

**STRUCTURED DECISION MAKING® SAFETY ASSESSMENT AND SAFETY PLANNING
COUNTY DATA AND PROGRAM SELF-ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS**

SDM® SAFETY ASSESSMENT DATA		
Benchmark	2018 California Data*	2018 County Data
Completion rates	Completion: 87%	Completion:
Safety Assessment time to completion**		On time: Late:
Safety decision	Safe: 81% Safe with plan: 13% Unsafe: 5%	Safe: Safe with plan: Unsafe:
Top safety threats in removal households	1. Immediate needs not met (51%) 2. Physical harm (40%) 3. Unable or unwilling to protect (27%)	1. 2. 3.
Related Child and Family Services Review measures: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.	Item 2: Did the agency make concerted efforts to provide services to the family to prevent children’s entry into foster care or reentry after reunification?	
	Item 3: Did the agency make concerted efforts to assess and address the risk and safety concerns relating to the child(ren) in their own homes or while in foster care?	

*Data represent statewide averages and are not intended to demonstrate a desired threshold of practice.

**Time to completion report measures compliance for documentation in WebSDM within two working days of first contact. Safety Assessment policy requires completing the assessment during first face-to-face contact.

Organizational Infrastructure and Practice

1. Review countywide data from the previous year related to the Structured Decision Making® (SDM) Safety Assessment and safety decisions. How does it compare with statewide trends? If significantly different, what factors might influence this?

2. With the support of supervisors, social workers use SDM® Safety Assessment definitions *while in the field* to explore if concerns meet the threshold of serious and immediate danger.

Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Frequently	Always
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Provide details or barriers to this practice.

3. Social workers consult with their supervisors while in the field to strengthen and approve immediate safety plans developed with families.

Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Frequently	Always
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Provide details or barriers.

4. Specific county policy exists describing state and local guidelines for developing and monitoring immediate safety plans to prevent removal.

Yes No

5. Local policy describes and requires the following essential elements of an immediate safety plan. (Select only those specified in the policy.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Clear identification of the SDM safety threats to be addressed by the plan.
<input type="checkbox"/>	A specific description of a caregiver's actions or inactions (and impact on the child) that need to be controlled.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Involvement of a safety and support network.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Clear and specific action steps that are sufficient to immediately control the danger and can be put into effect immediately (not services).
<input type="checkbox"/>	A plan to monitor the safety plan and actions to take if it is not working.
<input type="checkbox"/>	A time limit with a specified timeframe for review not exceeding 30 days.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Signatures of all participants indicating agreement.

Opportunities to strengthen county safety planning policy:

6. Safety plan development, strengthening, and review are integrated into facilitated meetings such as Child and Family Team Meetings or Team Decision Making.

Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Frequently	Always
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Existing barriers, opportunities, or desired supports to improve this practice:

7. Supervisors support regular review of completed safety plans to identify and track strengths and barriers to practice across workers and units.

Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Frequently	Always
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Existing barriers, opportunities, or desired supports to improve this practice:

8. Identified practice themes and data trends are used to support system improvement efforts such as training or coaching, policy development, or resource development.

Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Frequently	Always
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Existing barriers, opportunities, or desired supports to improve this practice:

9. What are the overall factors influencing the consistent and high-fidelity assessment of safety? Consider factors that affect individual social worker and supervisor practice, as well as infrastructural challenges such as policy, training, and continuous quality improvement systems:

10. What are the overall factors influencing the effective development and monitoring of safety planning? Consider factors that affect individual social worker and supervisor practice, as well as infrastructural challenges such as policy, training, and continuous quality improvement systems: