

**2017 Nevada High School Youth
Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS):
Adverse Childhood Experiences
(ACEs) Special Report**



Acknowledgements

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Additional Resources

[UNR YRBS Statewide and Special Reports](#)

[YRBS Adolescent and School Health](#)

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Introduction

Priority health risk behaviors (i.e. preventable behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of morbidity and mortality) are often established during childhood and adolescence and extend into adulthood. Ongoing surveillance of youth risk behaviors is critical for the design, implementation, and evaluation of public health interventions to improve adolescent health. The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is a national surveillance system that was established in 1991 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to monitor the prevalence of health risk behaviors among youth. The Nevada High School YRBS is a biennial, anonymous, and voluntary survey of students in 9th through 12th grade in regular public, charter, and alternative schools. Students self-report their behaviors in six major areas of health that directly lead to morbidity and mortality, these include:

- 1) Behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries and violence;
- 2) Sexual behaviors that contribute to human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, other sexually transmitted diseases, and unintended pregnancy;
- 3) Tobacco use;
- 4) Alcohol and other drug use;
- 5) Unhealthy dietary behaviors; and
- 6) Physical inactivity.

The Nevada High School YRBS provides prevalence estimates for priority risk behaviors and can be used to monitor trends over time.

Methods

The 2017 Nevada YRBS sampling plan was designed to ensure that every eligible student in regular public, charter, and alternative high schools had an equal chance of selection. For the 2017 High School YRBS, a random sample of 5,336 youth from 98 schools completed the survey. Please see the 2017 Nevada High School Youth Risk Behavior report for detailed information on the random cluster sampling design used.

The 2017 Nevada YRBS data were weighted at the state and regional level based on the sex, race/ethnicity, and grade level of students in each region. The weighting process ensured that the estimates accurately represent the entire student population in each region and the state as a whole. Non-response or poor sampling procedures can result in a sample that is not a representative subset of the population; therefore, un-weighted results from these samples may not accurately reflect student behaviors and could be misleading. This report only displays weighted results.

In the 2017 Nevada High School YRBS, six state-added questions assessed lifetime prevalence of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs): 1) physical abuse by an adult; 2) verbal abuse by an adult; 3) forced sex; 4) household domestic violence; 5) household mental illness; and 6) household substance abuse (please see 2017 Nevada Youth Risk Behavior reports for more information). The ACE questions were summed to create a total ACE score (range 0-6). ACE scores were only calculated for youth with complete ACE question data (n=4,899). The weighted chi-square test was used to assess differences in risk behaviors by ACE score (0 ACE, 1 ACE, 2 ACE, or 3+ ACE). The weighted Cochran-Armitage test for trend was used to assess the relationship between ACEs and risk behaviors.

Participant Characteristics

Table 1: Demographic characteristics of all participating students, by sex, age, grade, race/ethnicity, and region — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017

		Student Participants ^a	Unweighted %	Weighted %
Total		4899	100.0%	100.0%
Sex	Female	2409	49.4%	48.9%
	Male	2468	50.6%	51.1%
Age Groups	14 years old or younger	598	12.2%	12.8%
	15 years old	1222	25.0%	24.0%
	16 years old	1277	26.1%	25.8%
	17 years old	1232	25.2%	26.7%
	18 years old or older	564	11.5%	10.7%
Grade	9th grade	1269	26.1%	25.1%
	10th grade	1322	27.2%	25.5%
	11th grade	1164	24.0%	25.0%
	12th grade	1090	22.4%	24.2%
	Ungraded or other grade	13	0.3%	0.2%
Race/Ethnicity	American Indian/Alaska Native ^d	105	2.2%	1.5%
	Asian ^d	220	4.6%	6.7%
	Black ^d	195	4.0%	9.8%
	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander ^d	68	1.4%	1.4%
	White ^d	1959	40.6%	34.3%
	Hispanic/Latino	2004	41.5%	41.0%
	Other/Multiple ^d	273	5.7%	5.4%
Region	Urban	3308	67.5%	90.8%
	Rural/Frontier	1591	32.5%	9.2%

^a The sample size in the total and subgroups may differ due to missing data

^b Non-Hispanic

Prevalence of Individual Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and ACE Score

Table 2: Prevalence of individual ACE questions and ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017*

		N	% ^a
Ever physically forced to have sex			
	Yes	376	6.5%
	No	4523	93.5%
Ever been hit, beaten, kicked, or physically hurt in any way by an adult			
	Yes	881	17.5%
	No	4018	82.5%
Sometimes, mostly, or always have been sworn at, insulted by, or put down by an adult			
	Yes	1627	33.2%
	No	3272	66.8%
Ever seen adults in their home slap, hit, kick, punch, or beat each other up			
	Yes	778	16.4%
	No	4121	83.6%
Ever lived with someone who was depressed, mentally ill, or suicidal			
	Yes	1547	30.1%
	No	3352	69.9%
Ever lived with someone who was a problem drinker, alcoholic, or abused street or prescription drugs			
	Yes	1614	31.9%
	No	3285	68.1%
ACE Score			
	0	1826	37.8%
	1	1179	24.2%
	2	830	17.1%
	3+	1064	20.9%

^a Weighted row percent

*Note: Youth with any missing ACE data were excluded. Prevalence estimates differ slightly from statewide report

Table 3: Participant characteristics by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017

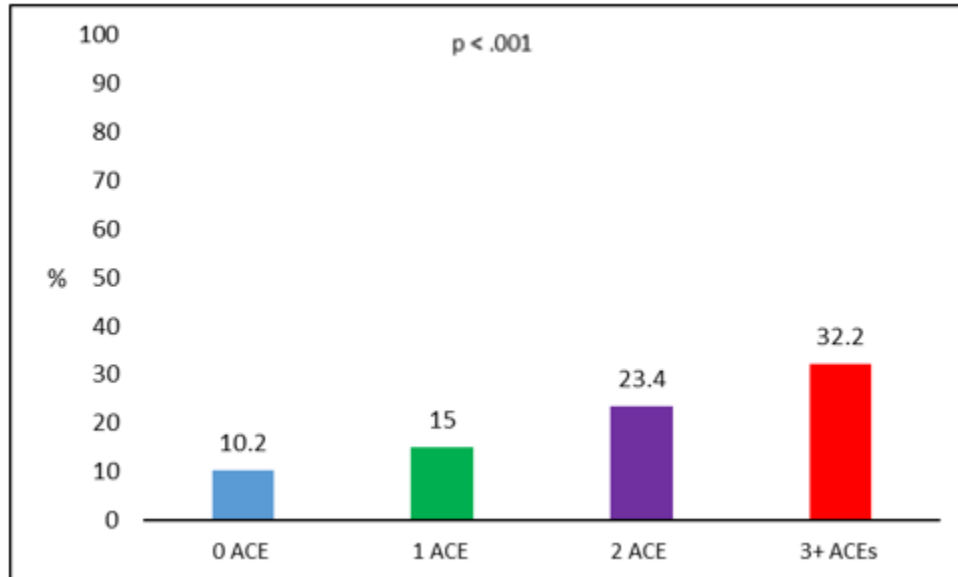
		0 ACE		1 ACE		2 ACE		3+ ACE		P-Value
		N ^a	% ^b	N ^a	% ^b	N ^a	% ^b	N ^a	% ^b	
Overall Total	Total	1826	37.8%	1179	24.2%	830	17.1%	1064	20.9%	
Sex	Female	745	32.1%	555	22.4%	458	19.0%	651	26.4%	<0.001
	Male	1075	43.2%	618	26.0%	369	15.2%	406	15.6%	
Age	14 years old or younger	245	41.4%	139	25.7%	98	15.1%	116	17.8%	0.004
	15 years old	493	42.0%	276	23.1%	222	17.0%	231	17.8%	
	16 years old	465	36.5%	298	22.3%	198	15.7%	316	25.4%	
	17 years old	435	34.6%	309	25.1%	217	19.1%	271	21.2%	
	18 years old or older	186	34.9%	155	27.4%	95	17.7%	128	20.1%	
Grade	9th grade	517	42.1%	284	24.0%	229	17.0%	239	16.8%	0.006
	10th grade	507	39.8%	315	22.7%	205	14.7%	295	22.8%	
	11th grade	402	33.7%	285	24.7%	195	18.0%	282	23.6%	
	12th grade	384	35.3%	285	26.0%	193	18.5%	228	20.2%	
Race/Ethnicity	American Indian/Alaska Native^d	32	24.4%	28	21.7%	20	29.5%	25	24.4%	0.191
	Asian^d	106	46.9%	44	19.9%	34	15.6%	36	17.7%	
	Black^d	70	36.8%	50	25.0%	35	18.7%	40	19.5%	
	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander^d	21	33.3%	21	27.8%	12	11.4%	14	27.5%	
	White^d	712	36.1%	477	25.0%	335	18.0%	435	20.9%	
	Hispanic/Latino	785	39.4%	479	23.9%	325	15.5%	415	21.1%	
	Other/Multiple^d	78	31.4%	60	25.3%	55	19.8%	80	23.5%	
Region	Urban	1250	38.0%	802	24.3%	561	17.0%	695	20.6%	0.218
	Rural/Frontier	576	35.7%	377	23.4%	269	17.2%	369	23.7%	
Qualify for Free or Reduced Lunch	Yes	633	36.9%	411	22.3%	296	16.3%	477	24.4%	0.003
	No	1171	38.6%	756	25.6%	525	17.5%	575	18.4%	
Military Family	Yes	49	24.6%	42	22.6%	43	22.0%	60	30.8%	0.002
	No	1713	38.9%	1081	24.2%	739	16.5%	943	20.4%	
Lesbian, Gay, or Bisexual	Yes	138	19.8%	138	21.2%	141	18.1%	303	40.9%	<0.001
	No	1681	41.1%	1036	24.7%	683	16.9%	757	17.3%	
Mostly A's or B's in School	Yes	1382	40.6%	844	24.4%	568	16.2%	681	18.9%	<0.001
	No	428	29.5%	322	23.7%	253	19.7%	376	27.1%	

^a The sample size in the total and subgroups may differ due to missing data

^b Weighted row percent

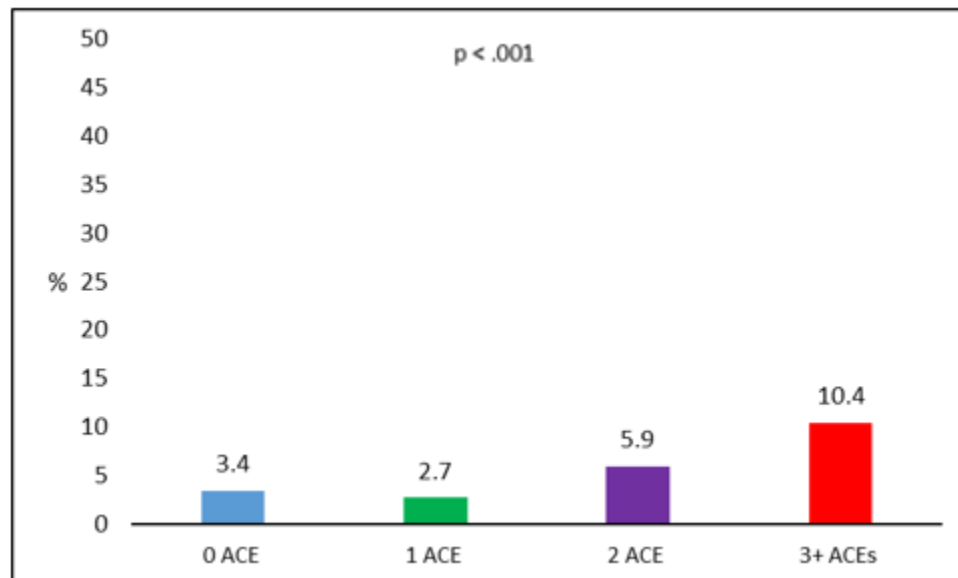
Select Behavioral Health Outcomes by ACE Score: Violence

Figure 1: Percentage of high school students who were in a physical fight during the 12 months before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



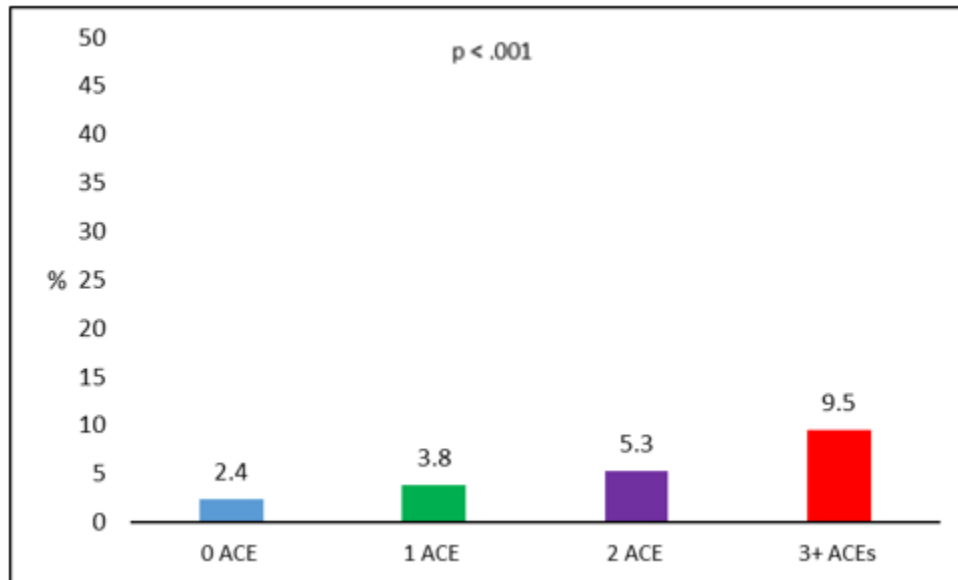
* One or more times during the 12 months before the survey

Figure 2: Percentage of high school students who were in a physical fight on school property during the 12 months before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



*One or more times during the 12 months before the survey

Figure 3: Percentage of high school students who carried a weapon on school property during the 30 days before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



*For example, a gun, knife, or club; one or more days during the 30 days before the survey

Select Behavioral Health Outcomes by ACE Score: Victimization

Figure 4: Percentage of high school students who were bullied on school property during the 12 months before the survey, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017

