



*Mission: Build partnerships and promote strong collaborative action to ensure all residents within the County have stable, safe, and healthy places to live.*

**Santa Cruz County  
Housing for Health Partnership (H4HP) Policy Board  
Regular Meeting Agenda  
June 21, 2023; 3 pm**

**420 Capitola Avenue, Capitola, CA 90501 - Capitola City Hall - Community Room**

Zoom Conference Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86575867769?pwd=OFdoZEg3UnlsbElqT3dibUU5b1pOQT09>

Passcode: 730325

Call-In Number: +1 (669) 900-6833, Webinar ID#: 86575867769#

**Call to Order/Welcome**

1. Member Changes: Tom Stagg, Chief Initiatives Officer, Housing Matters, Operations Committee Co-Chair

**Non-Agenda Public Comment**

**Action Items (vote required)**

2. Approval of Minutes: April 19, 2023, Regular Meeting

**Information Items (no vote required):**

3. Casa Azul – Housing Matters Ribbon Cutting – Thursday, June 22, 2023, from 2-4 pm
4. Monterey County – Encampment Resolution Fund Grant Award – approx. \$8M, two-year grant

**Report/Discussion Items (no vote required):**

5. Santa Cruz Workforce Development Board – State of Workforce Update – Housing and Employment Connections {3:20 – 4 pm}
6. California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP) {4 – 4:30 pm}
7. California’s Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS) Overview and Santa Cruz County Data {4:30 – 5 pm}

**Board Member Announcements**

**Adjournment**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 16, 2023, 3 pm**

*The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate based on disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefit of the services, programs, or activities. This meeting is in an accessible facility. If you are a person with a disability and require special assistance to participate in the meeting, please call (831) 763-8900 (TDD/TTY- 711) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to make arrangements. Persons with disabilities may request a copy of the agenda in an alternative format. As a courtesy to those affected, please attend the meeting smoke and scent free.*

*Santa Cruz County Housing for Health Partnership Policy Board Regular Meeting Agenda – June 21, 2023*

---

**Action Item 2: Approval of Meeting Minutes**

---

(Action required) – Robert Ratner

**Recommendation**

Approve the April 19, 2023, Housing for Health Partnership Policy Board Regular Meeting minutes.

**Suggested Motion**

I move to approve the April 19, 2023, Housing for Health Partnership Policy Board Regular Meeting minutes.



**Mission:** Build partnerships and promote strong collaborative action to ensure all residents within the County have stable, safe, and healthy places to live.

**Housing for Health Partnership (H4HP) Policy Board  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
April 19, 2023**

**Call to Order/Welcome**

*Present: Jamie Goldstein, JP Butler, Larry Imwalle, Manu Koenig, Justin Cummings, Mariah Lyons, Martine Watkins, Kate Nester, Suzi Merriam, Tamara Vides, Judy Hutchison*

*Absent: Heather Rogers, Lee Butler, Susan True, Tiffany Cantrell-Warren*

*Additions and Deletions to the Agenda: None*

**Non-Agenda Public Comment**

No public comment received.

**Action Items (vote required)**

1. Approval of Minutes: February 15, 2023, Regular Meeting

*Discussion: None.*  
*Public Comment: None.*  
*Motion to Approve: Martine Watkins*  
*Motion Seconded: Manu Koenig*  
*Abstentions: None*  
*Board Action: Motion passed with all members.*

2. Provide Guidance on Coordinated Entry Policy Updates, Approval of Housing for Health Partnership Connector MOU, and Approval of Steps to Set Housing Queue Threshold Scores (Coordinated Entry Policy Actions)

*Discussion: Housing for Health (H4H) Division staff shared a PowerPoint presentation with Coordinated Entry System (CES) policy updates, Housing for Health Partnership Connectors Services Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and next steps for Threshold Scores to move participants to the Housing Queue. Discussed how the CES policy document that was established allows H4H staff to modify or refine the CE policy without Board Approval. Discussed the need for staff to develop a clear framework on how policy adjustments would be made between the Continuum of Care (CoC) Operations Committee, H4HP Policy Board, and H4H staff. Discussed the critical importance of the H4HP connectors through the presented MOU and their primary role to focus on a small number of people at a time to find housing solutions. The Connector Services MOU defines the responsibilities and expectations of the H4H Division, Covered Homeless Organization (CHO)/Provider Organization, and H4HP Connectors. Mentioned how the new CE policy revision will not work unless more connectors are identified and trained and in order to do that the Connector Services MOU needs to be approved. Discussed how the redesigned CES will put households*

**Mission:** *Build partnerships and promote strong collaborative action to ensure all residents within the County have stable, safe, and healthy places to live.*

*on the Housing Queue who have a high probability of being matched and referred to a CoC housing program within the next six months. Numbers added to the Queue is based on the following- (1) Available H4HP housing resources for each household type; (2) Household Eligibility Factors; (3) Number of households with completed HNA;(4) HNA scores. Discussed a plan to obtain more connectors and use the HNA process to place households on the Housing Queue (regardless of threshold scores) or refer them to other housing programs. Second, if from the HNA there are no eligible households to refer to the queue then households will be identified from the “retired” SmartPath Housing Queue that have a completed VI-SPDAT within the last 12 months. In Addition, H4H proposed an online program to link households, stakeholders, advocates with connectors by obtaining basic eligibility information and the type of household. Questions were raised on how to track the neediest population if queue is being shifted. Discussed how the coordinated entry enrollment program creates a profile in HMIS that includes the HNA information which H4HP staff can access. Mentioned that all veterans who are experiencing homeless will get referred to veteran-specific programs directly. Discussed the value of having trainings and monthly learning collaboratives with the connectors. Mention that managed care partners are examples of ways to expand Connector role.*

*Public Comment: Mentioned concerns about becoming a connector is an unfunded additional job duty.  
 Motion: Approve H4H staff to make minor CES policy changes without board approval and to review changes made at future meetings. Approve H4HP Connectors services MOU. Approve next steps for Threshold Scores to move participants to the Housing Queue. Staff to develop a clear framework on how more substantive policy adjustments would be made between the Operations Committee, Policy Board, and H4H staff. H4HP staff to provide regular CES updates at Policy Board meetings.*

*Motion to Approve: Martine Watkins  
 Motion Seconded: Jaime Goldstein  
 Abstentions: None  
 Board Action: Motion passed with all members.*

**Information Items (no vote required):**

3. Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Funding – Application Due April 28, 2023 - \$10,171,130 available  
 Discussion: *Reviewed plans for Californians who are experiencing homelessness with behavioral health conditions to get supportive services and housing navigation services if funding is approved. Discussed the plan to combine 25% of the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing funding with the County’s Whole Person Care housing funding to develop a modular construction housing project on county owned or secured property. Discussed how the other 75% of the funding will be*





**Mission:** *Build partnerships and promote strong collaborative action to ensure all residents within the County have stable, safe, and healthy places to live.*

*used for operational cost for the new site for 3 years, a flexible funding pool that can be used for temporary housing, and some funding for staff oversight. Mentioned that when Care Court program starts those people will be prioritized for new program slots created.*

4. FY 2022 HUD CoC Award Announcement for Santa Cruz County - \$5.57M (≈7% increase)  
Discussion: *Discussed that the HUD CoC Awards from FY 2022 funded all 21 projects in our proposal including three new projects with Housing Matters, Walnut Avenue, and Monarch Services. Our CoC also received an unsheltered NOFO award near \$1.1M over three years to provide operational subsidies for 13 units at the planned Housing Matters Harvey West Studios permanent supportive housing project. Our community also received approval for our HHAP Round 4 application for approximately \$5.9M.*

**Report/Discussion Items** (no vote required):

5. Performance Metrics for Temporary Housing, Safe Sleeping, and Safe Parking Programs Last 12 Months  
Discussion: *Reviewed data on emergency shelter, transitional housing, safe parking, and safe sleeping programs in the county over the past 12 months. Discussed the need for H4H staff to enforce policy on data quality which include 90-day updates for those enrolled in programs.*
6. Public Dashboards – Brainstorm Desired Information  
Discussion: *Reviewed proposed key metrics to update every quarter and post on the Housing for Health website. Highlighted the importance to identify a success metric and inform the public how many people are getting housing, what is being offered and what is the cost for all services. Discussed need for more geographic information on locations of programs.*

**Board Member Announcements**

No additional announcements.

**Adjournment**

**Next Meeting:** **Wednesday, June 21, 2023, 3 pm**

*The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate based on disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefit of the services, programs, or activities. This meeting is in an accessible facility. If you are a person with a disability and require special assistance to participate in the meeting, please call (831) 763-8900 (TDD/TTY- 711) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to make arrangements. Persons with disabilities may request a copy of the agenda in an alternative format. As a courtesy to those affected, please attend the meeting smoke and scent free.*

---

### Information Item 3: Casa Azul – Housing Matters Ribbon Cutting

---

Casa Azul is a new, seven-unit, permanent supportive housing project, owned and developed by Housing Matters. The County of Santa Cruz and Housing Matters jointly applied for Project Homekey Round 2 for the project and received a \$2,240,000 award. The funding will help keep the project affordable and operational for a minimum 55-year period.

Housing Matters will be hosting a ribbon cutting event to celebrate the opening of this new project as described below:

As such, we are excited to announce the ribbon cutting and grand opening celebration for **Casa Azul**, a new 7-unit supportive housing residence located across from the Housing Matters campus.

**When: Thursday, June 22, 2 - 4 pm**  
**Where: 801 River St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060**

This event marks a yearslong process to majorly renovate this home — formerly a single-family Victorian home built in 1903 — to become a welcoming environment for residents with ongoing healthcare needs. The space houses two one-bedroom apartments and five studios, all for individuals from Housing Matters' own Recuperative Care Center program.

This renovation could not have been made possible without the generous support of our donors and supporters, and with the additional benefit of our advocate partners, elected officials, and community members.



---

## Information Item 4: Monterey County – Encampment Resolution Funding Award - \$8M

---



June 15, 2023

### **County of Monterey Awarded \$8M Grant for Homeless Services Center, Tiny Homes**

*Project will be in partnership with **County of Santa Cruz, City of Watsonville***

County of Monterey has been awarded an \$8 million Encampment Resolution Funding grant from the State of California. The grant will focus on homeless encampments in the Pajaro River and will fund the creation of a micro-village of 34 modular tiny homes and navigation center in Watsonville to provide needed services and a pathway to permanent housing.

This program will be done in collaboration with the County of Santa Cruz Health and Human Services and City of Watsonville and is expected to break ground in a few months. Once residents have been relocated from the riverbed, restoration of the riverbed channel will be done by the Pajaro Regional Flood Management Agency (PRFMA).

Relocation of residents from the Pajaro riverbed is critical not only for the health and safety of the encampment residents but in anticipation of the Pajaro River Flood Risk Management Project which has been put on a fast track thanks to state and federal funding.

The City of Watsonville and Counties of Santa Cruz and Monterey have worked together to identify a church partner interested in renting out their property to develop a micro-village of 34 non-congregate 'Cubez,' which will be developed by Dignity Moves - a well-known and trusted entity with histories of developing similar projects utilizing State funding.

The County of Santa Cruz will identify the primary service provider to operate the new navigation center in partnership with Monterey County's Homeless Services Program and the Coalition of Homeless Services Providers.

Funds from this grant are only available for two years and must be expended by June, 2026. The County of Monterey will administer the grant for the creation of the tiny home village and Santa Cruz County will assume responsibility for the project once it is complete.

---

**Report/Discussion Item 5: Santa Cruz Workforce Development Board – State of Workforce Update**

---

Andy Stone, the County of Santa Cruz Workforce Development Board Director, will provide a brief overview of the 2023 Santa Cruz County State of the Workforce report and identify potential areas for collaboration between the Workforce Development and Housing for Health Partnership Policy Boards.

The item was added to the agenda due to a conversation about service and housing provider workforce challenges raised at the April 19, 2023, Housing for Health Partnership Policy Board meeting.

This Item includes a copy of the 2023 State of the Workforce Report as an attachment.



2023

# Santa Cruz County State of the Workforce

June 2023



# Table of Contents

Executive Summary .....	4
Introduction.....	4
Key Findings.....	4
State of the Workforce.....	4
Living in Santa Cruz County.....	5
Infrastructure Workforce Needs .....	5
Map of Santa Cruz County .....	7
Economic Profile .....	8
Overall Employment.....	8
Unemployment and Labor Force Participation .....	9
Job Quality.....	9
Industry Cluster Employment.....	11
Highest Earning Clusters .....	12
Mid-Earning Clusters .....	13
Lowest Earning Clusters .....	14
Workforce Profile.....	16
Demographics.....	16
Housing Costs, Transportation, & Net Migration.....	18
Housing .....	18
Transportation.....	20
Net Migration.....	21
Infrastructure Industry Deep Dives.....	23
Infrastructure Projects Overview .....	23
Current Infrastructure Workforce .....	24
Transportation Workforce.....	24
Water Infrastructure Workforce.....	25
Residential Construction Workforce .....	27
Energy Workforce.....	27
Infrastructure Workforce Training Inventory.....	29
Executive Interviews Summary & Findings .....	31
Current Business Climate .....	31
Talent and Hiring .....	32

Climate Resilience .....32

Infrastructure Projects and Workforce .....33

Appendix A: Training Inventory.....34



# Executive Summary

## Introduction

The Santa Cruz County Workforce Development Board engaged BW Research to develop this 2023 State of the Workforce Report. The Santa Cruz County workforce has experienced sizable changes in the wake of the pandemic. This report highlights the County's workforce, the growing and declining industries, and what that means for training and education, commute patterns, and workers' everyday lives. Additionally, the report explores the substantial increase in regional investment in infrastructure and housing and the potential impacts on the workforce responsible for executing these projects. The workforce in Santa Cruz County will continue to change, requiring continued efforts and support to ensure that workers are prepared for the changing employment landscape.

## Key Findings

The most relevant workforce findings and trends from the report are outlined below. For more detailed information on each of the results below, please refer to the figure references embedded within each finding.

### State of the Workforce

# 1

**The Santa Cruz County economy is experiencing a robust recovery in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.** Although the County experienced deeper job losses during the height of the pandemic and the subsequent recovery in 2021 was slower than state and national trends, employment growth in 2022 has surpassed that of both California and the US (Figure 1). In fact, between 2017 and 2022, the County has gained 9,100 jobs, or a 9% increase in jobs compared to four percent statewide and three percent nationally during this same time period. Nonetheless, the County's 2023 unemployment rate remains higher than statewide and national averages (Table 1), while its labor force participation rate is lower than California's (Figure 2), suggesting that the Santa Cruz job market is still recovering from the pandemic.

# 2

**The recent jobs additions have been primarily concentrated in higher-paying industries.** While overall job quality in Santa Cruz County is still lower than the statewide average (Figure 3), almost all of the employment growth observed between 2017 and 2022 can be attributed to jobs in the highest-paying tier (Figure 4). The jobs are also driven by growth in some of the highest-paying industries. Defense, Aerospace, Transportation, and Manufacturing (DATM) saw the largest proportional increase, growing by 222% during this time. This industry cluster is also the highest paying in the region, with average annual earnings of \$142,000 per year. Other industries such as Healthcare, Biotechnology and Biomedical Devices, and Logistics also added a substantial number of jobs during this time (Figure 5 and Figure 6).

# 3

**Where people are working is also changing.** Between 2017 and 2021, the share of workers who worked from home in the north sub-region nearly doubled (91% increase), while the south sub-region also saw a large increase in work from home (44%, see Figure 18). This shift likely reflects the "new normal" of work, as companies continue to offer more remote work to workers in occupations that can take advantage of the opportunity.

## Living in Santa Cruz County

# 1

**While the regional distinctions within Santa Cruz County remain the same as in previous years, the overall demographic changes occurring in the county are expected to have an impact on the workforce.** The south sub-region of Santa Cruz County has a younger population with a higher percentage of Hispanic and Latino residents. According to Figure 12, 30% of individuals over 24 years old, in southern Santa Cruz County, have not completed high school or an educational equivalency.

# 2

**Housing continues to be a central issue in Santa Cruz County.** Four-in-ten residents are renters, and nearly half (45%) of renters, in Northern Santa Cruz County, spend 35% or more of their total income on housing. Furthermore, there are stark disparities on homeownership rates across racial lines, as illustrated in Figure 16. While efforts to address this issue are underway, continued attention is required, as this issue will continue to have sizeable effects on the current and potential workforce for the county.

# 3

**Much like other coastal communities, Santa Cruz County saw a decline in the number of residents between 2020 and 2021.** The County's population shrank by 4,800, primarily due to 5,000 people leaving Santa Cruz County to relocated in a state outside California. While the research does not provide specific demographics of those who left the County, housing costs are likely a significant driver of those who move out. An early 2023 statewide survey found that 45% of respondents said that the cost of housing makes them, and their families seriously consider moving out of state.<sup>1</sup> The decrease in population also affects the size of the labor pool, as most who left were under 65 years old.

## Infrastructure Workforce Needs

# 1

**The sizable increases in investments in infrastructure and housing will drive demand for more workers in these sectors.** For example, the 2022 to 2023 budget for road repair is 223% greater than it was four years ago, and flood control, recycling, and solid waste will each receive about \$10 million more than four years prior, amounting to a 159% and 55% increase in budget, respectively. Seven million dollars in additional funds for housing also represented a seismic shift in money flowing toward these projects. The magnitude of budgetary changes for these infrastructure and housing investments implies that the labor force for these sectors will also see a substantial increase in demand in the immediate future.

# 2

**Failure to address workforce challenges in the transportation, water, housing, and energy sectors implies bigger problems in the future.** Each sector has unique challenges to address. The recent decline in the transportation infrastructure-related workforce (Figure 20) in the County means that these projects may be delayed if workers from outside the region are not available to shore up the workforce. While the water infrastructure workforce has grown over the past five

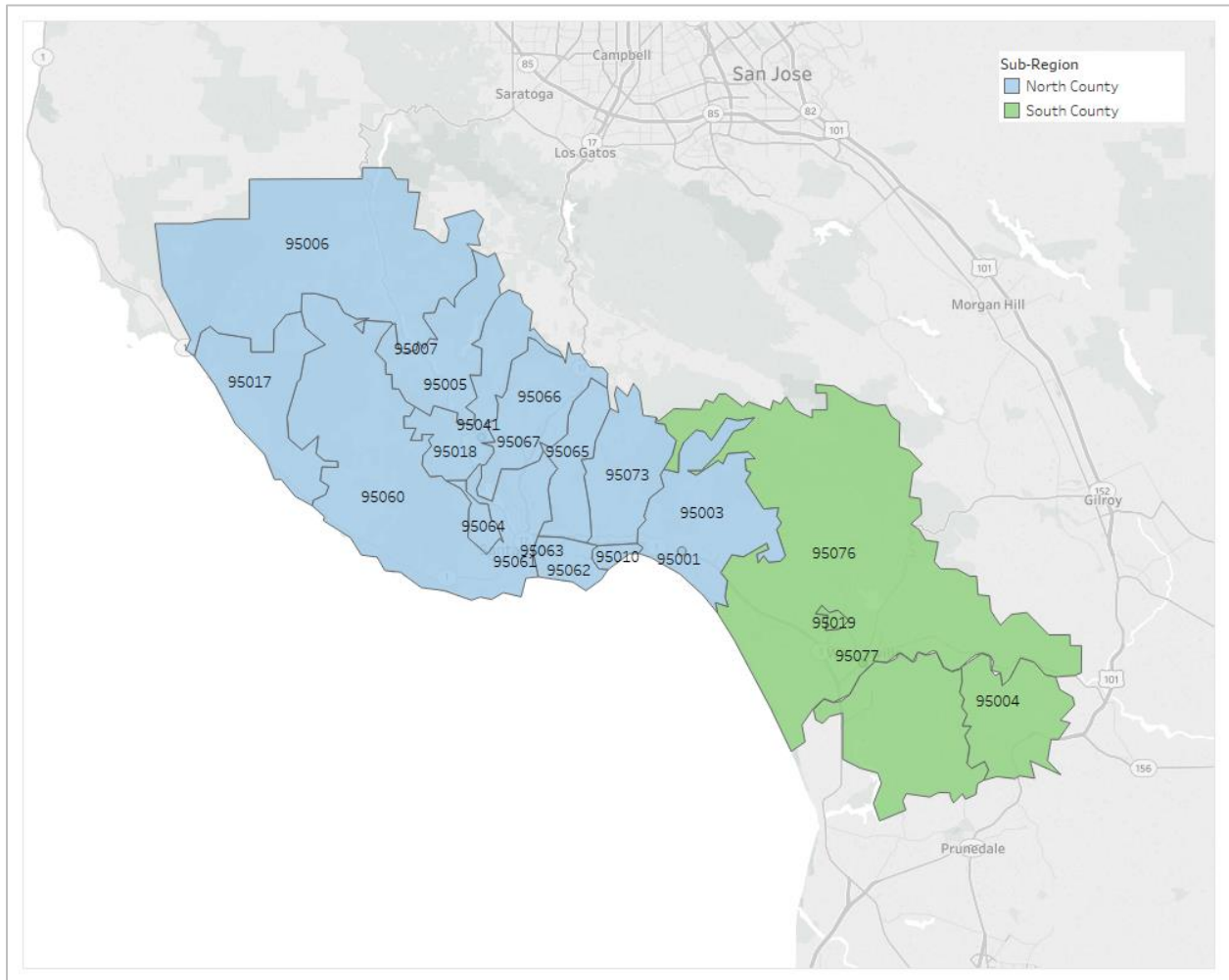
<sup>1</sup> "PPIC Statewide Survey: Californians and Their Government". Public Policy Institute of California. <https://www.ppic.org/publication/ppic-statewide-survey-californians-and-their-government-february-2023/>

years (Figure 21), 35% of the workforce is 55 or older, and 16% are 65 or older, meaning a significant number of retirements may be near. The residential construction workforce in the County faces a nearly identical situation to the water infrastructure workforce (Figure 22), and the County's existing energy workforce is likely to grow as the County works to meet its decarbonization goals as outlined in the [2022 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan](#). These trends mean that individually and collectively, these sectors will need to replenish and grow their labor force by tapping into younger talent and expanding the pipeline of potential workers.

### 3

**The County currently provides a wide range of training programs; nonetheless, there is a growing need to expand the pipeline for certain types of training. Specifically, training programs that prepare workers for crucial infrastructure and housing construction roles, such as positions in construction trades, buildings, electrical, operating engineers, and construction management.** Boosting the interest in infrastructure and construction-related careers and trades will require marketing and career education initiatives, as well as capacity-building support for training providers with relevant programs.

# Map of Santa Cruz County



## North

Aptos, Ben Lomond, Boulder Creek, Brookdale, Capitola, Davenport, Felton, Mount HERNON, Santa Cruz, Scotts Valley, Soquel

95001, 95003, 95005, 95006, 95007, 95010, 95017, 95018, 95041, 95060, 95061, 95062, 95063, 95064, 95065, 95066, 95067, 95073

## South

Freedom, Watsonville

95004, 95019, 95076, 95077

# Economic Profile

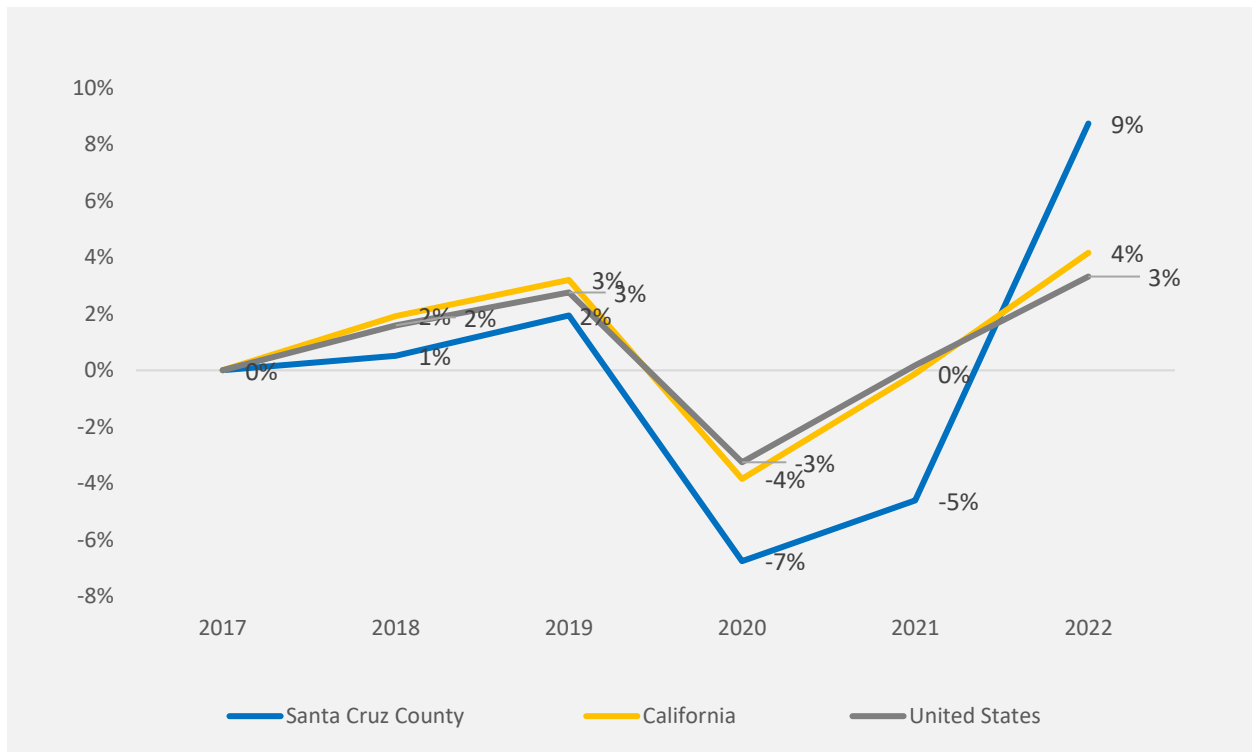
This section covers economic indicators such as total employment, labor force participation rate, industry clusters, and job quality across different tiers. An analysis of industry clusters sheds light on Santa Cruz County's competitive advantage in specific industries, categorized by those with high, middle, and low average wages. Additionally, indicators such as job quality provide a more nuanced perspective on the economic well-being of county residents, which other aggregated measures would not necessarily provide.

## Overall Employment

**Employment in Santa Cruz County has rebounded at a rate that exceeds the state and national recovery rates.** As depicted in Figure 1, the County witnessed a significant decline in jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the number of employed individuals in the County has recovered much faster than California and the rest of the country. Although Santa Cruz County saw steeper employment losses during the height of the pandemic, the recovery in employment has been more than twice the state's rate.

**Figure 1 shows that employment in Santa Cruz County is recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic faster than the state and the rest of the county.**

Figure 1. Total Employment (Cumulative % Change), 2017-2022<sup>2</sup>



<sup>2</sup> California Employment Development Department (EDD). Labor Market Information, 2022.

## Unemployment and Labor Force Participation

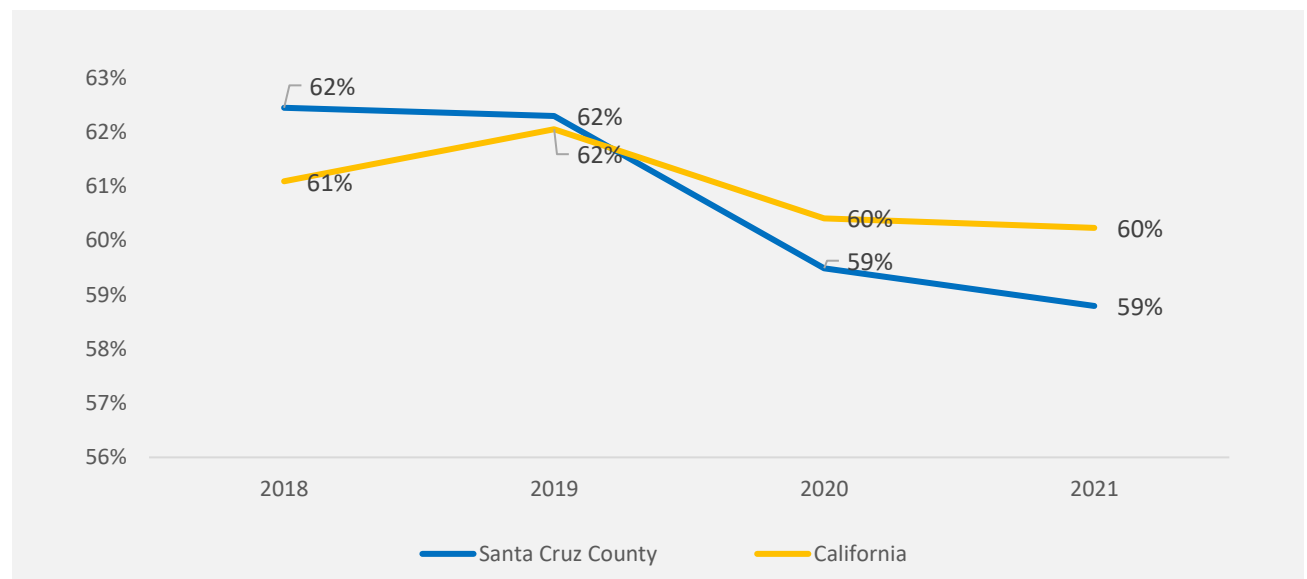
The unemployment rate in Santa Cruz County is higher than the statewide average by close to two percentage points, and three percentage points higher than the national average (Table 1). The County's labor force participation rate further suggests that the region's job market is still recovering from the pandemic, as it fell from 62% in 2019 to 59% in 2021 (Figure 2).

Table 1. Unemployment Rate (2023)<sup>3</sup>

	California	Santa Cruz County	United States
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.8%	6.7%	3.9%

Figure 2 illustrates that the County's labor force participation rate has decreased below the statewide average following the COVID-19 pandemic, and has not recovered to pre-pandemic levels.

Figure 2. Labor Force Participation Rate (2018-2021)<sup>4</sup>



## Job Quality

Job quality serves as a crucial measure of a region's economic vitality. For instance, if a region has a large number of jobs, but a majority of those jobs pay below a sustainable wage, it indicates that workers will struggle to live and work in the region.

<sup>3</sup> California Employment Development Department. Labor Force and Unemployment Data. 2023.

<sup>4</sup> Id. 2018-2021.

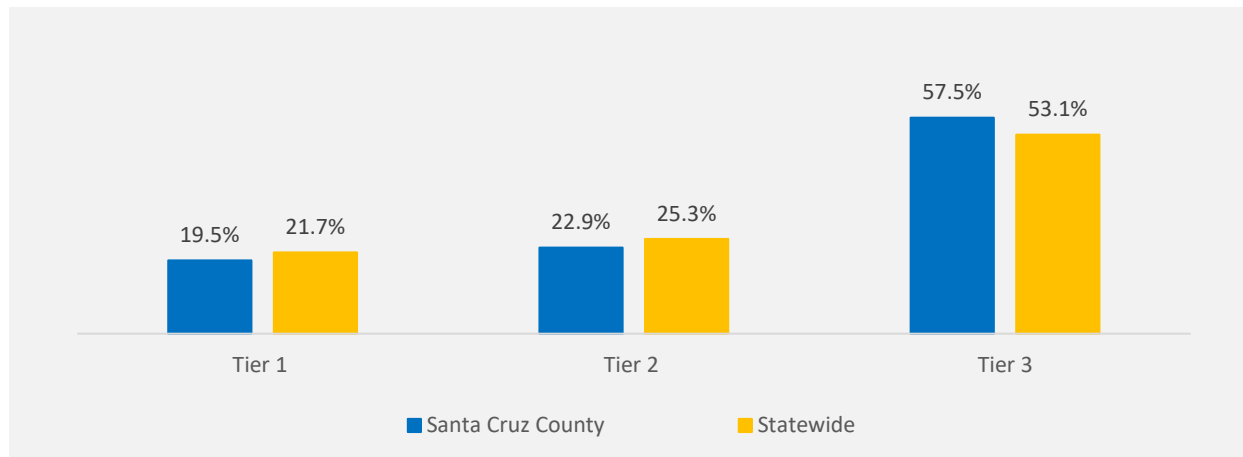
Table 2. Job Tier Description<sup>5</sup>

Tier 1 Occupations	Tier 2 Occupations	Tier 3 Occupations
Tier 1 occupations are typically the highest-paying and highest-skilled occupations in the economy. Such occupations include managerial positions (e.g., Sales Managers), professional positions (e.g., Lawyers), and highly skilled technology occupations, such as engineers, scientists, and computer programmers.	Tier 2 occupations are typically middle-wage and middle-skill occupations. This occupational category includes office and administrative positions (e.g., Accounting Clerks and Secretaries), manufacturing operations, and production positions (e.g., Electricians, Machinists).	Tier 3 occupations are typically the lowest-paying and lowest-skilled occupations and tend to provide the largest share of employment in the County. These occupations include food service and retail jobs, building and grounds cleaning positions, and personal care positions.

Santa Cruz County's job quality is lower than the state average. Compared to the rest of California, Santa Cruz County tends to produce a larger share of lower-skill and lower-wage Tier 3 occupations and a lower share of Tier 1 and Tier 2 jobs (Figure 3). This finding suggests that opportunities beyond service and retail positions may be limited in the County.

**Figure 3 shows that Santa Cruz County has a larger share of lower-paying and lower-skilled jobs, and a smaller share of high and middle-paying jobs than the rest of California.**

Figure 3. Job Composition by Tier (2021)<sup>6</sup>



Despite overall lower job quality compared to the state averages, job quality in Santa Cruz County has improved in the past five years. Between 2017 and 2022, the share of Tier 1 jobs increased by almost nine percentage points, while the share of Tier 3 jobs has shrunk at the same rate. It is also noteworthy to mention that job composition is improving at a faster rate than state averages (Figure 4).

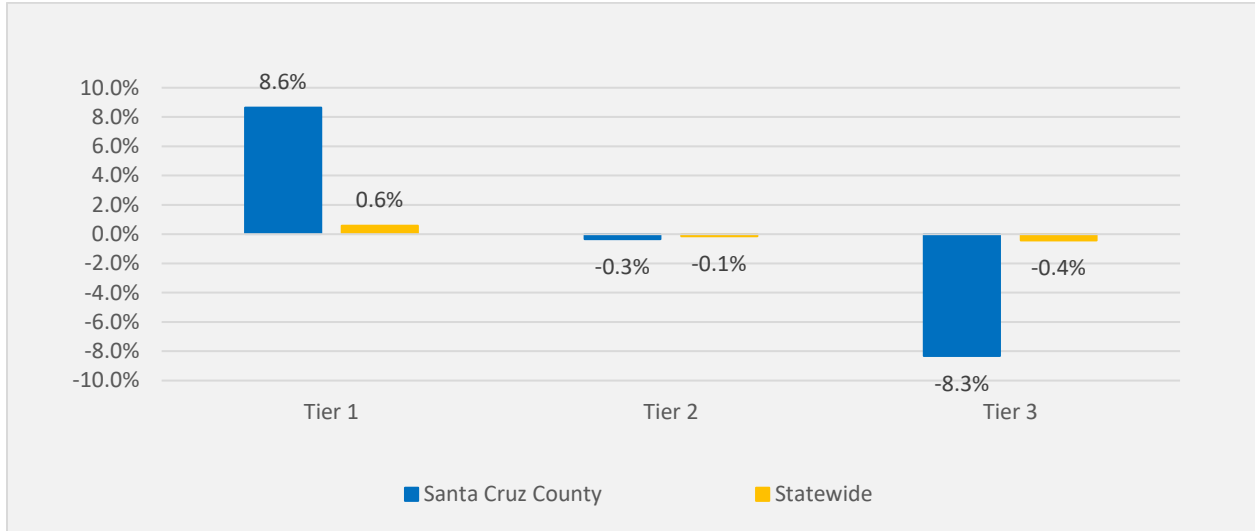
<sup>5</sup> Tiers do not include all SOC codes, and therefore may not sum up to total county and statewide employment.

