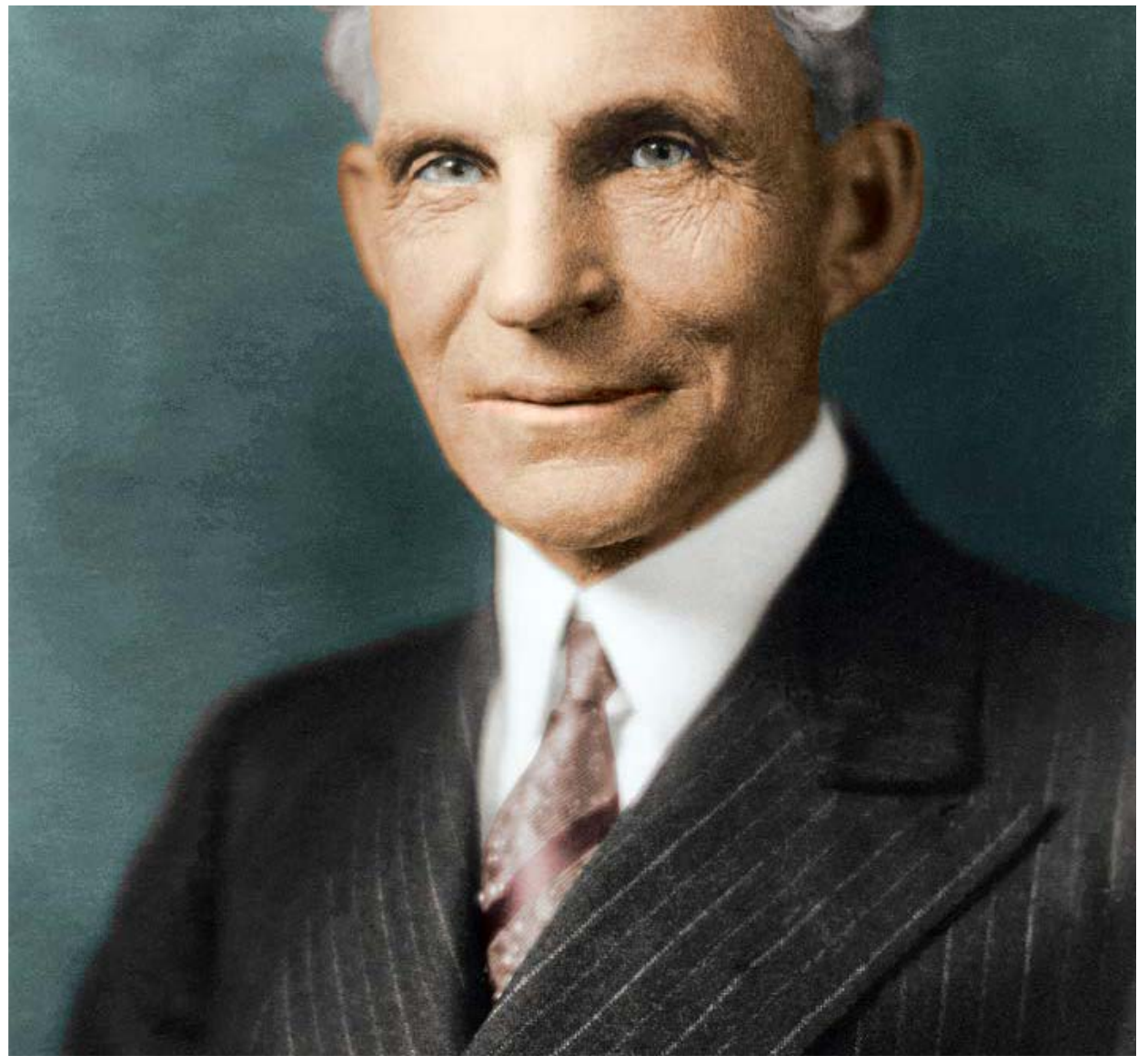
- Wednesday night, family units were 18% vacant (349 placements/424 available), singles units were 34% vacant (234 placements/355 available).
- Drop-in shelters reported 161 overnight uses.
- During Q1 of 2016, V-GER will be repurposed from use by 37 single adults to young mothers with a young child, for which there is a need, and an appropriate number of EHUS phased out.
- SNF homeless households will receive a preventive services screening on intake beginning Q1 of 2016.