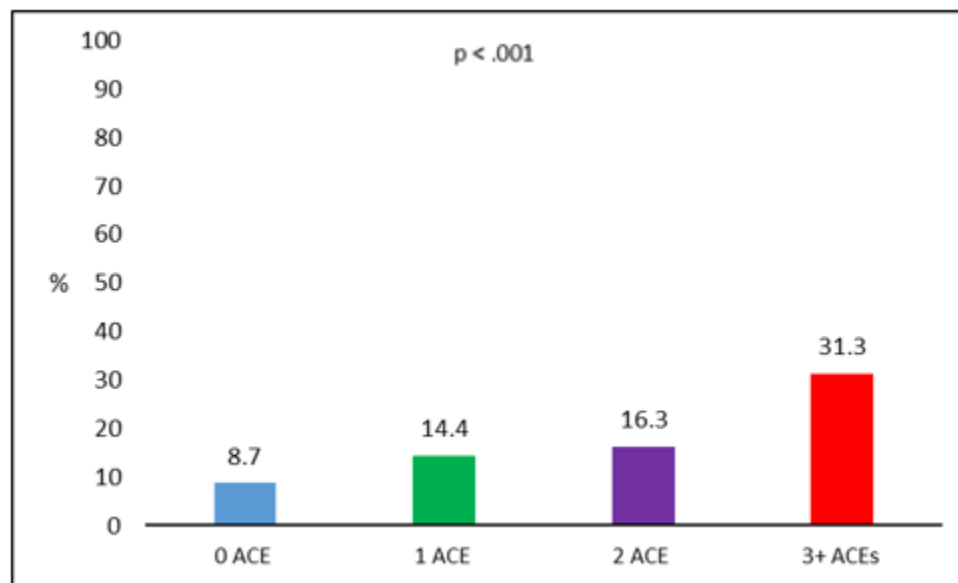
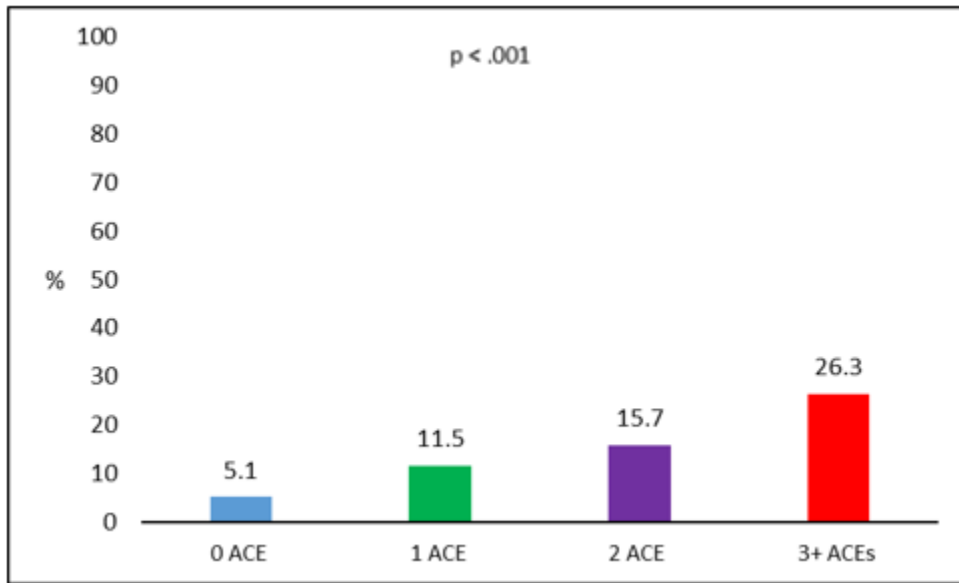
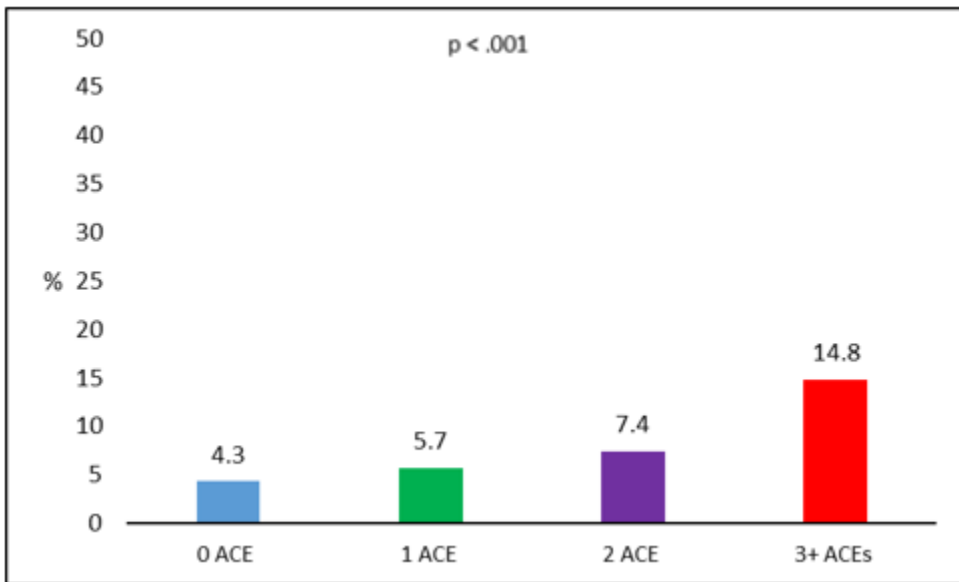


Figure 5: Percentage of high school students who were electronically bullied during the 12 months before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



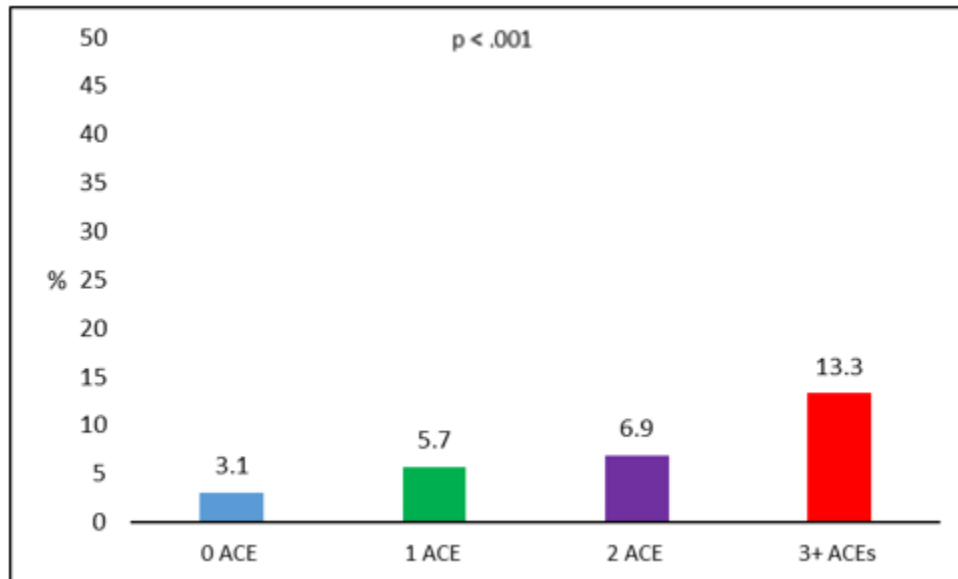
* Including being bullied through texting, Instagram, Facebook, or other social media

Figure 6: Percentage of high school students who did not go to school because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school during the 30 days before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



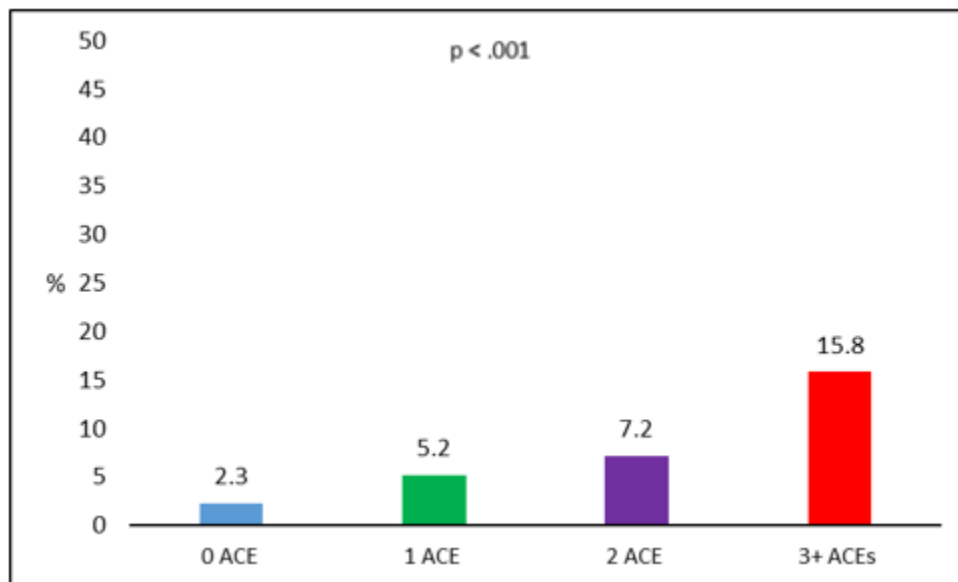
* One or more days during the 30 days before the survey

Figure 7: Percentage of high school students who were threatened or injured with a weapon on school property*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



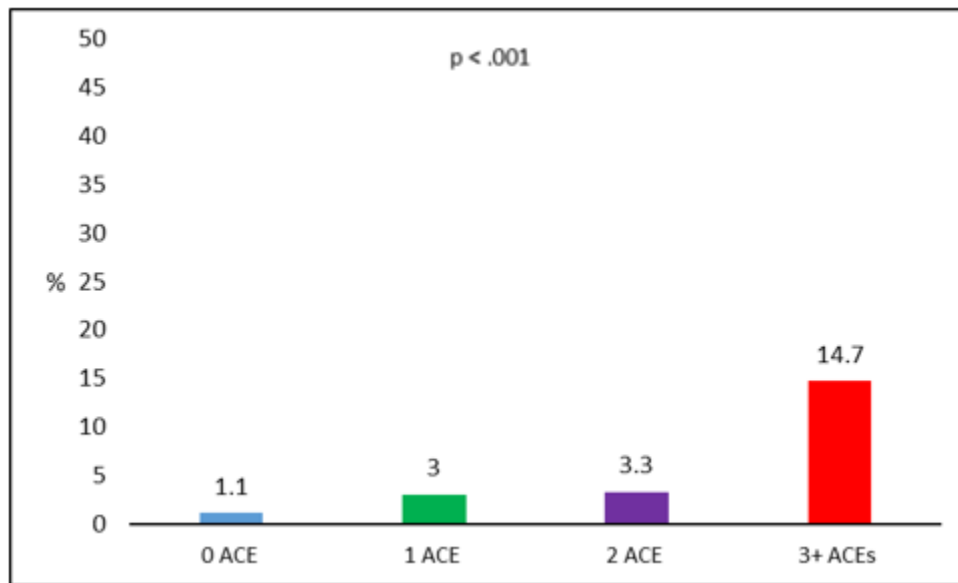
*Such as a gun, knife, or club one or more times during the 12 months before the survey

Figure 8: Percentage of high school students who experienced physical dating violence during the 12 months before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



*One or more times during the 12 months before the survey, including being hit, slammed into something, or injured with an object or weapon on purpose by someone they were dating or going out with among students who dated or went out with someone during the 12 months before the survey

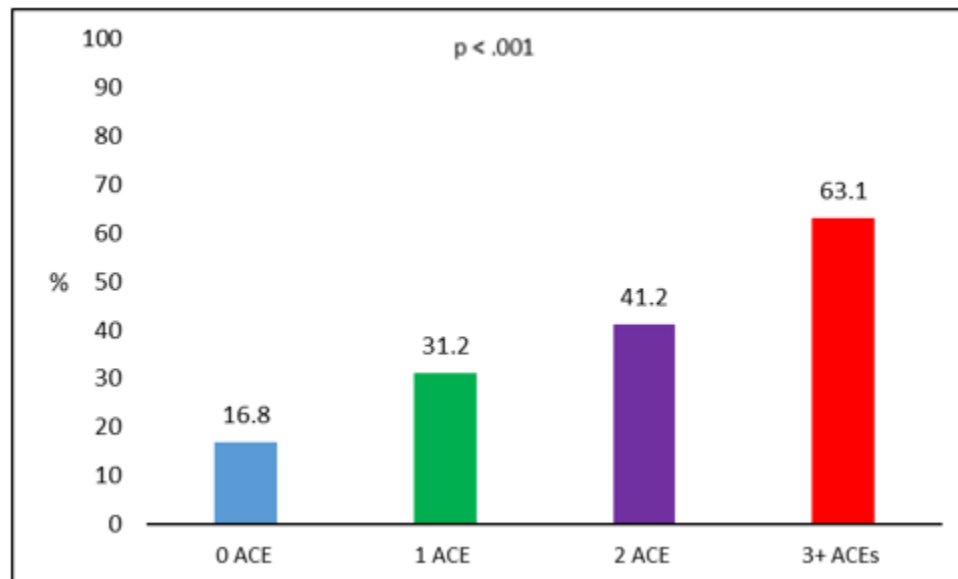
Figure 9: Percentage of high school students who experienced sexual dating violence during the 12 months before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



*One or more times during the 12 months before the survey, including kissing, touching, or being physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to by someone they were dating or going out with among students who dated or went out with someone during the 12 months before the survey

Select Behavioral Health Outcomes by ACE Score: Emotional Health

Figure 10: Percentage of high school students who felt sad or hopeless almost every day for two or more weeks in a row during the 12 months before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



*So that they stopped doing some usual activities

Figure 11: Percentage of high school students who seriously considered attempting suicide during the 12 months before the survey, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017

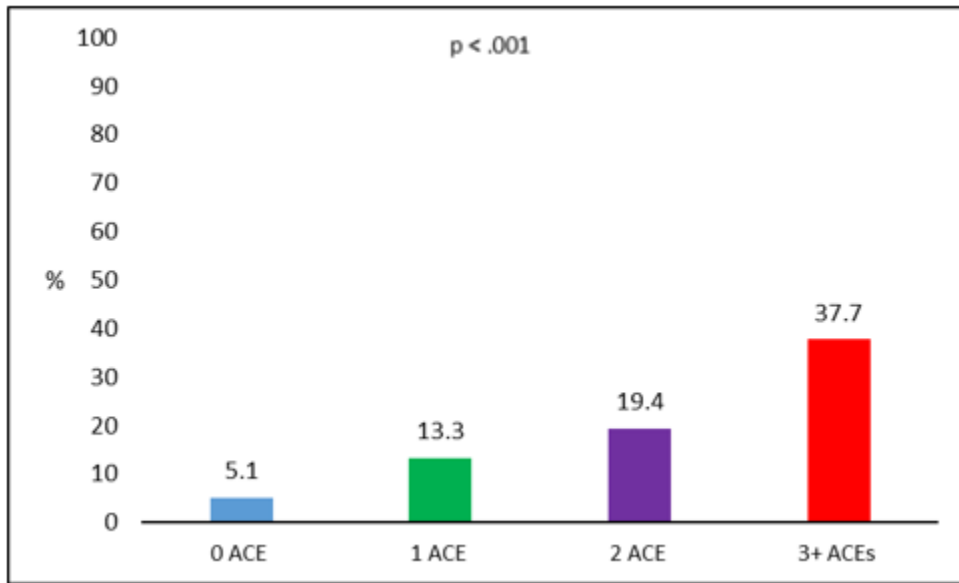


Figure 12: Percentage of high school students who made a plan about how they would attempt suicide during 12 months before the survey, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017

