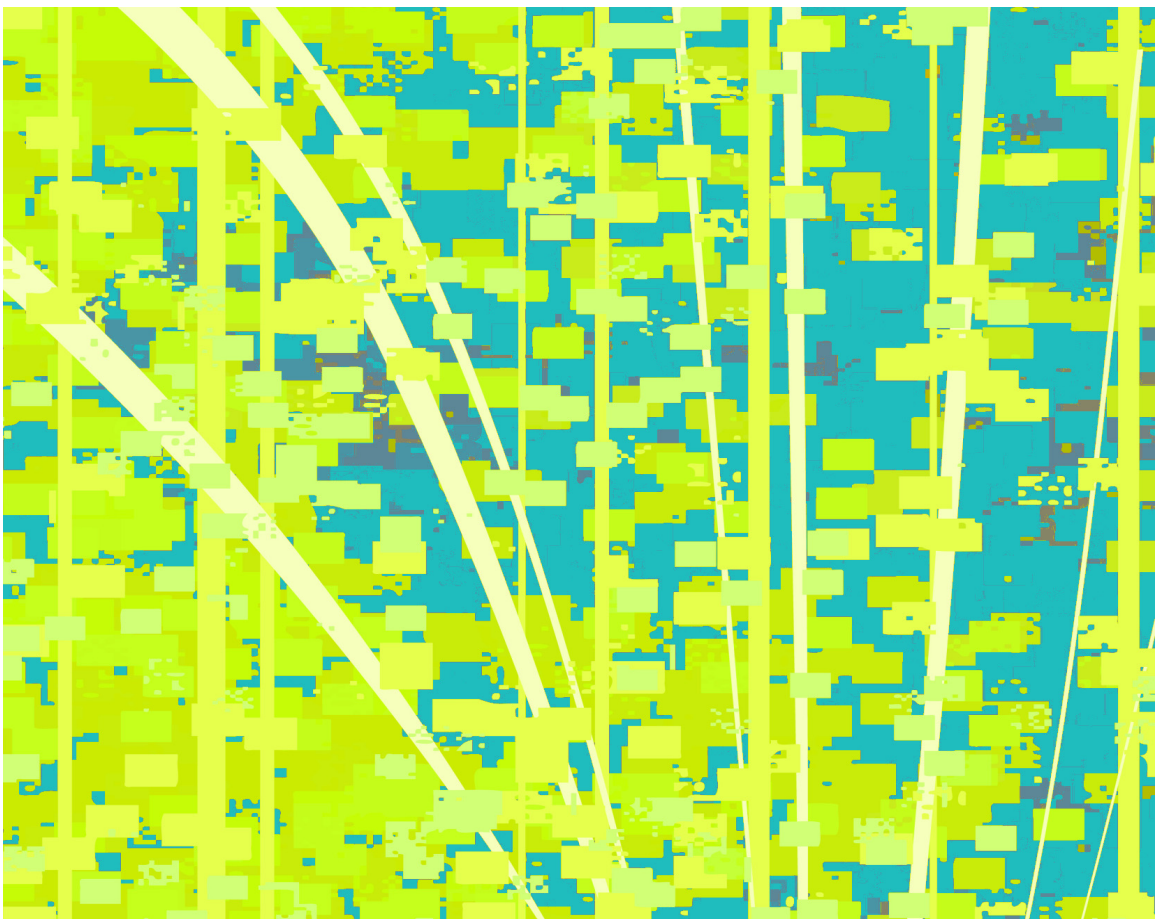VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY
PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION

