

Quarterly Progress Report

ACE Screening and Clinician Training Data

February 2025

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 treat 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 December 31, 2024.
- Number of ACE screenings conducted in California between January 1, 2020, and March 31, 2024, based on DHCS Medi-Cal claims data.

Medi-Cal Claims for ACE Screenings

Medi-Cal clinicians conducted more than **3,668,710** ACE screenings of **2,187,040** unique Medi-Cal members.

Of the **1,697,070** unique Medi-Cal members ages 0 to 20 screened for ACEs, **7%** had an ACE score of 4 or more.

Of the **489,970** unique Medi-Cal members ages 21 to 64 screened for ACEs, **17%** had an ACE score of 4 or more.*

Data from: January 1, 2020, through March 31, 2024

Medi-Cal clinicians – primarily pediatric, family medicine, and behavioral health professionals – conducted 3,668,710 ACE screenings of 2,187,040 unique Medi-Cal members between January 1, 2020, and March 31, 2024. Seventy-eight percent of all screenings conducted were of members ages 0 to 20, 7% of whom had an ACE score of 4 or greater, indicating a high risk for toxic stress, and 22% of all screenings conducted were of members ages 21 to 64, 17% of whom had an ACE score of 4 or greater.

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

Training and Certification

43,870
Individuals completed the training

20,720
Medi-Cal clinicians are ACEs Aware-certified**

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 December 31, 2024

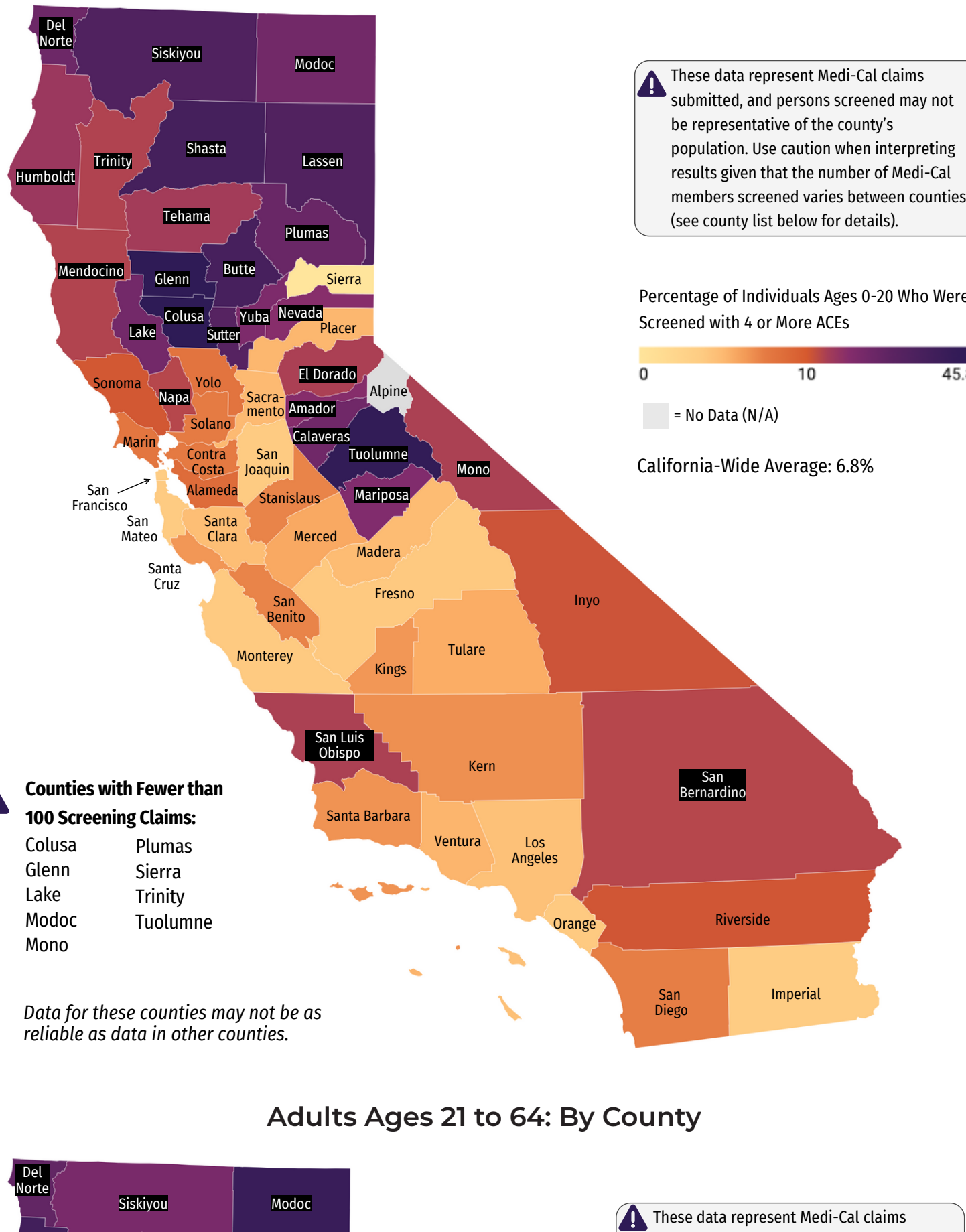
Since the launch of the ACEs Aware initiative in December 2019, more than 43,870 individuals have completed the ACEs Aware core training, including approximately 20,720 Medi-Cal clinicians in California who are ACEs Aware-certified and eligible to receive Medi-Cal payment for conducting ACE screenings.

