



Rhode Island SNAP Report



July 2019

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INTRODUCTION

The Rhode Island Department of Human Services (DHS) is an organization of opportunity.

Through the compassionate delivery of critical safety net and other supportive services, DHS is committed to ensuring that individuals and families in Rhode Island have access to the supports they need to achieve their goals. Its vision is that all Rhode Islanders have the opportunity to thrive at home, work and in the community.

Under the leadership of Director Courtney E. Hawkins, DHS works hand-in-hand with community partners and resources throughout our great State to deliver benefits to more than 300,000 families, adults, children, elders, individuals with disabilities and veterans every year as well as make a lasting, positive impact on the State's health and future.

One of DHS's largest programs is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). It is the nation's largest program for fighting domestic hunger. In Rhode Island, about 12 percent of all households experience food insecurity, and nearly 25 percent of families with children at home experience it. With SNAP, DHS is working with families to close their hunger gap.

Federally funded and State administered, SNAP helps low-income individuals and families by providing monthly benefits to buy food. Eligibility and benefit amounts are based on income, expenses, resources, and the number of individuals in a household. (For more information, go to: www.dhs.ri.gov/Programs/SNAPeligibility.php.) Nutrition assistance is provided to low-income individuals and families in the form of an EBT card which may be used to buy food at grocery stores, supermarkets, convenience stores, and farmers markets.

This report provides a snapshot in time for caseload and demographic data from March 2019, a month where just under \$20.5 million total was released to our SNAP recipients. The average benefit amount for SNAP households for that month was \$224.92. For individuals, it was \$134.78.

In calendar year 2018, \$259.1 million was distributed. The average monthly cases for 2018 was 93,773 and the average monthly participating individuals for the same year was 158,112.

Data regarding the race/ethnicity and education attainment represents the self-reported information of the heads of household individuals only and is voluntary.

Application and timeliness data reflect the months of May 2018 through April 2019.

DIRECTOR COURTNEY E. HAWKINS

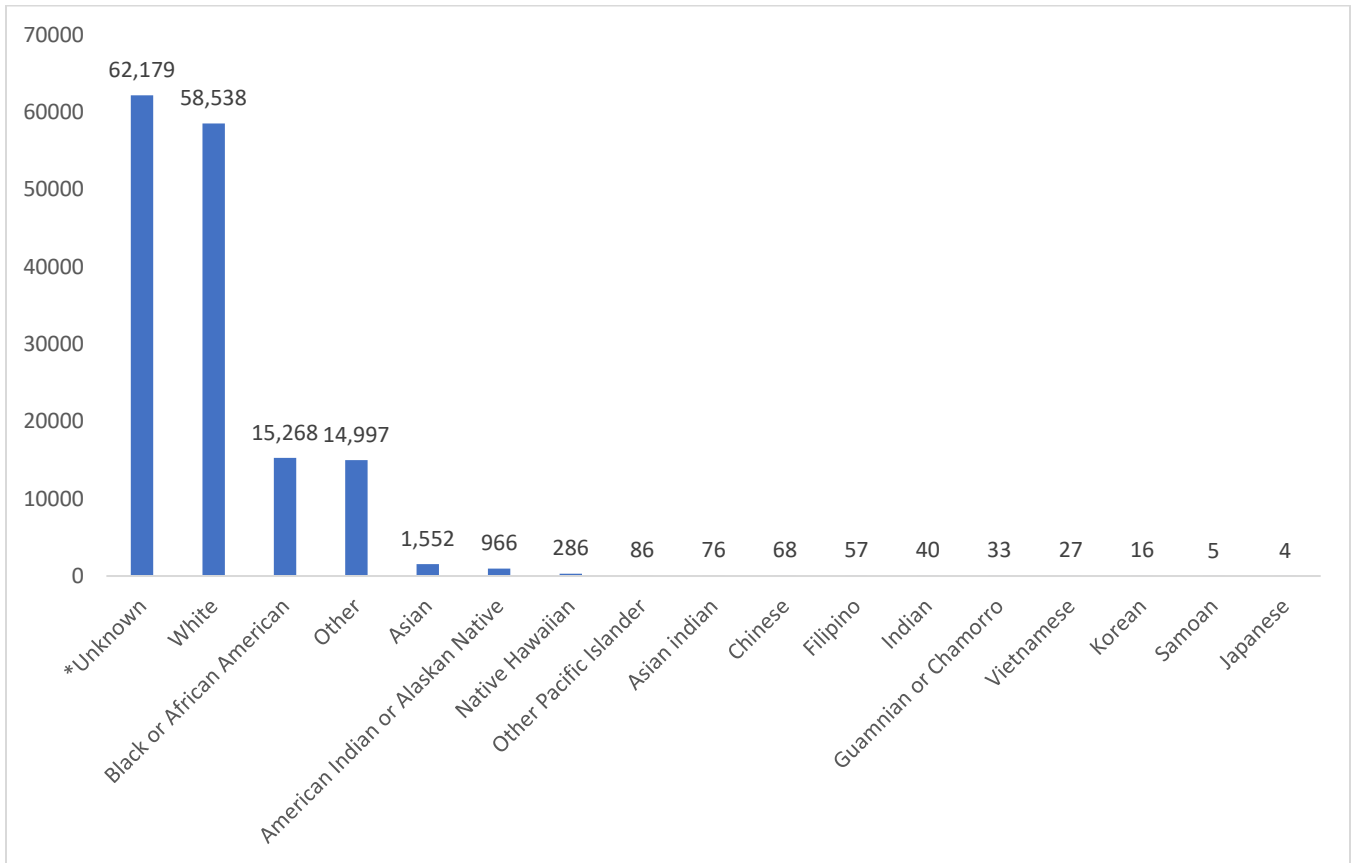
"DHS' success is critical to the success of us as a state. If we don't support vulnerable individuals and families in meeting their basic needs then we will never achieve our broader economic, educational and quality of life goals."