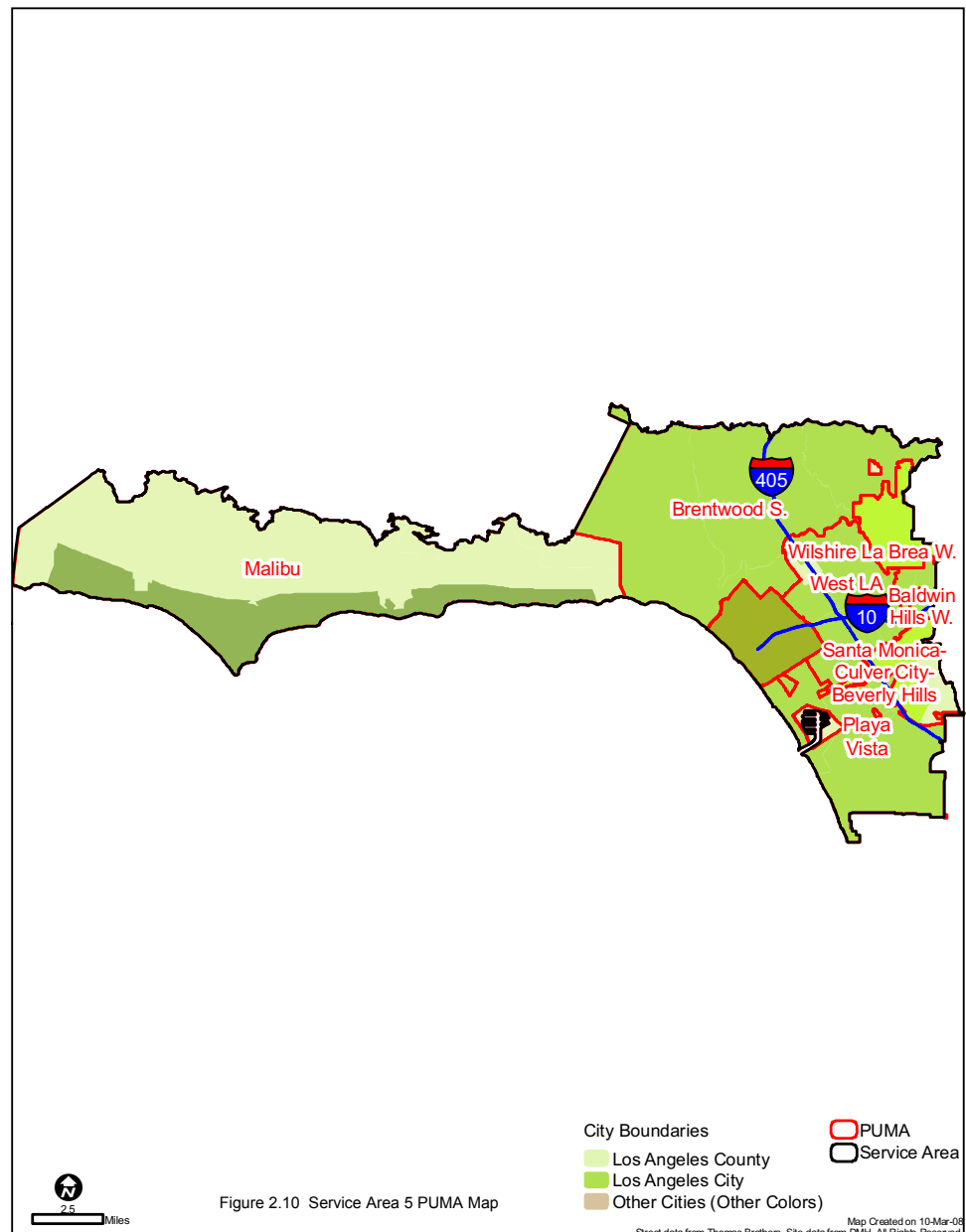## SERVICE AREA EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

West

Service Area 5: West

Communities

Brentwood S.

West LA

Wilshire La Brea W.

Baldwin Hills W.

Playa Vista

Santa Monica-Culver City-Beverly Hills

Malibu

ZIP Codes

90009	90049	90077	90209	90231	90272	90311	90405
90024	90056	90080	90210	90232	90291	90312	90406
90025	90064	90083	90211	90233	90292	90397	90407
90034	90066	90094	90212	90263	90293	90401	90408
90035	90067	90095	90213	90264	90294	90402	90409
90045	90073	90099	90230	90265	90295	90403	90410
					90296	90404	90411

Figure 2.10 Service Area 5 PUMA Map

City Boundaries
Los Angeles County
Los Angeles City
Other Cities (Other Colors)

PUMA
Service Area

Map Created on 10-Mar-08
Street data from Thomas Brothers, Site data from DMH, All Rights Reserved

Demographic Profile

Ethnic Diversity:

Western European White Majority

Service Area 5 (SA5) is comprised primarily of West Los Angeles, Brentwood, Playa Vista, and the cities of Santa Monica, Culver City, and Beverly Hills. A majority of the population are Western European Whites (55%), followed in size by Latinos (12%), Asians (10%), and African-Americans (7%). Russian, Armenian, Iranian, Other Middle Eastern, South Asian, and Multi-ethnic Individuals are other ancestry groups and number over 1,000 individuals. Among the SA5 communities, West Los Angeles has a sizeable Asian population (20%).

