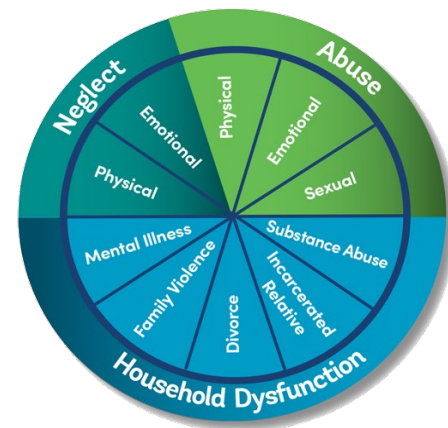


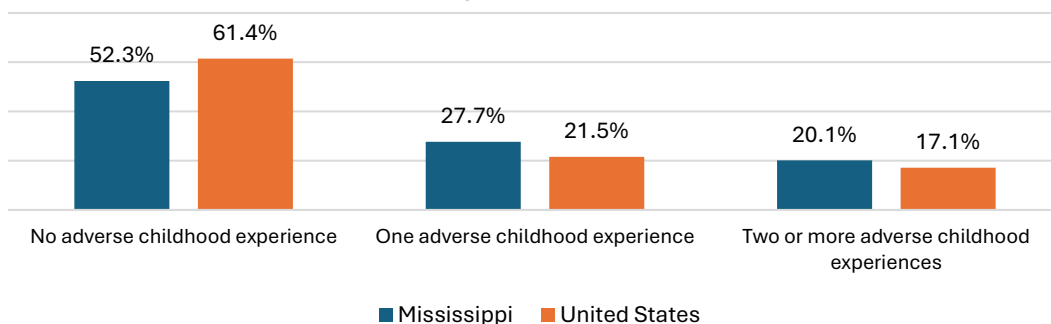
Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in Mississippi: A Data Overview

What are ACEs?

- ACEs are potentially traumatic events that occur in childhood (0-17 years).
- Examples of ACEs include
 - Experiencing violence, abuse, or neglect
 - Witnessing violence in the home or community
 - Having a family member attempt or die by suicide
- Other examples can include growing up in a household with:
 - Substance use problems
 - Mental health problems
 - Instability due to parental separation
 - Instability due to household members being in prison

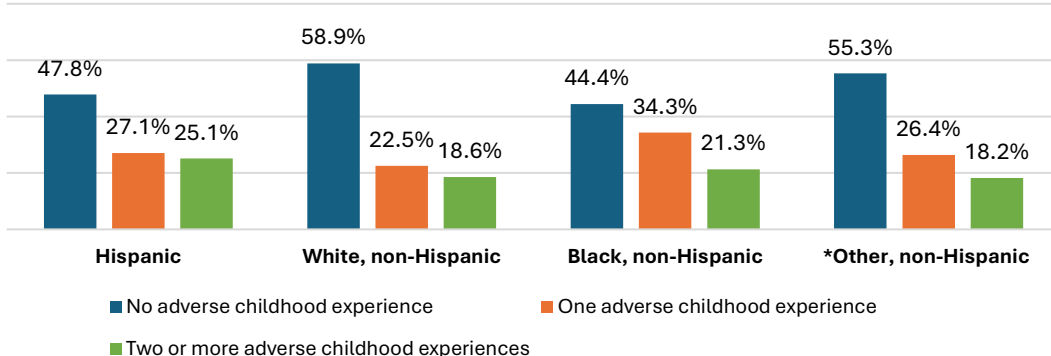


Mississippi vs. U.S. Comparison of ACEs in Children (Ages 0 to 17), 2023 - 2024



In Mississippi, **20.1%** of children have experienced two or more ACEs, compared to **17.1%** nationally, indicating a higher prevalence of childhood adversity in the state.

ACEs by Race in Mississippi, Ages 0 to 17, 2023 - 2024



Over **34%** of Black children in Mississippi experienced one ACE—a higher rate than observed in White, Hispanic, or other racial groups, indicating racial disparities in childhood adversity. Over **25%** of Hispanic children experienced two or more ACEs — higher than White, Black, and other racial groups.

*Other, Non-Hispanic- AI/AN, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, Multi-race

Prevention Strategies:

- Strengthen economic supports for family
- Promote social norms that protect against violence and adversity
- Ensure a strong start for children
- Teach skills
- Connect youth to caring adults and activities
- Intervene to lessen immediate and long-term harms

Public Health Can:

- Use public health surveillance systems to describe the burden of ACEs and changes over time.
- Identify populations at disproportionate risk of ACEs to inform tailored prevention and intervention strategies
- Monitor efforts to reduce the disproportionate burden of ACEs and achieve health equity.