OFFICE OF WORK ACTIVITIES

Restructuring WCDSS employment programs

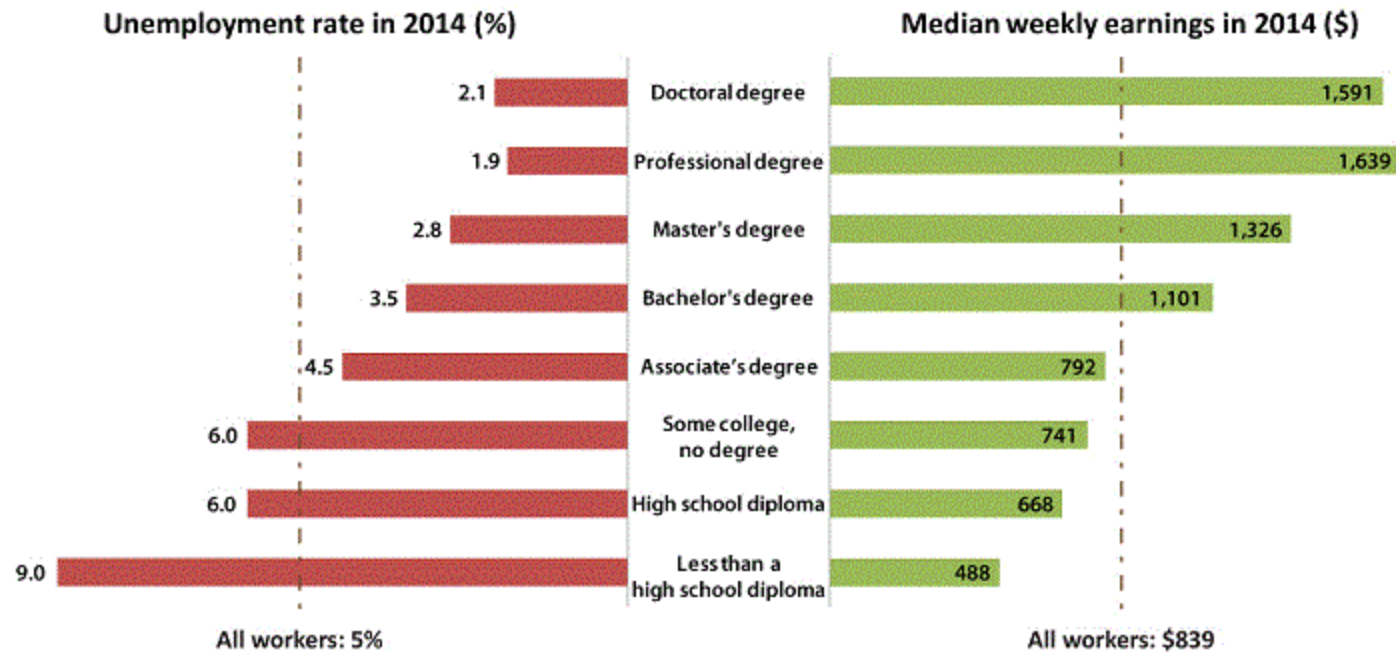
Henry Ford

“If you always do what you’ve always done, you’ll always get what you’ve always got.”



It pays to have a degree.

Earnings and unemployment rates by educational attainment



Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.
 Source: Current Population Survey, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

October 2015 TA Caseload

TANF: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. (100% Fed.)

SNF: Safety Net (Family) (71% Tax Levy.)

SNA: Safety Net (Adult) (71% Tax Levy.)

Non-exempt: must participate in work activities.

Exempt: temporarily or permanently exempt from participation in work activities.

	TANF	SNF	SNA	TOTAL
Non-exempts	917	685	777	2379
Exempts	504	331	1585	2420
Total	1421	1016	2362	4799

Restructuring of Work Activities

- On application, in-house assessment.
- Immediate referral of non-exempt applicants to local One Stop for resume counseling and job search.
- Vendor to assume case management of all households that are exempt, temporarily or permanently, from work requirements effective April 1, 2016 (RFP to be issued by 12/31/2015).
- Case management units to be deployed to district offices and centrally to manage non-exempt population.
- Emphasis on high school diploma, completing associate's degree or vocational training for 25 year olds and under.

SAFETY NET CASES

Managing a \$3 million cut ...

Why focus on Safety Net?

Of course there is the fiscal cost –

TANF is 100% federal block grant funds.

Safety Net is 71% county tax levy.

- Households with dependent children on Safety Net have exhausted five years of eligibility for TANF – long-term dependency on “Temporary” Assistance should not be viewed as an acceptable outcome.

SNA Homeless

October 2015 count is 216.

- 100% review of existing cases to determine work activity exemption status by Office of Work Activities (OWA).
- OWA lead case manager for non-exempts.
- Community Work Experience assignments for non-exempts to incorporate White Plains, VOA and Yonkers shelters.
- OTHA eligibility staff lead case manager for exempts pursuant to agreed-to Independent Living Agreement (treatment, referral to SSI, etc.)

SNA Non-Homeless

October 2015 count is 2,120.

- Case management of non-exempts by OWA.
- CWEP to expand to other county departments such as DPW.
- Management of exempts to remain an eligibility function pursuant to an agreed-to IEP.

SNF Homeless

- October 2015 count is **70**.
- Goal for end of 2016 count is **35**.
 - By 12/31/2015, 100% of this caseload will be assessed for preventive services.
 - Team of Senior Social Caseworkers (up to four) will be assigned to OTHA to case manage eligible households effective 1/1/2016.
 - Prospectively, all SNF households applying for Temporary Housing Assistance to be assessed for preventive services.

Children do not belong in emergency housing or shelters for the long term!

SNF Non-Homeless

October 2015 count is 933.

- 100% review of caseload for Individual Employment Plan.
- Assignment of all non-exempts to an OWA caseworker by April 1, 2016.
- Authorization of TA day care a priority.

TO HELP MEET OUR 2016 GOALS ...

Leadership Staff Task Forces

Intradepartmental Task Forces

- **ABAWDs**
- **Aging Out Foster Children**
- **Case Management Coordination**
- **Performance evaluations**
- **Productivity standards**
- **Safety Net Families**
- **Technology**
- **Training and Staff Development**
- **Utilization Reviews**

