

October 2025



ConneCT



Client accounts created **online** in October

Secure PINs

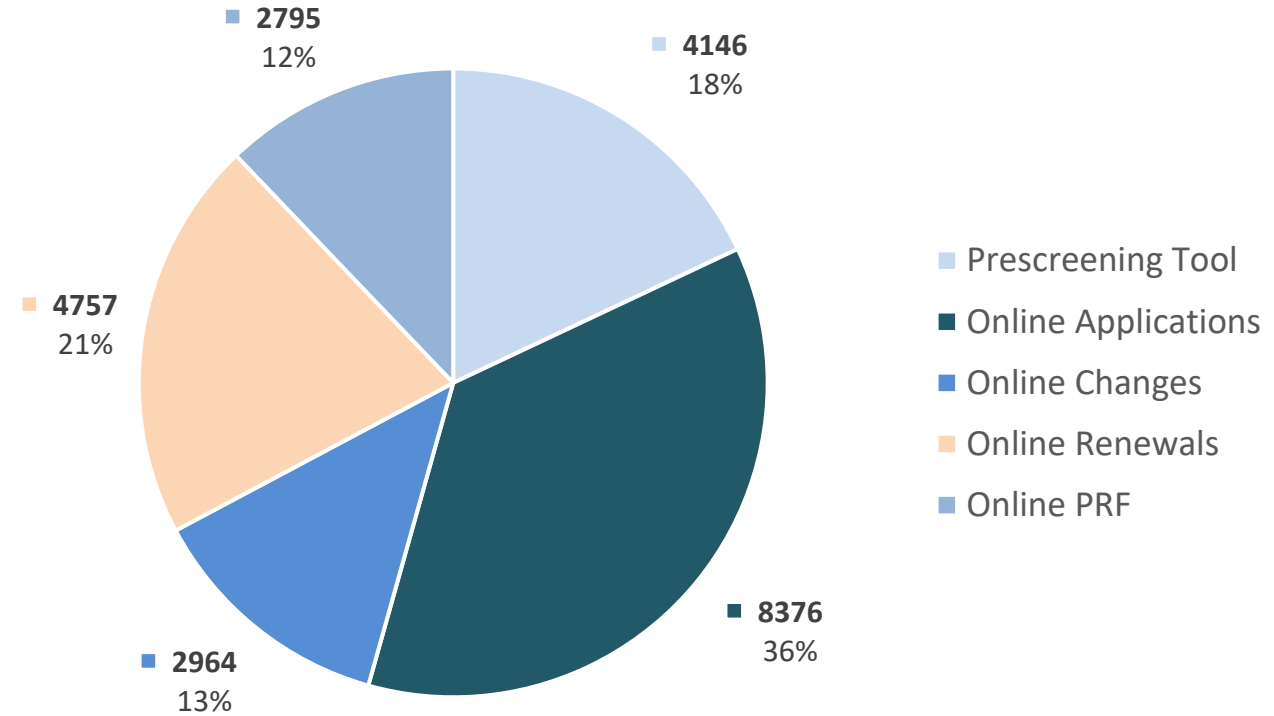


log-in pins used on the DSS 1.855 line in October

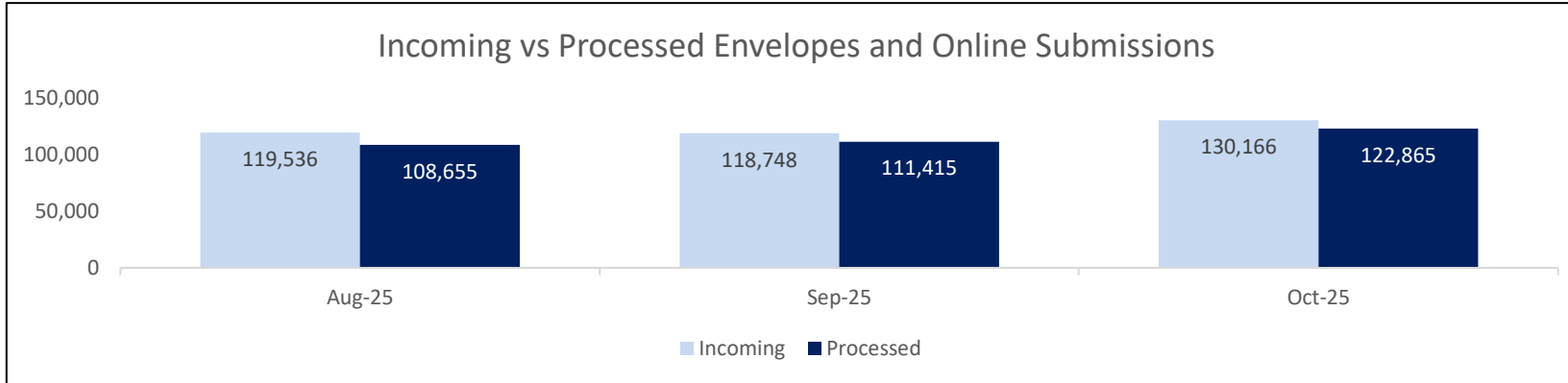
ConneCT is an online tool for current DSS clients where they can create an account to access information about their benefits. New clients can also use ConneCT to apply for benefits. ConneCT allows DSS clients to view their benefits such as their application status, which benefits are currently active, which household members are receiving benefits, and notifications about any upcoming redeterminations.

