

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department: Social Services

HB Section(s): 11.133

Program Name: Eligibility Verification

Program is found in the following core budget(s): Eligibility Verification

1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

Obtaining third party eligibility verification services provides effective, accountable partnerships for Missourians while helping build high-performing teams by streamlining the data source process

1b. What does this program do?

The Department of Social Services, Family Support Division verifies eligibility information required from applicants by utilizing electronic verification systems to cross-reference data records for program approvals.

Public records as well as other established, credible data sources are used to evaluate income, resources, and assets of each applicant on no less than a quarterly basis. The contractor also, on monthly basis, identifies participants who have died, moved out of state, or been incarcerated longer than 90 days.

In addition, the Family Support Division utilizes Accuity, an automated system that links directly to a secure network which verifies the applicants listed accounts at financial institutions and also optimizes the probability of identifying undisclosed account balance information.

The following verification systems are currently expected to be fully functional by the spring of 2021.

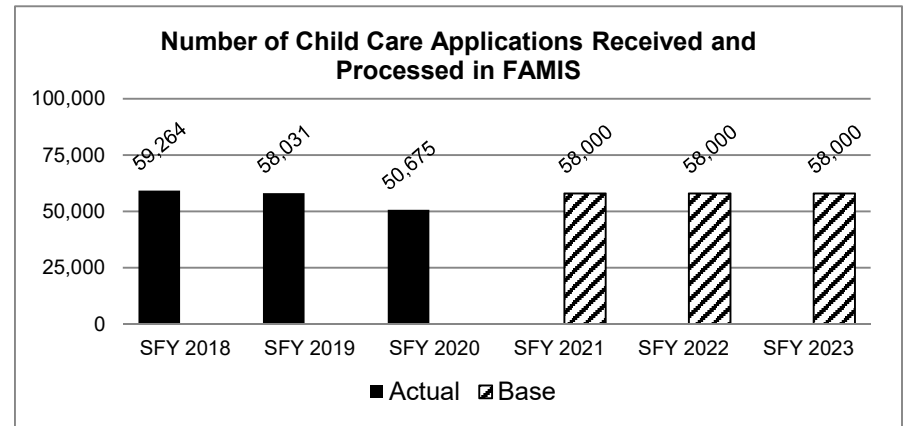
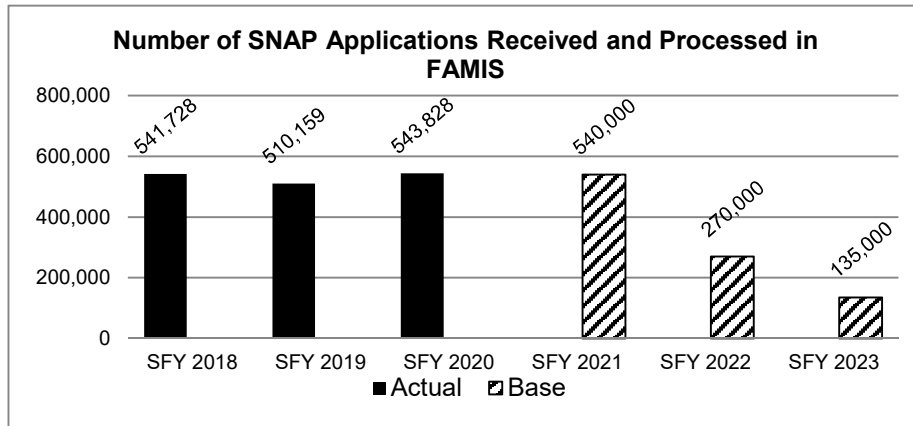
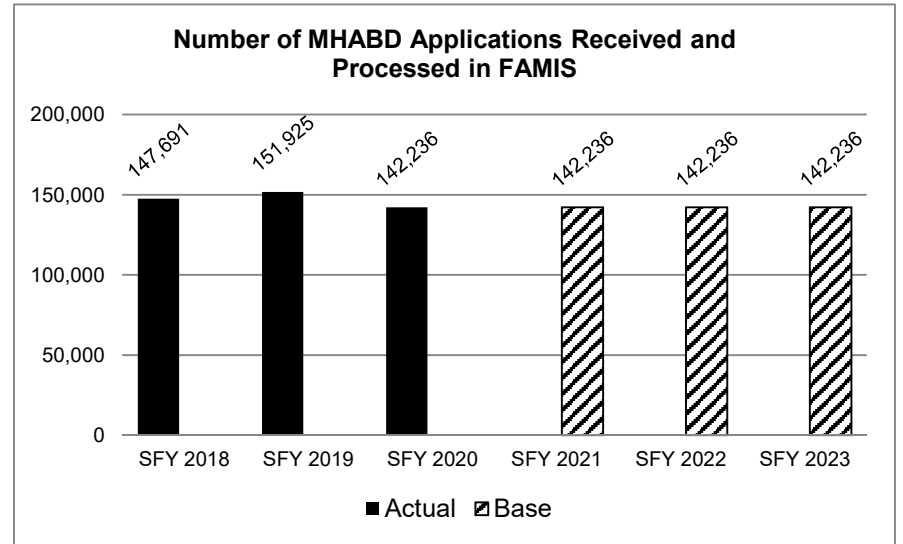
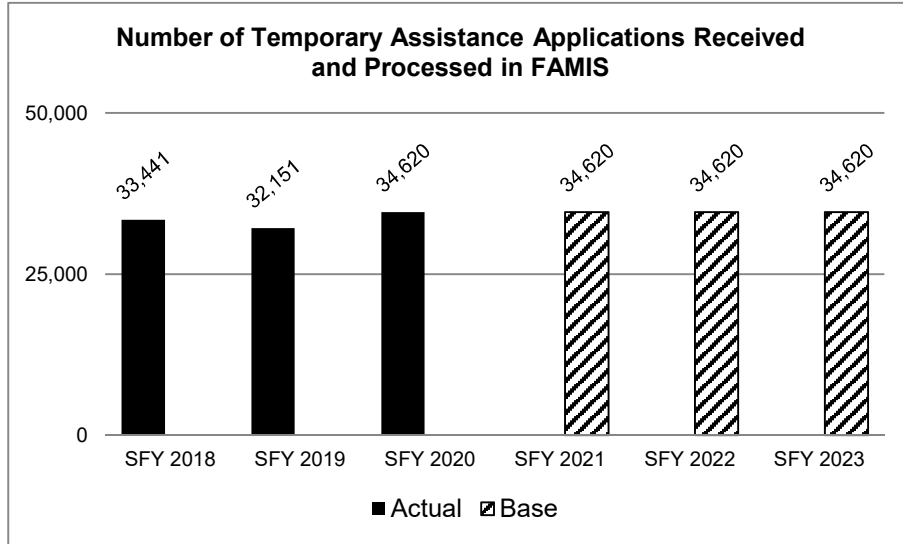
- The Work Number is an Equifax Workforce Solutions that provides immediate confirmation of an individual's employment and income for verification purposes.
- LexisNexis Risk Intelligence Network Program Participation Analyzer is a platform solution that assists with the identification and prevention of duplicate participation in non-SNAP programs such as MO HealthNet, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Child Care.
- National Accuracy Clearinghouse is a SNAP specific solution used in identifying and preventing duplicate participation both intrastate (in state) and interstate (cross states) resulting in SNAP benefits cost avoidance savings and overpayment recovery savings and was recently mandated for use nationwide as part of the 2018 Farm Bill.

