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The Impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences in South Carolina

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Social Determinants of Health

Built Environment

Health and Wellness

Social and Community Context

Education

Social Supports and network

Economic Stability

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

The Original ACE Study

- Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Disrupted neurodevelopment
- Social, Emotional and Cognitive Impairment
- Adoption of Health Risk Behaviors
- Disease, Disability and Social Problems
- Early Death
### Adverse Childhood Experiences

#### Household Dysfunction
- Domestic violence
- Incarceration of a parent
- Mental illness in the household
- Substance use in the household
- Parent divorce/separation

#### Abuse
- Physical
- Emotional
- Sexual

#### Neglect
- Emotional
- Physical
ACE Score = Number of Yes’s to Questions

Did you live with anyone who was depressed, mentally ill, or suicidal?

Did you live with anyone who was a problem drinker or alcoholic?

Did you live with anyone who used illegal street drugs or who abused prescription medications?

Did you live with anyone who served time or was sentenced to serve time in a prison, jail, or other correctional facility?

Were your parents separated or divorced?

Did your parents or adults in your home ever slap, hit, kick, punch, or beat each other up?

Did a parent or adult in your home ever hit, beat, kick, or physically hurt you in any way?
Key Findings of The CDC-Kaiser ACE Study

- ACEs are common (63%)
- ACEs are interrelated (87%)
- ACEs have a dose-response relationship with health and social outcomes
South Carolina
ACE Data
Three in five South Carolinians report ACEs
ACEs are common in South Carolina

- Parental Divorce/Separation: 31%
- Emotional Abuse: 30%
- Household Substance Use: 28%
- Household Domestic Violence: 20%
- Household Mental Illness: 18%
- Physical Abuse: 14%
- Sexual Abuse: 13%
- Household Incarceration: 9%
Lower income is associated with higher ACEs

- $75,000+: 57%
- $35-49,999: 63%
- $20-24,999: 68%
- 0-$9,000: 70%
To understand the impact of ACEs, we can examine their links to:

- Risk Behaviors
- Mental Health
- Chronic Disease
- Healthcare Access
South Carolinians who engage in **risky behaviors** also report high rates of ACEs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behavior</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current smoker</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Binge drinker</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never use seatbelt</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ever smoked</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
More than a majority of South Carolinians who report depressive disorder also report ACEs.
South Carolinians who report chronic physical health conditions also report high rates of ACEs

- COPD: 68%
- Asthma: 68%
- Kidney disease: 65%
- Arthritis: 62%
- Stroke: 59%
- Diabetes: 57%
- Heart disease: 56%
- Heart attack: 56%
- Skin cancer: 49%
South Carolinians who report lack of access to healthcare also report high rates of ACEs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical Cost Barrier</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Health Coverage</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checkup Never</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Personal Care Provider</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checkup Over 2 Years Ago</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Of the South Carolinians who reported ACEs, 88% reported more than one ACE.
ACEs are common, interrelated, powerful

High ACE scores in population

Increased risk of multiple health and social problems

Opportunity for prevention
Impact of ACEs in South Carolina: Equity & Impact
ACEs are more common among people of color in South Carolina

- White: 68% (59% ACEs)
- Hispanic: 79% (4% ACEs)
- Black: 65% (25% ACEs)
ACEs are Experienced Differently By People of Color in South Carolina

- 34% of Hispanic adults report domestic violence in childhood
- 14% of Black adults reported a parent being incarcerated in childhood
- 10% Higher prevalence of health consequences associated with ACEs
Early Death
Disease, Disability and Social Problems
Adoption of Health Risk Behaviors
Social, Emotional and Cognitive Impairment
Disrupted neurodevelopment
Adverse Childhood Experiences
Historical and Systemic Inequities
ACEs = Adverse Community Experiences?

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Neglect
- Emotional
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Community Disadvantage
- Neighborhood violence
- Discrimination
- Lack of economic mobility
- Poverty
Three Keys to Resilience

Positive Self-view

Safe, stable, nurturing Relationships

Supportive, Equitable Community
Increased well-being for individuals, families and communities

Resilient Community

Equitable Opportunity
- Adequate living wages
- Local wealth
- Quality education

People
- Strong social networks
- Trust
- Willingness to act for the common good
- Norms/culture that support health and safety

Place
- Safe parks and open spaces
- Arts and cultural expression
- Perceptions of safety
- Availability of healthy products
- Availability of quality housing
“Nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in our lifetime; therefore we must be saved by hope.”

-Reinhold Neibuhr
Thank you!

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Empower Action Model™

- Public Policy
- Community
- Organization
- Interpersonal (Family)
- Individual (Child)

BUILD: Inclusive environments for all families
GROW: Strong cultural identity for all families
SHARE: Race equity and inclusion in all policies and practices
CREATE: Support

Early Childhood → Adulthood