

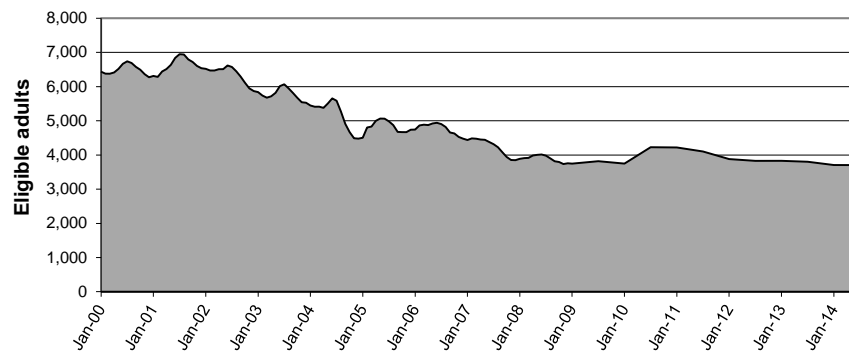
## Noncitizens on MFIP

This short subject provides information about noncitizens' use of the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP). To learn about which noncitizens are eligible for MFIP, see the House Research publication [Eligibility of Noncitizens for Health Care and Cash Assistance Programs](#).

***The number of MFIP-eligible adults who are noncitizens***

In July 2014, there were 3,704 MFIP-eligible adults who were not U.S. citizens. This is down from a peak of about 6,900 adults in the summer of 2001. Prior to the introduction of the Diversionary Work Program (DWP) in July 2004, there was seasonal variation in the number of MFIP-eligible adults, with caseloads peaking each summer due to migrant farm workers. Since July 2004, these families have been enrolled in DWP, a short-term employment program that offers intensive services to divert people from MFIP.

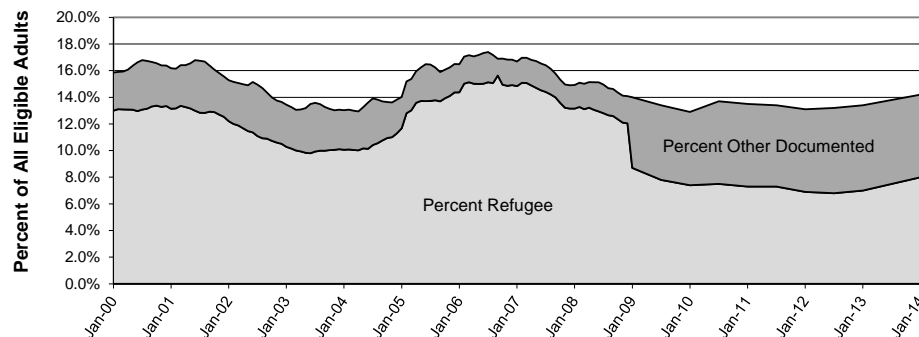
Figure 1. Number of MFIP-eligible Adults that were Noncitizens, 2000 to 2014



***The percent of MFIP-eligible adults who are noncitizens***

The percent of MFIP cases with noncitizens fell from 16.8 percent in July 2000 to 12.9 percent in April 2004, and rose to 17.4 percent in July 2006 before falling to 13.1 percent in January 2012. The percentage of noncitizens decreased in 2002 and 2003 as the number of new refugee arrivals decreased due to changes in immigration policy. In 2005, Minnesota received a large, onetime settlement of Hmong refugees. By July 2008, the number of Hmong caregivers on MFIP had returned to July 2004 levels. Even though MFIP cases fell to historic lows in 2007 and 2014, the percentage of the total caseload made up of eligible noncitizens during those years increased because the overall caseload was decreasing faster than the noncitizen caseload.

Figure 2. Percent of MFIP-eligible Adults that were Noncitizens, 2000 to 2014



**Geography of noncitizens on MFIP**

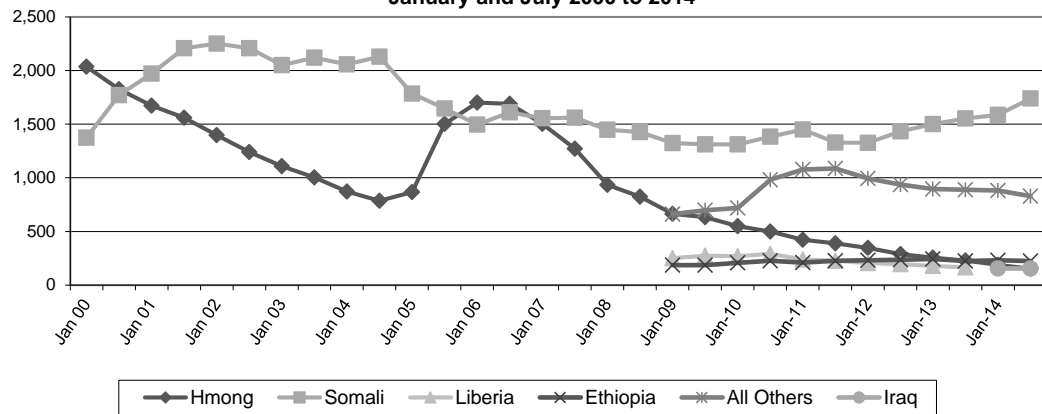
In July 2014, Hennepin and Ramsey counties had the most MFIP cases with at least one eligible adult that was a noncitizen (36 percent of noncitizen MFIP cases lived in Hennepin County and 28 percent lived in Ramsey County). Within those counties, 15 percent of all Hennepin County MFIP cases had an eligible noncitizen caregiver and 18 percent of all Ramsey County cases had an eligible noncitizen caregiver. Less than 1 percent of the cases with eligible noncitizens were in the northwest or northeast regions.

Region of MFIP Cases with at Least One Eligible Noncitizen Caregiver, July 2014			
Region	Number of Cases	Percent of Cases in Region	Percent of Noncitizen Cases
Northwest	10	4.6	0.4
West Central	71	3.5	2.5
Northeast	7	0.5	0.3
Central	351	21.8	12.2
Southwest	61	15.8	2.1
South Central	91	15.2	3.2
Southeast	199	14.3	6.9
Metro Suburbs	254	9.7	8.8
Hennepin County	1,020	15.3	35.5
Ramsey County	807	17.6	28.1
Total Noncitizens	2,871		100.0

**Nationality of MFIP-eligible noncitizens**

Although more than 30 nationalities are represented in MFIP families at any time, the largest in recent years has been Somali. The number of Hmong caregivers decreased throughout the early 2000s until 2005, when Minnesota received a large, onetime resettlement of Hmong families. By July 2008 the number of Hmong caregivers had returned to the July 2004 level, and has continued to decrease.

**Figure 3. Top Nationalities of MFIP-eligible Noncitizens, January and July 2000 to 2014**



**About the data**

All data are from the Department of Human Services MAXIS data warehouse. MFIP-eligible adults that were recorded in MAXIS as noncitizens for the eligibility month are reported. Immigration status was the status of the person in the eligibility month, except for those who entered the United States as refugees or asylees and became legal permanent residents. Those people were counted as refugees, regardless of their current status. Case-level data were reported for geographic location so as not to double count cases with two eligible adults.

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