ACEs Aware is making a difference in clinical care.

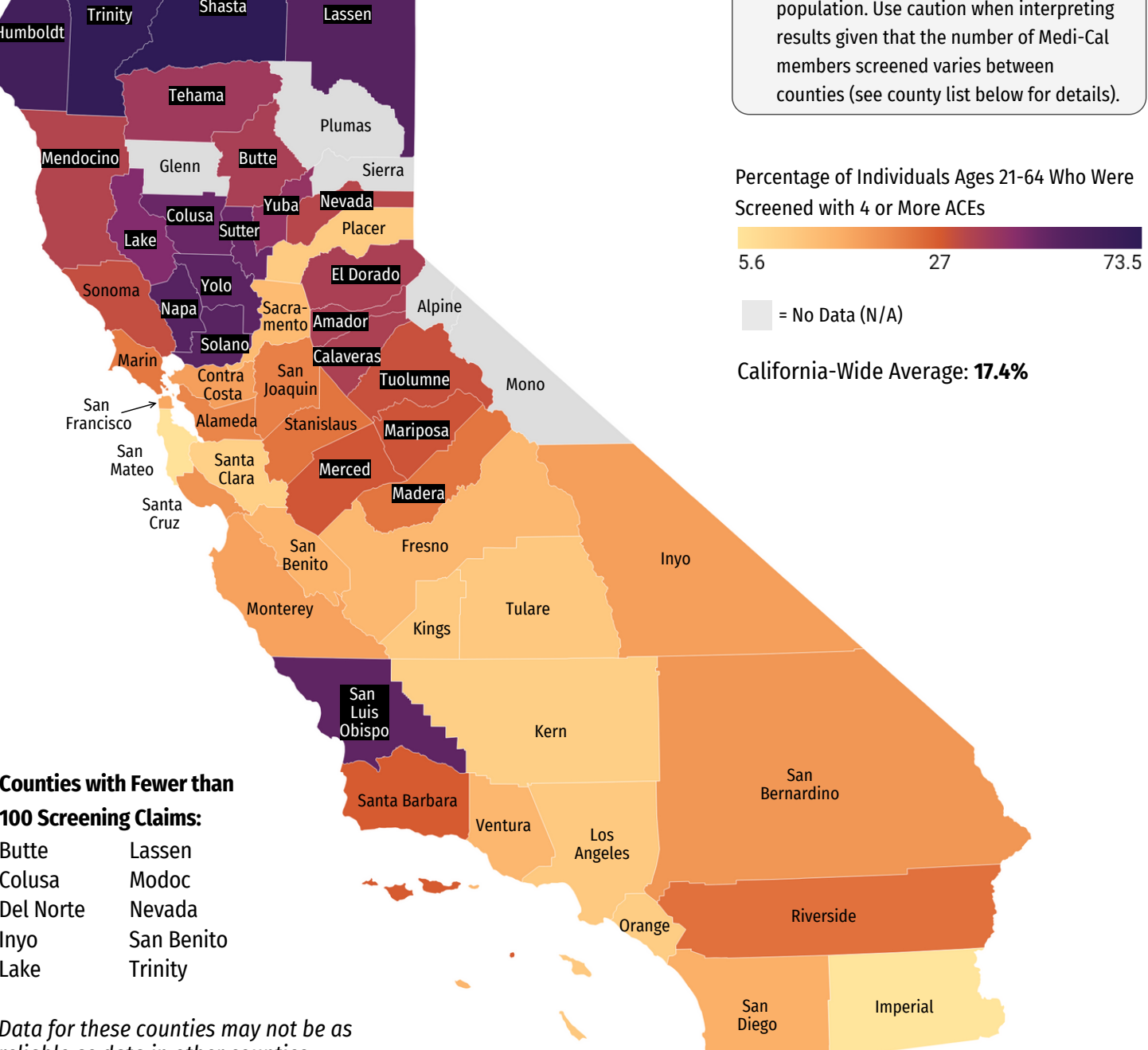
After completing the training, participants were asked about practice changes they plan to make based on the training: 63% of participants reported they plan to implement changes in their practice based on the information presented in the training; 53% reported they plan to conduct routine ACE screenings 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 35% 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 March 31, 2024