<sup>6</sup> JobsEQ Q3 2022, American Community Survey 2021 5-year estimates.



Figure 4 illustrates that although the county has more lower-skilled and lower-paying jobs, the workforce composition is changing, with a decrease in the share of people working in Tier 3 jobs and an increase in people working in Tier 1 jobs.

Figure 4. Change in Job Quality (2017-2022)<sup>7</sup>



## Industry Cluster Employment

Industry clusters are often used by economic developers and economists as a unit of analysis that allows one to determine a region's drivers of development. Clusters are closely related industries that often work together in supply chains or create value through other sources of interconnectedness, such as partnerships, business opportunities, or a shared workforce.

<sup>7</sup> JobsEQ Q3 2022, American Community Survey 2021 5-year estimates.

**Business Case Study**

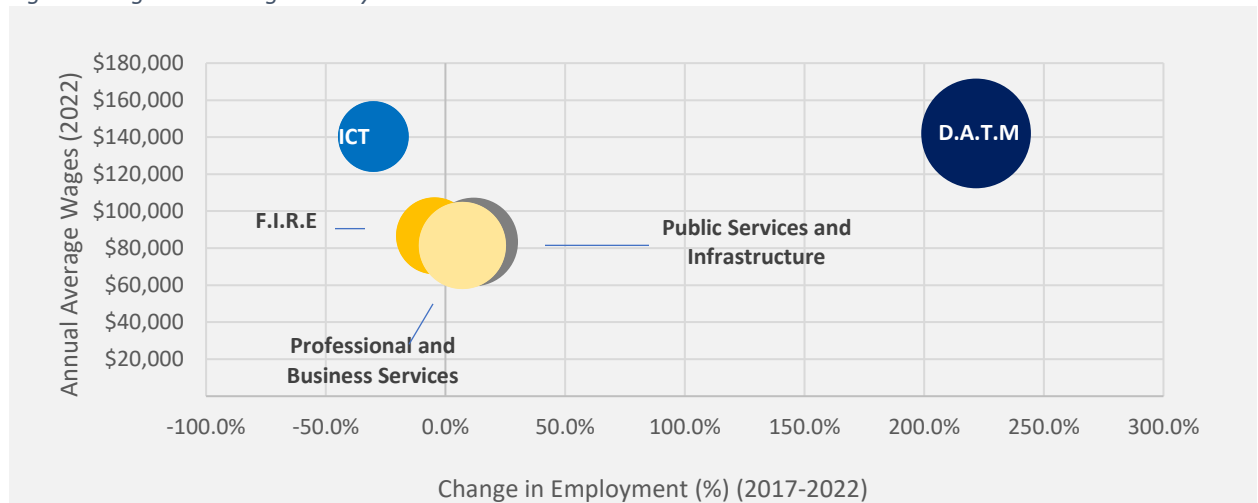
**Joby Aviation**

Joby Aviation, a pioneering company in electric vertical takeoff and landing aircraft, has been in operation since 2009. Throughout this time, the company has expanded both in terms of employment and reputation. Cody Cleverly, Manager of Workforce Development at Joby, said **“Santa Cruz is our home, it is an excellent place to have access to talent in the Silicon Valley while staying out, making it more affordable. It is where we came from, and we are committed to staying.”** This commitment is echoed through Joby’s decision to invest in twelve acres of land in Santa Cruz County, a decision that was taken despite the higher relative costs of operating facilities in the area. Cody highlighted some of the benefits for Joby of growing in the Santa Cruz business community, include the healthy relationship between workforce and business organizations and the proximity to institutions, like Stanford. He also indicated there is opportunity for even greater communication and coordination between the County’s education and workforce entities and the region’s business community. This collaboration aims to better prepare current and future workers for the jobs that lie ahead.

**Highest Earning Clusters**

Industry clusters characterized by higher earnings per job grew substantially between 2017 and 2022. Specifically, the Defense, Aerospace, and Transportation Manufacturing (D.A.T.M) cluster saw a 222% growth in employment in recent years, partly through the rise of Joby Aviation in the County. Conversely, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Finance, Insurance, Banking, and Real Estate (FIRE) clusters have experienced some negative growth (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Highest Earning Industry Clusters<sup>8</sup>

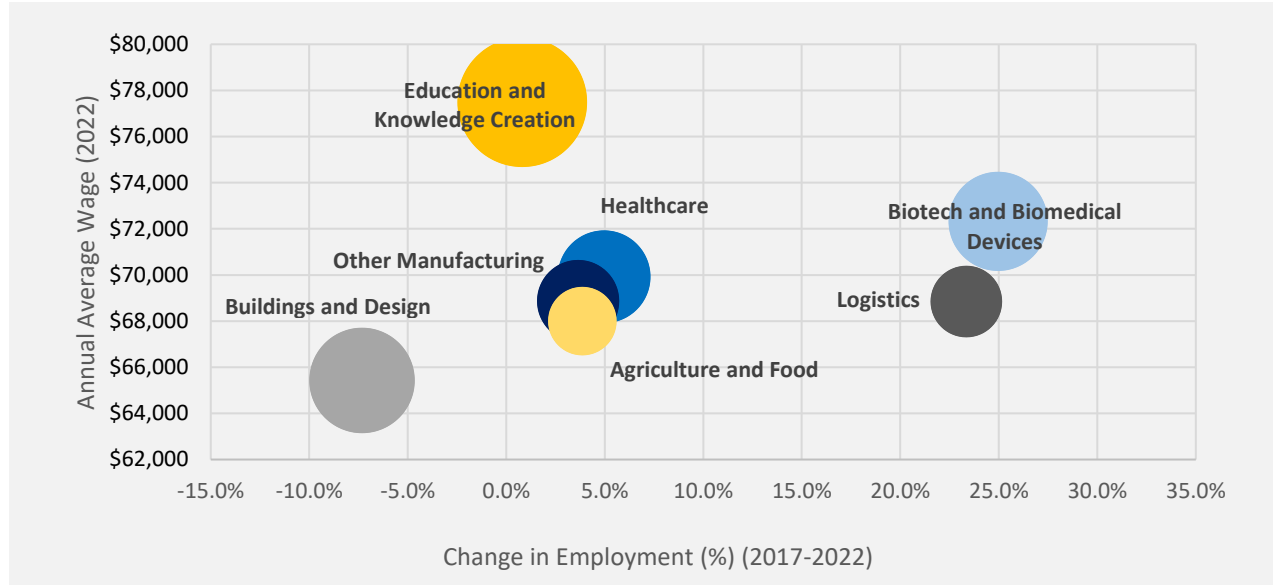


<sup>8</sup> JobsEQ Q3 2022, American Community Survey 2021 5-year estimates. Bubble size represents Location Quotient for these industries. A large bubble shows an industry cluster that has an above average concentration of workers in Santa Cruz County. Change in employment (%) represents the average annual employment historical rate from 2017 Q3 to 2022 Q3.

## Mid-Earning Clusters

Growth among mid-earning industry clusters has been more moderate. The Biotechnology and Biomedical Devices, as well as Logistics clusters have seen an increase of over 20% in employment between 2017 and 2022, respectively. Other mid-earning clusters, such as Healthcare (5%) and Building and Design (4%), saw a much more conservative growth in employment. In contrast, the Agriculture and Food cluster experienced negative growth in recent years (Figure 6).

Figure 6. Mid-Earning Industry Clusters<sup>9</sup>



<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

### Business Case Study

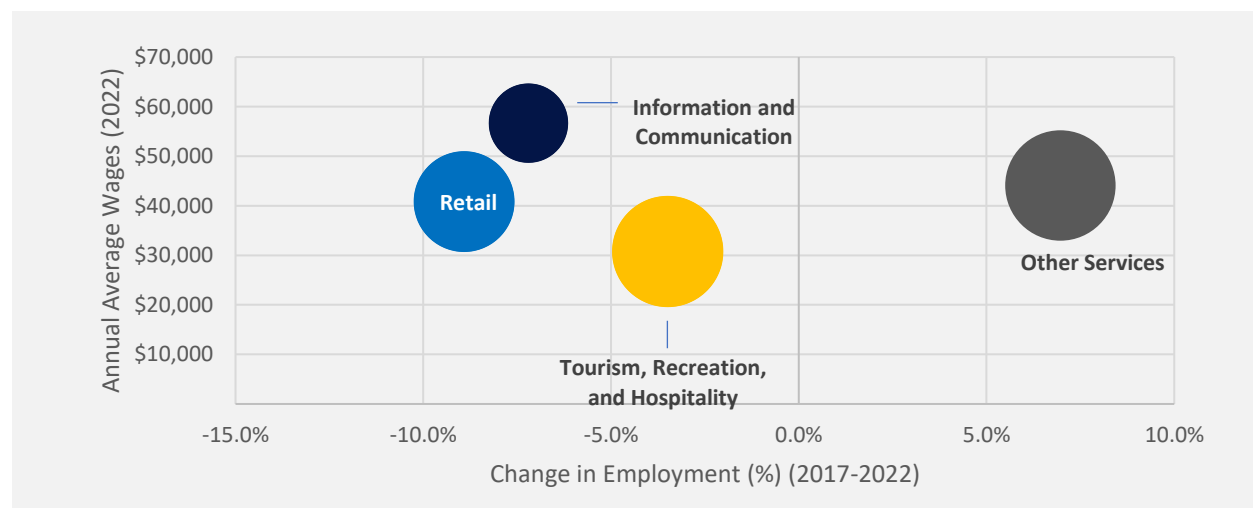
## Bernards Construction

Bernards Construction, like many other construction firms in the region, is struggling to find qualified workers. At least some of the hiring difficulties are due to the higher wages offered in the surrounding Bay area. Christian Pellecchia, Project Executive at Bernards, is happy that the county has an open-shop policy for private contractors that allows them to bid for public works projects, as it tends to bring costs down and supports their ability to hire locally. **Bernards Construction has been able to get over the hurdle of hiring difficulties by taking advantage of the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) multi-craft pre-apprenticeship program, which is designed for private contractors and feeds directly into firms like his.** Christian highlighted that private construction firms offer rigorous on-the-job training, pay high wages, and teach their trainees skills at a fast pace. Christian also identified the need for greater collaboration between education and training partners, and the business community. He believes that such collaboration will increase the youth's awareness regarding the existence of all the construction firm apprenticeships that are available, and in turn, bolster opportunities for growth and rebuilding in Santa Cruz County.

## Lowest Earning Clusters

Between 2017 and 2022, the lowest-earning industry clusters in Santa Cruz County have experienced minimal or negative growth. The Information and Communications (-7%), Retail (-9%), and Tourism, Recreation, and Hospitality (-4%) clusters have seen negative growth in recent years. The Other Services cluster has seen a 7% growth in this period (Figure 7). Tourism, Recreation, and Hospitality, as well as Retail were two clusters that were significantly impacted by the pandemic.

Figure 7. Lowest Earning Industry Clusters<sup>10</sup>



<sup>10</sup> *Id.*

**Business Case Study**

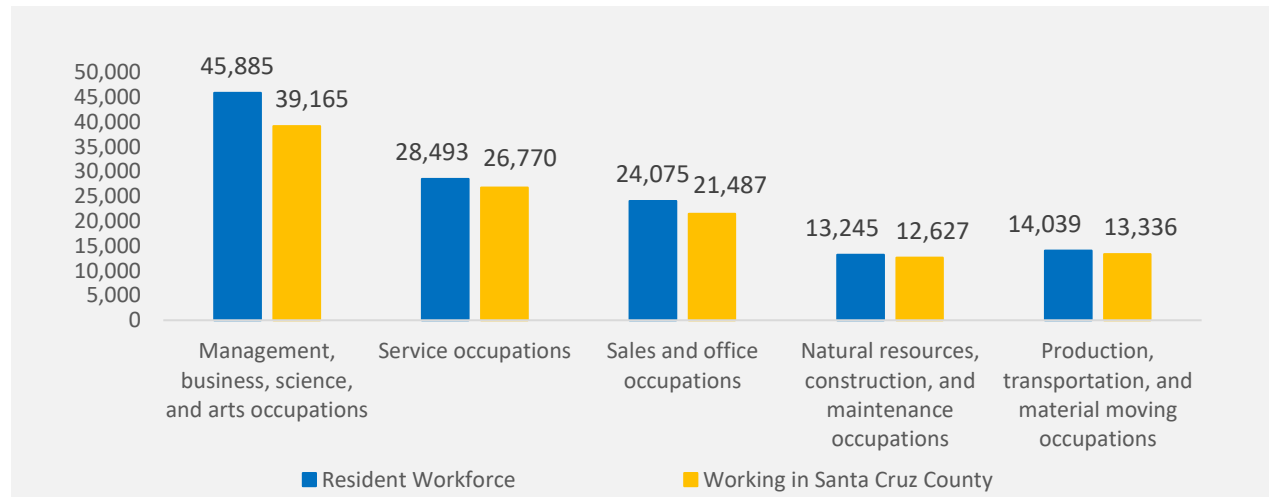
**Hilton Santa Cruz/Scotts Valley**

The Hilton Scotts Valley, which has been in operation since 1999, enjoys a central location, offering easy access to Silicon Valley and a short ten-minute drive to the beaches and boardwalk of Santa Cruz. This unique and beautiful resort is a valuable contributor to the Santa Cruz hospitality ecosystem. Like other hospitality businesses, the Hilton Scotts Valley has had trouble recovering from the pandemic. According to Jimmy Legg, Director of Sales and Marketing, the hotel would benefit from more corporate accounts using the hotel. Tax breaks and other incentives could help to lure businesses back into the market. Jimmy further explained that the County could help businesses like the Hilton by luring more corporations to the area through zoning incentives. In addition, hiring qualified staff remains a real concern for the Hilton Scotts Valley. Jimmy explained that there are too few applicants and that they are often underqualified. He believes it is mostly due to the high cost of living in the area. The Hilton Scotts Valley has been a valuable asset to the region’s tourism economy and will continue that role as it also looks to strengthen its ties to the business community.

Santa Cruz County has more resident workers than jobs available across each major occupational category, making the County a net exporter of talent (Figure 8). Management, business, science, and arts occupations are the category with the greatest number of exported jobs, with nearly 7,000 more workers in these roles that live in the County than jobs available for these roles. Overall, about one in ten (10%) residents have to commute outside of Santa Cruz County for work. It should be noted that those working remotely, likely from home, for a business outside of Santa Cruz County would still be counted as someone working outside the County.

**Figure 8 indicates that the County has more resident workers than current jobs, making it a net exporter of talent across each occupational category.**

Figure 8. Working Residents and Jobs in Santa Cruz County (2022)<sup>11</sup>



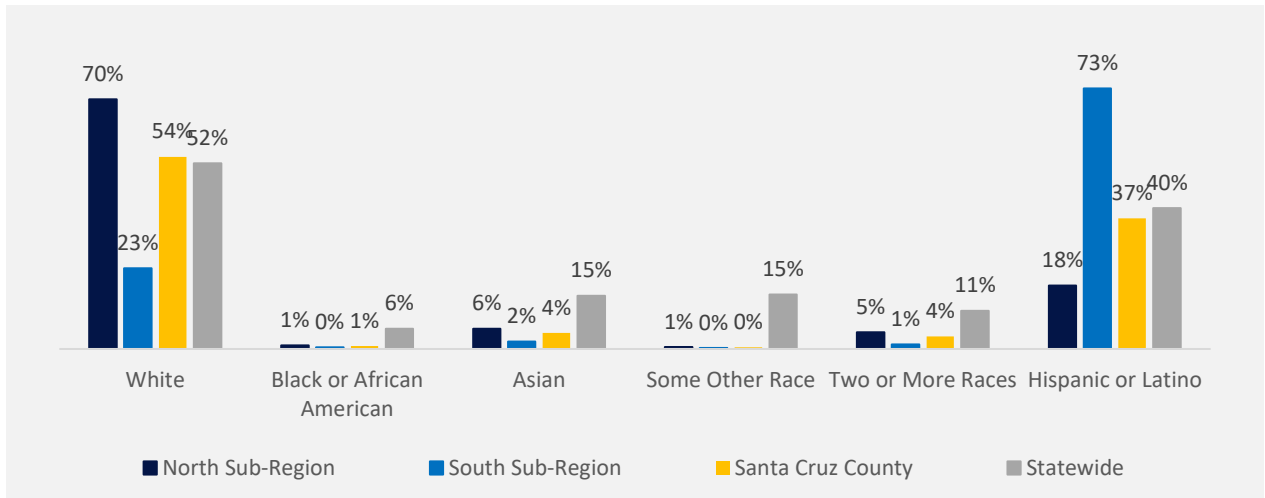
<sup>11</sup> JobsEQ Q3 2022.

# Workforce Profile

## Demographics

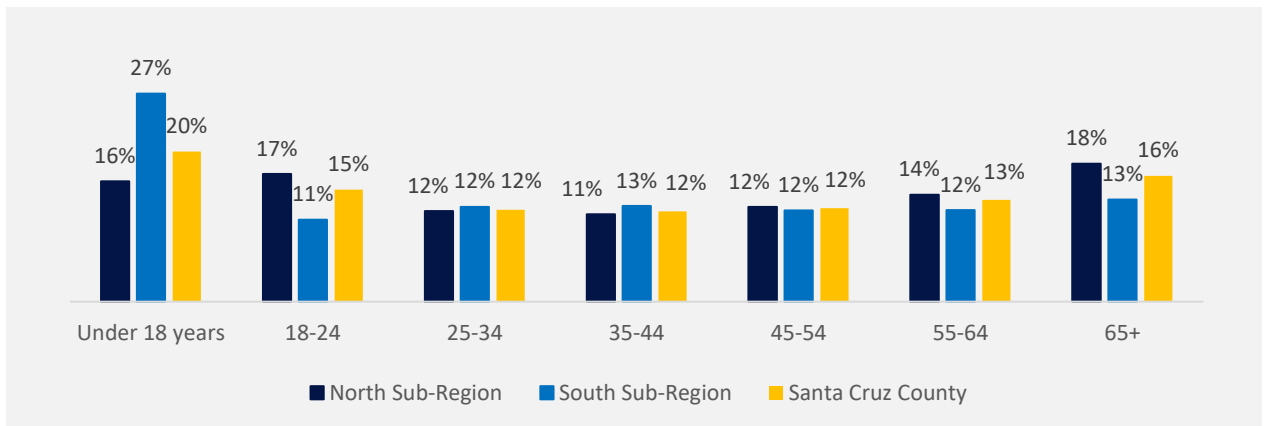
Santa Cruz County has a larger share of White residents compared to the statewide average, especially in its Northern sub-region, where 70% of the population is White (non-Hispanic). In contrast, the Southern sub-region has a larger share of Hispanic or Latino residents (73%) (Figure 9).

Figure 9. Race and Ethnicity of Santa Cruz County (2021)<sup>12</sup>



The Northern sub-region has a notably higher proportion of older residents than the Southern sub-region. While 32% of the Northern population is aged 55 years or older, over a quarter of the Southern population is under 18 years old. This starkly contrasts age composition across Santa Cruz County, suggesting that while one region’s population is exiting the workforce, another region’s population is entering schooling and working age (Figure 10).

Figure 10. Age Composition (2021)<sup>13</sup>



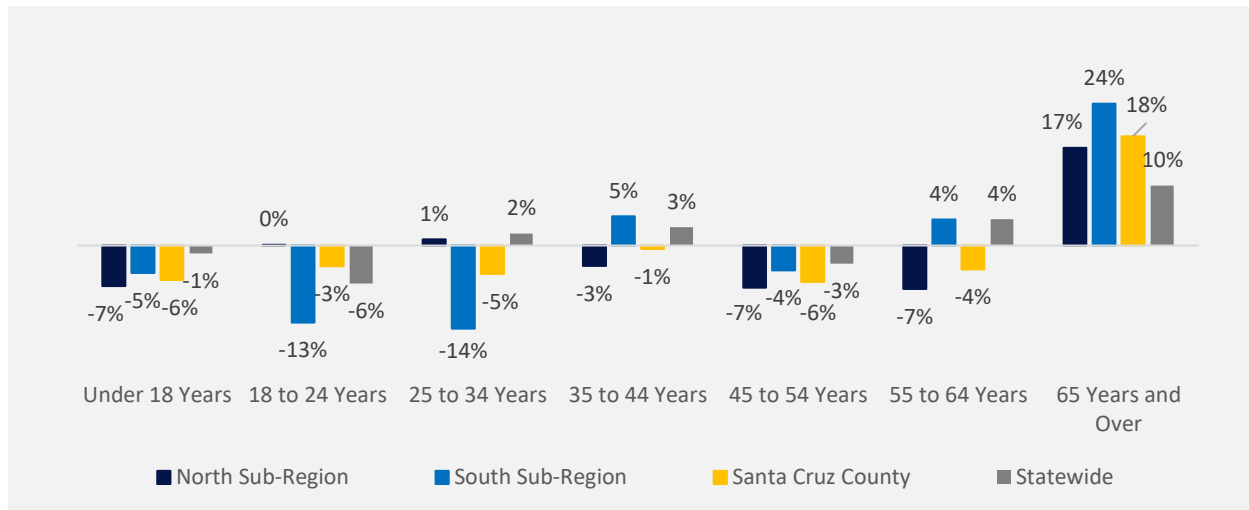
<sup>12</sup> United States Census Bureau. American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2017-2021).

<sup>13</sup> *Id.*

Santa Cruz County's population growth has mostly been driven by its share of residents aged 65 years and older. It is important to acknowledge that while the Southern sub-region generally has a younger population compared to the Northern sub-region, it has experienced significant growth in its older age group (Figure 11).

**Figure 11 illustrates that the County's population growth is mainly driven by its oldest share of residents.**

Figure 11. Population Growth by Age Group (2017-2021)<sup>14</sup>



Santa Cruz County boasts higher educational attainment levels compared to the statewide average, although there is a sharp contrast between the Northern and Southern sub-regions (Figure 12). As seen in the figure below, the Northern sub-region tends to drive the County's educational attainment rate up, with over 57% of its population aged 25 years and older having a Bachelor's degree or higher. Conversely, three out of ten Southern sub-region population aged 25 years and older have less than a high school diploma or equivalent.

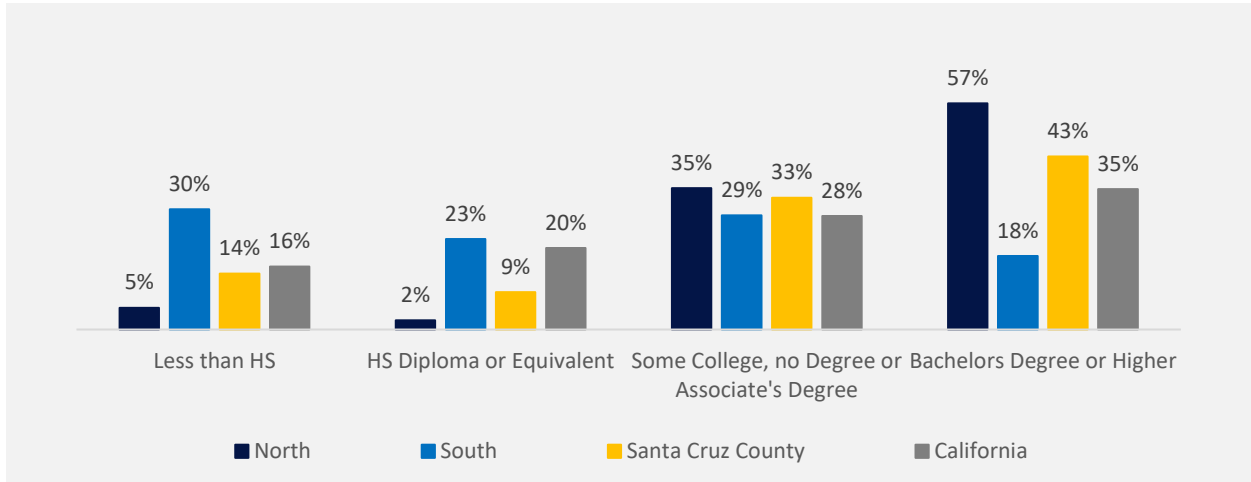
**Figure 12 illustrates that although the County has a greater educational attainment rate than the rest of the state, it is mainly driven by its Northern sub-region residents.**

Figure 12. Educational Attainment (Population Ages 25+) (2021)<sup>15</sup>

<sup>14</sup> *Id.*

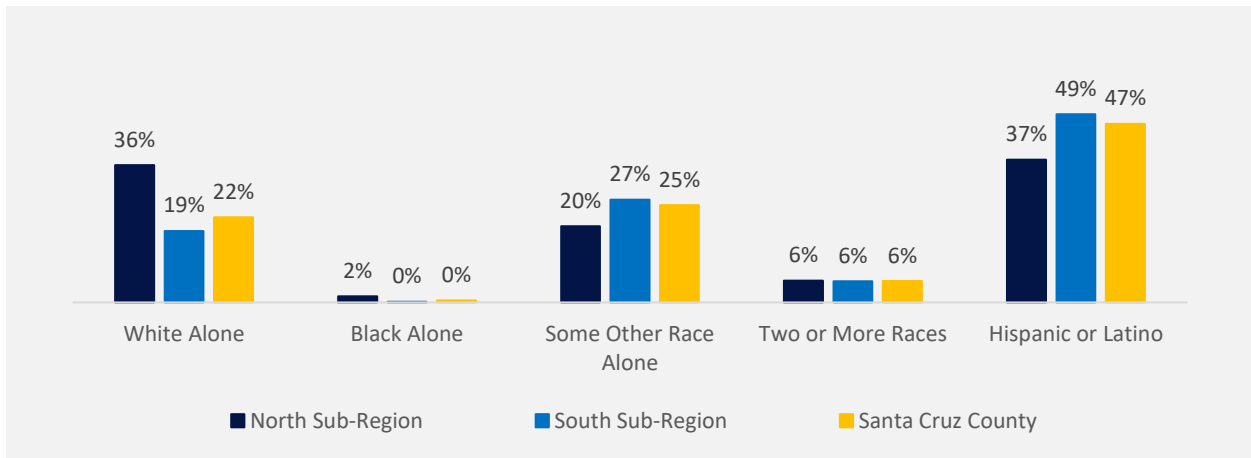
<sup>15</sup> *Id.*





By examining the racial and ethnic composition of individuals aged 25 years and older, it becomes evident that Hispanic or Latino residents are more likely to stop their education at a high school diploma or equivalent than their White counterparts. Figure 13 shows that Hispanic or Latino residents with less than a high school diploma are thirty percentage points higher than the proportion of White individuals with similar educational attainment rates in the Southern sub-region.

Figure 13. Less than a High School Diploma (or Equivalent) by Race and Ethnicity (Population Ages 25+) (2021)<sup>16</sup>



## Housing Costs, Transportation, & Net Migration

### Housing

About 60% of Santa Cruz County residents own their homes. Among the remaining 40% who are renters, 45% spend 35% or more of their total income on housing. Comparatively, about three out of ten homeowners with a mortgage spend 35% or more of their income on housing. Spending on housing is distributed similarly across the sub-regions, although the share of homeowners that spend 35% of their income on housing is slightly higher in the Northern sub-region (Figure 14 and Figure 15).

<sup>16</sup> *Id.*

Figure 14 indicates that Northern sub-region homeowners and renters are more likely to spend 35% or more of their income on housing costs than resident from the Southern sub-region of the County.

Figure 14. Share of Income Residents Spend on Housing in North Sub-Region (2021)<sup>17</sup>

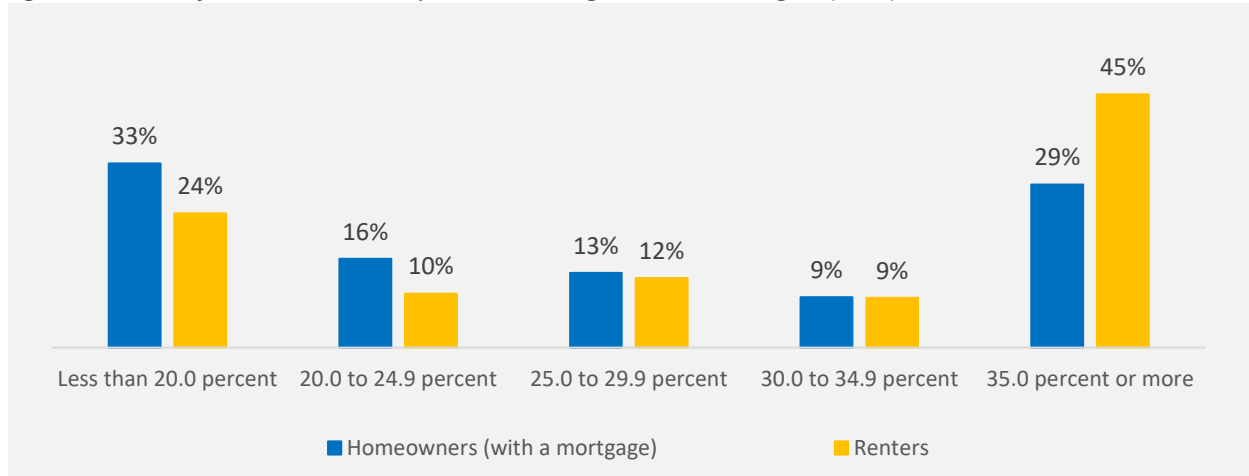
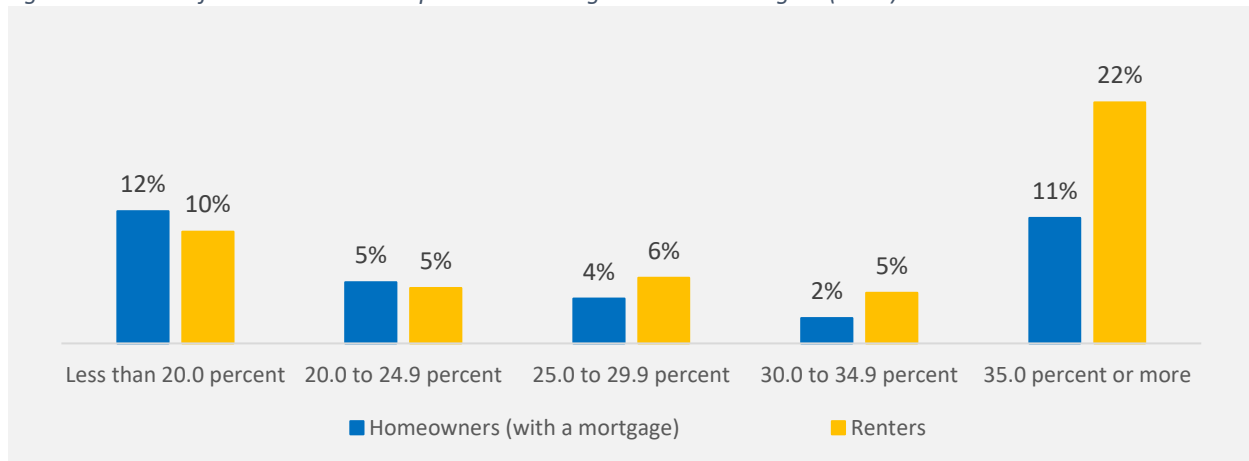


Figure 15. Share of Income Residents Spend on Housing in South Sub-Region (2021)<sup>18</sup>

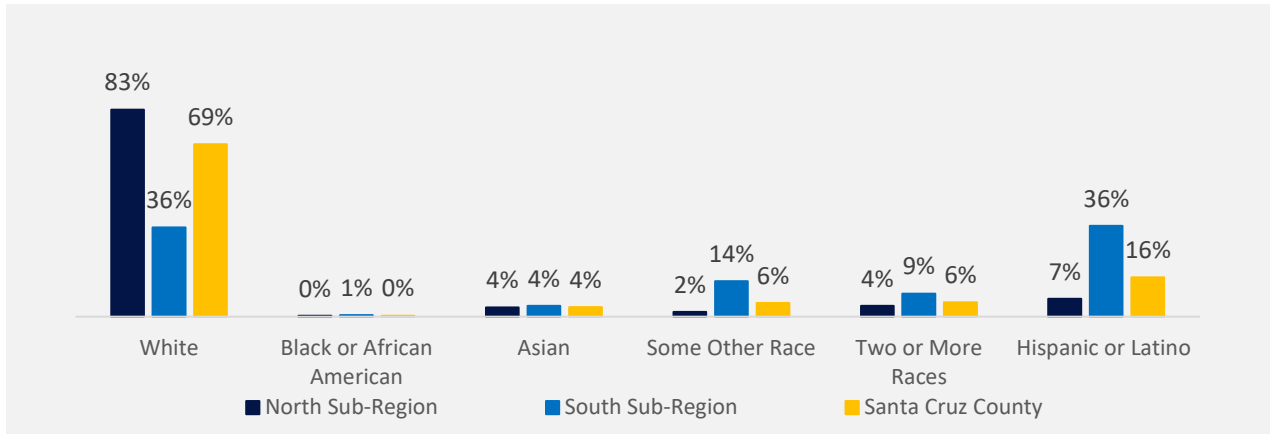


Another measure of equity and economic mobility in the County is homeownership rates based on race and ethnicity. Overall, a higher percentage of White Santa Cruz County residents (69%) own their homes compared to other racial or ethnic groups. In comparison, only 16% of county residents identifying as Hispanic or Latino owned their homes in 2021 (Figure 16). Given the higher housing cost burden for renters across the County, Figure 16 indicates that individuals from communities of color are more likely to face challenges with high housing costs, further reinforcing socio-economic disparities.

<sup>17</sup> *Id.*

<sup>18</sup> *Id.*

Figure 16. Share of Homeownership by Race and Ethnicity (2021)<sup>19</sup>

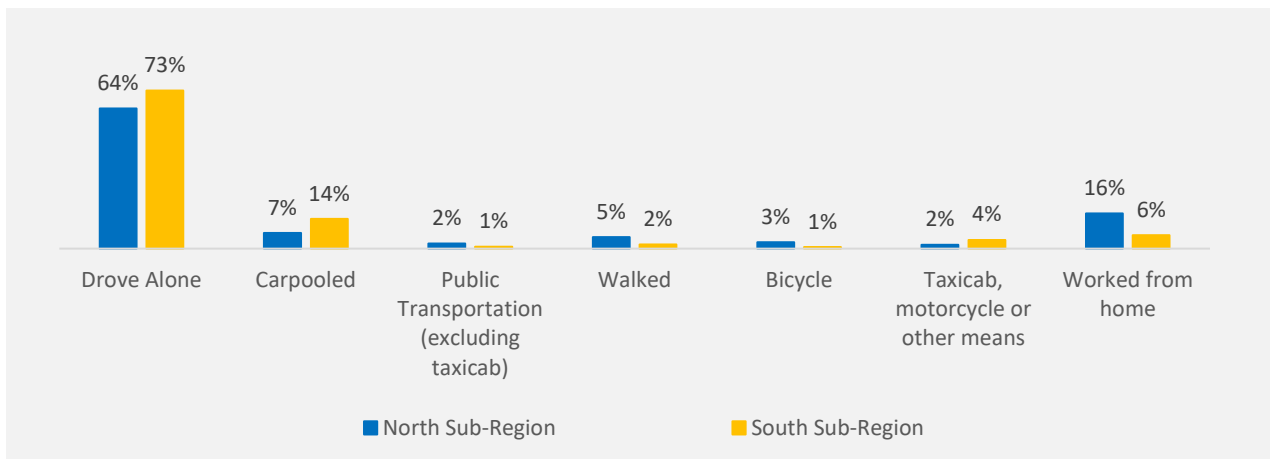


### Transportation

Driving alone is the preferred mean of transportation in Santa Cruz County. However, residents in the Northern sub-region show a higher propensity for utilizing public transit, walk, bike, or work from home. In comparison, Southern sub-region residents are more likely to carpool or use a taxicab, motorcycle, or other means of transportation to get to work (Figure 17).