THE NUMBERS

2014 Actual.

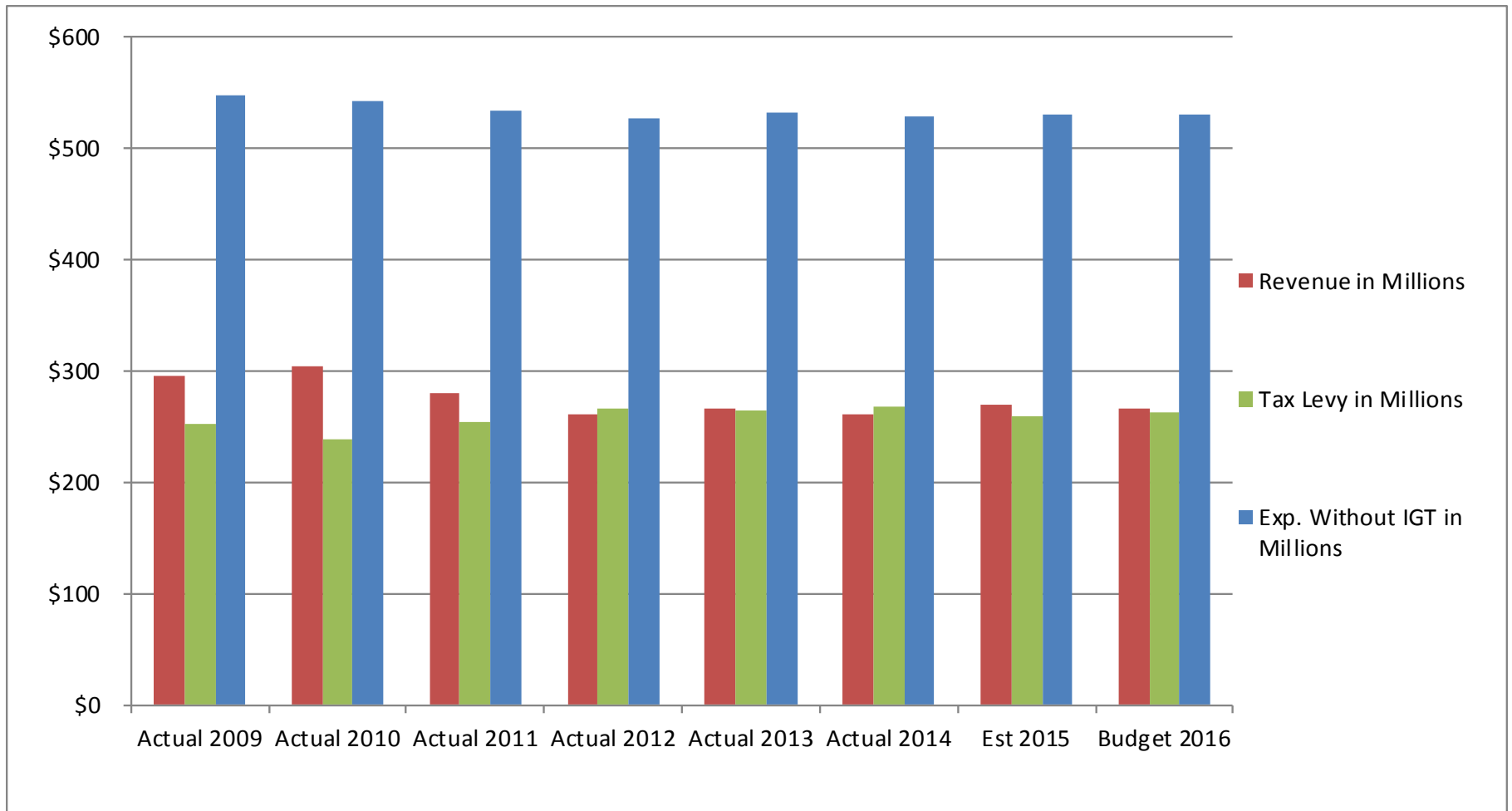
2015 Estimated.

2016 Proposed.

Expenditure Authority

	2014 Actual	2015 Projected	2016 Proposed
Total	\$597,179,632	\$594,703,776	\$593,743,701
(IGT Transfer)	(\$ 67,553,241)	(\$ 65,000,000)	(\$ 65,000,000)
Available to Department	\$529,626,391	\$529,703,776	\$528,743,701

DSS Expense, Revenue and Tax Levy 2009-2016



Position Count

	2014 Adopted	2015 Adopted	2016 Proposed
Operating	1032	1032	**1032
Trusts	83	83	*83
Total	1115	1115	1115

* does not include new positions in grants awarded late 2015 or
 **“Added Starters” needed for cost-savings initiatives in 2016.

Authorized Positions 2008-2016

Year	Operating	Total Trust	Total
2008	1253	27	1280
2009	1232	26	1258
2010	1232	30	1262
2011	1118	30	1148
2012	1077	24	1101
2013	1032	23	1055
2014	1032	83	1115
2015	1032	83	1115
2016	1032	83	1115

1000: Personal Services

	2014 Actual	2015 Projected	2016 Proposed
Total	\$ 70,273,910	\$ 72,439,056	\$ 73,522,837
Annual Regular	\$ 68,406,861	\$ 70,376,056	\$ 71,819,837*
Overtime	\$ 1,210,407	\$ 1,300,000	\$ 975,000
Hourly	\$ 10,057	\$ 75,000	\$ 50,000