DSS Clients can access their account through the DSS 1.855 line using their unique PIN or via MyDSS mobile platform.

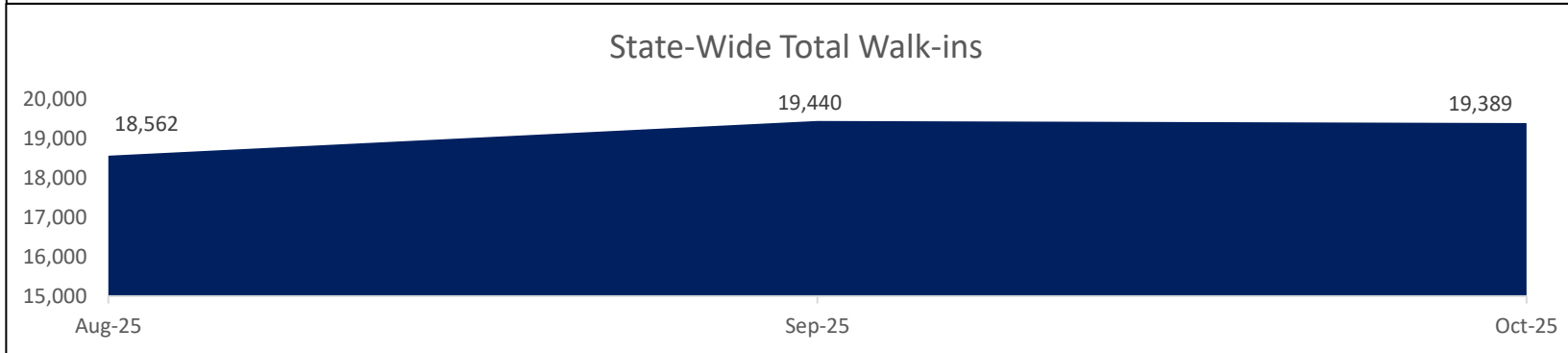
ConneCT ACTIVITY October Total 23038



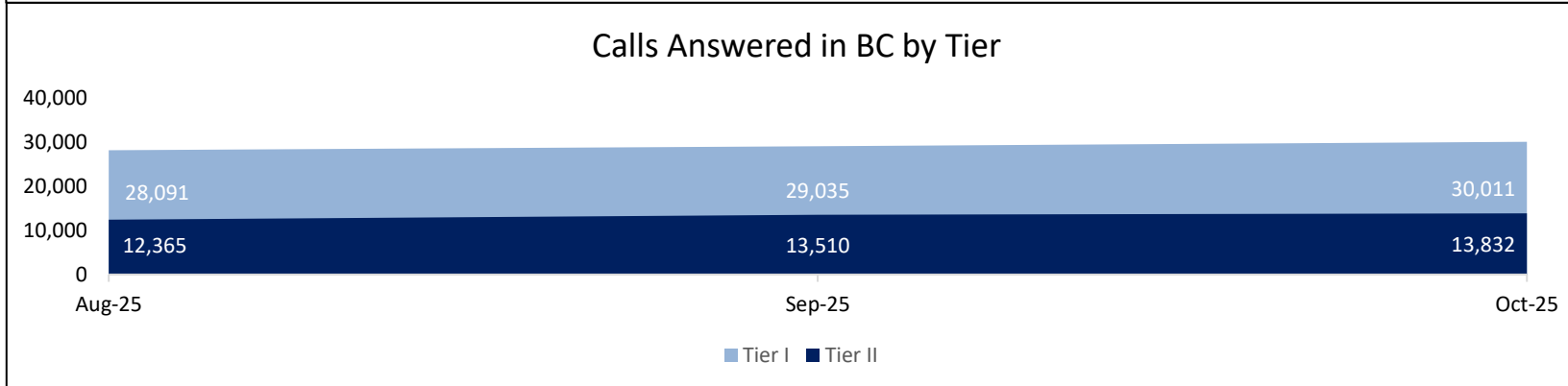
Applications,
Renewals,
Changes, and
Documents
Submitted