SNAP CASELOAD BY CITY OF RESIDENCE

City/Town	Cases	% of Caseload
Barrington	229	0.2%
Bristol	946	1.0%
Burrillville	777	0.8%
Central Falls	3,563	3.9%
Charlestown	328	0.4%
Coventry	1,824	2.0%
Cranston	5,904	6.4%
Cumberland	1,414	1.5%
East Greenwich	458	0.5%
East Providence	3,639	3.9%
Exeter	206	0.2%
Foster	180	0.2%
Glocester	318	0.3%
Hopkinton	391	0.4%
Jamestown	111	0.1%
Johnston	2,349	2.5%
Lincoln	987	1.1%
Little Compton	78	0.1%
Middletown	773	0.8%
Narragansett	442	0.5%
New Shoreham	19	0.0%
Newport	1,968	2.1%
North Kingstown	1,120	1.2%
North Providence	2,682	2.9%
North Smithfield	431	0.5%
Pawtucket	10,372	11.2%
Portsmouth	578	0.6%
Providence	29,196	31.6%
Richmond	268	0.3%
Scituate	295	0.3%
Smithfield	586	0.6%
South Kingstown	978	1.1%
Tiverton	717	0.8%
Warren	694	0.8%
Warwick	5,123	5.5%
West Greenwich	153	0.2%
West Warwick	3,240	3.5%
Westerly	1,374	1.5%
Woonsocket	7,528	8.1%
Total	92,239	

Point in time data from March 2019

SNAP CASELOAD BY RACE



SNAP CASELOAD BY SECONDARY RACE (WHEN IDENTIFIED)

White	585
Black or African American	239
Asian	43
American Indian or Alaskan Native	32
Other Pacific Islander	8
Native Hawaiian	6
Asian Indian	6
Chinese	4
Vietnamese	4
Guamanian or Chamorro	2
Japanese	2
Indian	1

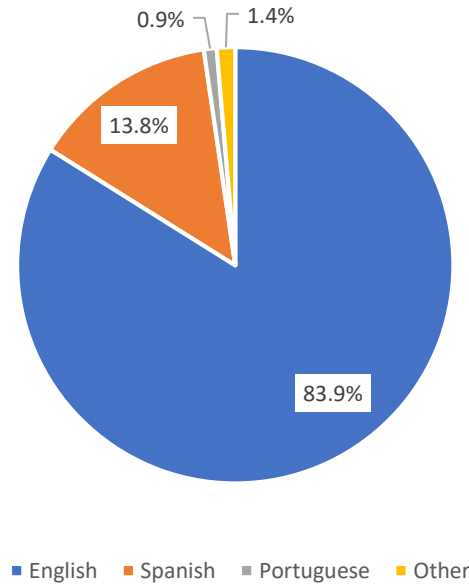
SNAP CASELOAD BY ETHNICITY

Unknown/Null	76,532
Non-Hispanic	51,522
Hispanic	21,922
Puerto Rican	3,828
Mexican	284
Cuban	95

* Our SNAP customers have the option to self-identify their race and ethnicity. “Unknown/Null” reflects those who chose not to declare a race or ethnicity.