In terms of primary language, SA5 has the highest proportion of individuals across the county who report English as the language they speak at home (64.6%). This is also true for Farsi speakers (3.0%) and Russian speakers (1.4%). Service Area 5 has the lowest proportion of individuals across the county whose primary language is Spanish (11.4%).

Age Distribution:

Largest Numbers of Older Adults

The age distribution in the service area is very different from the county. The proportion of children though young adulthood, (i.e., ages 0-25 years) at 27.6% is substantially lower in number than the countywide proportion of (39.8%). This trend is seen on the other end of the lifespan with older adults accounting for 18% of the service area population while, countywide, this age group accounts for 13.5% of the population.

Economic Diversity:

High Incomes, Small Households

The median household income in the service area of $61,151 was much higher than the county median of $48,282. Service area community mean incomes were similarly elevated over the county mean. It is important to consider both median and mean statistics when examining incomes. The median or mid-point gives a better indication of the typical level of income reported by individuals within the service area. The mean or

arithmetic average, however, is a better statistic to compare different geographical areas, such as between and across service areas. Mean household incomes ranged from the low of $39,101 in the Baldwin Hills W. area to $120,118 in the Malibu area. Overall in the service area, home ownership of 40.1% was below the county average of 48.9%. The Wilshire La Brea W. area had the lowest home ownership rates at 24.3%, while the Malibu area had the highest rate at 77%.

Memory and Educational Attainment: Memory Problems Inversely Related to Education

In terms of mental disability as measured by the ACS, 4.2% of individuals in Service Area 5 reported memory problems, slightly lower than the countywide average of 4.6%. The Malibu area had the lowest rates of memory problems reported at 2.5%, while the Baldwin Hills W. community reported the highest levels of memory problems (7.6%) in the service area and the entire county. Educationally, Service Area 5 had a college graduation rate of 53.9% (in adults 25+), well above the countywide average of 27.8%. The community of Brentwood S. had the highest number of college graduates in the service area (59.5%) and county. The Baldwin Hills W. area had the fewest college graduates (17.7%).

Key Indicators: Summary and Excerpts

Underserved Cultural Populations

Ethnicity

In Service Area 5, Western European Whites are the majority population and three of the largest Western European White communities are found there. The service area has fewest numbers of Hispanics, American Indians/Alaskan Natives, and Other Races across the county. Even so, two communities, West LA and the aggregate of Santa Monica-Culver City-Beverly Hills, are fairly diverse with relatively large populations of six ethnic groups (Western European White, Asian, Russian, South Asian, Iranian, Other Middle Eastern). Both Russians and Iranians have three of their largest communities in the West area.

Primary Language

English speakers (64.6%) are the majority Primary Language in Service Area 5, followed by Spanish (11.4%), Farsi (3%), Korean (1.7%), Russian (1.4%) and Chinese (1.1%) speakers. Service Area 5 has the smallest proportion of primary Spanish speakers (1.9%) in the county. All identified composite communities in the service area have a majority of primary English speakers and each community has Spanish as its next most frequently designated Primary Language. Relatively large clusters of primary Farsi speakers are located in three communities: Brentwood S., Wilshire-La Brea W., Santa Monica-Culver City-Beverly Hills, and Malibu. Primary Russian speakers have relatively large groups located in the Brentwood S., West

LA, and Santa Monica-Culver City-Beverly Hills areas. Primary Korean speakers are found in the West LA, Wilshire-La Brea W., and Playa Vista areas. A couple of communities appear to have a fair amount of language diversity: Brentwood S., for example, has five language groups with more than 1% of its relative population; the West LA area has eight.

Linguistic Isolation
Service Area 5 had a Linguistic Isolation score of 2.8%. This was the lowest rate of isolation found across the eight service areas. Two communities with the highest rates within the service area were still below the county average. For example, the Wilshire-La Brea W. area (7.2%) had a portion of the Korean-speaking population within its boundary and this likely contributed to this figure. The Baldwin Hills W. area (7.3%) had a majority of primary Spanish speakers within its boundaries and no other language group, aside from English, in significant numbers. Here, it was clear that isolated households were likely to be monolingual Spanish-speaking.