Notes:

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

Data Extraction Date: October 28, 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 1,488,601 individuals, representing 26% 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 March 31, 2024 (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 for Members Ages 0 to 20 by Medi-Cal MCP (January 1, 2020, through March 31, 2024)

MCP	Number of Members Screened	Medi-Cal Enrollment	Percentage of Medi-Cal Population Screened
Aetna Better Health of California	2,745	19,404	14.1%
Alameda Alliance for Health	38,856	121,659	31.9%
Blue Cross of California Partnership Plan	85,494	429,562	19.9%
Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan	10,592	38,918	27.2%
CalOptima	182,581	367,851	49.6%
CalViva Health	41,476	210,321	19.7%
California Health & Wellness Plan	9,052	108,753	8.3%
CenCal Health	28,743	105,080	27.4%
Central California Alliance for Health	43,787	199,626	21.9%
Community Health Group Partnership Plan	40,910	146,422	27.9%
Contra Costa Health Plan	6,892	97,626	7.1%
Gold Coast Health Plan	24,861	109,530	22.7%
Health Net Community Solutions, Inc.	175,666	691,706	25.4%
Health Plan of San Joaquin	25,640	212,858	12%
Health Plan of San Mateo	10,762	59,951	18%
Inland Empire Health	308,908	748,486	41.3%
Kaiser Permanente Cal, LLC	25,218	93,014	27.1%
Kern Health Systems	36,694	175,634	20.9%
L.A. Care Health Plan	258,067	997,670	25.9%
Molina Healthcare of California Partner Plan, Inc.	59,094	240,820	24.5%
Partnership HealthPlan of California	37,742	269,723	14%
San Francisco Health Plan	10,296	51,418	20%
Santa Clara Family Health Plan	23,427	125,874	18.6%
United Healthcare Community Plan	1,098	8,641	12.7%
Total – MCP	1,488,601	5,630,547	26.4%
Total – FFS	31,917	354,916	9%

Adults (Ages 21 to 64): MCP clinicians screened 428,608 individuals, representing 6% 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 March 31, 2024 (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 March 31, 2024)

MCP	Number of Members Screened	Medi-Cal Enrollment	Percentage of Medi-Cal Population Screened
Aetna Better Health of California	1,973	37,276	5.3%
Alameda Alliance for Health	744	194,608	<1%
AltaMed	--	860	--
Blue Cross of California Partnership Plan	20,264	596,786	3.4%
Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan	8,903	92,037	9.7%
CalOptima	32,272	539,582	6%
CalViva Health	15,075	226,511	6.7%
California Health & Wellness Plan	1,017	143,578	<1%
CenCal Health	2,584	119,659	2.2%
Central California Alliance for Health	14,771	215,924	6.8%
Community Health Group Partnership Plan	18,862	199,105	9.5%
Contra Costa Health Plan	--	143,245	--
Gold Coast Health Plan	6,483	131,970	4.9%
Health Net Community Solutions, Inc.	47,368	965,842	4.9%
Health Plan of San Joaquin	4,273	231,386	1.8%
Health Plan of San Mateo	922	82,492	1.1%
Inland Empire Health	138,782	889,185	15.6%
Kaiser Permanente Cal, LLC	607	104,719	<1%
Kern Health Systems	10,013	187,518	5.3%
L.A. Care Health Plan	65,461	1,543,812	4.2%
Molina Healthcare of California Partner Plan, Inc.	26,048	329,978	7.9%
Partnership HealthPlan of California	9,278	384,115	2.4%
San Francisco Health Plan	417	115,411	<1%
Santa Clara Family Health Plan	896	176,592	<1%
United Healthcare Community Plan	1,210	18,495	6.5%
Total – MCP	428,608	7,673,856	5.6%
Total – FFS	8,370	1,630,731	<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: October 28, 2024, from the DHCS MIS/DSS data warehouse.

ACEs Aware will continue to provide screening and training data updates quarterly. 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.