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2a. Provide an activity measure(s) for the program.



SNAP applications processed in FAMIS are expected to decrease when the implementation of SNAP into the Missouri Eligibility Determination and Enrollment System (MEDES) is complete.

*The decrease reported in SFY 2020 can be attributed to COVID-19 measures. Some child care benefits were extended or granted automatically as part of the COVID response.

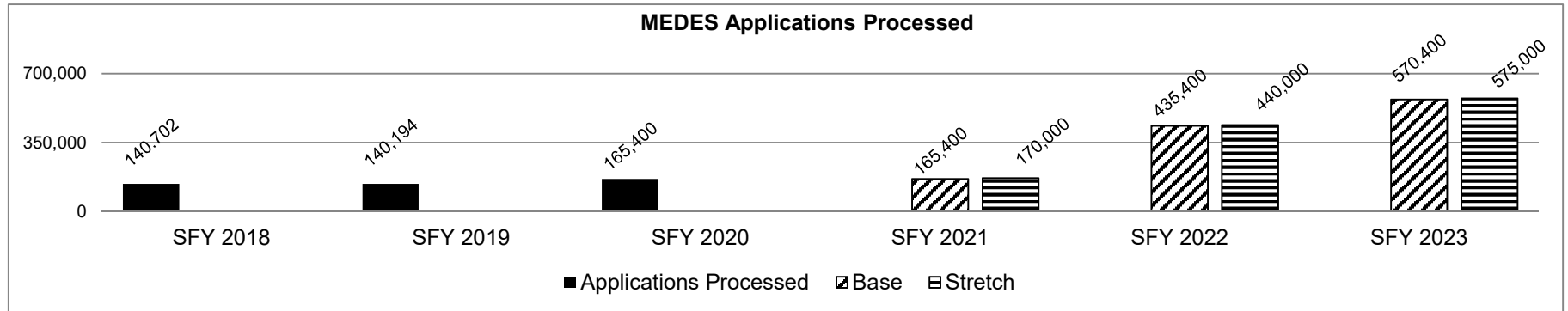
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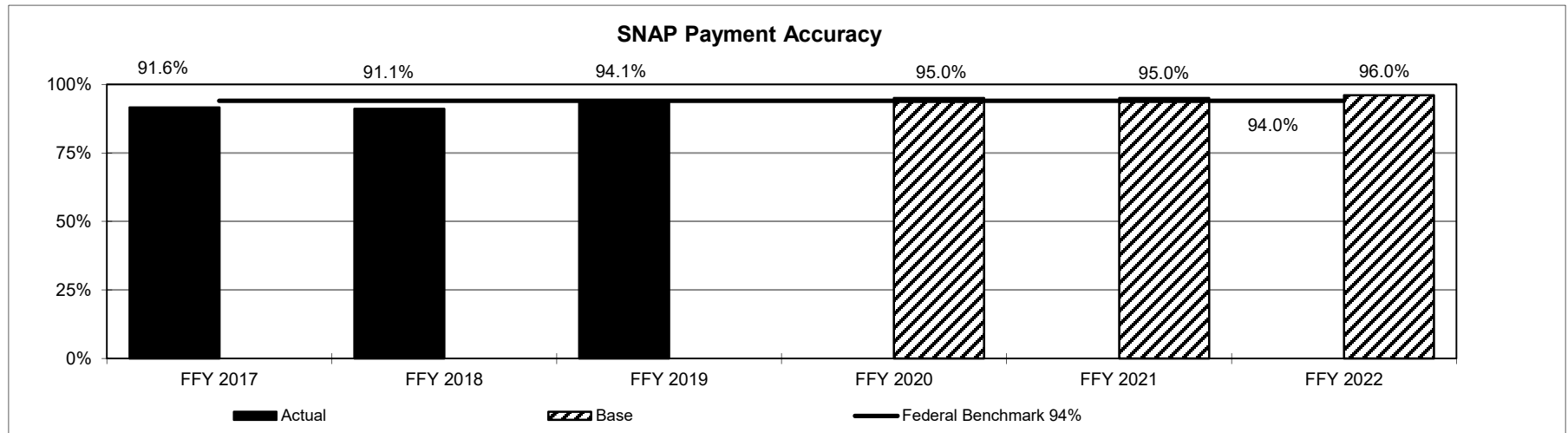
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Beginning in SFY 2020, FSD implemented the ability to distinguish between initial applications and change in circumstance requests (actual cases with address or household changes).

