

Quarterly Progress Report

ACE Screening and Clinician Training Data

October 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 August 31, 2023.
- Number of ACE screenings conducted in California between January 1, 2020, and December 31, 2022, based on DHCS Medi-Cal claims data.

Medi-Cal Claims for ACE Screenings

Medi-Cal clinicians conducted more than **2,040,870** ACE screenings of **1,390,300** unique Medi-Cal members.

Of the **1,135,170** unique Medi-Cal members ages 0 to 20 screened for ACEs, **5%** had an ACE score of 4 or more.

Of the **255,130** unique Medi-Cal members ages 21 to 64 screened for ACEs, **15%** had an ACE score of 4 or more.*

Data from: January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2022

Medi-Cal clinicians – primarily pediatric, family medicine, and behavioral health professionals – conducted 2,040,870 ACE screenings of 1,390,300 unique Medi-Cal members between January 1, 2020, and December 31, 2022. Eighty-two 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 18% of all screenings conducted were of members ages 21 to 64, 15% of whom had an ACE score of four or greater.

Number of people who completed the Becoming ACEs Aware in California training

Training and Certification

33,270 Individuals completed the training

15,100 Medi-Cal clinicians are ACEs Aware-certified**

Before the training
54% of participants were not screening any patients for ACEs.

After the training
58% of participants who were not previously screening patients for ACEs indicated that they planned to implement routine ACE screening for children or adults.

65% of participants indicated that either the training already reinforced their current practice or based on the training, they plan to implement changes in their practice.

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

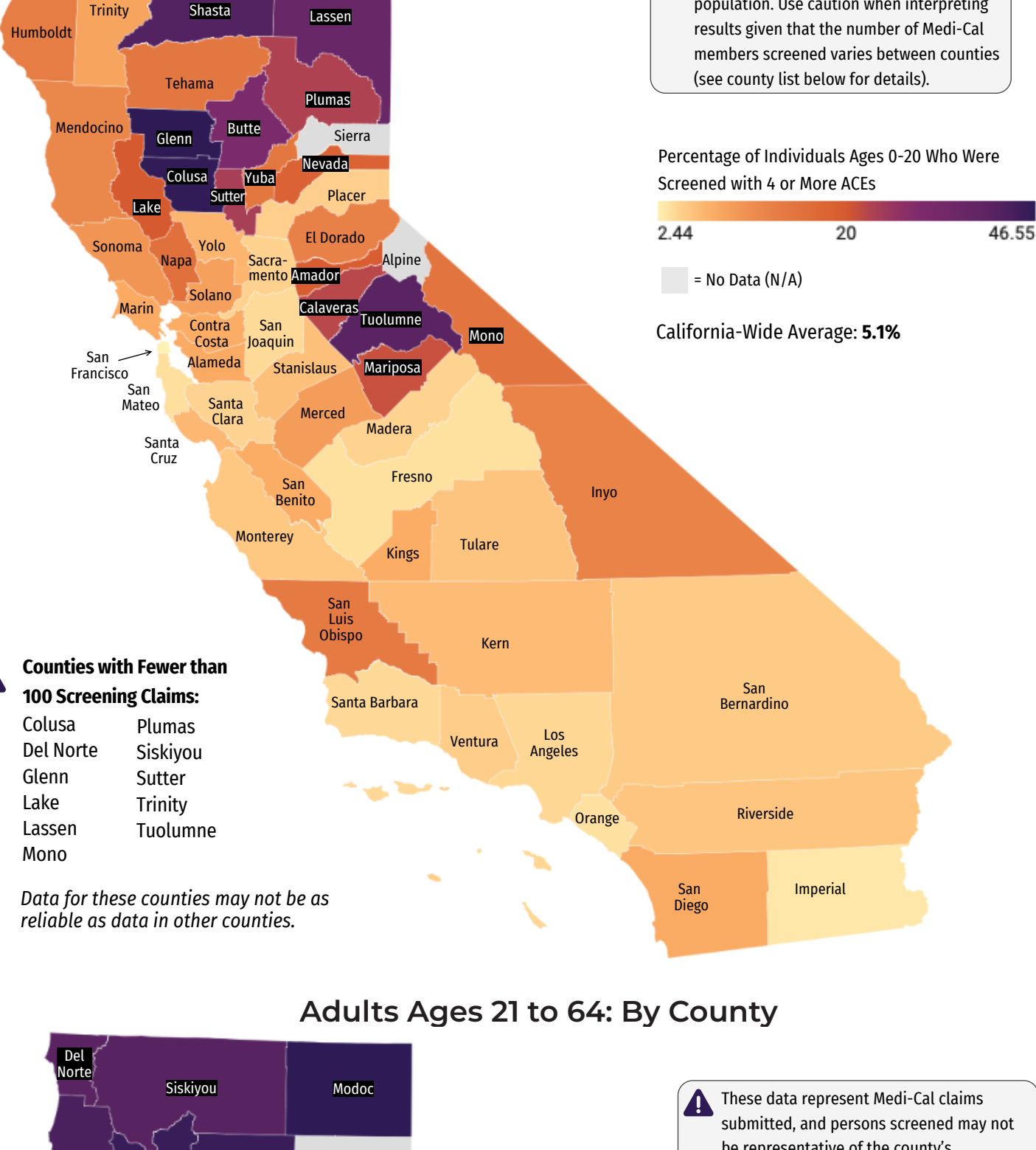
Since the launch of the ACEs Aware initiative in December 2019, more than 33,270 individuals have completed the core ACEs Aware training, including approximately 15,100 Medi-Cal clinicians in California who are ACEs Aware-certified and are eligible to receive Medi-Cal payment for conducting ACE screenings.

