



UNIVERSITY *of* MARYLAND
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

APRIL 2015

MARYLAND'S CHILD SUPPORT CASELOAD: TRENDS AMONG CASES, 2010 TO 2014

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank Jamie Haskel and Michael Funk for their assistance in the collection and processing of data for this report.

This report was prepared by the Family Welfare Research and Training Group, University of Maryland, School of Social Work - Baltimore, 525 West Redwood Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201, with support from its long time research partner, the Maryland Department of Human Resources.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Methods	2
Sample	2
Data Sources.....	2
Analysis.....	2
Findings	3
Statewide Caseload Distribution.....	3
Type of Support Orders	5
Current Support Cases.....	7
Arrears Cases	11
Conclusions	15
References	16
Appendix A: Jurisdictional Tables.....	17
Maryland	18
Baltimore City.....	19
Prince George’s County	20
Baltimore County.....	21
Montgomery County	22
Anne Arundel County	23
Remainder of the State.....	24

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. Jurisdictional Distribution of Child Support Cases: 2014.....	3
Figure 2. Change in the Jurisdictional Caseload: 2010 to 2014.....	4
Figure 3. Type of Support Orders by Year.....	5
Figure 4. No Support Orders by Jurisdiction.....	6
Figure 5. Average Current Support	7
Figure 6. Percent with Current Support Due and Average Amount Due	8
Figure 7. Percent of Current Support Paid	9
Figure 8. Percent of Cases Receiving Most or All of Current Support	10
Figure 9. Average Arrears Order	11
Figure 10. Percent with an Arrears Balance and Average Amount.....	12
Figure 11. Average Percent of Arrears	13
Figure 12. Percent of Arrears Balance Paid	13
Figure 13. Percent of Arrears-Balance Cases with No Payments.....	14

INTRODUCTION

The public child support program is a valuable resource for families, ensuring that both parents contribute to the financial needs of their children. According to the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE), more than \$28 billion was distributed to 9.3 million families in federal fiscal year 2013 (OCSE, 2014). The Maryland Child Support Enforcement Administration (CSEA) has been quite successful at collecting and distributing child support payments. In federal fiscal year 2013, CSEA collected 67% of all current support that was due to families (OCSE, 2014). The collections distributed to custodial families help pay for childcare, groceries, clothing, and other living expenses that support the children in the household.

Even though Maryland's collection rates have increased slowly in recent years, fewer families may benefit from these collections. Between 2010 and 2013, the Maryland child support caseload decreased by 12%, from nearly 250,000 cases to fewer than 220,000 cases (OCSE, 2014). During the same time period, the national caseload only had a 2% drop.

This recent 12% decrease may be the direct result of an effective, targeted effort by CSEA to close cases that met federal case closure requirements. Ultimately, the improved case closure processing allows caseworkers to manage cases that are relevant to the current child support caseload, ensuring that proper establishment and enforcement methods are utilized.

Even without the targeted case closure in recent years, Maryland's caseload has been decreasing for more than a decade. The reasons for this consistent caseload reduction may be two-fold. First, only families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) are required to participate in the child support program.¹ Most states experienced a large decline in the TANF population beginning with the 1996 welfare reform, thereby reducing the number of families that were required to participate in the public child support program. For example, the number of Maryland child support cases in which the custodial family was receiving or previously received TANF declined by 30% since 2000 (OCSE, 2000; 2014).

Between 2010 and 2013, the Maryland child support caseload declined by 12%.



Source: OCSE, 2014

¹ All families can voluntarily participate in the public IV-D child support program. However, recipients of TANF *must* participate as a means of cost-recovery. That is, any child support payments received while the family is receiving TANF benefits are recouped to reimburse the federal and state governments for the provision of TANF benefits. Some TANF families may receive a waiver for participation in the IV-D program under certain circumstances.

Second, unmarried parents,² especially those living together at the time of their child's birth, are less likely to open a child support case than they were 10 years ago (Hall & Passarella, 2014). Instead, these families may be more likely to continue to live together, to get married, or to decide to implement an informal child support agreement.

Regardless of the reasons, this caseload decline allows CSEA to focus on the cases that have requested their services. Using a randomly selected sample of child support cases between 2010 and 2014, this brief will discuss any new trends from the recent caseload decline. Specifically, we examine five years of sampled child support cases throughout the state of Maryland and answer the following questions:

1. How are child support cases distributed across the state, and has this changed over time?
2. What percent of cases have an established support order, and has this changed over time?
3. How much support is owed on these cases, and how much was paid? Has this changed over time?

² The unmarried parents in this study were limited to those who had completed an in-hospital paternity acknowledgment.

METHODS

Sample

This report uses a simple random sample of all active child support cases in July of each year between 2010 and 2014. The sample sizes range from 3% to 5% of the caseload. For each study year, the table below provides the percentage of the caseload randomly selected for the sample as well as the total number of cases.

Study Samples: July 2010 to July 2014

	Percent of the Active Caseload	Number of Active Cases
2010	5%	12,209
2011	3%	7,276
2012	5%	10,960
2013	5%	10,760
2014	5%	10,665

Data Sources

Study findings are based on administrative data retrieved from the Child Support Enforcement System (CSES). CSES contains identifying information and demographic data on children, noncustodial parents, and custodians receiving services from the IV-D agency³ as well as data on payment receipt. CSES supports the intake, establishment, location, and enforcement functions of the Maryland Child Support Enforcement Administration.

Analysis

This profile of Maryland's child support caseload uses univariate statistics to describe cases between 2010 and 2014. When appropriate, we compare differences using chi-square and analysis of variance (ANOVA) tests.

³ The public child support program is authorized under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act and is often referred to as the IV-D program.