**Figure 17 indicates that County residents prefer driving alone as their typical means of transportation to work, which can be an issue for a region suffering from climate-related shocks.**

Figure 17. Typical Means of Transportation to Work (2021)<sup>20</sup>

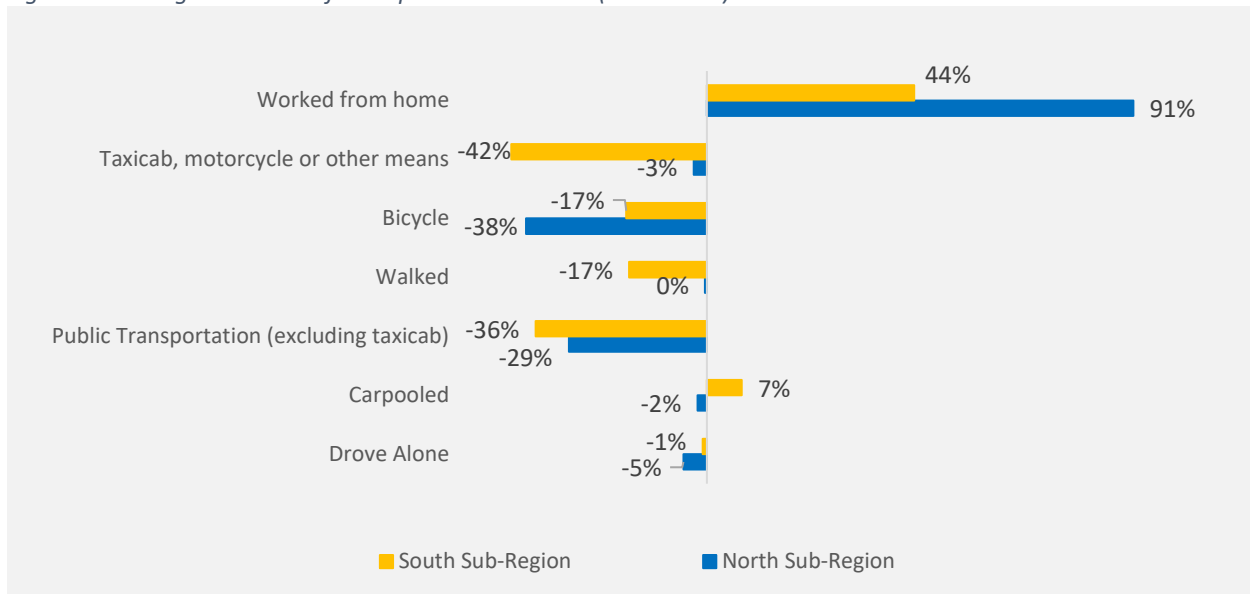


In recent years, Santa Cruz County residents have become more likely to work from home and less likely to use any other means of transportation to work, with the exception of the Southern sub-region residents, who are now more likely to carpool.

**Figure 18 illustrates that residents in both subregions have become more likely to work from home in recent years, although Southern sub-region residents have also become more likely to carpool.**

<sup>19</sup> *Id.*

<sup>20</sup> *Id.*

Figure 18. Change in Means of Transportation to Work (2017-2021)<sup>21</sup>

## Net Migration

The pandemic has had a profound impact on where people work and where they choose to live. California made national headlines for seeing nearly 277,000 people leave the state between 2020 and 2021. Santa Cruz County was not immune to this statewide trend, though the population within the County has been declining for several years. The decrease between 2020 and 2021 was the most drastic, as the County saw about 5,000 people leave the County, resulting in a net reduction in population of 4,800 (Figure 19).<sup>22</sup> A recent survey of California residents revealed that housing costs play a significant role in the decision to leave the state, and 45% of participants noted that they had seriously considered moving because of housing costs.<sup>23</sup> Data also suggests that while lower-income and less-educated workers are leaving the state at higher rates, those with higher incomes and higher levels of education are also increasingly more likely to leave the state.<sup>24</sup> While County Supervisors and the City Councils have been working on remedying the housing situation, it is crucial to support these solutions to ensure a healthy workforce in Santa Cruz County.

**Figure 19 illustrates a continuing trend of people moving out of Santa Cruz in recent years, which has been attributed to high housing costs and the increasing ability for people to work from home.**

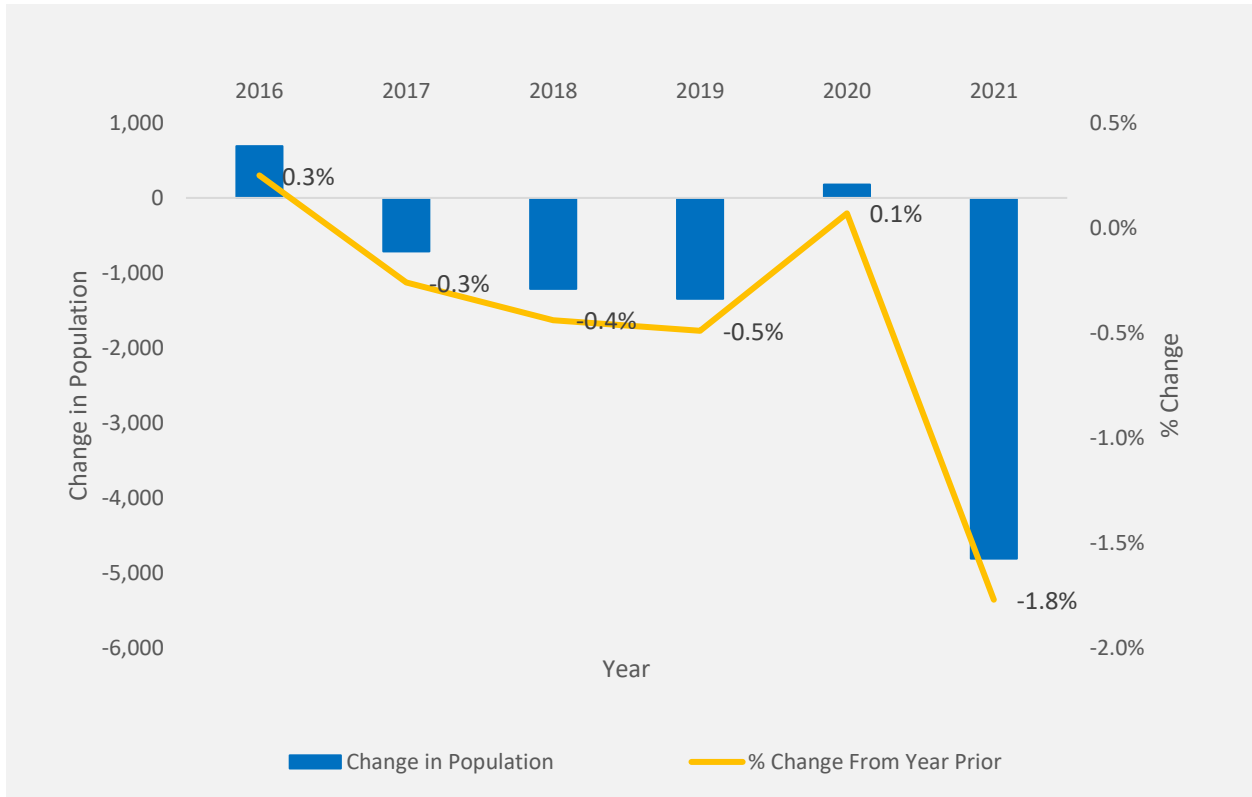
<sup>21</sup> *Id.*

<sup>22</sup> Net immigration from other countries and a positive birth rate account for the difference.

<sup>23</sup> "PPIC Statewide Survey: Californians and Their Government". Public Policy Institute of California. <https://www.ppic.org/publication/ppic-statewide-survey-californians-and-their-government-february-2023/>

<sup>24</sup> "Who's Leaving California—and Who's Moving In?". Public Policy Institute of California. <https://www.ppic.org/blog/whos-leaving-california-and-whos-moving-in/>

Figure 19. Net Migration Flows (2016-2021)<sup>25</sup>



<sup>25</sup> California Department of Finance. <https://dof.ca.gov/forecasting/demographics/estimates/estimates-e2-2010-2021/>

# Infrastructure Industry Deep Dives

The passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), and the US CHIPS and Science Act will inject billions of dollars into the US economy geared towards building out infrastructure, promoting domestic manufacturing and supply chains, and driving research and development. This influx of funds presents a significant opportunity for Santa Cruz County to improve its transportation infrastructure, water infrastructure, climate change resilience, and housing stock.

This section of the report focuses on the opportunities these revitalization efforts present in the County. Jobs in infrastructure are often well-paying and are accessible to workers with all levels of education. However, fully capitalizing on the opportunities presented by these development projects will require strategic workforce planning. It is crucial to ensure that Santa Cruz County residents are adequately trained and prepared to take advantage of the employment opportunities that arise from these initiatives.

## Infrastructure Projects Overview

The County of Santa Cruz has made significant investments in road repair and improvement projects, allocating over \$119 million from its FY 2022-23 adjusted budget. These funds are directed towards more than 180 distinct projects, including repairing storm damage, enhancing traffic control, replacing bridges, and implementing other improvements. This represents a substantial 223% increase in spending on road repairs and improvements. Furthermore, the County has also directed funds towards infrastructure projects focused on sanitation, such as sewer rehabilitation projects, and capital projects, such as the Boulder Creek Branch Library. Finally, an additional \$7 million in funds is earmarked for increasing housing.

Table 3 gives an overview of the County's budget, outlining the allocation of funds for different types of infrastructure and community involvement projects between FY 2018-2019 and FY 2022-23.

Table 3. Santa Cruz County Budget Broken Down by Community Involvement and Infrastructure Projects, 2022-2023<sup>26</sup>

Type		2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Actual	2022-23 Adjusted Budget	% Growth (2018- 2022)
<b>Transportation</b>	Road Repair and Improvements	\$36,919,399	\$33,964,285	\$64,548,289	\$119,131,450	223%
<b>Administrative Services</b>	Public Works Administration	\$40,032,092	\$42,990,233	\$43,568,564	\$62,687,425	57%
	County Service Area Administration	\$1,437,794	\$1,659,747	\$2,324,213	\$9,175,833	538%
	Real Property and Capital Projects	\$343,964	\$257,131	\$125,519	\$272,751	-21%
<b>Special Services</b>	Recycling and Solid Waste	\$16,903,647	\$17,516,348	\$16,432,486	\$26,254,760	55%

<sup>26</sup> [Santa Cruz County / FY 2022-23 Budget \(opengov.com\)](https://www.opengov.com/)

	Flood Control	\$5,771,479	\$5,628,982	\$6,009,989	\$14,946,870	159%
	Freedom Sanitation	\$817,308	-\$21,771	\$8,271,667	\$3,963,477	385%
	Small Sanitation Districts	\$1,217,410	\$953,068	\$1,082,597	\$1,090,016	-10%
	Davenport Sanitation	\$559,676	\$819,166	\$1,108,832	\$772,628	38%
	Construction Inspection	\$4,475	\$265,362	\$84,538	\$275,000	6,045%
<b>Community Planning</b>	Permit Center	\$5,910,217	\$6,539,827	\$6,400,777	\$8,379,747	42%
	Planning Administration	\$3,114,414	\$2,875,211	\$3,090,833	\$3,012,393	-3%
	Land Use Policy	\$2,499,182	\$1,387,787	\$1,479,161	\$4,073,872	63%
	Recovery Permit Center	\$0	\$0	\$1,219,004	\$3,281,378	
	Housing	\$961,509	\$937,967	\$2,138,452	\$902,796	-6%
	Code Compliance	\$821,253	\$867,606	\$913,204	\$854,600	4%
<b>Housing Funds</b>	Low and Moderate Income Housing Asset Funds	\$1,109,023	\$4,105,514	\$4,923,463	\$2,133,359	92%
	State and Federal Grants	\$2,528,644	\$744,345	\$719,960	\$5,542,144	119%
	Local Housing Funds	\$24,380	\$47,176	\$43,338	\$3,246,764	13,217%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$120,975,866</b>	<b>\$121,537,984</b>	<b>\$164,484,886</b>	<b>\$269,997,263</b>	<b>123%</b>

## Current Infrastructure Workforce

The substantial investment in infrastructure and housing improvements is expected to generate a significant number of jobs throughout the County, potentially ranging from hundreds to thousands. The increase in demand for workers may be so great that it puts a significant strain on the existing workforce and training pipelines. This section of the report discusses the current state of relevant labor pools to identify which areas may need support to keep up with the anticipated demand.

### Transportation Workforce

Santa Cruz County's transportation workforce, including Highway, Street, and Bridge Construction, as well as Other Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction jobs, has steadily decreased in recent years, with a 13% decrease in employment between 2016 and 2021 (Figure 20). This downward trend is concerning, particularly in light of the substantial increase in demand by over 200% in the near future. Further alarming is that almost one-quarter of the



overall Transportation workforce is 55 years and older (23%) and may be looking to retire soon (Table 4). These factors underscore the need to prioritize efforts in bolstering the transportation workforce in the County.

**Figure 20 shows a decrease in employment, from 2016, within the transportation workforce, a critical issue to consider, with demand expected to increase by more than 200%.**

Figure 20. Transportation Workforce Overall Employment (2016-2021)<sup>27</sup>

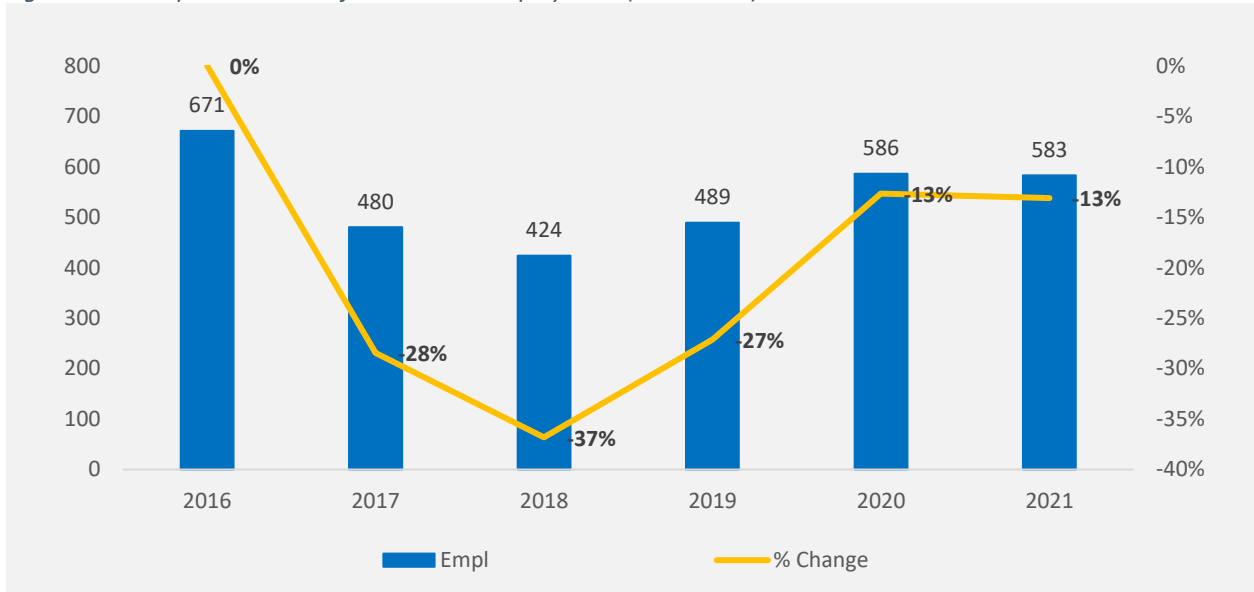


Table 4. Transportation Workforce Overall Employment by Age Range (2021)<sup>28</sup>

Age Group	14-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
Employment (%)	5%	21%	26%	25%	18%	5%

### Water Infrastructure Workforce

The County's water infrastructure workforce, which includes jobs in Water Supply and Irrigation Systems, Water and Sewer Line and Related Structures Construction, and Sewage Treatment Facilities, has been steadily increasing in recent years, growing by 10% since 2016 (Figure 21). While the recent growth of this workforce is promising, it is important to note that approximately 35% of the Water workforce is over 55 years old, 16% of which are 65 or older (Table 5). This means retirements are likely on the horizon, and drawing in new workers is essential.

**Figure 21 illustrates that the County's water infrastructure workforce is growing, which is promising considering current and future public works projects.**

<sup>27</sup> JobsEQ. 2016-2021.

<sup>28</sup> JobsEQ. 2021 Q3.

Figure 21. Water Workforce Overall Employment (2016-2021)<sup>29</sup>

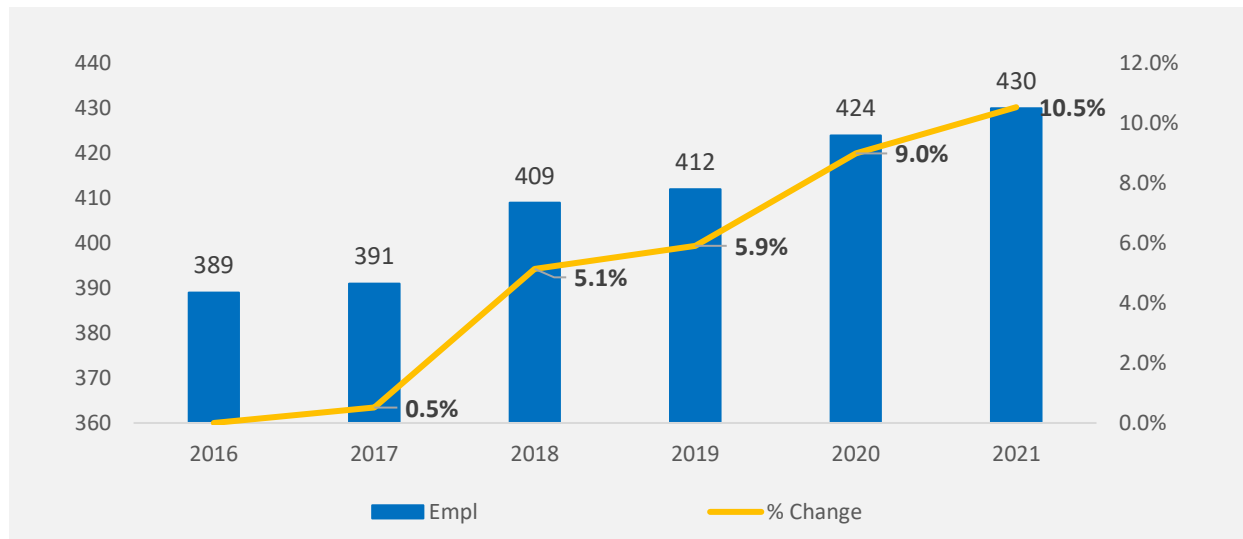


Table 5. Water Workforce Overall Employment by Age Range (2021)<sup>30</sup>

Age Group	14-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
Employment (%)	2%	16%	23%	25%	19%	16%

**Organization Case Study**

**City of Santa Cruz Water Department**

The City of Santa Cruz is undertaking an ambitious reinvestment in public works and infrastructure, with over \$650 million in reinvestments in the water system alone. Fortunately, the water department is seeing this as an opportunity to further invest in community benefits and develop sustainable building trades jobs. **Rosemary Menard, Director of the City’s Water Department, has explained that “there is a smaller pool of workers in that skill set and we are looking to grow that so that those workers are paid living wages. It is part of DEI efforts to make these projects fit for high road jobs”.** To do so, the department has partnered with other entities such as adult education centers that create career apprenticeship programs in Santa Cruz and provide opportunities for people of all backgrounds to explore these well-paying careers. From Rosemary’s experience, people that have participated in these apprenticeship programs tend to work with unions and non-unionized businesses or are placed in further training programs within the County’s community colleges. As the City is currently working on rebuilding through its Climate Action Plan, Rosemary has emphasized the need to find enough workers, especially as those employment opportunities are designed to be high-quality, high-wage jobs.

<sup>29</sup> JobsEQ, 2016-2021.

<sup>30</sup> JobsEQ, 2021 Q3

## Residential Construction Workforce

The residential construction workforce in Santa Cruz County, encompassing New Single Family Home Construction, New Multi-Family Home Construction, and New Housing For-Sale Builders, has been steadily increasing in recent years, growing by 9% since 2016 (Figure 22). While the industry is recuperating from COVID-19 related job losses, it is important to note that over one-quarter (26%) of this workforce is over the age of 55, with about one in ten workers aged over 65 years old, and therefore close to exiting the workforce (Table 6).

**Figure 22 illustrates that the County's residential construction workforce is recuperating from COVID-19 pandemic related job losses, and almost at pre-pandemic employment levels.**

Figure 22. Residential Construction Workforce Overall Employment (2016-2021)<sup>31</sup>

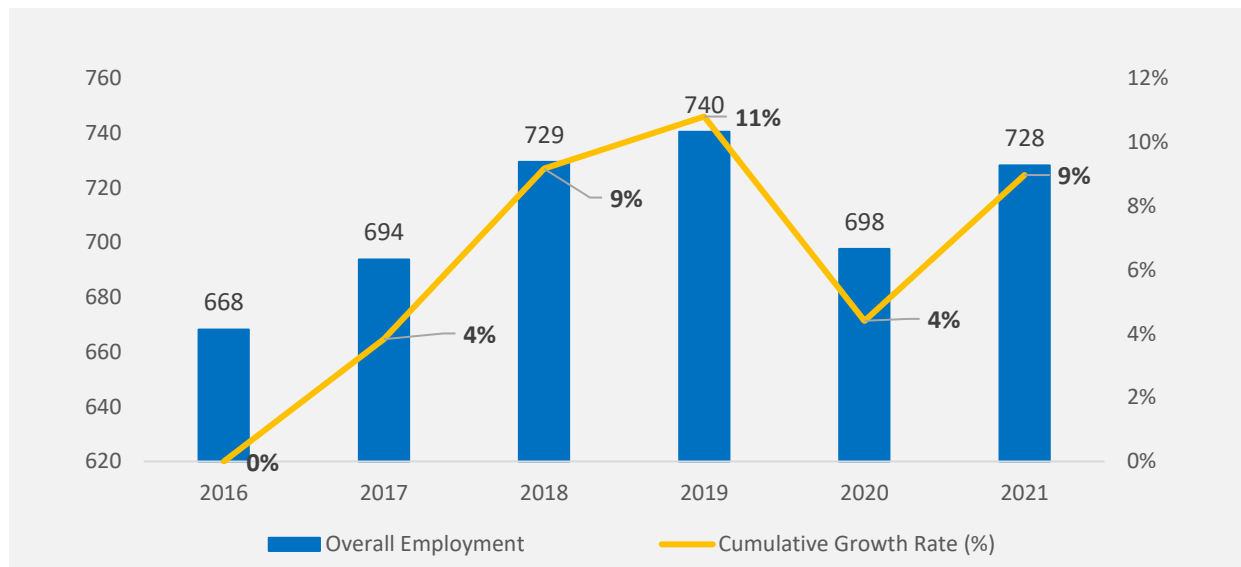


Table 6. Residential Workforce Overall Employment by Age Range (2021)<sup>32</sup>

Age Group	14-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
Employment (%)	10%	19%	25%	20%	16%	11%

## Energy Workforce

Santa Cruz County's energy workforce, which includes jobs in electric power generation, transmission, distribution and storage, fuels, energy efficiency, and motor vehicles, has had at least 3,600 workers between 2016 and 2019. Although COVID-19 impacted the industry with an 8% decrease in overall employment, Santa Cruz County's energy workforce has recouped the number of jobs lost during the pandemic, with a 12% increase between 2020 and 2021 (Figure 23). This workforce will play a vital role in helping the County, state, and country meet their decarbonization goals outlined in the 2022 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, which will drive demand for these workers in the coming years. This means more Electricians will be needed to upgrade electrical panels, install EV charging stations,

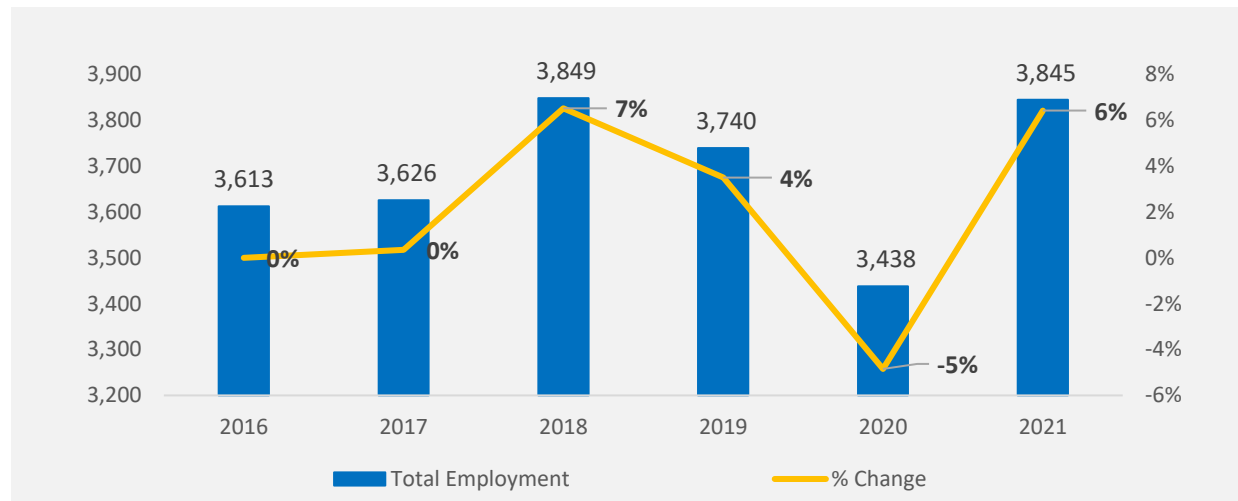
<sup>31</sup> JobsEQ. 2016-2021.

<sup>32</sup> JobsEQ. 2021 Q3

and electrify homes. In addition, HVAC Technicians will be needed to install new electric and efficient appliances, and Insulation Workers will be needed to seal building envelopes to support more energy-efficient homes.

Figure 23 shows that the County's energy infrastructure workforce has also recouped jobs lost during the pandemic, which is a positive development as this workforce will play a growing role in supporting the County's decarbonization goals.

Figure 23. Energy Workforce Overall Employment (2016-2021)<sup>33</sup>



### Organization Case Study

#### City of Santa Cruz Climate Action Plan

The City of Santa Cruz recently completed and is beginning to implement its 2022 Climate Action Plan. The plan addresses infrastructure, with work on flood control and energy projects, EV charging, building electrification, microgrids, renewable energy, open spaces, green infrastructure, living shoreline, and other utilities as they relate to vulnerabilities on the coastline. **The plan also models future workforce development needs, and projects that the highest emission-reduction activities will be in building and transportation. The plan also looks to create a steady talent pipeline, from pre-apprenticeships to full-time well-paying employment. New employment pathways are being developed at UC Santa Cruz combining new technologies with the jobs that will move us to a decarbonized economy.** According to Tiffany Wise-West, the City's Sustainability and Climate Action Manager, this is a **massive undertaking that will require getting over several hurdles. Securing funding for studies, design, and construction poses a significant hurdle, as do supply chain constraints, bandwidth challenges, and regulatory uncertainty.** Nevertheless, the Climate Action Plan is a well-orchestrated strategy that creates avenues of development for high-road jobs, as well as bolstering the City's overall economic vitality.

<sup>33</sup> U.S. Department of Energy, United States Energy and Employment Report, 2022.

## Infrastructure Workforce Training Inventory

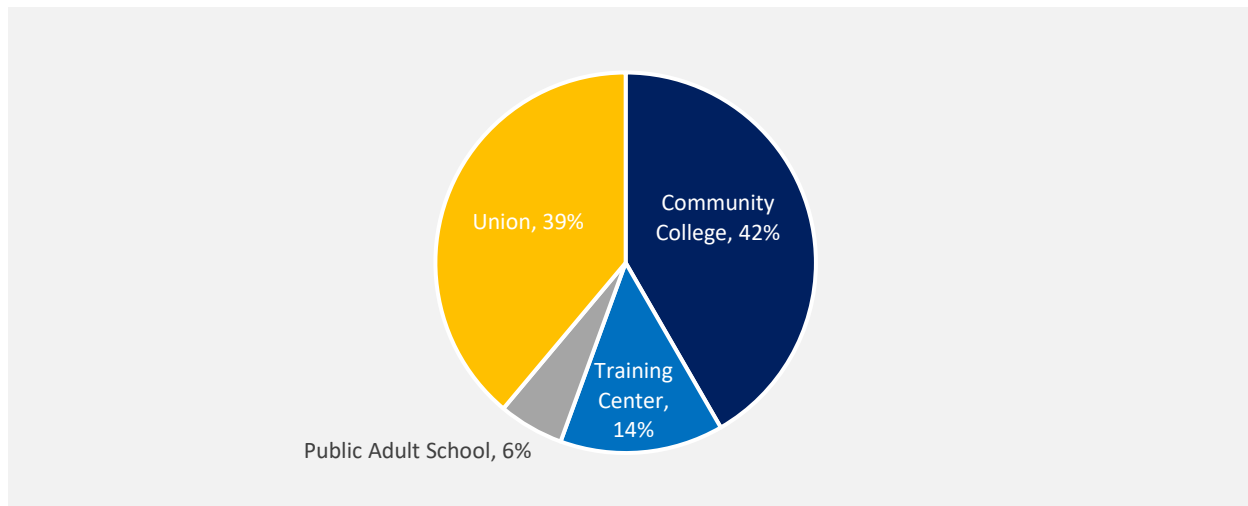
Santa Cruz County is ramping up infrastructure and housing efforts, as evidenced by the County's budget for FY 2022-23 (Table 3). In addition to assessing the current workforce, it is essential to evaluate the County's training landscape to determine whether it can meet the anticipated increase in infrastructure-related jobs and identify any potential bottlenecks in the talent pipeline.

Another valuable element of infrastructure, housing, and energy careers is that most jobs do not require a four-year diploma but offer entry into high-road career opportunities. The trainings listed in this inventory offer entry points into many of these careers. Promoting the availability of these jobs and ensuring that these training opportunities are accessible to interested job seekers may help simultaneously guarantee that there is a sufficient workforce to complete these projects while also offering accessible high-paying career opportunities to the 57% of county residents without a bachelors degree, including the 30% of residents in the south sub-region who do not have a high school diploma.

Cabrillo College (42%) and local union chapters (39%) offer most vocational trainings relevant to infrastructure and residential construction in Santa Cruz County. Public training centers account for 14% of the available trainings, while public adult schools provide six percent of the overall trainings (Figure 24). Appendix A provides a detailed breakdown of the trainings, categorizing them by providers, industry focus, training focus, occupational outcomes, and whether apprenticeships are offered (Appendix A: Training Inventory).

**Figure 24 shows that community colleges and unions offer most vocational trainings relevant to infrastructure and residential construction work.**

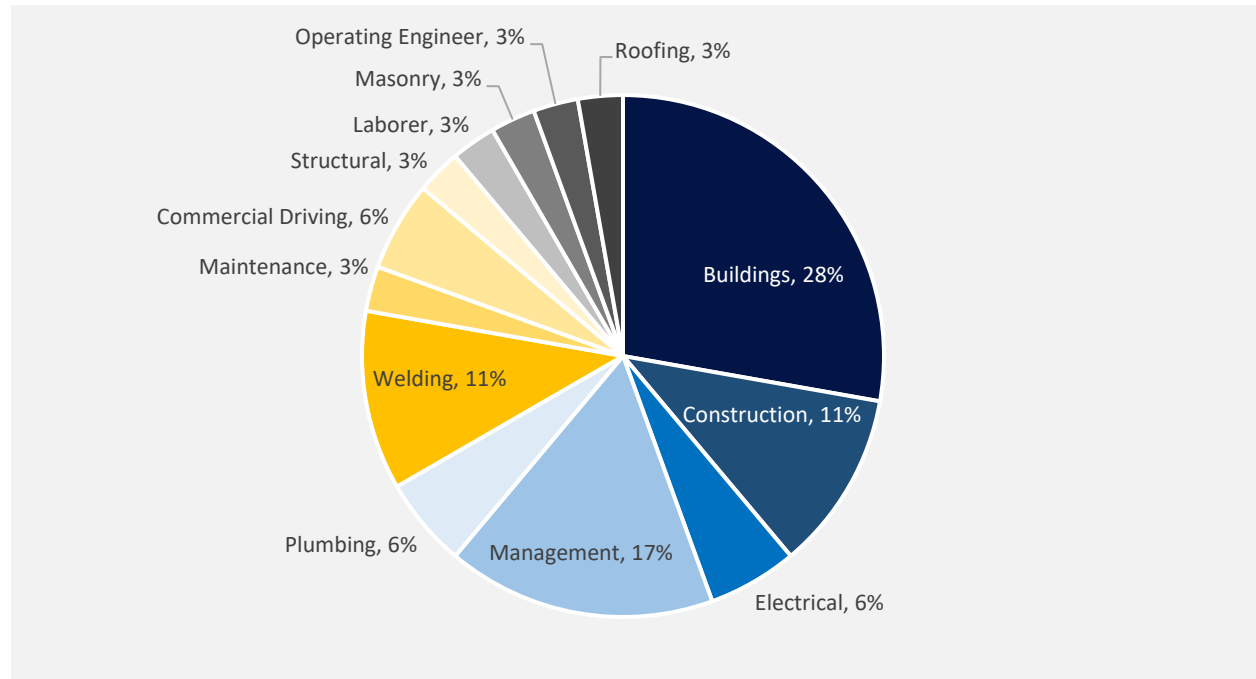
Figure 24. Training Provider Type for Infrastructure Related Work



Apprenticeships make up around 40% of the 36 programs available across the County. In our training inventory, apprenticeships are exclusively offered through local union chapters, providing on-the-job training with fair compensation. The expectation is that apprentices will secure full-time positions upon completion. Although private companies may also offer apprenticeships, tracking data for these programs has not been available.

Santa Cruz County offers training programs that prepare individuals for a range of occupations. Out of the 36 programs offered, buildings (28%), construction management (17%), construction (11%), welding (11%), electrical work (6%), and plumbing (6%) are the most commonly offered categories of programs. Other trainings include masonry, maintenance, commercial driving, roofing, laborer skills, and operating engineer apprenticeships are offered at a lower rate, as each local trade union offers their own apprenticeship (Figure 25). At the same time, the County does have a large array of relevant training programs, a deeper investigation of the anticipated demand and supply of workers around infrastructure and housing programs is necessary to determine whether training providers should expand their capacity, and if so, what additional resources they would require to do so.

Figure 25. Building Trades Training Resources by Occupational Focus



Out of the 36 available programs, eighteen programs (50%) enhance employability as they are apprenticeships offered by unions. These programs provide on-the-job training and lead to full-time employment, but they do not offer a certification. About 36% of programs result in a certificate from providers such as community colleges and public adult schools. About 8% of programs offer an associate's degree, and 6% provide a professional license (Table 7).

Table 7. Training Resources by Educational Outcome

Degree/Outcome	Frequencies	%
Increased Employability	18	50%
Certificate	13	36%
Associate's Degree	3	8%
License	2	6%

# Executive Interviews Summary & Findings

The following section provides a qualitative synthesis of findings derived from interviews conducted with representatives from the business community and key infrastructure stakeholders. The primary objective of these interviews was to understand the County's overall business climate and the needs, challenges, and opportunities surrounding the infrastructure workforce.

