



Minnesota Department of **Human Services** 

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## **December 2009 General Assistance Caseload: Active Cases and Eligible Persons**

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Program Assessment and Integrity Division  
Minnesota Department of Human Services**

## Table of Contents

<b>General Assistance in December 2009 -----</b>	<b>1</b>
Figure 1. Active December GA Cases and Calendar Year Unique GA Cases, 2002 to 2009 .....	3
<b>Tables-----</b>	<b>4</b>
Table 1. Demographic Characteristics of GA-eligible Persons, December 2009 .....	4
Table 2. GA-eligible Persons with Homelessness, Current Interim Assistance Agreements, State Medical Review Team Medical Assistance, GA Eligibility Reason, and Facility Type, December 2009 .....	6
Table 2A. GA Eligibility Basis by Length of Current Eligibility Spell and Cumulative GA Eligibility Months between 2001 and 2009, December 2009 .....	7
Table 3. Household Composition of GA Cases, December 2009 .....	8
Table 4. Economic Characteristics of GA Cases, December 2009 .....	9
<b>Notes and Definitions -----</b>	<b>15</b>

Report completed by:  
Dana DeMaster, MPP  
Program Assessment and Integrity Division  
Minnesota Department of Human Services  
[Dana.demaster@state.mn.us](mailto:Dana.demaster@state.mn.us)  
651-431-3963

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## General Assistance in December 2009

The General Assistance (GA) program provides monthly cash grants to childless adults and some children that are not living with their parents whose income and assets are less than the program limits and who meet one of fifteen eligibility criteria. This report provides a snapshot of the household, demographic, and economic characteristics of GA households and eligible persons in December 2009. 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 cases<sup>1</sup> 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 2009 there were 20,060 eligible persons receiving GA in 19,954 cases. Since 2002, the GA caseload has increased by between 7 and 10 percent each year. As seen in Figure 1, the GA caseload increased by 7 percent in the last year and by 47 percent since December 2002. Figure 1 also shows the unique count of cases throughout each calendar year. While in December 2009 there were 19,954 active GA cases, 34,127 unique cases were active at least one month during the calendar year.

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. Nearly two-thirds of all GA-eligible persons were male, but adults in Residential Facility cases were the most likely to be male (76 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 persons were white, but blacks and American Indians were over-represented compared to their proportion of the total Minnesota population. According to the 2006 American Community Survey (ACS), blacks made up 4 percent and American Indians made up 1 percent of Minnesota's population. Thirty-two percent of GA-eligible persons reported a race of black and 7 percent reported that they identified as American Indian. (Table 1)

Unlike adults receiving GA, 69 percent of GA-eligible children were black, 34 percent were not U.S. citizens, and 46 percent were female. (Table 1)

The most common GA eligibility reason for persons in Community cases was being ill or incapacitated (64 percent) and for Residential Facility cases it was being the resident of a facility (74 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 (53 percent) or living with an unrelated adult who was not the child's legal guardian (38 percent). (Table 2)

Twenty-eight percent of GA-eligible persons had a current Interim Assistance Agreement (IAA)<sup>2</sup>; 33 percent of adults in Community cases had an IAA agreement, which was more

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

<sup>2</sup> 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.

than either of the other two case types.<sup>3</sup> Four percent received Medical Assistance (MA) due to a determination by a State Medical Review Team (SMRT) which identifies persons likely to qualify for Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Reported homelessness (12 percent) increased by two percentage points for the second year in a row. This measure is believed to undercount actual homelessness. (Table 2)

Nearly all cases had only one eligible person; 106 cases had two eligible persons, all spouses. Sixteen percent of GA cases included at least one ineligible household member, most often an adult relative that was not a child or spouse, or an unrelated adult (8 percent each). (Table 3)

Overall, 75 percent of December 2009 GA cases were also Food Support eligible in December 2009. Community cases were mostly likely to be Food Support eligible (91 percent). More than three-quarters of cases had at least one member that was eligible for General Assistance Medical Care (GAMC) and 17 percent had at least one member that was eligible for MA, including Refugee Medical Assistance and Non-citizen Medical Assistance in December 2009. (Table 4)

