

# New Mexico

## 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

A 2016 study, [Adverse Childhood Experiences in the New Mexico Juvenile Justice Population](#), demonstrated the connection between ACEs and juvenile delinquency. The University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center launched the [Institute for Resilience Health and Justice](#), which works with UNM School of Law graduates to help at-risk families navigate social and economic hardships that may be creating stress and impeding their health. In 2016 the [Center for Child and Family Justice](#) was established at the University of New Mexico Law School by the Children's Court Improvement Commission to prepare lawyers to provide holistic, multidisciplinary, trauma-informed, culturally competent advocacy for families and children.

In 2015, the New Mexico Department of Health published an [ACEs Fact Sheet](#). Bernalillo County's Behavioral Health Initiative is [funding a two-year \\$6 million project](#) to reduce ACEs; the project funds eight providers in the Albuquerque region.

### State Initiative

No state initiative was found.

### Local Initiatives

[Bernalillo County Behavioral Health Initiative](#)

### Legislation (Sources include NCSL)

[N.M. Stat. § 32A-23B-2, 2016](#) — Home visiting program services required to promote child well-being and prevent ACEs.

[HB 136](#) creates the childhood poverty awareness training act, requires all school districts and charter schools that have at-risk children to receive training on how childhood poverty impacts achievement, includes an understanding of ACEs.

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

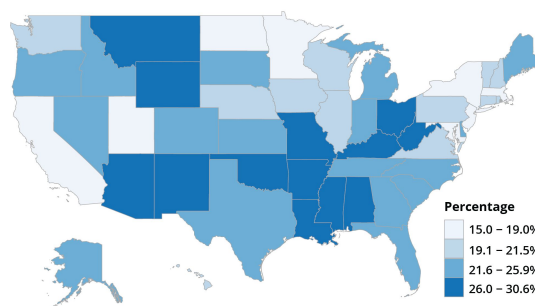


27.8%  
NM\*

21.7%  
USA

### Percent of children with 2 or more ACEs

NM ranks 48th 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

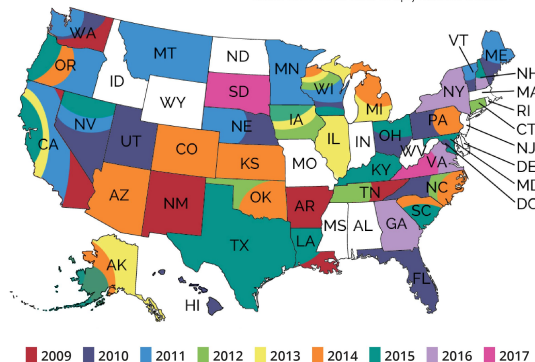
**Citation:** Bethell, CD, Citation: Bethell, CD, Davis, MB, Gombojav, N, Stumbo, S, Powers, K. Issue Brief: A national and across state profile on adverse childhood experiences among children and possibilities to heal and thrive. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, October 2017.

[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.