## Current Business Climate

**Santa Cruz County has largely recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the cost of living, a severe housing crisis, and traffic circulation make competing with neighboring regions such as the Bay area and Monterey County difficult.** Stakeholders have argued that infrastructure projects aimed at improving traffic, developing the rail system, and new policies making it easier to build housing and expanding zoning rigs should alleviate costs and improve the business climate.

"There is a severe housing crisis with insanely high prices and a lack of housing units (...) for businesses if they can relocate somewhere with more affordable housing they will."

"Getting around here is difficult (...) the two areas that will make a difference will be improving highway I and II (...), the region developing its rail and trail system will alleviate traffic concerns. North-to-South corridors will make a positive difference in the community."

"Last year, the board adopted a policy to (...) make it easier to build housing, expanding zoning rings to expand density and increase housing in certain areas."

**Business-owners are committed to Santa Cruz County, although they believe there is a lack of synergy across organizations and a lack of funding and incentives available to support the business community.** Business-owners argued that grant-funding for training reimbursement, broader tax incentives, and support that would support increasing their footprint and hiring would allow them to invest and stay in the County even further. They have further argued that creating synergies with the Chamber of Commerce and other similar organizations would create a more robust business community in the County.

"Santa Cruz is our home (...) it is where we came from and where we are committed to stay."

"The more Santa Cruz County can support start-ups and small businesses, the more they will be able to invest and stay in the county."

"Monterey County provided grant-funding to make it more feasible to increase footprint and hiring (...) we have not been able to identify such funding in Santa Cruz."

"We have great relationships with the Chamber of Commerce that help serve a community role (...) Santa Cruz County could make efforts to further bolster those organizations, which would be more beneficial for us."

## Talent and Hiring

**Business-owners continue to struggle to find qualified applicants for skilled and unskilled work due to the high costs of living and lower wages offered than in neighboring regions.** While some businesses have been able to mitigate this issue by offering remote work options, businesses that require in-person work, particularly in the hospitality, tourism, and food services sectors, are experiencing difficulties in finding suitable candidates.

"Our company is open to remote work for some positions (...) having the ability to engender a remote workforce has enabled our growth in Santa Cruz."

"Being based in California makes it difficult for hires to relocate because of the cost of living (...) we have remedied the challenge by having remote positions and recruiting in-person positions out of the Silicon Valley."

"Santa Cruz is an excellent place to have access to talent in the Silicon Valley while staying out, it is more affordable."

"The proximity to Stanford has proven very beneficial."

"Hospitality does not pay what tech does, and cost of living and housing prevent many qualified folks from living here."

## Climate Resilience

**The Santa Cruz County region is susceptible to climate disasters, including wildfires, storms, mudslides, coastal damage, tsunamis, and earthquakes.** Despite having a comprehensive climate action plan, the County primarily allocates its dedicated funds towards reactive measures rather than outward looking climate resilience. County stakeholders have highlighted the difficulty of transitioning from reactive to proactive action in such a challenging environment..



"Our climate action plan is very good but challenging (...) we are almost at ground zero for climate disasters driven by climate change."

"Some infrastructure hardening, wildfire preparation, and other activities did not fund the way we would like because there is always a catastrophe to put out."

"This year has been hard with land movements and leaks that result in emergency repair. Climate resilience and adaptation are being built in all development projects."

## Infrastructure Projects and Workforce

**Although the County will need a large workforce to sustain future infrastructure projects,** there is a scarcity of skilled workers in building trades within the County. The majority of local businesses in this sector are privately owned and struggle to replace aging workers with young and skilled apprentices.

"We are looking to grow the pool of workers in the community in that skill set, so that whomever you work for pays a living wage (...) it is part of equity efforts to make these projects fit for high road jobs."

"Unions have no need for any supplemental trainings, they need more projects. They are engaged on Cap 2030, but their work is more expensive, which is why they are not getting the work."

"Tradespeople know of the large infrastructure projects pipeline (...), contractors are looking for apprentices (...), skilled tradespeople are getting older, and they need to replace that workforce with younger people."

"The pipeline is dwindling."

**Workforce development groups are partnering with adult education centers and other partners to create career apprenticeship programs and provide opportunities to people ready to explore careers in building trades.**

Participating entities have noted that graduates will have the choice to work with labor unions and non-unionized shops, once they create pathways or could be placed in further training programs through community colleges. However, there is an ongoing challenge in building the capacity of these partners to meet the growing demand.

**The City of Santa Cruz is investing in infrastructure projects as a part of its climate action plan. They estimate that buildings, transportation, and active transportation projects will generate over 2,000 jobs.** In addition, the city is actively engaged in discussions with universities and community colleges to establish a pipeline from pre-apprenticeship programs to employment, ensuring a sustainable workforce for upcoming infrastructure work.

"We are looking to create a pipeline from pre-apprenticeships to jobs, and new pathways are underway with UCSC for a tech pipeline to green jobs, but it is only a proposal for now and will not take off unless funded."

# Appendix A: Training Inventory

The data source for this training inventory is taken from the California Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) and union websites.

Org Name	Provider Type	Program Name	Apprenticeship	Training Focus	Industry Focus	Educational Outcome
<b>Cabrillo College</b>	Community College	Building Inspection and Construction Codes	N	Buildings	Construction	A.S.
		Building Inspection and Construction Codes	N	Buildings	Construction	Certificate
		Building Performance Energy Management Skills	N	Buildings	Construction	Certificate
		Construction Basic Skills	N	Construction	Construction	Certificate
		Construction Building Inspection and Codes Skills	N	Buildings	Construction	Certificate
		Construction Electrical Inspection and Code Skills	N	Electrical	Construction	Certificate
		Construction Management	N	Management	Construction	A.S.
		Construction Management	N	Management	Construction	Certificate
		Construction Plumbing/Mechanical Inspection	N	Plumbing	Construction	Certificate
		Construction Project Management Skills	N	Management	Construction	Certificate
		Energy Management	N	Management	Construction	A.S.
		Energy Management	N	Management	Construction	Certificate
		Solar Derived Energy Management	N	Management	Construction	Certificate
		Advanced Welding Skills	N	Welding	Manufacturing	Certificate
		Basic Welding Skills	N	Welding	Manufacturing	Certificate
<b>Center for Employment Training</b>	Training Center	Facility Maintenance Technician	N	Maintenance	Operations	Increased Employability
		Green Building Construction	N	Buildings	Construction	Increased Employability
		Welding Fabrication	N	Welding	Manufacturing	Increased Employability
<b>MTS Training Academy</b>	Training Center	Class A Training	N	Commercial Driving	Transportation	License

<b>Santa Cruz Office of Education</b>	Public Adult School	Building Trades Pre-Apprenticeship	N	Buildings	Construction	Certificate
<b>Truck Driver Institute</b>	Training Center	Class A Training	N	Commercial Driving	Transportation	License
<b>WASC Adult Education</b>	Public Adult School	Building Trades Pre-Apprenticeship	N	Buildings	Construction	Increased Employability
<b>Boilermakers, Local 549</b>	Union	Boilermakers Apprenticeship	Y	Welding	Manufacturing	Increased Employability
<b>Bricklayers, Local 3</b>	Union	Tile industry joint apprenticeship	Y	Construction	Construction	Increased Employability
<b>Glaziers, Local 1621</b>	Union	Glazier Apprenticeship Program	Y	Buildings	Construction	Increased Employability
<b>Heat &amp; Frost Insulators &amp; Allied Workers, Local 16</b>	Union	Insulator Apprenticeship	Y	Buildings	Construction	Increased Employability
<b>IBEW, Local 234</b>	Union	Electrical Apprenticeship	Y	Electrical	Construction	Increased Employability
<b>Ironworkers, Local 155</b>	Union	Ironworking Apprenticeship	Y	Structural	Construction	Increased Employability
<b>Laborers International Union of North America, Local 270</b>	Union	Laborer Apprenticeship	Y	Laborer	Construction	Increased Employability
<b>OP &amp; CMIA, Local 300</b>	Union	Cement Mason and Plasterer Apprenticeship	Y	Masonry	Construction	Increased Employability
<b>Operating Engineers, Local 3</b>	Union	Operating Engineer Apprenticeship	Y	Operating Engineers	Manufacturing	Increased Employability
<b>Painters and Drywall Finishers, Local 272</b>	Union	Painters Apprenticeship	Y	Buildings	Construction	Increased Employability
<b>Plumbers and Steamfitters, Local 62</b>	Union	Plumbing Apprenticeship	Y	Plumbing	Construction	Increased Employability
<b>Roofers &amp; Waterproofers, Local 95</b>	Union	Roofer Apprenticeship	Y	Roofing/Waterproofing	Roofing/Waterproofing	Increased Employability
<b>Sheet Metal Workers, Local 104</b>	Union	Sheet Metal Apprenticeship	Y	Construction	Construction	Increased Employability
<b>Sprinkler Fitters, Local 669</b>	Union	Sheet Metal Apprenticeship	Y	Construction	Construction	Increased Employability

---

## **Report/Discussion Item 6: California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP)**

---

Kate Nester, Program Development Manager from the Central California Alliance for Health, and member of the Housing for Health Partnership Policy Board will provide an update on the CalAIM HHIP. Kate is also soliciting feedback from Policy Board and CoC members on high priority areas for investment of one-time HHIP funding. The Alliance and the region can earn over \$14.6M in HHIP funding for priority areas if certain milestones are met.

In the Alliance's first HHIP report submission to the California Department of Health Care Services, the Alliance identified 4,675 managed care members in Santa Cruz County that experienced one or more episodes of documented homelessness or housing instability during the period January 1, 2022, and April 30, 2022. Through a data partnership agreement with the Housing for Health Partnership (CoC), the Alliance found 1,063 members with a match in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS); this number is a subset of the larger total of 4,675 members.

This report/discussion item includes two attachments:

- (A) Santa Cruz County DHCS HHIP Overview Slide Presentation prepared by Kate Nester
- (B) HHIP Implementation Toolkit for CoCs from Home Base



# DHCS Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP)

Kate Nester  
Program Development Manager  
Central California Alliance for Health

# INCENTIVE PROGRAM OVERVIEW



1. Reduce and prevent homelessness.
2. Ensure MCPs develop the necessary capacity and partnerships to connect members to needed housing services.



\$1.29 billion one-time funds for incentive payments to MCPs for making progress in addressing homelessness and housing security as SDOH.



Two-year program beginning January 2022.



# INCENTIVE PAYMENTS

## The incentive program can:

Support and facilitate coordination between MCPs and other entities.

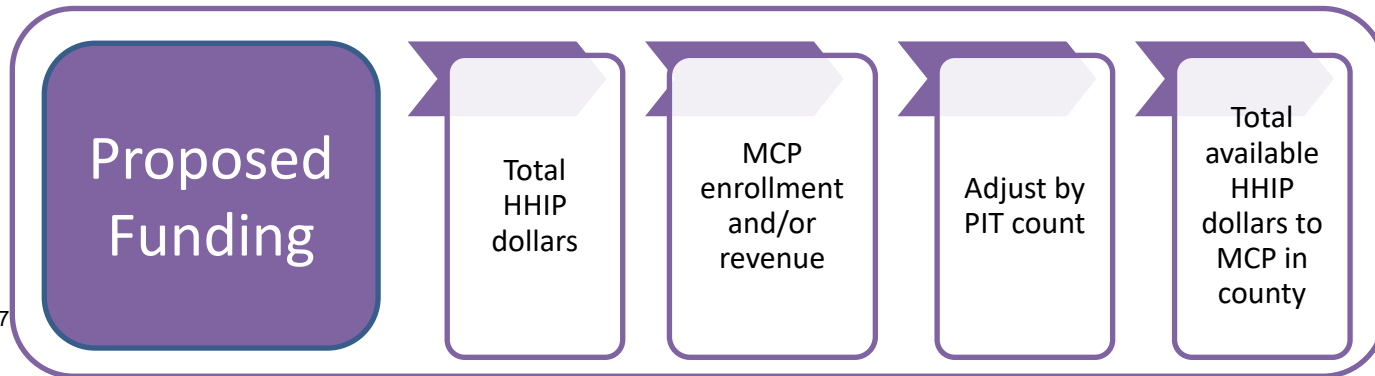
Award funding to MCPs for meeting certain metrics.

## The incentive program cannot:

Require MCPs to pass through funding to other entities.

Pay for room and board.

Distribute funding to MCPs after March 31, 2024.



# HHIP PAYMENT ALLOCATION UPDATE

COUNTY	<b>LHP: 5%</b> Payment: 9/2022	<b>Submission 1: 40%</b> Payment: 3/2023	<b>Submission 2: 55%</b> Payment: 3/2024	<b>Total Allocation</b>
SANTA CRUZ	\$ 731,784	\$ 5,854,270	\$ 8,049,621	<b>\$ 14,635,674</b>





# PROPOSED PROGRAM PRIORITY AREAS

## Proposed Local Homelessness Plan Structure and Content

1

**Landscape analysis** of the MCP service area, including member demographics, needs, and gaps

2

Identification of **funding availability**

3

**MCP strategies** to address identified housing and service gaps

4

### **Measurement across three program priority areas:**

1. Partnerships and capacity to support referrals for services
2. Infrastructure to coordinate and meet member housing needs
3. Delivery of services and member engagement



# PROPOSED PROGRAM PRIORITY AREAS

14

## HHIP Priority Areas

The proposed measurement areas were developed for each HHIP priority area in alignment with HHAP.



1. Partnerships and capacity to support referrals for services



2. Infrastructure to coordinate and meet member housing needs



3. Delivery of services and member engagement

### Measurement design guidance and assumptions:

- Should be simple and provide MCPs with a “checklist”
- Should be achievable within the short duration of the program
- Should incentivize partnerships for the MCPs that will move people into housing and enable them to maintain stable housing
- Assume three MCP submissions



# PROPOSED PROGRAM PRIORITY AREAS

## Proposed: Priority Area 1 Measurement Areas



### Priority Area 1: Partnerships and capacity to support referrals for services

1.1 Engagement with CoC, such as, but not limited to:

- Attending CoC meetings
- Joining the CoC board
- Joining a CoC subgroup or workgroup

*During program evaluation, a survey will be administered to the CoC so DHCS can better understand the engagement from the MCP.*

1.2 Connection with the local homeless Coordinated Entry System\*

1.3 Description of MCP's proposed outreach and engagement efforts and approach to provide housing-related Community Supports services that MCP members who are experiencing homelessness need and are not receiving

1.4 Partnerships with organizations that deliver housing services (i.e., interim housing, rental assistance, supportive housing, outreach, prevention/diversion) with whom the MCP has a data sharing agreement that allows for timely exchange of information and member matching

1.5 Data sharing agreement with county MHPs and DMC-ODS

1.6 Partnerships and strategies the MCP will develop to address disparities and equity in service delivery, housing placements, and housing retention  
(Aligns with HHAP Round 3 Application)

51



# PROPOSED PROGRAM PRIORITY AREAS

## Proposed: Priority Area 2 Measurement Areas



16

### Priority Area 2. Infrastructure to coordinate and meet member housing needs

2.1 Connection with street medicine team dedicated to providing healthcare for individuals who are homeless

2.2 MCP connection with the local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

2.3 MCP process for tracking and managing referrals for housing-related Community Supports, including:

1. Housing Transition Navigation
2. Housing Deposits
3. Housing Tenancy and Sustaining Services
4. Recuperative Care
5. Short-Term Post-Hospitalization Housing
6. Day Habilitation Programs



# PROPOSED PROGRAM PRIORITY AREAS

## Proposed: Priority Areas 3 Measurement Areas



17

**MCPs will work with HHAP lead applicants and CoCs to identify data sources.**

### Priority Area 3. Delivery of services and member engagement

3.1 MCP Members screened for homelessness/risk of homelessness

3.2 MCP Members screened for homelessness/risk of homelessness who have been to the emergency department for services two or more times in a 4-month period

3.3 Point in time count of members determined as homeless/at risk of homelessness

3.4 MCP Members receiving housing related Community Supports, including:

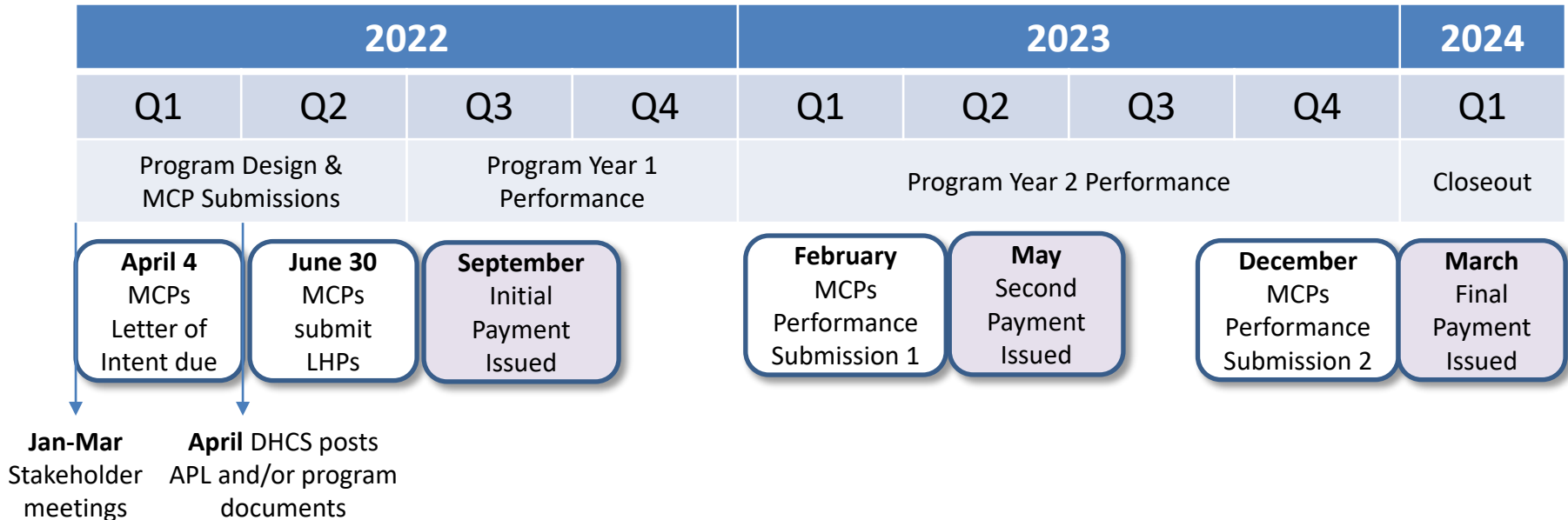
1. Housing Transition Navigation
2. Housing Deposits
3. Housing Tenancy and Sustaining Services
4. Recuperative Care
5. Short-Term Post-Hospitalization Housing
6. Day Habilitation Programs

3.5 MCP Members who were successfully housed



# HHIP *DRAFT TIMELINE*: JAN. 2022-MAR. 2024

## Key Milestones



**Q1 – Q2 2022**

- DHCS anticipates MCPs will collaborate closely with CoCs in developing their LHPs
- Additionally, MCPs are expected to work with CoCs, counties, and cities on development of their HHAP grant applications (due to BCSH on June 30)

End







The HHIP Implementation Toolkit contains guidance and planning documents intended to support Continuums of Care (CoCs) and homeless assistance partners to engage with their local Medi-Cal managed care plans (MCPs) to efficiently and impactfully implement the Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP).

Some documents within the Toolkit are intended to directly provide CoCs with critical information about the HHIP program and MCPs' motivations to meet HHIP metrics. Others are intended to help CoCs communicate to MCPs about their own systems, goals, strengths, and limitations. Each document can be referenced and used separately, depending on the needs of each CoC and community.

The HHIP Implementation Toolkit is meant to help facilitate communication and planning efforts between CoCs and MCPs. The Toolkit can help build or strengthen partnerships for successful HHIP implementation. It is also meant to facilitate long-term cross-system coordination and collaboration to improve housing and health outcomes for those experiencing homelessness.

The following additional resources relevant to CalAIM's Housing-Related Services, the Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP), and cross-system collaboration between CoCs and health care system partners including MCPs are available on Homebase's [Building Health Care-Homeless Response System Partnerships resource page](#):

#### Understanding and Leveraging CalAIM (A California Medi-Cal Initiative):

- [CalAIM Basics](#)
- [CalAIM's Housing-Related Services](#)
- [The Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program \(HHIP\)](#)
- [Opportunities for Homeless Systems of Care under HHIP](#)

[Breaking Down Silos: How to Share Data to Improve the Health of People Experiencing Homelessness](#)

[How to Share Data: A Practical Guide for Health and Homeless Systems of Care](#)



## The following eight resources and tools are included:



### **Fundamentals of Homelessness Response for Managed Care Plans**

Foundational information for CoCs to provide to MCPs about how homeless assistance works at the local level, including practical, action-oriented suggestions to help MCPs participate in their community's response to homelessness.



### **Needed HMIS Data Elements for Partnering with Managed Care Plans**

Recommendations for CoCs on additional data elements to add to their local HMIS to facilitate cross-sector data sharing that can better enable MCP partners to coordinate and collaborate.



### **Understanding HHIP Performance Metrics**

An explanation of how the Department of Health Care Services intends to measure whether MCPs have met the HHIP metrics required to draw down HHIP incentive award funds, including information MCPs must report for each metric for the second reporting period and how CoCs can collaborate with MCPs on that process.



### **Sample Workflow for Continuums of Care and Managed Care Plans to Conduct a Client Data Match**

A sample workflow and list of data elements that CoCs and MCPs can use to match their client and member data to identify shared clients and improve cross-system care coordination.



### **Maximizing CalAIM's Enhanced Care Management (ECM) Benefit and Community Supports (CS) Services**

Guidance for CoCs on how to work with their local MCPs to ensure that people experiencing homelessness who are eligible for these crucial housing-related benefits and supports are referred and connected with ECM and CS providers.



### **Medi-Cal and HHIP Coverage for Street Medicine**

An overview of California Department of Health Care Services' street medicine rules, to help CoCs better understand what aspects of street medicine are covered under CalAIM and relevant to HHIP metrics and to inform CoC discussions with their local MCPs to build or expand street medicine access in their communities.



### **Bi-lateral Data Sharing Agreement Between a Continuum of Care and Managed Care Plan**

A sample bi-lateral data sharing agreement (DSA) to help cross-sector partners identify the common components of a DSA between CoC agencies responsible for HMIS data and Medi-Cal MCPs.



### **HHIP Expenditure Planning – Moving Beyond the Metrics: Shifting Focus from Earning HHIP Funds to Allocating Them**

Guidance and tools to help CoCs and their partner MCPs discuss and determine how best to allocate and spend earned HHIP incentive award funds to meet community needs and make the greatest impact.



The following pages contain foundational information for managed care plans (MCPs) about how homeless assistance works at the local level, including practical, action-oriented suggestions to help MCPs participate in their community's response to homelessness.

### What's included

Succinct and to-the-point information and suggested actions to share with MCPs to empower and encourage them to engage and collaborate with their communities' homelessness response systems, whether in the context of the Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP) or otherwise:

- The Basics of Continuum of Care (CoC) Structure, Funding, and Operations
- Coordinated Entry (CE): Fundamentals and Opportunities to Leverage CE for Enhanced Care Management, Community Supports, and HHIP Implementation; and
- Practical strategies for MCPs to partner with their local CoCs.

### What's not included

Technical details about homeless assistance programs, systems, and operations that often vary from one community to another.



## The Basics of Continuum of Care (CoC) Structure, Funding, and Operations

Although federal and state governments fund homelessness response, the work happens at the local, community level. In California, "community level" most often means the geographic area covered by a single county.

County or city governments provide some homeless assistance, but no single agency or organization administers all resources and services. In almost every community across the country, a network of organizations and agencies provide different types of assistance to individuals and families at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

Due to limited resources, the vast majority of housing assistance is prioritized for people living on the street, sleeping in vehicles or tents, or staying in emergency shelters. Communities often further prioritize housing and intensive supportive services for people experiencing "chronic homelessness," which means those who have a disability and have been homeless for more than a year.

### Homeless assistance may include:

- Emergency shelter;
- Financial support (one-time assistance or ongoing rental assistance);
- Temporary or permanent housing;
- Supportive services (e.g., case management, assistance applying for benefits, connections to medical or behavioral health care, help finding or securing housing);
- Transportation assistance; and
- Necessities like food.

<sup>1</sup> This tool was adapted from "[Homelessness Response 101 for Health Care Providers and Stakeholders](#)," originally developed in February 2021 by Homebase, in partnership and with the support of the California Health Care Foundation.

## 5 Key Things to Know About CoCs

**What is a CoC?** Short for “Continuum of Care,” CoC is the umbrella term for the group of organizations and agencies (including community-based organizations and local government agencies) that collectively coordinates homeless assistance activities and resources in a community. **A CoC is not a legal entity.** It is a coalition of organizations and entities that meet regularly to discuss and plan their community’s homelessness response. There are currently 44 CoCs in California; most cover a single county’s geography, but a few cover a single city or two or more adjacent counties. Though CoCs have certain elements in common, the structures, operations, and resources vary from one to the next.



1. **Each CoC designates an entity to apply for federal funds on its behalf.** The designated entity, often a local government agency or non-profit organization, is referred to as the “Collaborative Applicant” or “CoC Lead Agency.” It submits the CoC’s application for homeless assistance grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). CoCs also must have a Board comprised of representatives from local homeless assistance organizations and at least one person with lived experience of homelessness. A CoC’s Board oversees the requirements associated with HUD funding.
2. **HUD awards homeless assistance grant funds to CoCs through an annual competitive process.** Each CoC runs its own local process based on community priorities to determine which local organizations should receive funding from HUD and for what purposes. The CoC Lead Agency uses those determinations to apply for HUD funds on behalf of the community. CoCs (or their partner counties) may also receive California state funding to address homelessness, also in the form of grants; requirements of those funds vary but many are similar to HUD requirements.
3. **Homeless assistance funding is very limited in both amount (relative to need) and eligible uses.** The primary activity CoCs and CoC-funded organizations use HUD funds for is rental assistance to help people exit homelessness through transitional or permanent housing. Some programs combine rental assistance with services for people who need more than financial support to stabilize and maintain housing. Services funding is extremely limited and often isn’t able to cover more than case management. Planning, program operations, project administration, and property acquisition, rehab and construction are the only other eligible uses for HUD CoC grant funds. Nearly all eligible HUD funding must be matched with at least a 25% financial or in-kind match.

### Types of stakeholders who participate in a CoC include

- Nonprofit homeless assistance providers
- Community- and faith-based organizations
- Victim service providers
- Local government
- Public housing agencies
- School districts
- Social service providers
- **Substance use service organizations and mental health agencies/service organizations**
- Local businesses
- Street outreach teams
- **EMT/crisis response teams**
- **Hospitals**
- Affordable housing developers
- Law enforcement and jail(s)
- **Community health centers and clinics**
- People with lived experience of homelessness
- Organizations that serve specific populations (e.g., veterans, youth, LGBTQ+ people, people with disabilities)
- Advocates

4. **The primary purpose of a CoC is to promote a community-wide commitment to end homelessness.** CoC members attend meetings, participate in community-wide planning, and coordinate with each other. While many agencies that participate in a CoC receive HUD funding, entities that do not receive HUD funding still participate in the CoC for a variety of reasons: to increase the impact of their own work; to learn more about the different resources available in the community to better serve their clients; to learn strategies and best practices for responding to homelessness; to build relationships with other leaders and organizations with similar missions and values; to better position themselves for future HUD funding; etc.
5. **HUD requires CoCs to develop certain processes.** Because each community has a variety of assistance programs and resources to support people experiencing or at risk of homelessness, HUD requires every CoC to have a process in place to ensure that people who need housing and other supports are connected to local resources in an equitable and coordinated way. That process is called **Coordinated Entry (CE)**.

## Basics of Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS)

### What is HMIS?

HUD requires each CoC to collect and report certain information about the people they serve. HMIS (short for Homeless Management Information System) are the data systems communities use to collect and analyze client, service, and housing data. HUD does not mandate that CoCs use a particular software; each community may select any system that can collect the required data elements, comply with HUD's data standards, and support reporting requirements.

### Information contained in HMIS

HUD requires every community to track specific data points and response options for various data elements. HUD also publishes data standards that CoCs must meet. Types of required data elements include:

- Basic client information, including whether the client has a physical or developmental disability, chronic health condition, HIV/AIDS, mental health issue, or substance use disorder;
- Whether the client receives non-cash benefits or has health insurance, and if so, what kinds; and
- Information about client interactions with the homelessness response system.

### Limitations

Having a single system to collect data about those served by a community's homeless assistance programs is extremely helpful to keep track of clients, coordinate the connection to housing and other resources, monitor client outcomes, and track performance metrics at the organizational and system level. However, the information contained in HMIS can be insufficient for various reasons:

- Only programs that receive HUD funding are required to enter information into a community's HMIS. There can be many programs in a community that assist people experiencing homelessness but do not receive HUD funding (e.g., some faith-based organizations, smaller organizations) and therefore are not required to enter information into HMIS;
- Inconsistent data entry and data quality and missing information often occur with so many different individuals and providers entering data;

- Client information contained in HMIS is largely self-reported and clients may refuse to answer questions or provide incomplete or inaccurate information for a variety of reasons. Clients who underreport their health conditions can result in lower prioritization for housing and resources than their actual vulnerability or acuity of need warrants;
- HMIS is only required to comply with HUD data standards, thus may not meet the standards required under HIPAA; and
- HUD does not provide funding for HMIS to all communities. A CoC must annually prioritize and seek specific funding for HMIS alongside their housing and other programs.

### Data Sharing

CoCs must get permission from clients to share their information between providers. Most CoCs accomplish this by asking clients to sign a Release of Information (ROI), which explains why, how, and with whom their information will be shared, as well as the measures taken to protect their information. CoCs maintain lists of provider agencies to which their ROIs apply (usually the list of providers who access and use the local HMIS) and either include that list on the form itself or link to it to allow for easier updating. In some CoCs, MCPs and other health providers already have access to HMIS, although some access is read-only. MCPs without HMIS access should discuss with their local CoCs the possibility of entering into an HMIS agency or provider agreement to help facilitate the kind of data matching or exchange needed to coordinate care and services. Additional ROIs or other Data Sharing agreements may be required to share certain client information, depending on how the CoC's HMIS and existing ROIs are structured. See [Bi-lateral Data Sharing Agreement Between a Continuum of Care and Managed Care Plan](#) in this Toolkit.





## Coordinated Entry Basics

### What is Coordinated Entry?

Coordinated Entry (CE) is the process each CoC sets up to ensure people experiencing or at risk of homelessness are prioritized for a community's limited resources based on severity of need. CE also ensures that people are matched to available resources most suitable to meet their needs. **CE's primary purpose is to allocate housing resources fairly and appropriately.** It can also be used to refer and connect people with health care and other mainstream resources. It is critical for MCPs to understand how CE works, both generally and in their local CoCs.

The idea behind Coordinated Entry is **similar to emergency room triage**, which ensures that someone having a heart attack is served before someone with a broken arm, even if the person with the broken arm arrived at the emergency room first and has been waiting for hours. Under Coordinated Entry, higher acuity people are served before lower acuity people. Unlike emergency room care, due to limited available resources, CE does not guarantee that every person who needs housing assistance will receive it.

### Benefits of CE

Without CE, people experiencing homelessness have to seek out multiple individual organizations that might be able to help them. In addition to being extremely burdensome for people already in crisis, individuals able to manage the burden often end up on numerous separate waitlists for housing.

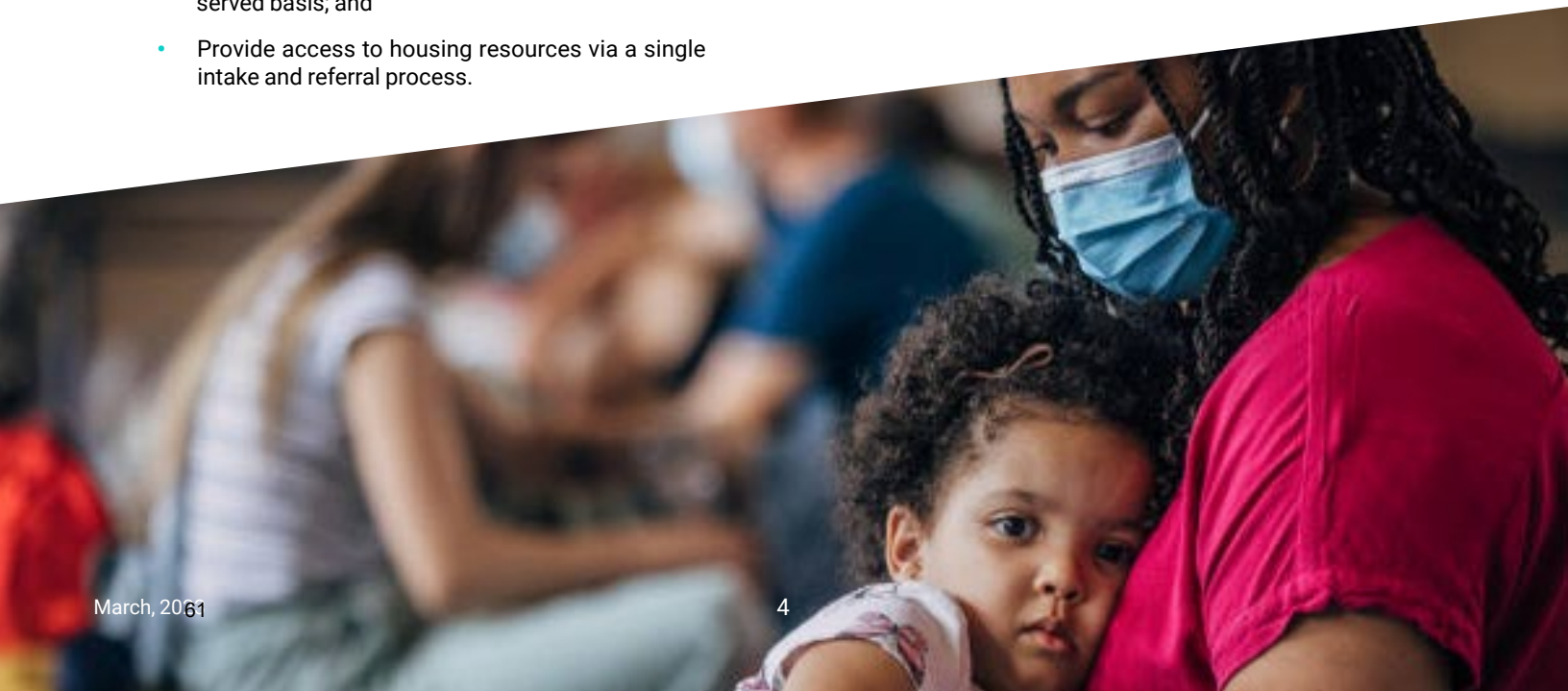
CE removes reliance on individual program waitlists organized on a first-come, first-served basis that do not take acuity of need into account. Instead, CE focuses on acuity of need so the individuals and families in the most dire of circumstances can be housed before those in less need. It also helps people more quickly learn about and get connected to different types of assistance beyond housing (e.g., public benefits, health coverage, or employment help). With CE, a person's access to resources does not depend on the individual case manager assigned (if any) or a person or family's own ability to navigate complicated systems.

### CE Requirements

With CE, HUD mandates that each CoC:

- Use a standardized assessment approach with every individual or household that needs housing assistance to determine vulnerability, needs, and eligibility for resources;
- Organize a community-wide waitlist for housing resources that prioritizes individuals and families based on vulnerability/severity of need rather than on a first-come, first-served basis; and
- Provide access to housing resources via a single intake and referral process.

A well-functioning CE process ensures: (1) limited housing resources are prioritized to those most in need because of health issues, vulnerability to death or victimization, or the circumstances of their homelessness; and (2) people seeking housing are more likely to be matched with resources that meet their specific needs, regardless of where, when, or how they "show up" seeking assistance.



