

FUNDING DATA REPORT

CA PA|PG|PC 20201-22 Survey Results



1 Staffing Levels

Survey results of staffing levels broken down by staffing type and county size

2 Case Loads

Survey results of caseloads broken down by case type and county size

3 Revenue Sources

Survey results for revenue sources by funding type and county size

4 Placements

Survey results for service facilities broken down by client type and county size

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SURVEY OVERVIEW & PARTICIPATION

SURVEY PURPOSE

One of the key roles the Association's Executive Office plays in serving our members is to monitor and advocate on legislation that could potentially impact the general business practices of the PA|PG|PC community as well as look at opportunities for legislation that provides critical funding to support mandates placed on Public Administrators, Guardians or Conservators in each of California's 58 counties.

Part of putting together any legislative funding ask is having accurate statistical data to provide legislators so that they appropriately understand the challenges our members face in:

- Meeting client needs based on current staffing levels
- County program funding obstacles and
- Limited-service resources/facilities for the clients we serve

Additionally, this type of industry-wide data also provides our members with a deeper understanding of funding and cost trends within California's PA|PG|PC profession by county size and program type acknowledging where funding challenges lie by region and/or program make-up. It will also assist our members with program planning in their home counties, including advocating for additional funding, staff and expanded resources.

SURVEY BREAKDOWN

To help guide our funding and legislative discussions for fiscal year 2021-22, the Association asked its Principal and/or Primary members¹ to provide key funding data in the following areas: staffing and case costs by program (PA, PG or PC), funding resources by type and placement facility usage by type (Probate and/or LPS).

The data findings are located in this report, broken down by county size based on state census data from 2014 (census data set [found here](#)) and provides an overview for each question outlining:

- The number of respondents who answered a specific question
- The range of the answers provided by respondents and
- The overall mean for each county size or percentage change

¹ All PA, PGs, PCs, or other County Officials designated by respective Boards of Supervisors, Councils, or by election to perform the duty of Public Administrator, Public Guardian, or Public Conservator within the respective county or any Chief Assistant, i.e., Chief Deputies, Senior Deputies, Deputies, Assistant, etc., who bear responsibility for the daily operation of the above-named offices and are so designated in writing by the Principal.

PARTICIPATION DEMOGRAPHICS

Participation level and demographic breakdown of respondents for the survey are as follows.

- 159 Principal/Primary members representing 93 County Program configurations¹ were contacted
- Of those contacted, 37 overall responded (39% program participation rate)
- County program participation by size included:

	Total Programs in County Group	Total Participated
Very Small County	23	4
Small County	17	4
Medium County	34	15
Large County	7	4
Very Large County	12	10

- County program participation by program configuration included:

	Total in Program Group	Total Participated
PA Only	32	7
PG Only	2	1
PC Only	3	1
PA PG Only	1	0
PG PC Only	30	13
PA PG PC	25	15

STAFFING LEVELS

1. How many employees (all levels) support your PA program?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants		3	9	3	7
Answer Range	No Data Provided	3-7	2-3	4-15	5-89
Mean		4.3	5.1	11	29.1

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 22
- Mean: 13.5

2. How many employees (all levels) support your PG/PC program?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	4	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	3-6	3-7	2-25	20-40	35-186
Mean	4.25	4.7	11.9	30.7	69.5

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 30
- Mean: 23.5

Please Note: Cost per employee by County program size is as follows: (numbers derived by taking the provided county program's total budget by the total # of program staff listed above irrelevant of program type)

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	4	2*	14*	4	10
Answer Range	\$14,041 - \$107,172	\$134,457.14 - \$141,666.67	\$82,806.07 - \$361,782.78	\$165,000 - \$282,184.71	\$100,000 - \$226,870.19
Mean	\$54,201.96	\$138,061.90	\$150,032.06	\$208,331.50	\$154,756.02

* 2 small and 1 medium county did not provide a response to the budget question in the survey so could not provide cost per employee for those county programs.

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 34
- Mean: \$146,301.96

3. For your PA program, how many deputies/caseworkers do you have?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	No Data Provided	3	9	3	7
Answer Range	No Data Provided	1	1-6	4-8	3-39
Mean	No Data Provided	1	2.2	5.7	10.3

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 22
- Mean: 5.1

4. For your PG/PC program, how many staff members carry Conservatorship cases (includes investigations/on-going case management/closing cases)?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	4	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	1-4	1-2	3-12	8-23	15-87
Mean	2.5	1.3	6.4	17.7	30.2

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 30
- Mean: 11.3

CASE LOADS BY PROGRAM

PA ONLY

1. How many total PA cases (any and all types of cases, including referrals & investigations) did your office handle in Fiscal Year 2017/2018?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants		3	9	3	7
Answer Range	No Data Provided	8-30	4-119	200-795	157-1,970
Mean		19.3	67.9	482.3	710.3

