

# Florida

## 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

In 2010, [Peace4Tarpon](#) became the first city to declare itself a trauma-informed community, and five years later received its first funding through the [The Mobilizing Action for Resilient Communities](#) (MARC) grant. There are four other [Peace4 communities](#) following this model (three in Florida and one in Pennsylvania.) There have been and will continue to be, as Part of several initiatives, showings of the documentaries [Paper Tigers](#) and [Resilience](#) throughout the state. One of Peace4Tarpon's visions is to Create a Peace4Florida statewide community, as there is interest from other cities and counties throughout Florida.

[The Florida-Faith Based and Community-Based Advisory Council](#), which advises the Executive Office of the Governor and the Legislature, plans on training its organizations [on ACEs science and promoting resilience](#).

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention has [done pioneering work in looking at the extent of ACEs in juvenile offenders](#).

Governors [Charlie Crist](#) and [Rick Scott](#) declared trauma-informed care days in 2010 and 2017, respectively. The [Florida State University Center for Prevention and Early Intervention Policy](#) created the [FloridaTrauma.org](#) website with resources about trauma-informed care and how it's being implemented in baby courts, for young parents and in child care.

### State Initiative

No state initiative was identified.

### Local Initiatives

[Peace4Tarpon](#), [Peace4Gainesville](#), [Peace4theBigBend](#)

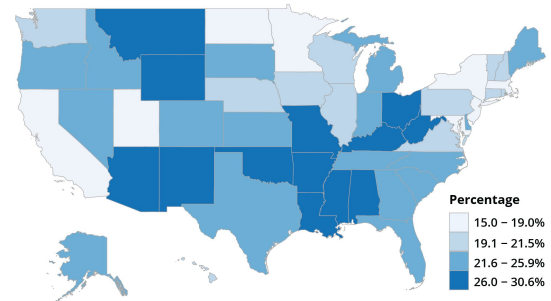
### Legislation (Sources include NCSL)

[Chapter 2015-79, Committee Substitute for SB No. 7078, 2015](#) — Requires community-based organizations that provide child protective services for the state to "give priority to the use of services that are evidence-based and trauma-informed."

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

FL ranks 35th 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

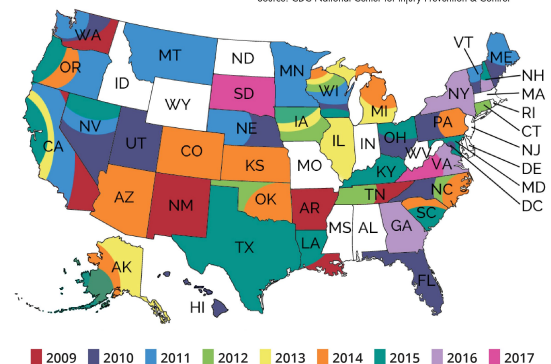
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[www.cahmi.org/projects/Adverse-childhood-experiences-aces](http://www.cahmi.org/projects/Adverse-childhood-experiences-aces)

\* 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.