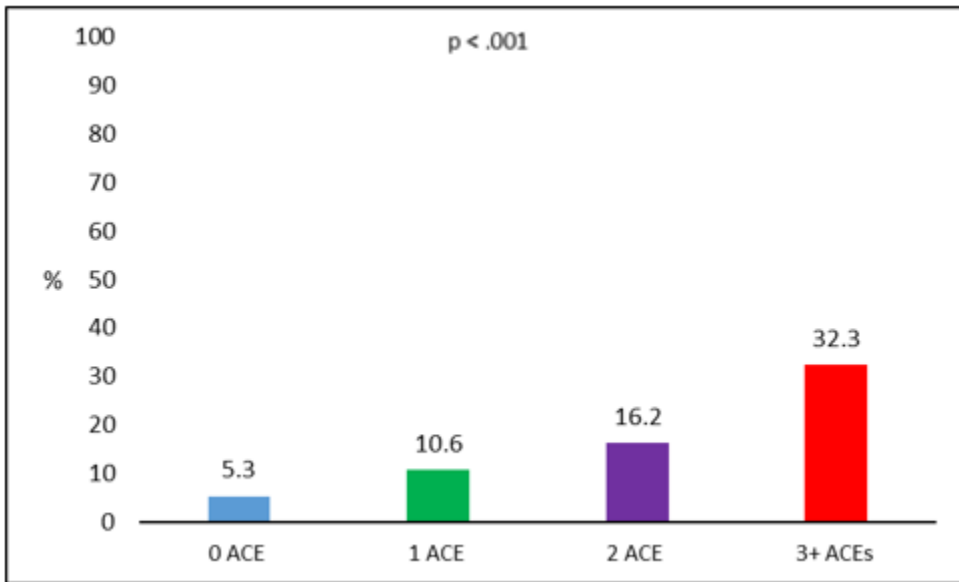
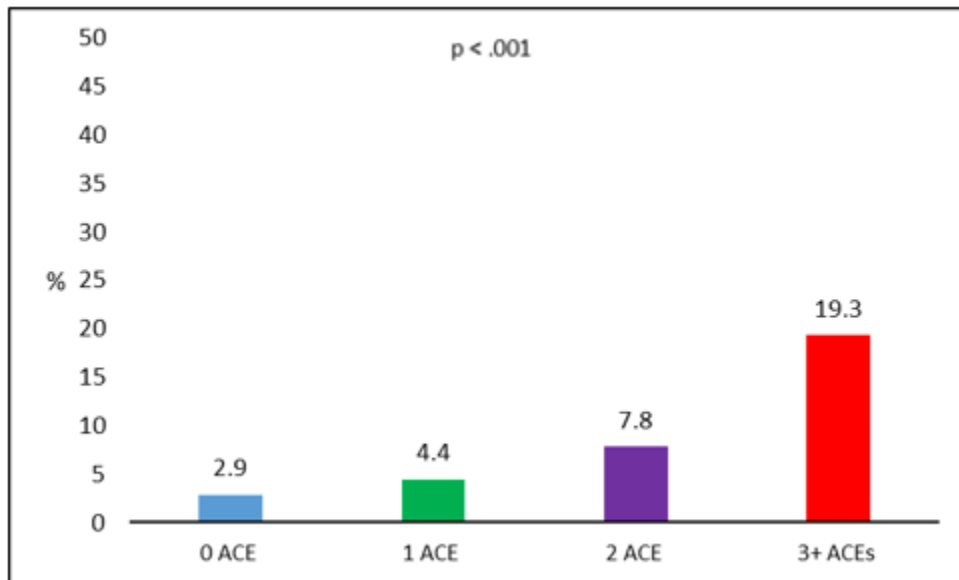
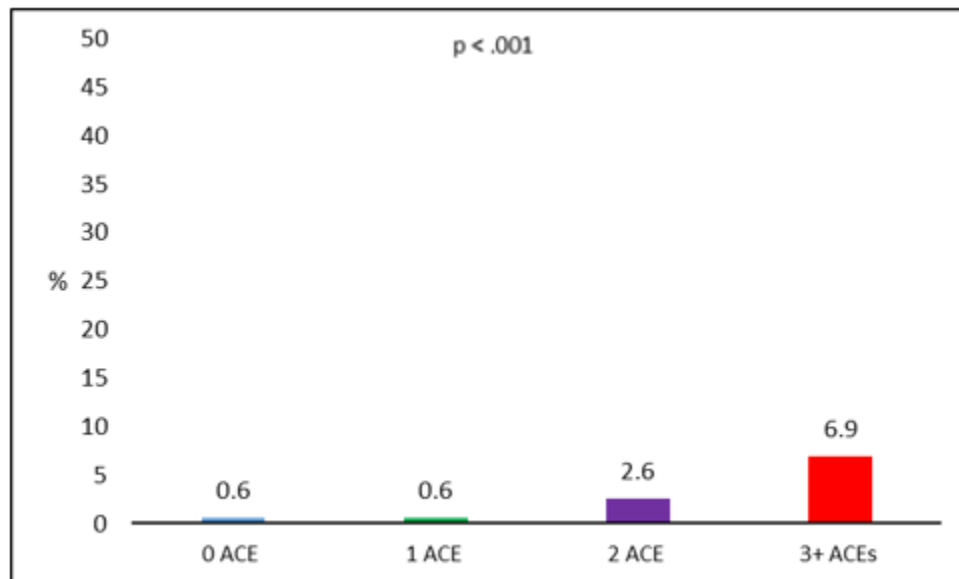


Figure 13: Percentage of high school students who attempted suicide during the 12 months before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



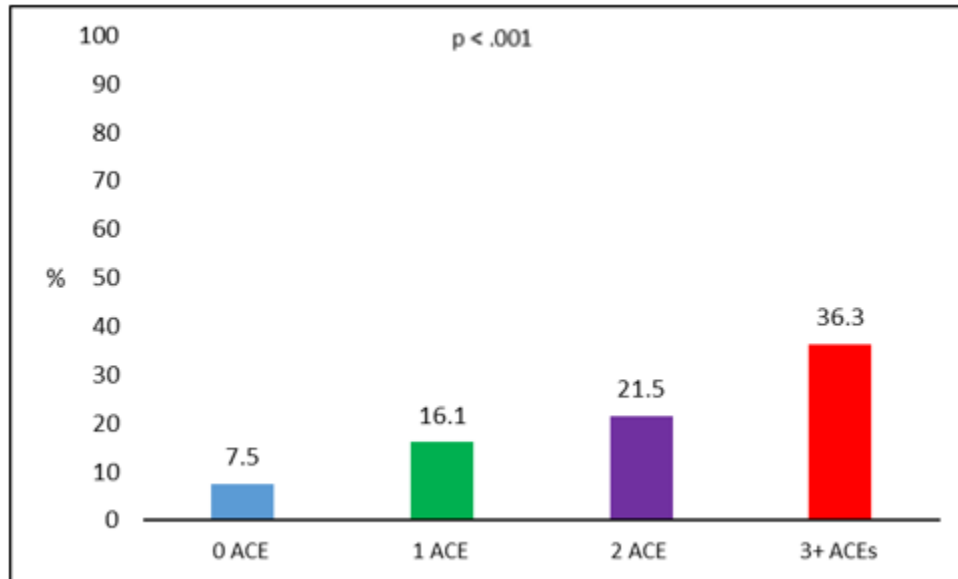
*One or more times during the 12 months before the survey

Figure 14: Percentage of high school students whose suicide attempt resulted in an injury, poisoning, or overdose that had to be treated by a doctor or nurse during the 12 months before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



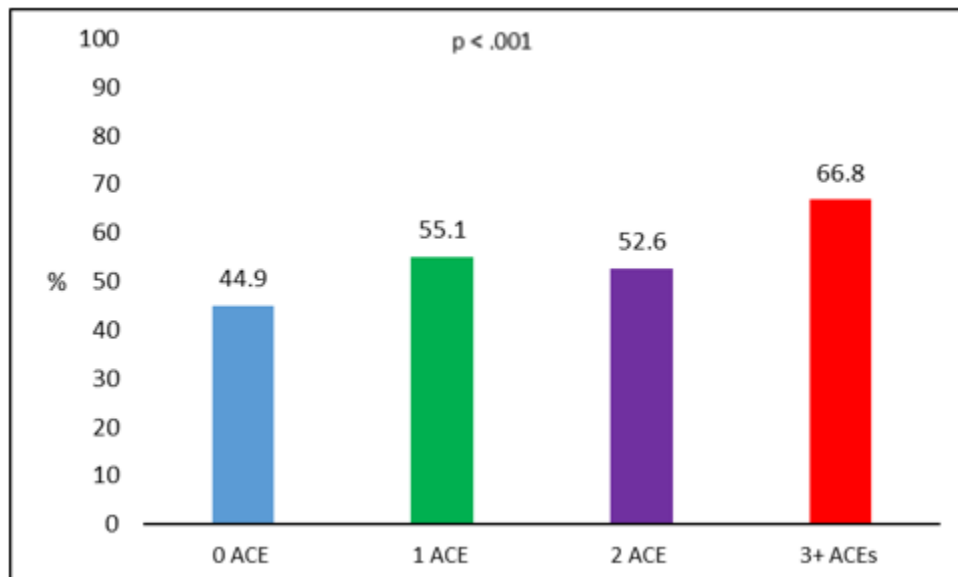
*One or more times during the 12 months before the survey

Figure 15: Percentage of high school students who did something to purposely hurt themselves without wanting to die, such as cutting or burning themselves on purpose during the 12 months before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



*One or more times during the 12 months before the survey

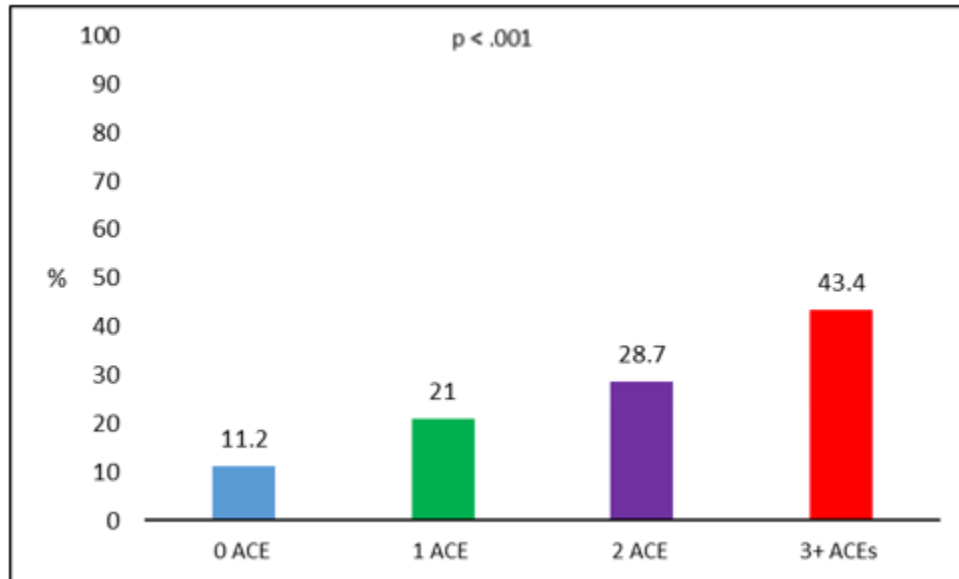
Figure 16: Percentage of high school students who never or rarely got the kind of help they need when they felt sad, empty, hopeless, angry, or anxious*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



* Among those who feel sad, empty, hopeless, angry, or anxious

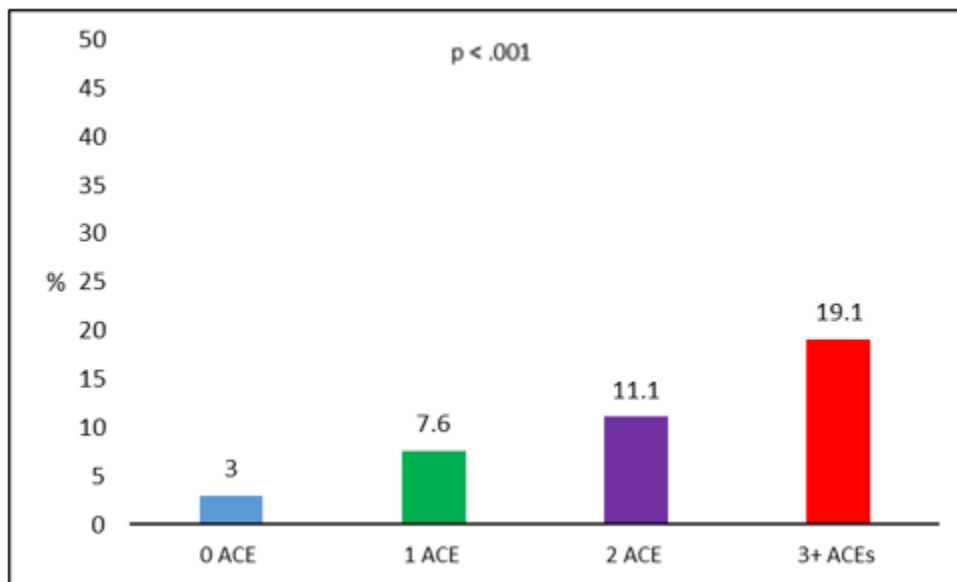
Select Behavioral Health Outcomes by ACE Score: Substance Use

Figure 17: Percentage of high school students who ever smoked cigarettes*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



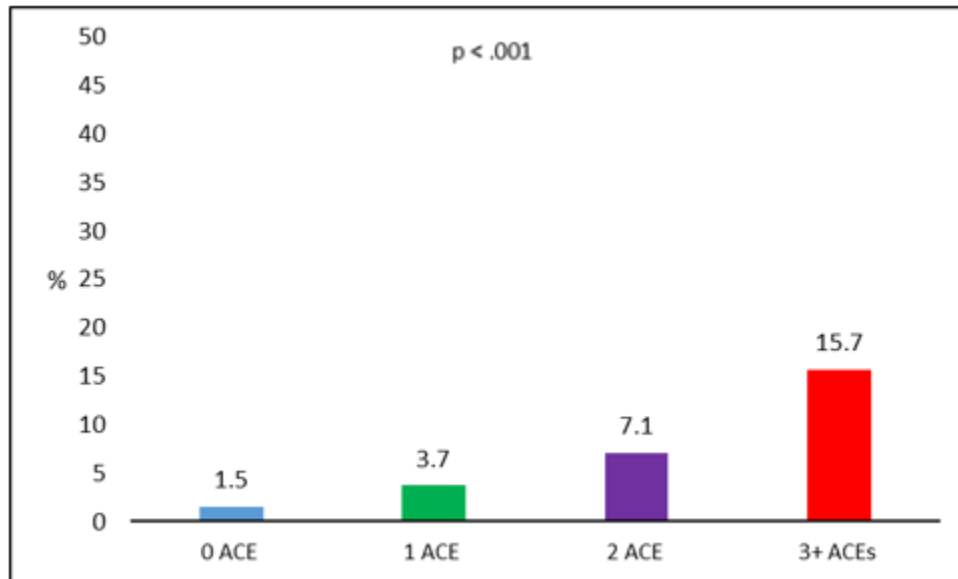
*Even one or two puffs

Figure 18: Percentage of high school students who smoked cigarettes for the first time before age 13 years*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