## 5 Key Things to Know about CE

- 1. CE is required.** Every CoC must operate a CE system as a condition of receiving HUD funding. Every organization that receives HUD's homeless assistance grant funding must participate in CE. All housing vacancies and rental assistance vouchers funded with HUD's homeless assistance grant funding must be filled through the CE process.
- 2. Key Components of CE** (1) Intake: entry by each person into the CE system; (2) Assessment of each person; (3) Prioritization of every assessed person based on vulnerability/severity of need; (4) A process to match resources to individuals or families as they become available, based on the established prioritization; (5) Referrals to housing programs that provide the matched resources; and (6) Placement of people into the housing programs to which they've been referred.
- 3. CoCs have flexibility in designing their CE processes.** Every CoC's CE process must meet certain requirements, but CoCs have flexibility to customize their process. Based on local capacity, needs, and resources, each CoC must plan and design (1) how and where to identify people in need of homeless assistance; (2) what tool(s) to use to assess each person or family; (3) what factors to include when determining relative vulnerability of those assessed (i.e., the information on which to base prioritization); (4) the process and people involved to match available resources to prioritized people and connect those people to the agencies who hold the resources; and (5) how to evaluate whether the process is working well.
- 4. CE is open to all organizations that serve people experiencing homelessness.** Only HUD-funded programs are required to participate, but the goal is for all local organizations with resources for people experiencing homelessness to participate, regardless of funding source. CE can be used to refer individuals and households to health care and other mainstream services and resources in addition to housing assistance.
- 5. CoCs must evaluate and refine their CE processes to center equity, address disparities, and improve outcomes.** Although HUD has mandated CE for multiple years, CoCs are at different points in implementation. CoCs should regularly make adjustments to ensure the process is working effectively and equitably. Even in communities with an established CE system, there is always room for discussions, planning, and changes to improve implementation. Partners with diverse perspectives and expertise - including MCPs and other health system partners - are critical to identify issues, offer new insights, and inform changes.

## Key Components of Coordinated Entry

### System Entry

People seeking housing or services make contact with the community's homelessness response system, usually by interacting with an outreach worker, calling 211, or showing up at a service provider site.

### Assessment

All individuals and families who enter the system are assessed in a consistent manner, using a uniform decision-making process and standardized assessment tools.

### Prioritization

People are prioritized for housing and community resources based on factors agreed upon by the CoC, ensuring limited resources are used in the most effective manner and households most in need of assistance are prioritized for housing and services.

### Matching

As housing resources become available, people at the top of the community's priority list are given a choice to accept those resources for which they are eligible and which appear to meet their needs.

### Referral

People matched with a resource are referred to the program holding that resource, which requires communication between those who made the match decision, the person being referred, and the program providing the resource.

### Placement

People are placed into the program and ultimately into housing. This usually entails ensuring the person is "document-ready" and often requires the person, program, and other partners to work together to address various barriers to housing placement and stability.

## MORE ON..

### Assessments

Relevant assessment factors include information about each person's needs, strengths, preferences, barriers they face to secure housing, length and duration of past and current episodes of homelessness, and characteristics that make them more vulnerable while experiencing homelessness. Most assessment information is self-reported and people may under-report certain conditions for various reasons.

### Prioritization

Prioritization schemes are decided by each community and usually take into account the severity of service needs, considering factors such as risk of illness, death, and/or victimization; history of high utilization of crisis services; and significant physical or mental health challenges, substance use disorders, or functional impairments.

## Opportunities to Leverage CE to support ECM, CS, and HHIP Implementation

**Coordinated Entry (CE)** offers practical and meaningful opportunities for cross-system coordination. By plugging into a community's CE process, MCPs can (1) ensure members with housing needs connect to the homelessness response system in the way most likely to get them assessed, prioritized, and connected to available resources; (2) ensure members are made aware of and referred to benefits and services like Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports (CS); and (3) contribute valuable expertise to improve the overall CE process over time so both housing and Medi-Cal resources get to those who need them most in an efficient and equitable way.

Each improvement to the CE process and each member connection to housing resources or Medi-Cal benefits contributes to improved member outcomes and decreased burdens on the health system. **The following are examples of ways MCPs (or their contracted providers) can participate in CE and contribute to its improved functioning.**

### System Entry

- Learn to identify members experiencing or at risk of homelessness to connect to the CE system.
- Know the entry points for a community's CE system and how to help members access them.
- Develop protocols to notify outreach teams of potentially eligible members to quickly connect them to CE.
- Establish protocols for warm hand-offs to CE entry points.
- Serve as a CE entry point to reduce burden on members and increase likelihood they will be assessed and prioritized for available housing resources.
- Ensure discharge planning protocols include connections to CE for people in need of housing assistance.
- Work with the CoC to ensure local outreach and street medicine teams are equipped to connect people to CE entry points or serve as entry points themselves.

### Assessment

- Help review, select, and/or develop assessment tool(s) to more accurately capture health-related vulnerability.
- Notify the CE system of members who should be assessed and provide warm hand-offs.
- Provide a physical location for assessments to take place.
- Conduct assessments of MCP members experiencing homelessness, especially for individuals or households with whom MCPs have a trusting relationship.

### Prioritization

- Work with the CE system to ensure critical health considerations are factored into prioritization protocols.
- Participate in case conferences to explain when and how a specific health condition should result in individuals being prioritized more highly than the standard CE protocols suggest.





## Matching

- Participate in matching case conferences to provide additional facts about members that might increase the likelihood of appropriate and successful housing resource matches.
- Help members understand their options and how each might impact health care access and outcomes.
- Educate CE system operators on Medi-Cal benefits and services available to people experiencing or at risk of homelessness, including eligibility criteria.

## Referral

- Offer support to housing providers and their clients (e.g., provide health care or other services to clients) to increase the likelihood that referred members are accepted and successful in housing placements.
- Help members procure necessary eligibility documentation (e.g., disability verification) so they can more quickly access housing.
- Educate CE system partners/providers on Medi-Cal enrollments and work with them to facilitate Medi-Cal enrollments so that more people experiencing homelessness have health coverage.
- Educate CoC/CE system operator and providers on the referral processes for Medi-Cal benefits and services and work with them to streamline those referrals through CE.

## Placement

- Provide transportation help to get clients to appointments.
- Follow up with housed members to ensure continued connections to health care needed to support long-term housing stability.

### Connecting with your Local CoC

There's no one way to collaborate with a CoC or participate in a Coordinated Entry system that applies across the board. Each CoC has different things to offer and needs different things from potential health care partners. Specific opportunities to partner with CoCs (whether in the context of HHIP implementation or otherwise) vary across CoCs as well.

The best way to engage with your local CoC(s) in a mutually beneficial way is to connect with and begin to build a relationship with representatives from key CoC stakeholders such as the Lead Agency, CoC Chair, or Coordinated Entry operator. Remember that while a county agency might serve as one or more of those roles, that's not always the case. Speaking with CoC and CE leaders is a great way to learn about the health needs of people who engage with your local homelessness response system, share insights about your and your members' needs, and discuss opportunities for cross-system collaboration and partnership to address those needs.

[A list of all California CoCs and their websites is available here.](#)





County or City	Name of CoC	CoC Website
Alameda County	Oakland, Berkeley/Alameda County CoC	<a href="http://everyonehome.org/about/committees/hud-coc-committee">everyonehome.org/about/committees/hud-coc-committee</a>
Alpine County	Alpine, Inyo, Mono Counties CoC	<a href="http://www.imaca.net">www.imaca.net</a>
Amador County	Amador, Calaveras, Mariposa, Tuolumne Counties CoC (Central Sierra CoC)	<a href="http://www.atcaa.org">www.atcaa.org</a>
Butte County	Chico, Paradise/Butte County CoC	<a href="http://www.buttecaa.com">www.buttecaa.com</a>
Calaveras County	Amador, Calaveras, Mariposa, Tuolumne Counties CoC (Central Sierra CoC)	<a href="http://www.atcaa.org">www.atcaa.org</a>
City of Glendale	Glendale CoC	<a href="http://www.glendaleca.gov/government/departments/community-services-parks/human-services/homeless-services/glendale-continuum-of-care-social-service-agencies">www.glendaleca.gov/government/departments/community-services-parks/human-services/homeless-services/glendale-continuum-of-care-social-service-agencies</a>
City of Long Beach	Long Beach CoC	<a href="http://www.longbeach.gov/health/services/directory/homeless-services">www.longbeach.gov/health/services/directory/homeless-services</a>
City of Pasadena	Pasadena CoC	<a href="http://pasadenapartnership.org/coc-program">pasadenapartnership.org/coc-program</a>
Colusa County	Colusa, Glenn, Trinity Counties CoC (aka Dos Rios CoC)	<a href="http://www.countyofglenn.net/dept/community-action/dos-rios-continuum-care-ca-523">www.countyofglenn.net/dept/community-action/dos-rios-continuum-care-ca-523</a>
Contra Costa County	Richmond/Contra Costa County CoC	<a href="http://cchealth.org/h3/coc/council.php">cchealth.org/h3/coc/council.php</a>
Del Norte County	Redding/Shasta, Siskiyou, Lassen, Plumas, Del Norte, Modoc, Sierra Counties CoC (NorCal CoC)	<a href="http://www.shastacounty.gov/housing-community-action-programs/page/norcal-continuum-care">www.shastacounty.gov/housing-community-action-programs/page/norcal-continuum-care</a>
El Dorado County	El Dorado County CoC	<a href="http://www.edokcoc.org">www.edokcoc.org</a>
Fresno County	Fresno City and County/Madera County CoC	<a href="http://fresnomaderahomeless.org">fresnomaderahomeless.org</a>
Glenn County	Colusa, Glenn, Trinity Counties CoC (aka Dos Rios CoC)	<a href="http://www.countyofglenn.net/dept/community-action/dos-rios-continuum-care-ca-523">www.countyofglenn.net/dept/community-action/dos-rios-continuum-care-ca-523</a>
Humboldt County	Humboldt County CoC	<a href="http://humboldt.gov/2512/Humboldt-Housing-Homeless-Coalition">humboldt.gov/2512/Humboldt-Housing-Homeless-Coalition</a>
Imperial County	Imperial County CoC	<a href="http://www.imperialvalleycontinuumofcare.org">www.imperialvalleycontinuumofcare.org</a>
Inyo County	Alpine, Inyo, Mono Counties CoC	<a href="http://www.imaca.net">www.imaca.net</a>
Kern County	Bakersfield/Kern County CoC	<a href="http://bkrhc.org">bkrhc.org</a>
Kings County	Visalia/Kings, Tulare Counties CoC	<a href="http://www.kthomelessalliance.org">www.kthomelessalliance.org</a>
Lake County	Lake County CoC	<a href="http://www.lakecoc.org">www.lakecoc.org</a>
Lassen County	Redding/Shasta, Siskiyou, Lassen, Plumas, Del Norte, Modoc, Sierra Counties CoC (NorCal CoC)	<a href="http://www.shastacounty.gov/housing-community-action-programs/page/norcal-continuum-care">www.shastacounty.gov/housing-community-action-programs/page/norcal-continuum-care</a>

<sup>1</sup> If a listed website has changed since this material was finalized, using the following search terms in an online search engine should help you find the updated website: [county's name] + continuum of care + homeless

<b>Geography Covered</b>	<b>Name of CoC</b>	<b>CoC Website</b>
Los Angeles County (except the cities of Glendale, Long Beach, and Pasadena)	Los Angeles City & County CoC	<a href="http://www.lahsa.org">www.lahsa.org</a>
Madera County	Fresno City and County/Madera County CoC	<a href="http://fresnomaderahomeless.org">fresnomaderahomeless.org</a>
Marin County	Marin County CoC	<a href="http://www.marinhhs.org/homelessness-marin">www.marinhhs.org/homelessness-marin</a>
Mariposa County	Amador, Calaveras, Mariposa, Tuolumne Counties CoC (Central Sierra CoC)	<a href="http://www.atcaa.org">www.atcaa.org</a>
Mendocino County	Mendocino County CoC	<a href="http://mendocinococ.org/continuum-of-care">mendocinococ.org/continuum-of-care</a>
Merced County	Merced City & County CoC	<a href="http://www.co.merced.ca.us/848/Homeless-Assistance">www.co.merced.ca.us/848/Homeless-Assistance</a>
Modoc County	Redding/Shasta, Siskiyou, Lassen, Plumas, Del Norte, Modoc, Sierra Counties CoC (NorCal CoC)	<a href="http://www.shastacounty.gov/housing-community-action-programs/page/norcal-continuum-care">www.shastacounty.gov/housing-community-action-programs/page/norcal-continuum-care</a>
Mono County	Alpine, Inyo, Mono Counties CoC	<a href="http://www.imaca.net">www.imaca.net</a>
Monterey County	Salinas/Monterey, San Benito Counties CoC	<a href="http://chsp.org">chsp.org</a>
Napa County	Napa City and County CoC	<a href="http://www.countyofnapa.org/1036/Napa-Continuum-of-Care">www.countyofnapa.org/1036/Napa-Continuum-of-Care</a>
Nevada County	Nevada County CoC	<a href="http://www.countyofnapa.org/1036/Napa-Continuum-of-Care">www.countyofnapa.org/1036/Napa-Continuum-of-Care</a>
Nevada County	Nevada County CoC	<a href="http://www.hrcscoc.org">www.hrcscoc.org</a>
Orange County	Santa Ana, Anaheim/Orange County CoC	<a href="http://www.ochealthinfo.com/homeless_serv/coc/2021">www.ochealthinfo.com/homeless_serv/coc/2021</a>
Placer County	Roseville, Rocklin/Placer County CoC	<a href="http://www.hrcscoc.org">www.hrcscoc.org</a>
Plumas County	Redding/Shasta, Siskiyou, Lassen, Plumas, Del Norte, Modoc, Sierra Counties CoC (NorCal CoC)	<a href="http://www.shastacounty.gov/housing-community-action-programs/page/norcal-continuum-care">www.shastacounty.gov/housing-community-action-programs/page/norcal-continuum-care</a>
Riverside County	Riverside City and County CoC	<a href="http://dpss.co.riverside.ca.us/homeless-programs/housing-and-homeless-coalition">dpss.co.riverside.ca.us/homeless-programs/housing-and-homeless-coalition</a>
Sacramento County	Sacramento City & County CoC	<a href="http://sacramentostepsforward.org">sacramentostepsforward.org</a>
San Benito County	Salinas/Monterey, San Benito Counties CoC	<a href="http://chsp.org">chsp.org</a>
San Bernardino County	San Bernardino City & County CoC	<a href="http://sbcountycdha.com/community-development-and-housing-department/homelessness">sbcountycdha.com/community-development-and-housing-department/homelessness</a>
San Diego County	San Diego City and County CoC	<a href="http://www.rtfhsd.org">www.rtfhsd.org</a>
San Francisco County	San Francisco CoC	<a href="http://hsh.sfgov.org/committees/lhcb">hsh.sfgov.org/committees/lhcb</a>
San Joaquin County	Stockton/San Joaquin County CoC	<a href="http://www.sanjoaquinococ.org">www.sanjoaquinococ.org</a>
San Luis Obispo County	San Luis Obispo County CoC	<a href="http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Social-Services/Homeless-Services.aspx">www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Social-Services/Homeless-Services.aspx</a>

<b>Geography Covered</b>	<b>Name of CoC</b>	<b>CoC Website</b>
San Mateo County	Daly City/San Mateo County CoC	<a href="https://hsa.smcgov.org/san-mateo-county-continuum-care">hsa.smcgov.org/san-mateo-county-continuum-care</a>
Santa Barbara County	Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County CoC	<a href="http://www.countyofsb.org/443/Continuum-of-Care-Program">www.countyofsb.org/443/Continuum-of-Care-Program</a>
Santa Clara County	San Jose, Santa Clara City & County CoC	<a href="https://osh.sccgov.org/continuum-care">osh.sccgov.org/continuum-care</a>
Santa Cruz County	Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County CoC	<a href="http://homelessactionpartnership.org">homelessactionpartnership.org</a>
Shasta County	Redding/Shasta, Siskiyou, Lassen, Plumas, Del Norte, Modoc, Sierra Counties CoC (NorCal CoC)	<a href="http://www.shastacounty.gov/housing-community-action-programs/page/norcal-continuum-care">www.shastacounty.gov/housing-community-action-programs/page/norcal-continuum-care</a>
Sierra County	Redding/Shasta, Siskiyou, Lassen, Plumas, Del Norte, Modoc, Sierra Counties CoC (NorCal CoC)	<a href="http://www.shastacounty.gov/housing-community-action-programs/page/norcal-continuum-care">www.shastacounty.gov/housing-community-action-programs/page/norcal-continuum-care</a>
Siskiyou County	Redding/Shasta, Siskiyou, Lassen, Plumas, Del Norte, Modoc, Sierra Counties CoC (NorCal CoC)	<a href="http://www.shastacounty.gov/housing-community-action-programs/page/norcal-continuum-care">www.shastacounty.gov/housing-community-action-programs/page/norcal-continuum-care</a>
Solano County	Vallejo/Solano County CoC	<a href="http://www.housingfirstsolano.org">www.housingfirstsolano.org</a>
Sonoma County	Santa Rosa, Petaluma/Sonoma County CoC	<a href="https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/CDC/Homeless-Services/Continuum-of-Care">sonomacounty.ca.gov/CDC/Homeless-Services/Continuum-of-Care</a>
Stanislaus County	Turlock, Modesto/Stanislaus County CoC	<a href="https://csocstan.com/about">csocstan.com/about</a>
Sutter County	Yuba City and County/Sutter County CoC	<a href="http://www.syhomelessconsortium.org">www.syhomelessconsortium.org</a>
Tehama County	Tehama County CoC	<a href="http://www.tehamacoc.org">www.tehamacoc.org</a>
Trinity County	Colusa, Glenn, Trinity Counties CoC (aka Dos Rios CoC)	<a href="http://www.countyofglenn.net/dept/community-action/dos-rios-continuum-care-ca-523">www.countyofglenn.net/dept/community-action/dos-rios-continuum-care-ca-523</a>
Tulare County	Visalia/Kings, Tulare Counties CoC	<a href="http://www.kthomelessalliance.org">www.kthomelessalliance.org</a>
Tuolumne County	Amador, Calaveras, Mariposa, Tuolumne Counties CoC (Central Sierra CoC)	<a href="http://www.atcaa.org">www.atcaa.org</a>
Ventura County	Oxnard, San Buenaventura/Ventura County CoC	<a href="http://www.venturacoc.org">www.venturacoc.org</a>
Yolo County	Davis, Woodland/Yolo County CoC	<a href="http://www.y3c.org">www.y3c.org</a>
Yuba County	Yuba City and County/Sutter County CoC	<a href="http://www.syhomelessconsortium.org">www.syhomelessconsortium.org</a>

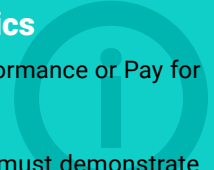


This resource summarizes the performance measurements for each HHIP metric for Performance Measurement Period 2, and the information MCPs need to provide to DHCS by December 2023. It is intended to help CoCs better understand DHCS's expectations so they can partner more effectively with their local MCPs to maximize the HHIP incentive award funds available in their local communities.

As explained in greater detail in the Homebase-developed resource, "[The Housing & Homelessness Incentive Program \(HHIP\)](#)," to receive payments of HHIP incentive funds, MCPs must file reports to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) at the end of each of two measurement periods and demonstrate that they have met specific DHCS performance metrics. The reports for Measurement Period 1 (covering May 1, 2022-December 31, 2022) were due March 10, 2023. Measurement Period 2 reports (covering January 1, 2023-October 31, 2023) are due in December 2023.

While on its face, HHIP is a program to incentivize MCPs, it has the potential to result in significant additional investment (of funding and other resources) in local community efforts to prevent and end homelessness. Collaboration between CoCs and MCPs can increase the potential to meet DHCS metrics and maximize the amount of incentive funds awarded to MCPs and available to invest back into the community's homelessness response. CoCs may be aware of DHCS' HHIP Priority Areas and the 15 metrics they will use to evaluate MCPs, but most are not familiar with the specific information DHCS requests for each metric and how they define performance measurements.

## Meeting Performance Metrics



HHIP metrics are either Pay for Performance or Pay for Reporting.

**Pay for Performance** means MCPs must demonstrate their performance, usually by submitting numerical data, to earn points toward incentive funds.

**Pay for Reporting** means MCPs are awarded points for a narrative report containing requested information, rather than for meeting a specific performance measure.

## HHIP Metrics & How DHCS is Measuring MCP Performance

DHCS evaluates MCPs seeking HHIP incentive funds based on how they meet the priority areas and all 15 metrics. They have identified 7 high priority metrics, **indicated with red font below**, which can earn MCPs additional points.

The following pages provide details about each of the 15 performance metrics, including:

- A brief description of each metric;
- What MCPs are required to report to DHCS;
- How DHCS defines and measures full performance of each metric; and
- Ways CoCs can help ensure MCPs meet the metric.



### Metric 1.1: Engagement with the local CoC

MCPs must engage with the CoC in various ways to improve partnership and collaboration. Engagement may include, but is not limited to:

- Attending CoC meetings;
- Joining the CoC Board;
- Joining a CoC subgroup or workgroup; and/or
- Attending a CoC webinar.

MCPs initially submitted a Local Homeless Plan (LHP) to DHCS in mid-2022 that included the types and percentages of CoC meetings they would attend (e.g., 100% of CoC membership meetings or Coordinated Entry Work Group meetings).

#### Information required

The number and type of meetings held during the measurement period that MCPs said they would attend and the number they actually attended during the measurement period.

MCPs must also describe any engagement with other city and county housing and homelessness partners (including social services, housing development agencies, Public Housing Authorities, and health services and public health), including efforts to coordinate data, referrals, and service delivery.

#### To meet the performance measurement

This is a Pay for Performance Metric; MCPs must have attended 100% of the meetings that they said in their LHP they would attend.

#### How CoCs can assist

How well the MCP can meet this measure depends on what they committed to in the LHP. CoCs should check with their local MCPs about their LHP commitments and ensure MCPs are aware of and invited to all relevant meetings. Working with MCPs to ensure they understand the purpose of each type of meeting and discussing ways they can actively participate will encourage attendance and also ensure their attendance is mutually beneficial and productive.

### Metric 1.2: Connection and integration with the local Coordinated Entry System

MCPs need to better understand the Coordinated Entry (CE) System in each county where they operate, consider becoming CE access points, coordinate with the CoC on members’ housing needs, and make and receive referrals where appropriate. In their LHP, MCPs reported to DHCS the feasibility of becoming a CE access point. In their Measurement Period 1 report, MCPs submitted an action plan based on that feasibility assessment.

#### Information required

A narrative description of updates made to the CE process as a result of the MCP’s involvement, including how health factors and risks have been incorporated into the CE assessment and prioritization process, as well as the MCP’s progress toward becoming a CE access point based on the action plan submitted as part of their Measurement Period 1.

#### To meet the performance measurement

This is a Pay for Reporting metric; MCPs are awarded for the narrative description on progress.

#### How CoCs can assist

Work with their local MCPs to explain how CE works locally and discuss the possibility and desirability of them becoming access points or ensuring their members experiencing homelessness are referred to access points. CoCs and MCPs should discuss the health-related factors that can be incorporated into CE prioritization and assessment processes to improve the overall equity and operation of CE. CoCs might:

- Invite MCPs to participate in CE committees;
- Invite MCPs to review CE policies and procedures and the prioritization protocol;
- Develop and add medical vulnerability screening questions into CE intake procedures in partnership with their local health partners;
- Revise prioritization to include medical vulnerability factors;
- Train MCP staff and their contracted providers about CE and how it works in the community; and
- Support MCPs or their contracted providers to become CE access points or assessors, as appropriate.

### Metric 1.1 Formula:

# of relevant meetings  
MCP attended during  
time period

Total # of relevant  
meetings held during  
time period

### Example

In its LHP, the MCP committed to attend all CoC Board Meetings, General Membership meetings, CE committee meetings, HMIS data sharing meetings, and strategic planning meetings.

### Between Jan 1, 2023 and October

**31, 2023:** The MCP attended 6 CoC Board meetings, 1 CoC General Membership meeting, 2 CE Committee meetings, 4 HMIS Data Sharing meetings, and 1 Strategic Planning meeting.

The CoC held a total of 19 total meetings: 8 Board meetings, 1 CoC

General Membership meeting, 4 CE meetings, 4 HMIS Data Sharing meetings, and 2 Strategic Planning meetings.

The percentage of relevant meetings the MCP attended = 73% (14/19) so the MCP would not satisfy DHCS’s 100% participation requirement.



**Metric 1.3: Identifying and addressing barriers to providing Community Supports and other housing-related services to MCP members experiencing homelessness.**

MCPs must identify and address barriers to providing medically appropriate and cost-effective housing-related Community Supports (CS) services or other housing-related services to MCP members experiencing homelessness.

Information required

MCPs must explain the approach they took to address barriers described in their LHPs, as well as information on the sustainability of the approach and how the MCP will continue to address the barriers beyond HHIP.

To meet the performance measurement

This is a Pay for Reporting metric.

How CoCs can assist

Provide insight to MCPs on strategies and approaches most likely to help overcome existing barriers for people experiencing homelessness to access housing-related CS and other services. CoCs might:

- Train CoC housing and service providers to refer and connect individuals experiencing homelessness to CS services;
- Track data about CS referrals;
- Follow up with housing and service providers on the success rates of connecting individuals experiencing homelessness to CS; and
- Facilitate trainings and case conferences between MCP CS providers and homeless services providers.

**Metric 1.4: Partnerships with counties, CoCs, and other organizations that deliver housing services with which the MCP has a data sharing agreement that allows for timely exchange of information and member matching.**

MCPs need to exchange information and conduct member matching on a timely basis with counties, CoCs, and organizations that they contract with to deliver housing services (i.e., interim housing, rental assistance, supportive housing, outreach, prevention/diversion). Specifically, MCPs must be able to access information about their members’ housing status.

Information required

The total number of providers that the MCP has contracted with to deliver housing-related services and the number of those providers who are actively sharing MCP member housing status information under a local Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) or California’s Data Exchange Framework Data Sharing Agreement. If the DSA is through an intermediary, the MCP must be able to access the members’ information related to their housing status.

To meet the performance measurement

This is a Pay for Performance Metric. At least 75% of the providers the MCP has contracted with to deliver housing-related services must be actively sharing MCP member housing status information.

How CoCs can assist

Work with their local MCPs to develop a DSA that facilitates information exchange and member matching between HMIS and MCP client records. Identify the process required to engage in data exchange and provide sufficient time to engage in that process. CoCs can ensure the MCPs are able to access member housing status information for all HMIS-participating providers. Seek bi-lateral data exchange so information about clients is coming back to the CoC, which can facilitate housing stability.



**Metric 1.5: Data sharing agreement with county mental health plans and drug Medi-Cal organization delivery system**

MCPs must have DSAs in place with county Mental Health Plans (MHP) or Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) – if applicable – that includes the ability to perform member matching and sharing information on housing status.

**Information required**

MCPs must report whether they have a DSA in place with county MHPs or DMC-ODS (if applicable) that includes the ability to do member matching and information sharing on member housing status.

**To meet the performance measurement**

This is a Pay for Performance Metric. MCPs must have an agreement in place as described above.

**How CoCs can assist**

As this is an agreement with county partners, CoCs are unlikely to be involved.

**Metric 1.6: Partnerships and strategies the MCP will develop to address disparities and equity in service delivery, housing placements, and housing retention**

MCPs must develop strategies and partnerships to address disparities and equity in service delivery, housing placements, and housing retention. In their LHPs, MCPs provided a narrative description of how they planned to work with housing partners to identify: 1) disparities and inequities that currently exist in the county related to housing; and 2) their approach to partnering with local organizations to address the stated disparities and inequities as they relate to service delivery, housing placements, and housing retention.

**Information required**

A narrative evaluation of the MCP’s implementation of partnerships with local organizations to address the disparities and inequities they included in their LHPs.

**To meet the performance measurement**

This is a Pay for Performance Metric. MCPs must have fully implemented the approach they described in their LHPs.

**How CoCs can assist**

CoCs can share their goals and progress to address disparities and inequities, especially from their Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) grants. They can review the approaches MCPs outlined in their LHPs and suggest ways they can partner to address the identified disparities and inequities.

**Metric 1.7: Lessons learned from development and implementation of the Investment Plan**

MCPs were required to develop an Investment Plan in collaboration with their local CoCs and/or counties to outline the investments they planned to make to ensure they met the HHIP metrics. MCPs were expected to work with their local CoCs to implement the Investment Plans. This metric aims to elicit information about the success of the investments and what the MCPs learned from developing and implementing the Investment Plans.

**Information required**

A narrative description outlining:

- Which investments were successful in progressing the HHIP program goals (i.e., to ensure MCPs have the necessary capacity and partnerships to connect their members to needed housing services and reduce and prevent homelessness);
- Which investments were not successful in progressing the HHIP program goals;
- Lessons learned from developing and implementing the Investment Plan; and
- Which investments have the capacity to sustain HHIP program goals going forward, and alignment with ongoing CalAIM efforts.

**To meet the performance measurement**

This is a Pay for Reporting metric.

**How CoCs can assist**

CoCs and MCPs can partner to evaluate each activity and investment. CoCs can share any data and success stories about the impact of the investment. CoCs and MCPs can discuss which investments should be sustained going forward. CoCs can share their insights regarding lessons learned in working to implement their Local Homeless Plans and Investment Plans.



**Metric 2.1: Connection with street medicine team providing health care for individuals who are homeless**

Street Medicine is defined as health and social services developed specifically to address the unique needs and circumstances of unsheltered homeless individuals delivered directly to these individuals in their own environment. See [Medi-Cal and HHIP Coverage for Street Medicine](#) in this Toolkit. This metric is aimed at ensuring MCP members experiencing homelessness can access care via street medicine programs.

**Information required**

The percentage of MCP members experiencing homelessness during the measurement period who received care from the MCP’s street medicine partner (or for MCPs operating in a designated rural county where a street medicine team is not present, the alternative services provided directly by the MCP).

**To meet the performance measurement**

This is a Pay for Performance Metric. MCPs must report a 10% increase as compared to Measurement Period 1 submission.

**How CoCs can assist**

CoCs can collaborate with MCPs to identify their current street medicine programs, if any. They can make connections with health care providers who either have street medicine programs or would be open to participating in street medicine with associated funding. CoCs can share best practices with MCPs on how they coordinate street outreach, which can be applied to street medicine efforts. They can also connect street outreach teams to partner with street medicine providers. They can strategize with MCPs on what is needed to begin or expand street medicine so that additional people are able to access street medicine services. This may require additional financial investment (e.g., staffing or technology to accurately track service provision), which MCPs can provide.

**Street Medicine**

The 10% increase must be the proportion of members experiencing homelessness who have received street medicine services. For example: If 10% of the MCP’s members experiencing homelessness were served via street medicine during Measurement Period 1, 20% of the MCP’s members experiencing homelessness must be served via street medicine during Measurement Period 2. It would not necessarily be enough for the number of members served via street medicine to increase by 10% (e.g., 100 people served during Measurement Period 1 and 110 during Period 2).



**Metrics 2.2: MCP connection with the local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)**

A critical component of HHIP is the ability of MCPs to work with their local CoCs to leverage the information contained in the local HMIS, ideally through direct access or data sharing and exchange.

**Information required**

Whether the MCP has the ability to:

1. Receive timely alerts from their local HMIS when an MCP’s member experiences a change in housing status; and
2. Match their member information with HMIS client information.

MCPs must also describe their process to translate the timely alerts into supporting referrals for CS from CoCs and other housing providers.

**To meet the performance measurement**

The first two elements are Pay for Performance. The MCP must answer yes to both. The element of translating timely alerts into CS referrals is a Pay for Reporting Metric; MCPs are awarded for reporting on their process.

**How CoCs can assist**

CoCs can work with their MCPs to provide direct access to HMIS that is more than read-only or enter into DSAs to facilitate both member matching and alerts of housing status changes for MCP members. See [Bi-lateral Data Sharing Agreement Between a Continuum of Care and Managed Care Plan](#) and [Sample Workflow for Continuums of Care and Managed Care Plans to Conduct a Client Data Match](#) in this Toolkit. See also: [Breaking Down Silos: How to Share Data to Improve the Health of People Experiencing Homelessness](#) and [How to Share Data: A Practical Guide for Health and Homeless Systems of Care](#).



**Metric 2.3: MCP process for tracking and managing referrals for the housing-related Community Supports it is offering during the measurement period**

MCPs can elect to offer their members a variety of Community Supports (CS), several of which are housing-related: housing transition navigation, housing deposits, housing tenancy and sustaining services, recuperative care/medical respite, short-term hospitalization housing, and day habilitation programs. MCPs contract with providers to deliver CS services. When eligible members are referred for a Community Support, they are assigned a CS provider, who should then follow up with the member and ultimately deliver CS services.

**Information required**

The percentage of their contracted housing-related CS providers who electronically received, followed up, and closed a housing-related CS referral.

**To meet the performance measurement**

This is a Pay for Performance Metric. MCPs must report a 5% increase from their Measurement Period 1 submission. MCPs are evaluated based only on the Community Supports they offered during the measurement period.

**How CoCs can assist**

Work with MCPs to integrate housing-related CS referrals into CE or HMIS to help facilitate and track those referrals electronically. To read additional ways to ensure eligible MCP members are connected to available housing-related Community Supports, see [Maximizing CalAIM's Enhanced Care Management \(ECM\) Benefit and Community Supports \(CS\) Services](#) in this Toolkit.

**Metric 3.1: Percent of MCP Members screened for homelessness/risk of homelessness**

MCPs must know which of their members are experiencing or at risk of homelessness to ensure they are connecting people to needed housing-related services. This metric also encourages MCPs to connect their members in need of housing-related services directly to the CoC's CE to be assessed, prioritized, and connected to CoC resources.

**Information required**

The percentage of MCP members who were screened for homelessness or risk of homelessness during the measurement period.

**To meet the performance measurement**

This is a Pay for Performance Metric. MCPs must report a 5% increase from their Measurement Period 1 submission.

**How CoCs can assist**

Educate MCPs on effective and trauma-informed ways to screen their members for homelessness. CoCs can also have outreach teams or other CoC providers screen members they work with and can offer to train MCP staff on trauma-informed care.

**Screened for Homelessness**

The 5% increase must be in the proportion of MCP members screened. For example, if the MCP had 5,000 members during Measurement Period 1 and screened 200 (or 4%) during that time period, they would have to screen at least 9% of their members during Measurement Period 2.

**Community Supports**

The 5% increase must be in the proportion of contracted housing-related CS providers who electronically received, followed up, and closed a housing-related CS referral. For example: If during Measurement Period 1, an MCP had contracts with 20 organizations to provide housing-related CS services and 2 (or 10%) of them electronically received, followed up, and closed a housing-related CS referral, to meet this performance measurement for Period 2, at least 15% of the MCP's contracted housing-related CS providers would need to have done so.



**Metric 3.2: MCP Members who were discharged from an inpatient setting or have been to the emergency department for services two or more times in a 4-month period who were screened for homelessness or risk of homelessness**

This metric is a subset of Metric 3.1, specific to MCP members who are discharged from an inpatient setting or in the emergency department for services two or more times over four consecutive months.

Information required

The percentage of MCP members who were discharged from an inpatient setting or in the emergency department for services two or more times over four consecutive months who were screened for homelessness or risk of homelessness during Measurement Period 2.

To meet the performance measurement

This is a Pay for Performance Metric. MCPs must report a 5% increase from their Measurement Period 1 submission.

How CoCs can assist

Partner with MCPs to create hospital liaison positions within a homeless service provider. Liaisons can partner with local hospitals and provide support and education on treating, triaging, and identifying people experiencing homelessness who use emergency department services.