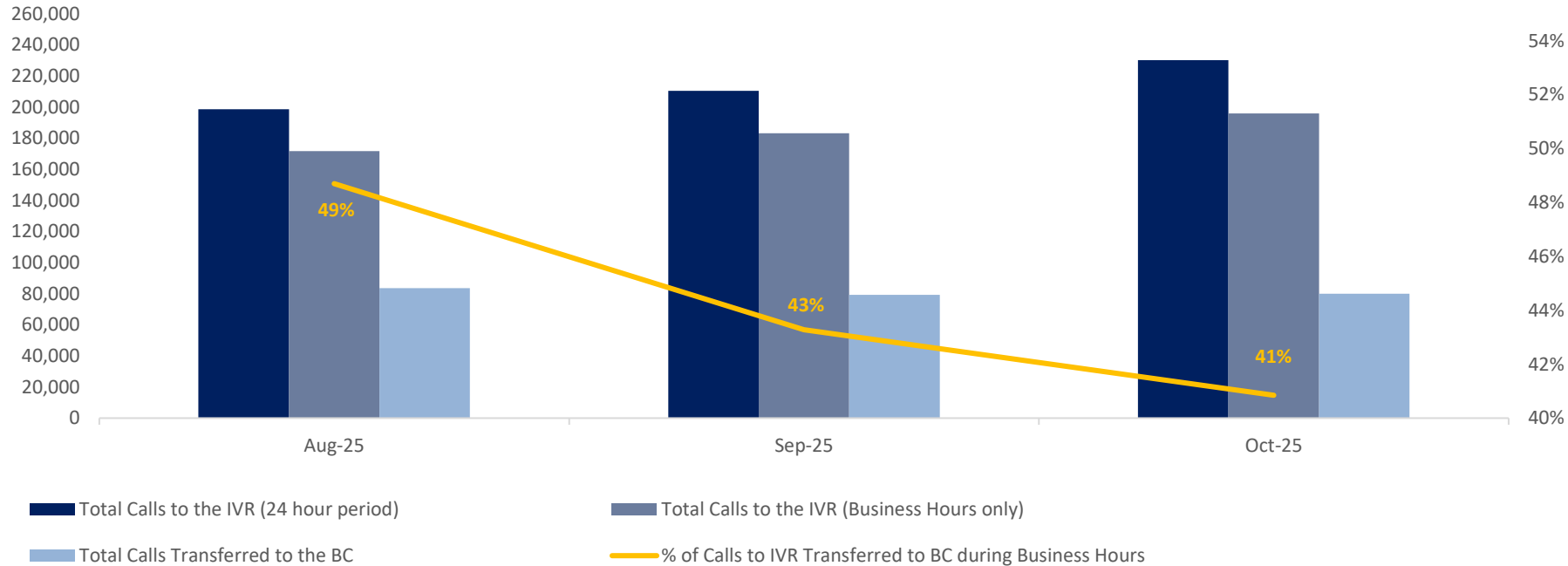
In-person
Visits



Calls
Answered



Client Info Line Aug 2025- Oct 2025



Interactive Voice Response (IVR) is an automated phone system technology that helps callers to access information via a voice response system of pre recorded messages without having to speak to an agent. It also gives callers the ability to utilize menu options via touch tone keypad to have their calls routed to subject matter experts.

