

**2015 Nevada High School Youth  
Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS):  
Adverse Childhood Experiences  
(ACEs) Analysis**



### **Acknowledgements**

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### **Additional Resources**

<http://chs.unr.edu/subpages/research/YRBS.htm>

<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>

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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 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade in regular public, charter, and alternative schools. The survey asks students to 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 2015 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 2015 High School YRBS, a random sample of 5,108 youth from 97 schools completed the survey. Please see 2015 Nevada Youth Risk Behavior reports for detailed information on the random cluster sampling design used.

The 2015 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 2015 High School YRBS, five state-added questions assessed lifetime prevalence of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs): 1) physical abuse by an adult; 2) forced sex; 3) household domestic violence; 4) household mental illness; and 5) household substance abuse (please see 2015 Nevada Youth Risk Behavior reports for more information). The ACE questions were summed to create a total ACE score (range 0-5). 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.

## Summary Highlights

- Females had a higher number of ACEs than males ( $p < 0.001$ ).
- Participants who qualified for free or reduced lunch had a higher number of ACEs than those who did not ( $p < 0.001$ ).
- Participants who had parents or other adults in their family currently serving in the military had a higher number of ACEs than those who did not ( $p < 0.001$ ).
- Participant who were Lesbian, Gay, or Bisexual (LGB) had a high number of ACEs than participants who were heterosexual ( $p < 0.001$ ).
- Participants who did not get mostly A's or B's in school during the last 12 months had a higher number of ACEs than those that did ( $p < 0.001$ ).
- ACEs showed a graded relationship ( $p < 0.05$ ) with 79/108 (73%) of risk behaviors (Table 1).
  - Select behavioral outcomes for violence, victimization, emotional health, substance use, and sexual behavior are highlighted in this report.

**Table 1: Summary of risk behaviors significantly associated with ACEs — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**

Risk Behavior Category	Behaviors With Significant Differences / Total Number of Behaviors	
	Fraction	Percent
All Categories	79 / 108	73.1%
Safety	5 / 5	100.0%
Violence	7 / 7	100.0%
Victimization	6 / 6	100.0%
Emotional Health	6 / 7	85.7%
Substance Use	29 / 34	85.3%
Sexual Behavior	8 / 14	57.1%
Dietary Behavior	8 / 20	40.0%
Physical Activity	5 / 9	55.6%
Weight	3 / 4	75.0%
Resilience	2 / 2	100.0%

## Participant Characteristics

**Table 2: Demographic characteristics of all participating students, by sex, age, grade, race/ethnicity, and region — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**

		Student Participants <sup>a</sup>	Unweighted %	Weighted %
<b>Total</b>		5,108	100.00%	100.00%
<b>Sex</b>	<b>Female</b>	2,600	51.18%	48.40%
	<b>Male</b>	2,480	48.82%	51.60%
<b>Age Groups</b>	<b>14 years old or younger</b>	610	11.98%	10.58%
	<b>15 years old</b>	1,401	27.52%	25.59%
	<b>16 years old</b>	1,347	26.46%	25.84%
	<b>17 years old</b>	1,173	23.05%	24.77%
	<b>18 years old or older</b>	559	10.98%	13.22%
<b>Grade</b>	<b>9th grade</b>	1,490	22.10%	25.77%
	<b>10th grade</b>	1,334	30.10%	26.00%
	<b>11th grade</b>	1,249	25.10%	24.75%
	<b>12th grade</b>	958	22.70%	23.30%
	<b>Ungraded or other grade</b>	13	0.26%	0.16%
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>American Indian/Alaska Native<sup>b</sup></b>	104	2.09%	1.59%
	<b>Asian<sup>b</sup></b>	258	5.17%	6.09%
	<b>Black<sup>b</sup></b>	273	5.47%	9.95%
	<b>Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander<sup>b</sup></b>	92	1.84%	1.38%
	<b>White<sup>b</sup></b>	1,955	39.19%	36.00%
	<b>Hispanic/Latino</b>	2,029	40.68%	39.81%
	<b>Other/Multiple<sup>b</sup></b>	277	5.55%	5.17%
<b>Region</b>	<b>1: Carson City and Douglas</b>	291	5.70%	3.15%
	<b>2: Elko, White Pine, and Eureka</b>	356	6.97%	2.56%
	<b>3: Churchill, Humboldt, Pershing, and Lander</b>	326	6.38%	2.16%
	<b>4: Lyon, Mineral, and Storey</b>	234	4.58%	1.96%
	<b>5: Nye and Lincoln</b>	415	8.12%	1.50%
	<b>6: Washoe</b>	1,175	23.00%	14.77%
	<b>7: Clark</b>	2,311	45.24%	73.90%

<sup>a</sup> The sample size in the total and subgroups may differ due to missing data

<sup>b</sup> Non-Hispanic

**Table 3: Significant differences in participant characteristics by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**