**Metric 3.3: MCP members experiencing homelessness who were successfully engaged in ECM**

An important goal of HHIP is to connect people experiencing homelessness who are eligible for Enhanced Care Management (ECM) to that benefit. This metric evaluates whether MCP members are successfully referred to and receiving the benefit.

Information required

The percentage of MCP members experiencing homelessness engaged in ECM during Measurement Period 2.

To meet the performance measurement

This is a Pay for Performance Metric. MCPs must report a 5% increase from their Measurement Period 1 submission.

How CoCs can assist

Educate CoC members about ECM. CoCs can collaborate with MCPs to provide information to homeless service providers that describe the process for making ECM referrals. See [Maximizing CalAIM's Enhanced Care Management \(ECM\) Benefit and Community Supports \(CS\) Services](#) in this Toolkit.



**Metric 3.4: MCP members experiencing homelessness receiving at least one housing-related Community Support**

Similar to Metric 3.3, this metric focuses on ensuring people experiencing homelessness who are eligible for housing-related Community Supports (CS) are successfully referred to and receiving at least one of the housing-related CS services.

Information required

The percentage of MCP members experiencing homelessness who received at least one of the MCP's offered housing-related CS services (housing transition navigation, housing deposits, housing tenancy and sustaining services, recuperative care/ medical respite, short-term post-hospitalization housing, or day habilitation programs) during Measurement Period 2.

To meet the performance measurement

This is a Pay for Performance Metric. MCPs must demonstrate a 5% increase from Submission 1 or their LHP (whichever of the two reported a higher percentage).

How CoCs can assist

Educate their providers about the specific CS services offered by their local MCPs. CoCs can collaborate with MCPs to provide information to homeless service providers that describe the process for making CS referrals. They can encourage their housing service providers to apply to become CS providers. See [Maximizing CalAIM's Enhanced Care Management \(ECM\) Benefit and Community Supports \(CS\) Services](#) in this Toolkit.

### Metric 3.5: MCP Members who were successfully housed

MCPs reported on the percentage of their members experiencing homelessness during the 8-month measurement period 1 (May-Dec. 2022) who were successfully housed during that time. For Measurement Period 2, MCPs must show an improvement in their ability to help successfully house their members.

#### Information required

The percentage of MCP members who experienced homelessness during the 10-month measurement period 2 (Jan.-Oct. 2023) who were successfully housed during that time; partial points will be awarded for significant improvement that is less than 25%.

#### To meet the performance measurement

This is a Pay for Performance Metric. MCPs must report at least 25% improvement from Submission 1 for full points; partial points will be awarded for significant improvement that is less than 25%.

DHCS provided MCPs with guidance on the definition of “successfully housed” for purposes of the metric. In brief, “successfully housed” includes situations in HMIS that CoCs typically designate as permanent housing, as well as community-based housing without a designated length of stay, permanent supportive housing (PSH) and other service-enriched affordable housing, and rapid rehousing (RRH). It does not include crisis housing, emergency shelter, transitional housing, bridge (reserved crisis) housing, or other living situations that CoCs do not consider permanent housing. For DHCS’s full description of “successfully housed,” see [Measure 3.5 and 3.6 Defining Successfully Housed](#).

#### How CoCs can assist

CoCs can connect as many MCP members experiencing homelessness as possible to the community’s CE, as well as referred to and connected to ECM, housing-related CS, and other resources and services that help people find and access stable housing. They can also share with the MCPs the lack of affordable housing in the area and discuss ways to leverage MCP funding to increase housing availability.

### Metric 3.6: MCP Members who remained successfully housed

MCPs had to report on the percentage of their members experiencing homelessness who were successfully housed between Jan. 1-Apr. 30, 2022 who remained housed through December 31, 2022. For Measurement Period 2, DHCS wants to know how many of those same people are still housed as of October 31, 2023. They also want to know how many members who were housed in the latter eight months of 2022 are still housed as of October 31, 2023.

#### Information required:

- The percentage of MCP members experiencing homelessness who were successfully housed during the first four months of 2022 who remained housed through October 31, 2023.
- The percentage of their members experiencing homelessness who were successfully housed from May 1-Dec. 31, 2022 who remained housed through October 31, 2023.

MCPs must also describe the methods they used to keep members housed, including rental subsidies, direct financial assistance, housing matching, and other methods.

#### To meet the performance measurement

This is a Pay for Performance Metric. MCPs must report at least 85% for full points; partial points will be awarded for significant achievement that is less than 85%.

#### How CoCs can assist

Provide insight to MCPs on the strategies and supports most likely to help recently homeless individuals and families sustain their housing. CoCs can also provide MCPs information on prevention resources that exist in the community for any recently housed members who are at risk of experiencing homelessness again. They can also share with MCPs the lack of affordable housing in the area and discuss ways to leverage MCP funding to increase housing availability.

### Successfully Housed

For example, if the MCP reported for Measurement Period 1 that 7% of their members who experienced homelessness between May 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022 were successfully housed during that time, to receive full points for Measurement Period 2, they will have to report that at least 32% of their members who experienced homelessness between January 1, 2023 and October 31, 2023 were successfully housed during that time.







# Maximizing CalAIM's Enhanced Care Management Benefit and Community Supports Services

California's new Medi-Cal Initiative, CalAIM (California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal) includes two programs that provide coordination and/or housing-related services for its members, including those experiencing homelessness: **Enhanced Care Management (ECM)** and **Community Supports (CS)**. Through the Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP), the state Department of Health Care Services has incentivized Medi-Cal managed care plans (MCPs) to connect their eligible members experiencing homelessness to ECM and CS services. In partnership with their local MCPs, CoCs should discuss ways to ensure people they're serving are referred and receiving these vital benefits and services.

The CS services offered in each community through MCPs vary, as do the referral processes for both ECM and CS. CoCs should work directly with their local MCPs to coordinate efforts to refer and connect people to these resources by simplifying and streamlining the referral processes.

This document provides basic information about ECM and CS and offers tools to help CoCs track the resources available and relevant referral processes for the MCPs in their communities.



## Basics of ECM and Community Supports

### Enhanced Care Management (ECM)

Many Medi-Cal members need the services of multiple social services systems, in addition to the health care system. Enhanced Care Management (ECM) is a Medi-Cal benefit that all Medi-Cal managed care plans (MCPs) are required to provide to eligible members. ECM offers intensive care coordination and services across the multiple systems. The core services offered through ECM are:

1. Enhanced coordination of care
2. Coordination of and referral to community and social support services
3. Outreach and engagement
4. Comprehensive assessment and care management plan
5. Health promotion
6. Comprehensive transitional care
7. Member and family supports

ECM providers help people set clear goals, make sure they receive the full array of benefits they're eligible for to meet those goals, and coordinate across systems to help members achieve their goals. MCPs are required to meet members enrolled in ECM where they are, instead of just at the doctor's office. ECM providers can offer services to members at an emergency shelter, on the street, or at home. Each person enrolled in ECM has a central case manager who coordinates their care and services across all the systems, making it easier "to get the right care at the right time."

### Community Supports (CS)

Community Supports are new services that Medi-Cal managed care plans (MCPs) can add to their package of services. They are intended for Medi-Cal members with complex health needs who also have unmet social needs (e.g., due to food insecurity, homelessness, or systemic racism). There are 14 total Community Supports, including housing-related ones. MCPs can decide which Community Supports to offer. The CS services available to eligible members vary across the state and even within a county if multiple MCPs operate there. The six CS services most directly relevant to housing, which many MCPs across the state offer, are:

- Housing Transition Navigation Services
- Housing Deposits
- Housing Tenancy and Sustaining Services
- Short-Term Post-Hospitalization Housing
- Recuperative Care (Medical Respite)
- Day Habilitation Programs

MCPs contract with local providers to provide CS services to members who are referred and approved to receive them. Local housing and homeless service providers who already provide the services covered under CS should consider becoming contracted providers with their local MCPs so they can be reimbursed for providing those services to people experiencing homelessness who are MCP members.

## Connecting People Experiencing Homelessness to ECM and CS Services

MCPs are incentivized in various ways, including through HHIP, to connect their members experiencing homelessness to ECM and CS services. CoCs can be critical partners in identifying eligible members and helping to refer them to ECM and whatever available CS services they need and are eligible for. By utilizing these health system resources, CoCs can preserve their own resources to help people who are not enrolled in Medi-Cal or are ineligible for ECM or CS services.

Medi-Cal members who are eligible for ECM and CS services can be referred by anyone (themselves, community members/family members, providers). For people enrolled in ECM, their ECM provider can and should support them to identify the CS services they need and refer them to those.

To be referred for ECM or any Community Supports, a person must be enrolled in Medi-Cal and have selected an MCP. CoCs should support people experiencing homelessness not yet enrolled in Medi-Cal to explore their eligibility, enroll if eligible, and select their MCP. The offices that handle Medi-Cal enrollment in each county in California are listed [here](#).

Once a person is approved and enrolled in ECM or CS, they will be matched with a provider.

- MCPs contract with different providers for ECM and CS.
- People who are enrolled in both ECM and CS may not have the same provider for both (or the same provider for different Community Supports if they are receiving more than one service).
- If a person is enrolled in ECM, their ECM provider can and should assess and refer them to appropriate CS services.

The following pages include additional eligibility information for both ECM and CS, as well as guidance and tools to help ensure as many eligible people as possible are aware of, referred to, and connected to ECM and the CS services they need.



## Enhanced Care Management (ECM)

### Eligibility

To be eligible for ECM, a person must be:

- Enrolled in Medi-Cal
- Connected to a Medi-Cal managed care plan, and
- Part of one of the following populations of focus
  - **Individuals and families experiencing homelessness** and the individual has at least one complex physical, behavioral, or developmental health need with inability to successfully self-manage for whom coordination of services would likely result in improved health outcomes AND/OR decreased utilization of high-cost services.
  - Individuals at risk for avoidable hospital or Emergency Department utilization
  - Individuals with serious mental health and/or substance use disorder (SUD) needs
  - Individuals transitioning from incarceration
  - Adults living in the community and at risk for Long Term Care (LTC) institutionalization
  - Adult nursing facility residents transitioning to the community
  - Children and youth enrolled in California Children's Services (CCS) or CCS Whole Child Model (WCM) with additional needs beyond the CSS condition
  - Children and youth involved in Child Welfare
  - Individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities (I/DD)
  - Pregnant and postpartum individuals

People who are part of a population of focus but not yet enrolled in Medi-Cal or connected to a plan should be supported to enroll in Medi-Cal and select their MCP. The offices that handle Medi-Cal enrollment for each county in California are listed [here](#).

### Referrals

Most, if not all, MCPs will accept ECM referrals from anyone: members themselves; providers or case workers; or family members, friends, or other support people.

Every MCP has its own referral forms and processes for ECM. In some communities, all the Medi-Cal MCPs have coordinated to agree on a consistent ECM referral form. CoCs with multiple MCPs operating in their coverage area should work together with the MCPs to establish a jointly accepted ECM referral form (and needed documentation) and a consistent referral process. The process should include what happens after referrals are made, a timeframe and process for MCPs to update the CoC or CoC providers when members are enrolled in ECM, information about who their ECM provider is in the community, and a consistent way for ECM providers to connect with CoC providers working with newly enrolled members.

Most MCPs accept ECM referral forms and supporting documentation through submission to an online portal, secure email, fax, or a combination of those three. Most, if not all, also allow people to call a designated telephone number to begin a referral. The specific websites, email addresses, fax and phone numbers will vary by MCP and by county. At the end of this document is a template CoCs can use to collect and compile the referral information specific to the MCPs in their community.

## Examples of Complex Physical, Behavioral, and Developmental Health Needs

Physical	Behavioral	Developmental
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asthma</li> <li>• Chronic kidney disease</li> <li>• Chronic liver disease</li> <li>• Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)</li> <li>• Congestive heart failure</li> <li>• Coronary artery disease</li> <li>• Dementia requiring assistance with activities of daily living</li> <li>• Diabetes (insulin-dependent) poorly controlled</li> <li>• History of stroke or heart attack</li> <li>• Hypertension</li> <li>• Traumatic brain injury</li> <li>• Other*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bipolar disorder</li> <li>• Major depressive disorder</li> <li>• Psychotic disorders, including schizophrenia</li> <li>• Substance use disorder</li> <li>• Other*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intellectual or developmental disability (I/DD)</li> <li>• Other*</li> </ul>

\* There may be qualifying conditions not listed in this table

## Community Supports (CS)

### Eligibility and Availability

Like with ECM, Community Supports are only available to people who are already enrolled in Medi-Cal and connected to a Medi-Cal MCP.

Each Community Support has different eligibility criteria. Details about the service definitions and eligibility for each of the 14 Community Supports can be found in the [DHCS Community Supports Policy Guide](#).

CoCs should work with their local MCPs to understand what Community Supports they offer, which they intend to offer in the future, and to present information about the most relevant CS services for people experiencing homelessness in their communities to CoC providers who can help identify and refer people who may be eligible.

The example template below is intended to help CoCs and their partner MCPs summarize the CS services available to people experiencing homelessness in their communities.

To create your county's Community Supports summary table, fill in a column for each MCP operating in your area, using similar color coding to indicate which Community Supports each MCP currently offers, and which they intend to offer in the future, noting the date each will be available. If you are not already in contact with the MCPs in your area, you can find them on the [DHCS website](#).

### Referrals

Like with ECM, MCPs will accept CS service referrals from anyone: members themselves; providers (including ECM and CS providers), case workers; or family members, friends, or other support people.

Because each MCP selects the CS services they want to offer, each MCP has its own referral or authorization forms and processes for CS. Some have separate referral or authorization forms for each Community Support, although the referral process should be the same regardless of which CS is being requested.

CoCs and their local MCPs should work together to simplify and streamline the forms and processes for people experiencing homelessness as much as possible, including supporting documentation required. As with ECM, the process should include what happens after referrals are made, including a timeframe and process for MCPs to update the CoC or CoC providers when members are authorized to receive a CS, who their CS provider is, and a consistent way for CS providers to connect with CoC providers working with the person who's been enrolled.

As with ECM, most MCPs accept referral or authorization forms and supporting documentation through submission to an online portal, secure email, fax, or a combination. The specific websites, email addresses, fax and phone numbers will vary by MCP and by county. At the end of this document is a template CoCs can use to collect and compile the referral information specific to the MCPs in their community.

**Blue** = currently available    **Purple** = upcoming

Community Supports	[MCP1]	[MCP2]	[MCP3]
<b>1. Housing transition navigation services</b>			
<b>2. Housing tenancy and sustaining services</b>			
<b>3. Housing deposits</b> (Note: With some exceptions, most people must be receiving housing navigation through the MCP to get housing deposits and may need to meet other criteria, such as being placed high on the priority list through the CoC's CE System).			
<b>4. Short-term post hospitalization temporary housing</b>		1/24	1/24
<b>5. Recuperative care/medical respite</b>	1/24	1/24	1/24
<b>6. Respite services</b>		7/23	1/24
<b>7. Day habilitation programs</b>		7/23	1/24
<b>8. Nursing facility transition to assisted living</b>			1/24
<b>9. Community transitions/nursing facility transitions to home</b>			1/24
<b>10. Personal care and homemaker services</b>		7/23	1/24
<b>11. Environmental accessibility adaptations</b>			1/24
<b>12. Medically tailored meals</b>			1/24
<b>13. Sobering centers</b>	1/24	1/24	1/24
<b>14. Asthma Remediation</b>	1/24	1/22	1/24



## Recommendations for CoCs to Discuss with their Partner MCPs to Maximize Utilization of ECM and CS

- How to streamline the forms (e.g., make one single form that can be used for all MCPs), required documentation and processes for ECM and CS referrals and clearly outline the steps of the process, timeframes, and information and documentation needed.
- Protocols that apply after referrals are submitted to:
  - Update the CoC (or provider who submitted the referral) on referral status and any missing documentation or issues with the form or authorization request;
  - Confirm enrollment/approval;
  - Provide name and contact information of ECM or CS provider and/or ensure proactive outreach by that provider to the CoC.
- Ensure the success of ECM and CS providers assigned to members experiencing homelessness by:
  - Matching members with providers who have experience working with people experiencing homelessness;
  - Minimizing the number of providers each person is connected to (especially if multiple CS services are involved);
  - Identifying CoC providers to become contracted CS providers.
- The most needed CS services among people experiencing homelessness and how the CoC can help train providers who engage with people most in need of those services to help facilitate successful referrals.





## Template for Compiling ECM and CS Referral Information

ENHANCED CARE MANAGEMENT (ECM) REFERRALS IN [COUNTY]	
Managed Care Plan	Referral Process
[Name of MCP]	<p>Complete [link to shared ECM referral form, if applicable, and/or MCP's own referral form] ECM Referral Form</p> <p>Gather necessary supporting documentation (see table below)</p> <p>Submit completed ECM Form and supporting documentation via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [insert link to online portal if applicable]</li> <li>• [provide email address and any additional details, such as what subject line should be and whether a secure email program is required]</li> <li>• [provide fax number if relevant]</li> <li>• [insert any other submission option]</li> </ul> <p>OR, call [insert relevant phone number] and mention wanting to make an ECM referral.</p>

### Documentation needed to support ECM Referral Form

The following are examples of documentation MCPs might expect or require. CoCs should adjust this as needed after consulting with their local MCPs.

- Documentation of homelessness by service provider, primary care physician (PCP), specialist, or outreach provider
- Eviction Notices
- Documentation of entries / exits from shelters
- Documentation / office visit note with diagnosis or identification of at least one complex physical, behavioral, or developmental health need
- Medication / treatment orders
- Financial statements

CS REFERRALS/AUTHORIZATION REQUESTS IN [COUNTY]	
Managed Care Plan	Referral Process
[Name of MCP]	<p>Complete [link to MCP's referral or authorization form] Community Supports Referral/Authorization <i>Note: If the MCP uses different forms for each Community Support, be sure to list each one separately.</i></p> <p>Gather necessary supporting documentation (see table below)</p> <p>Submit completed Referral/Authorization Form and supporting documentation via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [insert link to online portal if applicable]</li> <li>• [provide email address and any additional details, such as what subject line should be and whether a secure email program is required]</li> <li>• [provide fax number if relevant]</li> <li>• [insert any other submission option]</li> </ul> <p>OR, call [insert relevant phone number] and mention wanting to make a Community Supports referral.</p>

### Documentation Needed to Support CS Referral Forms / Authorization Requests

The following are examples of supporting documentation that may be expected or required for each housing-related CS. CoCs are encouraged to work with their local MCPs to identify the specific supporting documentation that is most relevant and practical for the CS services most needed by people experiencing homelessness in their communities and adjust this accordingly.

<b>Housing transition navigation services</b>	Documentation of homelessness or risk of homelessness by service provider, Primary Care Physician (PCP), specialist, or outreach provider; documentation of entries/exits from shelters; notices from current landlord if applicable; financial statements
<b>Housing tenancy and sustaining services</b>	Housing support plan (aka housing plan <sup>1</sup> ) created by MCP; lease agreement
<b>Housing deposits</b>	Housing support plan; lease agreement; utility bill/deposit agreement; financial statements
<b>Short-term post hospitalization temporary housing</b>	Emergency department or inpatient discharge planning paperwork; documentation of homelessness by service provider, PCP, specialist, or outreach provider; documentation of member participation in housing transition navigation services
<b>Recuperative care (medical respite)</b>	Emergency department, inpatient, or skilled nursing discharge paperwork; documentation of homelessness by service providers, PCPs, specialists, or outreach providers; documentation of entries/exits from shelters; documentation from any support agency indicating services/ supports member needs; documentation/office visit notes with diagnosis and identification of frailty; assessment determining limitations in activities of daily living (ADLs); medication/ treatment orders
<b>Day habilitation programs</b>	Documentation of housing status by service providers, PCP, specialist or outreach providers; documentation of participation in housing transition/navigation or housing tenancy and sustaining services

<sup>1</sup> If you have already created a housing plan for your client, we recommend sending the plan with the referral to the MCP. This will help MCPs to understand the client's needs and can be used as a basis for an MCP-created housing plan, if appropriate.



# Sample Bi-lateral Data Sharing Agreement Between a Continuum of Care and Managed Care Plan



Homebase

with the support of the California Health Care Foundation

This is a sample bi-lateral data sharing agreement (DSA) that is meant to help cross-sector partners identify the common components of a DSA between Continuum of Care (CoC) agencies responsible for HMIS data and Medi-Cal managed care plans (MCPs). The content in this sample is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Homebase does not enter into attorney-client relationships nor dispense legal advice.

We do not recommend adopting this sample wholesale. To enter into a DSA requires review by legal experts in privacy and security. If you do not have the resources to hire legal specialists in privacy, consult with your County Counsel. Note, however, that County Counsel may not have the expertise necessary to draft a cross-sector DSA without the advice of experts in data privacy and security.

Under this sample agreement, the intention is to have Medi-Cal MCPs receive Personally Identifiable Information (PII) from the HMIS Lead. The data from HMIS will allow the MCPs to identify which of their members are known by the CoC to be experiencing homelessness. In exchange, the CoC will receive information about which individuals in HMIS are MCP members, what plans they are enrolled in, and whether they are receiving housing-related services through the MCP, especially Enhanced Care Management (ECM) or Community Supports (CS).

The sample agreement can be customized to a specific community. Throughout the document, there are *plain-language explanations and directions in italicized red text* to guide you through the sections of the DSA.

*Homebase would like to thank Benefits Data Trust (BDT) for allowing us to use their shell Data Sharing Agreement, which can be found in [“Bolstering Benefits Access: Introducing Benefits Data Trust’s New Data Sharing Playbook,”](#) as a model for this sample CoC-MCP agreement.*



# Continuum of Care and Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan Sample Bi-lateral Data Sharing Agreement (DSA)

## Article I: Business Justification and Scope of Services

### PRIMARY AGENCY

Entity:	Managed Care Plan
Agency Data Steward:	Jane Steward
Steward's Title:	Data Steward
Address:	123 Work Address, Data City, CA 54321
Phone Number:	555-555-5555
Email:	JSteward@mcp.com

### SECONDARY AGENCY

Entity:	CoC HMIS Lead
Secondary Agency Data Steward:	Freddie Hamis
Steward's Title:	HMIS Administrator
Address:	10101 HMIS Lane, CoC City, CA 54321
Phone Number:	555-555-5556
Email:	Freddie@hmislead.org

### BUSINESS JUSTIFICATION

**Managed Care Plan** adheres to the principle of least privilege, meaning that recipients of data and information should receive no more information than is absolutely necessary to complete an assigned project, job, task, or responsibility.

The purpose of this DSA is to create an agreement between **Managed Care Plan** and **CoC HMIS Lead** to 1. identify Medi-Cal MCP members who are experiencing homelessness so that **Managed Care Plan** can conduct outreach and provide housing and supportive services to their members who are experiencing homelessness in **Collab County** and 2. the CoC can determine whether participants in HMIS have Medi-Cal or are receiving other housing-related services through Medi-Cal.

To this end, this DSA provides conditions and safeguards for a limited exchange of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) between the parties while protecting the confidentiality of **Managed Care Plan** and **Collab County CoC** members, applicants, and participants, consistent with requirements of federal and state law.

*Insert specific legal analysis of applicable data sharing and confidentiality law here. For more on the legal*

*analysis related to sharing specific program data, see Section 3: The Building Blocks of Data Sharing in [Data Sharing to Build Effective and Efficient Benefits Systems](#).*

## **SCOPE OF SERVICES:**

*Tip: It may be helpful to specify in the data sharing agreement or an accompanying document how the data sharing process will be initiated. Are there processes for requesting data reports from agency systems? If yes, what are they?*

**Managed Care Plan** agrees to:

- Utilize the data provided by **CoC HMIS Lead** only for the purpose outlined in the Business Justification section above.
- Match the data provided by **CoC HMIS Lead** against current databases of **Managed Care Plan** members to identify those individuals who have been identified through the **Collab County CoC's** Coordinated Entry System as experiencing homelessness as outlined in Article III, Section 1.
- Receive data from **Freddie Hamis** through a Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) and limit the number of employees who will collect and analyze the data to those absolutely necessary to perform the data matches.
- After the data match is complete, destroy all data where no match was found in **Managed Care Plan's** database.
- Within five (5) business days of the execution of this agreement, provide to **Freddie Hamis** an estimate of the time required to fulfill the data match request.
- Provide to the **Freddie Hamis** a list of the matches, with added information about each **Managed Care Plan** member, including: Medi-Cal number, whether they are receiving Enhanced Care Management (ECM), whether they are receiving any Community Supports, and if so, which Community Supports they are receiving.

**CoC HMIS Lead** agrees to:

- Provide the PII data outlined in Article III to **Managed Care Plan** within **14 days** of the signing of this agreement. *14 days is used here as an example, not a recommendation.*
- *Add other terms and conditions to articulate and facilitate data sharing.*

## **Article II: Term Agreement**

The terms and conditions contained herein shall be binding once this Agreement is signed by all parties.

1. **CoC HMIS Lead** does not guarantee the completeness or accuracy of the data provided.
2. This DSA prohibits **Managed Care Plan** from redisclosing PII provided under this Agreement to a third party unless written permission is received from **CoC HMIS Lead**.
3. This agreement shall continue to be in force until all parties agree to its termination under the provisions in **Article V**.
4. Institutional Review Board (IRB) authorization is not required. If IRB authorization is required, data will not be transferred until and unless such authorization is obtained. Information on **Managed Care Plan** IRB can be found at: [www.website.com](http://www.website.com).
5. Upon termination of this agreement, **Managed Care Plan** must destroy, delete, or otherwise permanently remove all copies of the data transferred by **Freddie Hamis**, whether in electronic or physical format. This includes copies in raw form to which additional data have been added, but does not include aggregated output, final analyses, or any reports, charts, graphs, etc., resulting from the analyzed data. **Managed Care Plan** must provide written proof of destruction to **CoC HMIS Lead** within **30 days** of termination.
6. This agreement shall be reviewed at least annually and as required to satisfy changing requirements.
7. There is no cost associated with this agreement.

## Article III: Data Specification

Freddie Hamis will supply the following data to **Managed Care Plan** in the manner and frequency described immediately below.

Frequency:	<i>Describe how often new data will be provided. Is the data only provided once or at regular intervals?</i>
Method of Transfer:	<i>Describe the method of transfer. SFTP transfer is the most common way for data match without an Application Programming Interface (API). If an API is preferred, specify that. If the MCP has access to HMIS and can access the data that way, describe how.</i>
File Format:	<i>Describe the format in which data will be exchanged (e.g., CSV).</i>
Date Range:	<i>Describe the date range for the data to be provided, if applicable.</i>
Other Filters:	<i>Describe any additional filters to be applied to the data (e.g., children under 5). Data sharing will be limited to data elements named and described under this agreement.</i>

Element – Short Name	Element – Long Name	Format
FIRST	Participant’s First Name	Narrative
LAST	Participant’s Last Name	Narrative
DOB	Participant’s Date of Birth	MMDDYYYY
SSN	Participant’s Social Security Number, if available	###-##-####
HOUSING_STATUS	Whether participant is housed or unhoused	Options: Housed, Unhoused <i>Other options may be included.</i>



**Managed Care Plan** will in turn supply the following data to **CoC HMIS Lead** for each member who appeared on the CoC’s client list, in the manner and frequency described immediately below.

Frequency:	<i>Describe how often new data will be provided. Is the data only provided once or at regular intervals?</i>
Method of Transfer:	<i>Describe the method of transfer. SFTP transfer is the most common way for data match without an API. If an API is preferred, specify that.</i>
File Format:	<i>Describe the format in which data will be exchanged (e.g., CSV).</i>
Date Range:	<i>Describe the date range for the data to be provided.</i>
Other Filters:	<i>Describe any additional filters to be applied to the data (e.g., children under 5). Data sharing will be limited to data elements named and described under this agreement.</i>

<b>Element – Short Name</b>	<b>Element – Long Name</b>	<b>Format</b>
FIRST	Participant’s First Name	Narrative
LAST	Participant’s Last Name	Narrative
DOB	Participant’s Date of Birth	MMDDYYYY
SSN	Participant’s Social Security Number, if available	###-##-####
HOUSING_STATUS	Whether participant is housed or unhoused	Options: Housed, Unhoused <i>Other options may be included.</i>
CIN	The participant’s Medi-Cal number	#####
ECM	Whether the participant is enrolled in ECM	Options: Yes, No <i>Other options may be included.</i>
CS	Whether the participant is receiving any Community Supports.	Options: Yes, No <i>Other options may be included.</i>
CS_LIST	If yes to Community Supports, specify which ones the participant is receiving	Checklist

*Discuss with the MCP whether additional information should be included when they return the matched client list and add data elements to this list as appropriate.*

## Article IV: General Provisions

Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as authority for any party to make commitments that will bind any other party beyond **Article I** contained herein.

All parties agree:

1. To adhere to all security standards for secure data storage and transmission as expressed: *list out and link to any relevant data security standard(s)*.
2. To prohibit and prevent re-disclosure of any other party's data to any entity not covered by this agreement.
3. To prohibit and prevent storage of any party's data on mobile or portable data storage media without:
  - a. Documented business necessity approved in writing by the data stewards of all parties.
  - b. Documentation that all data storage media are physically and logically secured and acknowledged by an Information Security Officer from each party.
4. That any PII inadvertently or unintentionally received shall be safeguarded, shall not be redisclosed, and there shall be no attempt made to contact any individual identified by such disclosure.
5. To provide immediate notification (within 24 hours of discovery) to all other parties if a breach, loss, theft, or other compromise of sensitive electronic or physical data is suspected. Notification contacts are as follows:
  - a. **Managed Care Plan:** *Insert the name, title, phone number, and email address for the appropriate person.*
  - b. **CoC:** *Insert the name, title, phone number, and email address for the appropriate person.*

## Article V: Termination

Either party may opt out of this Agreement without cause upon **30 days** written notice to the other party. *Decide and include here what the other party's responsibility is if one party opts out of the Agreement. For example: Does the other party still have to perform any portion of their obligation under the Agreement? Is the Agreement automatically terminated if one party opts out?*

Either party may opt out of this Agreement immediately, via written notice, upon discovery of a data breach suffered by either party.

Either party may suspend its involvement in this Agreement immediately upon discovery of a data breach suffered internally by that party. Suspension of this Agreement shall not last more than **60 days** and this Agreement must either be reinstated or terminated per the terms of this Agreement by the end of that period. Suspension and reinstatement or termination must include written notice to the other party.

This Agreement shall remain in full effect until terminated as provided herein. *Consider whether you would like to include a certain date when the Agreement terminates or date by which all parties must perform. For example: One year from the signing of the contract.*

This Agreement can be terminated by agreement of both parties at any time. Such agreement to terminate must be documented in writing and provided to both parties.

This Agreement shall automatically terminate upon:

1. Fulfillment of all terms; or
2. When superseded by a subsequent Agreement; or
3. After a period of **2 years**.

This Agreement does not automatically renew but may be extended by agreement of the parties follow-

ing an appropriate review of all terms and conditions.

## Article VI: Integration, Modification, and Assignment

This document represents the entire Agreement between both parties. Any modification of these terms must be in writing and signed by both parties. This agreement shall be interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of California. Signed copies of this agreement, and any modifications, shall be kept on file with **Managed Care Plan** and/or **CoC HMIS Lead**.

### **SIGNATURES**

The undersigned hereby acknowledge and accept the responsibilities, terms, and conditions laid out in this Data Sharing Agreement:

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jane Steward, Data Steward  
 Managed Care Plan**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Freddie Hamis, HMIS Administrator  
 CoC HMIS Lead**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

#End of Document#

### **Appendices:**

- a. *List here and attach documentation supporting the project (e.g., Memoranda of Understanding, additional relevant Scopes of Work, Technical Specifications) that should be included.*





# Needed HMIS Data Elements for Partnering with Managed Care Plans



**Homebase**

with the support of the California Health Care Foundation

As part of CalAIM, there is a significant push to build and strengthen partnerships between health and homeless systems of care. Continuums of Care (CoCs) and their county partners collect information about people experiencing homelessness in their Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Much of the data collected are elements required by HUD.



With growing partnerships with Medi-Cal managed care plans (MCPs), HMIS can be an important tool to help coordinate and communicate about clients and MCP members who touch both systems. In many communities, the current HMIS does not require partners to enter detailed information about people’s health care coverage or experiences in the health care system. However, there are data elements (sometimes called “data fields”) that could be added to HMIS to capture important information to track activity at the cross-section of health and homelessness.

The table below identifies data elements that are valuable for cross-sector data sharing that can better enable partners to work in a more coordinated and collaborative fashion. CoCs should consider asking their HMIS vendors to add these data fields to their local HMIS if they are not already there and should ensure providers collect the information and enter it in HMIS. Where possible, CoCs should coordinate or discuss these with their local MCPs to ensure any new data fields added to HMIS and associated technical specifications are optimized to facilitate data matching or sharing.

Data Element	Importance	Notes
<b>Enrolled in Medi-Cal?</b>	Identifies if client has health coverage through California’s Medicaid program or would benefit from help applying for Medi-Cal.	Health Insurance is a Program-Specific Data Element (4.04) required for federal reporting and so should already appear in each community’s HMIS. When an HMIS user notes in HMIS that a person is covered by health insurance, they also indicate all insurance sources that apply, one of which is Medicaid. For anyone enrolled in Medi-Cal (California’s Medicaid program), that option should be selected.
<b>Medi-Cal managed care plan</b>	For people enrolled in Medi-Cal, identifies the specific MCP for better collaboration.	In some communities, there is more than one MCP to choose from under Medi-Cal.  Some CoCs have created MCP programs in HMIS so clients can be enrolled in those programs when they are confirmed to be MCP members. This allows other information (including ECM and Community Supports – see below) to be tracked as services within those programs.
<b>Medi-Cal Client Index number (CIN)</b>	If someone’s Medi-Cal MCP is unknown, their Medi-Cal number can be used to help identify what MCP is providing them coverage. Having this number can also help CoC providers assist clients with checking on benefits and ensuring their coverage remains current.	For clients who have their Medi-Cal card, CoCs should consider scanning it and uploading it to HMIS.

