

Quarterly Progress Report

ACE Screening and Clinician Training Data

September 2024

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 June 30, 2024.
- Number of ACE screenings conducted in California between January 1, 2020, and September 30, 2023, based on DHCS Medi-Cal claims data.

Medi-Cal Claims for ACE Screenings

Medi-Cal clinicians conducted more than **2,997,330** ACE screenings of **1,867,300** unique Medi-Cal members.

Of the **1,480,900** unique Medi-Cal members ages 0 to 20 screened for ACEs, **6%** had an ACE score of 4 or more.

Of the **386,390** unique Medi-Cal members ages 21 to 64 screened for ACEs, **16%** had an ACE score of 4 or more.*

Data from: January 1, 2020, through September 30, 2023

Medi-Cal clinicians – primarily pediatric, family medicine, and behavioral health professionals – conducted 2,997,330 ACE screenings of 1,867,300 unique Medi-Cal members between January 1, 2020, and September 30, 2023. Seventy-nine percent of all screenings conducted were of members ages 0 to 20, 6% of whom had an ACE score of four or greater, indicating a high risk for toxic stress, and 21% of all screenings conducted were of members ages 21 to 64, 16% 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

39,995 Individuals completed the training

18,920 Medi-Cal clinicians are ACEs Aware-certified**

63% of participants indicated they plan to implement changes in their practice based on the information presented in the training.

Before the training

55% of participants were not screening any patients for ACEs.

After the training

63% of participants who were not previously screening patients for ACEs indicated they planned to implement routine ACE screening for children or adults.

Data from: December 4, 2019, through June 30, 2024

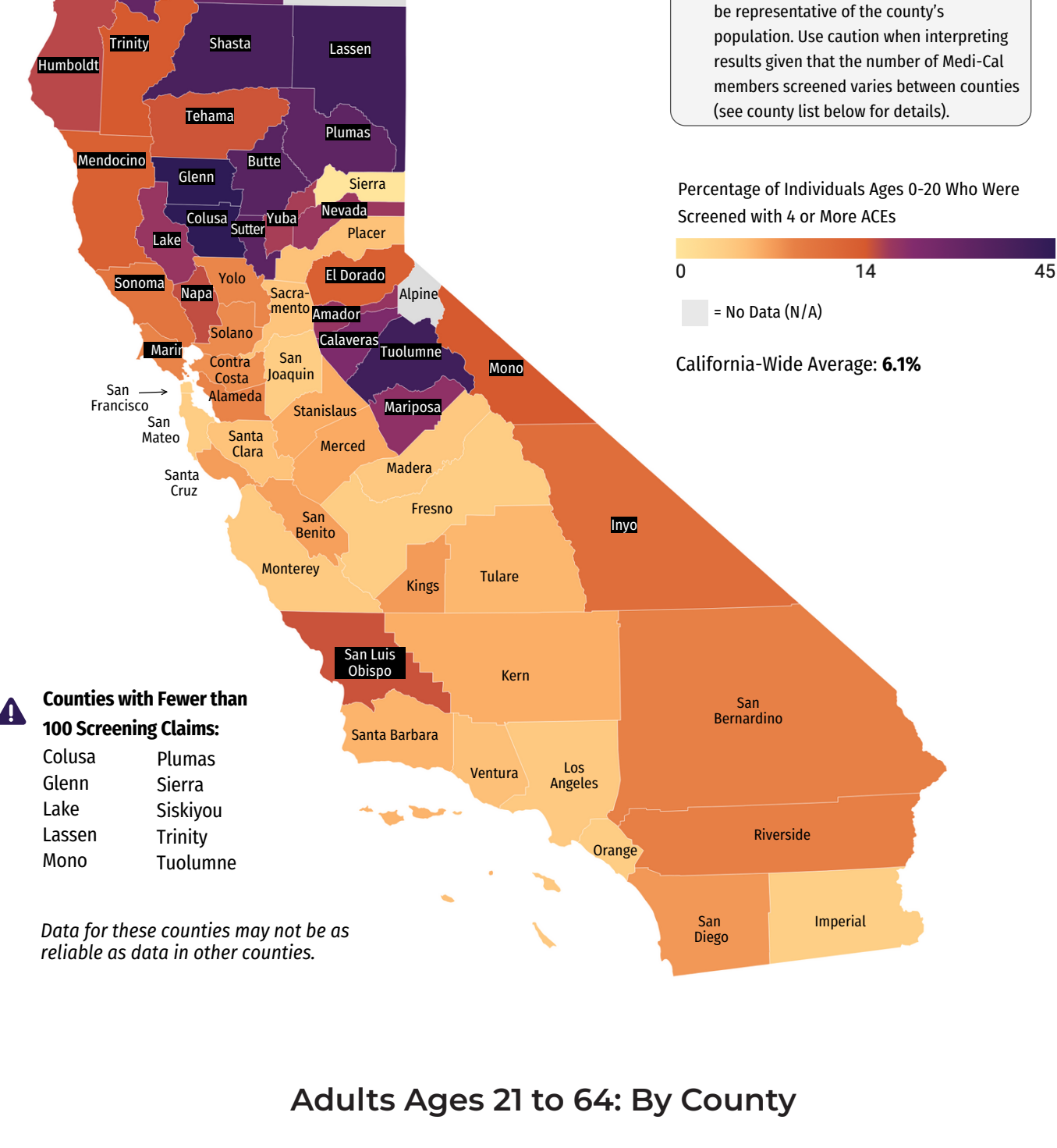
Since the launch of the ACEs Aware initiative in December 2019, more than 39,995 individuals have completed the core ACEs Aware training, including approximately 18,920 Medi-Cal clinicians in California who are ACEs Aware-certified and eligible to receive Medi-Cal payment for conducting ACE screenings.