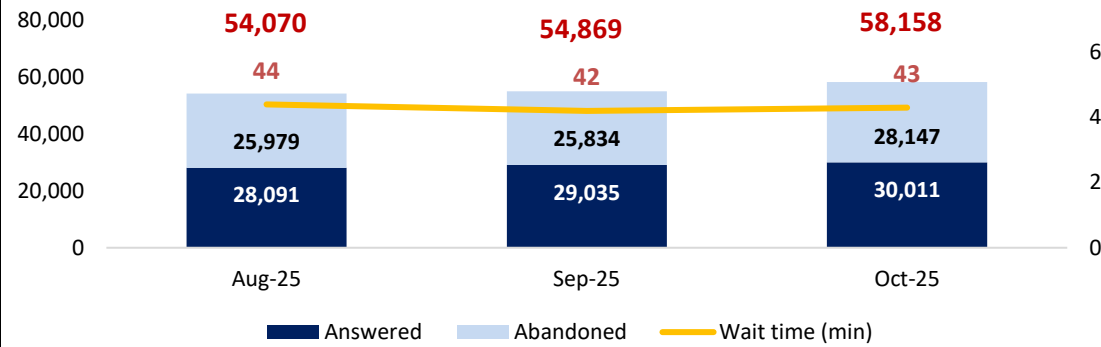
Benefits Center (BC) – not a traditional Call Center:

- Staffed by DSS Eligibility Workers – more than just customer service representatives
- Operate through specialized program and policy knowledge; no prepared scripts
- Able to serve all client needs across complex cases and numerous DSS Programs
- Perform all functions, including determining eligibility, processing work items, and serving customers

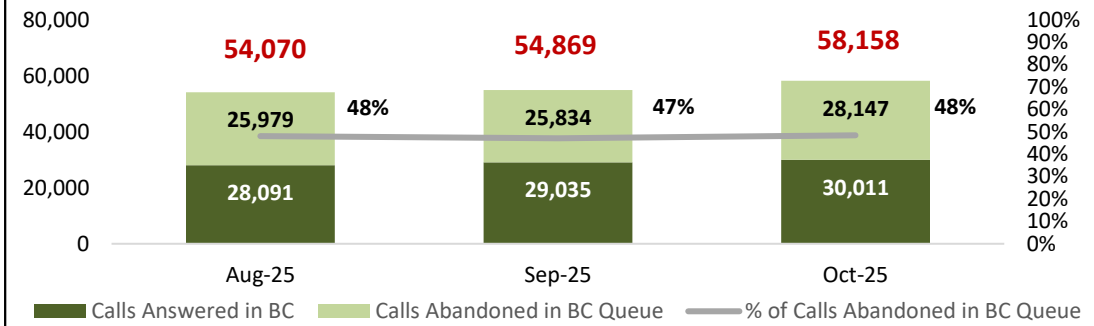
Calls placed to the Benefits Center are for all DSS programs, including Medical, SNAP (Food Stamps) and Cash Assistance

	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25
Total Calls to the IVR (24-hour period)	198,606	210,365	230,228
Total Calls to the IVR (Business Hours only)	171,707	183,256	195,883
Total Calls Transferred to the BC	83,617	79,302	80,014
% of Calls to IVR Transferred to BC during Business Hours	49%	43%	41%

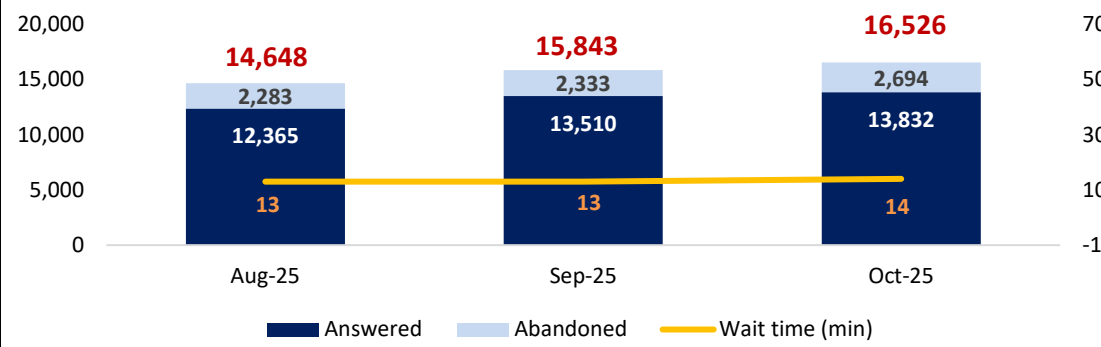
Monthly Number of Calls and Waiting Time Tier I