Point in time data from March 2019

PRIMARY LANGUAGE OF SNAP HOUSEHOLDS



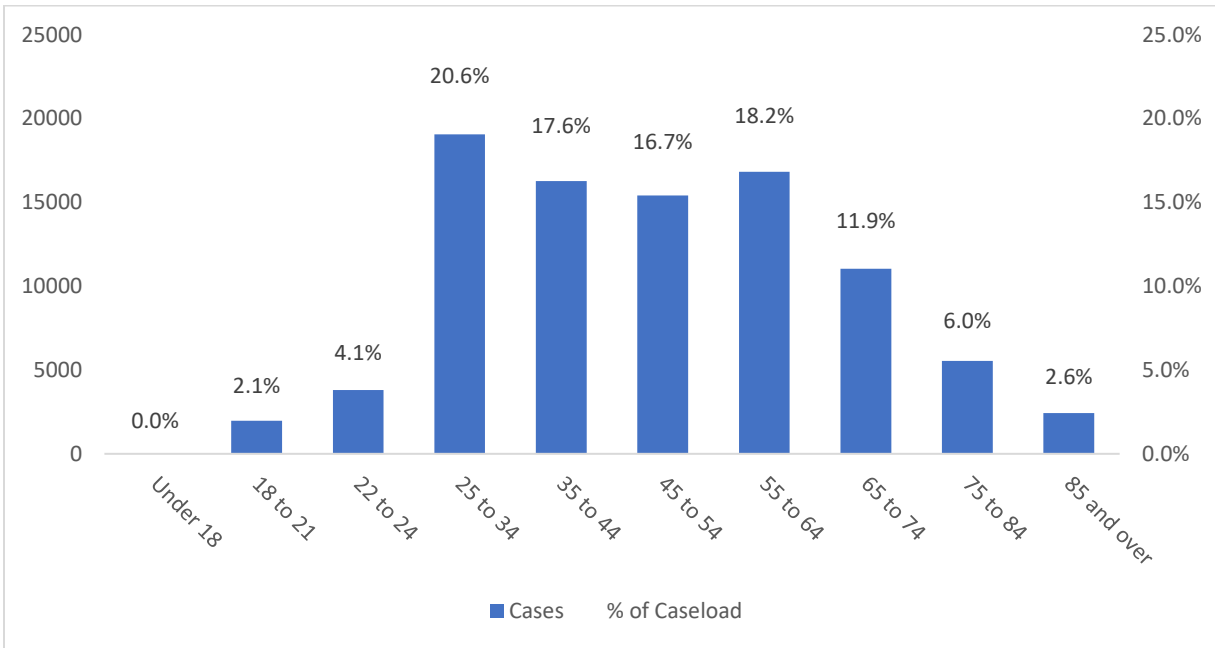
Nearly 84 percent (77,500 out of 92,374) of the customers in March 2019 reported English as their primary spoken language. The next highest spoken language represented was Spanish (13.8 %) and Portuguese (.9%). The remaining 1.4% of households reported a different primary language. Those languages included: Cambodian, Laotian, Russian, French, Creole, Hmong, Arabic, Vietnamese, Italian, Swahili, Chinese-Cantonese, Polish, Sign Language, Khmer, Haitian Creole, Armenian, Tigrinya, Turkish, Amharic, Chinese-Mandarin, Farsi, Korean, and Somali.