The average length of the current spell of GA usage was 16 months and cumulatively over the past nine years the average total time on GA was 23 months; each of these measures increased by 3 months since December 2008. Forty percent of cases had used less than 6 months of GA in the most current spell and 43 percent had used less than 12 months over the last nine years. (Table 4)

Most cases had not used other forms of cash assistance in the previous year or the previous nine years. Group Residential Housing (GRH) was the most commonly used program with 36 percent of all cases and 76 percent of Residential Facility cases using GRH in the past nine years. Twenty-nine percent of all cases had used Emergency Assistance (EA) or Emergency General Assistance (EGA) at some point in the last nine years. (Table 4)

Very few cases had earned income reported in the Department of Human Services' administrative database. Three percent of cases reported earned income for December 2009. The average amount of income for all cases with reported work was \$308. The average amount of reported income decreased in each of the last two years from \$417 in December 2008 and from \$540 in December 2007. Nine percent of all cases had wages reported to Minnesota's Unemployment Insurance (UI) system for the fourth quarter 2009, which included December. Quarterly wages for cases with reported wages averaged \$1,297. (Table 4)

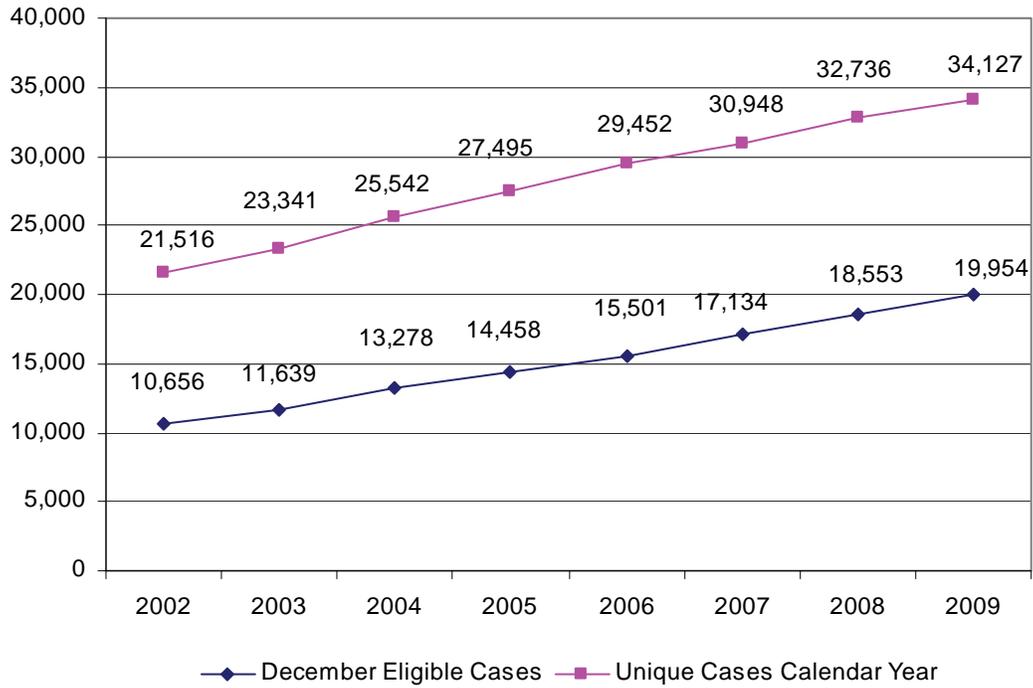
Thirty percent of December 2009 GA cases had never received public cash assistance in Minnesota prior to 2009. Most of these new cases (87 percent) were Minnesota residents prior to 2009. (Table 4)

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<sup>3</sup> The definition of a current IAA changed since the December 2007 report. Previous reports limited the definition a current IAA to cases in which the IAA was signed within the last twelve months, which is the common practice. 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.

GA recipients are more likely to live in the Twin Cities Metropolitan area than in Greater Minnesota. Nearly 60 percent of recipients lived in either Hennepin or Ramsey Counties. (Table 5).

