

DATE: June 4, 2025

Behavioral Health Information Notice No: 25-021

TO: California Alliance of Child and Family Services
California Association for Alcohol/Drug Educators
California Association of Alcohol & Drug Program Executives, Inc.
California Association of DUI Treatment Programs
California Association of Social Rehabilitation Agencies
California Consortium of Addiction Programs and Professionals
California Council of Community Behavioral Health Agencies
California Hospital Association
California Opioid Maintenance Providers
California State Association of Counties
Coalition of Alcohol and Drug Associations
County Behavioral Health Directors
County Behavioral Health Directors Association of California
County Drug & Alcohol Administrators

SUBJECT: Mental Health Services Act County Population

PURPOSE: To inform counties of the data used to determine a county's population for the purposes of calculating the reversion period of Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funds distributed to a county in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26

REFERENCE: Welfare and Institutions Code Section 5892(h) and California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 9, Sections 3420.50 and 3420.55

BACKGROUND:

Welfare and Institutions Code section 5892(h) requires MHSA funds distributed to a county to revert to the state and be deposited in the Reversion Account if the county has not spent the funds within a specified period-of-time (i.e., reversion period). The reversion period depends upon the county's population and the program component.

Title 9, CCR section 3420.50 provides information on the reversion period for funds distributed to a county with a population of 200,000 or more; Title 9, CCR section 3420.55 provides information on the reversion period for funds distributed to a county with a population of less than 200,000.

Behavioral Health Information Notice No: 25-021

Page 2

June 4, 2025

POLICY:

To determine the county population, DHCS uses Department of Finance county population estimates data as of January 1 as reported in [State of California, Department of Finance, E-1. Cities, Counties and the State Population Estimates with Annual Percentage Change](#). For example, DHCS will use the January 1, 2025, estimate to determine the county population size and reversion period for funds distributed in FY 2025-26.

The City of Berkeley population data is extracted from within Alameda County. Tri-City population data is extracted from within Los Angeles County and includes the population from Claremont, La Verne and Pomona. Alameda County and Los Angeles County population has been decreased to account for City of Berkeley and Tri-City populations.

Enclosure 1, Population Estimates, January 1, 2025, is provided to assist counties with determining the population size for FY 2025-26.

Please send any questions regarding this Information Notice to MHSA@dhcs.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Marlies Perez, Chief
Community Services Division

Enclosure