SNAP RECIPIENTS PARTICIPATING IN OTHER DHS PROGRAMS

Other DHS Program	Number of SNAP Recipients receiving other DHS program benefits	% of SNAP Recipients receiving another DHS benefit	% of Other DHS Program Recipients on SNAP
Rhode Island Works	9,016	5.8%	97.3%
Child Care Assistance Program	6,357	4.2%	61.3%
Medicaid	89,841	58.3%	39.7%
General Public Assistance	139	< 0.1 %	98.5%

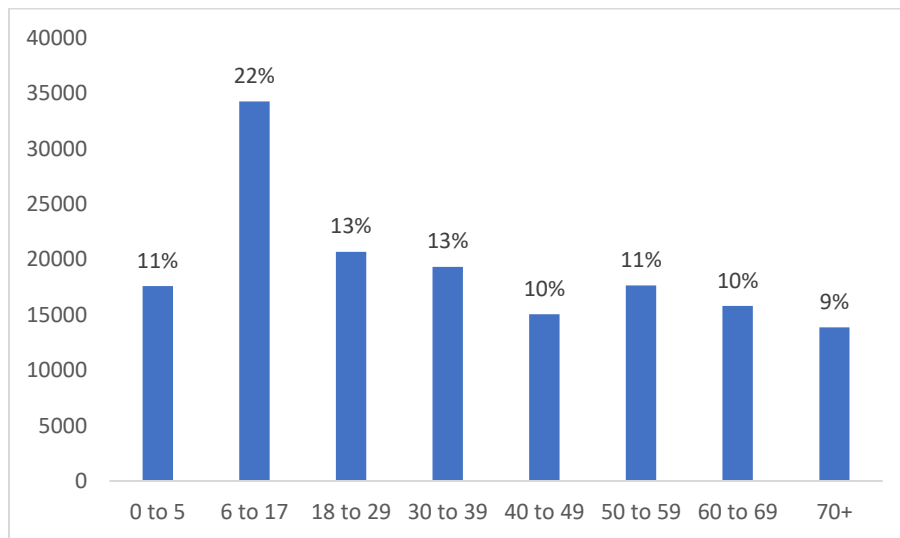
Point in time data from March 2019

SNAP CASELOAD BY AGE OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD



In March 2019, more than 20 percent (19,060 of 92,374 cases) of the SNAP cases had a head of household between the ages of 25 to 34. The next highest age demographic was individuals age 55 to 64 years old representing 18.2 percent of that month’s cases followed by 35 to 44-year-olds with 17.6 percent.