*Projections in SFY 2022 and 2023 reflect an increase in MEDES applications to include the implementation of SNAP into MEDES.

2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.



FFY 2020 data will be available July 2021.

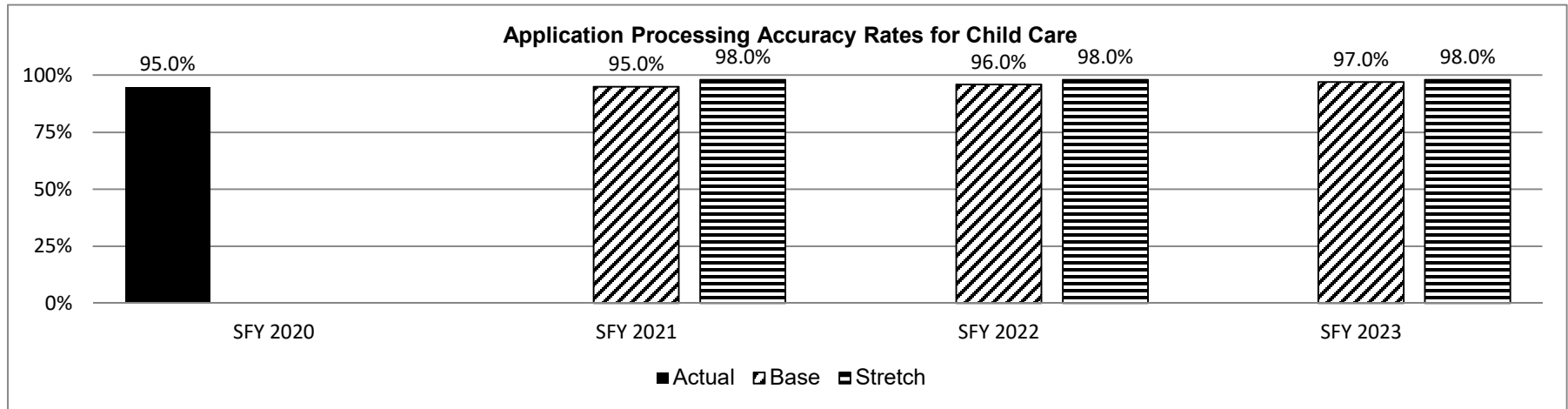
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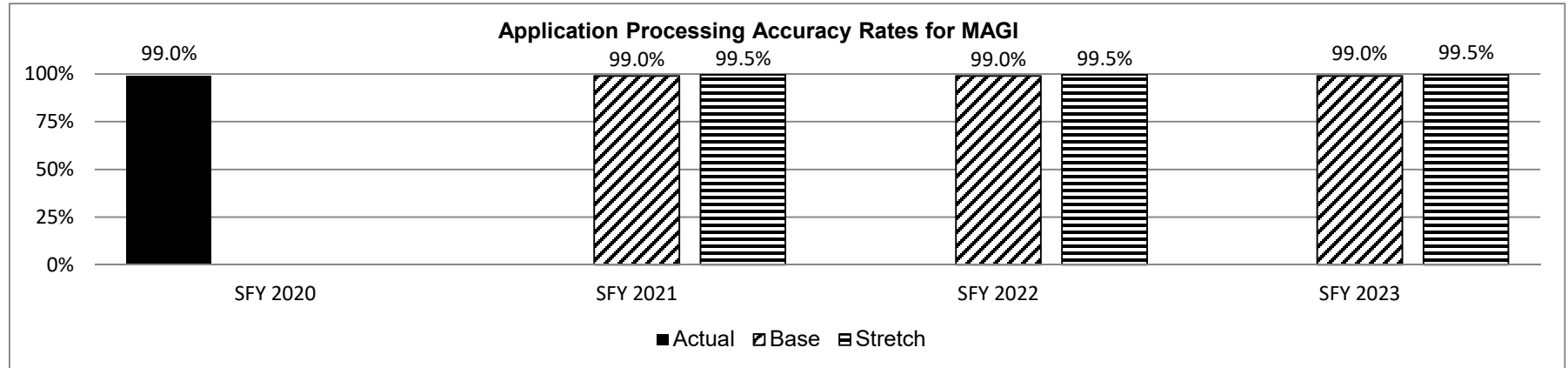
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SFY 2019 data is unavailable due to reporting systems limitations.