*Even one or two puffs

Figure 19: Percentage of high school students who smoked cigarettes during the 30 days before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



* One or more days during the 30 days before the survey

Figure 20: Percentage of high school students who smoked cigarettes on 20 or more days during the 30 days before the survey, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017

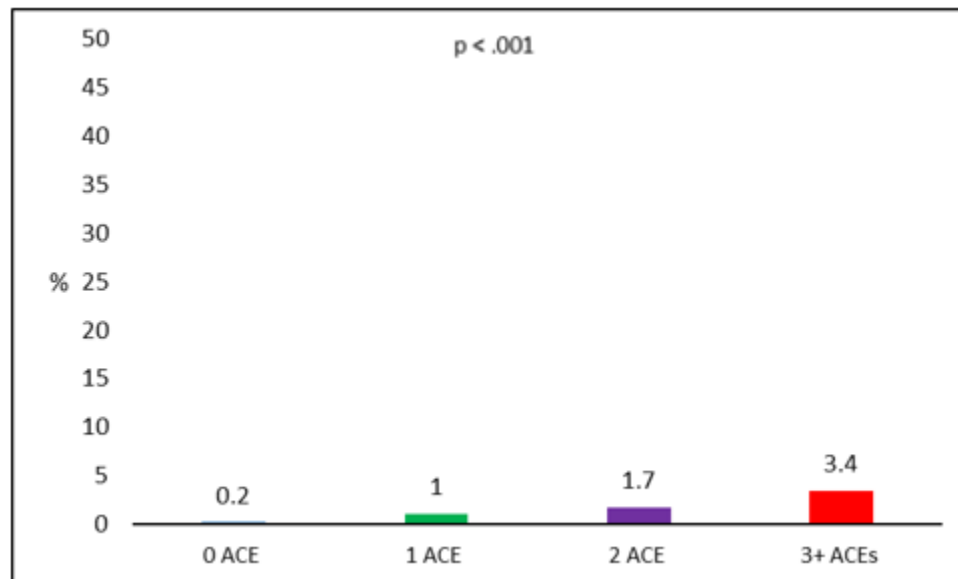
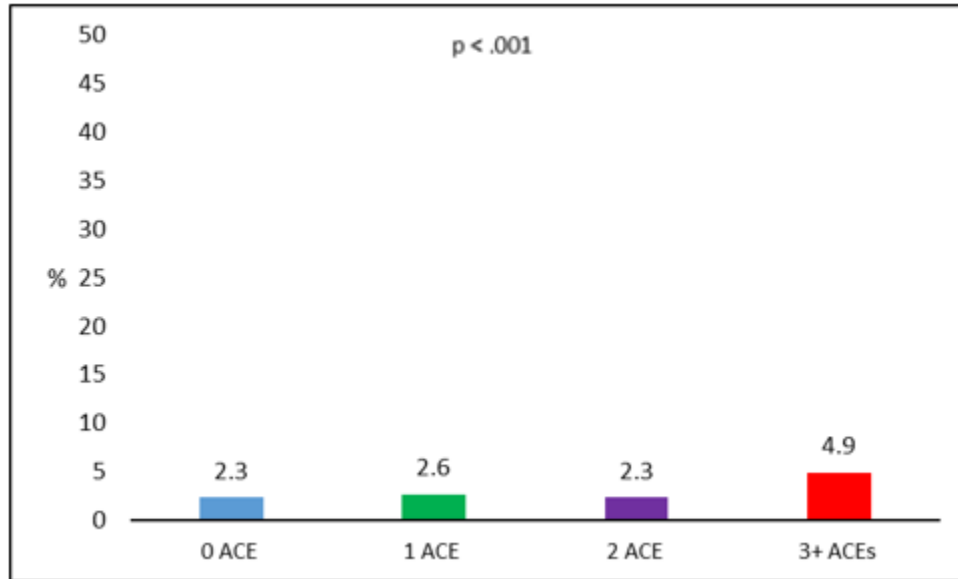
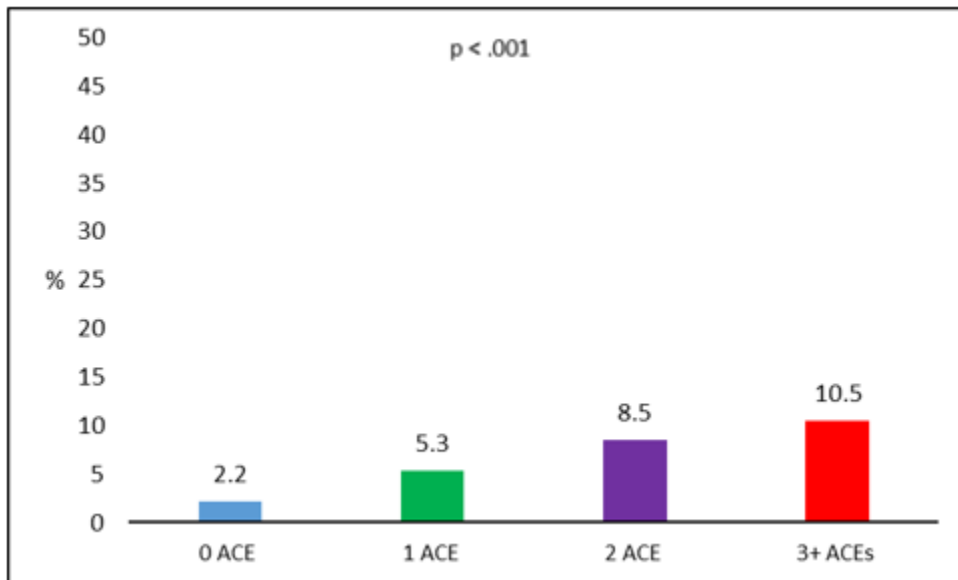


Figure 21: Percentage of high school students who used smokeless tobacco during the 30 days before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



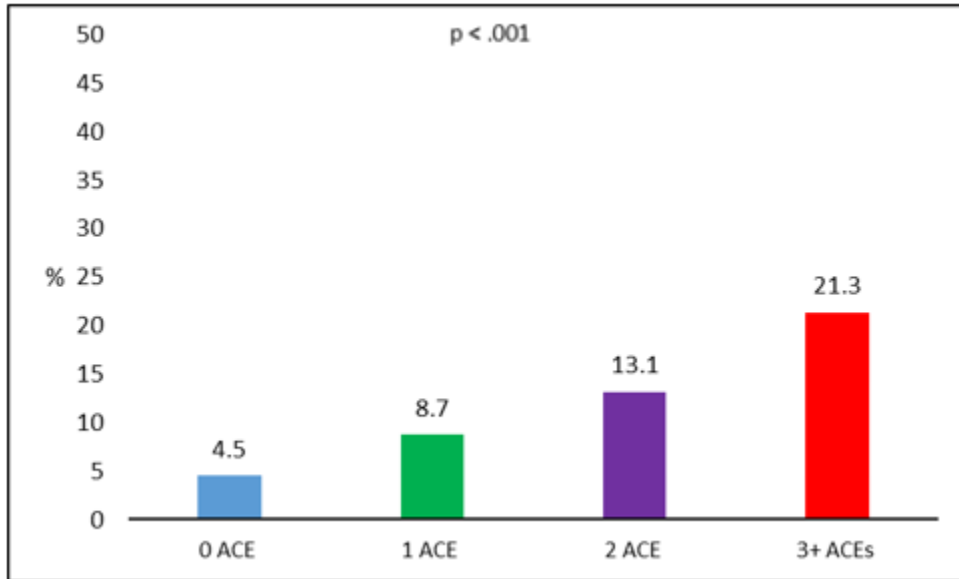
* Chewing tobacco, snuff, dip, snus, or dissolvable tobacco products such as: Redman, Levi Garrett, Beechnut, Skoal, Skoal Bandits, Copenhagen, Camel Snus, Malboro Snus, General Snus, Ariva, Stonewall, or Camel Orbs; on one or more days during the 30 days before the survey

Figure 22: Percentage of high school students who smoked cigars during the 30 days before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



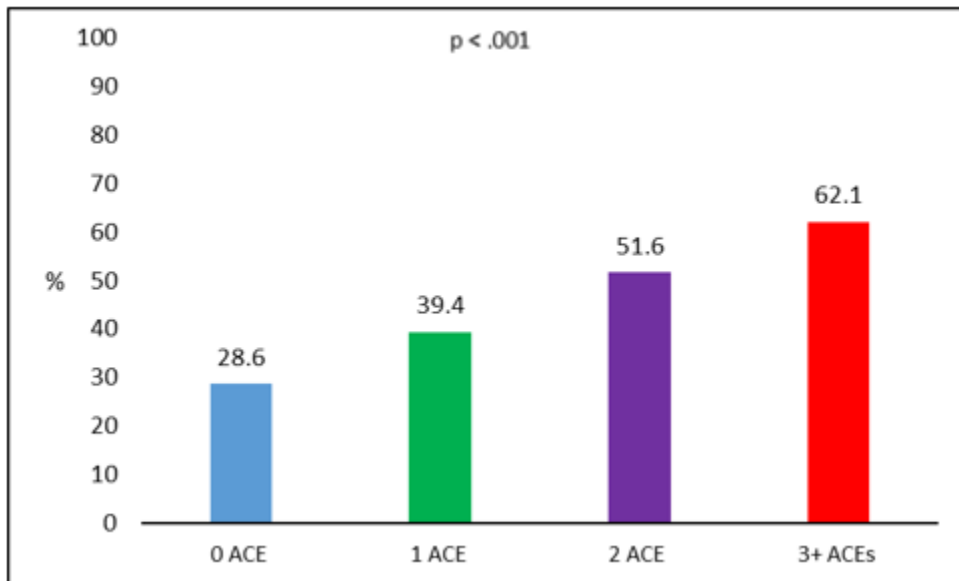
*Smoked cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars on one or more days during the 30 days before the survey

Figure 23: Percentage of high school students who used tobacco during the 30 days before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



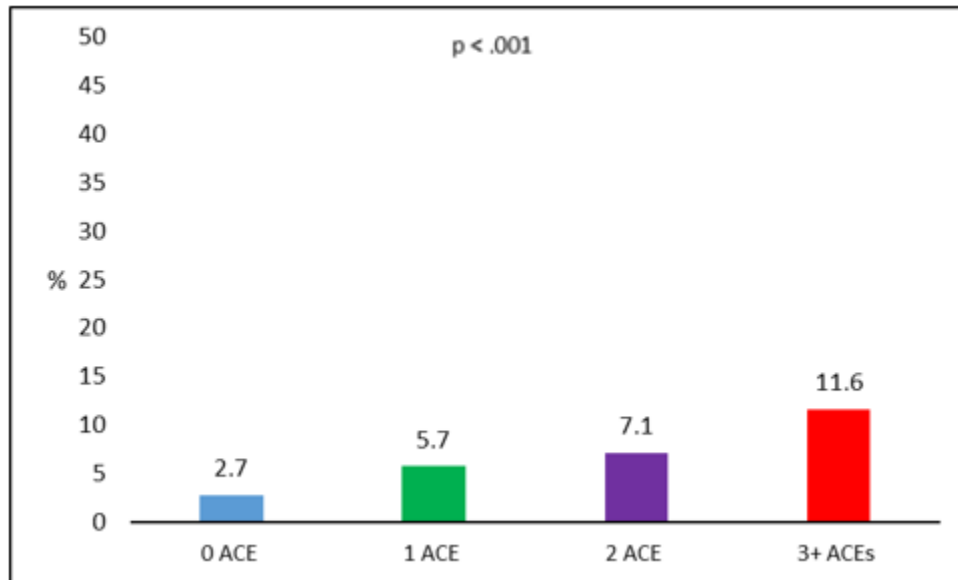
*Cigarette, smokeless tobacco, or cigar use on one or more days during the 30 days before the survey

Figure 24: Percentage of high school students who ever used electronic vapor products*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



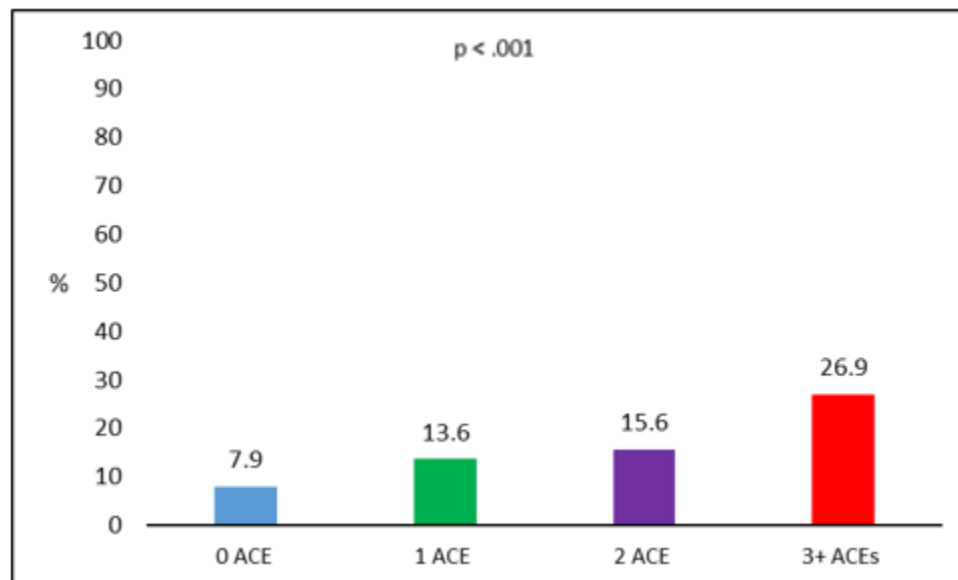
* Including e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, vape pipes, vaping pens, e-hookahs, and hookah pens such as blu, NJOY, Vuse, MarkTen, Logic, Vapin Plus, eGo, and Halo

Figure 25: Percentage of high school students who tried electronic vapor products for the first time before age 13 years*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