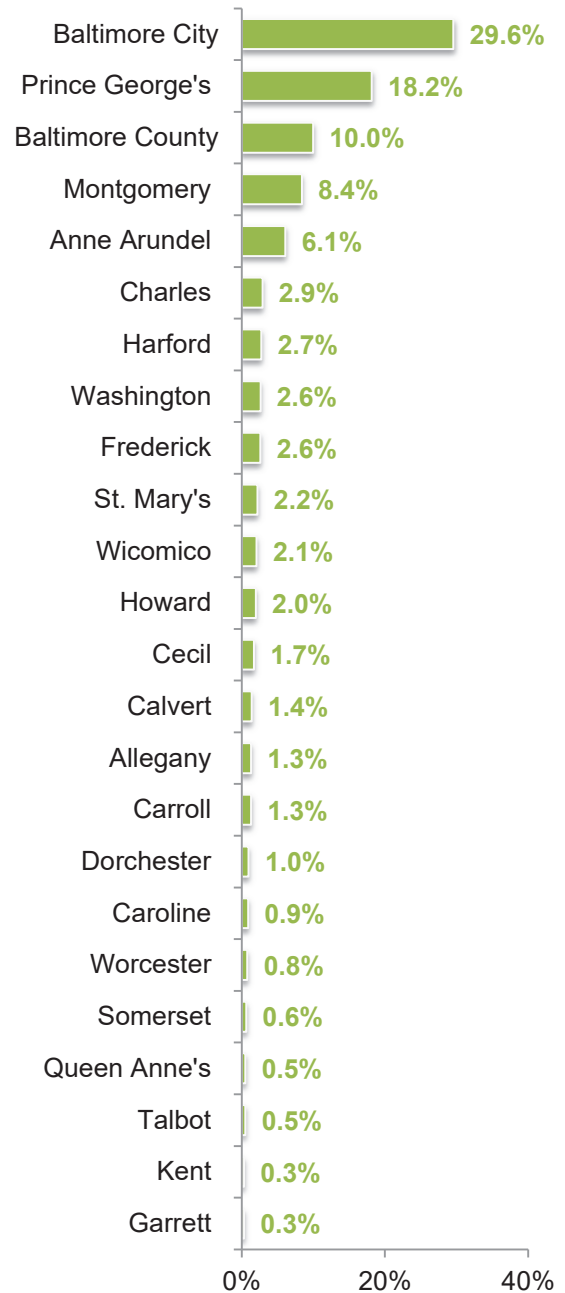
FINDINGS

Statewide Caseload Distribution

The Maryland Child Support Enforcement Administration (CSEA) manages more than 200,000 child support cases through 24 jurisdictions. Figure 1 provides the distribution of Maryland’s child support caseload across those 24 jurisdictions in 2014. Baltimore City, the state’s major urban center, has the largest caseload in the state. In fact, 3 of every 10 cases in the state is managed by Baltimore City.⁴ The remaining four large jurisdictions—Prince George’s, Baltimore, Montgomery, and Anne Arundel counties—make up 42.7% of the state’s caseload. Combined with Baltimore City, then, nearly three-fourths (72.3%) of child support cases in the state are managed by five jurisdictions. The remainder of the caseload (27.7%) is distributed among the other 19 jurisdictions.

Nearly three-fourths of Maryland’s child support cases are managed by five jurisdictions.

Figure 1. Jurisdictional Distribution of Child Support Cases: 2014



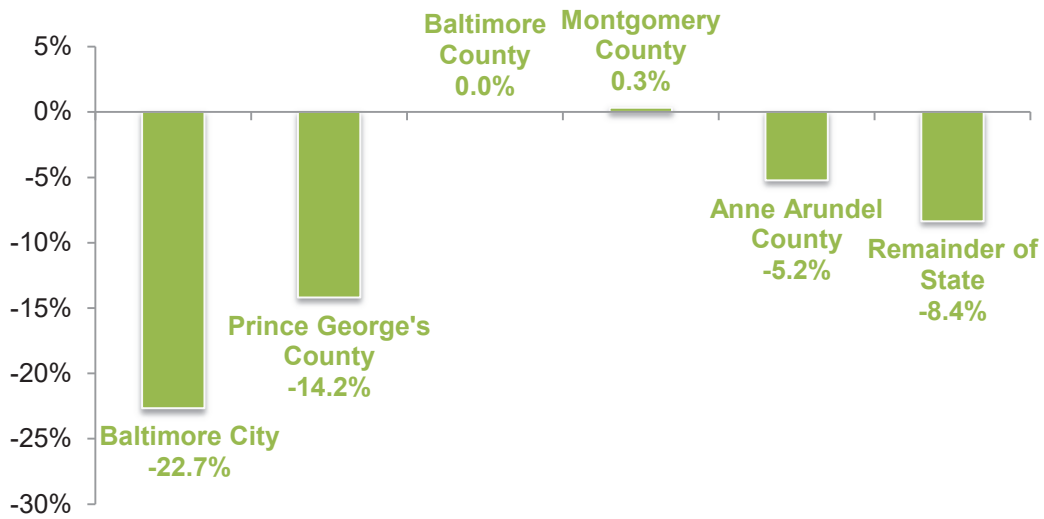
Note: Valid percentages are shown.

⁴ A private company operates child support enforcement in Baltimore City.

In recent years, the Maryland child support caseload decreased by 12% (OCSE, 2014). However, the caseload decline was not evenly distributed throughout the state, as shown in Figure 2. For example, Baltimore City and Prince George’s County both experienced caseload declines exceeding that of the state. Between 2010 and 2014, Baltimore City’s caseload decreased by 22.7%, and Prince George’s County experienced a 14.2% decline.

Of the remaining large jurisdictions, only Anne Arundel County had a caseload decline (5.2%). The caseload in Baltimore and Montgomery counties remained stable between 2010 and 2014, while the remainder of the state decreased by 8.4%. Again, these rapid caseload declines can be attributed to the targeted efforts made by child support staff to close cases meeting federal case closure requirements.

Figure 2. Change in the Jurisdictional Caseload: 2010 to 2014***



Note: *p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001

Type of Support Orders

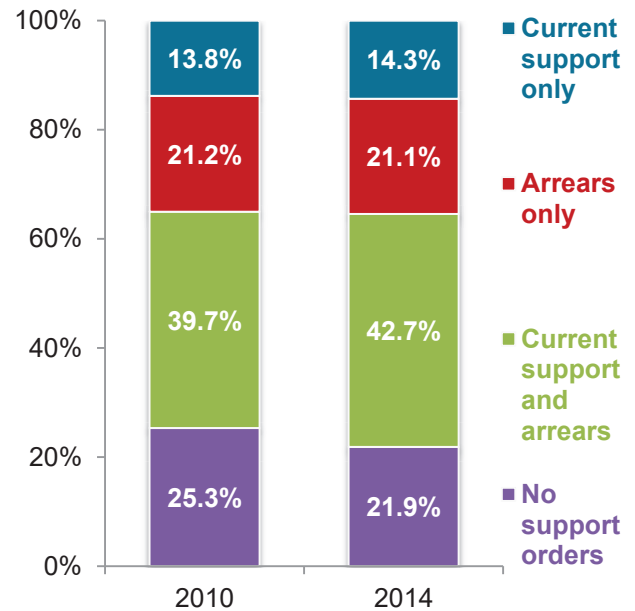
In Maryland, the local circuit courts are responsible for the establishment of child support orders. If necessary, the courts formally establish paternity between a child and the noncustodial parent before determining the support order amount. Once an order amount is established, the local child support office is tasked with enforcing that court order.

Figure 4 provides the distribution of orders established by the judicial system among the sampled cases in 2010 and 2014. Initially, financial support orders begin as current support orders. These order amounts are based on the cost of raising a child, and a noncustodial parent is required to pay a portion of that cost to the custodian on a regular, usually monthly, basis. Cases that have an order only for current support actually represent the smallest portion of the enforcement caseload. About one in seven cases has an order only for current support, remaining stable over time.

Child support cases often begin with a past-due balance, known as arrears, because the effective date for the current support order is based on when the custodian filed for support, not when the court established the order. Many cases, then, have both an order for current support and arrears. In 2014, more than two in five (42.7%) cases had both current support and arrears orders; this increased slightly over time, from 39.7% in 2010. About one in five cases is an arrears-only case.