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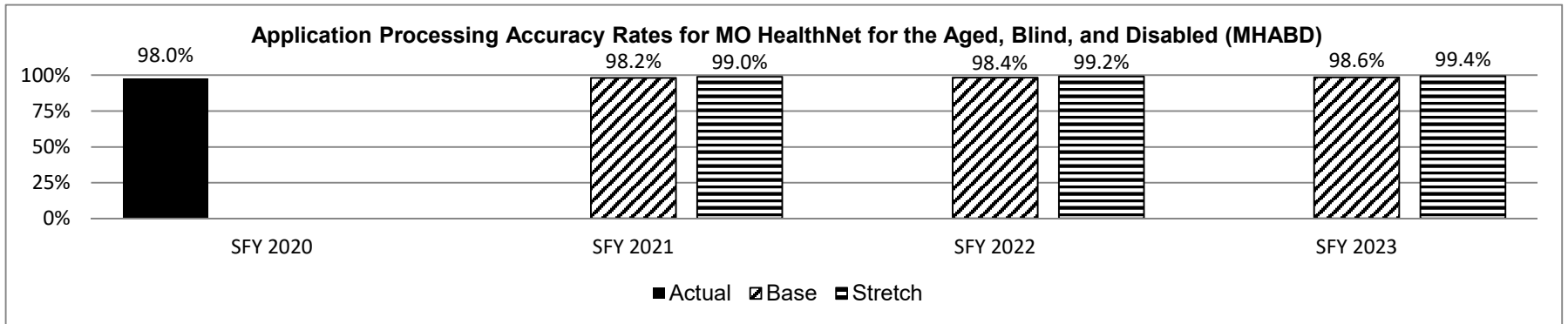
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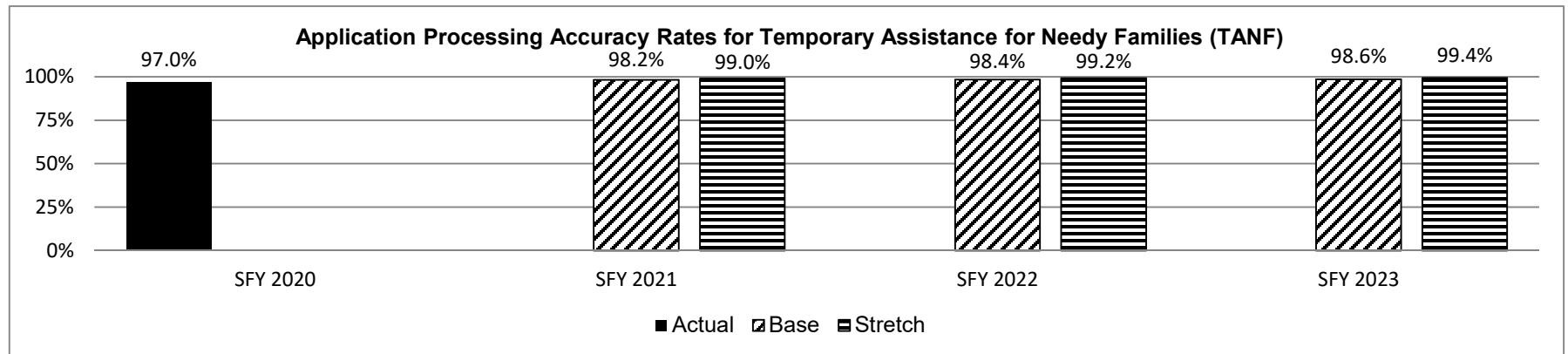
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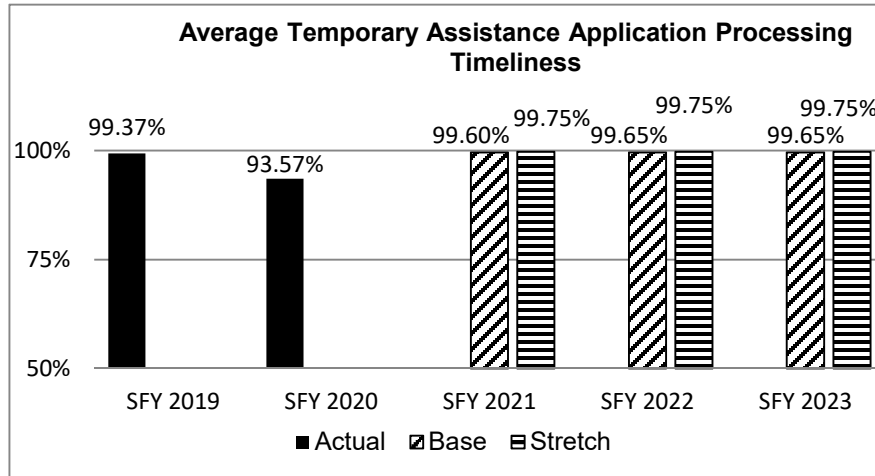