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 22
- Mean: 322.2

2. For an individual staff member, how large is their typical PA caseload at any given time?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants		3	9	3	7
Answer Range	No Data Provided	5-30	2-124	50-70	32-100
Mean		15.7	49.6	60	62.4

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 22
- Mean: 50.5

3. How many summary estates (>\$50K) did your office handle in Fiscal Year 2020/2021?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants		3	9	3	7
Answer Range	No Data Provided	4-6	0-131	56-168	4-192
Mean		5	26.4	100	67.9

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 22
- Mean: 46.8

4. How many indigent burials did your office handle in Fiscal Year 2020/2021? (# Response)

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	No Data Provided	3	9	3	7
Answer Range		0-27	0-120	0-107	15-462
Mean		13.7	45.1	39.7	166.3

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 22
- Mean: 78.6

5. How many cases in Fiscal Year 2020/2021 were valued at less than \$1,000? (# Response)

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	No Data Provided	3	9	3	7
Answer Range		0-10	0-127	0-111	0-1,150
Mean		5	39.2	72.7	223.4

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 22
- Mean: 97.7

PG ONLY

1. How many total Probate Conservatorship cases (any and all types of cases, including investigations) did your office handle in Fiscal Year 2020/2021?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	3	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	6-29	17-39	0-203	152-339	223-2,230
Mean	20	25.3	66.6	274	634.7

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 29
- Mean: 196.5

2. How many total Probate Conservatorship cases (any and all types of cases, including investigations) did your office handle in Fiscal Year 2017/2018?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	3	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	4-25	11-40	0-200	210-375	310-2,170
Mean	17.7	25	66	304.7	666.2

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 29
- Mean: 205.6

Please Note: The difference between FY 2017/2018 & FY 2020/2021 is as follows

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	3	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	0-5	-4 – 6	-20 – 22	-58 – 10	-115 - 60
Mean	2.3	.3	.6	-30.7	-31.5

Overview of Probate Conservatorship Case Trends

Unexpectedly, the number of Probate Conservatorship cases state-wide went down in 2020/2021 due to a rise in deaths due to COVID. In a non-pandemic year we would expect Probate caseloads to increase based on demographics served by this program.

3. For an individual staff member, how large is their typical Probate caseload at any given time?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	3	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	5-29	20-39	5-60	30-55	25-75
Mean	14.7	29.7	30.7	40	49.3

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 29
- Mean: 35.8

PC ONLY

1. How many total LPS Conservatorship cases (any and all types of cases, including investigations) did your office handle in Fiscal Year 2020/2021?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	3	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	3-38	14-65	63-400	321-769	145-3,122
Mean	15.3	41	143.4	560	1,537.7

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 29
- Mean: 455.9

2. How many total LPS Conservatorship cases (any and all types of cases, including investigations) did your office handle in Fiscal Year 2017/2018?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	3	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	2-40	13-60	61-400	286-655	130-3,035
Mean	15.7	37.7	138.5	479.3	1,446

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 29
- Mean: 421.1

Please Note: The difference between FY 2017/2018 & FY 2020/2021 is as follows

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	3	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	-2 – 1	1-5	-11 – 85	35-114	-6 - 325
Mean	-.3	3.3	14.9	80.7	91.7

Overview of LPS Conservatorship Case Trends

The increase in LPS referrals between 2017/2018 and 2020/2021 is lower than expected due to COVID. Referral sources were impacted and submitted less referrals than normal.

3. For an individual staff member, how large is their typical LPS caseload at any given time?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	3	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	4-50	30-60	20-94	50-60	30-125

Mean	19.7	44.7	45.3	55	73.3
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Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 29
- Mean: 49.4

4. How many total Murphy Conservatorship cases (any and all types of cases, including investigations) did your office handle in Fiscal Year 2020/2021?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	3	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	0-1	0-6	1-23	3-40	13-879
Mean	.3	2.7	8.1	19.7	176.5

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 29
- Mean: 42.8

5. How many total Murphy Conservatorship cases (any and all types of cases, including investigations) did your office handle in Fiscal Year 2017/2018?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	3	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	0	0-2	0-27	1-23	6-885
Mean	0	1.3	4.8	13	169.5

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 29
- Mean: 38.9

Please Note: The difference between FY 2017/2018 & FY 2020/2021 is as follows

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	3	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	0-1	0-4	-15 – 20	1-17	-6 – 27
Mean	.3	1.3	3.4	6.7	7

Overview of Murphy Conservatorship Case Trends

The increase in Murphy Conservatorship referrals between 2017/2018 and 2020/2021 is lower than expected due to COVID. Referral sources were impacted and submitted less referrals than normal.

CASE LOAD PER EMPLOYEE IRRELEVANT OF PROGRAM

Overview of Case Loads Per Employee Trends

To determine what the average PA|PG|PC case load maximums should be per employee, we reviewed Child Welfare caseload best practices, the only other California county program whose clients, through a Court order, are the program's dependents. In reviewing the literature on best practices for Child Welfare caseloads we found that the results mirrored those of our own programs in that the individual worker began to exceed maximum capacity for effective case management in all areas at 30 cases. The Child Welfare research determined that a worker was most effective with 16.59 cases per month². As a result, our suggestion of best practice workload, dependent on complexity, for county PA|PG|PC staff falls between 16-30 cases.