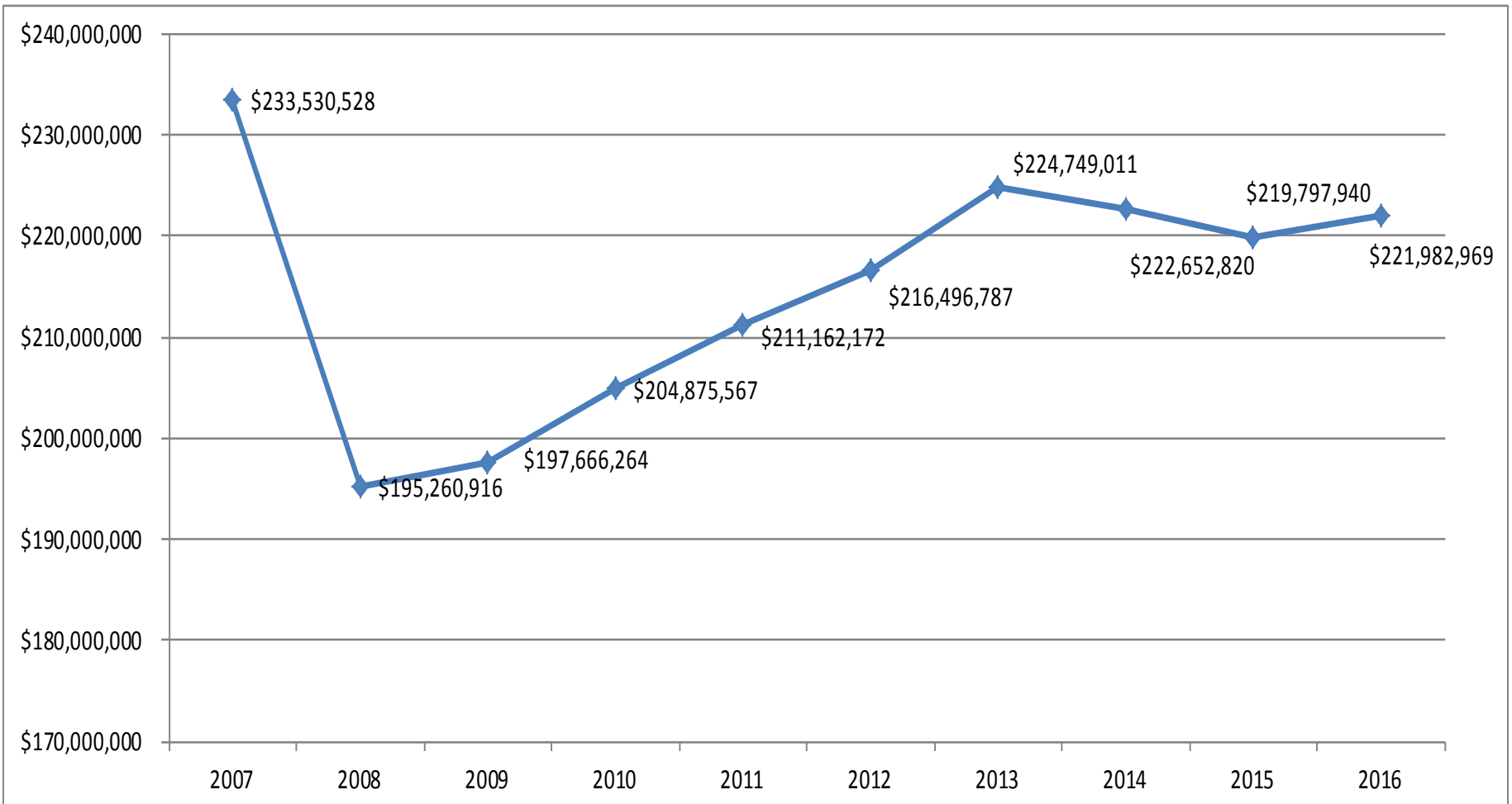
*net amount after vacancy savings of \$1.3 million taken.
(Total includes subcategories not listed, e.g. differentials.)

5000: Relief

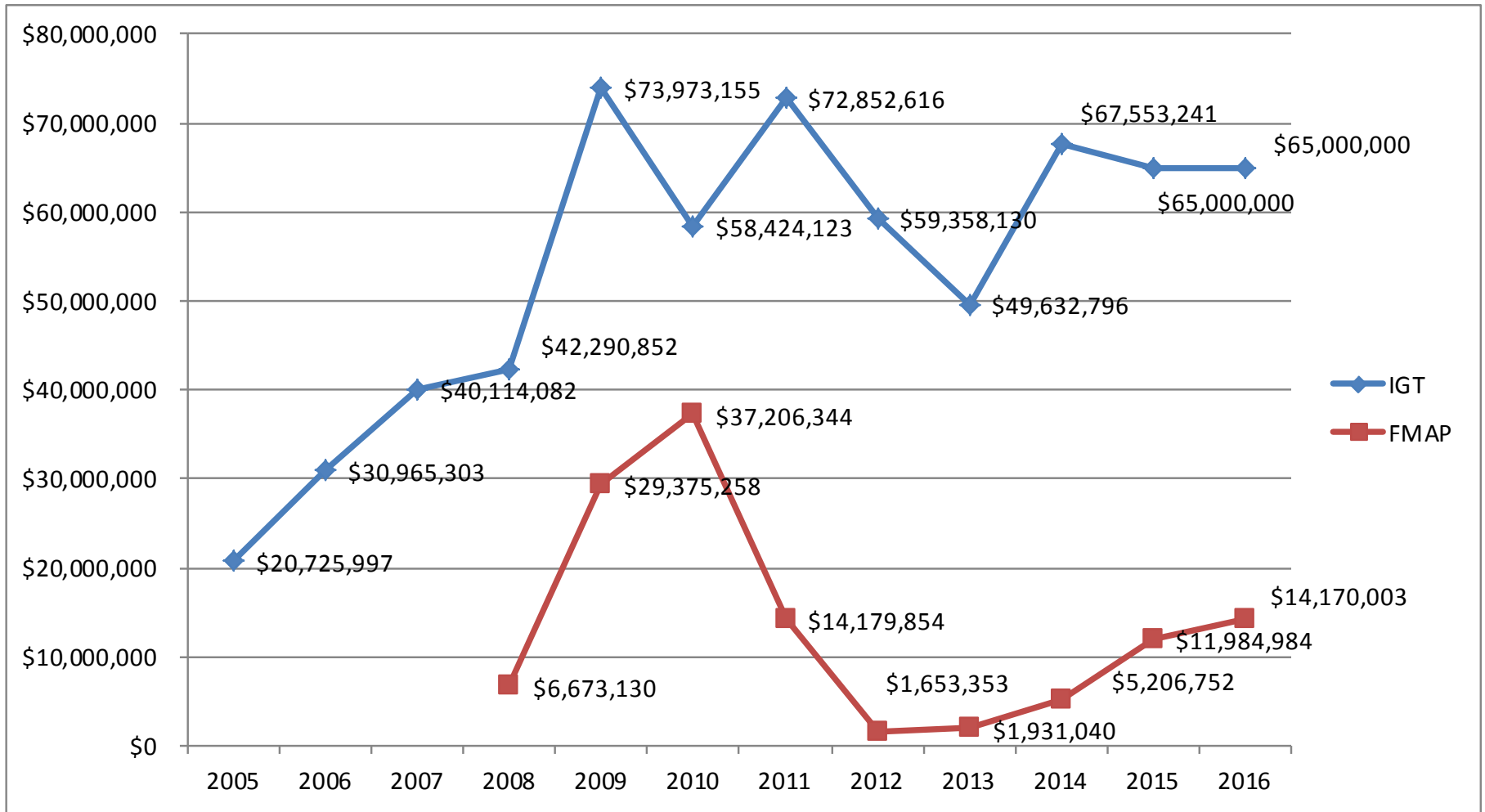
	2014 Actual	2015 Projected	2016 Proposed
Total	\$ 485,853,639	\$ 480,624,033	\$ 478,182,396
EAF Non-Homeless	\$ 7,487,583	\$ 5,755,000	\$ 6,418,000
EAF Foster Care	\$ 18,874,340	\$ 16,071,000	\$ 16,253,000
EAA	\$ 984,826	\$ 986,000	\$ 986,000
MA Other	\$ 1,073,182	\$ 3,789,067	\$ 4,304,333
MA Regular	\$ 218,159,231	\$ 207,812,966	\$ 207,291,955
MA IGT	\$ 67,553,241	\$ 65,000,000	\$ 65,000,000
TANF	\$ 39,496,211	\$ 43,593,000	\$ 43,916,000
Safety Net	\$ 55,501,197	\$ 54,281,000	\$ 51,090,569
Child Welfare FC	\$ 28,963,781	\$ 32,214,000	\$ 32,389,000
Child Welfare IL	\$ 1,016,245	\$ 1,571,000	\$ 1,277,000
Child Welfare Adoption	\$ 8,170,569	\$ 8,736,000	\$ 9,225,000
Special Items	\$ 343,073	\$ 305,000	\$ 305,000
Indirect Social Services	\$ 37,670,679	\$ 39,280,000	\$ 38,323,559
County-funded Day Care	\$ 559,482	\$ 1,230,000	\$ 1,402,980