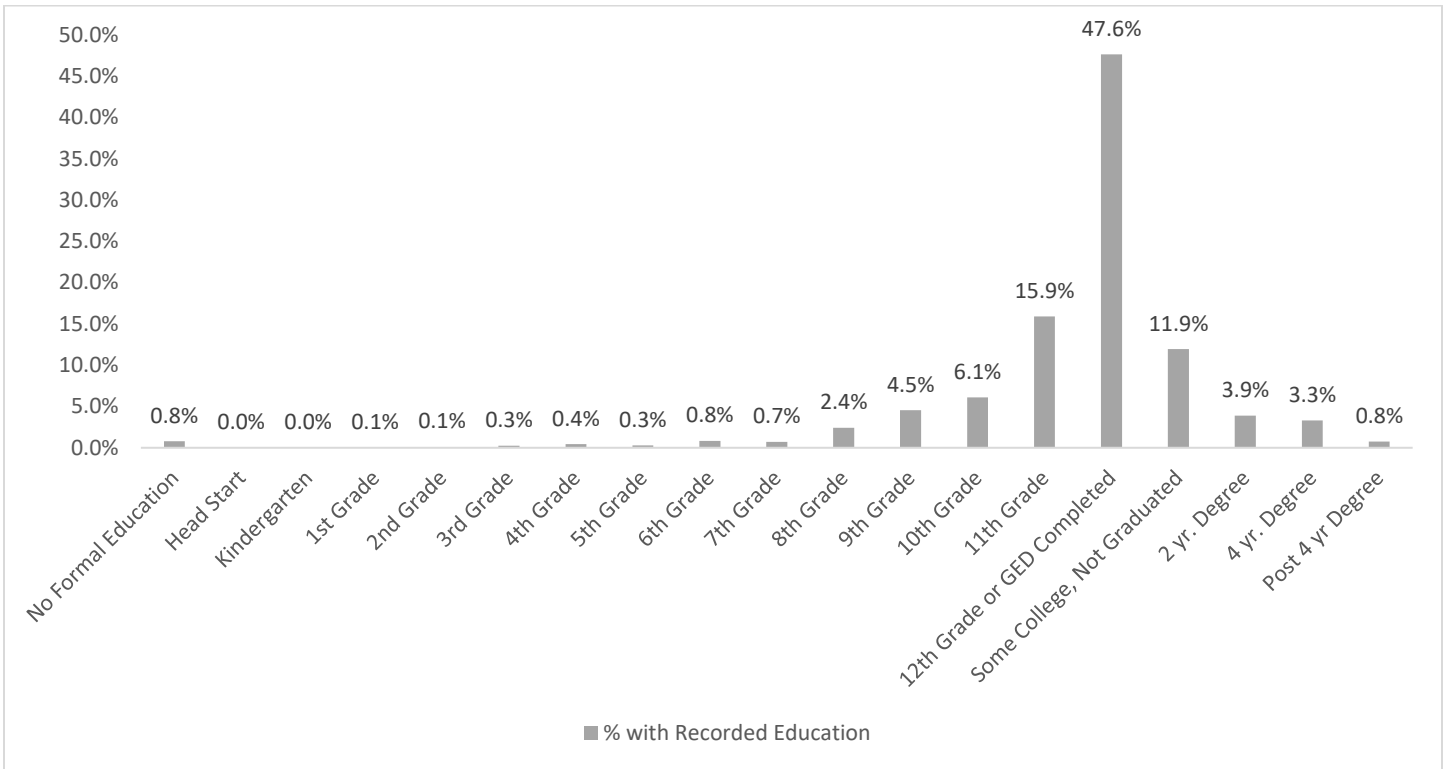
SNAP PARTICIPANTS BY AGE



Thirty-three percent of our 154,197 SNAP participants in March 2019 were under the age of 18. Most recipients, 34,255, were between the ages of 6 and 17, followed by 20,688 individuals between the ages of 18 to 29 and then 17,646 individuals between the ages of 50 to 59.

Point in time data from March 2019

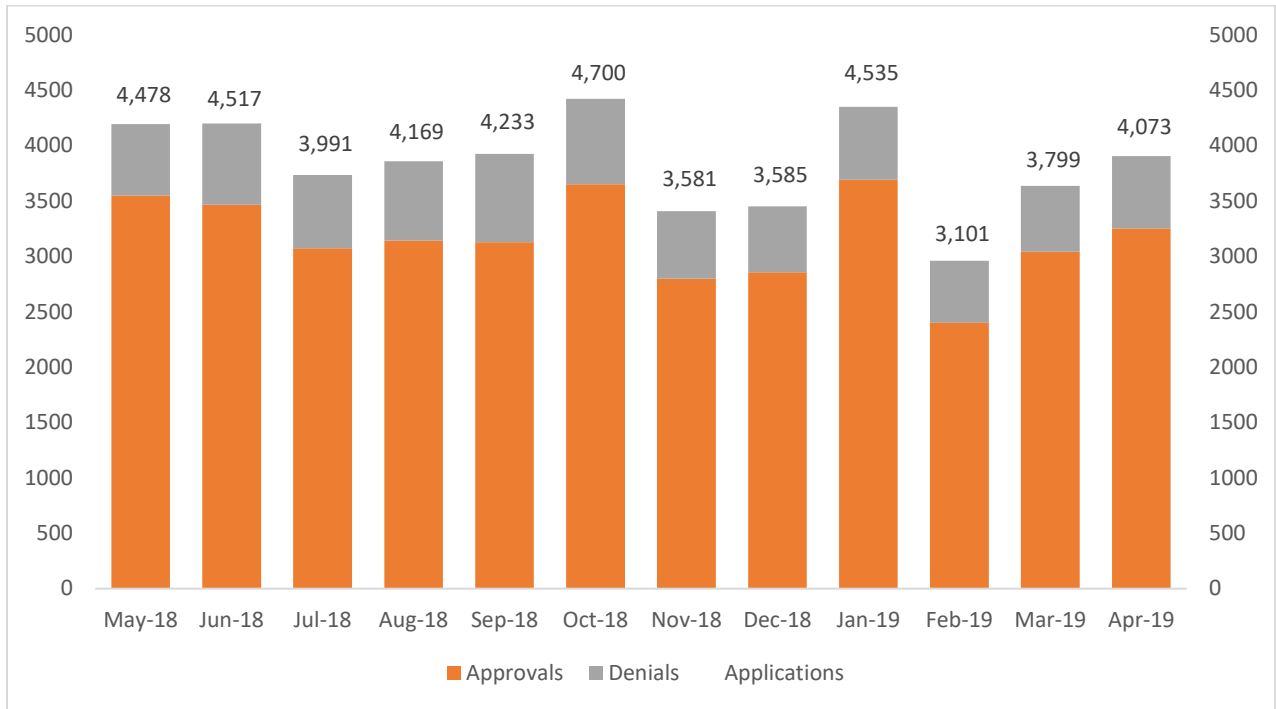
SELF-REPORTED EDUCATION ATTAINMENT OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD



As the report of education attainment level for SNAP participants is voluntary and not required for a determination of eligibility, 67 percent of our SNAP caseload does not have data on the education of the head of household.

