

# Maryland

## 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 state initiative has not been organized, but [Maryland's State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect](#), the [Maryland Essentials for Childhood](#) program, and [The Family Tree Maryland](#) work on ACEs projects. The Family Tree funded the [ACE Interface](#) training program, which [held its first master trainers workshop in November 2017](#).

In late 2014, the [Thriving Communities Collaborative](#) launched to address trauma in Baltimore. After a several-month pause, the initiative's steering committee reconvened in December, when the group decided to focus on raising awareness of ACEs and its impact.

[Two mental health and child advocates in Frederick County](#) gave 80 presentations about ACEs science to more than 2,000 educators, business leaders, parents, government officials in 2016-17. The Frederick County Chamber of Commerce produced an infographic on ACEs, the film [Resilience](#) was shown, and in 2016 the Interagency Early Childhood Committee and the United Way of Frederick County sponsored "The Raising of Frederick: A Discussion of our Children's future."

In 2017, the [Bester Community of Hope](#) in Hagerstown held a training series about trauma-informed practices for over 350 attendees. And Mount St. Mary's University, with the Mental Health Association of Frederick County and the Child Advocacy Center of Frederick County, hosted screenings of [Resilience](#), and Frederick County Public School's School Health Council has been developing ACEs science resources for elementary, middle and high school leaders.

### State Initiative

No state initiative was identified.

### Local Initiatives

[Thriving Communities Collaborative](#) in Baltimore.

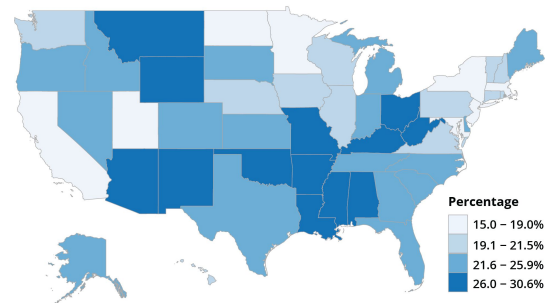
### Legislation

No legislation was identified.

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

## Percent of children with 2 or more ACEs

MD ranks 2nd 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

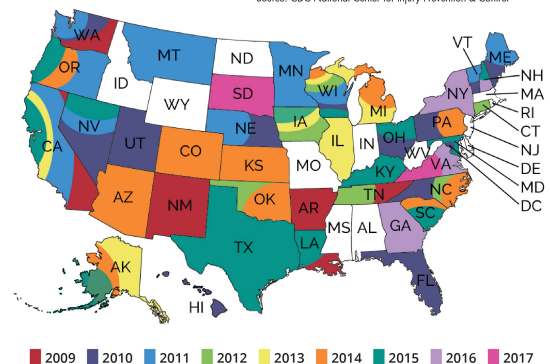
**Citation:** Bethell, CD, Citation: Bethell, CD, Davis, MB, Gombojav, N, Stumbo, S, Powers, K. Issue Brief: A national and across state profile on adverse childhood experiences among children and possibilities to heal and thrive. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, October 2017.

[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.