Protective Factors:

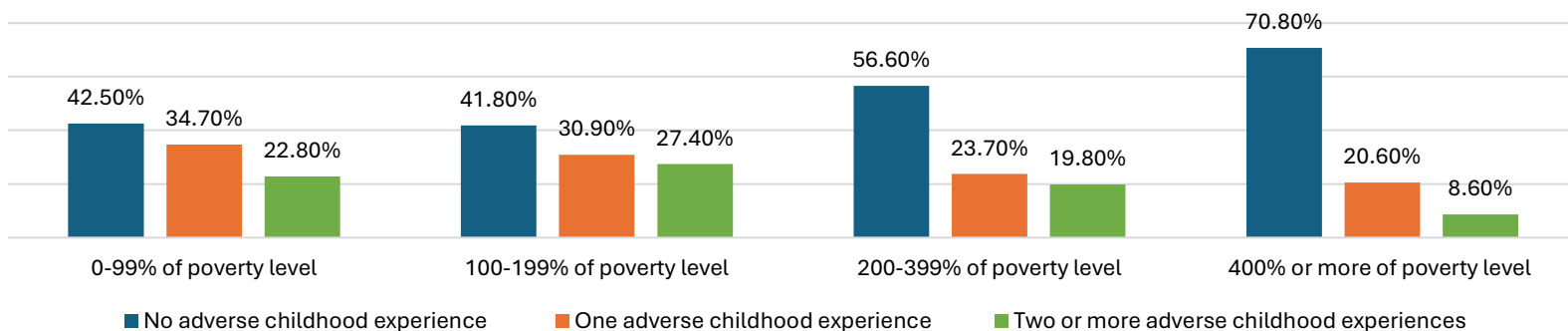
- Families who create safe, stable and nurturing relationships.
- Families where caregivers have steady employment.
- Children who have caring adults outside the family who serve as mentors or role models.
- Communities where families have access to economic and financial help.
- Communities where adults have work opportunities with family-friendly policies.

Data Sources

1. [NSCH Interactive Data Query](#)
2. [Adverse Childhood Experiences \(ACEs\) | CDC](#)

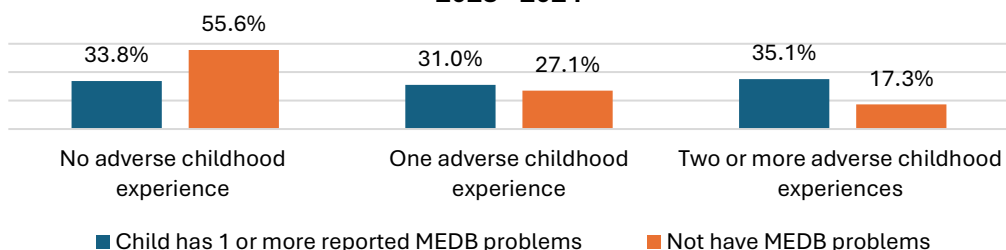
Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in Mississippi: A Data Overview

ACEs by Poverty Level in Mississippi, Ages 0 to 17, 2023 - 2024



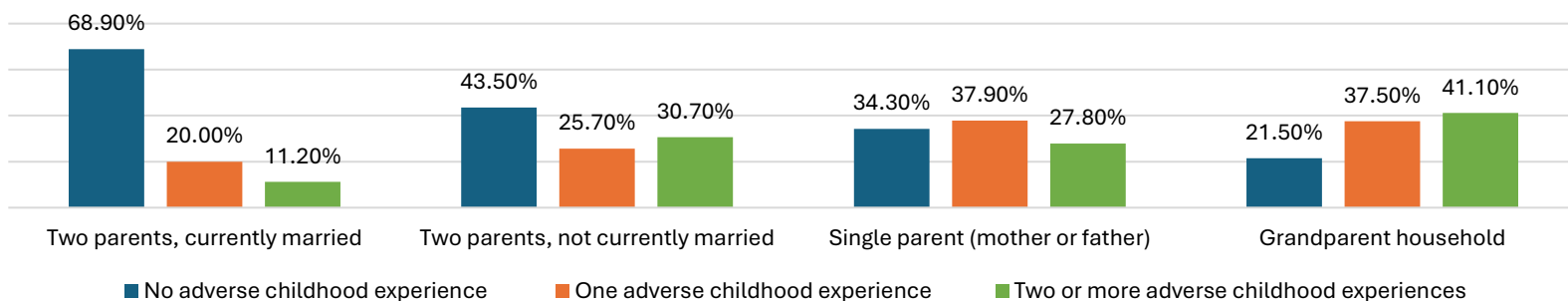
Children in lower-income households are significantly more likely to experience one or more ACEs. Over **27%** of children in the **100-199%** poverty level experienced two or more ACEs, compared to just **8.6%** of children in households at **400%** or more of the poverty level. This demonstrates a strong inverse relationship between socioeconomic status and exposure to childhood adversity.

ACEs in Mississippi Among Children With vs. Without Mental, Emotional, Developmental or Behavioral (MEDB) Problems, 2023 - 2024



Children with mental, emotional, developmental or behavioral (MEDB) problems are much more likely to have experienced multiple ACEs. Nearly **36%** of these children had two or more ACEs, compared to just under **18%** of children without MEDB problems. This highlights a strong link between childhood adversity and developmental health outcomes.

ACEs by Family Structure in Mississippi, Ages 0 to 17, 2023 - 2024



Children in different family structures face different levels of risk for ACEs. Over **41%** of children living with grandparents experienced two or more ACEs, compared to just **11.2%** of children in married, two-parent households. This highlights the strong connection between family structure and childhood adversity.

Conclusion:

- ACEs are common among children in Mississippi and are closely associated with race, poverty, family structure, and mental, emotional, developmental or behavioral (MEDB) problems. Children in non-traditional households and lower-income families are especially at risk for experiencing multiple ACEs. These experiences can lead to long-term challenges in physical, emotional and behavioral health. Preventing ACEs through early intervention, strong community supports, and supportive systems that respond to children's experiences are essential to improving child well-being and achieving health equity across the state.

Data Sources

- [NSCH Interactive Data Query](#)
- [Adverse Childhood Experiences \(ACEs\) | CDC](#)