Lastly, some cases do not have a financial support order. If paternity is not established for a child, then a support order cannot be determined. This may be why some cases lack a financial support order. In other situations, a case may not require a financial order, but instead has an order for paternity or medical support only. The percentage of cases without a support order declined slightly over time, from 25.3% in 2010 to 21.9% in 2014.

Figure 3. Type of Support Orders by Year***

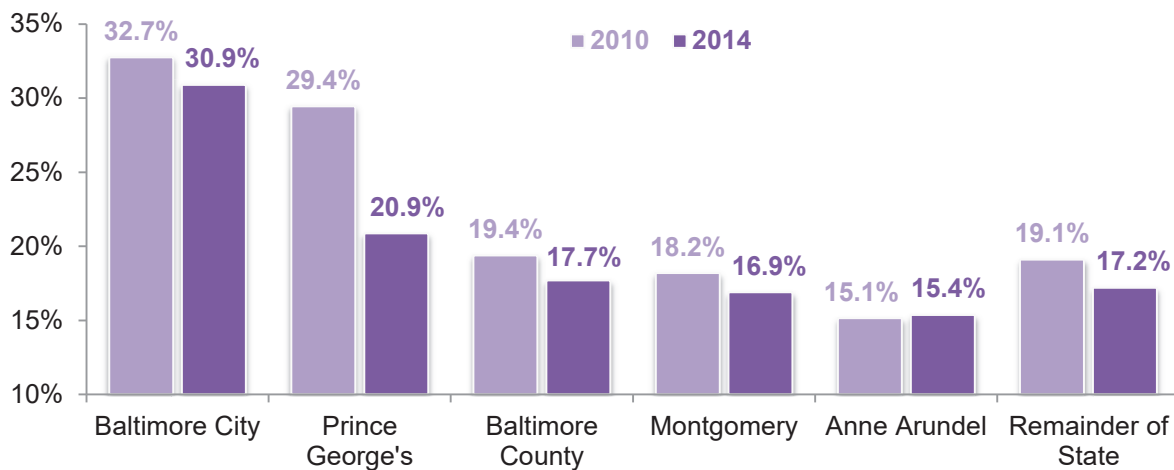


Note: * $p < .05$, ** $p < .01$, *** $p < .001$

Figure 4 expands on the decrease in cases without a financial support order by examining each of the large jurisdictions in 2010 and 2014. Similar to the statewide trend, four of the five large jurisdictions had a smaller percentage of sampled cases without support orders in 2014 compared to 2010. In Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Montgomery County, the decline was about two percentage points. In Prince

George's County, however, there was a nine point decline in the percentage of cases without a support order, from 29.4% in 2010 to 20.9% in 2014. Anne Arundel County remained stable, with approximately 15% of their cases lacking a support order. Lastly, there was a two-percentage point decline in cases without a support order among the remaining 19 jurisdictions.

Figure 4. No Support Orders by Jurisdiction***



Note: Valid percentages are shown. * $p < .05$, ** $p < .01$, *** $p < .001$

Current Support Cases

The receipt of current support is vital to the self-sufficiency of custodial families, particularly low-income families. In fact, the receipt of child support can make up as much as 40% of a low-income family's monthly income (Sorensen, 2010). In July 2010, the average current support order amount among sampled cases was \$412 per month, according to Figure 5. While there has not been an increase in each of the five years, there was an overall 2.4% increase in the monthly current support order amount, from \$412 in 2010 to \$422 in 2014. This increase may be partially due to the recent changes in the child support guidelines, including an adjustment to the costs of raising a child.⁵

Figure 5. Average Current Support Order*



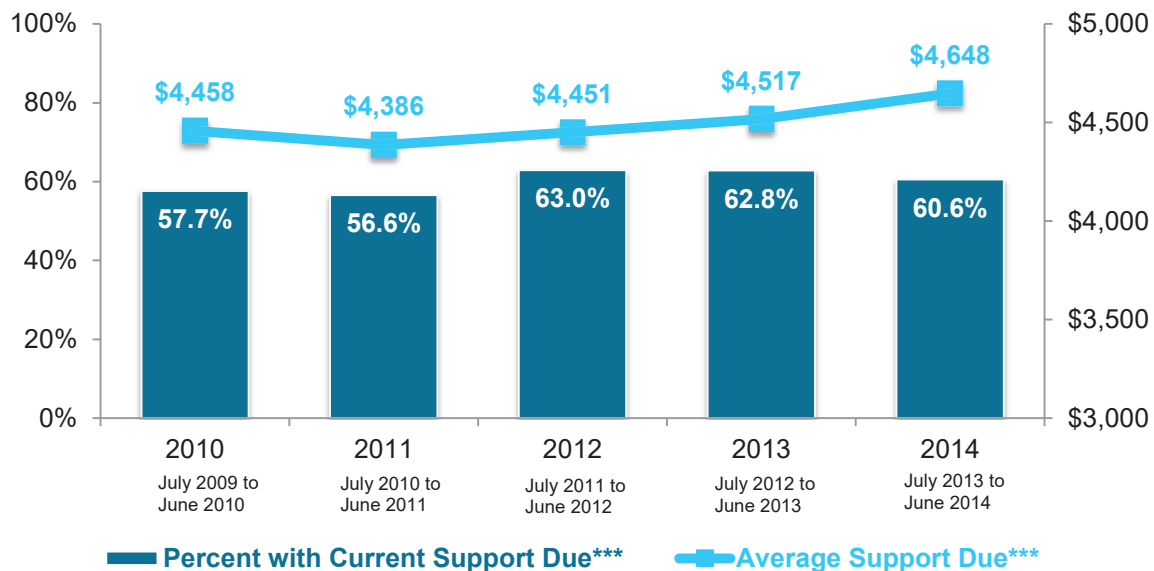
Note: Order amounts are standardized to 2014 dollars and include sampled cases with an order for current support in July of the study year. * $p < .05$, ** $p < .01$, *** $p < .001$

⁵ Effective October 2010, there were 3 changes to the Maryland guidelines: (1) order amounts were updated based on more recent economic estimates of the cost of childrearing; (2) the low-income end of the guidelines was increased to a total family monthly income of \$1,200, up from \$850; and (3) the high-income end of the guidelines was increased from a total family monthly income of \$10,000 to \$15,000.

While the previous figure examines the monthly current support order amount, Figure 6 provides the amount of current support that was due in the year before each of the study months (i.e., when discussing July 2014, we are examining the current support that was due between July 2013 and June 2014). Additionally, Figure 6 provides the percentage of sampled cases that had current support due during that year. In July 2014, three in five (60.6%)

cases had current support due, averaging a total of \$4,648 during the year. The percentage of cases with current support due in each year has remained between 57% and 63%, but there has been an overall increase in the average amount of current support due in each year. The annual average amount of current support due increased by 4%, from nearly \$4,500 in 2010 to more than \$4,600 in 2014.