**Figure 1. Active December GA Cases and Calendar Year Unique GA Cases, 2002 to 2009**



## Tables

**Table 1. Demographic Characteristics of GA-eligible Persons, December 2009**

General Assistance Recipient Characteristics		Total Eligible Persons	Adult GA		Children on GA
			Community	Residential Facility	
Eligible Persons	Count	20,060	14,826	5,113	121
	Percent of All Eligible Persons	100.0%	73.9%	25.5%	0.6%
Age	Mean	42.5	43.8	39.5	14.3
	Median	45	46	41	16
	Minimum	0	18	18	0
	Maximum	97	97	94	17
Frequency	< 18	121	0	0	121
		0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	18 - 19	687	518	169	0
		3.4%	3.5%	3.3%	0.0%
	20 - 29	3,495	2,311	1,184	0
		17.4%	15.6%	23.2%	0.0%
	30 - 39	3,214	2,164	1,050	0
		16.0%	14.6%	20.5%	0.0%
	40 - 49	5,586	4,075	1,511	0
		27.8%	27.5%	29.6%	0.0%
	50 - 61	6,348	5,212	1,136	0
		31.6%	35.2%	22.2%	0.0%
62 - 64	378	342	36	0	
	1.9%	2.3%	0.7%	0.0%	
65 and older	231	204	27	0	
	1.2%	1.4%	0.5%	0.0%	
Gender	Female	7,308	6,043	1,209	56
		36.4%	40.8%	23.6%	46.3%
	Male	12,752	8,783	3,904	65
		63.6%	59.2%	76.4%	53.7%
Education	None or Pre-1st Grade or Unknown	1,301	1,068	213	20
		6.5%	7.2%	4.2%	16.5%
	Grade School	359	261	66	32
		1.8%	1.8%	1.3%	26.4%
	Some High School	4,692	3,452	1,171	69
		23.4%	23.3%	22.9%	57.0%
	High School Graduate	11,119	8,123	2,996	0
		55.4%	54.8%	58.6%	0.0%
	Some Post-Secondary	1,893	1,400	493	0
		9.4%	9.4%	9.6%	0.0%
College Graduate	323	237	86	0	
	1.6%	1.6%	1.7%	0.0%	
Graduate Degree	373	285	88	0	
	1.9%	1.9%	1.7%	0.0%	
High School Graduate or Higher	13,708	10,045	3,663	0	
	68.3%	67.8%	71.6%	0.0%	

Table 1 – page 2

General Assistance Recipient Characteristics		Total Eligible Persons	Adult GA		Children on GA
			Community	Residential Facility	
Marital Status	Married	464	451	13	0
		2.3%	3.0%	0.3%	0.0%
	Never Married	12,357	8,595	3,641	121
		61.6%	58.0%	71.2%	100.0%
	Previously Married	6,753	5,343	1,410	0
		33.7%	36.0%	27.6%	0.0%
Widowed	486	437	49	0	
	2.4%	2.9%	1.0%	0.0%	
Race/Ethnicity	Asian	577	514	52	11
		2.9%	3.5%	1.0%	9.1%
	Black	6,326	4,856	1,387	83
		31.5%	32.8%	27.1%	68.6%
	Hispanic	549	408	131	10
		2.7%	2.8%	2.6%	8.3%
	American Indian	1,416	1,045	369	2
		7.1%	7.0%	7.2%	1.7%
White	10,904	7,836	3,058	10	
	54.4%	52.9%	59.8%	8.3%	
Multiple	148	107	38	3	
	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	2.5%	
Citizenship	Non-U.S.	1,788	1,601	146	41
		8.9%	10.8%	2.9%	33.9%
	U.S.	18,272	13,225	4,967	80
		91.1%	89.2%	97.1%	66.1%

**Table 2. GA-eligible Persons with Homelessness, Current Interim Assistance Agreements, State Medical Review Team Medical Assistance, GA Eligibility Reason, and Facility Type, December 2009**