		0 ACE			1 ACE			2 ACE			3+ ACE			P-Value
		N <sup>a</sup>	%	C.I.(95%) <sup>c</sup>	N <sup>a</sup>	%	C.I.(95%) <sup>c</sup>	N <sup>a</sup>	%	C.I.(95%) <sup>c</sup>	N <sup>a</sup>	%	C.I.(95%) <sup>c</sup>	---
<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	2145	46.9%	(44.6-49.2)	1148	24.3%	(22.8-25.8)	793	16.2%	(14.8-17.6)	653	12.6%	(11.3-14.0)	---
<b>Sex</b>	<b>Female</b>	988	41.8%	(38.8-44.7)	581	23.0%	(21.0-24.9)	446	18.9%	(17.0-20.9)	430	16.3%	(14.3-18.4)	<0.001
	<b>Male</b>	1150	51.8%	(48.8-54.7)	566	25.6%	(23.3-27.9)	346	13.6%	(11.8-15.4)	220	9.0%	(7.6-10.4)	
<b>Qualify for Free or Reduced Lunch</b>	<b>Yes</b>	720	42.4%	(39.3-45.5)	448	23.7%	(21.6-25.8)	333	18.3%	(16.1-20.4)	322	15.6%	(13.5-17.8)	<0.001
	<b>No</b>	1419	49.9%	(47.1-52.8)	699	24.7%	(22.8-26.6)	457	14.8%	(13.1-16.4)	329	10.5%	(8.9-12.1)	
<b>Military Family</b>	<b>Yes</b>	217	36.9%	(32.0-41.8)	159	24.6%	(20.5-28.7)	126	20.9%	(16.7-25.1)	118	17.6%	(14.3-20.9)	<0.001
	<b>No</b>	1915	48.4%	(45.9-50.8)	987	24.3%	(22.7-25.9)	661	15.4%	(14.0-16.9)	531	11.8%	(10.4-13.3)	
<b>LGB</b>	<b>Yes</b>	95	21.9%	(17.0-26.9)	97	21.9%	(17.3-26.5)	109	23.4%	(18.8-28.0)	151	32.8%	(27.0-38.5)	<0.001
	<b>No</b>	1967	49.9%	(47.6-52.3)	999	24.8%	(23.2-26.3)	638	15.2%	(13.8-16.6)	450	10.1%	(8.9-11.3)	
<b>Mostly A's or B's in School</b>	<b>Yes</b>	1527	49.8%	(47.0-52.6)	748	23.5%	(21.7-25.3)	519	15.8%	(14.1-17.5)	390	10.9%	(9.5-12.4)	<0.001
	<b>No</b>	515	40.2%	(36.5-43.9)	339	26.5%	(23.4-29.5)	228	16.8%	(14.2-19.3)	227	16.5%	(14.0-19.0)	

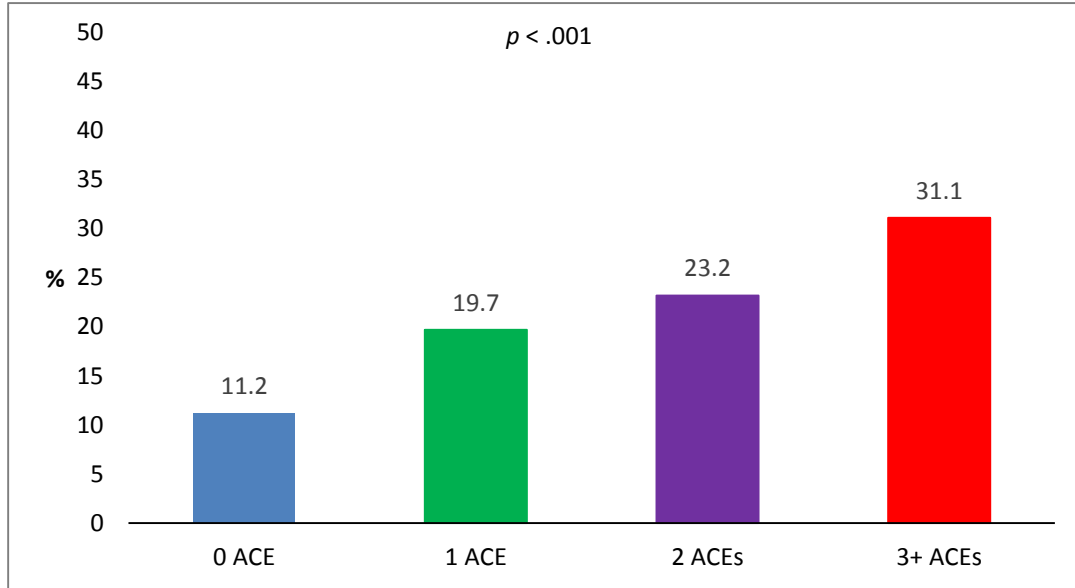
<sup>a</sup> The sample size in the total and subgroups may differ due to missing data

<sup>c</sup> 95% confidence interval



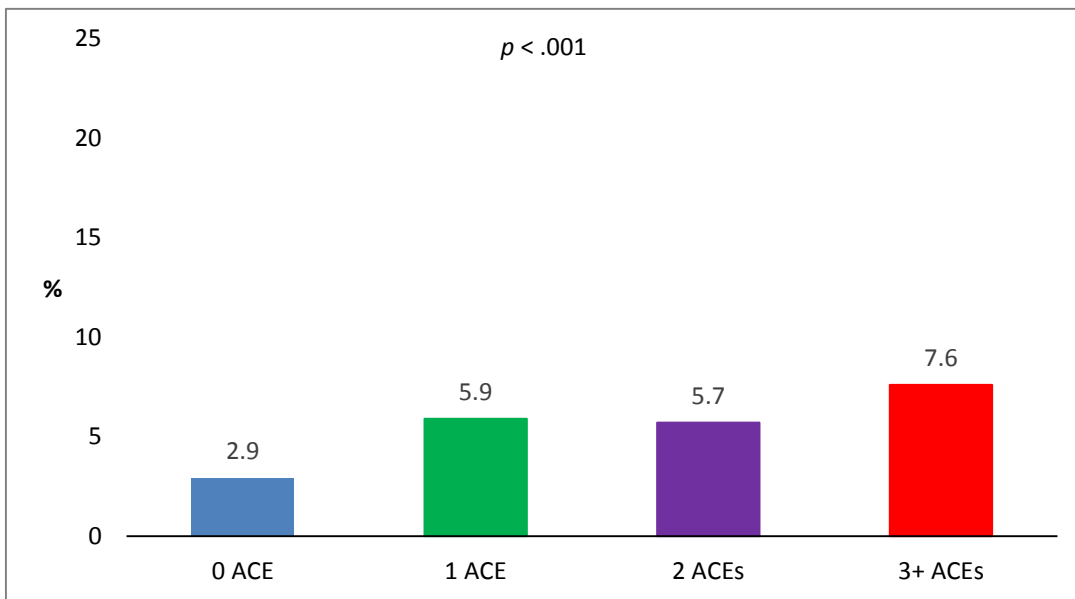
## Select Behavioral Health Outcomes by ACE Score: Violence

**Figure 1: Percentage of students who were in a physical fight\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



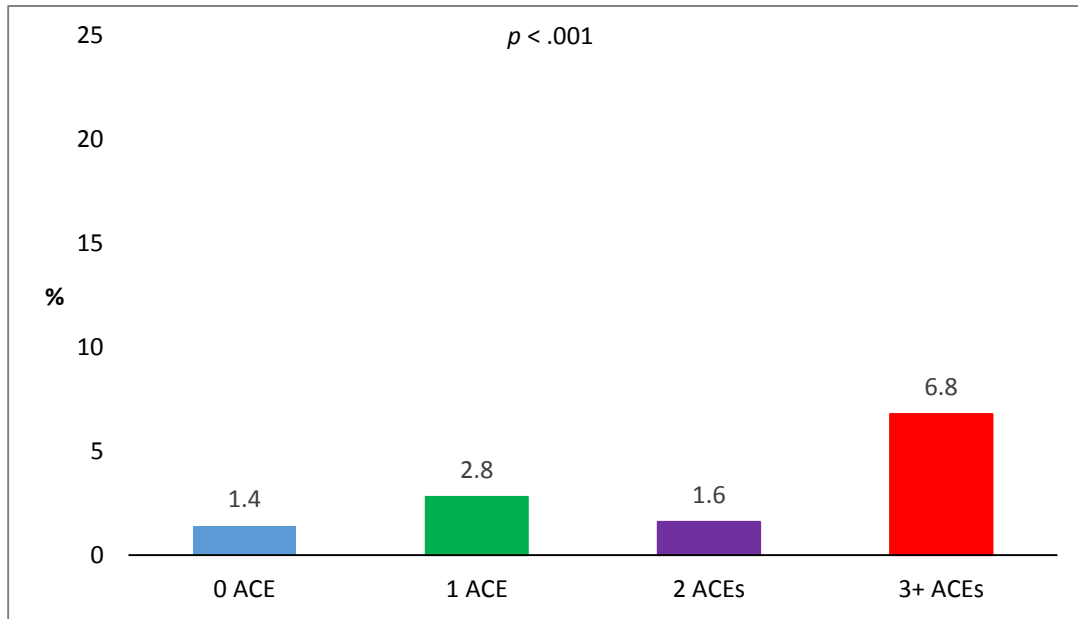
\*One or more times during the 12 months before the survey

**Figure 2: Percentage of students who were in a physical fight on school property\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