We have included an overview by County size of what the caseload per employee currently is. Please note that on average most staff have more than the recommended 30 cases per employee. With small counties having an average of 32 cases per employee going all the way up to 81 for very large county programs. Statistically, PA|PG|PC programs have 63% higher caseloads than comparative services.

This data was formulated taking the total number of cases per County Program divided by total # of staff.

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	4	4	15	4	10
Answer Range	1-34	8-52	10-96	50-61	40-182
Mean	15	32	39	55	81

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 37
- Mean: 57.42

2. California Department of Social Services SB 2030 Study: IV. Child Welfare Services Workload Study – Results and Findings.
<https://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/res/cws/sb2030final/pdf/section5.pdf>

PG|PC CLIENTS & CRIMINAL COURTS

1. Of all the cases (any and all types of cases, including investigations) that your office handled in 2020/2021, how many were referred by criminal courts?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	4	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	0-30%	10-30%	10-60%	0-60%	0-40%
Mean	15%	16.7%	21.4%	26.7%	19.7%

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 30
- Mean: 25%

PG|PC PLACEMENTS

1. How many of your current clients are unable to be placed in the appropriate level of care due to a shortage of appropriate placement options in the community?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	4	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	0-100%	10-30%	0-40%	20%	20-40%
Mean	17.50	20%	18.57%	20%	24.7%

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 30
- Mean: 23.17

1a. Of these clients, how many are in jail while awaiting placement?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	4	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	0-30%	10%	0-50%	0-20%	0-30%
Mean	7.5%	10%	14.29%	10%	13.3%

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 30
- Mean: 12.5%

1b. Of these clients, how many are in a hospital while awaiting placement?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	4	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	0-20%	0-20%	0-50%	10-20%	10-90%
Mean	5%	10%	20.71%	16.7%	44.2%

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 30
- Mean: 21.8%

Overview of Client Placement Challenges

Admissions into a skilled nursing facilities and state hospitals declined significantly in the past two years due to COVID. Skilled nursing facilities and State hospitals refused all admissions during the pandemic.

2. How many of your clients are currently placed in the following types of facilities?

State Hospital

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	4	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	0%	0-10%	0-10%	10-20%	10%
Mean	0%	3.3%	7.14%	13.3%	10%

Locked Psychiatric Unit/IMD

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	4	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	0-30%	20-60%	10-70%	10-50%	10-70%
Mean	12.5%	43.3%	35%	26.7%	31.7%

Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF)

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	4	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	20-100%	10-40%	0-60%	20-40%	10-70%
Mean	65%	30%	23.6%	30%	26.7%

Board and Care Facility

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	4	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	0-20%	10-30%	0-60%	20-30%	10-40%
Mean	7.5%	20%	29.3%	26.7%	25%

Transitional Housing/Crisis Residential Facility

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	4	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	0%	0-50%	0-50%	0-20%	0-20%
Mean	0%	16.7%	7.1%	10%	5%

Independent Living

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	4	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	0-30%	0-10%	0-10%	0-20%	0-10%
Mean	7.5%	3.3%	4.3%	10%	6.7%

Dementia Unit

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	4	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	0-20%	0-10%	0-30%	0-10%	0-50%
Mean	7.5%	6.7%	11.43%	6.7%	13.3%

Other

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	4	3	14	3	6
Answer Range	0%	0%	0-10%	0-10%	0%
Mean	0%	0%	.7%	3.3%	0%

COUNTY REVENUE

1. What was your program's annual budget in Fiscal Year 2020/2021?

	Very Small County	Small County	Medium County	Large County	Very Large County
# Participants	4	2*	14*	4	10
Answer Range	\$84,246 - \$321,517	\$850,000 - \$1,882,400	\$394,000 - \$4,659,083	\$675,000 - \$15,520,159	\$855,142 - \$27,000,000
Mean	\$197,035	\$1,366,200	\$2,062,207	\$7,373,790	\$9,028,281

* 2 small and 1 medium county did not provide a response to this question

Mean Irrelevant of County Size

- # of Participants: 34
- Mean: \$4,475,570.76

2. To the best of your knowledge, select all the funding sources that are part of your annual budget.

	County General Fund	1991 Mental Health Realignment	Fees	Grants	Other
# Participants	37				
# Selected Funding Type	30	15	25	3	13

Other funding sources listed by participants under "Other" include:

- CMAA
- Federal Funds
- Interest
- Medi-Cal
- Real Estate Commissions
- Social Services Realignment
- Doyle Short Funds
- In-kind contributions from Social Services for operating
- MOUs with hospitals to pay for expedited probate investigations