General Assistance Recipient Characteristics		Total Eligible Persons	Adult GA		Children on GA
			Community	Residential Facility	
Eligible Persons	Count	20,060	14,826	5,113	121
	Percent of All Eligible Persons	100.0%	73.9%	25.5%	0.6%
Homeless		2,363	1,937	425	1
		11.8%	13.1%	8.3%	0.8%
Interim Assistance Agreement Pending		5,645	4,877	766	2
		28.1%	32.9%	15.0%	1.7%
SMRT Medical Assistance		835	519	315	1
		4.2%	3.5%	6.2%	0.8%
GA Eligibility Basis	Ill/Incapacitated or Care for Ill	10,483	9,553	929	1
		52.3%	64.4%	18.2%	0.8%
	Resident of a Facility	4,477	703	3,771	3
		22.3%	4.7%	73.8%	2.5%
	SSI or RSDI Pending/Appeal	264	253	11	0
		1.3%	1.7%	0.2%	0.0%
	ESL/Homemaker in Full-time School	668	666	2	0
		3.3%	4.5%	0.0%	0.0%
	Advanced Age	3,388	3,153	235	0
		16.9%	21.3%	4.6%	0.0%
	Unemployable	121	108	13	0
		0.6%	0.7%	0.3%	0.0%
	Age 16 or 17/Social Services	66	2	0	64
		0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	52.9%
Minor Living with Unrelated Adult	49	3	0	46	
	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	38.0%	
Other	544	385	152	7	
	2.7%	2.6%	3.0%	5.8%	
Facility Type	Group Residential Housing	3,188	0	3,188	0
		15.9%	0.0%	62.4%	0.0%
	Rule 31 Chemical Dependency	779	0	779	0
		3.9%	0.0%	15.2%	0.0%
	State Operated Services Facility	398	0	397	1
		2.0%	0.0%	7.8%	0.8%
	Adult Foster Care	289	0	289	0
		1.4%	0.0%	5.7%	0.0%
	Rule 36 Mental Illness	114	0	114	0
		0.6%	0.0%	2.2%	0.0%
Family Violence Shelter	104	0	104	0	
	0.5%	0.0%	2.0%	0.0%	
Other	245	0	242	3	
	1.2%	0.0%	4.7%	2.5%	

**Table 2A. GA Eligibility Basis by Length of Current Eligibility Spell and Cumulative GA Eligibility Months between 2001 and 2009, December 2009**

	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
<b>Total GA Eligible Persons</b>	10,483	100.0%	4,477	100.0%	3,388	100.0%	668	100.0%	264	100.0%
<b>Length of Current Spell</b>										
1 - 6 Months	4,129	39.4%	2,271	50.7%	919	27.1%	187	28.0%	97	36.7%
7 - 12 Months	2,227	21.2%	861	19.2%	704	20.8%	203	30.4%	56	21.2%
13 - 18 Months	1,350	12.9%	445	9.9%	426	12.6%	93	13.9%	37	14.0%
19 - 24 Months	887	8.5%	280	6.3%	316	9.3%	85	12.7%	16	6.1%
25 Months or More	1,890	18.0%	620	13.8%	1,023	30.2%	100	15.0%	58	22.0%
<b>Cumulative Months: 2001 to 2009</b>										
1 - 12 Months	4,363	41.6%	2,241	50.1%	1,220	36.0%	328	49.1%	117	44.3%
13 - 24 Months	2,529	24.1%	873	19.5%	769	22.7%	193	28.9%	61	23.1%
25 - 36 Months	1,565	14.9%	536	12.0%	488	14.4%	106	15.9%	35	13.3%
37 - 48 Months	901	8.6%	299	6.7%	301	8.9%	31	4.6%	15	5.7%
49 Months or More	1,125	10.7%	528	11.8%	610	18.0%	10	1.5%	36	13.6%

