

CONTRA COSTA
HEALTH



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Safe Drug Disposal Program Update

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What Does the Safe Drug Disposal Ordinance Require?

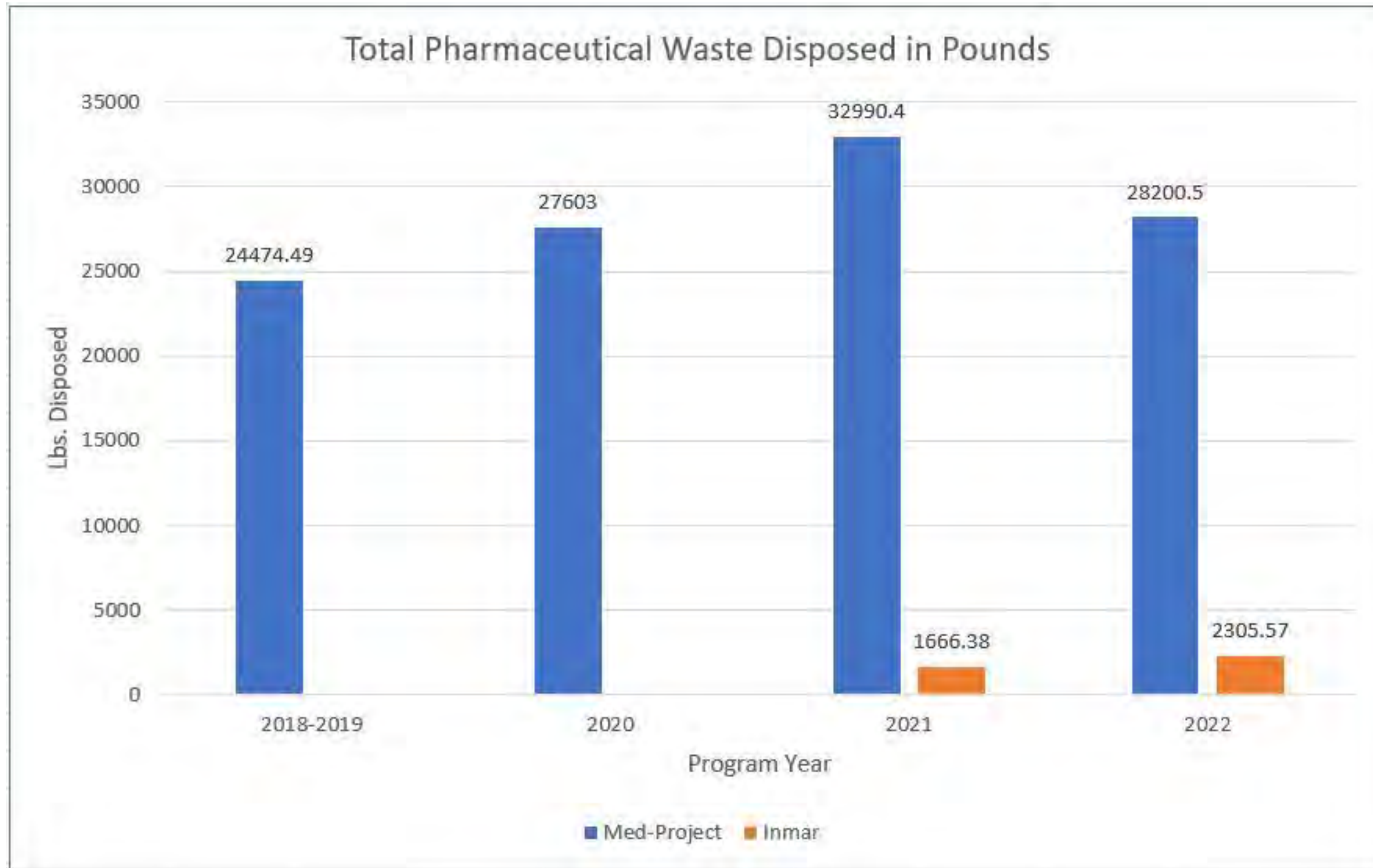
- Requires the manufacturers of covered drugs sold in our county to provide free collection and disposal services for the residents of the unincorporated areas of the county.
 - This requirement is typically met via a stewardship organization.
- Covered drugs includes prescription drugs, non-prescription drugs, vitamins, supplements, and herbal remedies.
 - This also includes medical devices and their parts (ie. epi pens, inhalers, etc.)
- The collection of the drugs can be via kiosks, mailback systems, collection events, or a combination of the three.
- Disposal must be via permitted medical waste or hazardous waste disposal facility.



