

Quarterly Progress Report

ACE Screening and Clinician Training Data

May 2023

The California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and the Office of the California Surgeon General are leading **ACEs Aware**, a first-in-the-nation, statewide effort to implement screening for Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and treatment of toxic stress to improve the health and well-being of Californians.

ACEs Aware offers clinical teams training, clinical protocols, and payment for screening children, adolescents, and adults for ACEs.

This quarterly progress report provides the following data:

- Number of individuals who completed the **“Becoming ACEs Aware in California”** online training between December 4, 2019 and March 31, 2023.
- Number of ACE screenings conducted in California between January 1, 2020 and June 30, 2022, based on DHCS Medi-Cal claims data.

Medi-Cal Claims for ACE Screenings

Medi-Cal clinicians conducted more than **1,544,250** ACE screenings of **1,113,590** unique Medi-Cal members.

Of the **919,980** unique Medi-Cal members ages 0 to 20 screened for ACEs, **5%** had an ACE score of 4 or more.

Of the **193,610** unique Medi-Cal members ages 21 to 64 screened for ACEs, **14%** had an ACE score of 4 or more.*

Data from: January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022

Medi-Cal clinicians – primarily pediatric, family medicine, and behavioral health professionals – conducted 1,544,250 ACE screenings of 1,113,590 unique Medi-Cal members between January 1, 2020 and June 30, 2022. Eighty three percent of all screenings conducted were of members ages 0 to 20, 5% of whom had an ACE score of four or greater, indicating a high risk for toxic stress, and 17% of all screenings conducted were of members ages 21 to 64, 14% of whom had an ACE score of four or greater.

How many people have completed Becoming ACEs Aware in California training?

Training and Certification

29,160 Individuals completed the training

13,150 Medi-Cal clinicians are ACEs Aware-certified**

Before the training

After the training

67% of participants indicated that based on the training, they plan to implement changes in their practice or that the training already reinforced their current practice.

52% of participants were not screening any patients for ACEs.

57% of participants who were not previously screening patients for ACEs indicated that they planned to implement routine ACE screening for children or adults.

Data from: December 4, 2019 to March 31, 2023

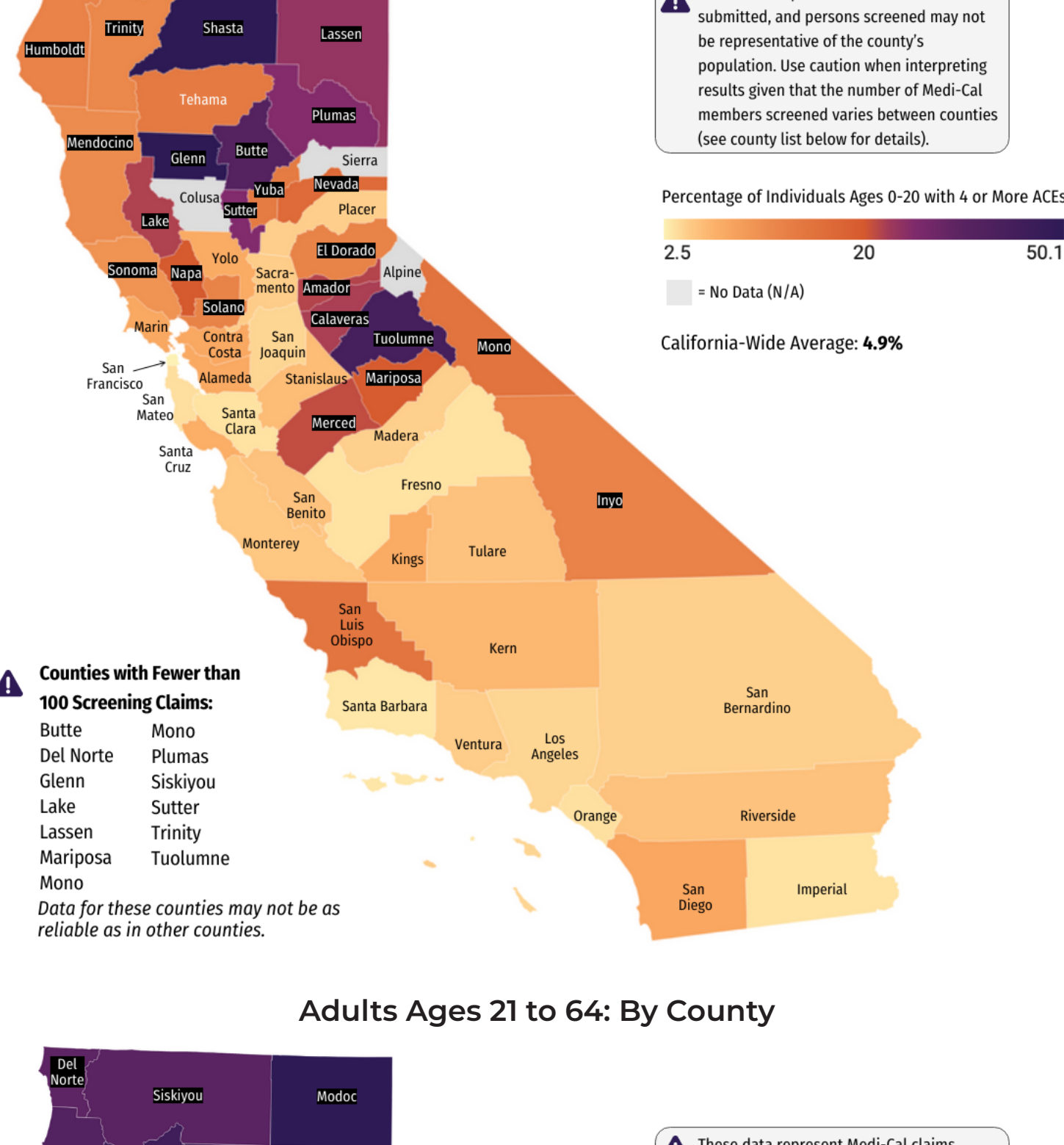
Since the launch of the ACEs Aware initiative in December 2019, more than 29,160 individuals have completed the core ACEs Aware training, including approximately 13,150 Medi-Cal clinicians in California who are ACEs Aware-certified and are eligible to receive Medi-Cal payment for conducting ACE screenings.