**Table 3. Household Composition of GA Cases, December 2009**

General Assistance Case Characteristics		Total Paid Cases	Adult GA		Children on GA
			Community	Residential Facility	
<b>Cases</b>	<b>Count</b>	19,954	14,721	5,112	121
	<b>Percent of All Cases</b>	100.0%	73.8%	25.6%	0.6%
<b>Eligible Persons</b>	<b>1</b>	19,848	14,616	5,111	121
		99.5%	99.3%	100.0%	100.0%
	<b>2</b>	106	105	1	0
		0.5%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Ineligible Persons</b>	<b>Mean of Cases with Ineligible Persons</b>	1.7	1.7	1.6	2.6
	<b>Median</b>	1	1	1	2
	<b>Minimum</b>	1	1	1	1
	<b>Maximum</b>	10	10	7	10
	<b>0</b>	16,743	11,772	4,903	68
<b>Percent of All Cases</b>	<b>0</b>	83.9%	80.0%	95.9%	56.2%
	<b>1</b>	2,073	1,918	131	24
		10.4%	13.0%	2.6%	19.8%
	<b>2</b>	620	558	51	11
		3.1%	3.8%	1.0%	9.1%
	<b>3</b>	252	232	13	7
		1.3%	1.6%	0.3%	5.8%
<b>4 or More</b>	266	241	14	11	
	1.3%	1.6%	0.3%	9.1%	
<b>Relationship to Applicant (includes ineligible members)</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	19,954	14,721	5,112	121
		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	<b>Spouse</b>	376	350	26	0
		1.9%	2.4%	0.5%	0.0%
	<b>Child - Under Age 18</b>	145	83	62	0
		0.7%	0.6%	1.2%	0.0%
	<b>Child - Adult</b>	723	705	18	0
		3.6%	4.8%	0.4%	0.0%
	<b>Other Relative - Under Age 18</b>	673	599	28	46
		3.4%	4.1%	0.5%	38.0%
	<b>Other Relative - Adult</b>	1,497	1,350	121	26
		7.5%	9.2%	2.4%	21.5%
	<b>Non-Relative - Under Age 18</b>	235	221	3	11
	1.2%	1.5%	0.1%	9.1%	
<b>Non - Relative - Adult</b>	1,586	1,478	53	55	
	7.9%	10.0%	1.0%	45.5%	
<b>Care Attendent</b>	0	0	0	0	
	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	

**Table 4. Economic Characteristics of GA Cases, December 2009**

General Assistance Case Characteristics		Total Paid Cases	Adult GA		Children on GA
			Community	Residential Facility	
Cases	Count	19,954	14,721	5,112	121
	Percent of All Cases	100.0%	73.8%	25.6%	0.6%
GA Grant Amount	Mean of All Cases	\$166	\$186	\$108	\$232
	Median	\$203	\$203	\$101	\$250
	Personal Needs Allowance Only	4,857	695	4,158	4
	Percent of Cases in Column Receiving	24.3%	4.7%	81.3%	3.3%
Food Support	Mean of Cases Receiving	\$188	\$189	\$186	\$167
	Count of Cases Receiving	14,901	13,450	1,394	57
	Percent of Cases in Column Receiving	74.7%	91.4%	27.3%	47.1%
Medical Assistance Programs: Cases with at Least One Eligible Person	General Assistance Medical Care	15,395	11,406	3,989	0
	Percent of Cases in Column Receiving	77.2%	77.5%	78.0%	0.0%
	Medical Assistance	3,463	2,477	870	116
		17.4%	16.8%	17.0%	95.9%
GA Usage in Minnesota: Length of Current Spell	Mean	15.7	15.6	14.0	9.8
	Median	9	10	7	5
1 - 6 Months		7,908	5,520	2,321	67
		39.6%	37.5%	45.4%	55.4%
	7 - 12 Months	4,197	3,141	1,035	21
		21.0%	21.3%	20.2%	17.4%
	13 - 18 Months	2,424	1,861	546	17
		12.1%	12.6%	10.7%	14.0%
	19 to 24 Months	1,630	1,251	371	8
	8.2%	8.5%	7.3%	6.6%	
25 Months or More	3,795	2,948	839	8	
	19.0%	20.0%	16.4%	6.6%	
GA Usage in Minnesota: Cumulative Months 2001 to 2009	Mean	22.5	22.3	23.1	10.8
	Median	15	16	15	6
1 - 12 Months		8,614	6,195	2,334	143
		43.2%	42.1%	45.7%	118.2%
13 to 24 Months		4,576	3,537	1,016	25
		22.9%	24.0%	19.9%	20.7%
25 to 36 Months		2,815	2,142	665	8
		14.1%	14.6%	13.0%	6.6%
37 to 48 Months		1,587	1,192	392	2
		8.0%	8.1%	7.7%	1.7%
49 Months or More		2,362	1,655	705	1
		11.8%	11.2%	13.8%	0.8%
Other Public Assistance: in Minnesota: During 2009	Emergency Assistance/Emergency General Assistance	1,017	764	252	1
		5.1%	5.2%	4.9%	0.8%
	Group Residential Housing	5,242	1,568	3,674	0
		26.3%	10.7%	71.9%	0.0%
	Minnesota Family Investment Program	401	293	107	1
		2.0%	2.0%	2.1%	0.8%
	Minnesota Supplemental Aid	262	236	26	0
	1.3%	1.6%	0.5%	0.0%	
Refugee Cash Assistance	52	52	0	0	
	0.3%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	