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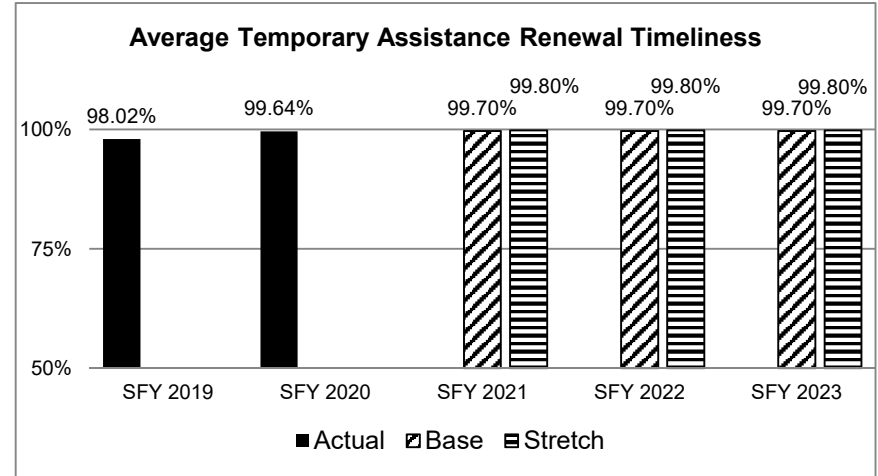
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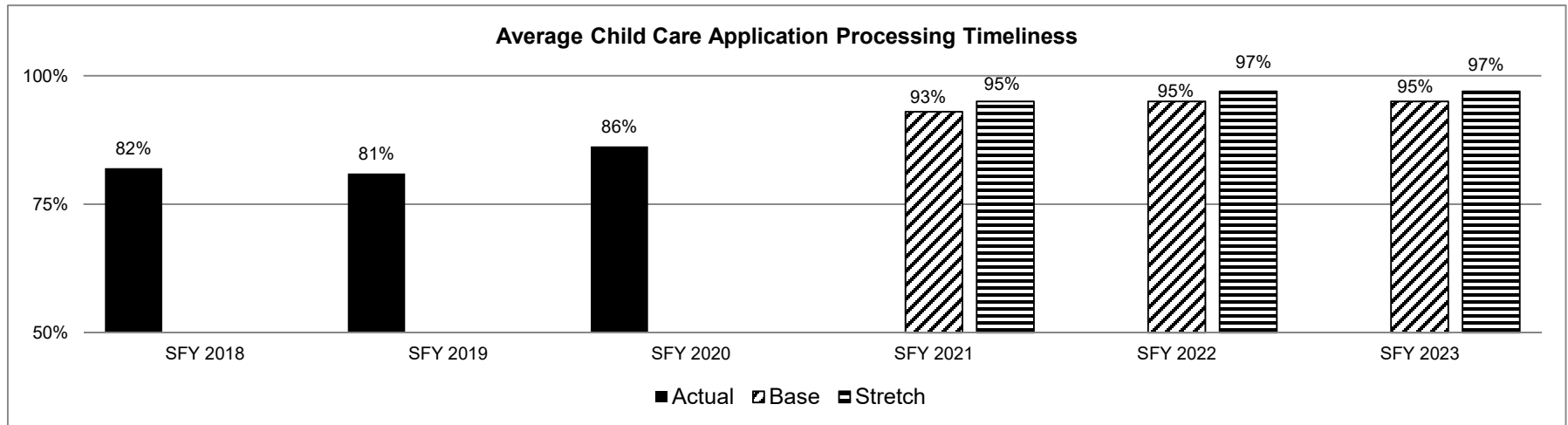
2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.