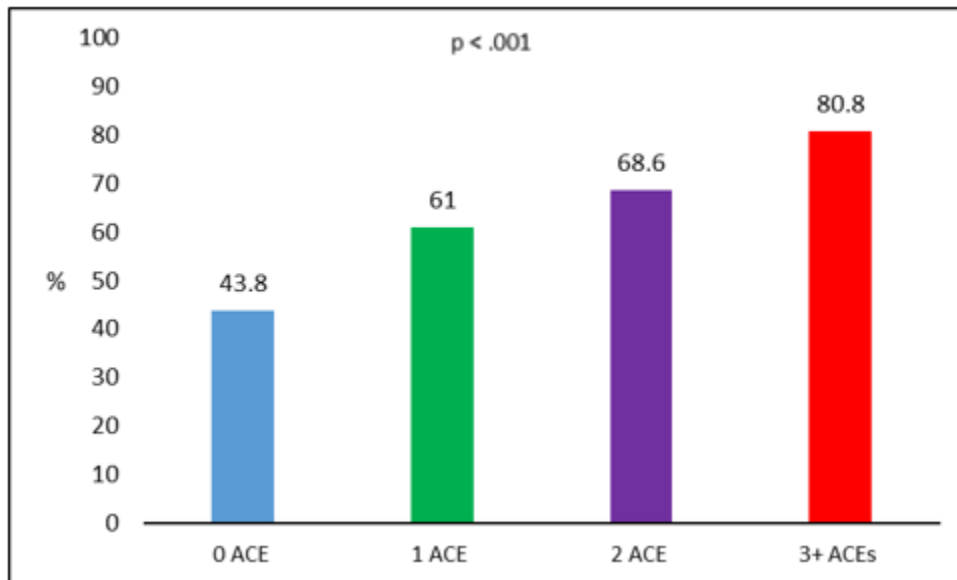
* Including e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, vape pipes, vaping pens, e-hookahs, and hookah pens such as blu, NJOY, Vuse, MarkTen, Logic, Vapin Plus, eGo, and Halo

Figure 26: Percentage of high school students who used electronic vapor products during the 30 days before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



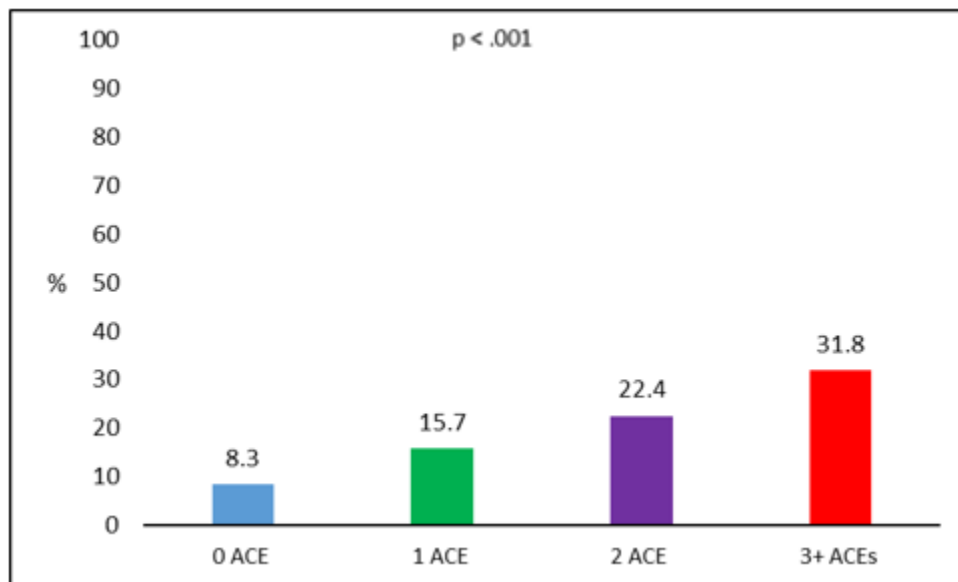
* Including e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, vape pipes, vaping pens, e-hookahs, and hookah pens such as blu, NJOY, Vuse, MarkTen, Logic, Vapin Plus, eGo, and Halo on one or more days during the 30 days before the survey

Figure 27: Percentage of high school students who ever drank alcohol*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



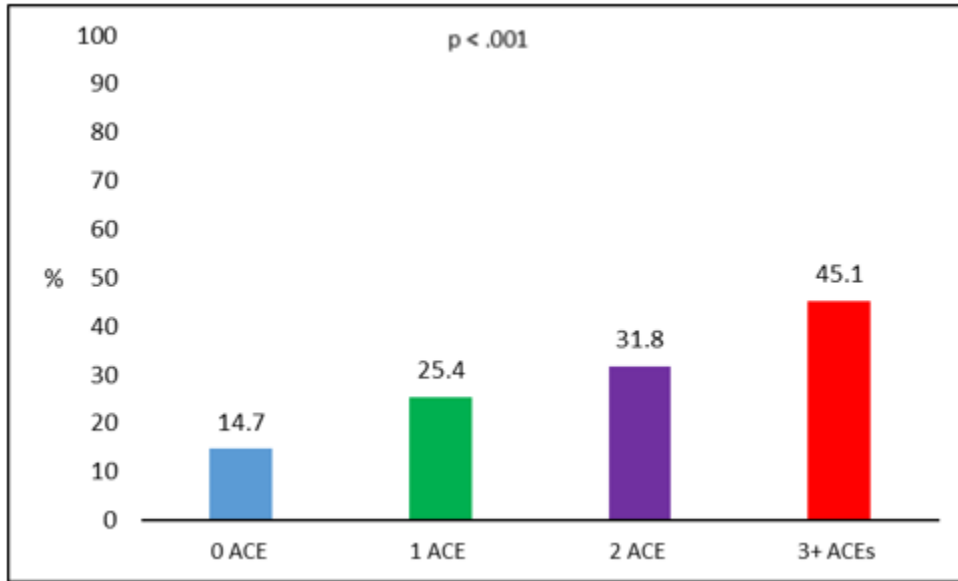
* Not including for religious purposes; had at least one drink of alcohol on at least 1 day during their life

Figure 28: Percentage of high school students who drank alcohol for the first time before age 13 years*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



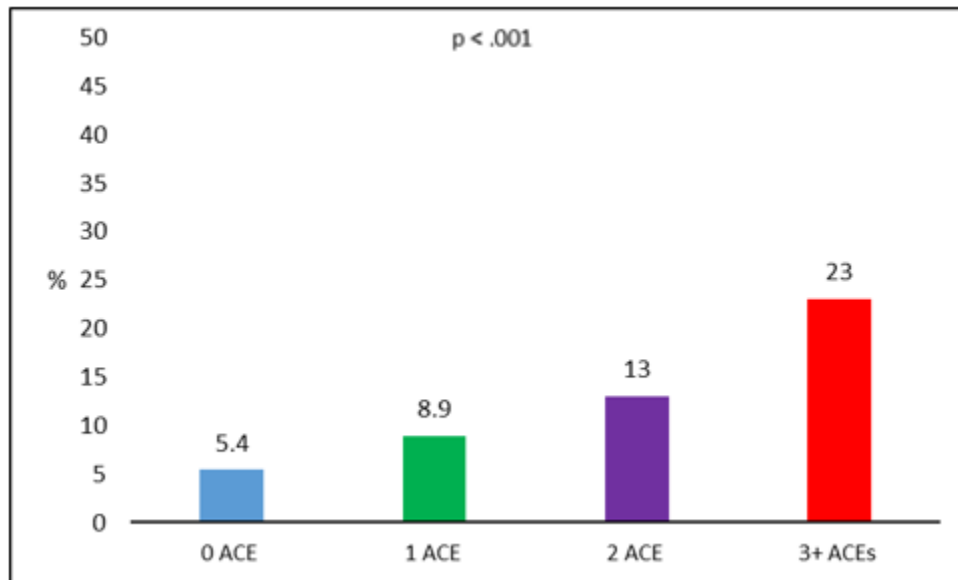
*Other than a few sips

Figure 29: Percentage of high school students who had at least one drink of alcohol during the 30 days before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



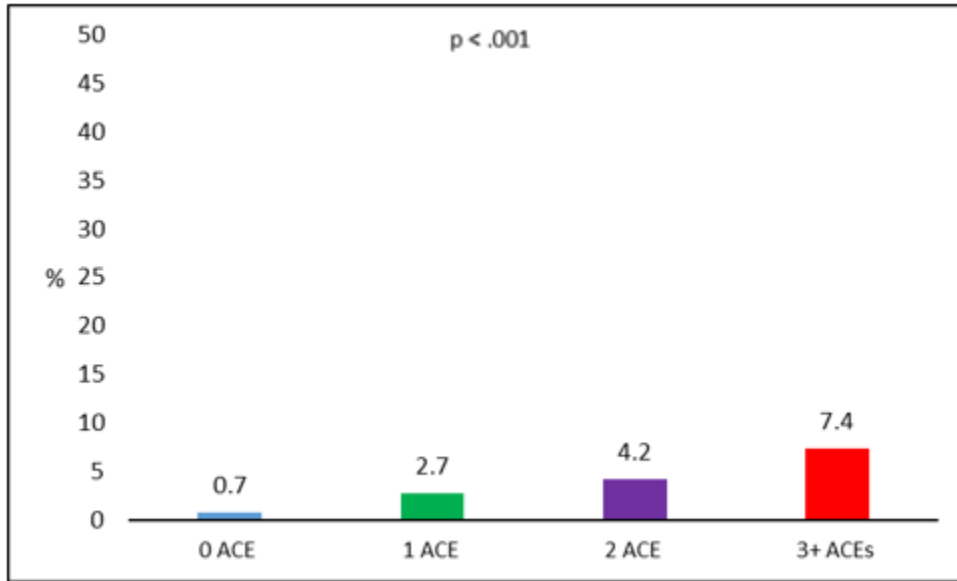
* One or more days during the 30 days before the survey

Figure 30: Percentage of high school students who participated in binge drinking during the 30 days before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



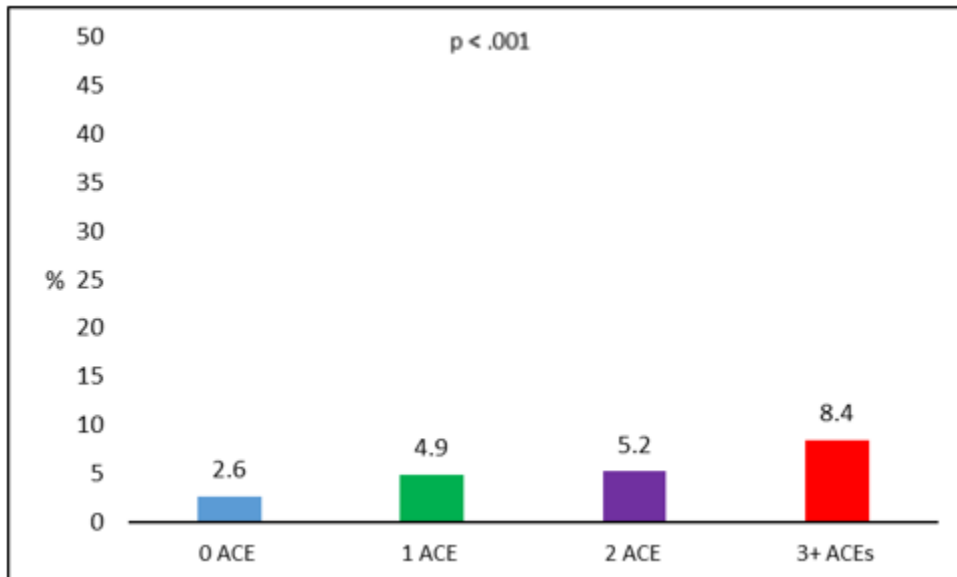
*Had five or more drinks in a row for males or four or more drinks for females within a couple of hours on one or more days during the 30 days before the survey

Figure 31: Percentage of high school students who drank 10 or more drinks in a row during the 30 days before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



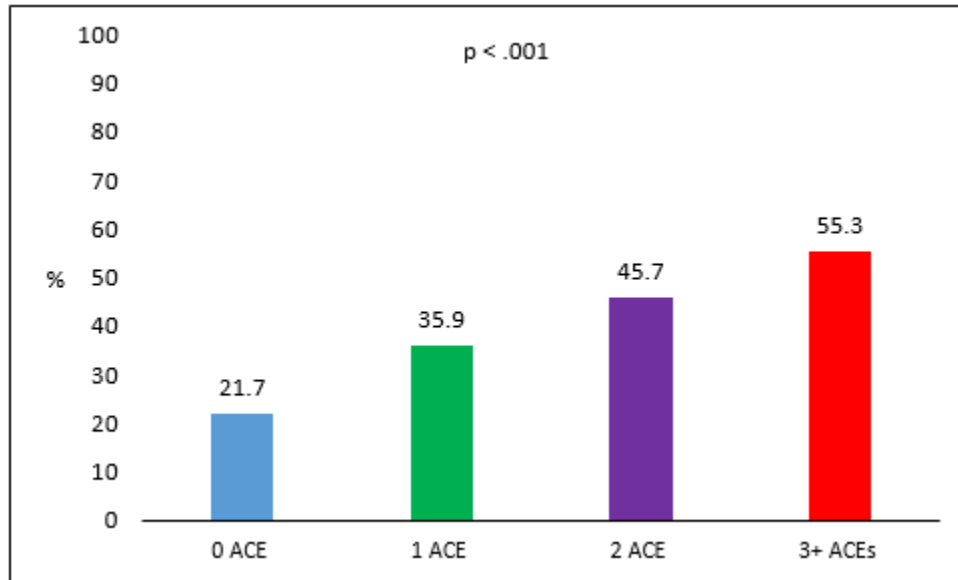
* One or more times during the 30 days before the survey, among those who had a drink of alcohol in the 30 days before the survey

Figure 32: Percentage of high school students who drove a car or other vehicle during the 30 days before the survey when they had been drinking alcohol*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



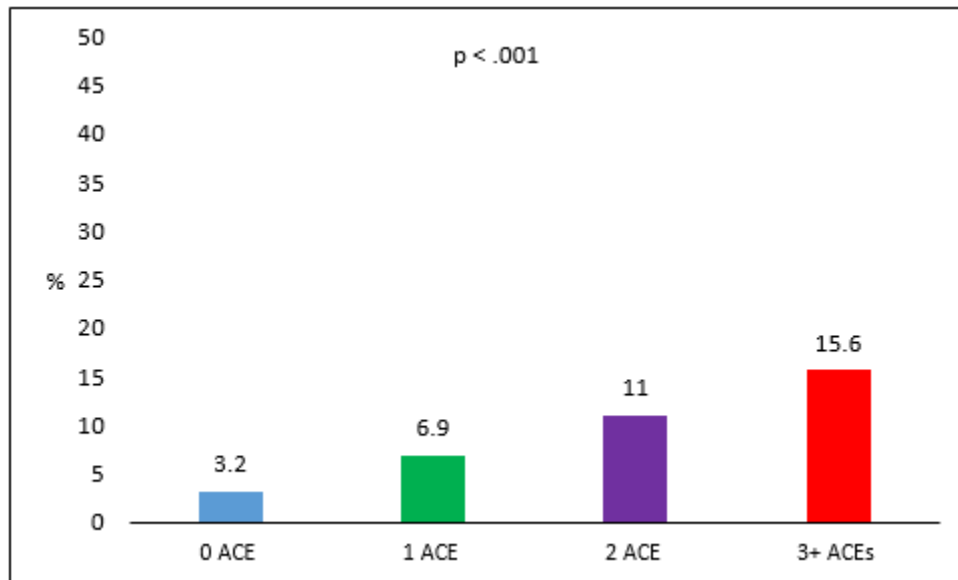
*One or more times during the 30 days before the survey, among students who had driven a car or other vehicle during the 30 days before the survey