ACEs Aware is making a difference in clinical care.

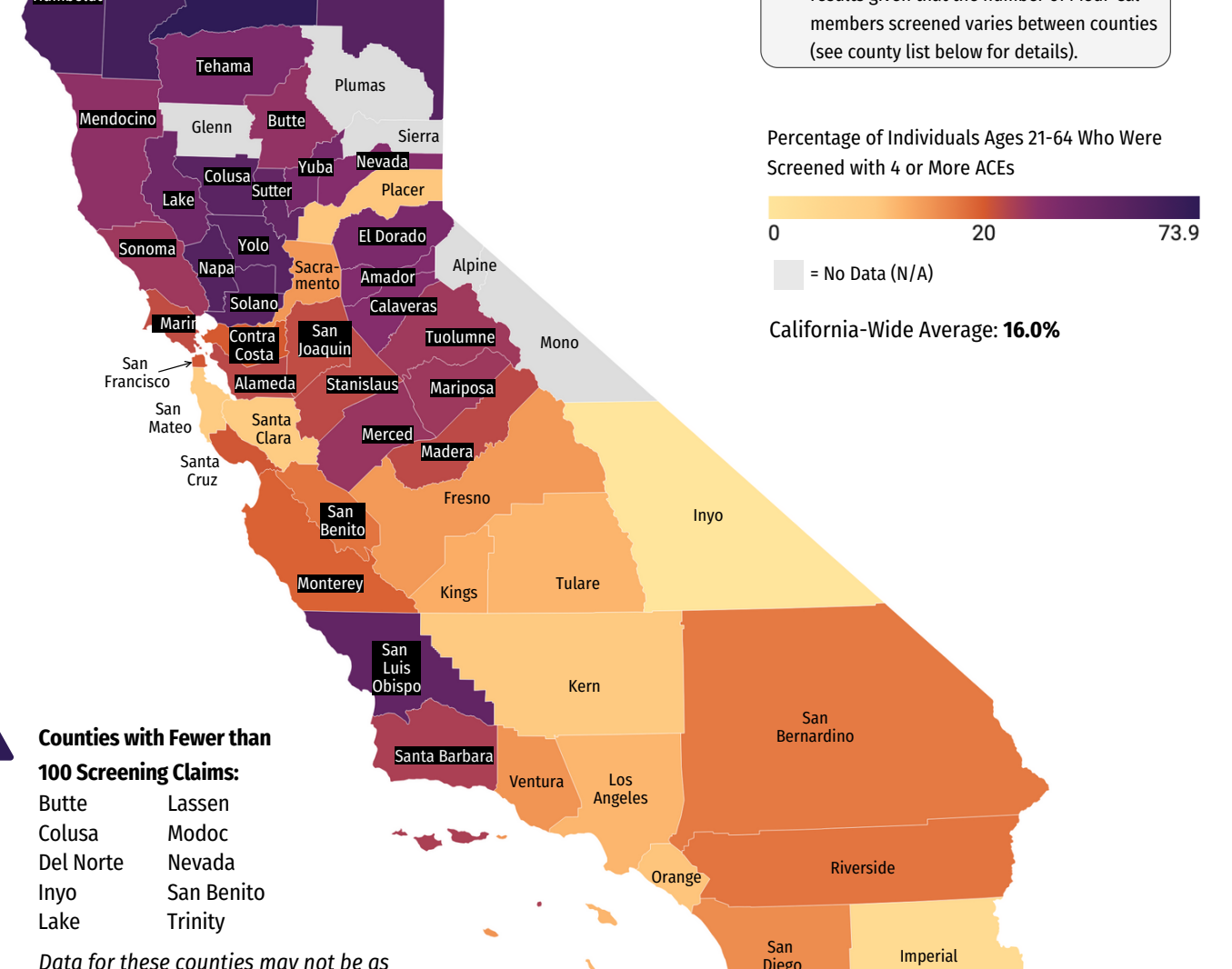
After completing the training, participants were asked about practice changes they plan to make based on the training: 63% of participants reported they plan to implement changes in their practice based on the information presented in the training; 53% reported they plan to conduct routine ACE screenings for children; 48% reported they plan to conduct routine ACE screenings for adults; and 90% reported being somewhat or very confident they would be able to make their intended practice changes. Additionally, 36% plan to change their treatment or management approach based on the patient's ACE score and toxic stress risk assessment, and 36% 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, through September 30, 2023