Data Element	Importance	Notes
<p><b>Other insurance</b></p>	<p>Especially if someone is not enrolled in Medi-Cal, it is helpful to know if they have other insurance. If they do not have Medi-Cal or other insurance, staff can help them apply for health coverage.</p>	<p>This information should already be collected as a matter of practice by CoC providers, under Program-Specific Data Element 4.04.</p> <p>For clients who have their health insurance card, CoCs should consider scanning it and uploading it to HMIS.</p>
<p><b>Enrolled in Enhanced Care Management (ECM) through their managed care plan?</b></p> <p><b>If yes: name of ECM provider and care manager</b></p>	<p>ECM is an important benefit that provides someone to coordinate each person’s care. Knowing whether someone is enrolled in ECM and if so, who their ECM provider and care manager is, can help staff enhance coordination of services.</p>	<p>This may not be something a client will know. MCPs can provide this information to HMIS through bi-lateral data sharing. See <a href="#">Bi-lateral Data Sharing Agreement Between a Continuum of Care and Managed Care Plan</a> and <a href="#">Sample Workflow for Continuums of Care and Managed Care Plans to Conduct a Client Data Match</a> in this Toolkit.</p>
<p><b>Receiving Community Supports (CS) through their managed care plan?</b></p> <p><b>If yes, for each Community Support, what is the status (options: referred; authorized) and, if authorized, name of provider.</b></p>	<p>There are important housing-related Community Supports that clients may be receiving. Identifying the CS services they are getting from their MCP can help ensure non-duplication and maximize the services clients can receive.</p>	<p>This may not be something a client will know. MCPs can provide this information to HMIS through bi-lateral data sharing.</p> <p>This will likely require separate fields/data elements for each kind of Community Support.</p>
<p><b>Receiving any medical care through street outreach or street medicine?</b></p>	<p>CalAIM now covers medical professionals who provide services onsite at encampments and sometimes even shelters. Knowing if clients are receiving such care enhances coordination and the ability to track and update how a person is doing on the street.</p>	<p>This may be accomplished by creating Street Outreach and/or Street Medicine programs in HMIS so clients receiving services and care can be enrolled in those programs and additional details can be more easily added and tracked.</p>



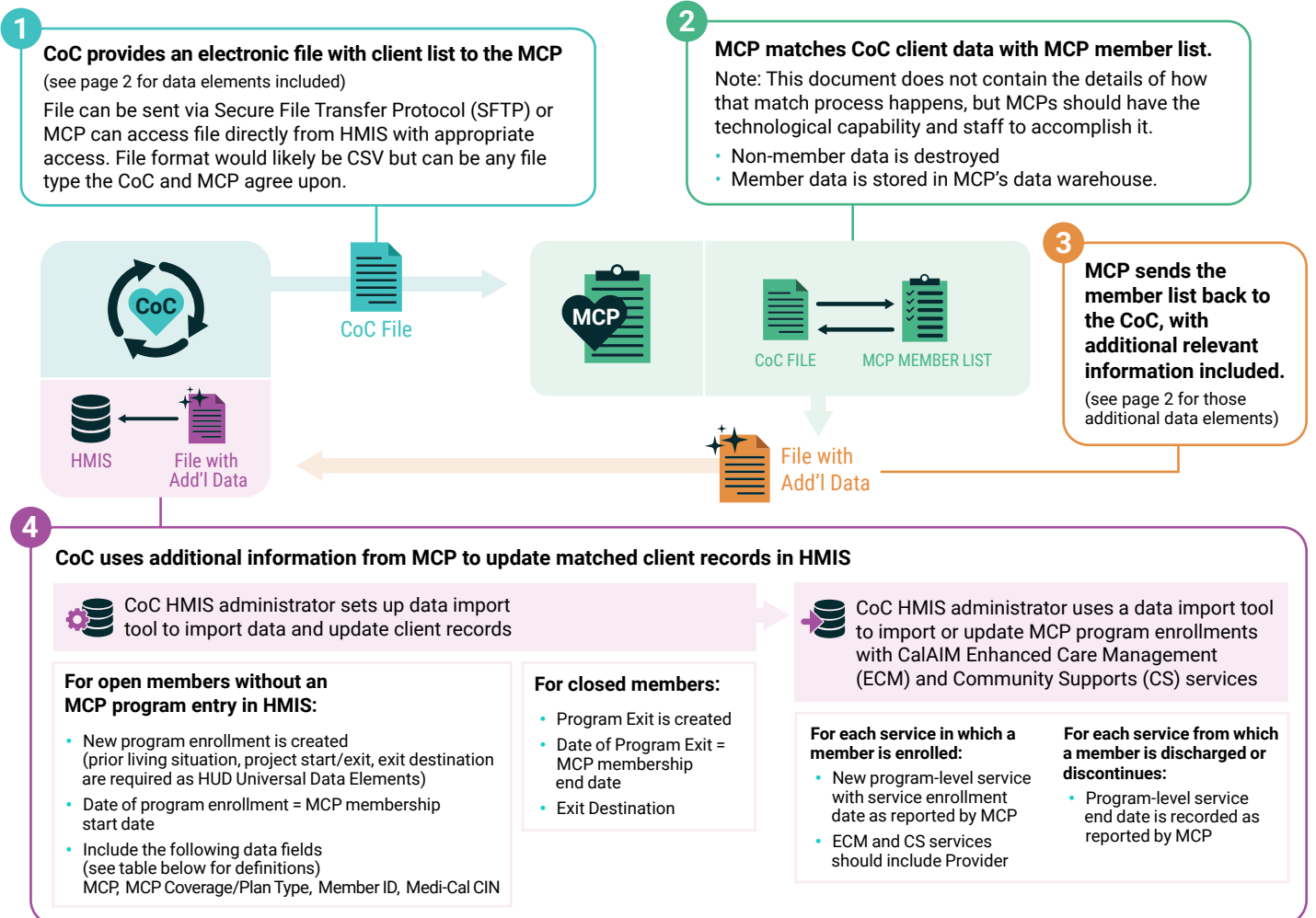
# Sample Workflow for Continuums of Care and Managed Care Plans to Conduct a Client Data Match

A critical component of cross-system care coordination is identifying people who are clients of or accessing the resources of each system. Comparing member and client lists manually can be both time consuming and may compromise the privacy of the individuals on the lists. Client information databases that can communicate directly to identify people who appear in both is ideal. However, managed care plans (MCPs) and Continuums of Care (CoCs) maintain their own client management and information systems and although some of the information contained in each system is similar, the differences in the technology and the way information is collected and stored in each make that kind of direct information exchange difficult, if not impossible.

As an alternative, CoCs and MCPs can develop relatively simple protocols to exchange and compare data using technology rather than requiring someone to manually review the information. Below is a simple workflow that CoCs and MCPs can use to accomplish this kind of client data match, as well as a list of recommended data elements to include in the matching process.

The workflow and data element lists contained in this tool are intended to provide practical guidance only, not legal advice or guidance. Each CoC and partner MCP should discuss what data they need to share to accomplish their data match and care coordination goals and should consult with County, MCP, or other legal counsel. Data sharing agreements or new or updated Releases of Information may be necessary before data matching proceeds.

## Member matching workflow:



The workflow and data element lists contained in this document are based in large part on a workflow and data element technical specifications sheet developed by the Santa Clara County, California Continuum of Care and Santa Clara Family Health Plan working together on HHIP Implementation. Homebase would like to thank them for their permission to build upon and share their work to create this resource for other communities to use.

## Information to include in client and members lists when following the workflow above

The following lists are examples for CoCs and MCPs to use to inform their own discussions and plans for conducting data matching. To protect client privacy, CoCs should only provide information that is necessary for MCPs to conduct the initial match. Similarly, MCPs should only send back additional information needed to achieve the CoC and MCP's agreed upon care coordination goals (and should take into account any applicable legal considerations). The lists below assume one such goal is coordination around CalAIM Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports (CS) referrals and utilization.

### Data elements to include in HMIS client list provided by the CoC to the MCP

The CoC should only include active clients on its list to the MCP. The CoC and MCP should also determine whether to limit the client list in any other way (e.g., to a certain date range) depending on the purposes for the data match (e.g., to meet a Homeless and Housing Incentive Program (HHIP) metric, specific kinds of care coordination, etc.).

- ▢ HMIS Client ID
- ▢ MCP Member ID (if known)
- ▢ First Name
- ▢ Middle Name
- ▢ Last Name
- ▢ Suffix
- ▢ Name Data Quality [options: full name reported; partial/street/code name; client doesn't know; client refused; data not collected]
- ▢ Date of Birth (DOB)
- ▢ DOB Data Quality [options: full DOB reported, approximate or partial DOB reported; client doesn't know; client refused; data not collected]
- ▢ Gender [options: female; male; a gender that is not singularly female or male; transgender; questioning; client doesn't know; client refused; data not collected]
- ▢ Information Date (date information was collected)

A CoC's HMIS may not contain fields for some of the information an MCP might send back for shared clients (e.g., whether the clients are enrolled in CalAIM Enhanced Care Management or even which MCP clients are enrolled with if the CoC covers a county with multiple Medi-Cal MCPs). Before the CoC can update client records with that information, changes may need to be made to accommodate it. CoCs should determine what would work best for them and their HMIS. This workflow assumes the CoC has created an MCP project within HMIS to enroll clients when they're confirmed to be an MCP member. That allows for ECM and CS information to be added as services within the project.

### Data elements for the MCP to include for each matched client when sending the list back to the CoC

- ▢ HMIS Client ID
- ▢ First Name
- ▢ Middle Name
- ▢ Last Name
- ▢ Suffix
- ▢ Date of Birth
- ▢ MCP
- ▢ MCP Coverage/Plan Type [options: Medi-Cal; Dual Eligible Special Needs Plan]
- ▢ MCP Member ID
- ▢ CIN (Medi-Cal Client Identification Number)
- ▢ MCP Date of Enrollment (Effective Date)
- ▢ MCP Date of Exit (Termination Date)
- ▢ ECM [options: enrolled; not enrolled]
- ▢ ECM Provider
- ▢ Date of Enrollment for ECM
- ▢ Date of Discharge/Discontinuation for ECM
- ▢ For each CalAIM Community Support the MCP and CoC want to coordinate around (e.g., Housing Deposits, Housing Navigation, Housing Tenancy Support, and other housing-related supports):
  - Community Support [insert name of community support] [options: enrolled; not enrolled]
  - Community Support [insert name of community support] Provider
  - Date of Enrollment
  - Date of Discharge/Discontinuation



## Background

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) prioritizes street medicine in both its Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP) and the new Medi-Cal CalAIM initiative.

CoCs should be aware of a potential increase or expansion of street medicine programs in their communities, as well as the opportunities for leveraging street-based services (e.g., coordination with homeless outreach teams, ensuring all areas of a CoC are covered, connecting street medicine patients to Coordinated Entry, etc.) This handout provides information about how DHCS defines Street Medicine for purposes of Medi-Cal coverage and HHIP so CoCs can discuss street medicine needs, programs, and coordination opportunities with their local MCPs with this critical context in mind.

In November 2022, DHCS released an All Plan Letter<sup>1</sup> (APL 22-023) that governs Medi-Cal coverage for street medicine. The APL removes many of the barriers that prevented street medicine teams from providing comprehensive care to people living unsheltered.

Before APL 22-023, there was no policy that allowed medical providers to get reimbursed for providing or referring patients to services that people living unsheltered need, unless those services were provided in their clinics, federally-qualified health centers (FQHCs), hospitals, or medical offices. Services provided where people lived with their belongings were most likely uncompensated or paid for through private foundations.

HHIP incentivizes Medi-Cal managed care plans (MCPs) to provide support for street medicine. The one-time HHIP funds can be used to provide resources to communities that wish to stand up a new, robust street medicine program or expand existing programs.

## Street Medicine Under CalAIM

The new policies reflected in APL 22-023 serve to address the “clinical and non-clinical needs” of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Of utmost importance, Medi-Cal will **pay street medicine providers for their on-site medical visits** to care for people living unsheltered.

If medical or social services are provided at shelters, mobile units or RVs, or other sites with a **fixed, specific location**, they do not qualify as street medicine for purposes of CalAIM (they may be reimbursable through other Medi-Cal initiatives). Services provided in such situations are covered as “mobile medicine,”

because they require the person experiencing homelessness to visit a health care provider at the fixed location.

However, if the mobile unit/RV goes to the individual experiencing unsheltered homelessness in their “lived environment” (e.g., on the street, at an encampment, in their tent by a river), it would be considered “street medicine.” Under the DHCS definition, delivery of medical services at a safe parking site, which is not meant for human habitation, would fit the definition of street medicine since the medical provider is providing services to an individual in their lived environment (their car). Street medicine programs are not required to be associated with a brick-and-mortar facility.

DHCS encourages MCPs to adopt their own street medicine guidelines and engage as many providers as possible in street medicine, while still maintaining high quality of care standards.

APL 22-023 allows street medicine providers to become Medi-Cal providers directly. While they recognize the value of mobile medicine, DHCS clearly states that they expect the majority of health and social services provided to individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness will be through street medicine.

While the provision of medical services on the street will be covered by Medi-Cal, the APL is silent regarding the reimbursement rates. Street medicine may be reimbursed at the same rate as services on site at a facility or medical office.

**Mobile medicine** provides care to people experiencing homelessness who live in shelters or who receive their health care some place other than their own personal “lived environment,” such as a day center or an emergency shelter.

**Street medicine** includes “[h]ealth and social services developed specifically to address the unique needs and circumstances of unsheltered homeless individuals delivered directly to these individuals in their own environment.” Street medicine is provided to an individual experiencing unsheltered homelessness in their “lived environment, places that are not intended for human habitation.”

<sup>1</sup> DHCS shares information or interpretation of changes in policies or procedures through All Plan Letters (APLs). APLs communicate how to operationalize federal or state law changes.





## Managed Care Plans & Street Medicine Options

There are multiple ways that MCPs can cover medical services to unsheltered individuals through street medicine:

- Street medicine providers assigned as the primary care providers (PCP) for the individual receiving services;
- Through a direct contract with the MCP as an Enhanced Care Management (ECM) provider;
- As a referring or treating contract provider.

### Street medicine provider as PCP

Street medicine providers are licensed medical providers<sup>2</sup> who conduct patient visits outside a clinic or hospital, "directly on the street, in environments where unsheltered individuals may be (such as those living in a car, RV, abandoned building, or other outdoor areas)." They can opt to serve as the individual's PCP in a similar fashion that ob/gyns act as PCPs. They must also:

- Meet eligibility criteria for being a PCP;
- Be qualified and capable of treating the full range of health care issues served by PCPs within their scope of practice; and
- Agree to serve in a PCP role.<sup>3</sup>

Street medicine providers are responsible for all the medical services that would be provided as a Medi-Cal PCP, including preventive services and the treatment of acute and chronic conditions. The range of services includes:

- Basic case management;
- Care coordination and health promotion;
- Support for members, their families, and their authorized representatives;
- Referral to specialists, including behavioral health, community, and social support services, when needed;
- The use of health IT to link services; and
- Provision of primary and preventative services to assigned members.

If an individual street medicine provider meets the PCP qualifications, it is up to the MCP to enroll and establish credentials for the street medicine provider.<sup>4</sup> (There also are additional administrative requirements.)

MCPs must also develop protocols that govern when PCPs identify and transfer members to a higher level of care when the member's needs are higher than the PCP can provide through the street medicine program (e.g., access to emergency medicine, specialty care, mental health services, substance use services, transportation). They need to have protocols in place for "expeditious" referrals to ECM and Community Supports. They must have policies and procedures in place that articulate their 1) process for contracting with street medicine providers; 2) process for ensuring timely access to traditional PCPs and/or specialists; and 3) process to provide transportation to traditional PCPs upon member request.

### Other requirements

All street medicine providers serving as PCPs must meet site review and medical record review requirements. If they are associated with a brick-and-mortar facility or a mobile/RV clinic, they must go through a full review. If they are not affiliated with a brick-and-mortar facility, they go through condensed review.

### Enrolling a Patient with a Street Medicine Provider

MCPs must clearly communicate with members that street medicine providers are available as PCPs. Street medicine providers must be able to call the MCP while in the company of their member/patient. The MCP must allow the member to choose the street provider as their PCP. The new process potentially overcomes a barrier that existed in the past, which required PCP approval to access a street medicine provider. However, the process of calling together to change the name of the PCP and allow for immediate coverage for services may not be as smooth practically as it is envisioned in the APL.

<sup>2</sup> Doctor (MD/OD), Physician Assistant (PA), Nurse Practitioner (NP), or Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM). For non-physicians, MCPs must ensure compliance with state law/contract requirements re: physician supervision (e.g., supervisor must be a practicing street medicine provider, with knowledge of and experience in street medicine clinical guidelines and protocols).

<sup>3</sup> Street medicine providers are exempt from meeting Medi-Cal time and distance standards, as well as the service location requirement.

<sup>4</sup> Please note that there may be some providers unable to enroll in DHCS's state-level enrollment pathway (APL 22-013) for credentialing. In those circumstances, to become an in-network provider, they must meet alternative criteria for credentialing. See APL 22-023 pages 5-6.

DHCS encourages MCPs to directly contract with street medicine providers. Direct contracts enable providers to skip having to contract with intermediary independent physician/provider associations (IPAs). The street medicine provider would also be able to directly process claims with the MCP (again, skipping the middle administrative agencies). Payments would be between the street medicine provider and the MCP; they would not have to go through a prior authorization process even if the member is assigned to an IPA or medical group for other services.

**Street medicine providers who are also ECM providers**

MCPs can contract with street medicine providers to be ECM providers. When providers are both street medicine and ECM providers, they can directly provide care management, rather than have to refer back to a PCP to do so. They can manage their patients’ housing-related supports, social services, mental health services, etc. in addition to their medical care.

**Street medicine providers who serve only as referring or treating contracted providers**

Street medicine providers are not required to take on additional roles as PCPs. They can opt to simply refer or treat through a street medicine program. To refer or treat only, the street medicine provider must have a relationship with the member’s PCP or ECM manager so that the member can get referrals to primary care, behavioral health services, and other services as needed. They also must have the ability to communicate and be responsive to care coordination and monitoring of care.

**Housing & Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP) & Street Medicine**

One of the seven priority metrics DHCS defined for HHIP relates to street medicine: Metric 2.1 – Connection with street medicine team providing health care for people who are homeless. The definition of what services are considered “street medicine” is the same as in APL 20-023.

DHCS will provide incentive fund points to MCPs who are able to report progress on street medicine efforts. Specifically, MCPs must report an increase in the proportion of their members receiving street medicine services during the first ten months of 2023 as compared to the last eight months of 2022. See [Understanding HHIP Performance Metrics](#) in this Toolkit.

For more in-depth information about street medicine efforts in California, please see [The California Street Medicine Landscape Survey and Report](#).

The main requirement for direct contracting is that the street medicine provider must have the ability to directly authorize and refer their patients to other medically necessary services through the members’ appropriate network.

If providers opt to be both ECM and street medicine providers, they must be enrolled as Medi-Cal providers and meet all of the ECM provider requirements (have the capacity to provide culturally appropriate and timely in-person care management activities; have formal agreements, IT and data systems/processes to support care coordination/care management).

Allowing non-PCP providers to offer street medicine is a significant change, in that the provider does not have to be the assigned PCP of an individual experiencing homelessness to provide care to the individual and get paid for the services.







# HHIP Expenditure Planning

## Moving Beyond the Metrics: Shifting Focus from Earning HHIP Funds to Allocating Them



Homebase

with the support of the California Health Care Foundation



As part of the Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP), Medi-Cal managed care plans (MCPs) had to submit an Investment Plan to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to demonstrate how they would achieve HHIP targets and metrics. DHCS required that the Investment Plan be designed in collaboration with MCPs' local Continuums of Care (CoC) and/or county partners. Some MCP established work groups with their local CoCs and counties, participated in CoC meetings, and held ongoing planning discussions to identify needs and gaps in the local homeless system of care.

Investment Plans were created to help MCPs and CoCs and county partners identify the activities most needed in the local community to prevent and end homelessness. The Plans also were driven by activities and investments that would best help the MCPs meet HHIP metrics. The more an activity or investment would help MCPs meet HHIP metrics, the greater potential for pulling down a high percentage of incentive funds. See [Understanding HHIP Performance Metrics](#) in this Toolkit; see also [The Housing & Homeless Incentive Program \(HHIP\)](#).

MCPs and their local CoC and county partners know the initial activities they will fund to meet HHIP metrics. Many partnerships are in the process of developing agreements and contracts to finalize initial investments and activities, most of which are intended to help the MCPs meet the HHIP metrics and maximize the amount of HHIP incentive funds they'll receive. Though not required by DHCS, the next step for MCPs and their CoC and county partners is to create an Expenditure Plan. The purpose of an Expenditure Plan is to detail the ongoing investments MCPs will make in the local community once they receive their incentive funds from DHCS.

By March 2024, up to 100% of the potential HHIP incentive funds will be distributed to each MCP. Although the funds are flexible, there is an expectation that MCPs will invest the incentive funds back into their local communities to strengthen homelessness response systems. Now is the time for MCPs and their CoC and county partners to develop Expenditure Plans, which will create a road map to invest the HHIP funds towards preventing and ending homelessness.

MCPs and partners will want to develop Expenditure Plans that consider:

- The potential total amount of incentive funds that each MCP serving the local community may be eligible for (assuming they meet all HHIP metrics during Measurement Periods 1 and 2).
- Other sources of funding that may be available in the community (federal, state, municipal, or private funds).
- The HHIP investment activities that have already been identified by the community.
- Additional gaps and needs in the community's homelessness response most in need of additional financial investment that can benefit from a one-time infusion of funding/do not require ongoing funding (e.g., start up costs for a new program, supplies, training).
- In considering the best use of one-time, flexible funding that can be most impactful in the local community, partners may want to discuss the following questions:
  - Should additional funding be placed into existing investment activities or are there other needs in the community that have yet to receive funding as part of HHIP implementation?
  - What existing strategic plans in the local community should be referenced for new ideas?
  - Are there populations or sub-populations of the community that are not currently being served or who are underserved? If so, what new investments could address their needs?
  - Are there opportunities to leverage one-time funding into more permanent investments, such as new affordable and accessible permanent housing? Can MCPs invest in rehabilitation or renovation of a building that a homeless service provider could then operate as PSH moving forward?

In addition to determining the priority areas where the incentive funds will be expended, MCPs and their CoC and county partners will want to populate their Expenditure Plan with details that set the stage for new Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs), data sharing agreements, and contracts that will be necessary to implement the plan.

**An Expenditure Plan should:**

- Be specific when identifying areas of need. It should provide details such as population impacted, amount of funding required, and expected outcomes.
- Identify how the money should flow to the local community and who should receive it to ensure the greatest impact. For example: Should it go through the CoC? The county? Individual providers? Remain with the MCP?
- Outline the processes that should be in place for providing feedback, sharing ideas with the MCPs, and revising commitments for the areas of investment in the local community.

The **chart below can be used in the initial stages of expenditure planning** to support MCPs, CoCs, counties, and other partners to brainstorm and gather input regarding potential programs and strategies that might be funded using HHIP incentive funds, as well as the gaps or needs to be addressed by each idea, the partners who discussed and reached consensus on the ideas, and additional information or next steps needed to refine the ideas.

<b>Priority Area</b>	<b>Potential Programs or Strategies</b>	<b>Gap or Need Addressed</b>	<b>Additional Information Needed or Next Steps to Refine Ideas</b>	<b>Discussion Participants</b>

Once program and strategy ideas are agreed upon by relevant partners, the simple **Expenditure Plan template below** can be used to capture the community's initial plan for HHIP incentive award funds received. Additional columns can be added as needed (e.g., to indicate the targeted population, responsible parties, status, next steps, etc.), and communities may find that implementation plans may be useful for specific strategies.

<b>Program or Strategy</b>	<b>Description of Activities</b> (2-3 sentences per activity)	<b>Funding to be Allocated</b> (\$ amount or percentage of total HHIP award)	<b>Intended Funding Recipient(s)</b> [or whether an RFP or similar process should be used to identify recipient(s)]	<b>Goals, Performance Metrics, and Timeline</b>

---

## **Report/Discussion Item 7: California’s Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS) Overview and Santa Cruz County Data**

---

California’s Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS) launched in April of 2021 as a statewide data repository for Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data from 44 CoCs throughout California. The state maintains a publicly accessible website with some statewide and CoC-specific data visible on the site - [Homeless Data Integration System - California Interagency Council on Homelessness](#). Access to more detailed HDIS data at the CoC level is only available to designated staff members within a given CoC.

Housing for Health Division staff will provide an overview of the HDIS data and review Santa Cruz County specific data available through this system.

Attachments associated with this item include:

- (A) Technical Information about HDIS from the California Interagency Council on Homelessness
- (B) Santa Cruz County specific data reports from the local HDIS access portal

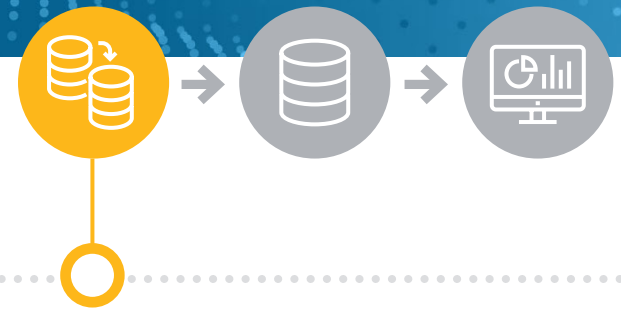
# Technical information about HDIS

The Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS) is a statewide data warehouse that combines and processes data from the 44 local homelessness response systems in California.

HDIS enables the state to provide technical assistance for its local partners, to inform planning decisions, and to coordinate resources to more effectively prevent and end homelessness.

This document provides a behind-the-scenes view into the technology and processes that make HDIS.





# Moving the data

**1** California's homelessness response system is organized into 44 separate regional planning bodies called Continuums of Care (CoC). Each CoC maintains a separate local homeless management information system (HMIS). Local homeless services providers within the CoC enter data on clients who access services.

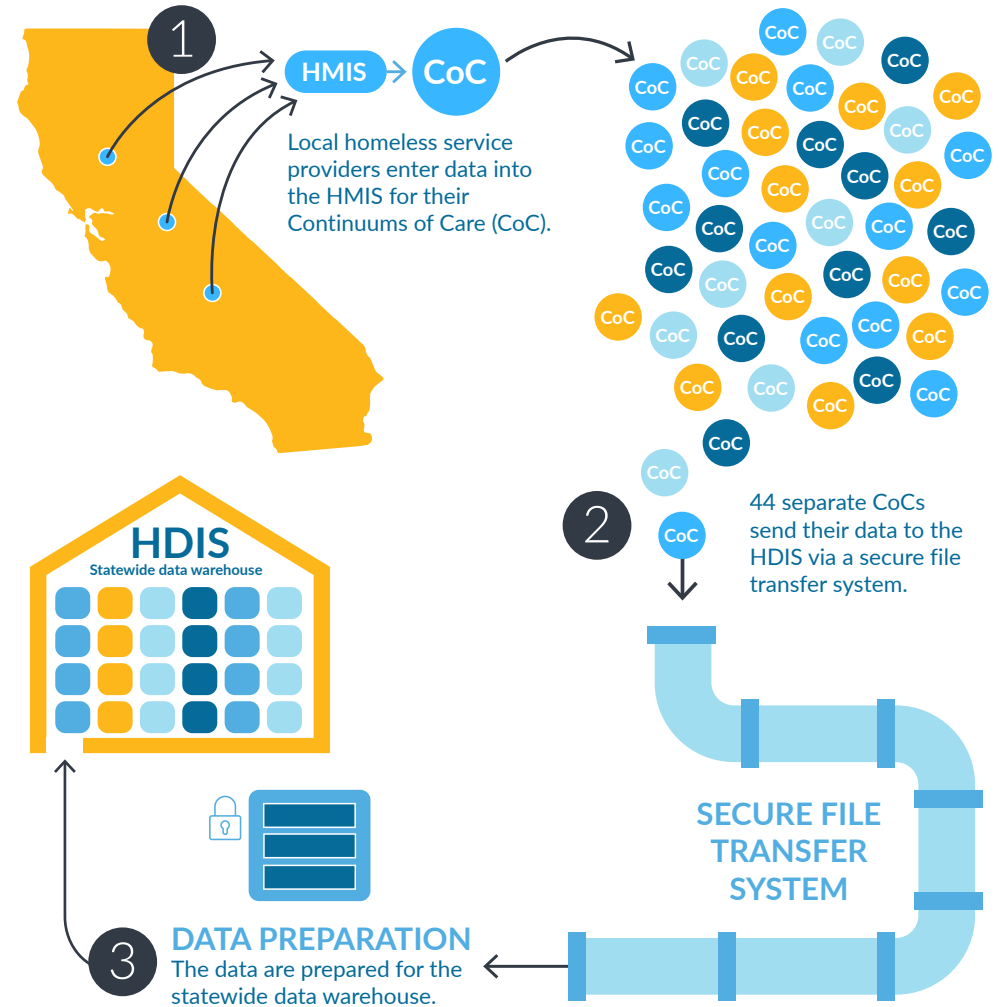
**2** On a regular schedule, each CoC pulls data from their HMIS and sends them to HDIS via a secure file transfer system. The data are complex, with thousands of records organized into dozens of relational database tables.

**3** HDIS then prepares the data for analysis and visualization.



## Securing the data

The HDIS ensures data privacy in many ways. For example, multifactor authentication, secure socket layer encryption during data transfer, and encrypting data on servers.





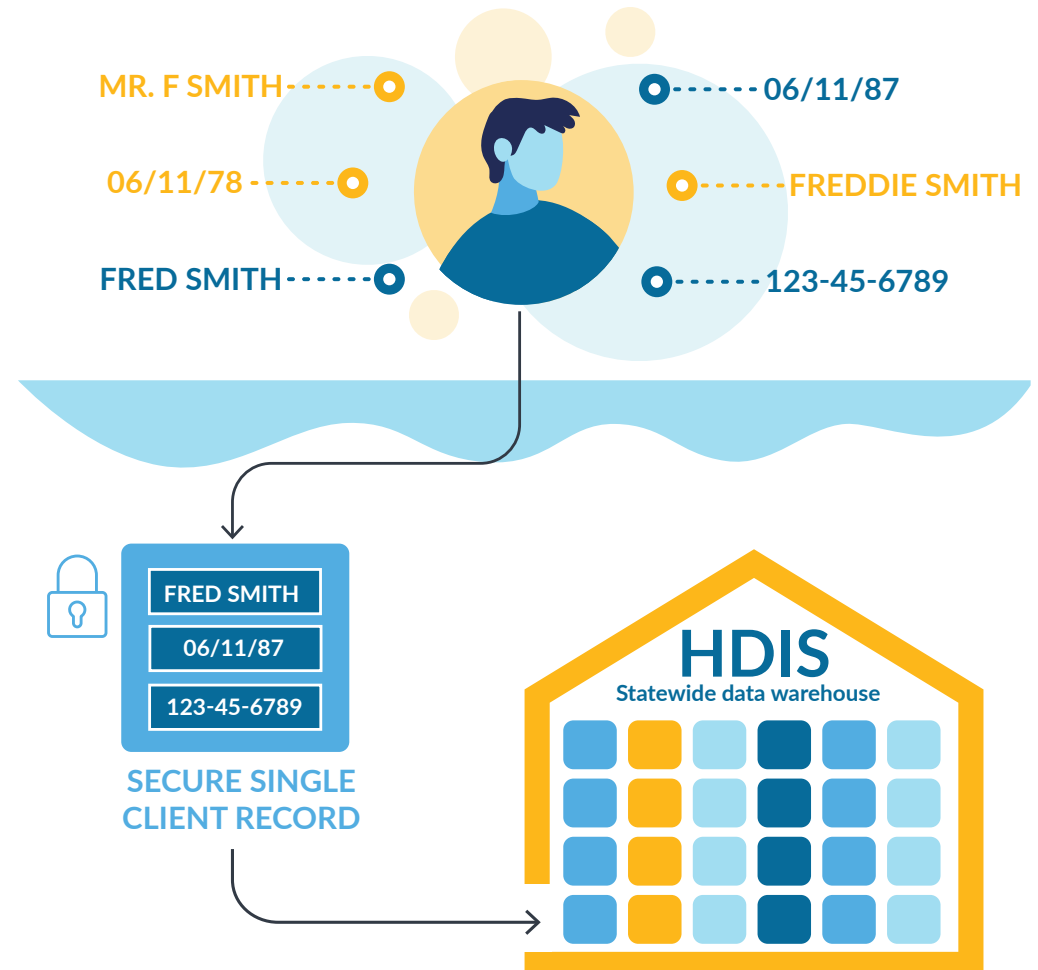


# Preparing the data

Each CoC maintains its data using slightly different conventions. Before the data can be effectively used by HDIS, they need to be checked for accuracy and standardized. The process is called “data cleansing.”

Part of data cleansing is identity resolution, using a method called master data management (MDM), to apply a set of rules that check and validate matches by cross-matching records, flagging errors, and combining duplicate entries. The end result is a single, standardized record for each client.

The cleaned and matched data are then placed into a statewide data warehouse – the central repository for HDIS – where the data are structured in a way to best answer questions by analysts, data scientists, and others.



## Ensuring data accuracy

Data from CoCs may contain multiple records belonging to the same client. Drawing from Department of Housing and Urban Development standards and MDM best practices, the HDIS team set up a system of exact and probabilistic rules to compare pairs of records. Records with a high level of similarity are matched and merged together. This ensures that people are counted accurately in HDIS analysis.





# Visualizing and analyzing the data

The final stage is seeing the data in action. HDIS data comes to life for policy makers, analysts and the public in two ways: through visualizations and analytics.

## 1 VISUALIZATIONS

Visualizations help people easily access the information in HDIS. Visualizing data reveals trends and insights that can improve the state's response to preventing and ending homelessness.



## 2 ANALYTICS

At the heart of HDIS is the data lake, which enables the state to employ robust data modeling, statistics, and analytics in a safe and secure manner.

HDIS is extensible and compatible with additional features such as automated connectors.

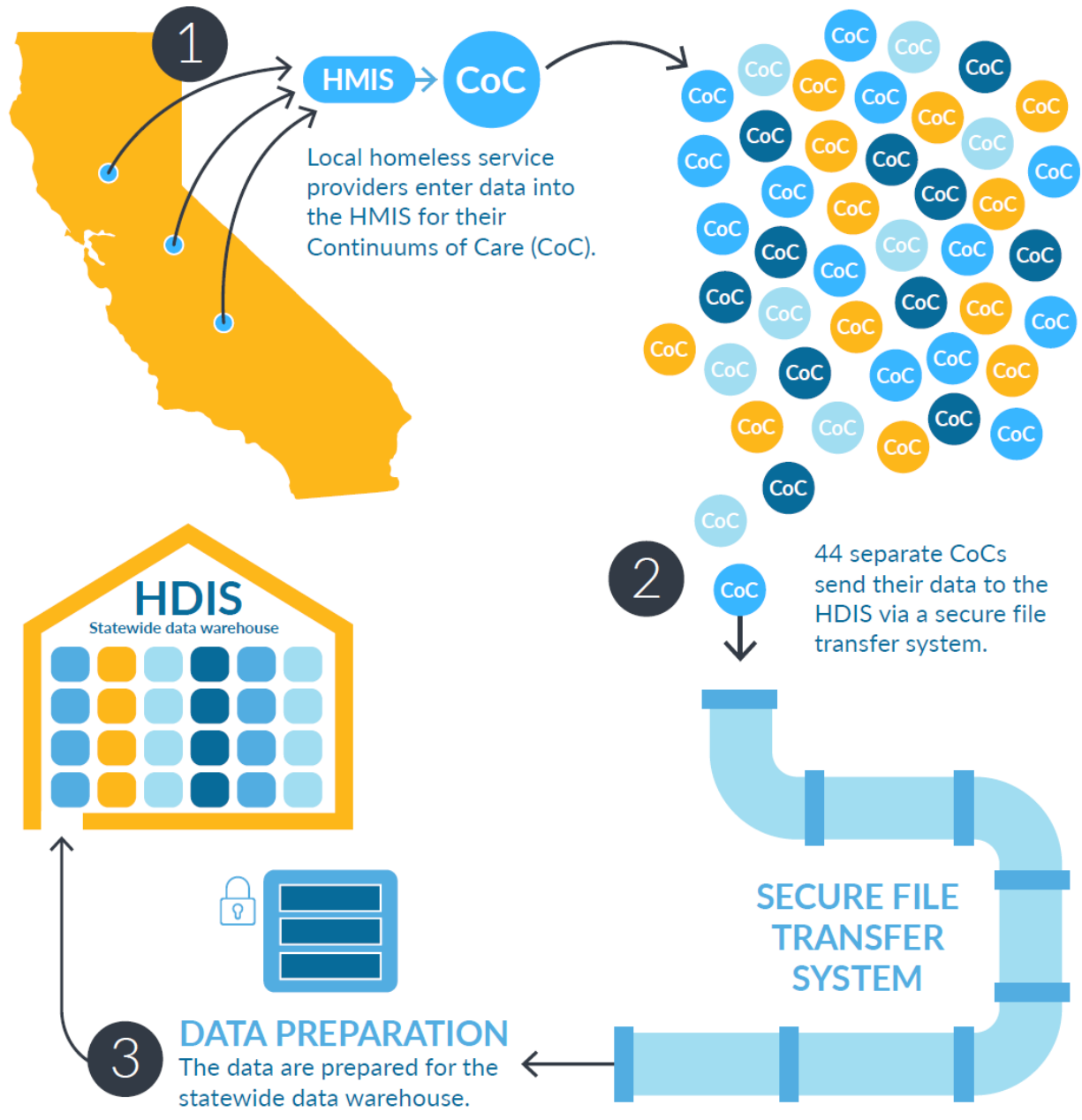


### Ensuring privacy

All personal information in HDIS is protected against unauthorized use and disclosure in strict accordance with applicable law. Information used in visualizations has been de-identified, which ensures that individuals experiencing homelessness can't be singled out.