Individuals Experiencing Onset of Serious Psychiatric Illness

Serious Mental Illness Penetration Rate
The overall Penetration Rate for Service Area 5 was 0.24., which was lower than the countywide rate of 0.34. Across ethnicities, Asians (0.04) were the least-served by county mental health services. Following this, in order of Penetration Rates, were the White population (0.16), the Latino population (0.28), the Native American population (0.61), and the African-American population (0.84).

Depressive Disorders
Age Groups
Service Area 5 accounted for 5.8% of depressed clients served in the county. The majority of depressed clients in the service area were adults, 26-59, (54.0%). However, a couple of communities had other age groups that were predominantly served in the service area. The Malibu area, for instance, overwhelmingly served the Child (0-15) group (73.9%). The majority of depressed clients served in the Wilshire-La Brea W. area were from the TAY (16-25) group. Across the service area, the majority of depressed clients of all age groups were served in the West LA area.

Ethnicity
No one ethnic group constituted a majority of depressed clients served in Service Area 5. Across all ethnicities, White clients were the largest proportion of clients served, 39.9%. This was followed by African-American clients, 21.6%; Latino clients, 22.3%; and Asian clients, 2.2%. Native American and Pacific Islander ethnic groups accounted for less than 1% of all depressed clients in the service area. Examining the composite communities revealed two communities where there was a clear ethnic majority of depressed clients: the Baldwin Hills W. area ,where 65.8% of depressed clients were African-American, and the Malibu area where 67.4% of depressed clients were Latino.

Co-occurring Disorders (COD)
Age Groups
Service Area 5 clients accounted for 6.6% of individuals with COD treated in the county's

mental health system. Within the service area, the COD population was largely adult (26-59) and accounted for 78.7% of all COD cases. This was the highest proportion of adult COD cases seen in the county. All communities with the exception of the Malibu area (with small numbers), saw an overwhelmingly adult population. In two communities, adults accounted for over 80% of the COD population: the West LA area (81.6%) and the Baldwin Hills W. area (82.2%). Across the service area, the majority of COD cases were treated in the West LA area (69.0%), followed by the Santa Monica-Culver City-Beverly Hills area (15.0%) and the Playa Vista area (11.4%).

Ethnicity

White clients accounted for 52.6% of the COD population treated in Service Area 5 and this was the only area in the county where Whites were a majority of COD clients. This was followed by African-American clients (22.3%), Latino clients (13.0%), Native American clients (1.0%), and Asian clients (1.8%). When compared with population estimates for these groups, Whites and Latinos had COD rates consistent with their population shares. African-American (8.1%) and Native American (0.1%) clients were overrepresented in the COD client counts and Asian (12.9%) clients were underrepresented. Examining the service area composite communities revealed that Whites were a majority of clients treated for COD in the West LA area; African-American clients were a majority in the Baldwin Hills W. area; and Latino clients were a majority in the Malibu area.

Children/Youth in Stressed Families

Poverty

Service Area 5 had the lowest poverty rate in the county with 23.4% of its population living beneath the 200% FPL. Close to one-half of all individuals living in poverty in the West were Whites (48%). Across the service area, the Baldwin Hills W. community had the highest poverty rate with 54%, or a majority of its residents living below the 200% FPL. Two communities had Hispanic populations in which over 50% were living below the 200% FPL: the Wilshire La Brea W. area (54.7%) and the Baldwin Hills W. area (67.4%). One community, the Playa Vista area (82.2%), had an American Indian population with 82% of its population living below the 200% FPL (keep in mind that the American Indian population within the service area is less than 1%).

Unemployment Rate

Service Area 5 had an overall self-reported unemployment rate of 6.1%, the lowest rate in the county. Two exceptions were the Baldwin Hills W. area, with an unemployment rate of 11.7%, and the Wilshire La Brea W. area with rate of 9.5%. All other named areas held unemployment rates that were under the countywide rate of 7.4%. The Playa Vista area had the lowest unemployment rate in the service area (4.4%).

