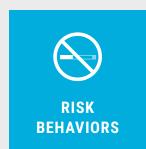
# **LEE COUNTY**

49% report ACEs

## **Top ACEs Reported**

Parental divorce/separation - 31% Household substance use - 23% Emotional abuse - 15%

## ACEs affect health and social outcomes.



69%
of current smokers
report ACEs

South Carolina 74%

57%
of former smokers
report ACEs

South Carolina 66%

of adults that never use a seat belt report ACEs

South Carolina 68%

70%
of binge drinkers
report ACEs

South Carolina 71%

MENTAL HEALTH

63%
of adults with
depressive disorder
report ACEs

South Carolina 78%

30%
of adults with poor
general health
report ACEs

75%
of adults with poor mental health report ACEs

South Carolina 83%

48%
of adults with poor physical and mental health report ACEs

South Carolina 79%

CHRONIC DISEASE 40%
of adults with
heart disease
report ACEs

South Carolina 54%

51%
of adults with asthma report ACEs

South Carolina 68%

53%
of adults with
kidney disease
report ACEs

South Carolina 62%

31%
of adults with COPD
report ACEs

South Carolina 67%

HEALTHCARE ACCESS

46%
of adults that report no healthcare coverage report ACEs

South Carolina 58%

70%
of adults that have
never had a checkup
report ACEs

South Carolina 70%

70%
of adults that report
medical costs being
a barrier report ACEs

39%
of adults that don't
have a doctor
report ACEs

South Carolina 69%

## ACEs can also affect a family's well-being.

**59%** make less than \$25,000 a year

65% are unemployed

45% only have a high school diploma

Note: Data was collected via the South Carolina Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System 2014-2016, managed locally by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. S = data suppressed due to small sample size.

Total population for Lee County 18 and older = 13,778.



#### THE SOUTH CAROLINA ACE INITIATIVE

# **Empowering communities to prevent childhood adversity**

## Know, Learn, Plan, Advocate,

## Why is this important?

This data profile shows the prevalence of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) for adults in Lee County. An adult could have experienced one or more ACE throughout their childhood.

ACEs are serious childhood traumas that result in toxic stress, which can harm a child's brain and development.

Toxic stress may prevent a child from learning, playing in a healthy way with other children, and can result in long term health problems. ACEs are common in South Carolina, which puts our population at risk for many poor health and social outcomes. We have the power to prevent this from happening.

The data in this county profile provides a snapshot of the different outcomes ACEs are associated with, and can be used as a tool to empower action in our communities.

## What can you do?

- Collaborate with your community to make data-driven decisions using this profile, including when developing a plan for action to address ACEs.
- Educate by raising community awareness about these statistics.
- Advocate by using this profile for grant writing, policy statements, and presentations to key policy stakeholders in your community.

### How can you learn more?

Children's Trust can assist you and your community in your efforts to prevent the negative consequences of ACEs:

- · Hold an ACE training
- Screen the films Paper Tigers or Resilience
- · Have a community conversation
- · Review ACE questions and research

### Where does the data come from?

South Carolina's ACE data comes from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) which is a national health survey administered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The BRFSS is a phone-based survey that asks residents of South Carolina older than 18 to answer questions about a wide variety of health and social conditions.

In 2014, Children's Trust of South Carolina partnered with South Carolina's Department of Health and Environmental Control (S.C. DHEC) to collect data from South Carolina adults on exposure to ACEs.

#### ACE types assessed:

- · Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- · Emotional abuse
- · Mental illness
- · Household substance use
- Incarceration
- · Parental divorce/separation
- · Domestic violence

Responses to ACE questions only indicate whether a participant has experienced a particular ACE, not how severe or frequently it occurred.

ACEs and other BRFSS data are weighted to be representative of the South Carolina adult population. This means that the data presented in profile is representative of the adult population within that county, which is important to consider when drawing conclusions about the data.

