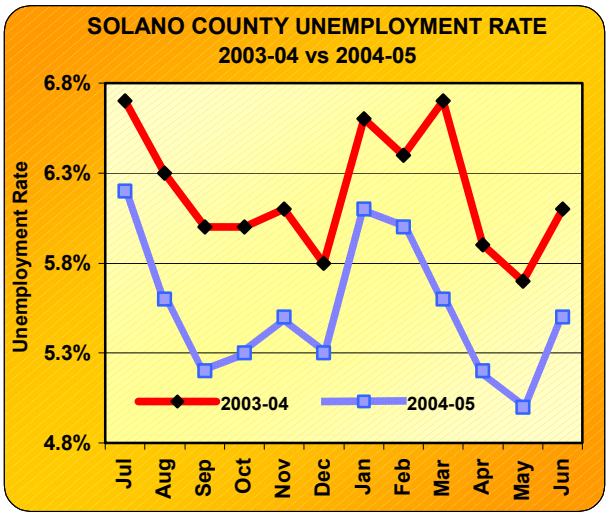
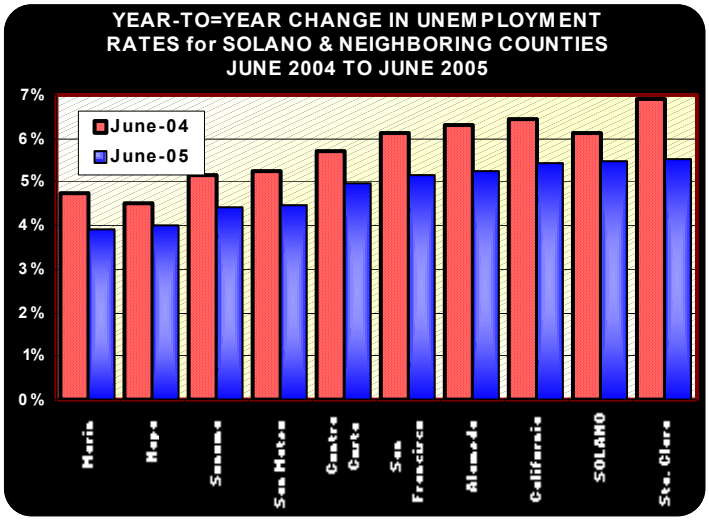
HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICE INDICATORS

ECONOMY

Indicator	April	May	June
Labor Force	209,900	210,200	212,900
Number Employed	199,000	199,800	201,200
Number Unemployed	11,000	10,400	11,700
Unemployment Rate	5.2%	5.0%	5.5%

- The unemployment rate rose in June by one-half of a point. However, unemployment usually rises in June as those leaving school enter the job market. Individuals who had previously given up on looking for work may have also reentered the job market. Solano's labor force increased by 2,700 but the number employed only rose by 1,400.
- Solano County's unemployment rate remains the second highest among Bay Area counties after Santa Clara County. The gap between Solano and Santa Clara narrowed, though, as Santa Clara registered stronger gains than Solano.



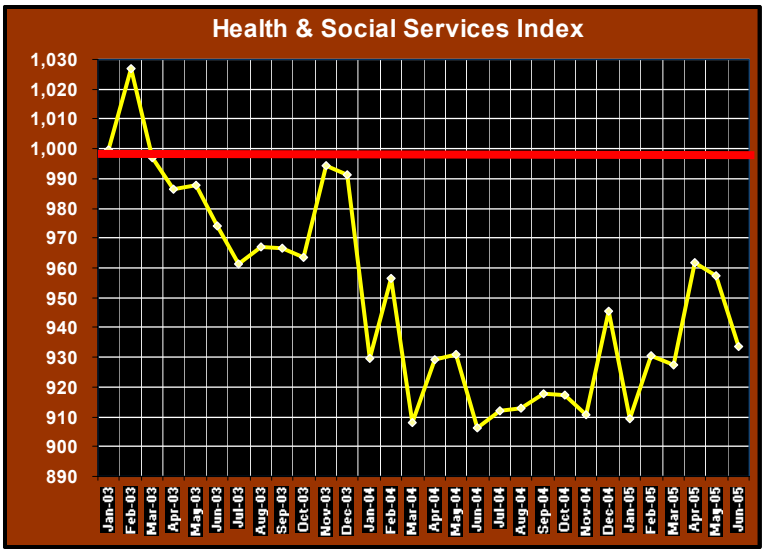


HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES INDEX

The **Health & Social Services (H&SS) Index** fell markedly in June. The number of unemployed increased – albeit probably due in part to more people joining the labor market who had previously been discouraged. But programs directed towards the working poor such as food stamps, Medi-Cal and CMSP also saw substantial increases. Overall, only 5 of the 16 indicators showed improvement.

