

CRITICAL PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN

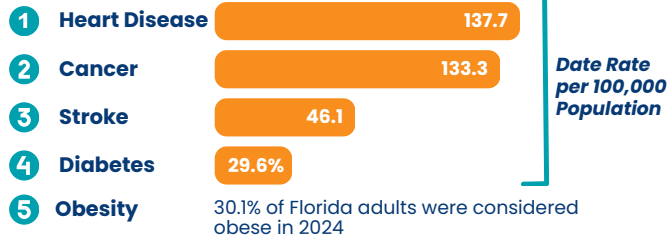
Adverse childhood experiences, or ACEs, are traumatic events that occur in childhood such as abuse, neglect, or household challenges that affect a person's mental and physical health, well-being, and success in adulthood.



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



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

1 PacesConnection.com/blog/got-your-ace-resilience-scores • 2 FloridaHealth.gov/BRFSS • 3 FLHealthCHARTS.gov • 4 *The economic burden of child maltreatment in the U.S., 2015 - ScienceDirect*

- **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

