

CRITICAL PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN

Adverse childhood experiences, or ACEs, are traumatic events that occur in childhood such as abuse, neglect, or household challenges that affect a person’s mental and physical health, well-being, and success in adulthood.

ABUSE

Physical Emotional Sexual

NEGLECT

Physical Emotional

HOUSEHOLD CHALLENGES

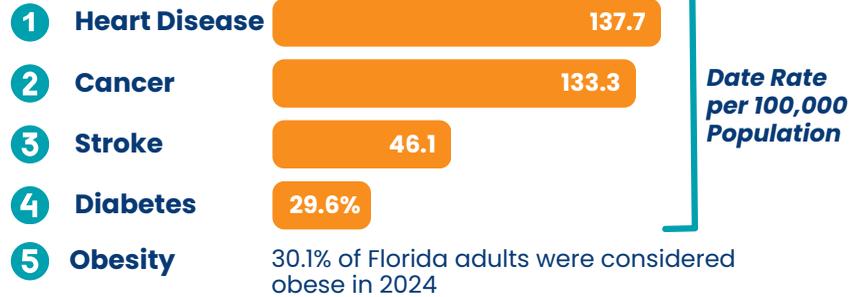
Substance Misuse Incarceration Parental Separation Intimate Partner Violence Mental Illness



Source: 2024 Florida Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

LONG-TERM IMPLICATIONS ON HEALTH

5 of the 10 leading causes of death are associated with ACEs



\$830,928

Estimated average lifetime cost per victim of nonfatal child maltreatment.

\$428 BILLION

Lifetime economic burden resulting from new cases of fatal and nonfatal child maltreatment.

ACEs are associated with increased risk of overdose and suicide later in life, having a generational impact:

- Florida’s unintentional overdose rate was 20.51 per 100,000 population in 2024.
- Florida’s suicide rate was 13.89 per 100,000 population in 2024.

REDUCING THE IMPACT OF ACEs

Strengthening economic supports for families:

- Paid time off
- Earned income or child tax credits
- Family-friendly work policies

Give kids a good start:

- Early learning programs
- Affordable preschool and childcare

Provide access to safe and supportive housing:

- Allocate needed housing resources

Funding ACEs screenings in health care settings

PREVENTION OF ACEs BENEFITS US ALL

Reduce Health Care Costs

Increase Economic Productivity

Improve Productive Workforce

Achievement and Life Success

Reduce Incarceration

Improve Mental Well-being

Safer and Supportive Environments

[1 PacesConnection.com/blog/got-your-ace-resilience-scores](https://PacesConnection.com/blog/got-your-ace-resilience-scores) •
 [2 FloridaHealth.gov/BRFSS](https://FloridaHealth.gov/BRFSS) •
 [3 FLHealthCHARTS.gov](https://FLHealthCHARTS.gov) •
 [4 The economic burden of child maltreatment in the U.S., 2015 - ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)

- **Adverse childhood experiences** and their associated harms are preventable.
- **Creating safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments** can prevent ACEs and help all children reach their full health and life potential.
- **Preventing adverse childhood experiences** requires understanding and addressing risk and protective factors.

- **Risk factors** are characteristics that may increase the likelihood of experiencing adverse childhood experiences.
- **Protective factors** are characteristics that may decrease the likelihood of experiencing adverse childhood experiences.

NATIONAL AND STATE RESOURCES

Florida Lifeline 988

Florida Abuse Hotline 800-962-2873

Florida Narcotics Anonymous 844-623-5674

Florida Human Trafficking Hotline 855-352-7233

Florida Domestic Violence Hotline 800-500-1119

Florida Sexual Violence Information Line 888-956-7273

National Teen Dating Abuse Hotline 866-331-9474

National Disaster Distress Helpline 800-985-5990

Local Support and Resources 211