The index combines workload data from 15 key services provided by H&SS, along with data on unemployment in Solano County, to provide a monthly indicator of community demand for health and social services.

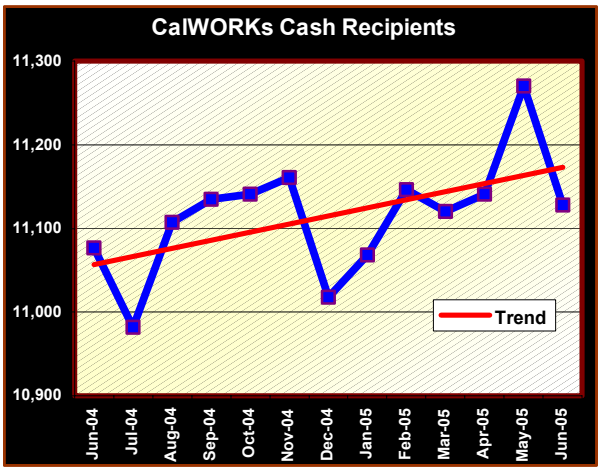
All of the monthly numbers are added together and converted into an index score with January 2003 as the index bench line figure of 1,000. Like the Dow Jones, higher scores suggest positive developments — fewer people looking for work or requiring the services that H&SS provides, for example. Falling numbers suggest increasing need for H&SS's services.



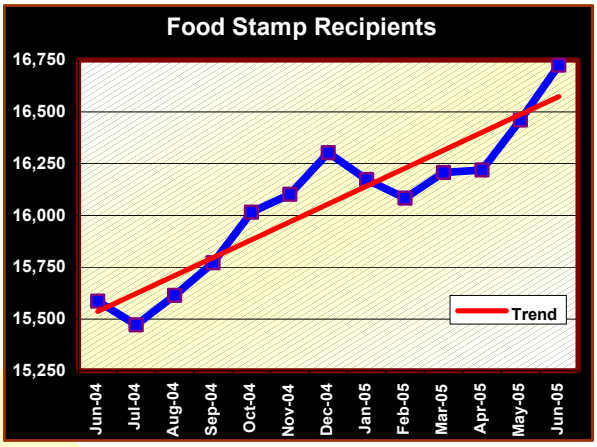
PROGRAM DATA

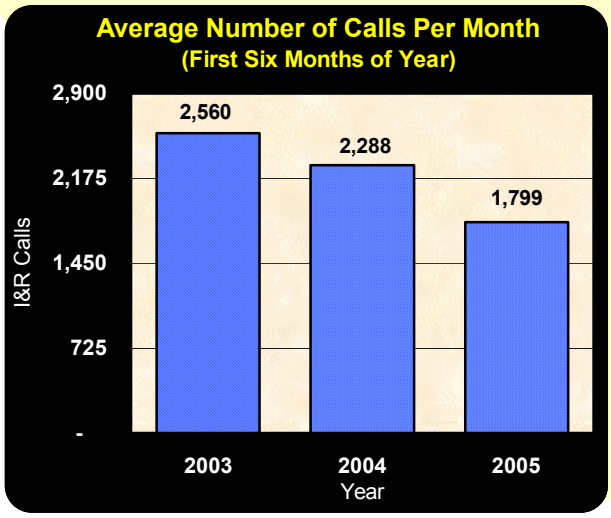
EMPLOYMENT & ELIGIBILITY

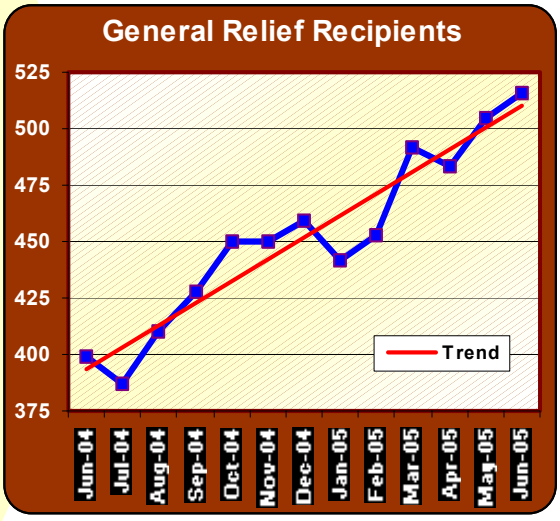
Indicator	April	May	June
Number of I&R Calls	1,369	1,420	1,592
CalWORKs Cash Assistance Recipients	11,141	11,270	11,128
New CalWORKs Applications	488	457	488
Food Stamp Recipients	16,220	16,461	16,726
General Relief Recipients	483	505	516



- The number of CalWORKs recipients fell slightly in June and was static over the past year. June 2005 figures were only .5 percent higher than for June 2004. The number of persons receiving food stamps in June 2005, on the other hand, was 7.3 percent higher than for the previous June.
- The food stamp program is intended to help low income households improve their nutrition by supplementing income. The larger increase in the number of food stamp recipients appears to reflect growth in the "working poor" – households that are not earning enough to meet the high cost of living in the Bay Area.
- The number of calls to the Solano County Help Line has trended down over prior years. The number of calls during the first six months of 2005 was 21 percent below the same period in 2004.