Figure 6. Percent with Current Support Due and Average Amount Due
In the Previous Year



Note: Average support due is standardized to 2014 dollars and includes sampled cases with current support due in the previous year. *p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001

However, having current support due on a case does not mean that all of the money is actually collected. According to OCSE, Maryland collects about two-thirds of all current support due (OCSE, 2014). This is an aggregate figure, useful for tracking federal performance, but it lacks detail about the child support caseload in Maryland. Taking a closer look at paid current support in Figure 7, we find that nearly 9 in every 10 (86.9%) current support cases in 2014 received at least one payment in the previous year. Hence, only 13.1% received no current support payments throughout the previous year.

Half of 2014 cases received most or all of the current support that was due.

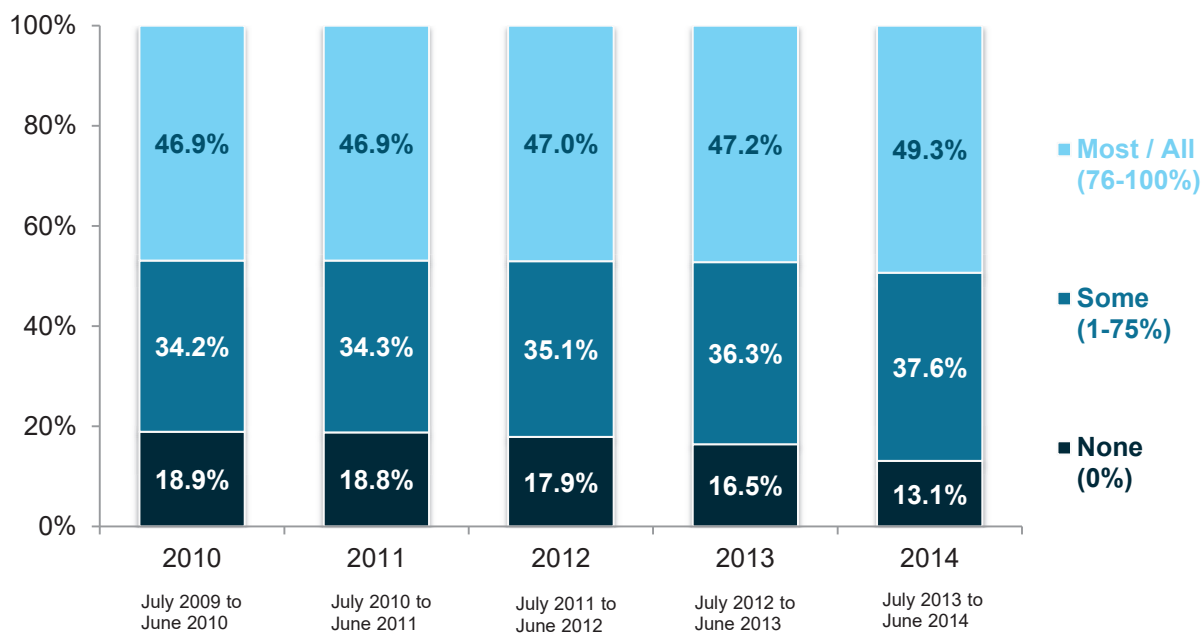
Encouragingly, there has been an increase in the percentage of cases that received payments over time. There was only a slight increase in the

important finding to keep in mind, especially since much of the discussion on child support compliance centers on cases that do not receive any or few payments.

percentage of cases that received 75% or more of the current support due (from 46.9% in 2010 to 49.3% in 2014). There was also a slight increase in the percentage of cases that received some (1% to 75%) of their current support, from 34.2% to 37.6%. As a result, there was a nearly six-point decline in the percentage of cases that received no payments in the prior year, from 18.9% in 2010 to 13.1% in 2014.

Furthermore, half (49.3%) of the 2014 cases received most or all (76% to 100%) of the current support that was due. This is an

Figure 7. Percent of Current Support Paid***
In the Previous Year



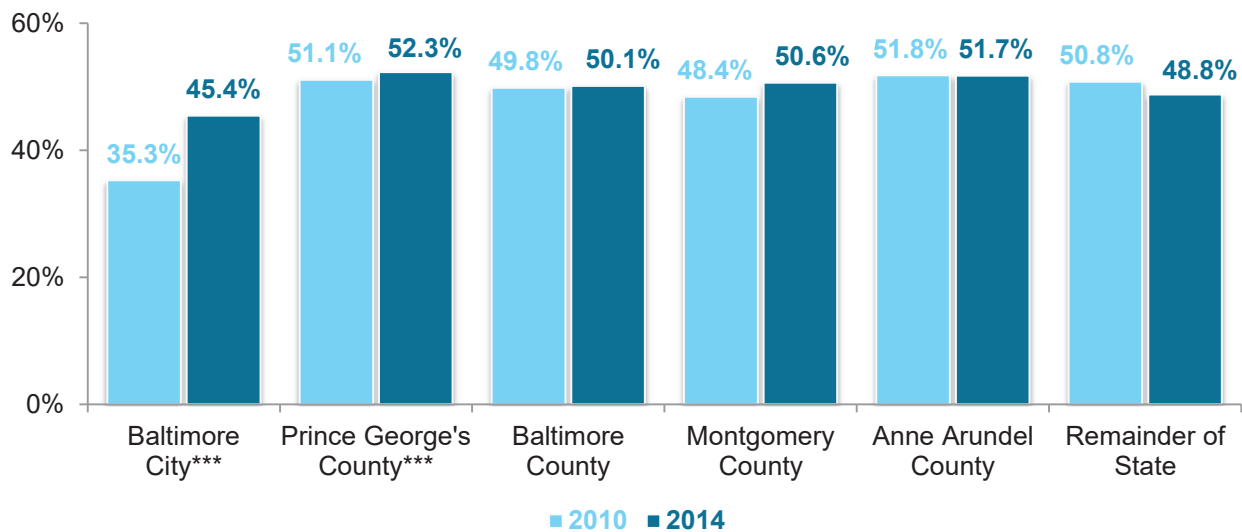
Note: The percentage represents the amount distributed to the current support accounts; it does not represent the amount received by the custodial family. All sampled cases with current support due are included even if a payment was not made during the year. *p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001

Further examining the percentage of cases that received 75% or more of current support due in the previous year by jurisdiction reveals quite a bit of stability (Figure 8). Approximately half of the 2010 sampled cases in each of the large jurisdictions, except for Baltimore City, received most or all of the current support due; about half of the 2014 sampled cases also received most or all of current support due.

Baltimore City has remained below 50% on this indicator, although there was significant improvement between 2010 and 2014. Just

over one-third (35.3%) of the 2010 sampled cases in Baltimore City received most or all of current support due. This figure increased by a full 10 percentage points to 45.4% in 2014. While remaining below the other large jurisdictions, Baltimore City has made remarkable improvement in a short timeframe. It is important to note that the large caseload decline in Baltimore City may be responsible for some of this change. That is, the cases removed from the caseload due to case closure may have been more likely to be among the no payment group, thereby increasing the percentage of cases receiving a payment.