New Measures. Data is unavailable prior to SFY 2019.



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Child Care is a time limited program. Recipients must reapply annually to continue to receive benefits.

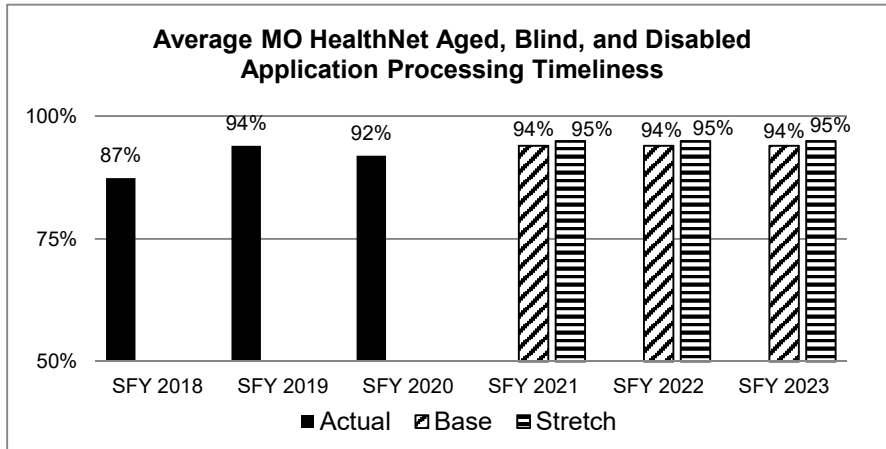
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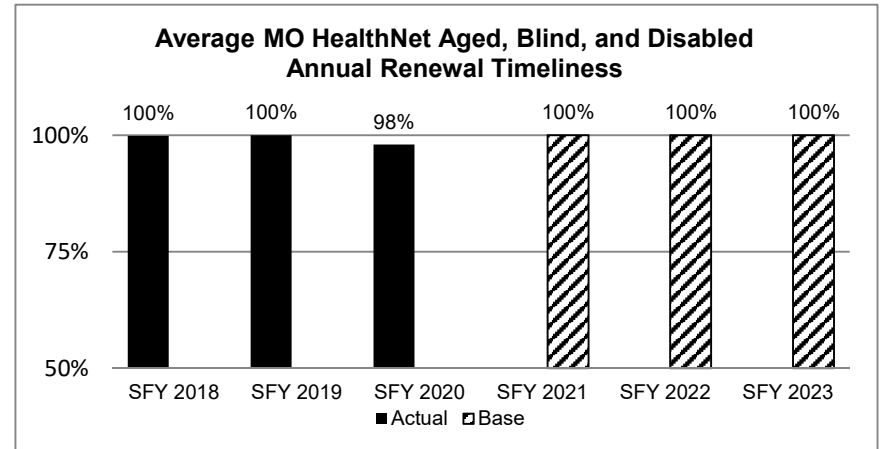
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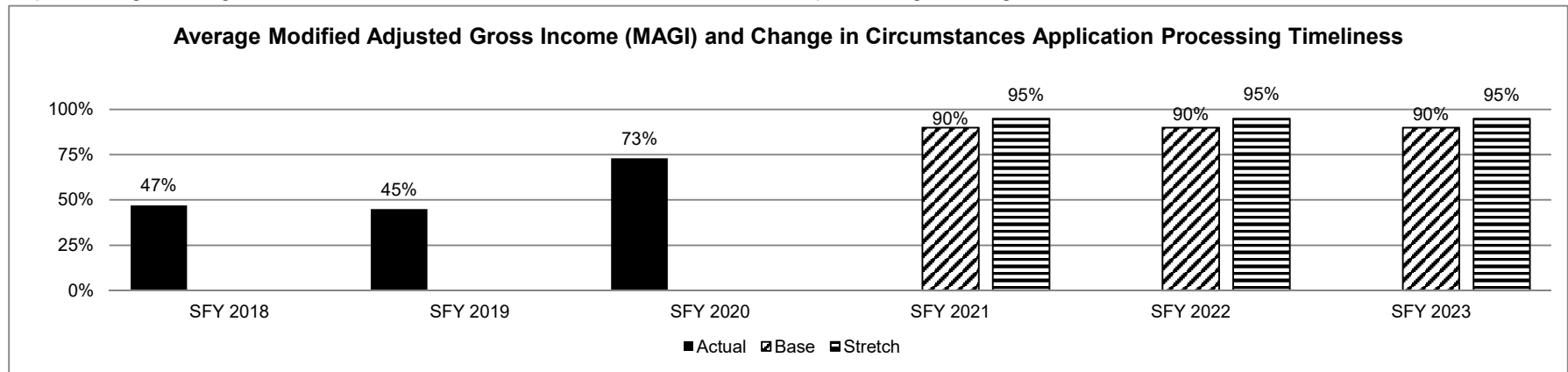
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There was a slight decrease in timeliness for SFY 2020 due to COVID-19 processing challenges.



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Since FSD could not separate applications from change in circumstances (active cases with address or household changes), the graph above indicates both.