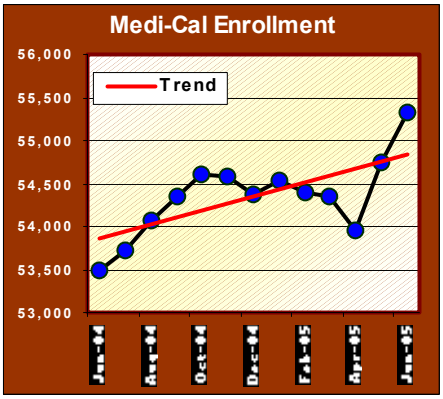


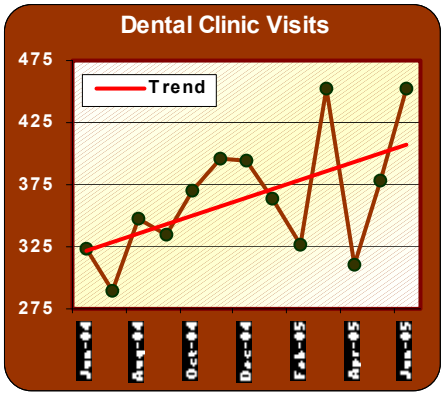
PUBLIC HEALTH

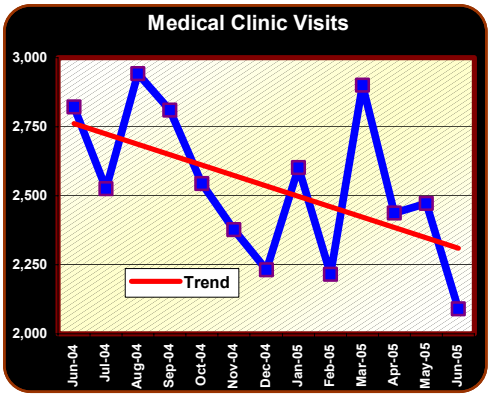
- Medi-Cal enrollment steadily increased over the past three months.
- Visits to the County's two medical clinics were down 25 percent in June 2005 (Preliminary Figures) compared to the previous June. Visits to the dental clinic, on the other hand, were up 40 percent for the same period.

Indicator	April	May	June
Medi-Cal Enrollment*	53,954	54,735	55,323
CMSP Enrollment	3,091	3,308	3,508
Medical Clinic Visits	2,437	2,472	2,090**
Dental Clinic Visits	310	378	452**

* Estimate based on actual enrollees through January 2005 and H&SS caseload and intake activity figures through June. ** Preliminary.



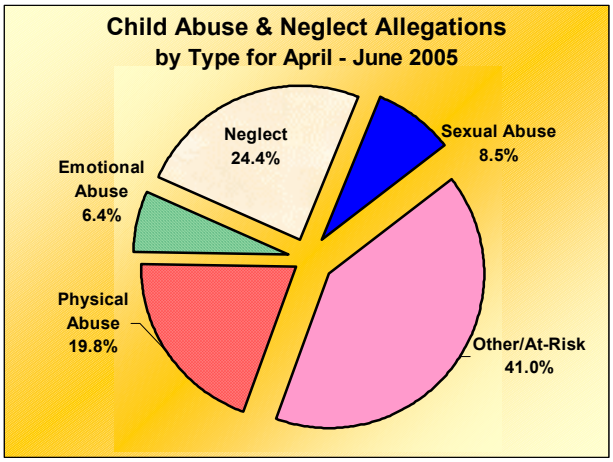


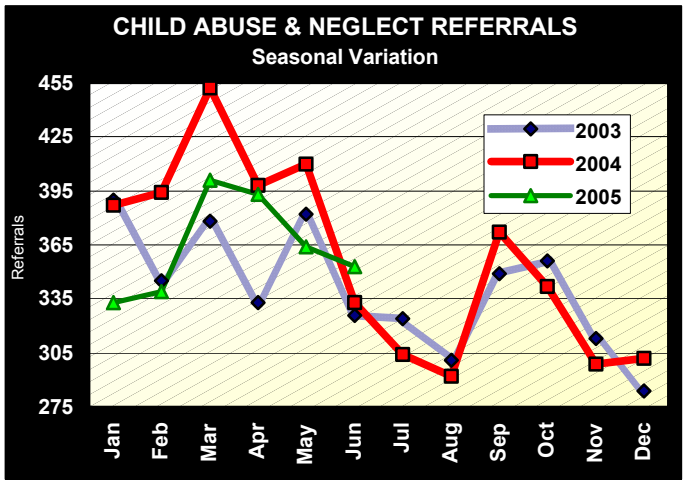


CHILD WELFARE

- The number of referrals for child abuse or neglect during FY 2005 was down 4.8% from FY 2004. Referrals were down 8% during the first six months of 2005 compared to the same period in 2004.