Tax Levy for MMIS Cap: 2007 to 2016

(does not include FMAP offset)

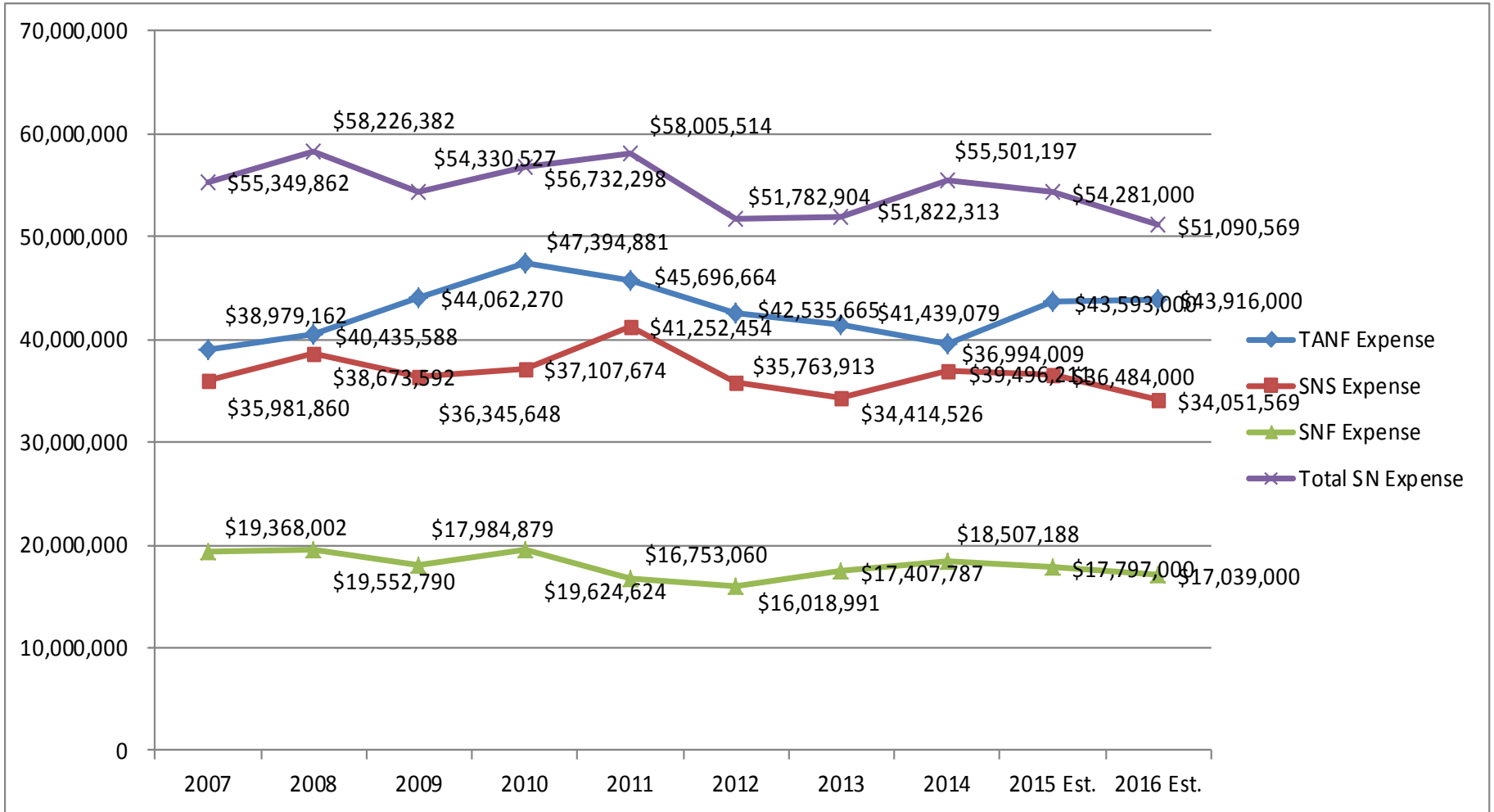


FMAP and Inter-Governmental Transfers