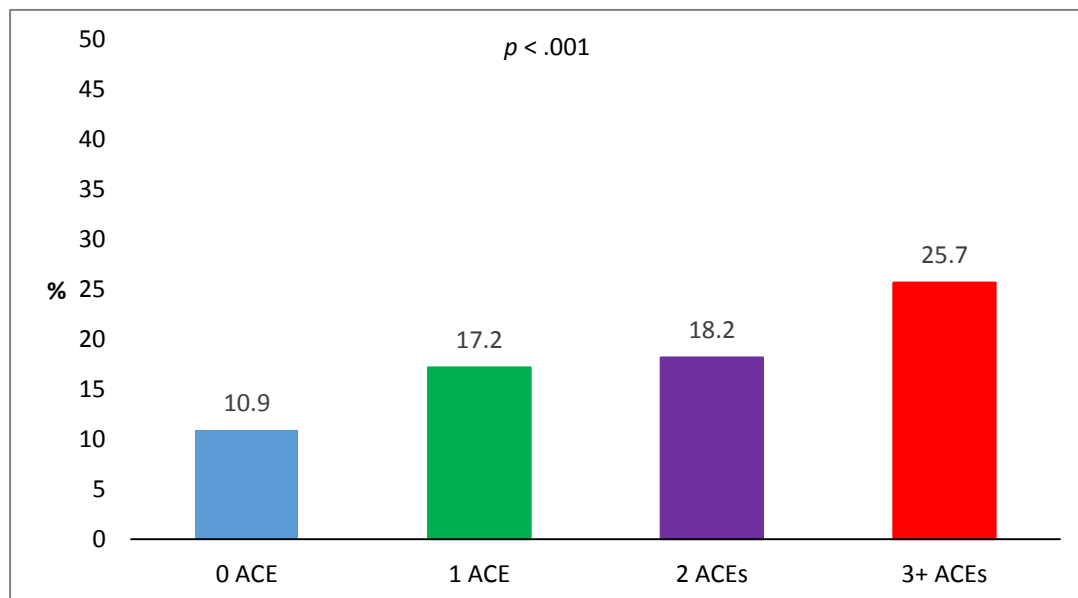
\*During the 12 months before the survey

**Figure 3: Percentage of students who were injured in a physical fight \*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



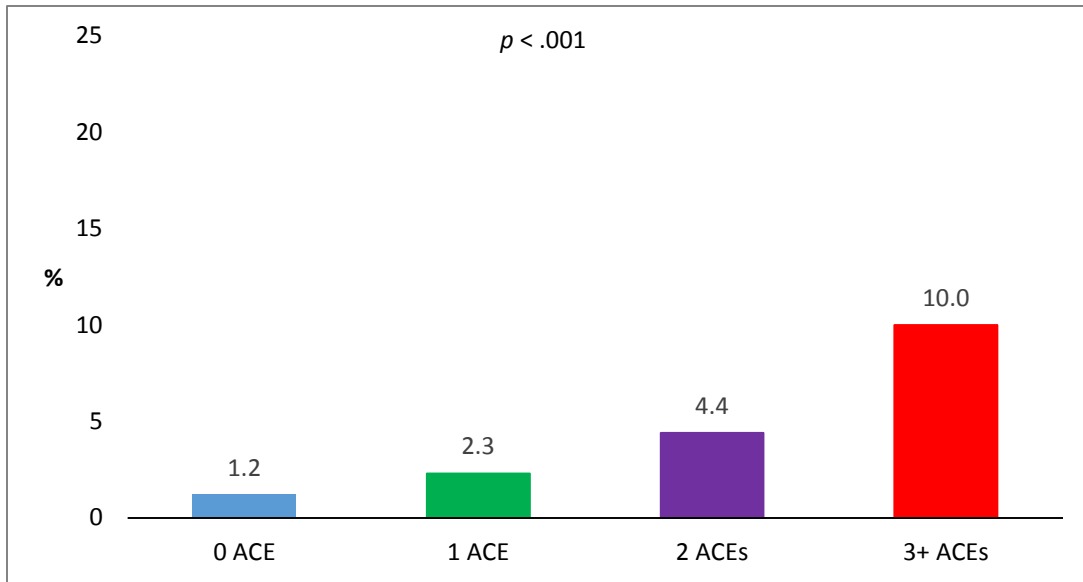
\*One or more times during the 12 months before the survey. Injuries had to be treated by a doctor or nurse.

**Figure 4: Percentage of students who carried a weapon\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



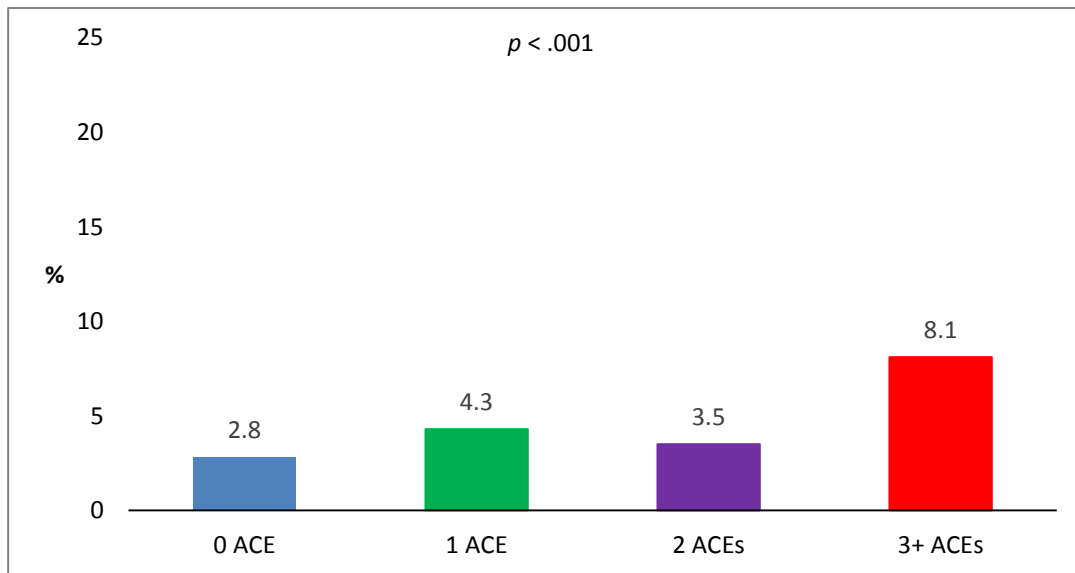
\*Such as a gun, knife, or club on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey

**Figure 5: Percentage of students who carried a weapon on school property\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



\*Such as a gun, knife, or club on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey

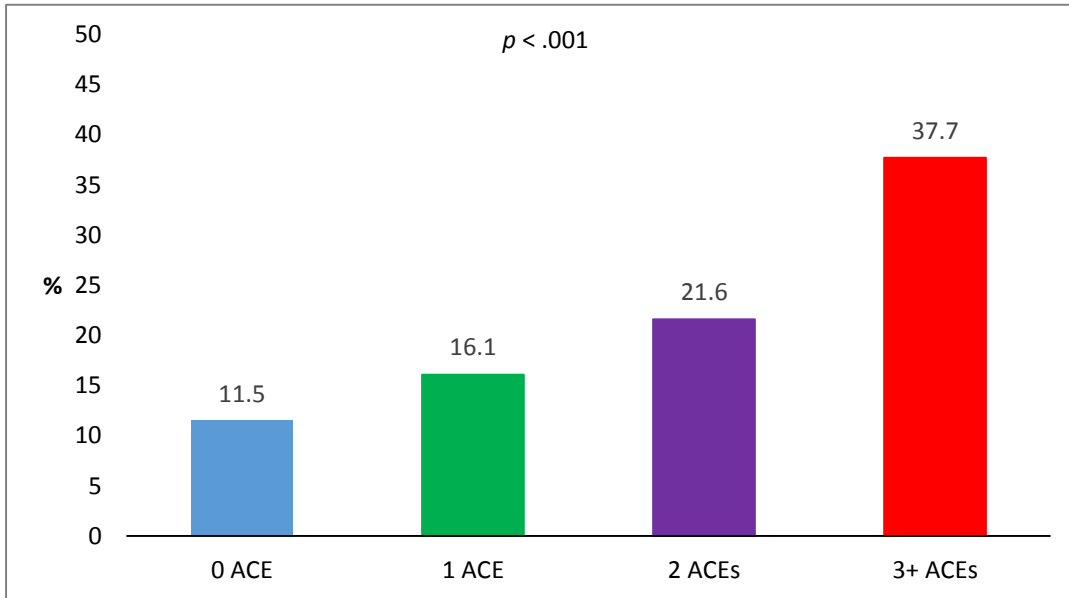
**Figure 6: Percentage of students who carried a gun\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



\*On at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey

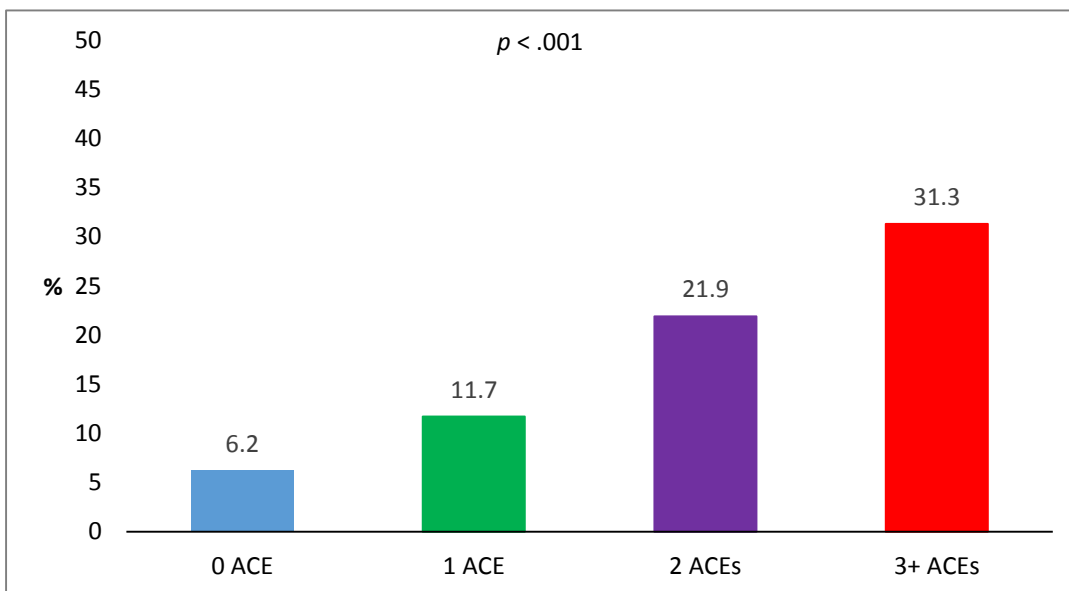
## Select Behavioral Health Outcomes by ACE Score: Victimization

**Figure 7: Percentage of students who were bullied on school property\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