### Where can I go to learn more?

Additional details and data visualizations are available on the [HDIS website](#).



# Annual Snapshot: People Experiencing Homelessness who Entered and Exited CA-508

Select a Calendar Year  
2022

### Throughout 2022...

**1,123**  
People experiencing homelessness were in the system on January 1



**704**  
People experiencing homelessness entered the system with no prior record of homelessness



**233**  
People experiencing homelessness re-entered the system



### At the end of 2022...

**1,014**  
People in the system were still experiencing homelessness



**523**  
People moved into permanent housing



**296**  
People exited the system into homelessness



**227**  
People exited to other temporary or unknown destinations



Source: HDIS  
At the end of the year, people in your CoC's system who were still experiencing homelessness had not exited services and had not obtained permanent housing. People who exited the system into homelessness had stopped receiving services and exited your CoC's homelessness response system to sheltered or unsheltered homelessness. In order to accurately calculate the number of people experiencing homelessness with no prior record of homelessness based on the previous 24 months, data for this dashboard are only available beginning in 2018.

Note: ".Full Download - Annual Snapshot Inflows and Outflows" is the recommended data download option.

[Back to Welcome Page](#)

[Download Image](#)

[Download PPT](#)

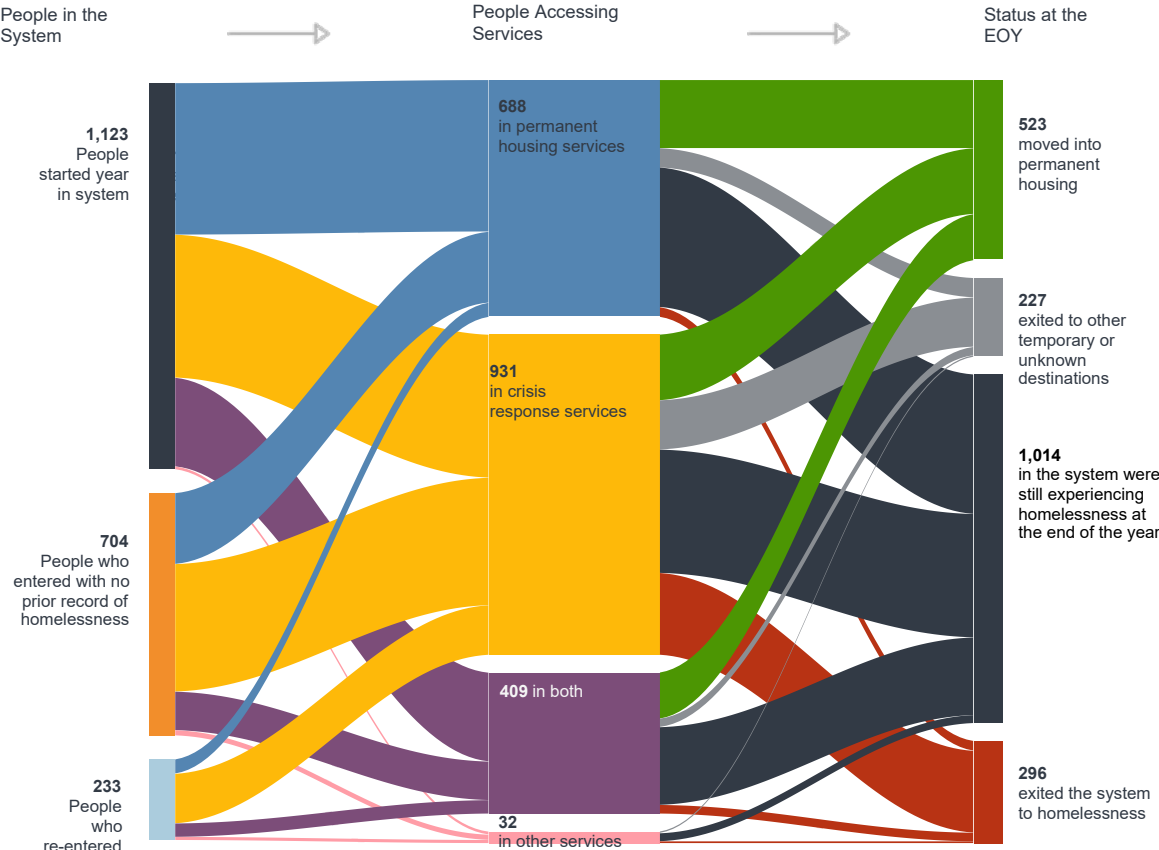
[Download PDF](#)

[Data Download](#)

# Annual Snapshot: Progression of People Experiencing Homelessness through CA-508

Select a Calendar Year  
2022

During 2022, **2,060** people were in CA-508 experiencing homelessness (People in the System), accessed a variety of services (People Accessing Services) and either continued to access services or exited the CoC at the end of the year (Status at the EOY).



Source: HDIS  
 This visualization shows services accessed by people during only the calendar year in question. People in the visualization may have accessed different services in earlier and/or subsequent years.  
 In order to accurately calculate the number of people who entered the system with no prior record of homelessness based on the previous 24 months, data for this dashboard are only available beginning in 2018. People in Other Services includes project types of 'null' and 'unknown.'

Note: ".Full Download - Annual Snapshot Progression Through Services" is the recommended data download option.

[Back to Welcome Page](#)     
 [Download Image](#)     
 [Download PPT](#)     
 [Download PDF](#)     
 [Data Download](#)

## People and Households Accessing Services in CA-508 during 1/1/2022 - 12/31/2022

Select a Start Date  
1/1/2022

Select an End Date  
12/31/2022

**4,657**

Total People

**3,289**

Total Households

### Number of People and Households Accessing Services by Project Type

Select project type to view numbers by organization

	People	# of Households by Type			
		Adult Only	Child Only	Adult with Children	Unknown
Coordinated Entry	1,995	1,432	26	153	0
Emergency Shelter	1,115	666	3	110	85
Homelessness Prevention	691	148	1	135	1
Permanent Supportive Housing	199	130	3	17	1
Rapid Re-Housing	1,202	378	2	267	3
Services Only	1,356	1,244	33	22	3
Street Outreach	160	158	0	0	1
Transitional Housing	129	14	0	28	0

Source: HDIS

Subpopulation counts (e.g. people across project types) will not add up to total counts (e.g. total people). People and households may access multiple services across different project types.

Note: "Full Download - People and Households Accessing Services" is the recommended data download option.

[Back to Welcome Page](#)

[Download Image](#)

[Download PPT](#)

[Download PDF](#)

[Data Download](#)



## Characteristics of People Accessing Services in CA-508

Select a Start Date  
1/1/2022

Select an End Date  
12/31/2022

Select Household Type(s)  
All

Select Project Type(s)  
All

Date Range: **1/1/2022 - 12/31/2022**

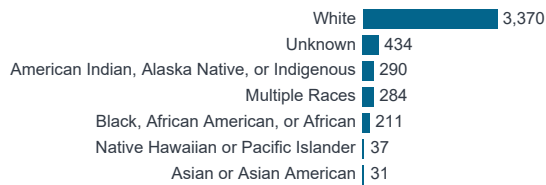
Household Type(s): **All**

Project Type(s): **All**

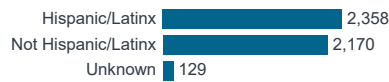
If no data appears, then filter criteria is too restrictive

**4,657** people accessing services reflected the following characteristics:

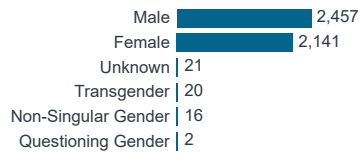
### Race



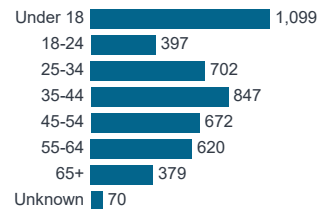
### Ethnicity



### Gender



### Age



**6.0%**  
identified as **veterans**

212 of 3,526 adults

**31.5%**  
were identified as **chronically homeless**

1,132 of 3,588 adults and heads of households

**22.9%**  
reported having experienced **domestic violence**

1,068 of 4,657 people

### Health Conditions

**43.8%** of people self identified as having **at least one disabling condition and/or health condition**

2,038 of 4,657 people

Number of people who self-identified as having the following health conditions



Source: HDIS

Disabling condition is a HUD universal data element asked of all people who enter the system. Specific conditions (e.g. physical disability) are common data elements, which are not always requested of people who enter the system. Interpret the specific health conditions with caution; these numbers are likely under-representations of the true number of individuals with each specific condition in your system. Per HUD standards, veteran status is determined only for adults; chronically homeless status is determined for adults and heads of households; domestic violence and disabling condition statuses are determined for all people.

Note: ".Full Download - Characteristics of People Accessing Services" is the recommended data download option.

[Back to Welcome Page](#)

[Download Image](#)

[Download PPT](#)

[Download PDF](#)

[Data Download](#)



## Racial Equity Analysis: CoC Overview

Use this Racial Equity Analysis tool to help you identify where racial disparities exist in within your CoC. Use the Analysis Tips in each section to help you understand how to interpret the analysis and use that information to take action locally.

In **CA-508 Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County CoC**, people of the following racial/ethnic groups disproportionately experienced homelessness in **2021**:



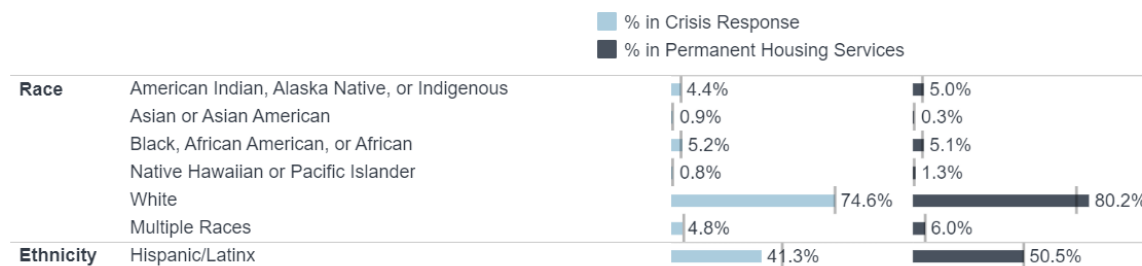
### Racial/Ethnic Disparities in People Experiencing Homelessness

Racial/Ethnic categories where the difference between % in General Population and % of People Experiencing Homelessness (PEH) is greater than 3 percentage points (maximum of 3 groups shown below)

	Hispanic/Latinx	White	American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous
General Population	34.1%	69.5%	0.7%
Below Poverty Level	42.8%	60.5%	1.1%
People Experiencing Homelessness	46.4%	76.8%	4.7%

### Percent of All People Accessing Crisis Response or Permanent Housing Services by Racial/Ethnic Group in 2021

Compared to Percent of All People Accessing Services by Racial/Ethnic Group



"Crisis Response Services" include Coordinated Entry, Homelessness Prevention, Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing. "Permanent Housing Services" include Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing services only.

### Percent of All People who Exited or Moved into Permanent Housing by Racial/Ethnic Group in 2021

Compared to Percent of All People Accessing Services by Racial/Ethnic Group



Sources: HDIS and American Community Survey (ACS) 2017-2021 5-Year Estimates Subject Tables. Information displayed for 2021.

Notes: ".Full Download - Racial Equity Overview" is the recommended data download option.

# Racial Disparities in Homelessness

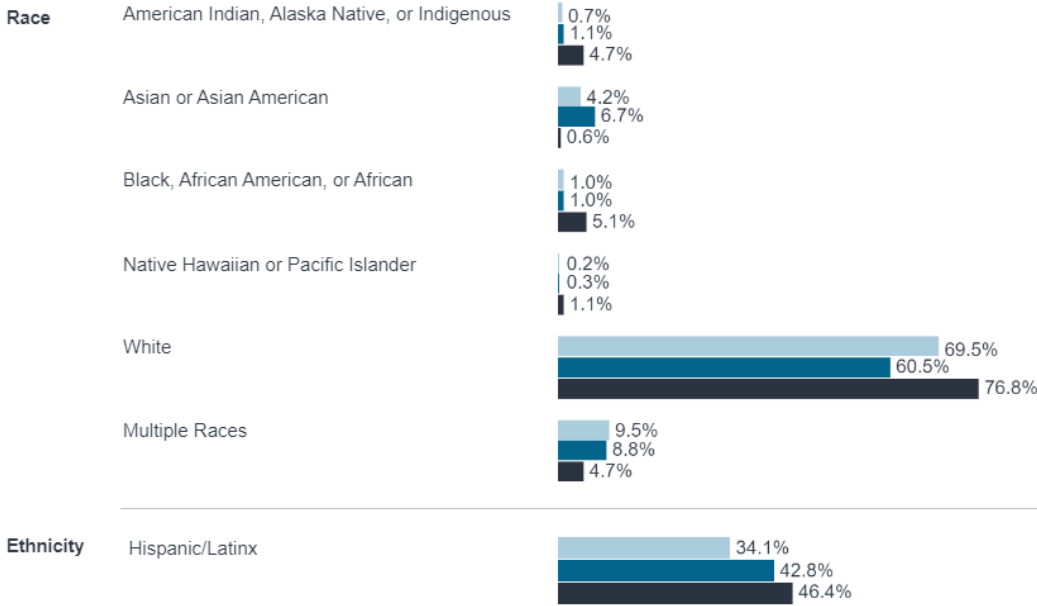
Select a Calendar Year

2021



Race and Ethnicity of those experiencing homelessness compared to the general population and those living below the poverty line in **CA-508 Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County CoC** in **2021**.

- General Population
- Below Poverty Level
- People Experiencing Homelessness



Sources: Percent of general population and percent of people living below poverty level extracted from American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates; Percent of people experiencing homelessness extracted from HDIS. The US Census Bureau defines people living below the poverty line for the ACS using a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition. If a family's total income is less than the family's threshold, then that family and every individual in it is considered in poverty. The official poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but they are updated for inflation using the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U)." (<https://www.census.gov/topics/income-poverty/poverty/guidance/poverty-measures.html>). "People experiencing homelessness" includes only people known to be experiencing homelessness who accessed services in the CoC. Please note that because these estimates of people experiencing homelessness are obtained from local HMIS, people experiencing unsheltered homelessness may be underrepresented.

Sources: HDIS and American Community Survey (ACS) 2017-2021 5-Year Estimates Subject Tables Information displayed through 2021.

## Racial Disparities in Crisis Response Services

Select Gender

All

Select a Calendar Year

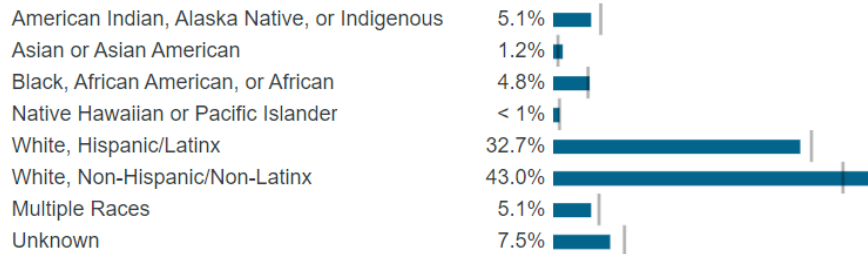
2022



### Coordinated Entry

#### Percent of All People Accessing Coordinated Entry Services by Racial/Ethnic Group

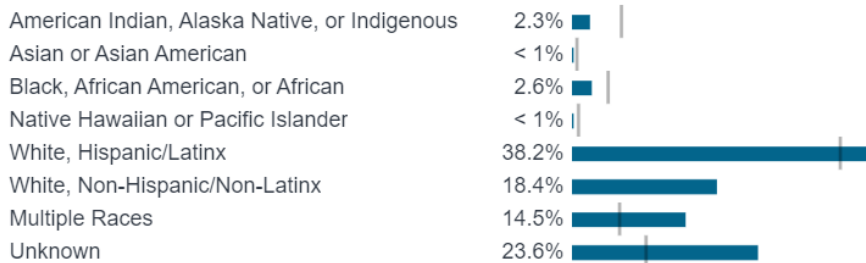
Compared to Percent of All People Accessing Services by Racial/Ethnic Group



### Homelessness Prevention

#### Percent of All People Accessing Homelessness Prevention Services by Racial/Ethnic Group

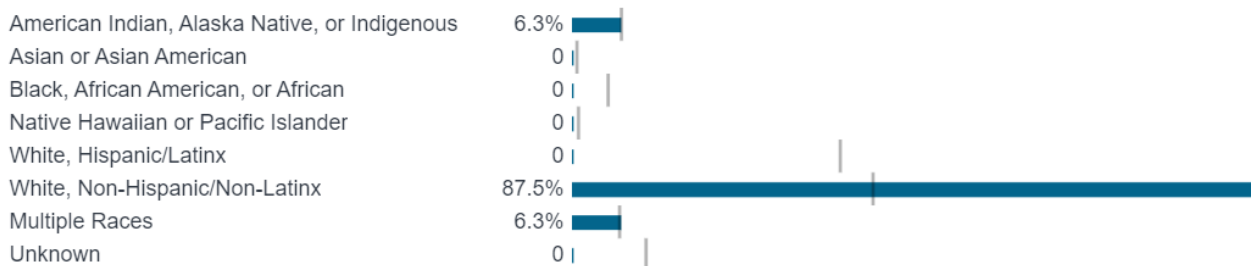
Compared to Percent of All People Accessing Services by Racial/Ethnic Group



### Street Outreach

#### Percent of All People Accessing Street Outreach Services by Racial/Ethnic Group

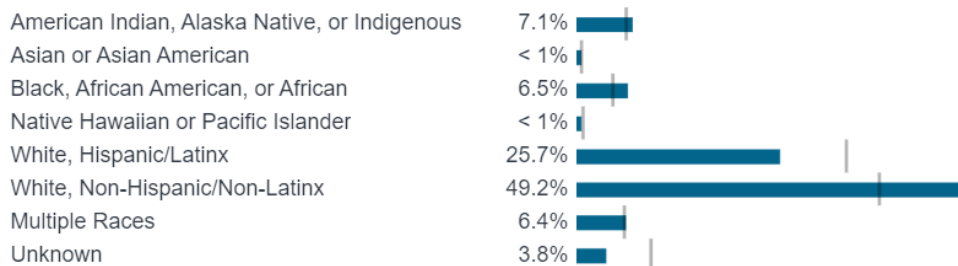
Compared to Percent of All People Accessing Services by Racial/Ethnic Group



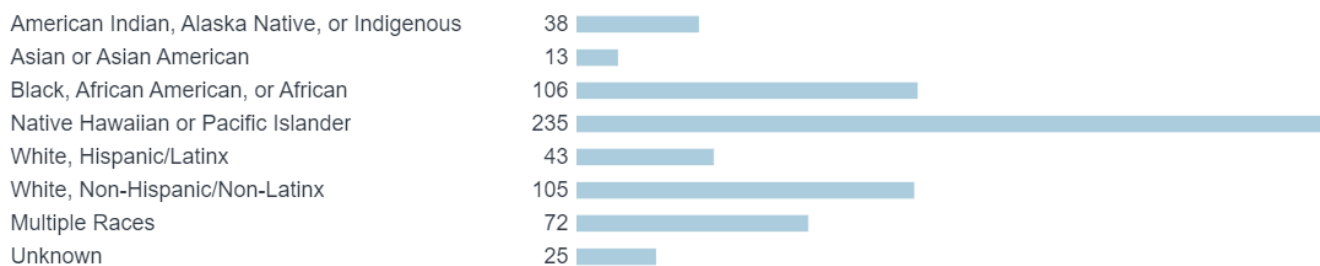
## Emergency Shelter/Safe Haven

### Percent of All People Accessing Emergency Shelter/Safe Haven Services by Racial/Ethnic Group

Compared to Percent of All People Accessing Services by Racial/Ethnic Group



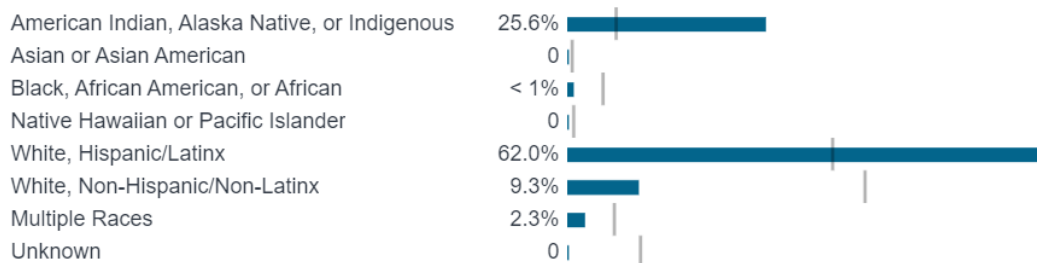
### Median Number of Days in Emergency Shelter/Safe Haven by Race/Ethnicity



## Transitional Housing

### Percent of All People Accessing Transitional Housing Services by Racial/Ethnic Group

Compared to Percent of All People Accessing Services by Racial/Ethnic Group



Source: HDIS

In the Median Number of Days plots, "No Data" indicates that no data exist within the racial/ethnic group and thus no median day metric could be calculated. When 0 appears, this means the median number of days for this racial/ethnic group is 0.

In the Racial/Ethnic Distribution plots, "No Data" indicates that no data exist within the entire visualization. When 0 appears, this means there are 0 people in the racial/ethnic group, but some data do exist within the visualization (i.e., in other racial/ethnic groups).

# Racial Disparities in Permanent Housing Services

Select Gender

All

Select a Calendar Year

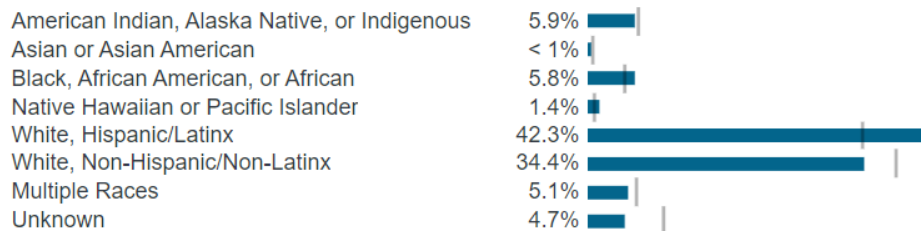
2022



## Rapid Rehousing

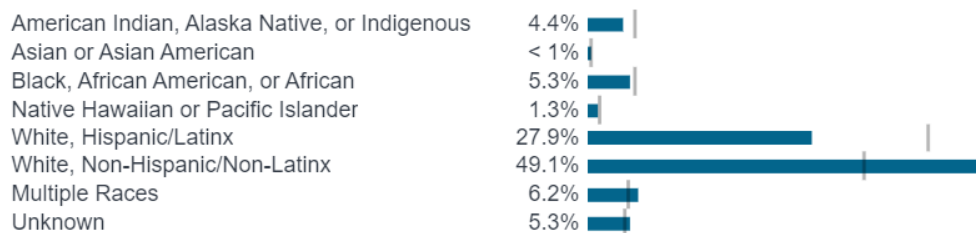
### Percent of All People Accessing Rapid Rehousing by Racial/Ethnic Group

Compared to Percent of All People Accessing Services by Racial/Ethnic Group

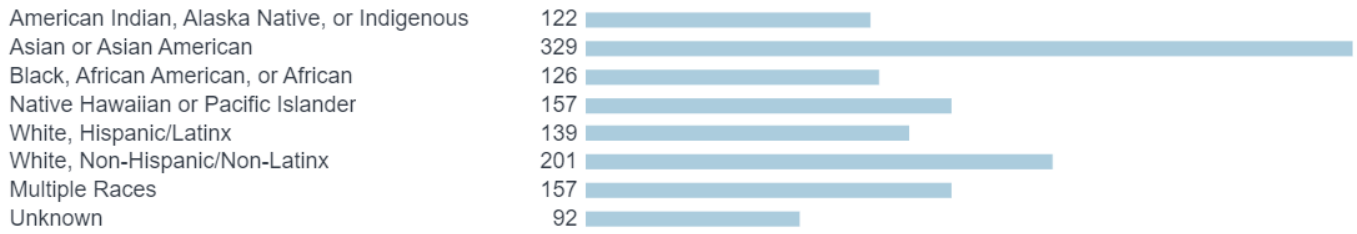


### Percent of All People with a Move-In to Permanent Housing from Rapid Rehousing by Racial/Ethnic Group

Compared to Percent of All People Accessing Rapid Rehousing by Racial/Ethnic Group



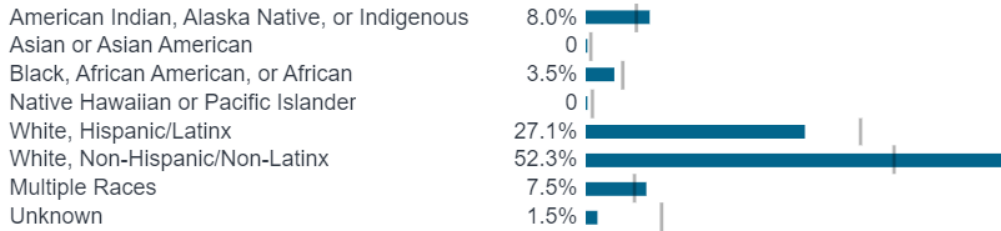
### Median Number of Days in Rapid Rehousing Pre-Move In by Race/Ethnicity



### Permanent Supportive Housing

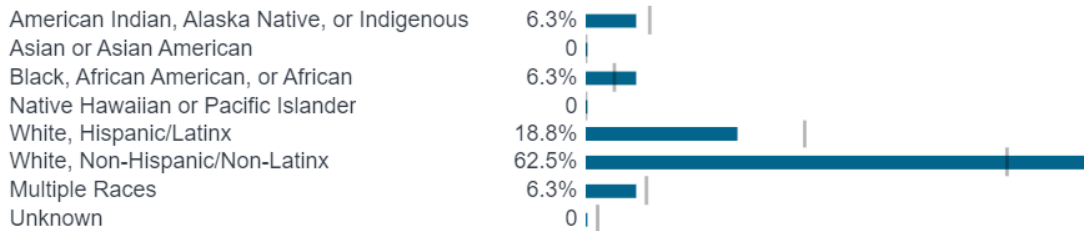
#### Percent of All People Accessing Permanent Supportive Housing by Racial/Ethnic Group

Compared to Percent of All People Accessing Services by Racial/Ethnic Group

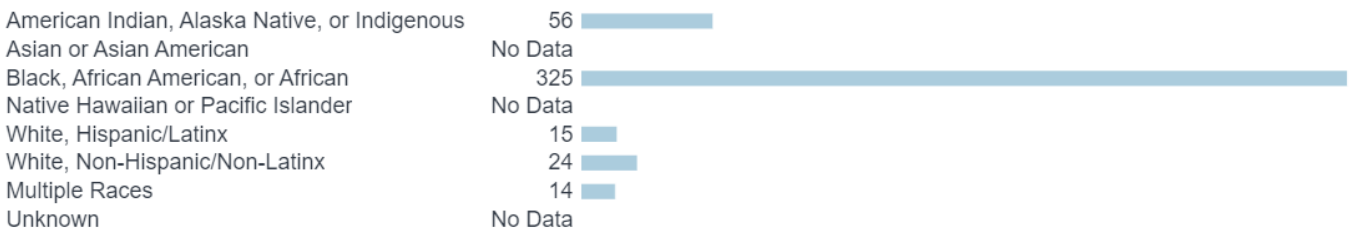


#### Percent of All People with a Move-In to Permanent Housing from Permanent Supportive Housing by Racial/Ethnic Group

Compared to Percent of All People Accessing Permanent Supportive Housing by Racial/Ethnic Group



### Median Number of Days in Permanent Supportive Housing Pre-Move In by Race/Ethnicity



Source: HDIS

In the Median Number of Days plots, "No Data" indicates that no data exist within the racial/ethnic group and thus no median day metric could be calculated. When 0 appears, this means the median number of days for this racial/ethnic group is 0.

In the Racial/Ethnic Distribution plots, "No Data" indicates that no data exist within the entire visualization. When 0 appears, this means there are 0 people in the racial/ethnic group, but some data do exist within the visualization (i.e., in other racial/ethnic groups).



# Racial Disparities in Exits and Returns

Select Gender

All

Select a Calendar Year

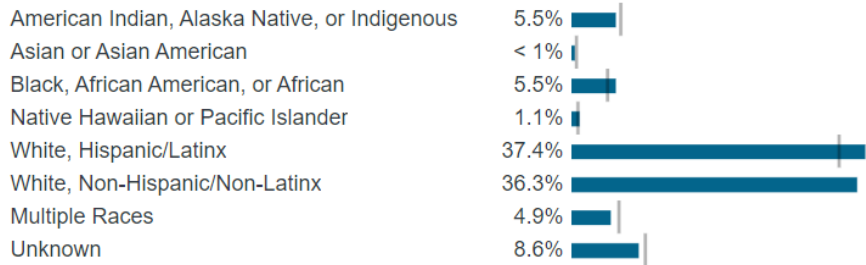
2022



## Exits into Permanent Housing

### Percent of All People who Exited or Moved into Permanent Housing by Racial/Ethnic Group

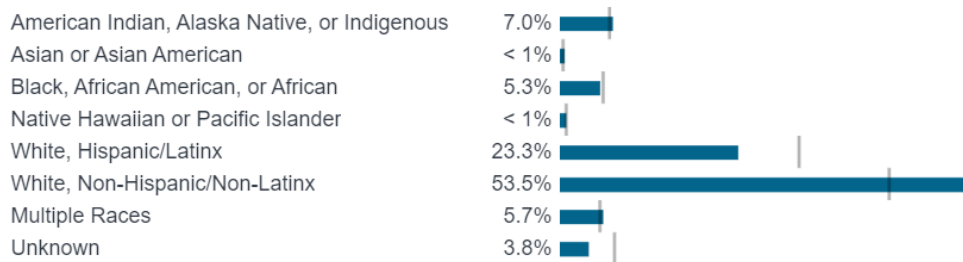
Compared to Percent of All People Accessing Services by Racial/Ethnic Group



## Exits into Homelessness

### Percent of All People with an Exit to Homelessness by Racial/Ethnic Group

Compared to Percent of All People Accessing Services by Racial/Ethnic Group



Source: HDIS

In the Racial/Ethnic Distribution plots, "No Data" indicates that no data exist within the entire visualization. When 0 appears, this means there are 0 people in the racial/ethnic group, but some data do exist within the visualization (i.e., in other racial/ethnic groups).

Exit Destinations

### Exit Destinations of People Accessing Services in CA-508

Select a Start Date  
1/1/2022

Select an End Date  
12/31/2022

Select a Household Type  
All

Select a Project Type  
All

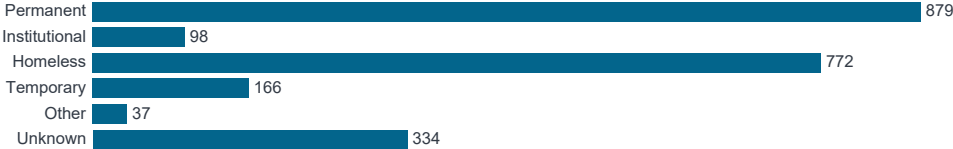
Select an Organization Name  
All

Date Range: **1/1/2022 - 12/31/2022**  
Household Type(s): **All**  
Project Type(s): **All**  
Organization(s): **All**

**1,940**  
people exited **CA-508**

#### Number of People Exited by Destination Category

Select destination category to view detailed list of destinations contained within



Source: HDIS

Note: ".Full Download - Exit Destinations" is the recommended data download option.

[Back to Welcome Page](#)

[Download Image](#)

[Download PPT](#)

[Download PDF](#)

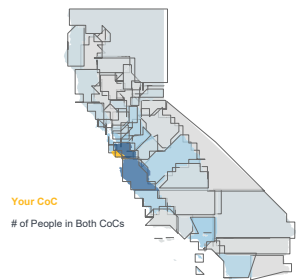
[Data Download](#) 

# People Who Accessed Services in Your and Another CoC

Select a Start Date  
1/1/2022

Select an End Date  
12/31/2022

Of the **4,657** people served in CA-508 Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County CoC, **448 (9.6%)** accessed services in at least one other CoC in between **1/1/2022 - 12/31/2022**



CA-500 San Jose/Santa Clara City & County CoC	155
CA-506 Salinas/Monterey, San Benito Counties CoC	127
CA-501 San Francisco CoC	28
CA-512 Daly City/San Mateo County CoC	21
CA-600 Los Angeles City & County CoC	20
CA-502 Oakland, Berkeley/Alameda County CoC	20
CA-510 Turlock, Modesto/Stanslaus County CoC	13
CA-614 San Luis Obispo County CoC	12
CA-514 Fresno City & County/Madera County CoC	12
CA-511 Stockton/San Joaquin County CoC	12
CA-601 San Diego City & County CoC	11
CA-507 Marin County CoC	11
CA-503 Sacramento City & County CoC	11

Note: To select a comparison CoC and filter the table below, use the "Select a Comparison CoC" drop-down menu below the gray line.

## Detailed Comparison

Select a Comparison CoC  
CA-500 San Jose/Santa Clara City & County CoC

Of the **4,657** people served in CA-508 Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County CoC, **155** people (or **3.3%**) were also served in CA-500 San Jose/Santa Clara City & County CoC

## Matrix Depicting Services Accessed

Click number to filter demographics table (below). Press the Esc key to cancel.

		CA-508 Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County CoC						
		HP	SO	ES/SH	RRH	PSH	SSO	CE/CA
CA-500 San Jose/Santa Clara City & County CoC	HP	2		1	8		3	2
	SO	1	3	2	1		6	10
	ES/SH	5	1	27	28		19	41
	TH			7	4		1	7
	RRH			3	2		1	2
	PSH				1			4
	OPH			2	7			8
	SSO		3	9	7		15	18
	CE/CA	3	6	26	22	1	24	47
	Other							3

Key:  
Homelessness Prevention (HP); Street Outreach (SO); Emergency Shelter/Safe Haven (ES/SH); Transitional Housing (TH); Rapid Rehousing (RRH); Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH); Other Permanent Housing (OPH); Services Only (SSO); Day Shelter (DS); Coordinated Entry/Coordinated Assessment (CE/CA); Other.

## Demographics and Household Characteristics

About the **155** People who accessed services in both CA-508 Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County CoC: **All Services**  
CA-500 San Jose/Santa Clara City & County CoC: **All Services**

## People by Household Type



**27**  
identified as **veterans**

**51**  
were identified as **chronically homeless**

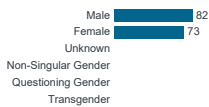
## Race



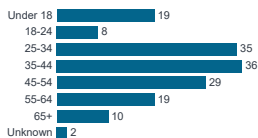
## Ethnicity



## Gender



## Age



Source: HDIS  
CoC boundaries are drawn from the most recent HUD data (2020 at the time of release). Nevada County became an independent CoC (separated from the Placer/Nevada Counties CoC) in 2019. To get information about people accessing services in Nevada County area prior to 2019, please select Placer County CoC as the comparison CoC.

Note: \* Full Download - Accessing Multiple CoCs\* and \*Full Download - Summary Accessing Multiple CoCs\* are the recommended data download option.