



BHT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

SU-1: Deaths by Suicide

FY 23-24 Rates

As part of California's Behavioral Health Transformation (BHT), the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has developed BHT performance measures intended to capture progress on 14 statewide behavioral health (BH) goals. These performance measures will be used for transparency, planning, population health, and—over time and as appropriate—performance targets will be enforced. Additional details can be found in the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) County [Policy Manual](#) and in the BHT Performance Measures [Specifications Manual](#).

This document contains the official fiscal year (FY) 23-24 rates for the following BHT performance measure:

Measure Details	Description
Measure Name	Deaths by Suicide (SUIDEATH)
Measure Description	Age-adjusted rate (per 100,000) of people 10 years of age and older enrolled in Medi-Cal who died by suicide at any point in a 12-month period.
Measure Background	This novel measure calculates the rate of fatal suicides among people enrolled in Medi-Cal or receiving other county BH services ¹ in a 12-month period. This measure currently includes only Medi-Cal members, but DHCS is

¹ In addition to Medi-Cal members, DHCS will explore over time including people who receive county BH services but are not enrolled in Medi-Cal. This includes, but is not limited to, services funded by the BHSA, 1991 and 2011 Realignment, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)'s Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness, Mental Health Block Grants, and Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services Block Grants. This specification only includes Medi-Cal members. DHCS will explore whether non-Medi-Cal recipients of county BH services could be incorporated into the eligible population of this measure at a future date.

Measure Details	Description
	exploring including non-Medi-Cal members who receive county BH services in this measure at a future date. Identified as the Goal Measure for the “Reduce Suicides” statewide BH goal, this measure is intended to assess progress on the overall goal. This measure includes all Medi-Cal members regardless of whether they have identified BH needs or receive BH services. It is a cross-sector measure because performance on this measure will be impacted by the actions of County Behavioral Health Plans (BHPs) and Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans (MCPs) as well as entities and factors beyond Medi-Cal and BH. For the MCP rate, all members assigned to an MCP are included in their rate if they meet denominator criteria. For the BHP rate, because BHPs do not have assigned members, all Medi-Cal members in that county (defined by county of responsibility assignments²) are included in their rate if they meet denominator criteria. This measure is based on Vital Records data and was developed in collaboration with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). This measure is limited to people 10 years of age and older to align with CDPH reporting. The rate reported for this measure is an age-adjusted rate, meaning most rates reported for this measure have been normalized to a standard age distribution to reduce the impact of variations in age distribution on this measure. The exception is the statewide rate’s age group stratifications—given that these stratified rates are reported in standard age bands, they are presented as crude rates.

² A Medi-Cal member’s county of responsibility is the official source for determining which County BHP is financially accountable for Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS) and substance use disorder treatment services for that member. In some cases, this may be different than the member’s county of residence. See Behavioral Health Information Notice [24-008](#) for more information.

Measure Details	Description
	In 2026, DHCS is reporting the FY 2023-24 rate for this measure because Vital Records data for 2025 is not yet available for DHCS to calculate the FY 2024-25 rate.
Measure Steward	DHCS
Measure Goal	This measure is 1 of 2 measures in the “Reduce Suicides” statewide BH goal.
Measure Category	Goal Measure
Responsibility	Cross-Sector Responsibility

Table 1. Statewide Rate

State	Rate (Age Adjusted)
California	15.15

Table 2. Statewide Rate Stratifications by Age

Age Group	Rate (Crude Rate)
0-5 years	N/A
6-11 years	S
12-17 years	3.82
18-20 years	C
21-25 years	13.33
26-34 years	15.00
35-49 years	18.78
50-64 years	22.66
65-74 years	16.90
75 years and older	11.69

Table 3. Statewide Rate Stratifications by Sex

Sex	Rate (Age Adjusted)
Female	7.17
Male	24.67

Table 4. Statewide Rate Stratifications by Race / Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Rate (Age Adjusted)
American Indian or Alaska Native	S
Asian	12.54
Black or African American	13.65
Hispanic or Latino	8.76
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	S
White	26.70
Multiracial and/or Multiethnic	11.94
Other	14.17
Asked But No Answer/Unknown	18.54

Table 5. Statewide Rate Stratifications by Language (Primary Spoken Language)

Language (Primary Spoken Language)	Rate (Age Adjusted)
English	20.62
Spanish	4.92
Vietnamese	8.02
Other	8.84

Table 6. County Behavioral Health Plan Rates

County Behavioral Health Plan	Rate (Age Adjusted)
Alameda	15.26
Alpine	0.00
Amador	S
Butte	22.05
Calaveras	S
Colusa	S
Contra Costa	14.90
Del Norte	0.00
El Dorado	33.14
Fresno	14.11
Glenn	S
Humboldt	37.70
Imperial	S
Inyo	S
Kern	14.78
Kings	21.13
Lake	S
Lassen	S
Los Angeles County	12.35
Madera	15.00
Marin	S
Mariposa	S
Mendocino	36.18
Merced	16.79
Modoc	S
Mono	S

County Behavioral Health Plan	Rate (Age Adjusted)
Monterey	11.36
Napa	S
Nevada	S
Orange	14.75
Placer	15.74
Plumas	0.00
Riverside	15.44
Sacramento	17.61
San Benito	S
San Bernardino	16.51
San Diego	15.05
San Francisco	17.96
San Joaquin	15.45
San Luis Obispo	34.48
San Mateo	13.69
Santa Barbara	13.72
Santa Clara	13.09
Santa Cruz	16.90
Shasta	26.44
Sierra	S
Siskiyou	S
Solano	17.09
Sonoma	29.99
Stanislaus	11.88
Sutter/Yuba	23.57
Tehama	S
Trinity	S

County Behavioral Health Plan	Rate (Age Adjusted)
Tulare	12.00
Tuolumne	S
Ventura	16.88
Yolo	S

Table 7. Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan Rates³

Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan	Rate (Age Adjusted)
AIDS Healthcare Foundation	0.00
Alameda Alliance for Health	14.76
Anthem Blue Cross	18.85
Blue Shield of CA Promise Health Plan	15.44
CalOptima	14.22
CalViva Health	13.85
CenCal Health	20.20
Central California Alliance for Health	13.95
Community Health Group Partnership Plan	12.33
Community Health Plan of Imperial Valley	S
Contra Costa Health Plan	14.95
Gold Coast Health Plan	16.70
Health Net Community Solutions	13.24
Health Plan of San Joaquin	12.42

³ In this release, the Medi-Cal MCP rates listed are not at the county level, but rather for all counties statewide in which the plan operates.

Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan	Rate (Age Adjusted)
Health Plan of San Mateo	C
Inland Empire Health Plan	16.29
Kaiser Permanente	9.22
Kern Family Health Care	14.24
L.A. Care Health Plan	13.32
Molina Healthcare of California	13.70
Mountain Valley Health Plan	S
Partnership Health Plan of California	21.27
San Francisco Health Plan	18.09
Santa Clara Family Health Plan	12.43

"S" represents values that are based on less than 11 individuals which are not shown in accordance with the DHCS Data De-identification Guidelines (DDG) Version 3.0.

Values reported as "0.00" indicate that no events were observed.

Values reported as "N/A" indicate that no persons qualified for the denominator.

"C" denotes complementary data that is not shown to comply with DHCS DDG Version 3.0 to prevent the re-derivation of other sensitive information.