ACEs Aware is making a difference in clinical care.

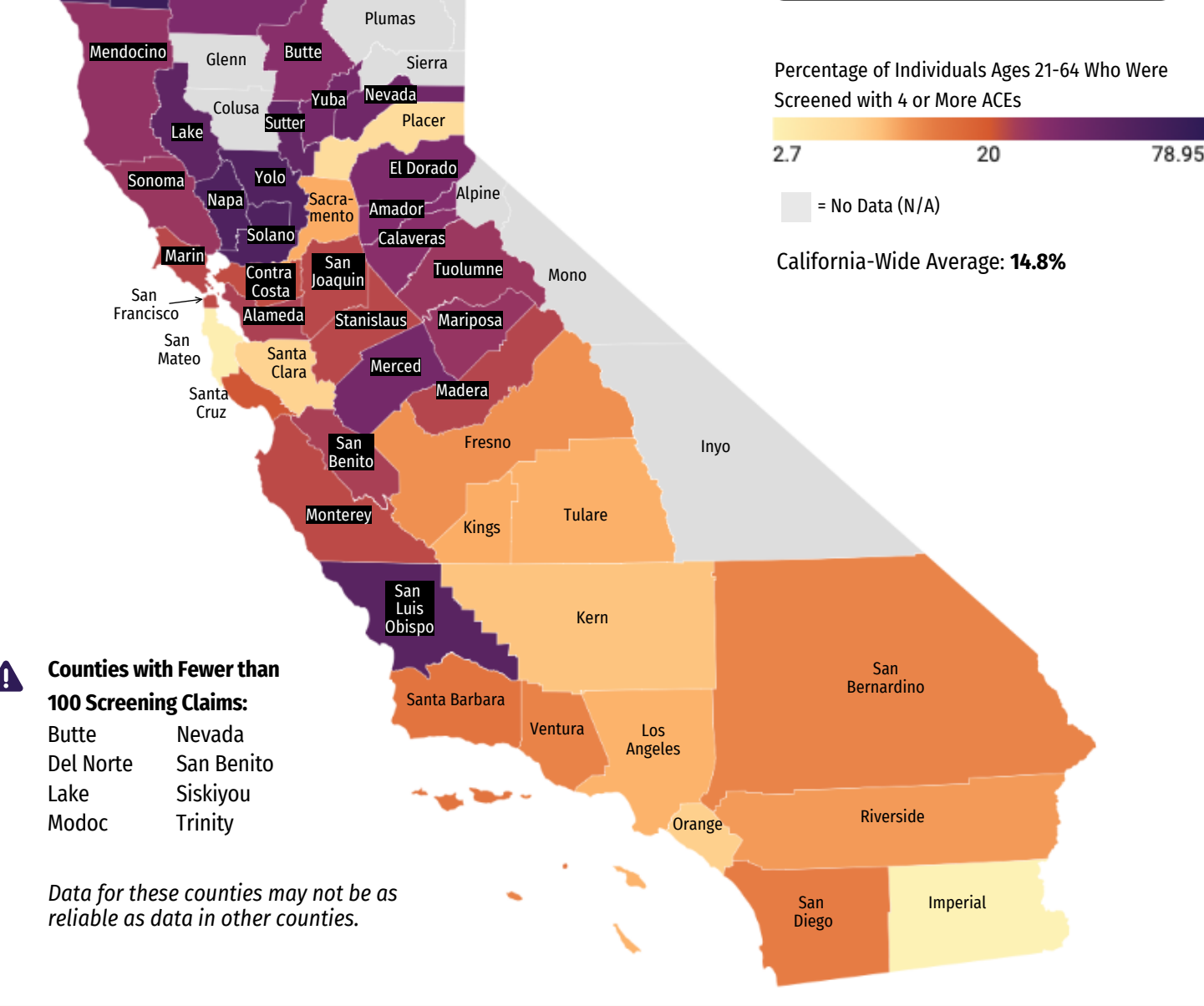
After completing the training, participants were asked about practice changes they plan to make based on the training: 65% of participants reported they plan to implement changes in their practice based on the information presented in the training; 59% reported they plan to conduct routine ACE screenings for children; 54% reported they plan to conduct routine ACE screenings for adults; and 92% reported being somewhat or very confident that they would be able to make their intended practice changes. Additionally, 40% 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 December 31, 2022