Figure 8. Percent of Cases Receiving Most or All of Current Support
75% to 100% Paid in the Previous Year



Note: The percentage represents the amount distributed to the current support accounts; it does not represent the amount received by the custodial family. *p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001

Arrears Cases

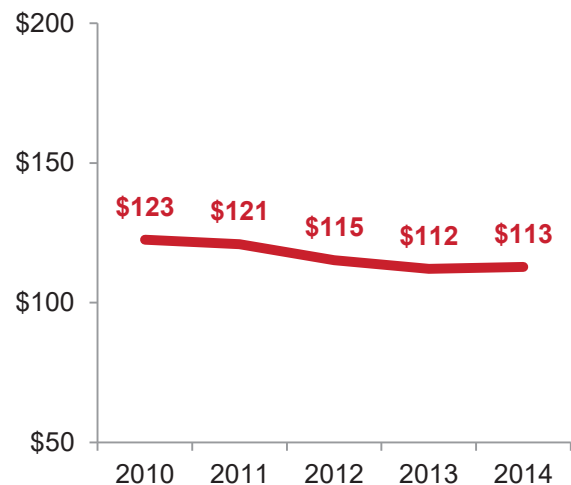
Past-due support, or arrears, can be difficult to collect, especially when noncustodial parents have low incomes. In a 2005 baseline study of Maryland's arrearages, we found that noncustodial parents earning \$10,000 or less owed 60% of the state's arrears debt (Owigho, Saunders, & Born, 2008). To address the growing arrears problem, Maryland implemented an arrears forgiveness programs to assist noncustodial parents with debt owed to the state.⁶

According to Figure 9, among the 2014 sampled cases with an arrears order (approximately two-thirds of the sample), the average order amount was \$113 per month. Contrary to the trend among current support orders, the average arrears order amount declined by 8%, from \$123 in 2010 to \$113 in 2014.

We do not have any data to support the reason for this decline, although it may be related to several factors. First, Maryland's total arrears balance decreased by 14% (OCSE, 2014), mainly due to its targeted case closure efforts. Some of these closed cases may have had higher arrears order amounts, thereby reducing the monthly average amount presented in Figure 10.

Second, Maryland courts may have established lower arrears order amounts to compensate for declining incomes due to the long-lasting effects of the Great Recession. Additionally, there has been a recent policy focus on noncustodial parents' ability to pay their child support. To align policy with practice, judges may have established arrears orders based on noncustodial parents' actual earned income instead of wages that noncustodial parents are expected to earn. For example, there has been an expectation that all non-custodial parents should at least earn full-time minimum wage; therefore, orders have been based on that potential income even if a noncustodial parent is only working part-time. This expectation has been losing ground in recent years with an increased understanding of employability issues among some noncustodial parents due to criminal records or even the changing economy that relies more and more on part-time work.

Figure 9. Average Arrears Order***



Note: Order amounts are standardized to 2014 dollars and include sampled cases with an order for arrears in July of each study year. *p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001

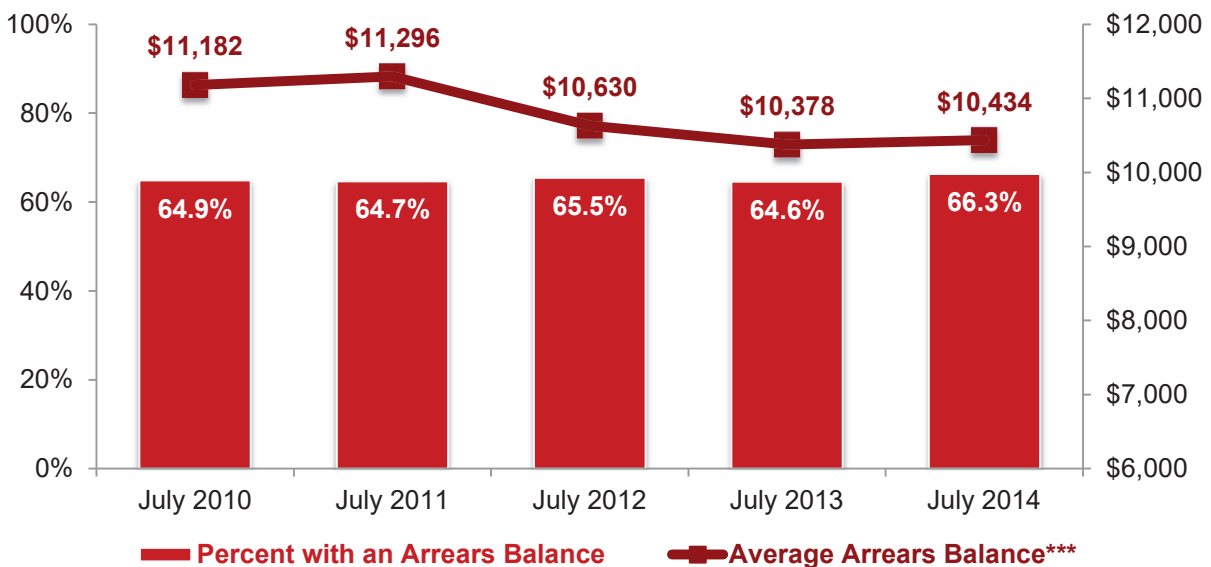
⁶ State-owed debt results from missed current support payments while a custodial family was receiving TANF. Arrears can also be owed directly to the custodian for any missed current support payments while the custodian was not receiving TANF.

Not all cases that owe arrears have an actual monthly order established for the past-due amount. Since order amounts are determined by the court system, a case would need to be reviewed by the judicial system to establish an arrears order. Even if there is not an established arrears order, the child support agency tracks any missed current support payments and an arrears balance accrues. The agency then has the authority to intercept earnings, tax returns, and other income in order to collect funds for the debt.

In 2014, two-thirds (66.3%) of sampled cases had an arrears balance, and the

average balance was just over \$10,000, according to Figure 10. While the percentage of cases with an arrears balance has remained relatively stable over time, the average arrears balance has declined by 7%. In 2010, the average arrears balance was about \$11,200, but it was down to approximately \$10,400 in 2014. The decline presented here reflects the 14% decrease in the total statewide arrears balance occurring due to the targeted case closure efforts by CSEA; the percentages are different because this report is examining the decline per case rather than the overall decline experienced by the state.