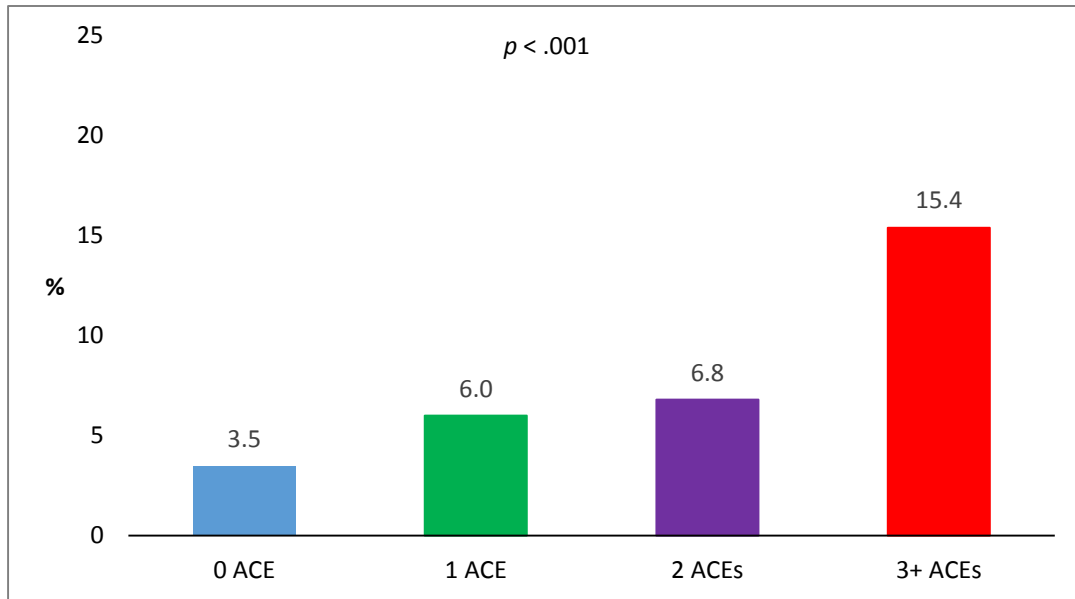
\*During the 12 months before the survey

**Figure 8: Percentage of students who were electronically bullied\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



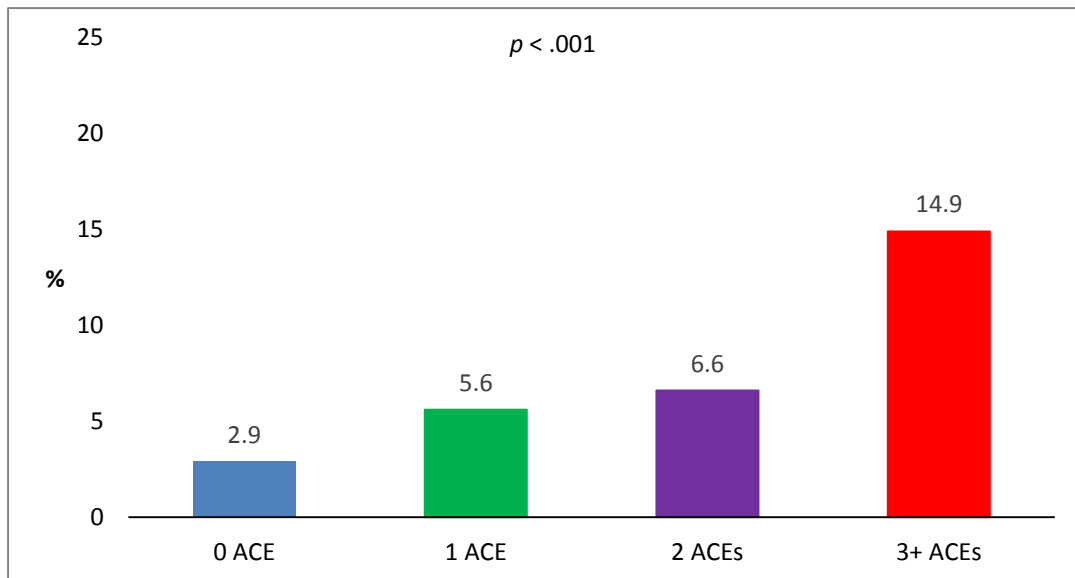
\*Including being bullies through e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, websites, or texting during the 12 months before the survey

