

# Louisiana

## 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 Louisiana ACEs Initiative, **launched in 2014**, meets bimonthly in Baton Rouge. It comprises representatives from [Louisiana Parent Education Network](#), [University of Louisiana](#), [Lafayette Picard Center for Human Development](#), [Office of Behavioral Health](#), [Our Lady of the Lake Hospital in Baton Rouge](#), [Tulane Institute of Infant Early Childhood Mental Health](#), [Volunteers of America](#), [CASA of New Orleans](#), [Children's Bureau of New Orleans](#), [Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families](#), [Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana](#).

Most of its momentum comes from participation in the [ACE Interface Master Training](#) program. The first cohort of ACE educators, trained in September of 2015, has given more than 250 presentations to 4,500 participants. A second group was trained in the Shreveport area in February 2017. The REACH Coalition (REsilience in Action for Community Healing) of the Florida Parishes Region plans to train a third cohort in June 2018. [Healthy Baton Rouge](#), an initiative of Mayor-President [Sharon Weston-Broome](#), plans to train a fourth group of educators to support work addressing health disparities and population-health issues.

Louisiana has a fulltime ACE educator program coordinator employed by the [Louisiana Department of Health/Office of Public Health/Bureau of Family Health](#).

The Bureau of Family Health also promotes [VROOM](#), a [developmental support initiative funded by the Bezos Family Foundation](#), to help parents support their children's brain development.

### State Initiative

[The Louisiana ACE Initiative](#)

### Local Initiatives

Shreveport, Florida Parishes Region, and [Baton Rouge](#) have started ACEs initiatives.

### Legislation (Sources include NCSL)

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)

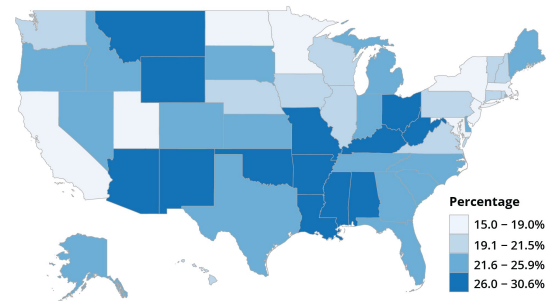


28.2%  
LA\*

21.7%  
USA

## Percent of children with 2 or more ACEs

LA ranks 49th 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

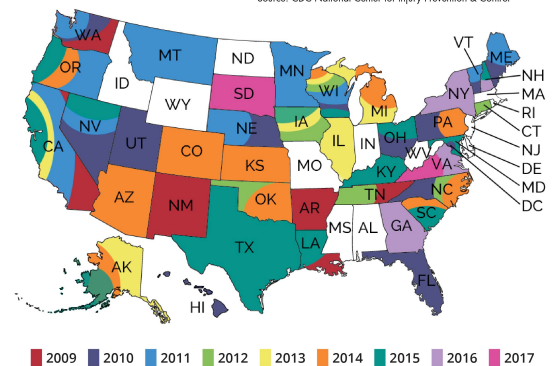
**Citation:** Bethell, CD, Citation: Bethell, CD, Davis, MB, Gombojav, N, Stumbo, S, Powers, K. Issue Brief: A national and across state profile on adverse childhood experiences among children and possibilities to heal and thrive. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, October 2017.

[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.