Figure 10. Percent with an Arrears Balance and Average Amount
In July of Each Year



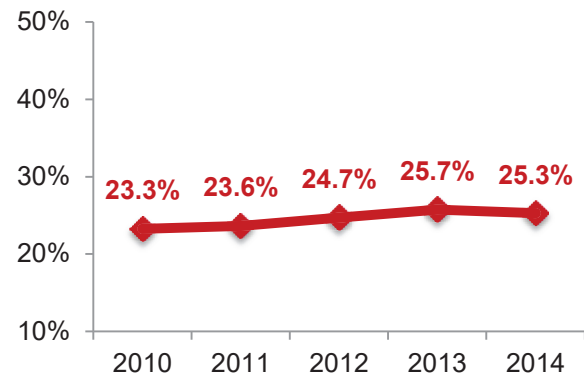
Note: Average arrears balances are standardized to 2014 dollars and include cases with an arrears balance in July of the study year. *p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001

An average of about one-quarter of the arrears balance is paid in each year (Figure 11). There has been a very small increase in the percentage over time, from 23.3% in 2010 to 25.3% in 2014. Figure 12 shows that three in every ten (30.4%) cases did not receive a single arrears payment in the year before July 2014. Two in five (39.5%) cases received payments accounting for 1% to 24% of the entire arrears balance, and the remaining three in ten (30.2%) cases received 25% or more of the arrears balance in the prior year.

On a positive note, there was nearly a seven-point decline in the percentage of cases with no arrears payments between 2011 and 2012, from 38.6% to 32.0%. This percentage then declined another two percentage points in 2013 and has remained stable into 2014 (30.4%).

With fewer cases receiving no payments, there is now a higher percentage of cases

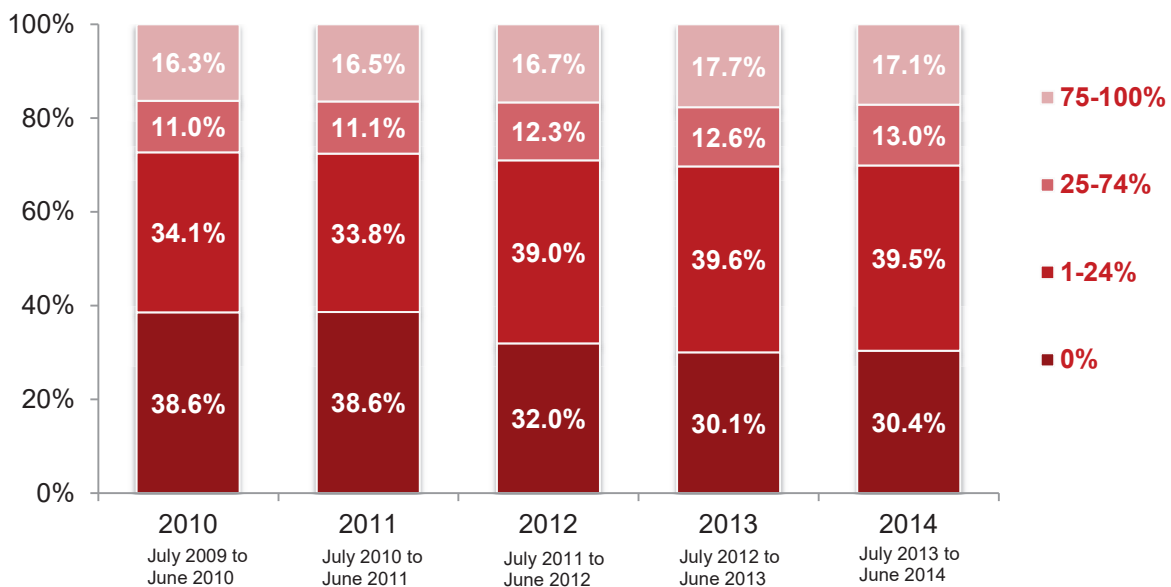
Figure 11. Average Percent of Arrears Balance Paid In the Previous Year***



Note: The percentage represents the amount distributed to the arrears accounts; it does not represent the amount received by the custodial family or state. All sampled cases with an arrears balance are included even if a payment was not made during the year. *p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001

with an arrears payment. Most of the growth in arrears payments came on the lower end of the spectrum—1% to 24%. In 2010, 34.1% of cases received less than 25% of the arrears balance; in 2014, it was 39.5%.

Figure 12. Percent of Arrears Balance Paid*
In the Previous Year**

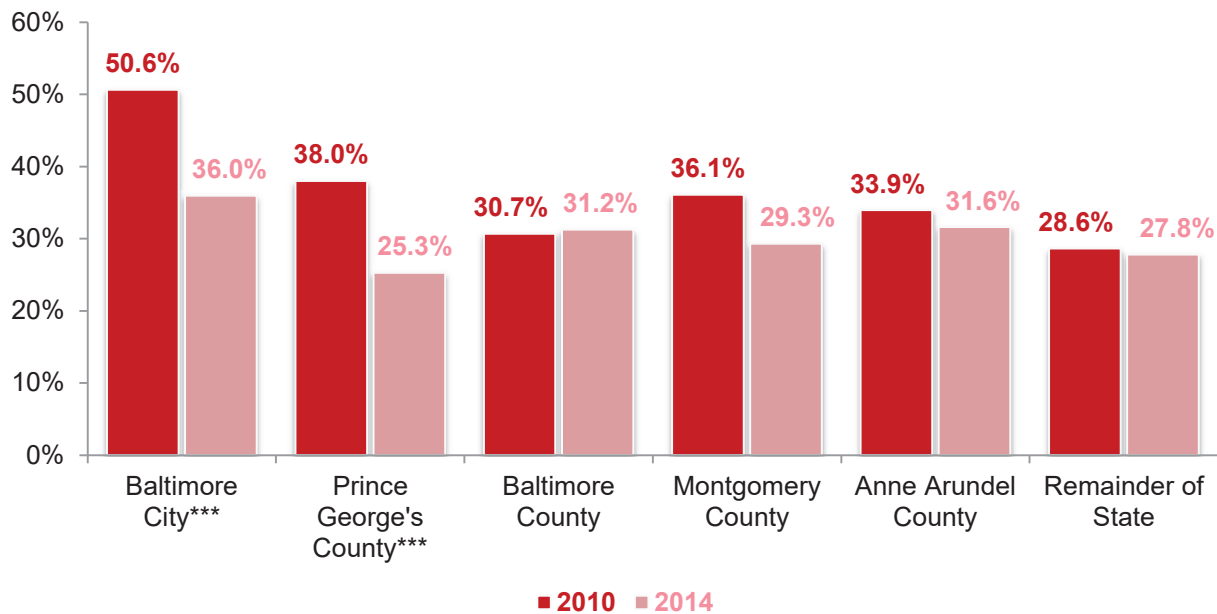


Note: The percentage represents the amount distributed to the arrears accounts; it does not represent the amount received by the custodial family or state. All sampled cases with an arrears balance are included even if a payment was not made during the year. *p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001

Several jurisdictions also experienced a decline in the percentage of cases without any payments toward the arrears balance (Figure 13). While this change occurred in nearly all the large jurisdictions, only two of the changes are statistically significant. Baltimore City saw a 15 percentage point decline in non-paying arrears cases, from half (50.6%) of arrears cases in 2010 to just over one-third (36.0%) in 2014. Prince George's County had a similar decline (13 percentage points), but fewer of the county's arrears cases were non-payers. In

fact, only one-quarter of Prince George's County's 2014 arrears cases did not have a single payment toward arrears; this is the lowest percentage among all the large jurisdictions. It is also important to keep in mind that Baltimore City and Prince George's County had large caseload declines that likely affected the percentage of arrears cases without a payment. That is, the state's case closure efforts likely resulted in the closure of many non-paying arrears cases that met the federal closure requirements.

