

Iowa

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

Central Iowa ACEs 360, formed in 2011 [after the state's first ACEs summit](#), focuses on Central Iowa, but has led statewide efforts in education, data collection and lobbying.

The Central Iowa ACEs Steering Committee, comprising people from 15 organizations representing business, education, nonprofits and philanthropy, has led efforts that resulted in [three state ACE studies](#), [lobbying days](#) at the state legislature, a [resiliency toolkit](#) distributed in workshops throughout the states, and a [trauma-informed guide for pediatricians](#).

Iowa has held an annual ACEs summit every year since 2011. In 2018, the [Trauma Informed Care Project \(TIC\) of Orchard Place/Child Guidance Center](#) is organizing the [Trauma Informed Care Project Annual Psychological Trauma & Juvenile Justice Conference](#). The project is funded by the Iowa Department of Human Services.

State Initiative

Central Iowa ACEs 360

Community sites on ACEs Connection: [Iowa ACEs Action](#)

Local Initiatives

Central Iowa ACEs 360, Cedar Rapids, Iowa City/Johnson County, [Quad Cities area](#), southern/southeast Iowa, [Polk County/Central Iowa](#), [Cedar Valley](#) and Western Iowa.

Legislation (Sources include NCSL)

[HF 2176](#) — Requires school districts to adopt protocols for suicide prevention and trauma-informed care; the protocols are to be based on nationally recognized best practices.

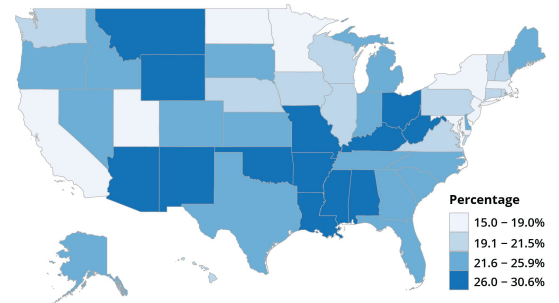
Find links and add your updates to all initiatives and legislation at www.bit.ly/ACEsInitiatives



20.0% IA*
21.7% USA

Percent of children with 2 or more ACEs

IA ranks 16th 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

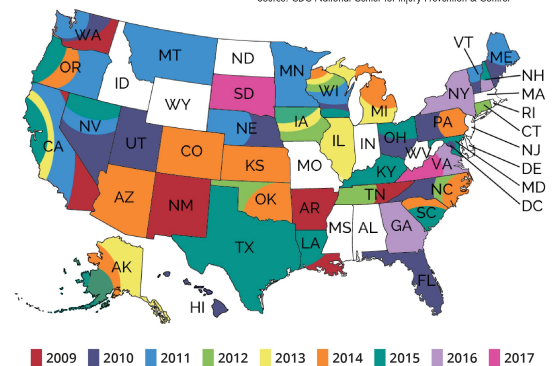
Citation: Bethell, CD, Citation: Bethell, CD, Davis, MB, Gombojav, N, Stumbo, S, Powers, K. Issue Brief: A national and across state profile on adverse childhood experiences among children and possibilities to heal and thrive. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, October 2017.

www.cahmi.org/projects/Adverse-childhood-experiences-aces

* 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.