

Montana

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

Elevate Montana, a statewide movement, has trained more than 11,000 people about ACEs science. It was one of the first communities to engage **ACE Interface** to do train-the-trainers workshops. The initiative is dedicated to elevating the well-being and future of Montana's children through awareness and actions based on ACEs and trauma-informed approaches to build resilience in children and families. Several state summits have been held, as well as regional workshops in nine community affiliates. Presentations about ACEs science have been made to county school boards, school staff, health services agencies, churches, and businesses. The documentaries *Paper Tigers* and *Resilience* have been screened dozens of times. More than 64 schools have participated in a trauma-informed schools training. A McDonald's franchise is the first business to have a trauma-informed management team. Montana's Department of Public Health and Human Services has pledged to train all staff in adverse childhood experiences.

State Initiative

Elevate Montana

Community site on ACEs Connection: [Elevate Montana](#)

Local Initiatives

Elevate Montana has been adopted by nine communities; so far, three communities have ACEs Connection sites — [Flathead Area Affiliate](#), [Helena Affiliate](#) and [Lincoln County Affiliate](#).

Legislation

HB 264 — Requires the Department of Public Health and Human Services to develop guidelines and request proposals for pilot projects to prevent or reduce ACEs. Also requires the department to review evidence-based and research-based programs or proposals and make recommendations to the governor, the legislature, and others. (Died in committee 4/28/17).

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

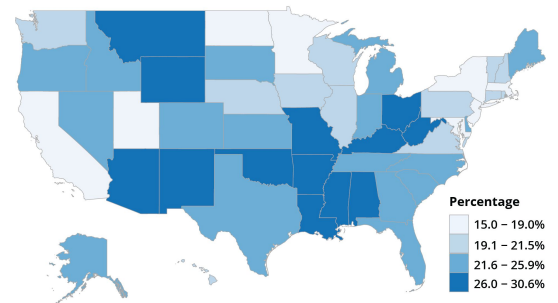


26.1%
MT*

21.7%
USA

Percent of children with 2 or more ACEs

MT ranks 40th 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

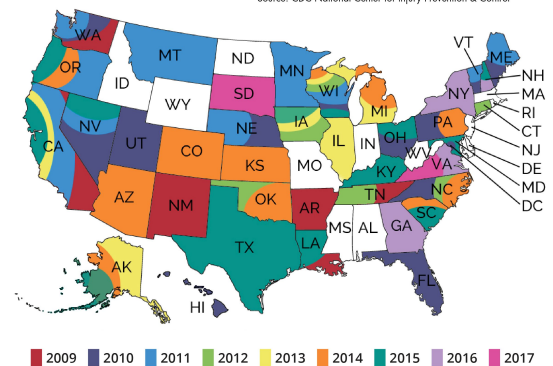
Citation: Bethell, CD, Citation: Bethell, CD, Davis, MB, Gombojav, N, Stumbo, S, Powers, K. Issue Brief: A national and across state profile on adverse childhood experiences among children and possibilities to heal and thrive. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, October 2017.

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.