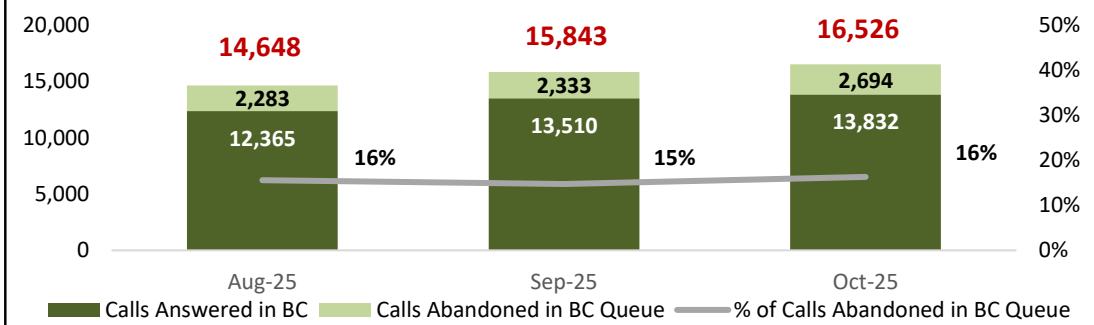
Number of Incoming and Abandoned Calls Tier I



Monthly Number of Calls and Waiting Time Tier II



Number of Incoming and Abandoned Calls Tier II

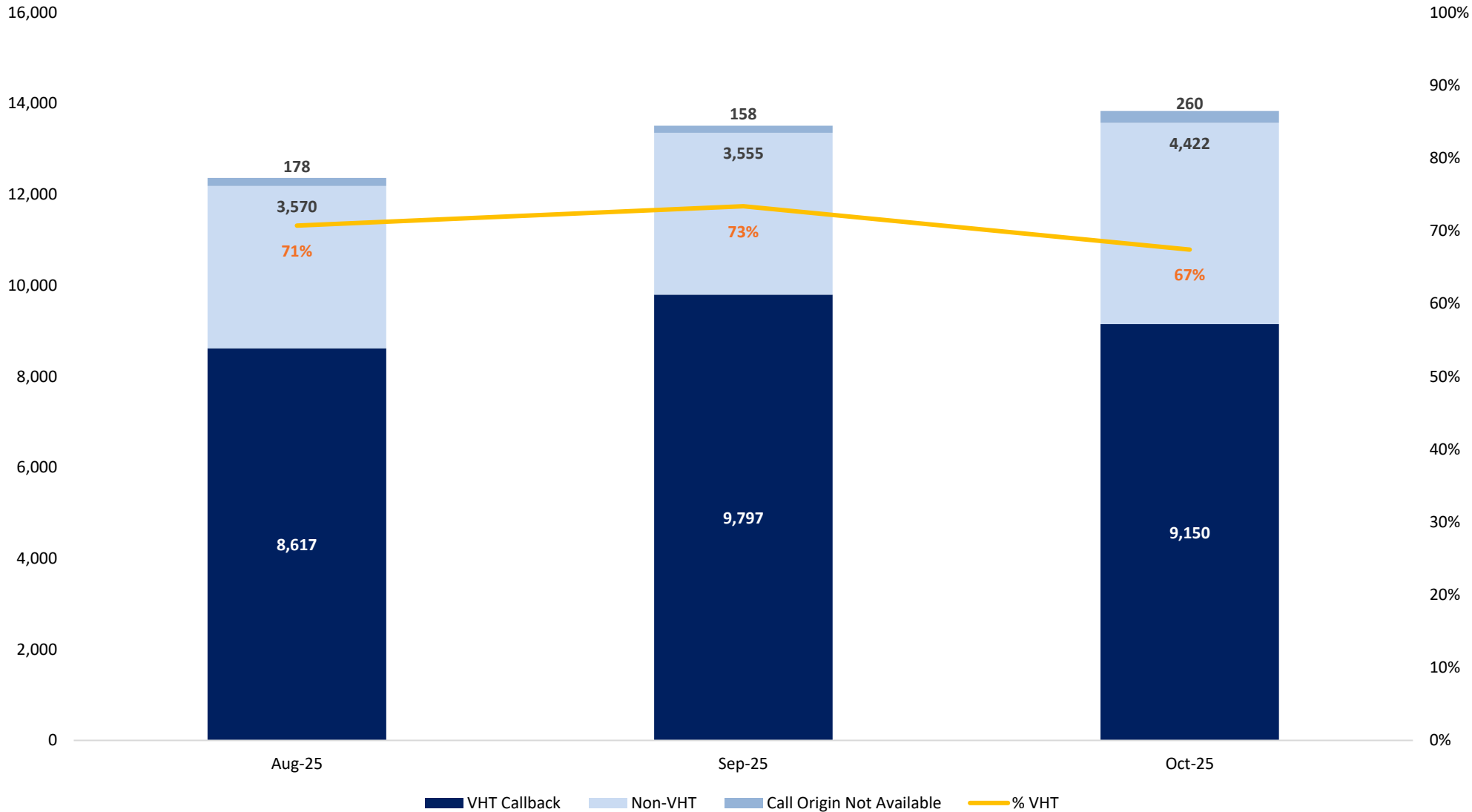


Tier I is the first point of contact for the caller. Tier 1 staff can help resolve issues, schedule appointments, or transfer clients to Tier II, where they will talk with a subject matter expert. Tier II Wait Times begin once the call is transferred from Tier I.

	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25