Of those cases with a head of household education attainment level (represented in the above graph), 47.6% have reported a high school diploma or GED, followed by 15.9% with an 11th grade education and 11.9% with some college completed but not a diploma.

ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION OUTCOMES

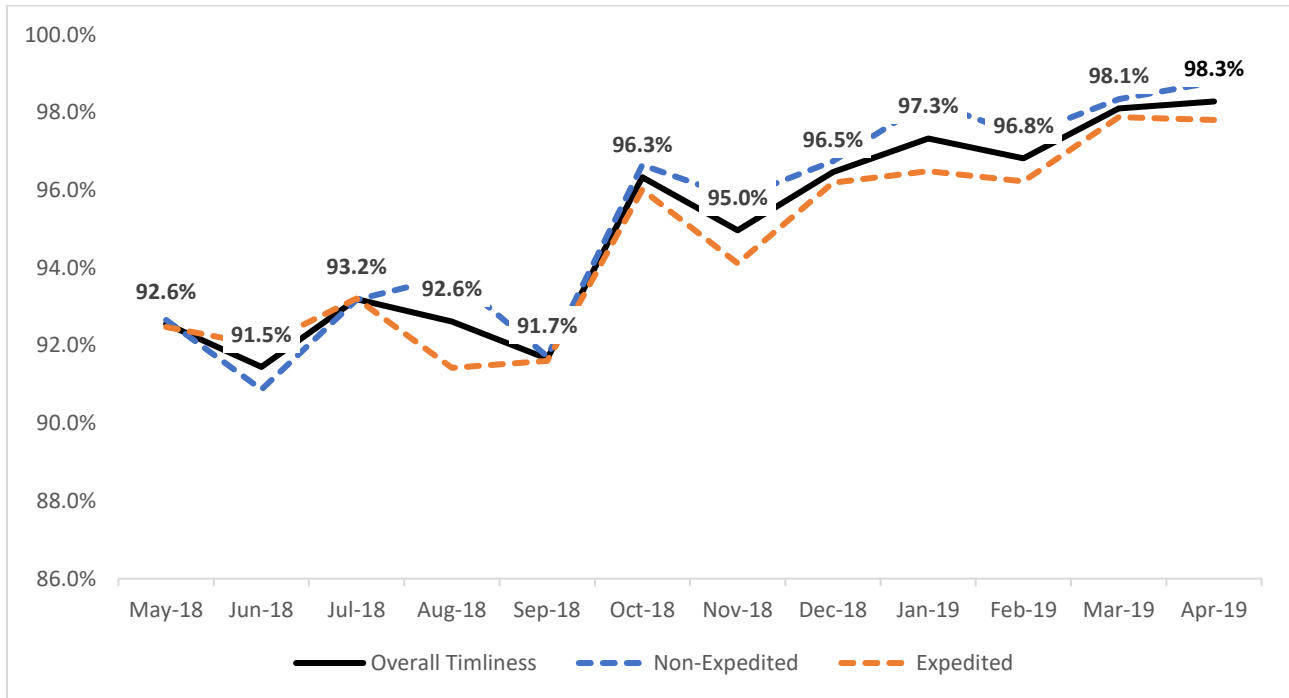


This chart represents the number of applications approved and denied for the months identified. It does not reflect the number of applications received in that month. Withdrawn applications where eligibility wasn't run are not included.

Reasons for denials include not completing the application process, such as missing an interview or not providing verification documents, as well being above the eligible gross and net incomes. To a lesser extent, denials are also given for not meeting residency requirements and an applicant's immigration status.

Data from April 2018-March 2019

APPLICATION TIMELINESS



As reported monthly in Gemmel v. Hawkins

Data from April 2018-March 2019