Is ACEs Aware making a difference in clinical care?

After completing the training, participants were asked about practice changes they plan to make based on the training: 67% of participants reported they plan to implement changes in their practice based on the information presented in the training; 57% reported they plan to conduct routine ACE screenings for children; 49% reported they plan to conduct routine ACE screenings for adults; and 89% reported being somewhat or very confident that they would be able to make their intended practice changes. Additionally, 39% plan to change their treatment or management approach based on the patient’s ACE score and toxic stress risk assessment, and 40% plan to apply a clinical algorithm on ACEs and toxic stress to guide patient care.

Percentage of Patients Screened Who Disclosed an ACE Score of 4 or More, Based on Medi-Cal Claims Data, by County

Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults Ages 0 to 20: By County



Adults Ages 21 to 64: By County



ACE Screening Claims Data: from January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022

Notes:

Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number and may not add to 100%.

Data Extraction Date: February 10, 2023 from the DHCS Management Information System/Decision Support System (MIS/DSS) data warehouse

*“N/A” percentage of high-risk ACE scores means data have been suppressed in instances where values were at least one but less than 11, or whereby related data with values less than 11 not presented here could be deduced from the information in this map.

**ACE score refers to the total disclosed exposure to the 10 ACE categories. An ACE score of 4 or greater indicates that patients may be at high risk for toxic stress. Patients with an ACE score of 0 to 3 may also be at risk for toxic stress.

**Medi-Cal clinicians must attest to completing a certified ACEs Aware core training to qualify for Medi-Cal payment. The methodology has been revised to count unique Medi-Cal clinicians and is not comparable to quarterly reports prior to October 2022.

ACE Screenings by Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan (MCP) Network

Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults (ages 0 to 20): MCP clinicians screened 801,190 individuals, representing 16% of unique Medi-Cal members ages 20 and under who were enrolled with a single plan in any continuous 12-month period between January 1, 2020 and June 30, 2022 (and were not dually eligible for Medi-Cal and Medicare). Fee-for-service (FFS) clinicians screened 7% of Medi-Cal members who were not enrolled in any plan during the measurement period (Exhibit 1).