Disrupted Families

Like Service Area 4, Service Area 5 had an overall DF ratio of 1.6. These were the two lowest overall service area ratios seen across the county. However, within the service area, there was great variation in the relative num-

bers of intact versus single-parent families in neighboring communities. The West LA area, for example, had a DF score of 0.9; only the community of West Covina in Service Area 3 had a DF score as low. A DF score of less than 1 indicated that there were more single-parent households than two-parent households for a given area. The West LA area and the West Covina area were the only two parts of the county where this phenomenon occurred. There were three other communities with a DF ratio less than 2.0: the Baldwin Hills W. area (1.0), the Playa Vista area (1.5), and the Malibu area (1.7). At the other end of the spectrum, the Brentwood S. area had a DF ratio of 5.6 and the Santa Monica-Culver City-Beverly Hills area had a DF ratio of 4.3.

Safe Place to Play (Countywide Summary Only)

Age Groups

Across the three age groups reported, there appeared to be a trend in parent-report. Parents were more likely to report that a safe place to play was less available for older children than for younger ones

Ethnicity

There did not appear to be any significant difference between parent reports across ethnicities.

Trauma-exposed Individuals

Child Abuse

Child Abuse and Neglect Base Rates

Service Area 5 had an overall CAN Rate of 0.45, which was the lowest in the county and below the countywide rate of 0.96. In fact, all communities within the service area were below the countywide Rate. The Baldwin

Hills W. area (0.86) had the highest CAN Rate within the service area and the Malibu area (0.04) had the lowest rate.

Triage Response Acuity

Service Area 5 had the lowest Acuity score (0.08) seen within the county (a full standard deviation below the mean) and most communities had very low Acuity scores. The Brentwood S. area (0.03) and Malibu area (0.04), for example, had two of the lowest Acuity scores in the county. The Baldwin Hills W. area (0.15) had the highest Acuity score in the service area.

Ethnicity

Across Service Area 5, 87% of SCAN Reports involved four ethnic groups: African-American, White, Hispanic, and White Middle Eastern. Overall, African-American children accounted for 17.5% of SCAN Reports, White children, 32.9%, Hispanic children, 31.5%, and White Middle Eastern children, 5.1%. Only two other ethnic groups accounted for more than 1% of the victimized children in the area: Mexican, 1.3%, and Filipino, 1.0%. White children were a majority of SCAN Reports in two communities: the Brentwood S. area and the Malibu area. No other ethnic group constituted a majority of victims in any other area.

Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse

Service Area 5 had an APS Rate[1] of 2.4, which was below the countywide rate. Only one community within the service area saw an APS Rate[1] score above 3: Wilshire La Brea W. (3.6).

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

Age Groups

Service Area 5 accounted for 4.4% of the

county's PTSD cases. Close to half of these came from the Child age (0-15) group (48.4%), though in four of the composite communities, children with PTSD did constitute a majority of cases (the Wilshire La Brea W., Playa Vista, Santa Monica-Culver City-Beverly Hills, and Malibu areas). One community, the Baldwin Hills W. area, saw a majority of Adult (26-59) cases. About half of the service area cases were seen in the West LA area (49.3%), followed by the Santa Monica-Culver City-Beverly Hills area (22.0%), the Playa Vista area (15.8%), and the Baldwin Hills W. area (10.1%).

Ethnicity

In Service Area 5, no ethnic group constituted a majority of PTSD clients. Latino clients accounted for the largest proportion of PTSD cases (38.7%), followed by African-American clients (28.1%), White clients (18.3%), and Asian clients (3.0%). Native American and Pacific Islander clients each accounted for less than 1% of the PTSD population in the service area. When compared with population estimates for these groups, Latino clients (14.4% of population) and African-American clients (8.1% of population) appeared to be overrepresented, while Whites (58%) and Asians (12.9%) appeared to be underrepresented. Examining the service area composite communities revealed that African-Americans were a majority of clients treated for PTSD in the Baldwin Hills W. area; Latino clients were a majority in the Santa Monica-Culver City-Beverly Hills area.

Homelessness

Age Groups

In Service Area 5, annual homeless estimates for 2007 indicated that the 25-55 Age Group constituted a majority (64.0%) of the homeless population. This was followed by the Under 18 Age Group at 14.5%, the 56+ Age Group at 14.0%, and the 18-24 Age Group at 7.5%.

Ethnicity

Within Service Area 5, Black/African-Americans accounted for 35.2% of the homeless population. Hispanic or Latinos accounted for 17.0%; Whites, 35.8%; and Multi-Racial or Others accounted for 12.0% of the homeless population. This was the largest proportion of Multi-Racial or Other homeless individuals across the county.