Notes:

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

Data Extraction Date: May 3, 2024, 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 1,309,953 individuals, representing 24% 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 September 30, 2023 (and were not dually eligible for Medi-Cal and Medicare). Fee-for-service (FFS) clinicians screened 9% of Medi-Cal members who were not enrolled in any plan during the measurement period (Exhibit 1).

Exhibit 1: ACE Screenings by Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan (MCP) Network

Managed Care Plan	Number of Members Screened	Medi-Cal Enrollment	Percentage of Medi-Cal Population Screened
Aetna Better Health of California	2,520	17,168	14.7%
Alameda Alliance for Health	36,386	119,138	30.5%
Blue Cross of CA Partnership Plan	76,929	413,786	18.6%
Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan	8,515	34,571	24.6%
CalOptima (COHS)	168,774	359,907	46.9%
CalViva Health	35,138	205,078	17.1%
California Health & Wellness Plan	8,463	105,928	8%
CenCal Health	26,185	102,431	25.6%
Central California Alliance for Health	28,800	194,489	14.8%
Community Health Group Partnership Plan	35,465	138,894	25.5%
Contra Costa Health Plan	5,734	95,436	6%
Gold Coast Health Plan	20,733	106,966	19.4%
Health Net Community Solutions, Inc.	157,123	664,829	23.6%
Health Plan of San Joaquin	21,500	205,918	10.4%
Health Plan of San Mateo	9,073	57,609	15.7%
Inland Empire Health	275,590	720,726	38.2%
Kaiser Permanente Cal, LLC	21,440	90,977	23.6%
Kern Health Systems	34,183	169,615	20.2%
L.A. Care Health Plan	220,117	952,963	23.1%
Molina Healthcare of California Partner Plan, Inc.	51,650	228,133	22.6%
Partnership HealthPlan of California	34,329	261,212	13.1%
San Francisco Health Plan	9,433	49,772	19%
Santa Clara Family Health Plan	20,747	121,394	17.1%
United Healthcare Community Plan	1,126	8,335	13.5%
Total – MCP	1,309,953	5,425,275	24.1%
Total – FFS	29,195	325,706	9%

Adults (Ages 21 to 64): MCP clinicians screened 342,781 individuals, representing 5% 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 September 30, 2023 (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, through September 30, 2023)

Managed Care Plan	Number of Members Screened	Medi-Cal Enrollment	Percentage of Medi-Cal Population Screened
Aetna Better Health of California	1,788	34,619	5.2%
Alameda Alliance for Health	662	188,981	<1%
AltaMed	--	748	--
Blue Cross of CA Partnership Plan	15,174	565,237	2.7%
Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan	7,787	81,268	9.6%
CalOptima (COHS)	27,877	505,819	5.5%
CalViva Health	8,114	215,043	3.8%
California Health & Wellness Plan	953	139,716	<1%
CenCal Health	2,027	112,178	1.8%
Central California Alliance for Health	11,062	203,245	5.4%
Community Health Group Partnership Plan	17,019	181,159	9.4%
Contra Costa Health Plan	324	138,506	<1%
Gold Coast Health Plan	4,891	123,778	4%
Health Net Community Solutions, Inc.	39,258	893,817	4.4%
Health Plan of San Joaquin	3,832	218,970	1.8%
Health Plan of San Mateo	470	76,958	<1%
Inland Empire Health	107,626	838,335	12.8%
Kaiser Permanente Cal, LLC	461	101,272	<1%
Kern Health Systems	8,701	176,929	4.9%
L.A. Care Health Plan	52,484	1,456,667	3.6%
Molina Healthcare of California Partner Plan, Inc.	21,950	305,857	7.2%
Partnership HealthPlan of California	8,305	363,070	2.3%
San Francisco Health Plan	--	109,103	--
Santa Clara Family Health Plan	805	165,739	<1%
United Healthcare Community Plan	1,211	18,801	6.4%
Total – MCP	342,781	7,216,078	4.8%
Total – FFS	5,899	1,582,187	<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: May 3, 2024, 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: May 2024 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.