

# Alabama

## ACEs Initiatives and Actions

As knowledge about the science of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) spreads, ACEs initiatives have launched in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. Hundreds of cross-sector collaboratives are educating and engaging organizations and policymakers about ACEs science. In turn, these organizations are implementing trauma-informed and resilience-building practices and policies based on ACEs science; many legislatures are passing resolutions and/or bills.

### Highlights

The State Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention, which is also the Alabama State Chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America and the Children's Trust Fund of Alabama, says ACEs science forms the foundation for everything the department does. The department intends to show the documentary *Resilience* at grantee training sessions for 153 state grantees receiving funding for local child abuse and neglect prevention. At last the grantee session in July 2017, *Resilience* was shown, followed by a panel discussion featuring officials from the Department of Public Health, the Office of the Attorney General, the Alabama Department of Human Resources and Child Protective Services.

In January 2018, *Resilience* was shown in Tuscaloosa, at the 12th annual conference of *Doing What Matters for Alabama's Children*.

### State Initiative

There is no formal statewide ACEs initiative. Department leadership will discuss a statewide initiative in March 2018.

### Local Initiatives

No local initiatives were identified.

### Legislation

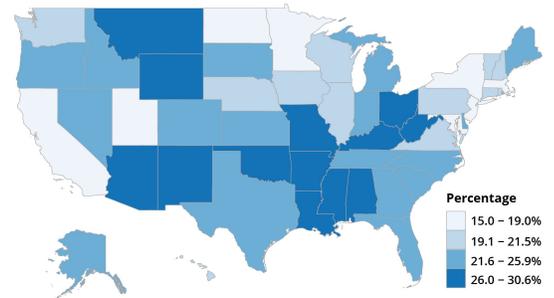
No legislation was identified.

27.7%  
AL\*

21.7%  
USA

## Percent of children with 2 or more ACEs

AL ranks 47th in the US for lowest percentage of children with ACEs scores of 2 or more.



CAHMI (Child & Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative) surveys parents or guardians about their children ages 0-17.

Percentage of children aged 0-17 yrs. who experienced two or more of the following:

- Hard to get by on income (somewhat or very often)
- Saw or heard violence in the home
- Victim/witness of neighborhood violence
- Lived with anyone mentally ill, suicidal, or depressed
- Lived with anyone with alcohol or drug problem
- Parent/guardian divorced or separated
- Parent/guardian died
- Parent/guardian served time in jail
- Often treated or judged unfairly due to race/ethnicity

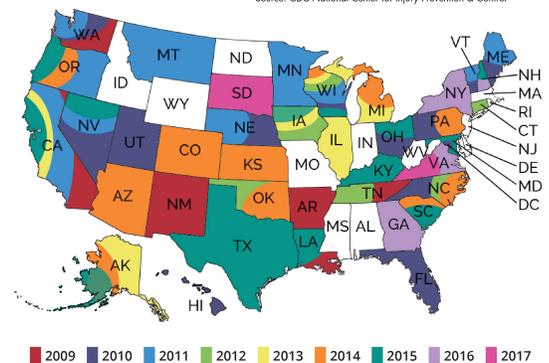
**Citation:** Bethell, CD, Citation: Bethell, CD, Davis, MB, Gombojav, N, Stumbo, S, Powers, K. Issue Brief: A national and across state profile on adverse childhood experiences among children and possibilities to heal and thrive. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, October 2017.

[www.cahmi.org/projects/Adverse-childhood-experiences-aces](http://www.cahmi.org/projects/Adverse-childhood-experiences-aces)

\* State Range: 15.0% – 30.6%

## States Collecting ACEs Data 2009 – 2017

Source: CDC National Center for Injury Prevention & Control



The ACEs module of Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) data comes from interviews with adults about their experiences to age 18. BRFSS is sponsored by the CDC and other federal agencies.

Find links and add your updates to all initiatives and legislation at [www.bit.ly/ACEsInitiatives](http://www.bit.ly/ACEsInitiatives)