Table 4 – page 2

General Assistance Case Characteristics		Total Paid Cases	Adult GA		Children on GA
			Community	Residential Facility	
Other Public Assistance in Minnesota: 2001 to 2009	Emergency Assistance/Emergency General Assistance	5,801	4,363	1,436	2
	Group Residential Housing	7,252	3,346	3,906	0
		36.3%	22.7%	76.4%	0.0%
	Minnesota Family Investment Program	2,596	2,101	494	1
		13.0%	14.3%	9.7%	0.8%
	Minnesota Supplemental Aid	577	457	120	0
		2.9%	3.1%	2.3%	0.0%
	Refugee Cash Assistance	384	375	9	0
	1.9%	2.5%	0.2%	0.0%	
Earned Income December 2009	Mean for Cases with Earned Income	\$308	\$372	\$223	
	Median	\$125	\$165	\$103	
	Count of Cases with Earned Income	568	323	245	0
	Percent of All Cases	2.8%	2.2%	4.8%	0.0%
UI Wages for Quarter 4 2009	Mean for Cases with UI Wages	\$1,297	\$1,364	\$1,136	\$346
	Median	\$698	\$779	\$587	\$359
	Count of Cases with UI Wages	1,838	1,323	507	8
	Percent of All Cases	9.2%	9.0%	9.9%	6.6%
New Cases in 2009	Minnesota Resident before 2009	5,124	3,643	1,412	69
	Percent of New Cases	86.9%	86.7%	87.4%	86.3%
	Moved into State in 2009	772	557	204	11
	Percent of New Cases	13.1%	13.3%	12.6%	13.8%
	Total of New Cases	5,896	4,200	1,616	80
	Percent of Cases in Column	29.5%	28.5%	31.6%	66.1%

**Table 5. County and Region of GA, December 2009**

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	53	48	5	0
	0.3%	90.6%	9.4%	0.0%
Anoka	654	524	125	5
	3.3%	80.1%	19.1%	0.8%
Becker	178	160	18	0
	0.9%	89.9%	10.1%	0.0%
Beltrami	161	114	46	1
	0.8%	70.8%	28.6%	0.6%
Benton	132	88	44	0
	0.7%	66.7%	33.3%	0.0%
Big Stone	6	5	1	0
	0.0%	83.3%	16.7%	0.0%
Blue Earth	179	140	39	0
	0.9%	78.2%	21.8%	0.0%
Brown	38	28	10	0
	0.2%	73.7%	26.3%	0.0%
Carlton	119	91	28	0
	0.6%	76.5%	23.5%	0.0%
Carver	83	70	13	0
	0.4%	84.3%	15.7%	0.0%
Cass	108	89	19	0
	0.5%	82.4%	17.6%	0.0%
Chippewa	19	14	5	0
	0.1%	73.7%	26.3%	0.0%
Chisago	69	58	11	0
	0.3%	84.1%	15.9%	0.0%
Clay	180	131	49	0
	0.9%	72.8%	27.2%	0.0%
Clearwater	31	22	8	1
	0.2%	71.0%	25.8%	3.2%
Cook	10	8	2	0
	0.1%	80.0%	20.0%	0.0%
Cottonwood	24	17	7	0
	0.1%	70.8%	29.2%	0.0%
Crow Wing	173	92	80	1
	0.9%	53.2%	46.2%	0.6%
Dakota	588	462	126	0
	2.9%	78.6%	21.4%	0.0%
Dodge	24	19	5	0
	0.1%	79.2%	20.8%	0.0%
Douglas	86	67	19	0
	0.4%	77.9%	22.1%	0.0%
Faribault	31	19	12	0
	0.2%	61.3%	38.7%	0.0%
Fillmore	25	21	4	0
	0.1%	84.0%	16.0%	0.0%
Freeborn	61	52	9	0
	0.3%	85.2%	14.8%	0.0%
Goodhue	64	53	11	0
	0.3%	82.8%	17.2%	0.0%
Grant	16	16	0	0
	0.1%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Hennepin	8,974	6,196	2,717	61
	45.0%	69.0%	30.3%	0.7%

