South Carolina

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 Children's Trust of South Carolina held its biennial Prevention Conference in 2017 for leaders from throughout SC to look at ways to build ACEs into state initiatives. Through its South Carolina ACEs Initiative, next steps will include helping these and other sectors take advantage of grant-making opportunities. Representatives from groups are in the midst of developing the "Now What?" training, as in, "Now that you know about the ACEs in your area, what can you do about them?" More than 70 ACE Interface master trainers in SC are helping communities learn about ACEs science.

The Pee Dee Resiliency Project involves the South Carolina Department of Mental Health and the University of South Carolina in implementing holistic programs – for health, education, and mental health – in eight elementary schools.

The University of South Carolina Upstate is working on a compassionate schools initiative to help teachers understand mindfulness. This initiative also includes a visit to a "mock house" where teachers are invited to see if they recognize signs of abuse and learn how easy it is to make assumptions about parents.

State Initiative

The South Carolina ACEs Initiative is managed by the Children's Trust for South Carolina.

Local Initiatives

No local ACEs initiatives were identified.

Legislation (Sources include NCSL)

No legislation was identified.

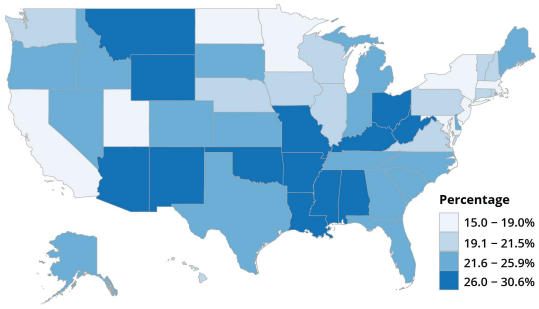
Find links and add your updates to all initiatives and legislation at www.bit.ly/ACEsInitiatives

25.3% SC*

21.7% USA

Percent of children with 2 or more ACEs

SC ranks 38th 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:

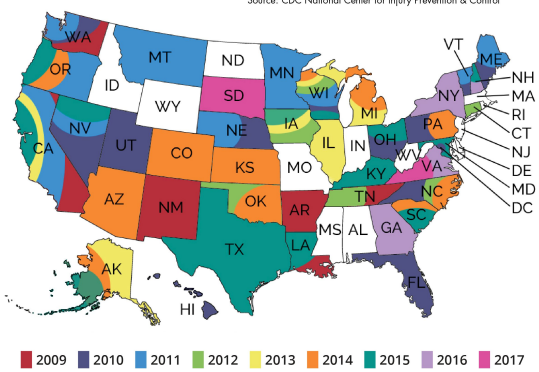
- Hard to get by on income (somewhat or very often)
- Saw or heard violence in the home
- Victim/witness of neighborhood violence
- Lived with anyone mentally ill, suicidal, or depressed
- Lived with anyone with alcohol or drug problem
- Parent/guardian divorced or separated
- Parent/guardian died
- 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.

ACEs Connection