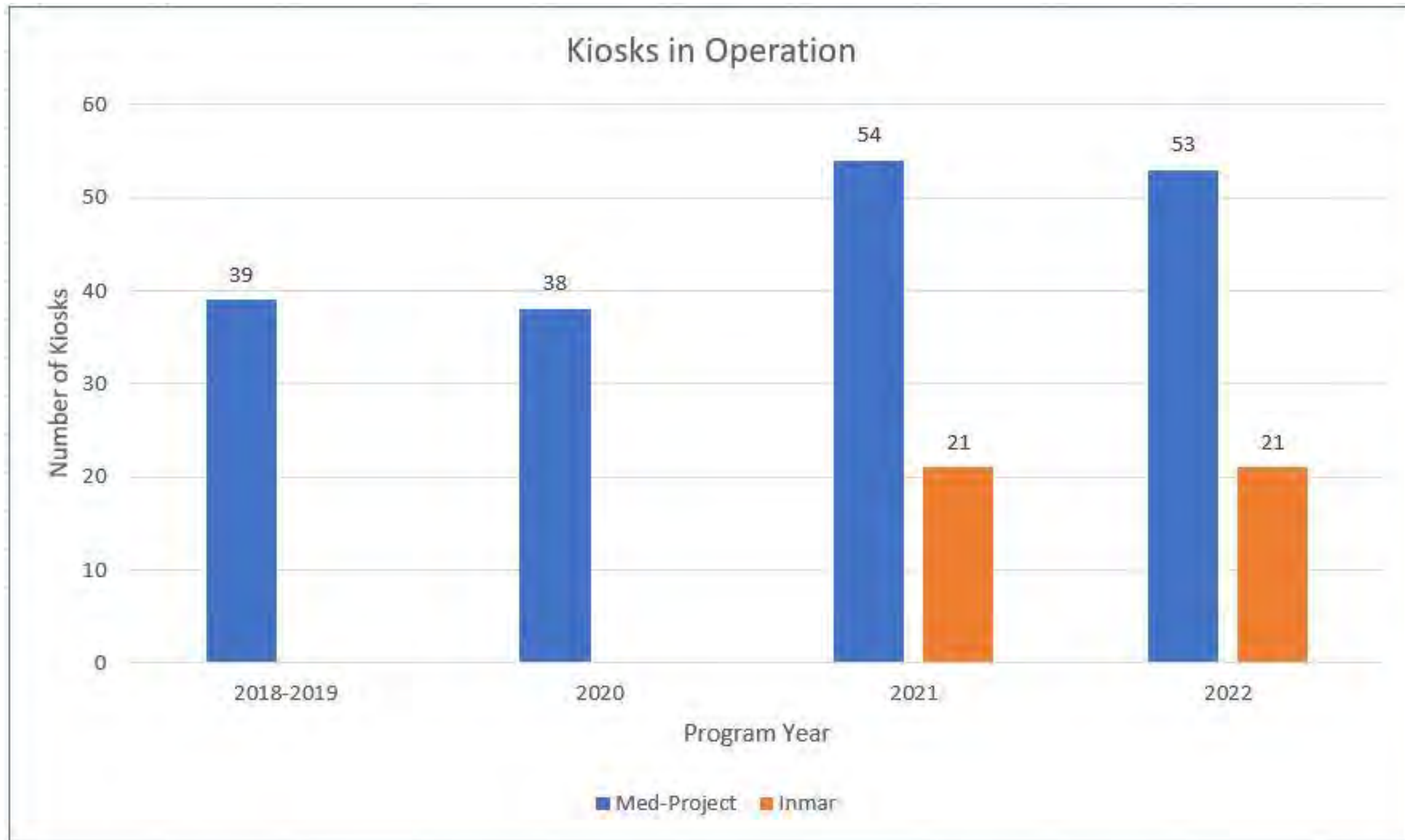
Why This Safe Drug Disposal is Important?

- Prevents them from being accidentally taken or intentionally misused.
 - Approximately 35,000 young children in the United States end up in the emergency room each year from ingesting medications that were not intended for them.
- Prevents potential environmental damage.
 - Sewage treatment plants aren't designed to treat pharmaceuticals. Many of the medications end up passing straight into our waterways.

How Much Pharmaceutical Waste Is Being Collected?



How Many Kiosks are Operating?



Where are the Kiosks Operating?