Tier I Calls Answered in the BC	28,091	29,035	30,011
Tier I Calls Abandoned in BC Queue	25,979	25,834	28,147
Tier II Calls Answered in the BC	12,365	13,510	13,832
Tier II Calls Abandoned in BC Queue	2,283	2,333	2,694

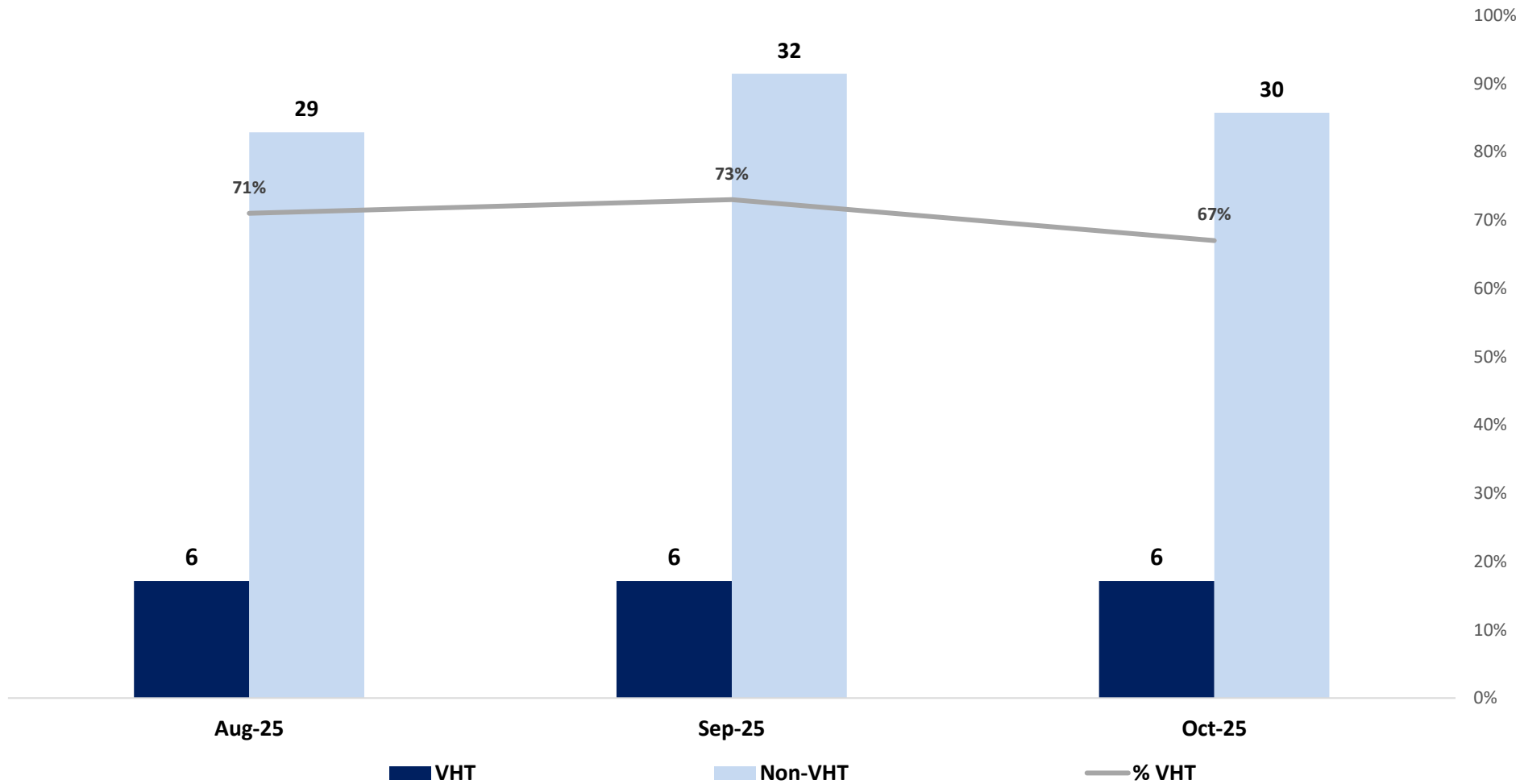
Virtual Hold Technology (VHT) is leveraged to improve customer experience. VHT holds a caller's place in line virtually. Call back software connects the caller to an Eligibility Worker. Callers can opt to be called back as soon as possible or can schedule a specific time.