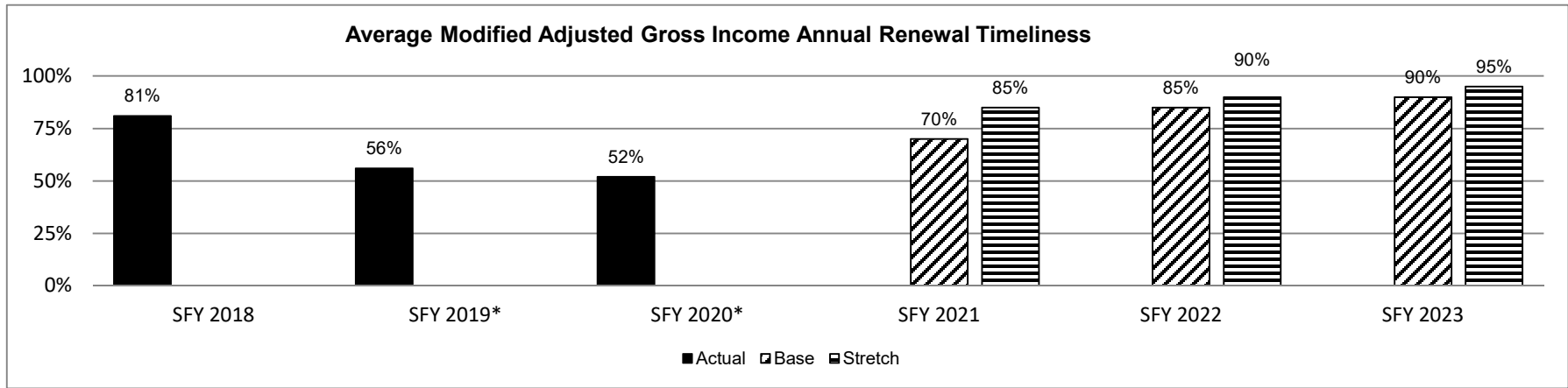
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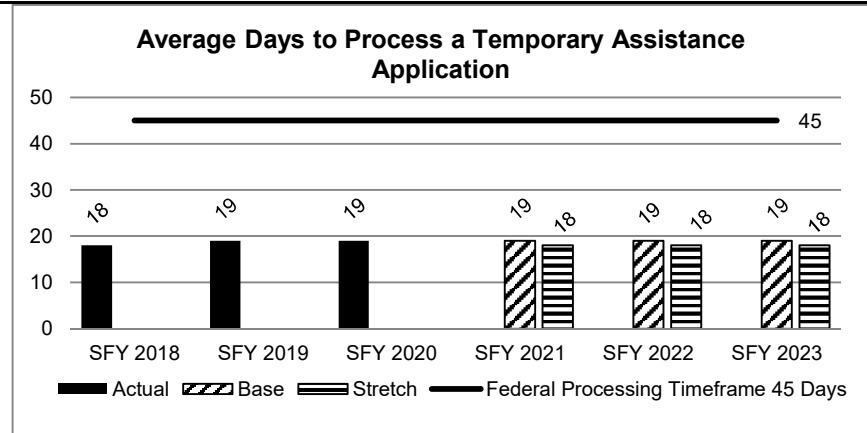
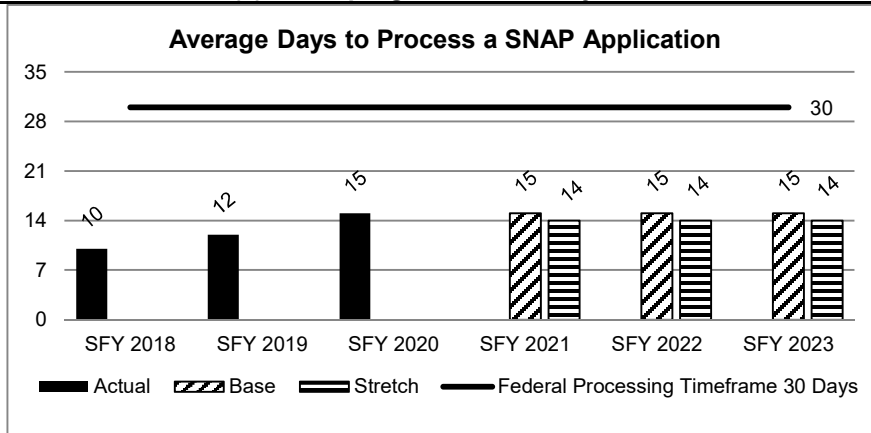
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FSD worked with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services while developing and improving functionality.

*During prior years, many system issues caused our Annual Review backlog to rise. With system enhancements and because of some waivers around COVID 19, a large number of staff were able to be dedicated to the backlog of Annual Reviews. The reporting numbers only account for the annual reviews when they are completed. Because of this, the timeliness for SFY 2019 and SFY 2020 are much lower than projected. However, with the Annual Reviews now current, we can expect to remain at a much higher standard moving forward.

2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.