2022 Kiosk Distribution

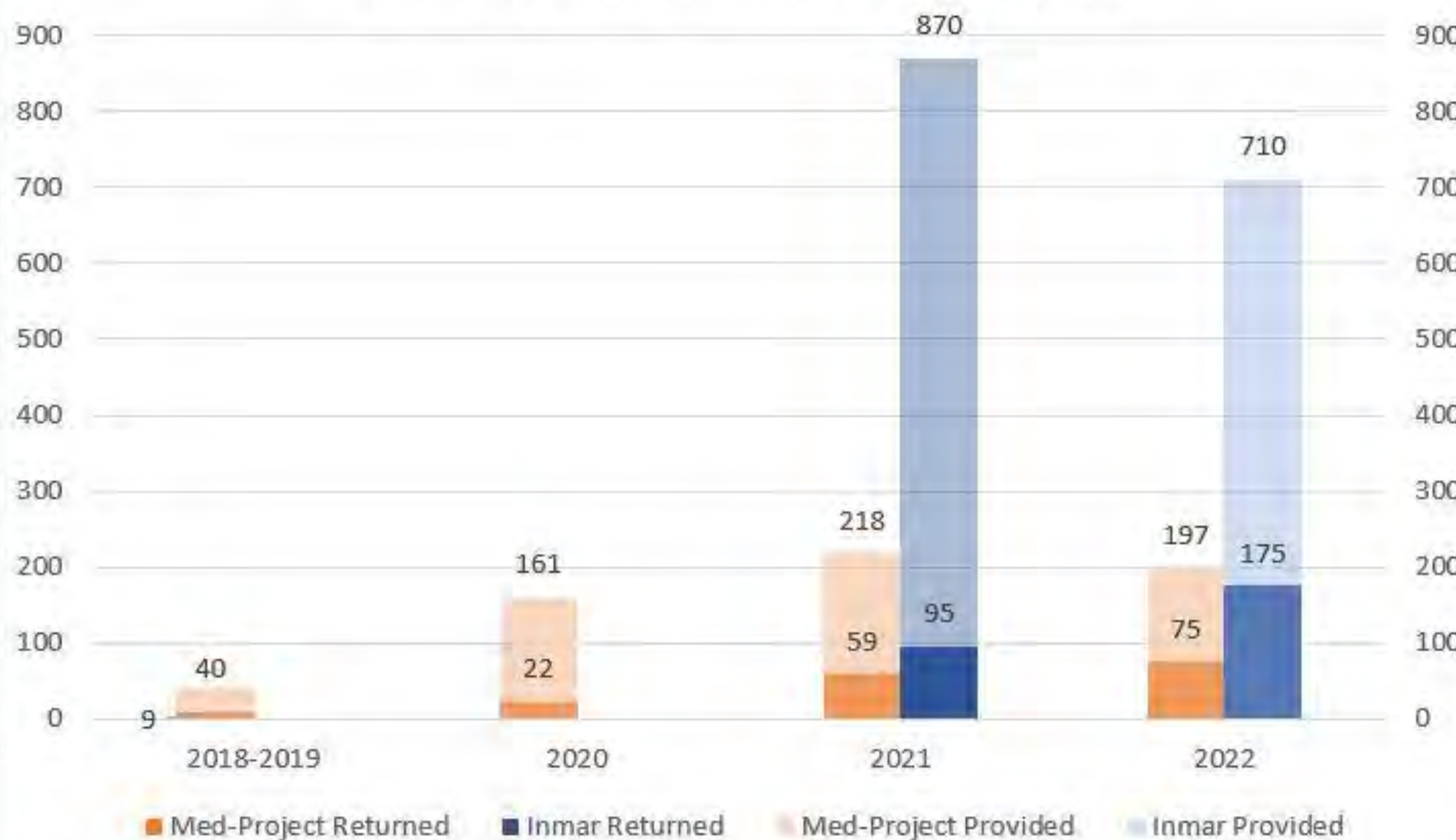
Board of Supervisors
Districts

	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Med-Project	5	14	10	16	8	53
Inmar	3	4	6	5	3	21
Total	8	18	16	21	11	

- Ordinance requires 3 drop off sites per Board of Supervisors District with preference towards pharmacies and law enforcement agencies as collection sites.
- Inmar kiosks were all located in Safeway or Lucky supermarkets.
- MedProject kiosks were primarily located in RiteAid, CVS, or Kaiser pharmacies.

Pharmaceutical Mailback Usage

Mailer Packages Provided and Returned



- Inmar operates 36 mailer distribution sites.
- MedProject provides mailers directly to individuals.
- Overall mailers account for very little of the total disposal (approximately 0.4% by weight)

- Damaged packaging resulted in the halting of shipping of one kiosk package in each of July and August of 2020. The shipper has policies for handling undeliverable pharmaceuticals, including destruction at permitted medical waste incinerator, that were invoked in these cases.
- In September of 2021, one kiosk package was delivered to the reverse distributor by the shipper but not logged as received by the reverse distributor.
- In June of 2023, three mailback packages were sent to one individual that had incorrect address labels. One incorrectly labeled mailer was sent to an unintended, permitted disposal facility. Corrected labels were provided to rectify the issue with the remaining mailback packages and additional procedures were implemented to assure correct labeling.

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Thank
you!