Highlighting Differences to Understand Disparities) Dashboard:

Comparing the percentage of total persons across data sources by demographic characteristic can provide a broad measure of potential disparities in access to program services.

For example, in FY 17/18, Asian / Pacific Islanders make up 15.1% of the total California population and 9.9% of the Medi-Cal population in Aid Codes eligible for Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS) but make up only 4% of the population receiving CSI services (3.9% for FSP). This broad measure implies that Asian / Pacific Islanders may be underserved with regards to SMHS.

To build this dashboard MHSOAC collected data from four sources with similar available demographic data points. The aim is to compare the makeup of persons receiving publicly funded mental health services to the relevant Medi-Cal population and the population of California in total. Comparisons are made statewide and by county.

Demographic groupings were chosen based on summary data reported in the MHS Dashboard Demographic Datasets and Report Tool downloaded from the DHCS Open Data Portal. MHSOAC does not currently have access to individual level Medi-Cal data so data are limited to the demographic groupings and fiscal years presented in that report. Therefore, there is a smaller range of fiscal years available for Medi-Cal data then all other data sources in this dashboard.

California Population estimates are based on Department of Finance (DOF) projections based on 2010 US Census data. This data is also in aggregate form, but does provide detailed summaries by sex, race/ethnicity, and age. This allows for a wider range of presentation options. However, DOF population estimates do not contain data by primary language.

Comparison Group Definitions:

CSI

Persons with one or more mental health services reported during the Fiscal Year. Based on data from the Client Services Information (CSI) reporting system. CSI system reflects Medi-Cal clients, non-Medi-Cal clients, and services provided in County, City/Mental Health Plan programs (excluding CONREP services). Data extracted 7/07/2020.

The "Multiracial" value for CSI data is calculated using the self-reported Eth_A_Code, Eth_B_Code, Race1 and Race2 variables in the CSI client file. If a client has non-null/unknown values in both Race1 and Race2 they are flagged as "Multiracial". This is done to align the data with the California population estimates from the Department of Finance projections.

FSP

Persons in an active Full Service Partnership (FSP) for one or more days during the fiscal year. Based on data from the Data Collection Reporting (DCR) system which tracks active FSPs by County. Data extracted 6/29/2019.

FSP clients are a subset of CSI clients and there is no actual demographic data other than birth date collected in the DCR system. Demographic data for FSP clients is the values they report in the CSI reporting

system. FSP clients without a valid CSI Client ID are still included in the dashboard but will have "Unknown" values for all demographic categories. As of the data download used for this report, 9% of FSP clients did not link to a valid CSI Client ID.

The "Multiracial" values for FSP are pulled from CSI data and calculated using identical methodology as "Multiracial" in CSI.

Medi-Cal

DHCS generated count of total active Medi-Cal clients in aid codes eligible for Short-Doyle/Medi-Cal II (SD/MC II) claims during fiscal years 14/15 through 17/18. Data is downloaded from the MHS Dashboard Demographic Datasets and Report Tool. Data extracted 5/20/2020.

https://data.chhs.ca.gov/dataset/adult-ab470-datasets
https://data.chhs.ca.gov/dataset/child-youth-ab470-datasets

The summary Medi-Cal data in this report does not include an option for "Multiracial", so, this data point will always be NULL (or 0).

CA Pop (DOF)

Data from the Department of Finance (DOF) population projections (see the link below), includes county level totals. The Complete P-3 File Database-Ready Format downloaded 6/8/2020.

http://www.dof.ca.gov/Forecasting/Demographics/projections/

The DOF data does not present language estimates, so there is no CA population option for the Language comparison. Unlike FSP, CSI, or Medi-Cal data, the DOF data does not have an "Other" or Unknown" option for any demographic data so those data points will always be NULL (or 0).

Data Suppression

Any cell with a count of less than 11 will be suppressed any MHSOAC Dashboard. Cells with no data in the raw data will have a value of 0 in the dashboard. If only a single cell in a demographic group has a count less than 11 then the next lowest cell, or 0 count cell, will also be suppressed. The algorithm searches for a 0 count cell first to suppress and then moves to the next lowest cell size for suppression. This is done so that the suppressed cell value cannot be backed into using the remaining data.