Figure 33: Percentage of high school students who ever used marijuana*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



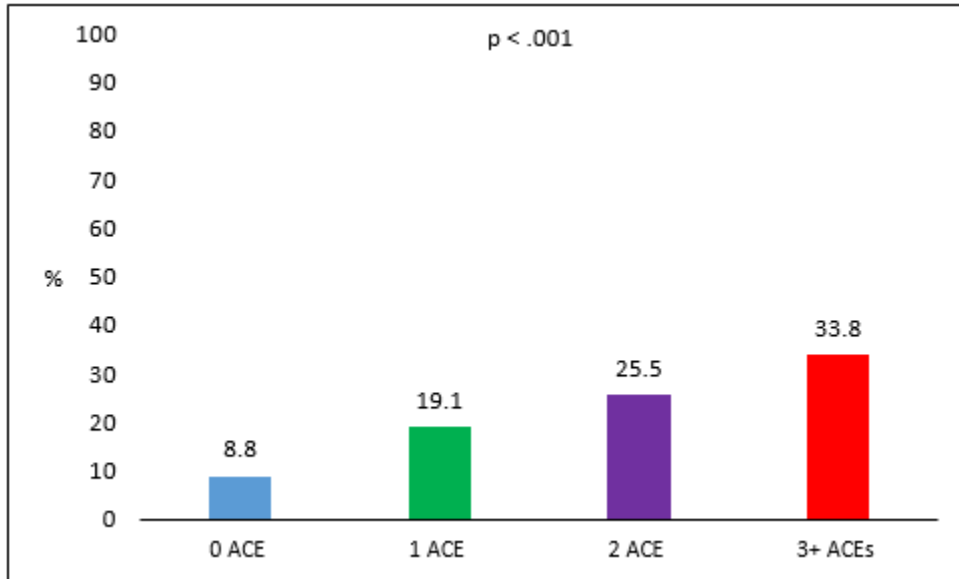
* Used marijuana (also called “grass”, “pot”, or “weed”)

Figure 34: Percentage of high school students who tried marijuana for the first time before age 13 years*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



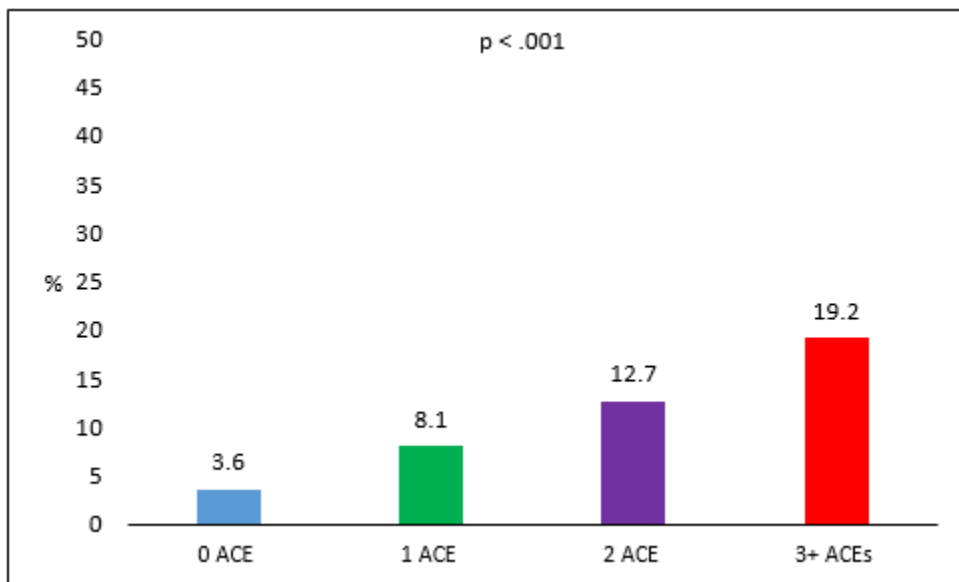
* Used marijuana (also called “grass”, “pot”, or “weed”)

Figure 35: Percentage of high school students who used marijuana during the 30 days before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



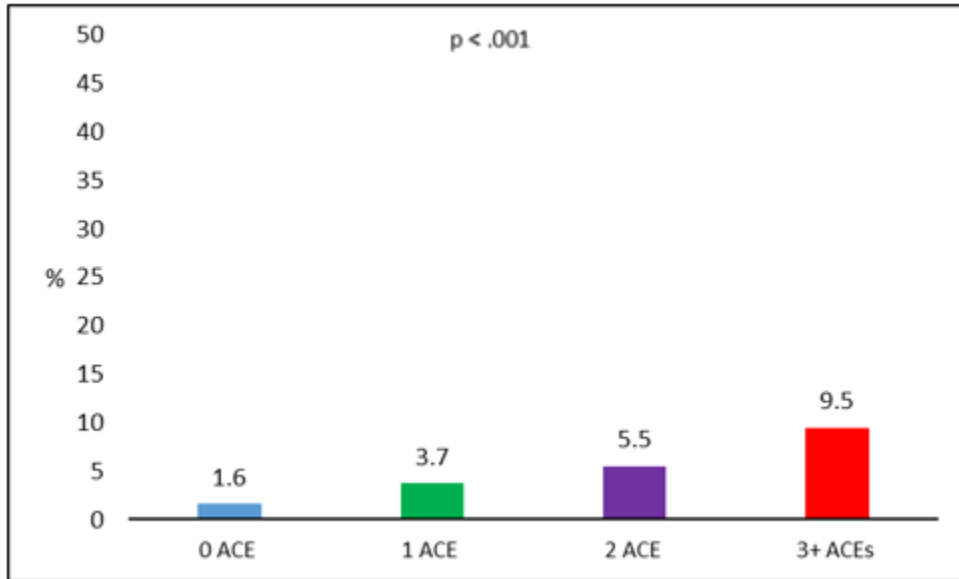
* Used marijuana (also called “grass”, “pot”, or “weed”) one or more times during the 30 days before the survey

Figure 36: Percentage of high school students who drove a car or other vehicle during the 30 days before the survey when they had been using marijuana*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



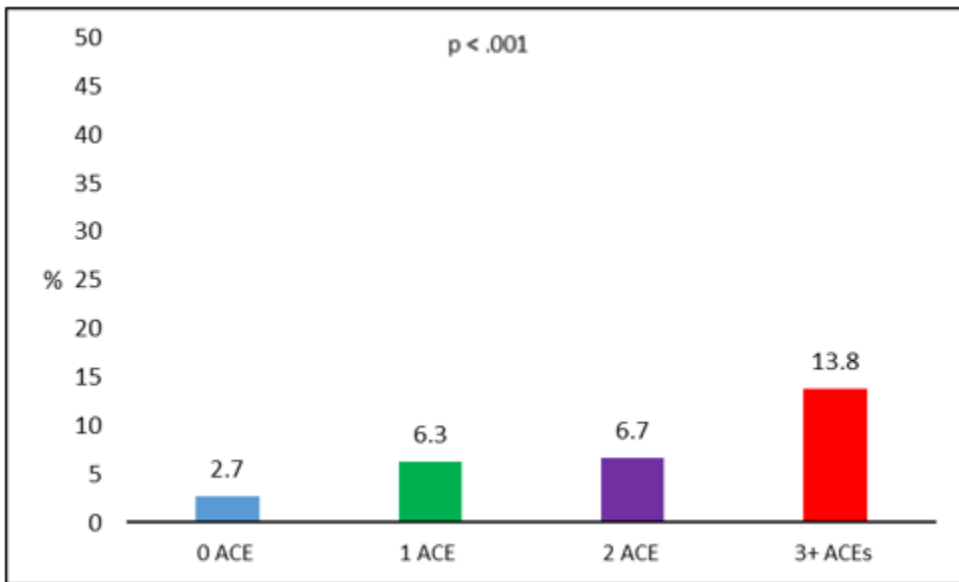
* One or more times during the 30 days before the survey, among students who drove a car or other vehicle

Figure 37: Percentage of high school students who ever used cocaine*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



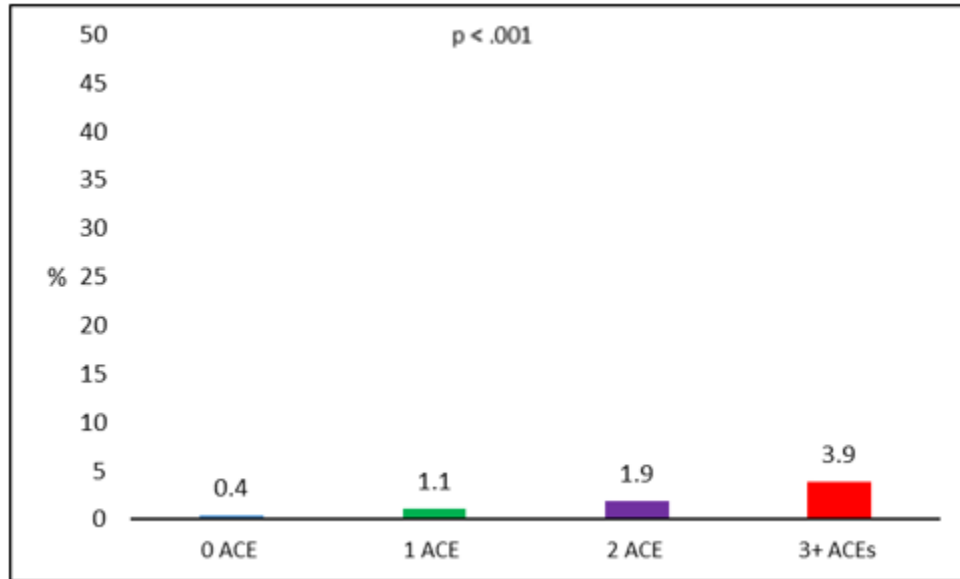
*Used any form of cocaine (e.g., powder, crack, or freebase) one or more times during their life

Figure 38: Percentage of high school students who ever used inhalants*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



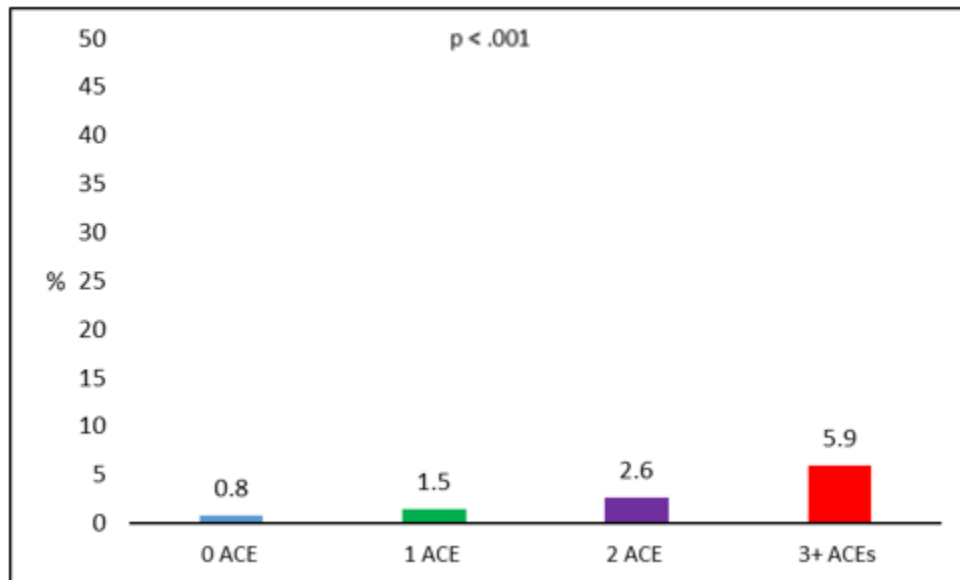
*Sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans, or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high one or more times during their life

Figure 39: Percentage of high school students who ever used heroin*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



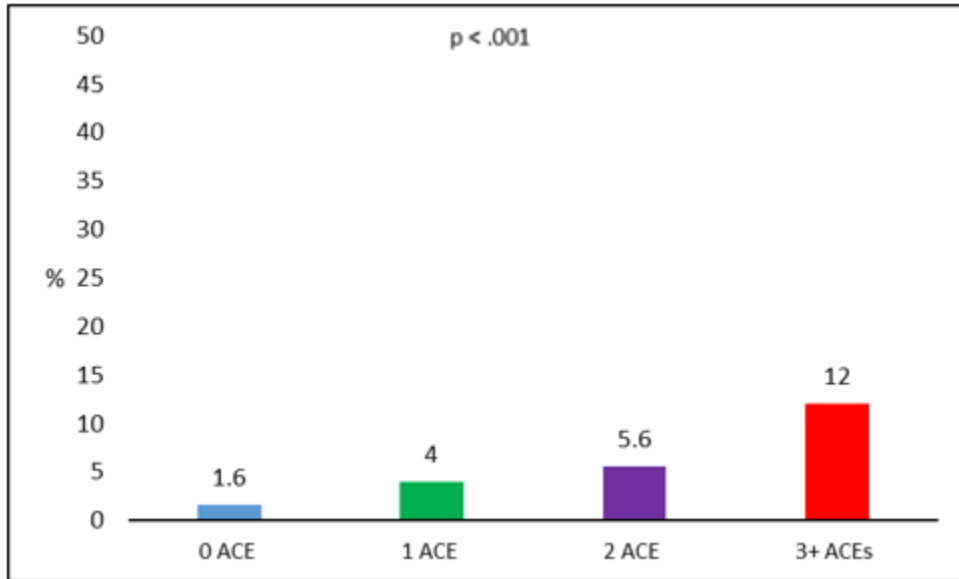
*Also called "smack," "junk," or "China white," one or more times during their life

Figure 40: Percentage of high school students who ever used methamphetamines*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



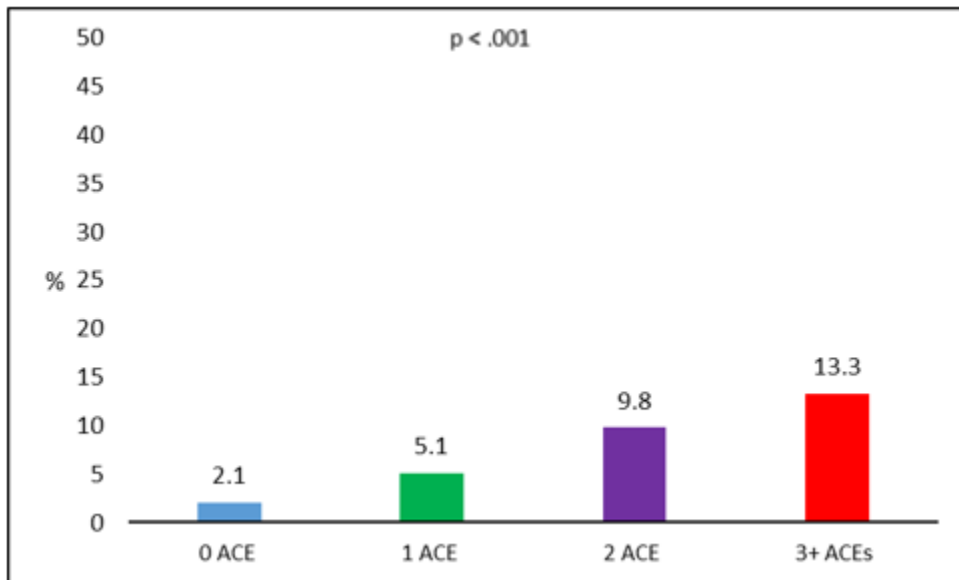
*Used methamphetamines (also called "speed," "crystal," "crank," or "ice") one or more times during their life