Exhibit 1: ACE Screenings for Members Ages 0 to 20 by Medi-Cal MCP (January 1, 2020 – June 30, 2022)

Managed Care Plan	Number of Members Screened	Medi-Cal Enrollment	Percentage of Medi-Cal Population Screened
Aetna Better Health of California	1,270	11,960	11%
Alameda Alliance for Health	22,110	108,360	20%
Blue Cross of CA Partnership Plan	54,190	368,330	15%
Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan	5,130	28,960	18%
CalOptima	126,200	338,220	37%
CalViva Health	27,210	193,020	14%
California Health & Wellness Plan	4,850	96,150	5%
CenCal Health	17,990	95,510	19%
Central California Alliance for Health	3,350	183,900	2%
Community Health Group Partnership Plan	21,440	128,470	17%
Contra Costa Health Plan	1,960	84,960	2%
Gold Coast Health Plan	12,510	100,860	12%
Health Net Community Solutions, Inc.	105,870	610,010	17%
Health Plan of San Joaquin	10,220	188,210	5%
Health Plan of San Mateo	5,040	52,960	10%
Inland Empire Health	160,520	656,670	24%
Kaiser Permanente Cal, LLC	5,210	81,370	6%
Kern Health Systems	24,890	154,310	16%
L.A. Care Health Plan	122,680	891,610	14%
Molina Healthcare of California Partner Plan, Inc.	31,820	196,880	16%
Partnership HealthPlan of California	20,330	241,860	8%
San Francisco Health Plan	5,000	45,760	11%
Santa Clara Family Health Plan	10,670	111,760	10%
United Healthcare Community Plan	810	7,110	11%
Total – MCP	801,190	4,977,210	16%
Total – FFS	19,670	270,830	7%

Adults (Ages 21 to 64): MCP clinicians screened 169,620 individuals, representing 3% of unique Medi-Cal members ages 21 through 64 who were enrolled with a single plan in any continuous 12-month period between January 1, 2020 and June 30, 2022 (and were not dually eligible for Medi-Cal and Medicare). FFS clinicians screened less than 1% of Medi-Cal members who were not enrolled in any plan during the measurement period (Exhibit 2).

Exhibit 2: ACE Screenings for Members Ages 21 to 64 by Medi-Cal MCP (January 1, 2020 – June 30, 2022)

Managed Care Plan	Number of Members Screened	Medi-Cal Enrollment	Percentage of Medi-Cal Population Screened
Aetna Better Health of California	970	23,410	4%
Alameda Alliance for Health	310	150,230	<1%
AltaMed	--	470	--
Blue Cross of CA Partnership Plan	8,410	446,100	2%
Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan	5,190	63,720	8%
CalOptima	18,770	404,920	5%
CalViva Health	4,740	182,690	3%
California Health & Wellness Plan	590	115,920	1%
CenCal Health	650	90,150	1%
Central California Alliance for Health	2,780	164,580	2%
Community Health Group Partnership Plan	10,950	144,270	8%
Contra Costa Health Plan	70	108,710	<1%
Gold Coast Health Plan	2,490	100,450	2%
Health Net Community Solutions, Inc.	22,110	705,100	3%
Health Plan of San Joaquin	2,480	178,920	1%
Health Plan of San Mateo	70	57,830	<1%
Inland Empire Health	38,820	672,900	6%
Kaiser Permanente Cal, LLC	--	80,790	--
Kern Health Systems	3,930	141,600	3%
L.A. Care Health Plan	27,010	1,150,240	2%
Molina Healthcare of California Partner Plan, Inc.	12,500	238,690	5%
Partnership HealthPlan of California	5,460	298,170	2%
San Francisco Health Plan	80	87,500	<1%
Santa Clara Family Health Plan	260	128,000	<1%
United Healthcare Community Plan	980	7,110	6%
Total – MCP	169,620	5,753,180	3%
Total – FFS	3,340	1,328,150	<1%

Notes:

“Number of Members Screened” and “Medi-Cal Enrollment” are rounded to the nearest 10 and may not sum to the total.

“Percentage Medi-Cal Population Screened” is rounded to the nearest whole percent.

“Number of Members Screened” is the count of distinct non-dual individuals who were enrolled in a single plan in any continuous 12-month period and received an ACE screening during the measurement period.

“Medi-Cal Enrollment” is the count of distinct non-dual individuals who were enrolled in a single plan for any 12 continuous months during the measurement period.

Cells with “--” have been suppressed in instances where values were at least one but less than 11, or whereby related data with values less than 11 not presented here could be deduced from the information in this table.

The screens in this report are collected by capturing claims utilizing the designated G9919 and G9920 codes for ACE screenings. Any additional screenings that were not documented with these codes would not be counted in this report.

Data Extraction Date: February 10, 2023 from the DHCS MIS/DSS data warehouse.

ACEs Aware will continue to publish updates to screening and training data on a quarterly basis. In addition, the **ACEs Aware Screening, Training, and Certification Progress: February 2023 Update** includes additional details on demographics of clinical team members trained, characteristics of clinicians providing screening, profile of members screened, and screening rates and quality improvement metrics for Medi-Cal MCPs.