**Figure 9: Percentage of students who did not go to school because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



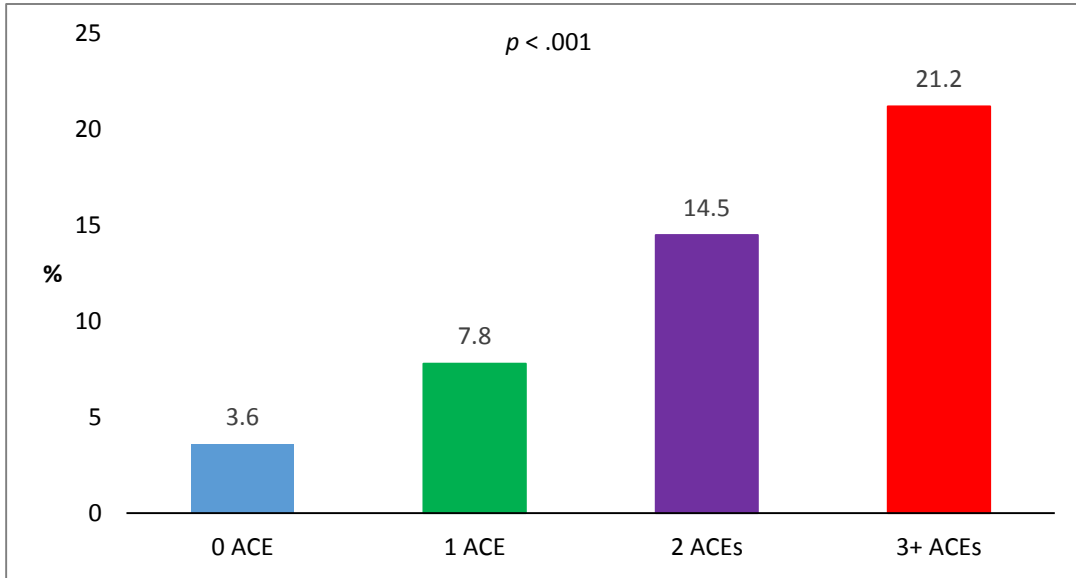
\*On at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey

**Figure 10: Percentage of students who were threatened or injured with a weapon on school property\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



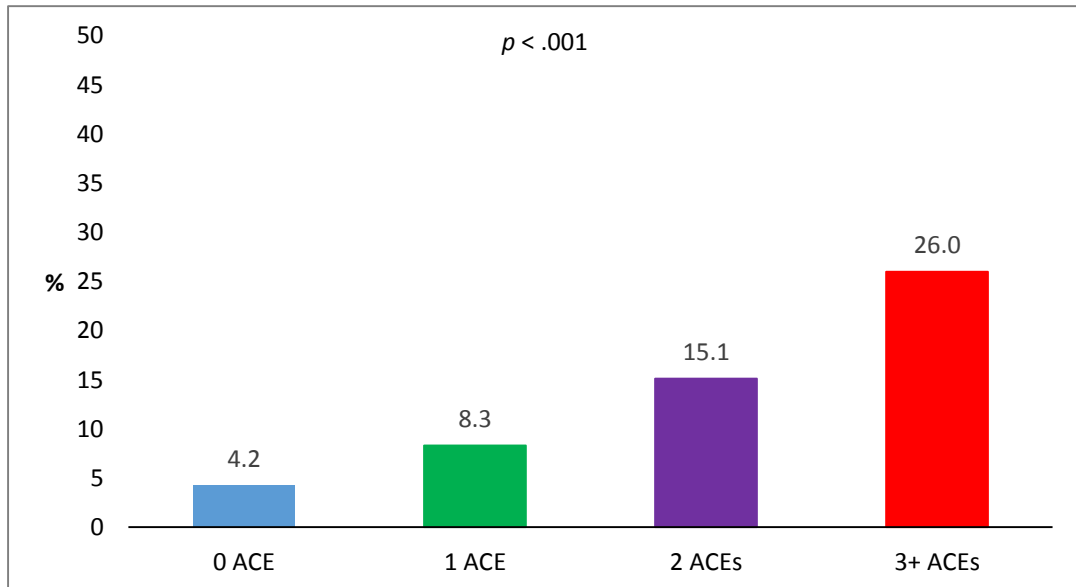
\*Such as a gun, knife, or club one or more times during the 12 months before the survey

**Figure 11: Percentage of students who experienced physical dating violence\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



\*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

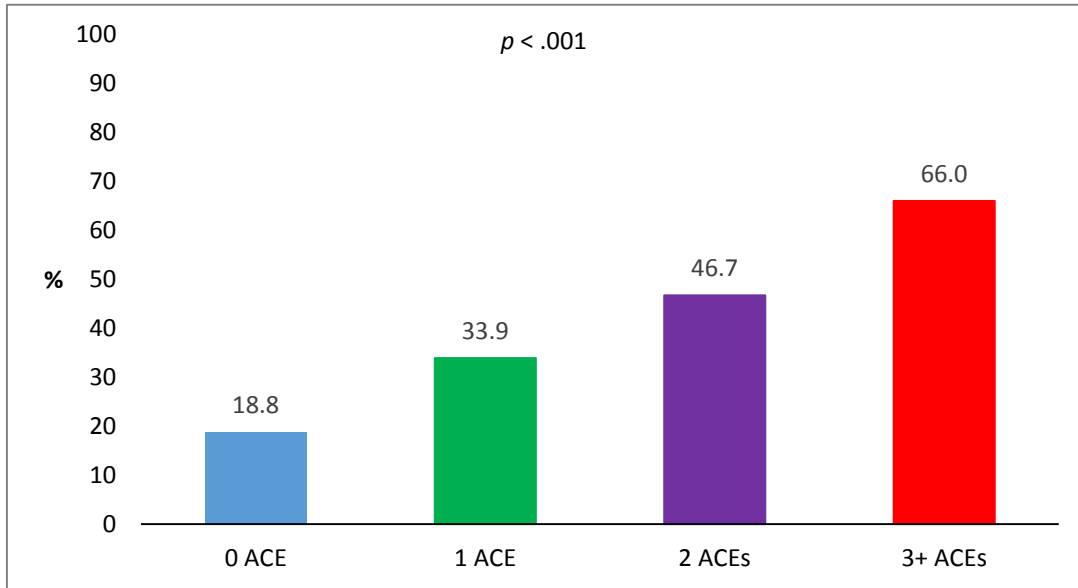
**Figure 12: Percentage of students who experienced sexual dating violence\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