Indicator	April	May	June
Child Abuse or Neglect Referrals	393	364	353
Allegations of Physical or Sexual Abuse	239	200	148

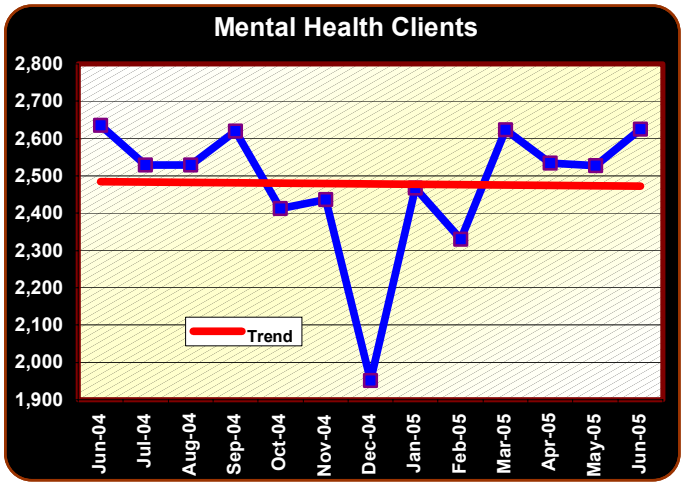


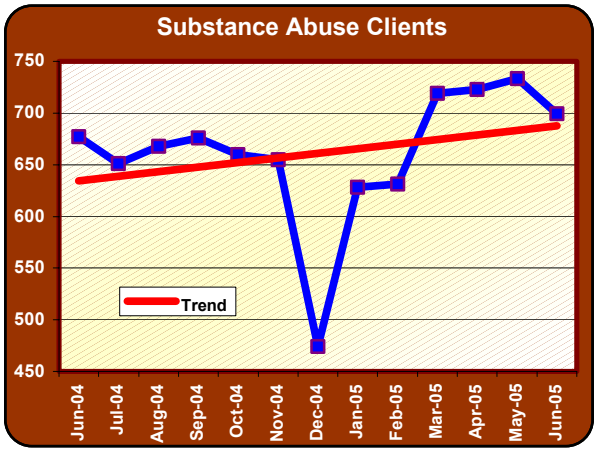


BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

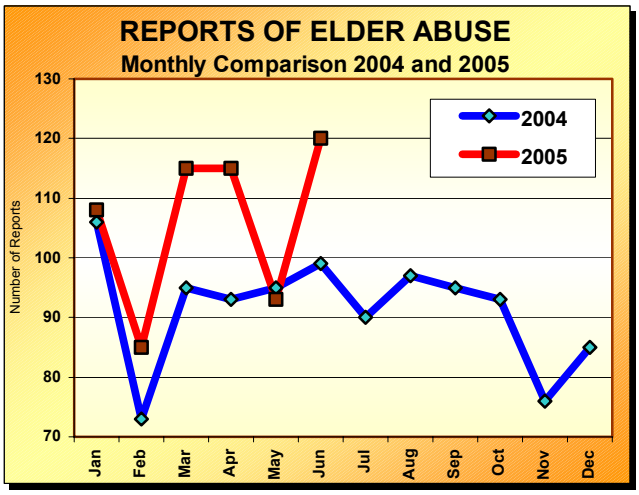
Indicator	April	May	June
Mental Health Clients	2,535	2,527	2,625
Substance Abuse Clients	723	733	699

- The number of mental health clients increased slightly in June over April and May although the number was down 3.4 percent over June 2004.
- The number of substance abuse clients has trended up slightly over the past 12 months.





OLDER & DISABLED ADULTS

Indicator	April	May	June
Elder or Dependent Adult Abuse Referrals	115	93	120
Elder or Dependent Adult Abuse Confirmed	31	29	18
In-Home Support-ive Services (IHSS) Authorized Cases	2,451	2,453	2,458

- The number of referrals for elder abuse through the first half of 2005 is running 13.4% higher compared to the same period last year. Several high profile cases that were reported in the media may have contributed to an increase in public awareness about elder abuse.