Figure 13. Percent of Arrears-Balance Cases with No Payments
In the Previous Year



Note: All sampled cases with an arrears balance are included even if a payment was not made during the year.
*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001

CONCLUSIONS

The main goal of the child support program is to ensure that both parents financially support their children. One way to measure the success of this endeavor is to examine payments made to child support cases. The caseload in Maryland declined by 12% in recent years, which seems to have improved the percentage of cases that received a payment. The caseload reduction was mainly due to a targeted focus on case closure, but it was not evenly distributed throughout the state. Two large jurisdictions had caseload declines higher than the state: Baltimore City (-23%) and Prince George's County (-14%). These two jurisdictions also accounted for nearly half of the state's 2014 caseload. With their considerable share of Maryland's child support caseload, Baltimore City and Prince George's County influenced many of the statewide payment outcomes.

Current support payments are designed to provide for the existing financial needs of children. In 2014, an average case was owed more than \$4,600, and nearly 9 in 10 cases received at least one payment to support the needs of children on those cases. Furthermore, half of all 2014 current support cases received payments totaling 75% or more of the annual support due. Maryland also successfully realized an increase in the percentage of current support cases that received payments, from 81% in 2010 to 87% 2014.

Another achievement of Maryland's child support program is the growth in the percentage of arrears cases that received payments. In 2010, 61% of cases received at least one payment toward the arrears balance in the previous year; in 2014, 70% of cases received a payment. Baltimore City and Prince George's County had the largest increases in payments toward arrears.

Clearly, Maryland's targeted focus on case closure resulted in positive outcomes for the child support caseload and should remain a part of the state's regular case management procedures. Nonetheless, there is still work to be done. More than one in ten cases still did not receive a current support payment in the year prior to July 2014, and three in ten cases did not receive an arrears payment.

Understanding this need for sustained progress, child support stakeholders in Maryland continue to explore ways to increase regular payments to families through individualized case management strategies, employment programs for noncustodial parents, and enforcement tools such as professional license suspension. Given its long history of utilizing research to inform policy, Maryland is well-positioned to make data-driven decisions to better serve families and promote continued progress.

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APPENDIX A: JURISDICTIONAL TABLES

This appendix provides child support data over time at the jurisdictional level. Unfortunately, due to sample sizes, we are only able to provide tables for the state as a whole, for each of the five large jurisdictions—Baltimore City, Prince George’s County, Baltimore County, Montgomery County, and Anne Arundel County—and a combined table including the remaining 19 jurisdictions.

MARYLAND

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Sample Size	12,209	7,276	10,960	10,760	10,665
Support Orders in the Study Month					
Current support only	13.8%	12.7%	14.6%	14.6%	14.3%
Arrears only	21.2%	21.7%	19.1%	20.4%	21.1%
Both current support and arrears	39.7%	39.6%	43.9%	41.8%	42.7%
No support orders	25.3%	25.9%	22.4%	23.2%	21.9%
Current Support Orders in Study Months					
Percentage with current support orders	53.5%	52.3%	58.5%	56.4%	57.0%
Average order amount per case	\$412	\$407	\$413	\$424	\$422
Current Support Due in Previous Year					
Percentage with current support due in previous year	57.7%	56.6%	63.0%	62.8%	60.6%
Average amount of support due per case	\$4,458	\$4,386	\$4,451	\$4,517	\$4,648
Average percent paid in previous year per case	57.2%	57.0%	57.6%	58.2%	60.9%
Arrears Orders in the Study Month					
Percentage with an arrears order	60.9%	61.4%	63.0%	62.2%	63.9%
Average arrears order amount per case	\$123	\$121	\$115	\$112	\$113
Arrears Balances					
Percentage with an arrears balance in study month	64.9%	64.7%	65.5%	64.6%	66.3%
Average arrears balance per case	\$11,182	\$11,296	\$10,630	\$10,378	\$10,434
Average percent paid in previous year per case	23.3%	23.6%	24.7%	25.7%	25.3%

Note: Dollar figures are standardized to 2014 dollars. Valid percentages are presented.

BALTIMORE CITY

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Sample Size	4,074	2,423	3,255	3,026	3,151
Percentage of Statewide Cases	33.4%	33.3%	29.7%	28.2%	29.6%
Support Orders in the Study Month					
Current support only	7.1%	6.4%	7.9%	8.0%	7.4%
Arrears only	30.8%	30.4%	26.8%	33.9%	32.5%
Both current support and arrears	29.4%	28.6%	36.1%	28.7%	29.2%
No support orders	32.7%	34.5%	29.2%	29.5%	30.9%
Current Support Orders in Study Months					
Percentage with current support orders	36.5%	35.0%	44.0%	36.6%	36.6%
Average order amount per case	\$303	\$290	\$301	\$321	\$320
Current Support Due in Previous Year					
Percentage with current support due in previous year	40.9%	39.6%	47.6%	48.5%	39.9%
Average amount of support due per case	\$3,283	\$3,164	\$3,338	\$3,223	\$3,534
Average percent paid in previous year per case	44.7%	44.2%	44.9%	48.1%	56.4%
Arrears Orders in the Study Month					
Percentage with an arrears order	60.1%	59.1%	62.9%	62.5%	61.7%
Average arrears order amount per case	\$113	\$112	\$106	\$104	\$110
Arrears Balances					
Percentage with an arrears balance in study month	64.6%	62.9%	64.1%	63.8%	63.2%
Average arrears balance per case	\$13,408	\$13,761	\$13,177	\$12,192	\$11,742
Average percent paid in previous year per case	13.7%	14.8%	16.1%	19.8%	18.9%

Note: Dollar figures are standardized to 2014 dollars. Valid percentages are presented.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Sample Size	2,256	1,333	2,036	2,055	1,936
Percentage of Statewide Cases	18.5%	18.3%	18.6%	19.1%	18.2%
Support Orders in the Study Month					
Current support only	16.8%	14.5%	16.0%	14.8%	16.0%
Arrears only	17.6%	18.7%	16.7%	15.9%	19.0%
Both current support and arrears	36.3%	37.3%	39.4%	40.0%	44.2%
No support orders	29.4%	29.6%	27.8%	29.3%	20.9%
Current Support Orders in Study Months					
Percentage with current support orders	53.0%	51.8%	55.4%	54.8%	60.2%
Average order amount per case	\$470	\$469	\$474	\$476	\$478
Current Support Due in Previous Year					
Percentage with current support due in previous year	57.4%	55.7%	61.2%	59.3%	64.0%
Average amount of support due per case	\$5,107	\$5,075	\$5,056	\$5,167	\$5,293
Average percent paid in previous year per case	60.9%	61.3%	62.5%	62.2%	62.7%
Arrears Orders in the Study Month					
Percentage with an arrears order	53.8%	56.0%	56.2%	55.9%	63.1%
Average arrears order amount per case	\$138	\$144	\$133	\$125	\$123
Arrears Balances					
Percentage with an arrears balance in study month	58.3%	59.6%	59.6%	58.9%	66.1%
Average arrears balance per case	\$13,307	\$12,894	\$12,045	\$11,234	\$12,439
Average percent paid in previous year per case	22.9%	23.4%	25.7%	25.7%	24.2%

Note: Dollar figures are standardized to 2014 dollars. Valid percentages are presented.

