

# Illinois

## 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 Illinois ACEs Response Collaborative focuses on [data collection about ACEs](#) and systems-level changes in the [health sector](#). The Collaborative comprises 30 organizations; it has hosted the [2015 Midwest Regional Summit in ACEs](#) and [educational events](#) featuring national leaders such as Laura Porter and Dr. Renee Boynton-Jarrett.

The [Center for Childhood Resilience](#) provides training, education, and outreach to school professionals, community agencies, city leaders, and parents to increase young people's access to mental health services. They recently released [Creating Healing School Communities: School-Based Interventions for Students Exposed to Trauma \(Concise Guides on Trauma Care\)](#), and provide guidance and resources to address trauma experienced by the immigrant community.

The Chicago Department of Public Health leads Chicago's Trauma-Informed City movement by working with local organizations to complete [several published benchmarks](#) that support neighborhood resiliency and health.

### State Initiatives

The [Illinois Childhood Trauma Coalition](#), [Center for Childhood Resilience](#), the [Illinois ACEs Response Collaborative](#), [Illinois Collaboration on Youth](#), and the [Illinois PROTECT Initiative](#) (Illinois Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics).

Community site on ACEs Connection: [Illinois ACEs Response Collaborative](#)

### Local Initiatives

Trauma-Informed City is part of [Healthy Chicago 2.0](#). [Chicago's Belmont Cragin neighborhood](#), [South Chicago](#), and DuPage, Kankakee, Iroquois, McClean, and Cook counties also have initiatives.

### Legislation (Sources include NCSL)

[Illinois SB 565, Public Act 99-0927](#) — Requires social and emotional screenings for children as part of the their school entry examinations.

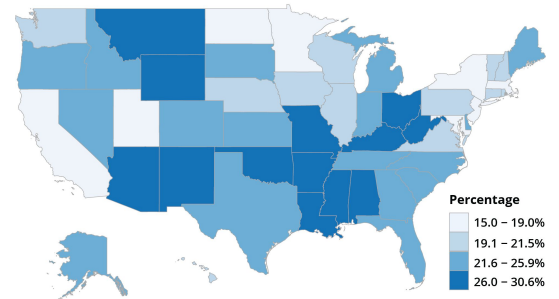
Find links and add your updates to all initiatives and legislation at [www.bit.ly/ACEsInitiatives](http://www.bit.ly/ACEsInitiatives)



19.5% IL\*  
21.7% USA

## Percent of children with 2 or more ACEs

IL ranks 12th 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

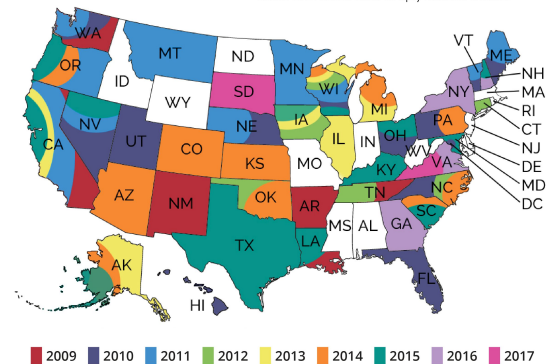
**Citation:** Bethell, CD, Citation: Bethell, CD, Davis, MB, Gombojav, N, Stumbo, S, Powers, K. Issue Brief: A national and across state profile on adverse childhood experiences among children and possibilities to heal and thrive. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, October 2017.

[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.