Figure 41: Percentage of high school students who used ecstasy*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



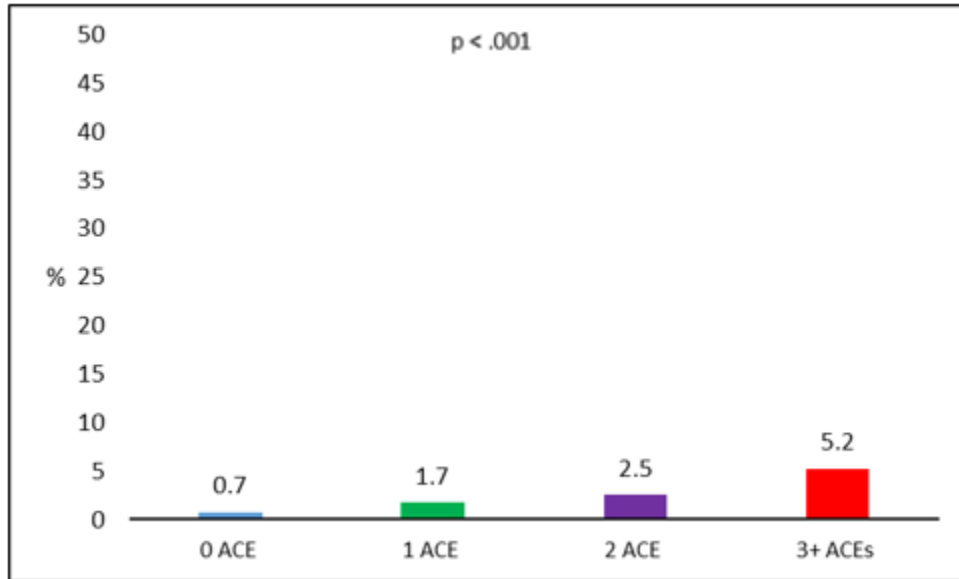
*Used ecstasy (also called “MDMA”) one or more times during their life

Figure 42: Percentage of high school students who ever used synthetic marijuana*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



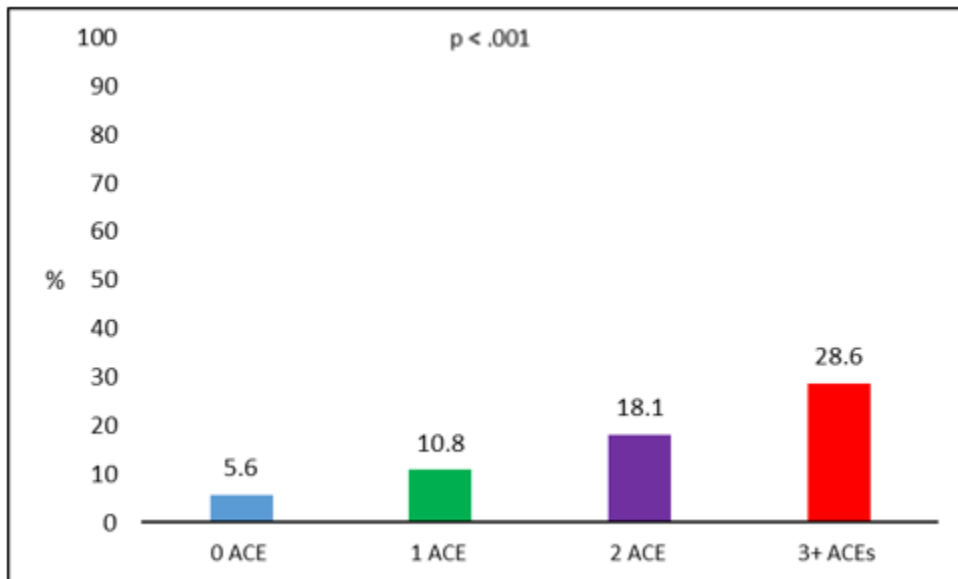
*Also called “K2,” “Spice,” “fake weed,” “King Kong,” “Yucatan Fire,” “Skunk,” or “Moon Rocks” one or more times during their life

Figure 43: Percentage of high school students who ever took steroids without a doctor's prescription*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



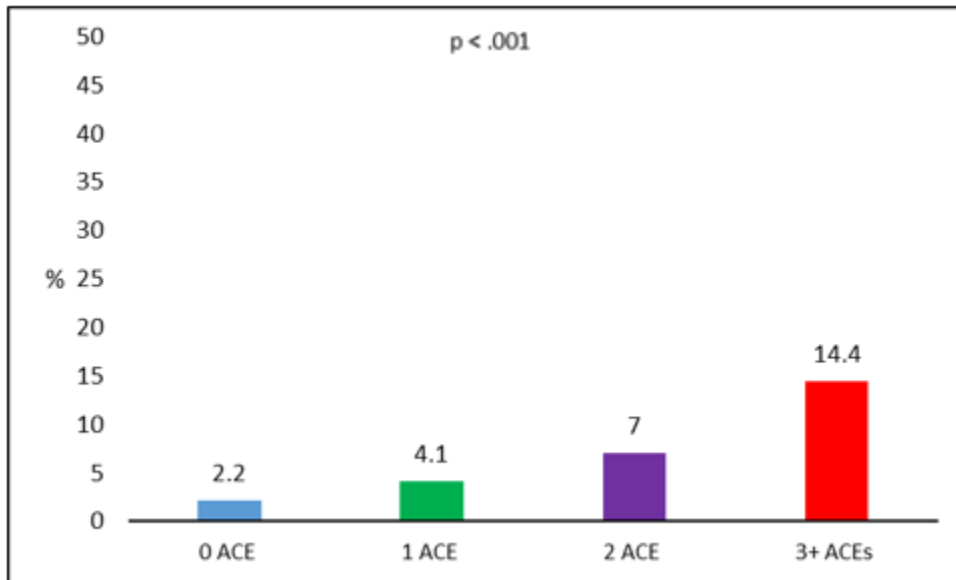
*Took prescription pills or shots without a doctor's prescription, one or more times during their life

Figure 44: Percentage of high school students who ever took prescription pain medicine without a doctor's prescription or differently than prescribed*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



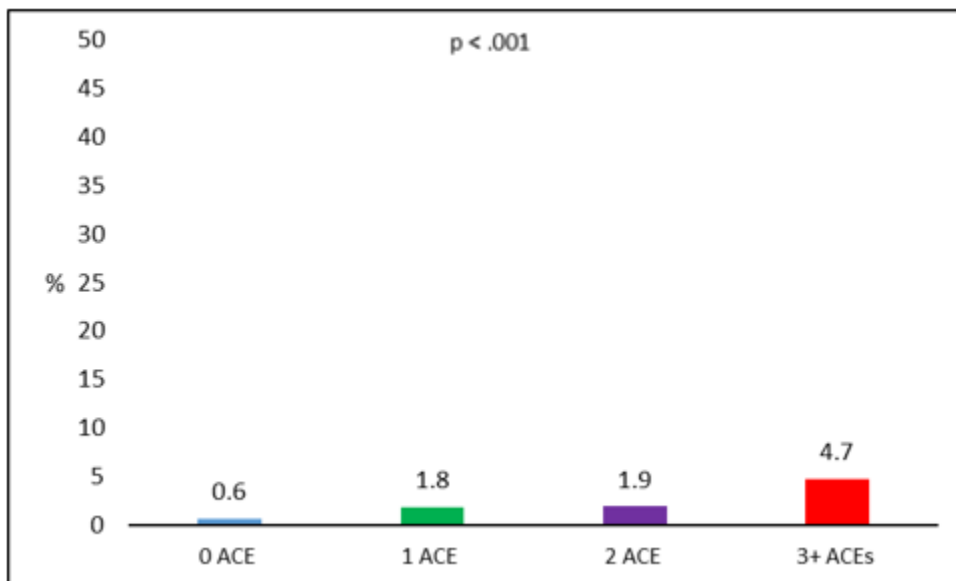
* Took prescription pain medicine (e.g., codeine, Vicodin, OxyContin, Hydrocodone, and Percocet), one or more times during their life

Figure 45: Percentage of high school students who took prescription pain medicine without a doctor's prescription or differently than prescribed during the 30 days before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



* Took prescription pain medicine (e.g., codeine, Vicodin, OxyContin, Hydrocodone, and Percocet), one or more times during the 30 days before the survey

Figure 46: Percentage of high school students who ever injected any illegal drug*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



*Used a needle to inject any illegal drug into their body one or more times during their life

Figure 47: Percentage of high school students who were offered, sold, or given an illegal drug by someone on school property during the 12 months before the survey, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017

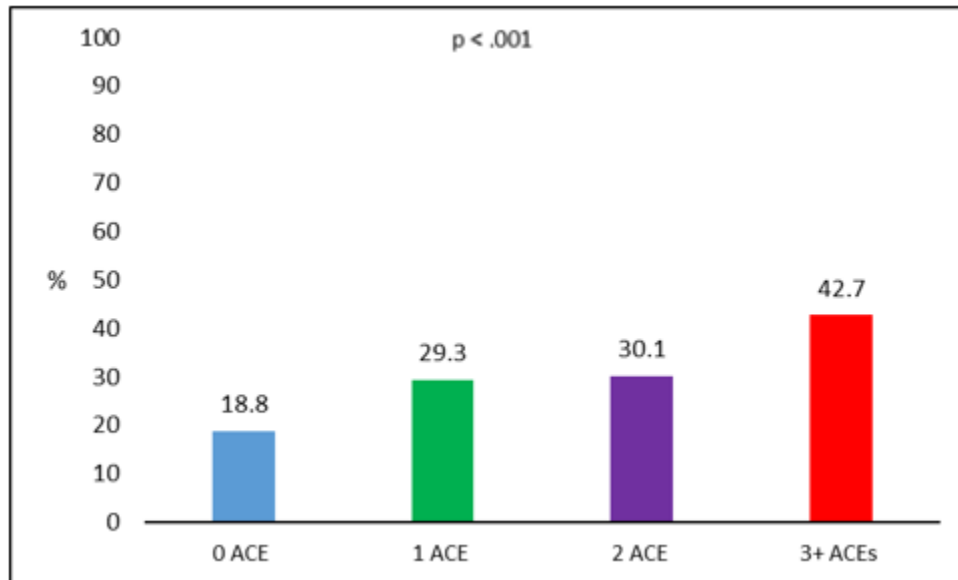
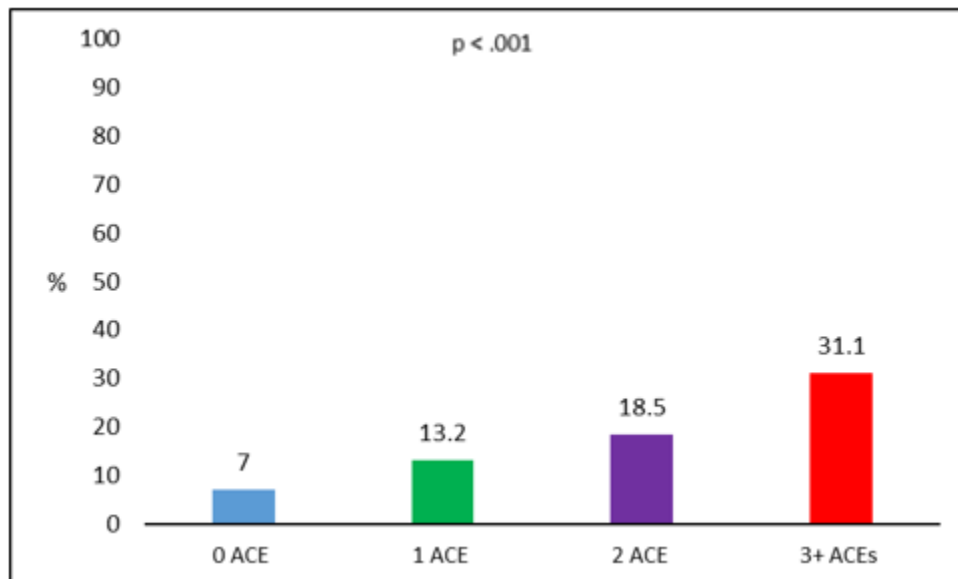


Figure 48: Percentage of high school students who attended school under the influence of alcohol or other illegal drugs during the 12 months before the survey*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



* One or more times during the 12 months before the survey

Select Behavioral Health Outcomes by ACE Score: Sexual Behaviors

Figure 49: Percentage of high school students who ever had sexual intercourse, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017

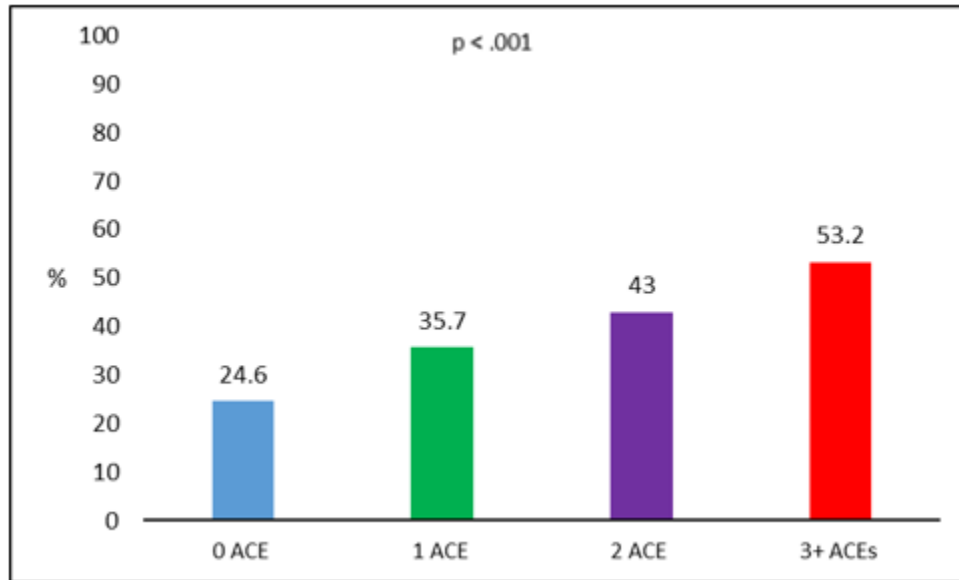


Figure 50: Percentage of high school students who had sexual intercourse for the first time before age 13 years, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017