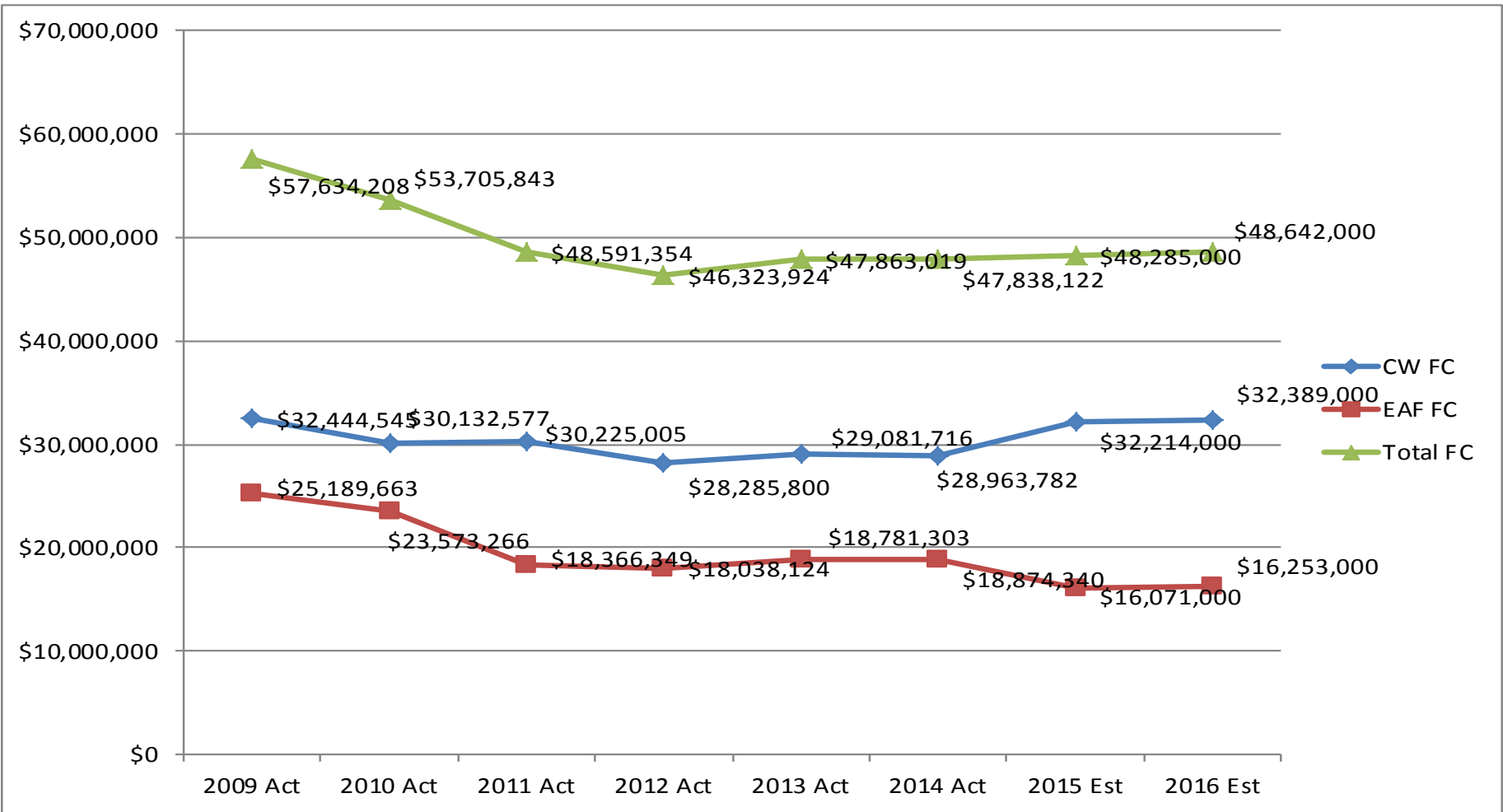


Note: 2015 and 2016 IGT values and 2016 FMAP value are estimated