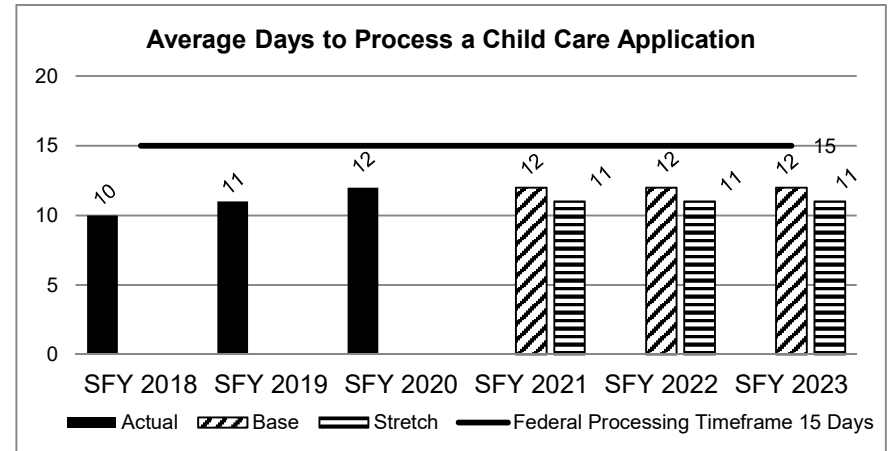
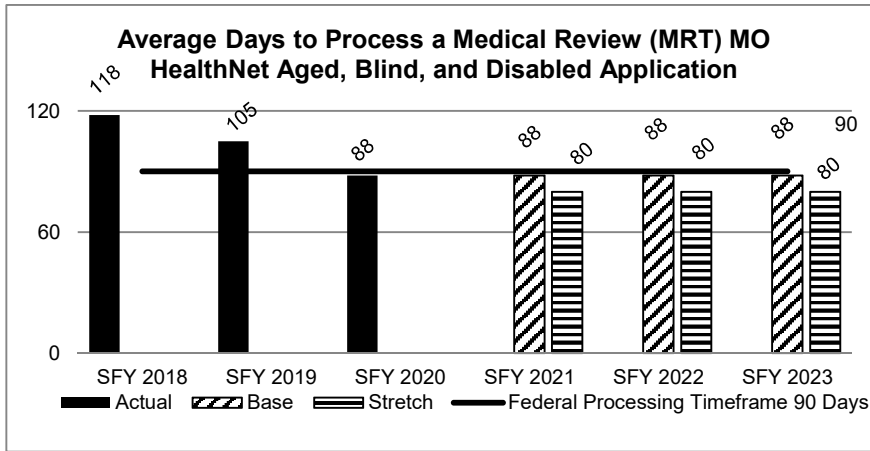
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The number of requests for verification sent will be tracked to assess the impact of the implementation of new eligibility verification services on this stage of the eligibility process. This measure will be reported in the FY 2023 budget request.

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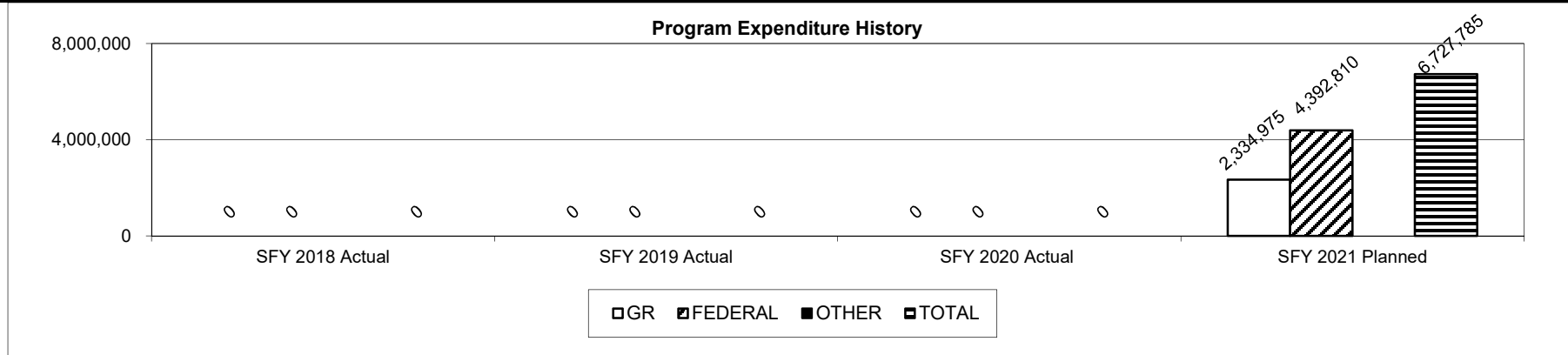
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3. Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years and planned expenditures for the current fiscal year. (Note: Amounts do not include fringe benefit costs.)



SFY 2021 Planned expenditures are net of reverted and restricted.

4. What are the sources of the "Other " funds?

N/A

5. What is the authorization for this program, i.e., federal or state statute, etc.? (Include the federal program number, if applicable.)

State Statute RSMo 208.065.

6. Are there federal matching requirements? If yes, please explain.

EVS federal fund (FF) reimbursement is based on the type of expenditure. The case information provided determines the rate of reimbursement. A portion of the EVS contracts are claimed to MO HealthNet Administration (75% FF and 25% State Match), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Admin (50% FF and 50% State Match), Child Care (83% FF and 17% State Match), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant (100% FF). There is a state maintenance of effort required to earn the TANF block grant. Expenditures from other programs also provide state maintenance of effort required to earn the TANF block grant. EVS implementation is reimbursed at 90% FF, 10% State Match.

7. Is this a federally mandated program? If yes, please explain.

Federal mandate requires the state operate, on an ongoing basis, an asset verification program in accordance with SEC. 1940. [42 U.S.C. 1396w] by December 31, 2020. Failure to do so will result in the reduction of the federal matching percentage (FMAP).