BALTIMORE COUNTY

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Sample Size	1,063	639	1,071	1,084	1,063
Percentage of Statewide Cases	8.7%	8.8%	9.8%	10.1%	10.0%
Support Orders in the Study Month					
Current support only	15.6%	14.2%	15.0%	14.9%	17.0%
Arrears only	14.4%	16.9%	15.6%	14.9%	15.5%
Both current support and arrears	50.6%	48.4%	51.6%	51.1%	49.8%
No support orders	19.4%	20.5%	17.7%	19.1%	17.7%
Current Support Orders in Study Months					
Percentage with current support orders	66.2%	62.6%	66.7%	66.1%	66.8%
Average order amount per case	\$459	\$476	\$462	\$457	\$467
Current Support Due in Previous Year					
Percentage with current support due in previous year	70.6%	65.9%	69.7%	68.8%	69.8%
Average amount of support due per case	\$5,048	\$5,250	\$4,994	\$5,057	\$5,232
Average percent paid in previous year per case	60.8%	59.2%	59.9%	58.8%	60.5%
Arrears Orders in the Study Month					
Percentage with an arrears order	65.0%	65.3%	67.2%	66.0%	65.3%
Average arrears order amount per case	\$129	\$144	\$140	\$135	\$136
Arrears Balances					
Percentage with an arrears balance in study month	67.7%	66.8%	69.5%	68.4%	67.5%
Average arrears balance per case	\$9,867	\$10,831	\$9,416	\$10,017	\$10,610
Average percent paid in previous year per case	29.3%	27.0%	28.1%	27.8%	28.1%

Note: Dollar figures are standardized to 2014 dollars. Valid percentages are presented.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Sample Size	891	547	870	920	894
Percentage of Statewide Cases	7.3%	7.5%	7.9%	8.6%	8.4%
Support Orders in the Study Month					
Current support only	21.8%	16.5%	21.5%	20.9%	20.8%
Arrears only	14.7%	13.0%	11.8%	11.4%	13.1%
Both current support and arrears	45.3%	53.4%	48.9%	48.6%	49.2%
No support orders	18.2%	17.2%	17.8%	19.1%	16.9%
Current Support Orders in Study Months					
Percentage with current support orders	67.1%	69.8%	70.3%	69.5%	70.0%
Average order amount per case	\$487	\$476	\$493	\$510	\$471
Current Support Due in Previous Year					
Percentage with current support due in previous year	69.8%	72.9%	74.8%	73.9%	74.0%
Average amount of support due per case	\$5,298	\$5,215	\$5,295	\$5,605	\$5,091
Average percent paid in previous year per case	59.1%	60.6%	59.6%	61.7%	61.6%
Arrears Orders in the Study Month					
Percentage with an arrears order	60.0%	66.4%	60.7%	60.0%	62.3%
Average arrears order amount per case	\$143	\$124	\$116	\$130	\$116
Arrears Balances					
Percentage with an arrears balance in study month	65.3%	69.5%	64.9%	63.3%	66.8%
Average arrears balance per case	\$11,430	\$10,337	\$11,455	\$11,144	\$10,132
Average percent paid in previous year per case	25.6%	29.1%	26.1%	29.9%	30.7%

Note: Dollar figures are standardized to 2014 dollars. Valid percentages are presented.

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Sample Size	687	443	669	690	651
Percentage of Statewide Cases	5.6%	6.1%	6.1%	6.4%	6.1%
Support Orders in the Study Month					
Current support only	17.3%	15.1%	19.1%	17.5%	17.1%
Arrears only	20.1%	22.1%	17.9%	14.8%	16.9%
Both current support and arrears	47.5%	43.6%	48.0%	51.3%	50.7%
No support orders	15.1%	19.2%	14.9%	16.4%	15.4%
Current Support Orders in Study Months					
Percentage with current support orders	64.8%	58.7%	67.1%	68.8%	67.7%
Average order amount per case	\$472	\$467	\$486	\$452	\$465
Current Support Due in Previous Year					
Percentage with current support due in previous year	69.4%	64.1%	71.2%	74.2%	72.2%
Average amount of support due per case	\$4,986	\$5,174	\$5,294	\$4,949	\$5,208
Average percent paid in previous year per case	60.3%	59.3%	61.5%	55.9%	62.1%
Arrears Orders in the Study Month					
Percentage with an arrears order	67.5%	65.7%	65.9%	66.1%	67.6%
Average arrears order amount per case	\$142	\$143	\$124	\$128	\$133
Arrears Balances					
Percentage with an arrears balance in study month	71.6%	69.8%	69.8%	69.4%	70.5%
Average arrears balance per case	\$11,381	\$13,158	\$10,500	\$13,270	\$11,022
Average percent paid in previous year per case	26.6%	23.7%	25.8%	23.4%	27.5%

Note: Dollar figures are standardized to 2014 dollars. Valid percentages are presented.

REMAINDER OF THE STATE

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Sample Size	3,231	1,885	3,051	2,973	2,961
Percentage of Statewide Cases	26.5%	25.9%	27.9%	27.7%	27.8%
Support Orders in the Study Month					
Current support only	16.6%	17.3%	17.7%	18.5%	16.9%
Arrears only	16.0%	16.9%	15.9%	15.9%	15.9%
Both current support and arrears	48.3%	47.6%	50.4%	48.7%	50.0%
No support orders	19.1%	18.1%	16.0%	16.8%	17.2%
Current Support Orders in Study Months					
Percentage with current support orders	64.9%	65.0%	68.1%	67.3%	66.9%
Average order amount per case	\$407	\$396	\$402	\$407	\$408
Current Support Due in Previous Year					
Percentage with current support due in previous year	68.9%	69.7%	73.1%	71.8%	70.5%
Average amount of support due per case	\$4,406	\$4,191	\$4,279	\$4,396	\$4,462
Average percent paid in previous year per case	62.1%	61.6%	61.5%	62.2%	62.1%
Arrears Orders in the Study Month					
Percentage with an arrears order	64.3%	64.6%	66.2%	64.7%	65.9%
Average arrears order amount per case	\$112	\$103	\$103	\$95	\$95
Arrears Balances					
Percentage with an arrears balance in study month	67.4%	67.4%	68.8%	67.5%	68.5%
Average arrears balance per case	\$7,510	\$7,331	\$7,516	\$7,337	\$7,782
Average percent paid in previous year per case	31.7%	31.6%	30.9%	30.1%	29.1%

Note: Dollar figures are standardized to 2014 dollars. Valid percentages are presented.



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