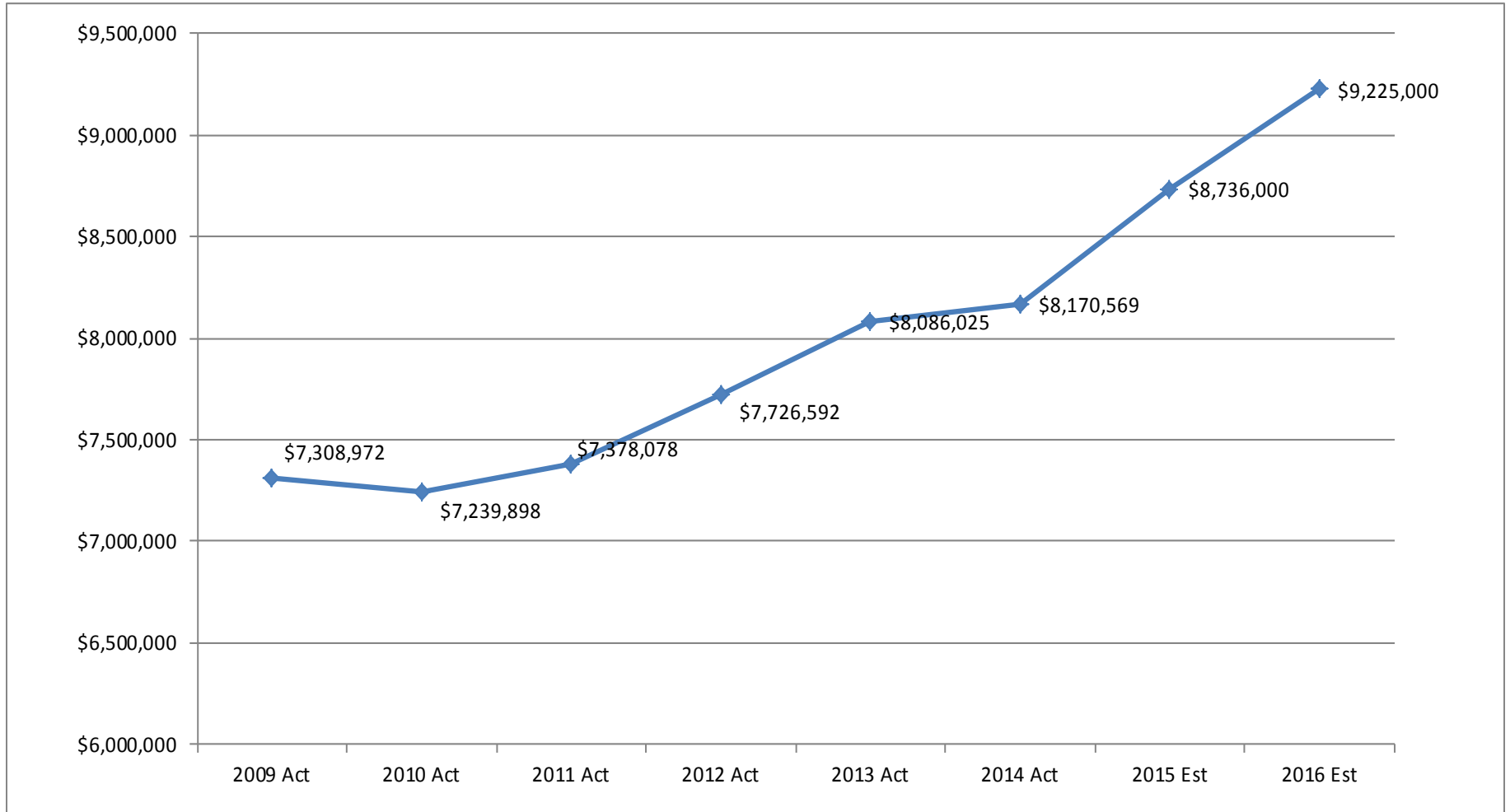
TANF and SN Expenses



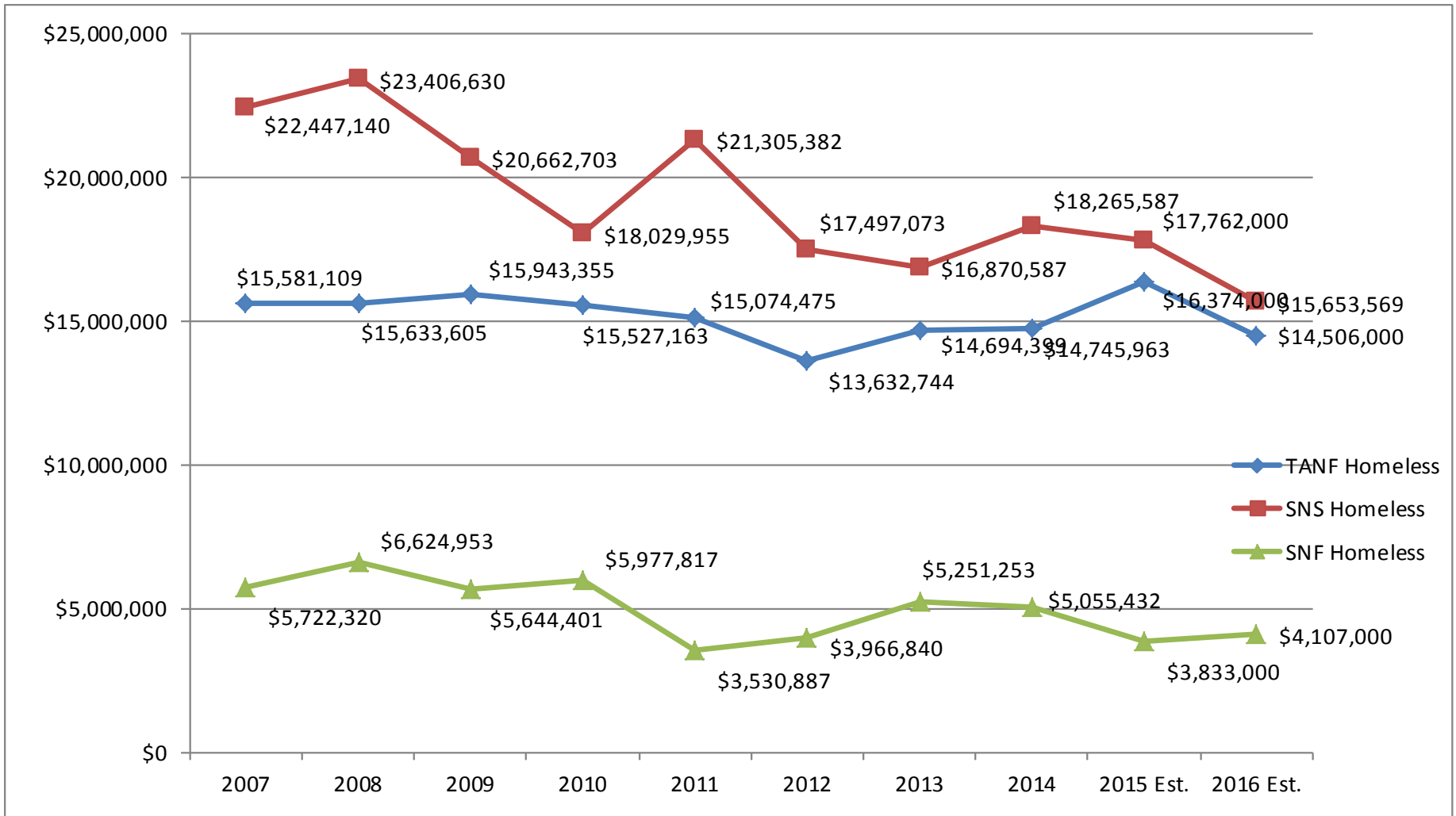
Child Welfare and EAF Foster Care Expense