Total Calls and Percentage Breakdown by VHT/Non-VHT for Tier II



- Virtual Hold Technology (VHT) is leveraged to improve customer experience
- Holds caller's place in line virtually. Callers do not have to physically hold
- Call back software connects the caller to an Eligibility Worker
- VHT was turned on at the end of October 2020
- Phone Interview Queue no longer part of Tier II as of February 2025.

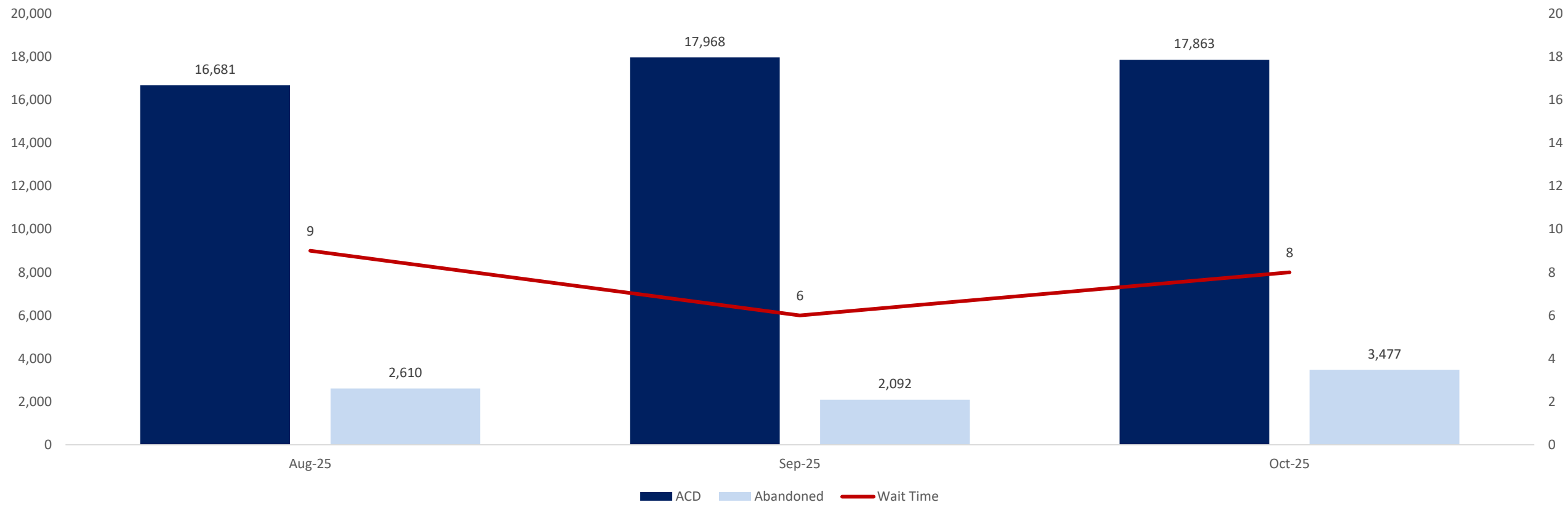
Average Wait times by Tier and VHT/Non-VHT Queues for Tier II (mins.)



Wait times in this chart are different than what's shown on page 5. Page 5 shows the average wait time of all VHT and Non-VHT calls together, whereas in this chart the averages are specific to the type of hold.

Wait Times displayed do not include wait times from CONA(Call Origin Not Available) calls.

Call Details for Phone Interview Queue



SNAP Telephone interviews corresponds to the total number of calls answered requesting phone interviews per month.