Sub-populations

In Service Area 5, 32.3% of the homeless population reported that they had a mental illness; 42.9% of homeless individuals reported they were substance abusers; and 8.4% reported they were victims of domestic violence.

Children/Youth at Risk for School Failure

4-year Dropout Rate
(Countywide Summary Only)

State figures indicated that over a quarter of all students in Los Angeles County drop out of high school over a four-year period. Examining ethnic categories indicated that African-American students were most at risk for not finishing high school, followed by Pacific Islander, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Hispanic or Latino Students. 15.5% of White students drop out from high school.

Two ethnic groups had dropout rates below this: Asian, 7.4%, and Filipino, 12.8%.

High School Graduation Rates

Service Area 5 had an overall high school graduation rate of 75.7%, which indicated that about one out of four students fails to graduate. Within the service area only one ethnic group had a graduation rate lower than 50%: American Indians or Alaskan Natives (48.1%). Half of the service area communities had fairly high graduation rates (Brentwood S., Santa Monica-Culver City-Beverly Hills, and Malibu), while the other half had fairly low rates (West LA, Wilshire La Brea W., and Baldwin Hills W.) Almost all students graduate from the Malibu area, while about half of all students graduate from the higher-risk areas.

English Fluency

Next to Service Area 1, Service Area 5 had the highest fluency rate in the county, 80.2%. Only one area, Wilshire La Brea W. (61.4%), saw its fluency rate dip below 70%. This area also had the lowest high school graduation rate in the service area. In fact, the areas with the three lowest fluency rates, West LA, Wilshire La Brea W., and Baldwin Hills W., also had the three lowest graduation rates in the service area.

3rd Grade Reading Level

Overall, 45.6% of third graders in Service Area 5 scored at or above the 50th percentile in reading, the highest percentage across service areas. The three lowest performing communities, the West LA area, Wilshire La Brea W. area, and the Baldwin Hills W. area, were areas with the lowest high school graduation rates in the service area. 67% of the White

third graders in the service area scored at or above the 50th percentile, the highest score for this ethnic group across the other service areas.

Children/Youth at Risk of or Experiencing Juvenile Justice Involvement

School Discipline

Overall, Service Area 5 had a suspension rate of 3.0%, which was below the countywide rate of 3.7%. The Baldwin Hills W. area (5.6%) had the highest suspension rate across the service area. Very few students got expelled in the service area and the Santa Monica-Culver City-Beverly Hills area (0.1%) had the highest rate of school exclusion.

Juvenile Felony Arrests (Countywide Summary Only)

Of the 23,787 youths arrested on felony charges during the reporting period, 84.2% were males, 15.8%, females. Ethnically, Hispanic youths were involved in the majority of felony arrests (57.2%), followed by Black/African-American youths (30.3%) and Whites (9.1%). All other ethnicities combined accounted for less than 4% of the juvenile felony arrests.

Youths on Probation

Camp Population

Across the county, Service Area 5 had the fewest youths consigned to camp: 51.

Supervised Youths

In terms of supervision, Service Area 5 also had, by far, the lowest numbers of youth on probation: 349. Ethnically, Hispanic youths accounted for 42.1% of the population, Afri-

can-Americans, 27.8%, and Whites, 21.5%.

Key Indicators of Stigma and Discrimination

Language Capacity of Mental Health Providers

Service Area 5 was the only service area where Spanish and English speakers had equal staffing ratios (29). Within the service area, Chinese speakers (2) had the fewest staff resource allocated to them (for populations > 1,000) followed by Farsi speakers (6), Russian speakers (7), and Arabic speakers (8).

Key Indicators of Suicide Risk

Deaths by Suicide

Overall Service Area 5 had the highest suicide rate across the County, 10.2. Again, Males, Whites and Older Adults had the highest rates within their respective categories. Within the Service Area, the highest rates were seen for the older adult population. The Playa Vista area (12.6) had the highest suicide rate within the Service Area followed by the West LA area (11.5) and the Malibu area (10.4).

Mental Health Emergency Statistics

Service Area 5 had the fewest emergency calls placed in the county and it also had the lowest MHE-Rate of 4.5. The bulk of the calls came from two areas: West LA (898) and Santa Monica-Culver City-Beverly Hills (868). The Baldwin Hills W. area had the highest MHE-Rate (8.7) in the service area.