Table 5 – 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	36	27	9	0
	0.2%	75.0%	25.0%	0.0%
Hubbard	40	35	5	0
	0.2%	87.5%	12.5%	0.0%
Isanti	86	49	37	0
	0.4%	57.0%	43.0%	0.0%
Itasca	205	163	42	0
	1.0%	79.5%	20.5%	0.0%
Jackson	17	14	3	0
	0.1%	82.4%	17.6%	0.0%
Kanabec	60	43	17	0
	0.3%	71.7%	28.3%	0.0%
Kandiyohi	120	89	31	0
	0.6%	74.2%	25.8%	0.0%
Kittson	3	0	3	0
	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
Koochiching	35	33	2	0
	0.2%	94.3%	5.7%	0.0%
Lac Qui Parle	8	4	4	0
	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%
Lake	23	15	8	0
	0.1%	65.2%	34.8%	0.0%
Lake of Woods	11	10	1	0
	0.1%	90.9%	9.1%	0.0%
Le Sueur	44	38	6	0
	0.2%	86.4%	13.6%	0.0%
Lincoln	3	1	2	0
	0.0%	33.3%	66.7%	0.0%
Lyon	58	49	7	2
	0.3%	84.5%	12.1%	3.4%
McLeod	50	33	17	0
	0.3%	66.0%	34.0%	0.0%
Mahnomen	64	52	12	0
	0.3%	81.3%	18.8%	0.0%
Marshall	12	7	5	0
	0.1%	58.3%	41.7%	0.0%
Martin	54	45	9	0
	0.3%	83.3%	16.7%	0.0%
Meeker	50	40	10	0
	0.3%	78.1%	21.9%	0.0%
Mille Lacs	64	50	14	0
	0.3%	78.1%	21.9%	0.0%
Morrison	65	48	17	0
	0.3%	73.8%	26.2%	0.0%
Mower	91	71	19	1
	0.5%	78.0%	20.9%	1.1%
Murray	12	10	2	0
	0.1%	83.3%	16.7%	0.0%
Nicollet	50	39	11	0
	0.3%	78.0%	22.0%	0.0%
Nobles	48	38	10	0
	0.2%	79.2%	20.8%	0.0%
Norman	6	5	1	0
	0.0%	83.3%	16.7%	0.0%