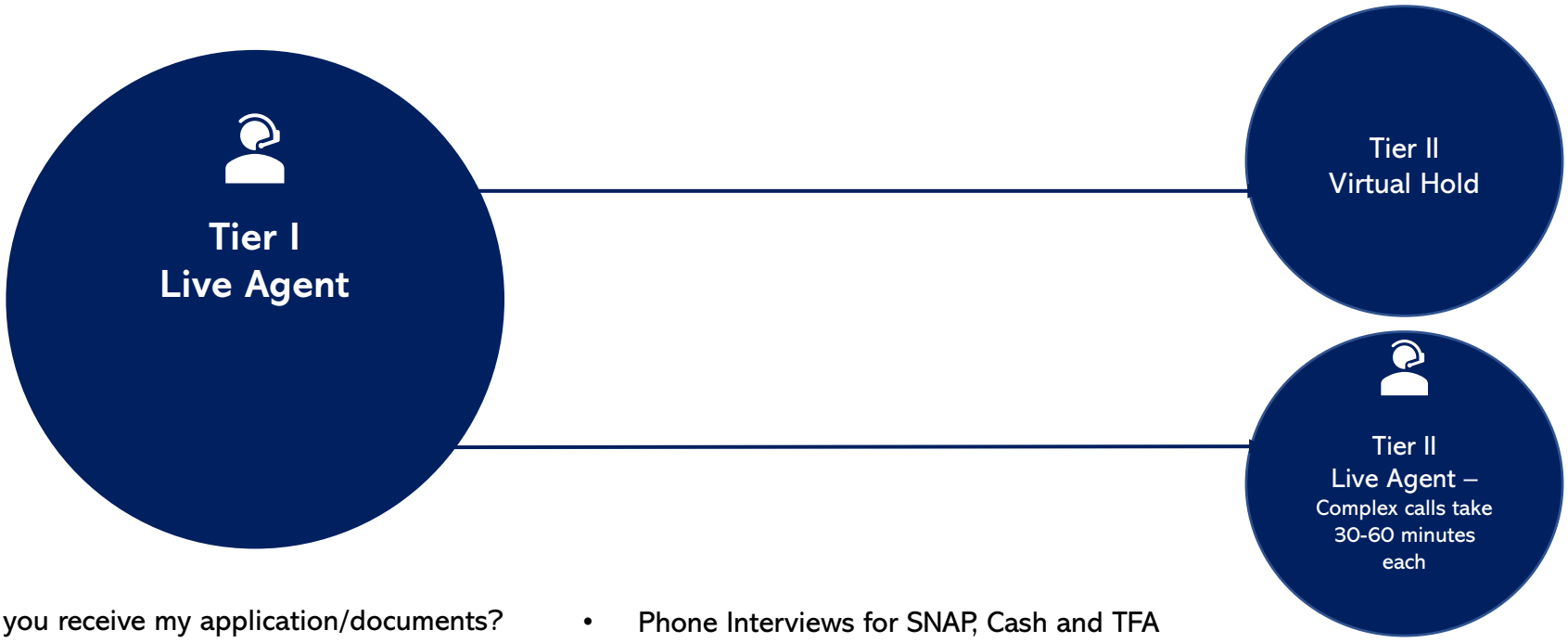
***Snap Option 1**

On February 18, 2025, DSS modified its Tiered Model approach for answering client calls. The modification is to allow clients that require the Federally Mandated SNAP Interview to have direct phone contact with Eligibility staff to conduct the interview. The clients now can choose Option 1 in the phone tree to connect to an agent. This reduces the wait time and improves processing time frames.

APPENDIX

In April 2023, DSS introduced a tiered telephonic service delivery model in anticipation of high call volume stemming from the PHE Unwind eligibility adjustments. A tiered model helps to direct and escalate client calls based on need and complexity. All DSS client calls start with a tier I agent, and when necessary, moved up to a tier II agent.

Low ————— Call Complexity ————— *High*



- Did you receive my application/documents?
- I lost my EBT card, can I get a new one?
- Where can I get a copy of a budget sheet?
- What is the status of case?
- What is my benefit amount and effective date?
- What additional information do I need?

- Phone Interviews for SNAP, Cash and TFA applications and renewals.
- Processing changes reported over phone.
- Processing of submitted documents such as applications, renewals and changes.
- Address and process complex client case inquiries.

Thank You