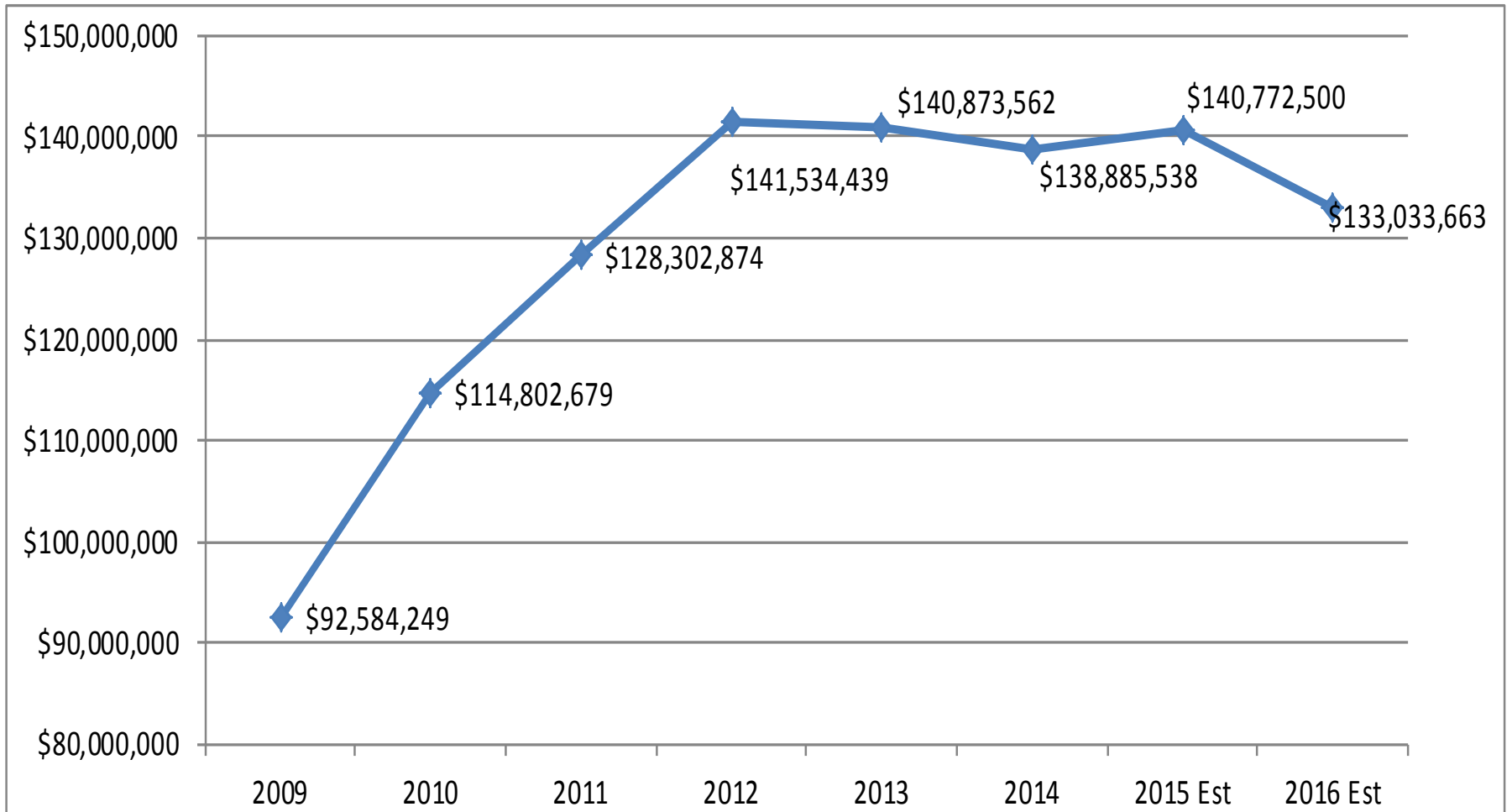
Adoption Subsidy Expense



SNS, SNF, and TANF Homeless Expense



SNAP (formerly Food Stamps) Benefits



5000: Interdepartmental

	2014 Actual	2015 Projected	2016 Proposed
Total	\$ 35,470,978	\$ 35,793,344	\$ 36,162,060
Personnel	\$ 99,998	\$ 107,645	\$ 111,022
Public Works	\$ 5,990,847	\$ 5,171,694	\$ 5,740,533
IT	\$ 6,916,573	\$ 7,240,633	\$ 6,927,044
Law	\$ 7,307,956	\$ 7,202,250	\$ 7,341,950
Public Safety	\$ 8,118,557	\$ 8,474,588	\$ 8,395,515
Probation	\$ 1,297,656	\$ 1,452,616	\$ 1,501,482
Parks, Rec., Cons.	\$ 628,240	\$ 721,759	\$ 913,180
Women	\$ 2,015,686	\$ 2,062,266	\$ 2,152,368

Also: Emergency Services, Community Mental Health, Health, Corrections, Transportation, Youth, Aging, Disabled and Communications.





... to all our WCDSS colleagues who make this possible!