Table 5 – 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	419	261	158	0
	2.1%	62.3%	37.7%	0.0%
Otter Tail	130	93	36	1
	0.7%	71.5%	27.7%	0.8%
Pennington	20	19	1	0
	0.1%	95.0%	5.0%	0.0%
Pine	80	69	11	0
	0.4%	86.3%	13.8%	0.0%
Pipestone	22	18	4	0
	0.1%	81.8%	18.2%	0.0%
Polk	153	126	27	0
	0.8%	82.4%	17.6%	0.0%
Pope	18	14	4	0
	0.1%	77.8%	22.2%	0.0%
Ramsey	2,839	2,384	415	40
	14.2%	84.0%	14.6%	1.4%
Red Lake	14	14	0	0
	0.1%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Redwood	28	14	14	0
	0.1%	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%
Renville	27	20	7	0
	0.1%	74.1%	25.9%	0.0%
Rice	129	109	20	0
	0.6%	84.5%	15.5%	0.0%
Rock	17	13	4	0
	0.1%	76.5%	23.5%	0.0%
Roseau	17	15	2	0
	0.1%	88.2%	11.8%	0.0%
St. Louis	1,263	948	314	1
	6.3%	75.1%	24.9%	0.1%
Scott	91	79	12	0
	0.5%	86.8%	13.2%	0.0%
Sherburne	88	64	23	1
	0.4%	72.7%	26.1%	1.1%
Sibley	19	14	5	0
	0.1%	73.7%	26.3%	0.0%
Stearns	402	272	128	2
	2.0%	67.7%	31.8%	0.5%
Steele	117	93	23	1
	0.6%	79.5%	19.7%	0.9%
Stevens	6	3	3	0
	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%
Swift	15	10	5	0
	0.1%	66.7%	33.3%	0.0%
Todd	63	45	18	0
	0.3%	71.4%	28.6%	0.0%
Traverse	10	7	3	0
	0.1%	70.0%	30.0%	0.0%
Wabasha	32	23	9	0
	0.2%	71.9%	28.1%	0.0%
Wadena	83	48	35	0
	0.4%	57.8%	42.2%	0.0%

Table 5 – page 4

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	33	25	8	0
	0.2%	75.8%	24.2%	0.0%
Washington	204	153	49	2
	1.0%	75.0%	24.0%	1.0%
Watonwan	6	5	1	0
	0.0%	83.3%	16.7%	0.0%
Wilkin	13	10	3	0
	0.1%	76.9%	23.1%	0.0%
Winona	69	50	18	1
	0.35%	72.5%	26.1%	1.4%
Wright	106	77	29	0
	0.5%	72.6%	27.4%	0.0%
Yellow Medicine	20	14	6	0
	0.1%	70.0%	31.6%	0.0%
Northwest	225	186	39	0
	1.1%	82.7%	17.3%	0.0%
West Central	1,436	1,056	376	4
	7.2%	73.5%	26.2%	0.3%
Northeast	1,708	1,306	401	1
	8.6%	76.5%	23.5%	0.1%
Central	1,071	753	316	2
	5.4%	70.3%	29.5%	0.2%
Southwest	297	221	74	2
	1.5%	74.4%	24.9%	0.7%
South Central	454	353	101	0
	2.3%	77.8%	22.2%	0.0%
Southeast	1,067	779	285	3
	5.3%	73.0%	26.7%	0.3%
Metro Suburban	1,883	1,487	388	8
	9.4%	79.0%	20.6%	0.4%
Core Metro	11,813	8,580	3,132	101
	59.2%	72.6%	26.5%	0.9%
Minnesota	19,954	14,721	5,112	121
	100.0%	73.8%	25.6%	0.6%

## Notes and Definitions

**Case Types.** Children on GA cases were determined by being less than 18 years of age in December 2009. Residential Facility cases were cases with an active facility panel in the DHS administrative database (MAXIS) for December 2009 and a facility entry date on or before December 31, 2009, and a facility exit date that was either blank, during December 2009 and greater than the entry date, or greater than December 31, 2009. 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.

Race was unknown or missing for 140 people. These people were not included in the race/ethnicity section of Table 1.

**Recipient Characteristics.** The measurement for homelessness is unreliable. Persons 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 if a person gained housing they still may be marked as homeless or if they had housing and became homeless, they may still be marked as being housed. This variable does not consider persons 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 follows 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, had a disability start date that was before December 31, 2009, either no disability end date or an end date after December 31, 2009, and a health care disability status that indicated an 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 persons, 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 2010 for December 2009 or, in the absence of retrospective income, prospective earnings for December 2009.

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 2009 were December 2009 cases active in a GA case in Minnesota for one or more months in 2009 but receiving no cash in 1992 to 2008 (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 2009 state entry date. Minnesota residents were either lifelong residents or had moved to the state before 2009.

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