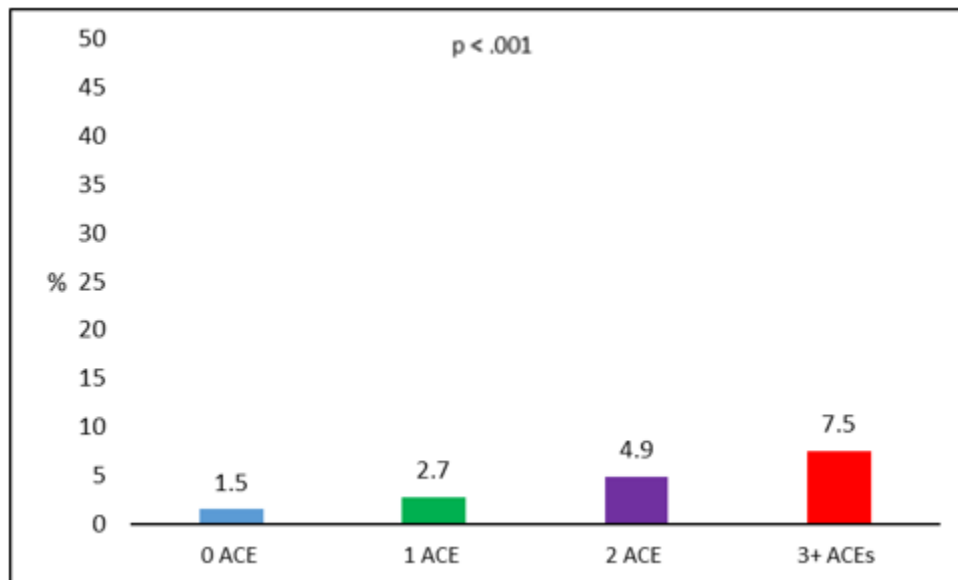


Figure 51: Percentage of high school students who had sexual intercourse with four or more persons during their life, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017

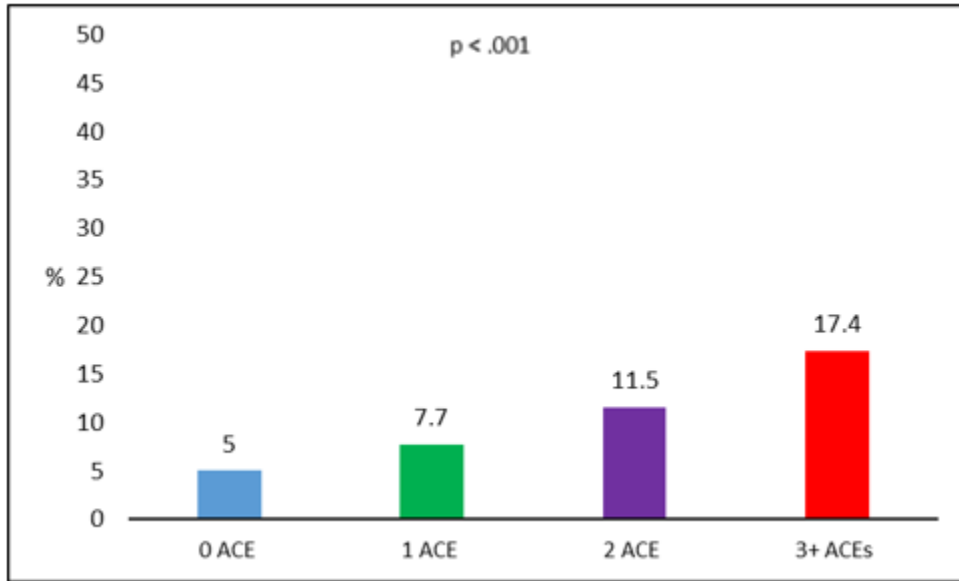


Figure 52: Percentage of high school students who had sexual intercourse with at least one person during the 3 months before the survey, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017

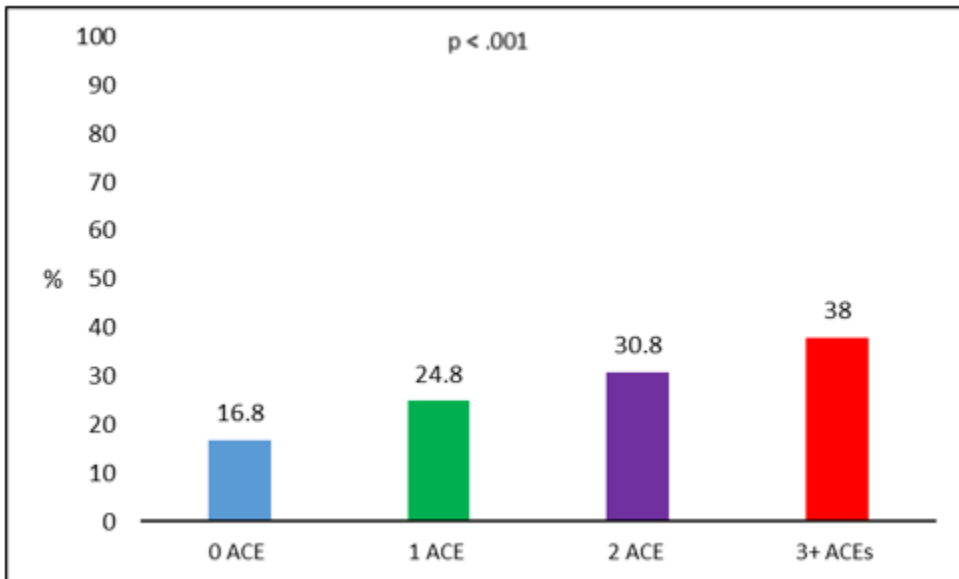
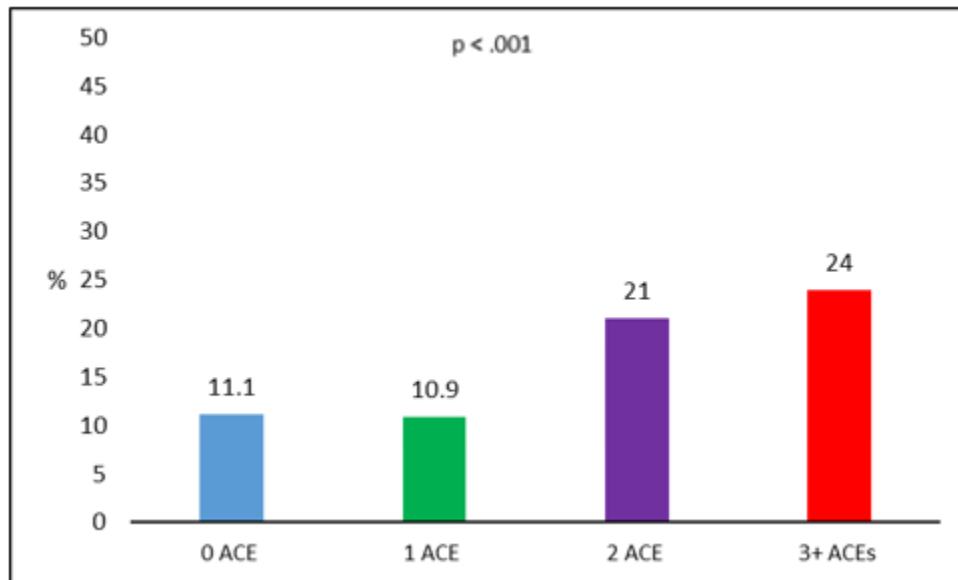
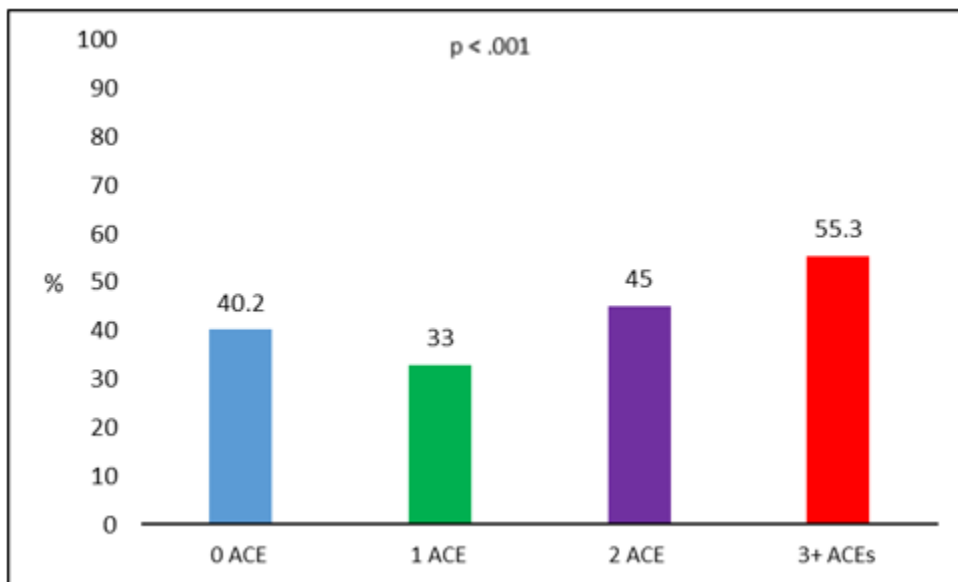


Figure 53: Percentage of high school students who drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



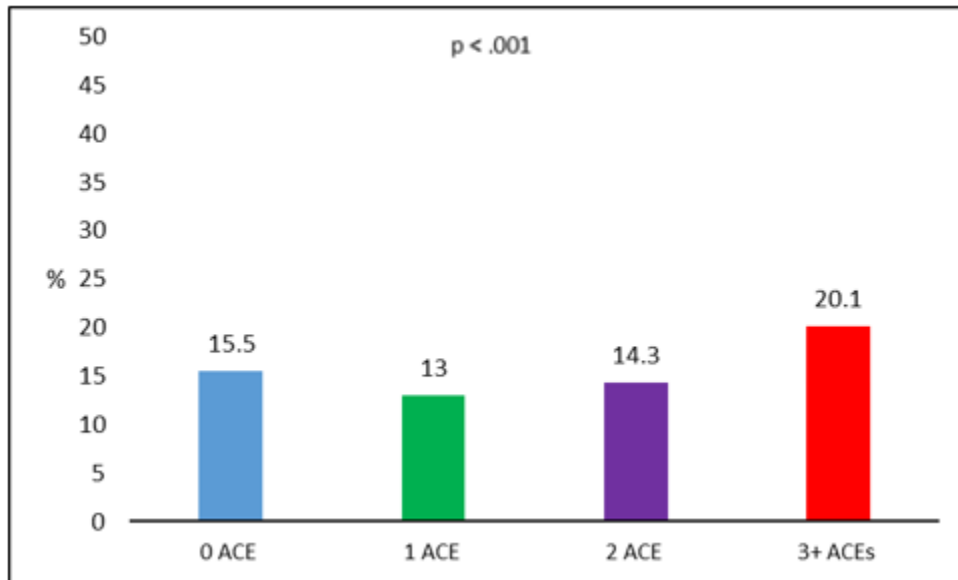
* Among students who were sexually active in the past 3 months

Figure 54: Percentage of high school students who did not use a condom during last sexual intercourse*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



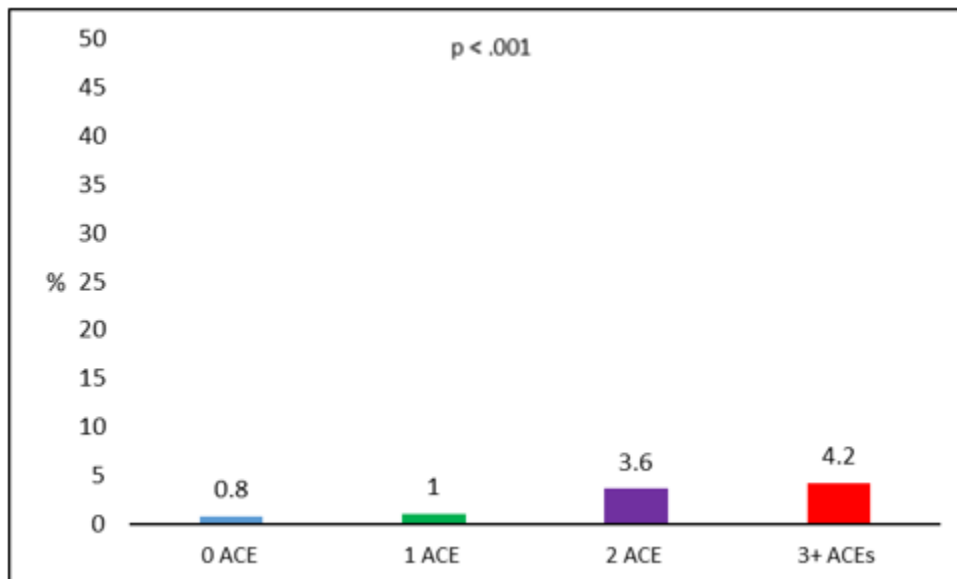
* Among students who were sexually active in the past 3 months

Figure 55: Percentage of high school students who did not use any method to prevent pregnancy during last sexual intercourse*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



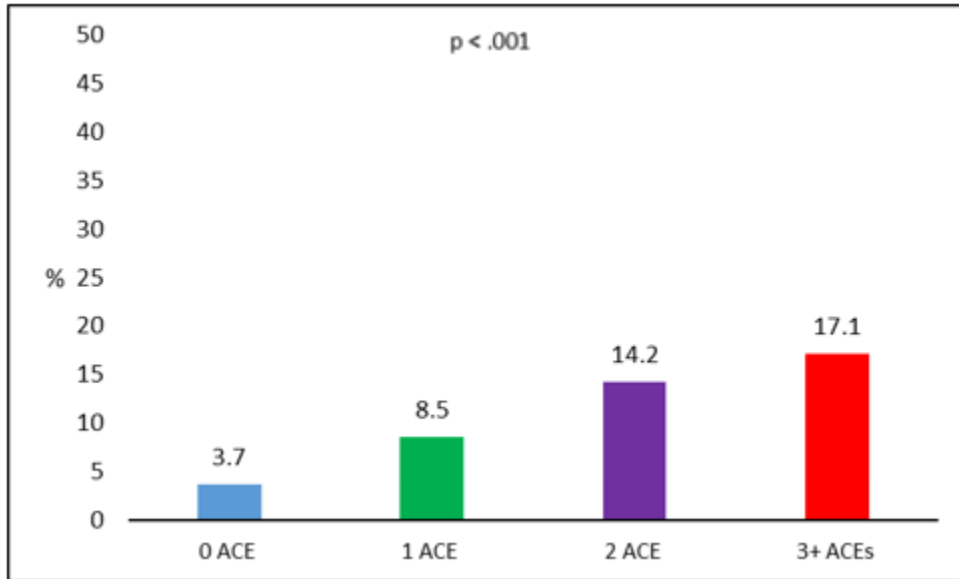
* Among students who were sexually active in the past 3 months

Figure 56: Percentage of high school students who have ever been pregnant or gotten someone pregnant*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



* One or more times during their life

Figure 57: Percentage of high school students who were ever tested for HIV*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



*Not including tests done when donating blood

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