Notes:

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

Data Extraction Date: August 30, 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 996,303 individuals, representing 19% of unique Medi-Cal members 20 years of age and younger who were enrolled with a single plan in any continuous 12-month period between January 1, 2020, and December 31, 2022 (and were not dually eligible for Medi-Cal and Medicare). Fee-for-service (FFS) clinicians screened 8% 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, to December 31, 2022)

Managed Care Plan	Number of Members Screened	Medi-Cal Enrollment	Percentage of Medi-Cal Population Screened
Aetna Better Health of California	1,660	14,513	11%
Alameda Alliance for Health	27,826	113,199	25%
Blue Cross of CA Partnership Plan	63,637	389,389	16%
Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan	6,477	31,743	20%
CalOptima (COHS)	145,153	348,549	42%
CalViva Health	30,661	198,819	15%
California Health & Wellness Plan	6,448	100,548	6%
CenCal Health	21,243	98,393	22%
Central California Alliance for Health	8,509	188,074	5%
Community Health Group Partnership Plan	26,879	133,141	20%
Contra Costa Health Plan	3,962	89,456	4%
Gold Coast Health Plan	15,416	103,598	15%
Health Net Community Solutions, Inc.	126,295	636,775	20%
Health Plan of San Joaquin	12,857	195,685	7%
Health Plan of San Mateo	6,308	55,021	12%
Inland Empire Health	201,925	687,022	30%
Kaiser Permanente Cal, LLC	9,352	84,947	11%
Kern Health Systems	29,302	161,472	18%
L.A. Care Health Plan	162,763	920,215	18%
Molina Healthcare of California Partner Plan, Inc.	39,511	214,647	18%
Partnership HealthPlan of California	26,754	250,180	11%
San Francisco Health Plan	6,997	47,683	15%
Santa Clara Family Health Plan	15,235	116,045	13%
United Healthcare Community Plan	1,133	8,612	13%
Total – MCP	996,303	5,187,726	19%
Total – FFS	23,791	299,456	8%

Adults (Ages 21 to 64): MCP clinicians screened 223,464 individuals, representing 4% 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 December 31, 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, to December 31, 2022)

Managed Care Plan	Number of Members Screened	Medi-Cal Enrollment	Percentage of Medi-Cal Population Screened
Aetna Better Health of California	1,198	27,588	4%
Alameda Alliance for Health	424	165,802	<1%
AltaMed	--	592	--
Blue Cross of CA Partnership Plan	11,022	492,951	2%
Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan	6,199	70,416	9%
CalOptima (COHS)	22,385	440,045	5%
CalViva Health	6,049	195,379	3%
California Health & Wellness Plan	801	125,201	1%
CenCal Health	968	98,067	1%
Central California Alliance for Health	4,976	178,055	3%
Community Health Group Partnership Plan	13,164	158,878	8%
Contra Costa Health Plan	170	120,172	<1%
Gold Coast Health Plan	3,041	108,760	3%
Health Net Community Solutions, Inc.	27,566	764,909	4%
Health Plan of San Joaquin	2,905	194,778	2%
Health Plan of San Mateo	96	63,730	<1%
Inland Empire Health	58,101	745,515	8%
Kaiser Permanente Cal, LLC	147	88,365	<1%
Kern Health Systems	5,771	157,104	4%
L.A. Care Health Plan	34,199	1,249,742	3%
Molina Healthcare of California Partner Plan, Inc.	15,698	265,472	6%
Partnership HealthPlan of California	6,712	322,435	2%
San Francisco Health Plan	192	95,579	<1%
Santa Clara Family Health Plan	470	140,811	<1%
United Healthcare Community Plan	1,208	18,525	7%
Total – MCP	223,464	6,291,050	4%
Total – FFS	4,266	1,450,941	<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: August 30, 2023, from the DHCS MIS/DSS data warehouse.

ACEs Aware will continue to publish screening and training data updates 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.