\*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

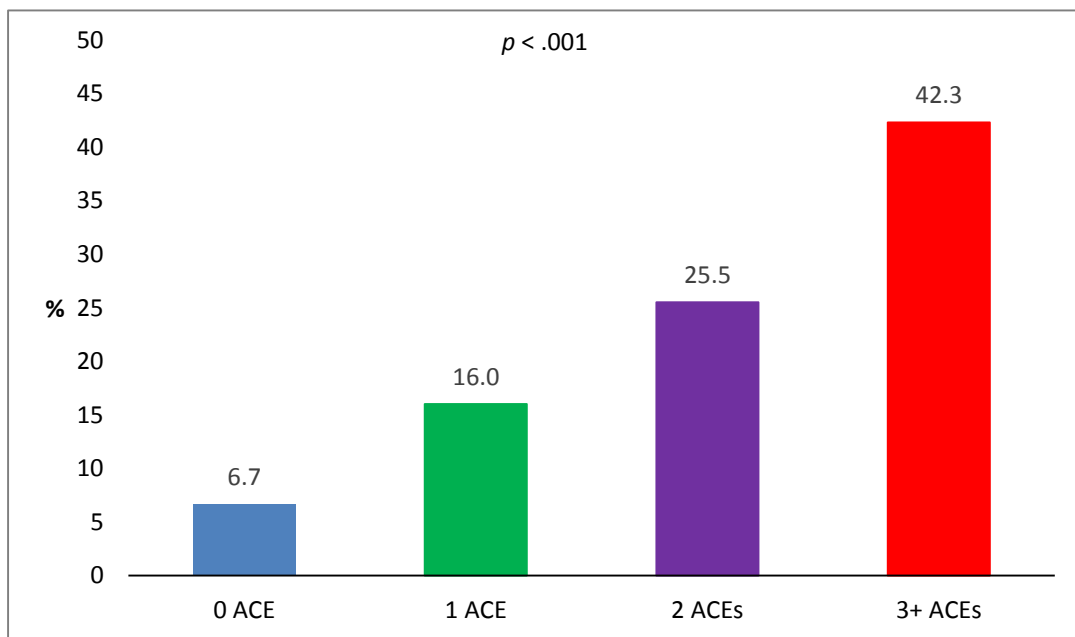
## Select Behavioral Health Outcomes by ACE Score: Emotional Health

**Figure 13: Percentage of students who felt sad or hopeless\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



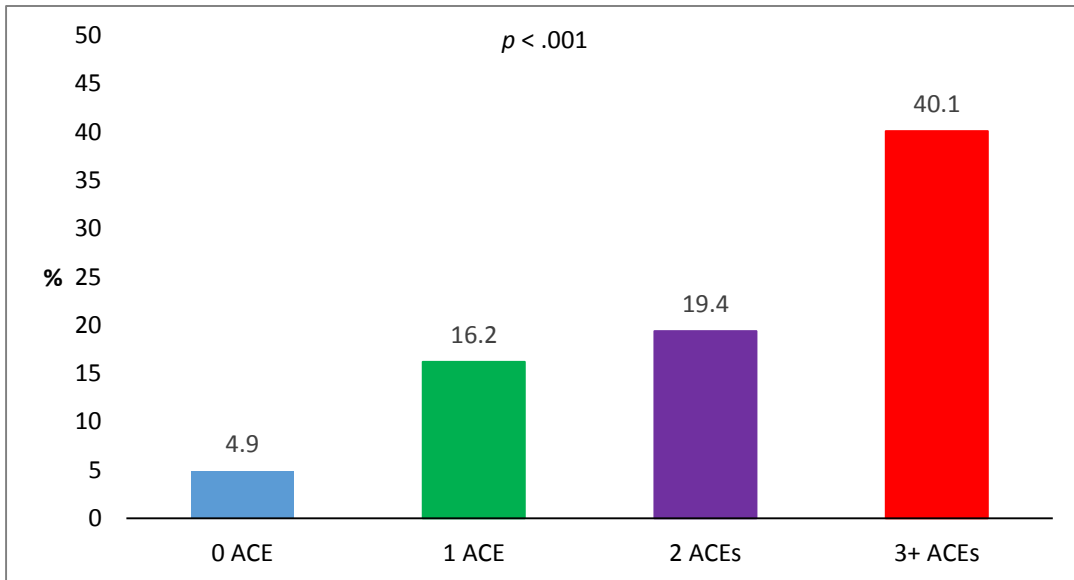
\*Almost every day for 2 or more weeks in a row so that they stopped doing some usual activities during the 12 months before the survey

**Figure 14: Percentage of students who seriously considered attempting suicide\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



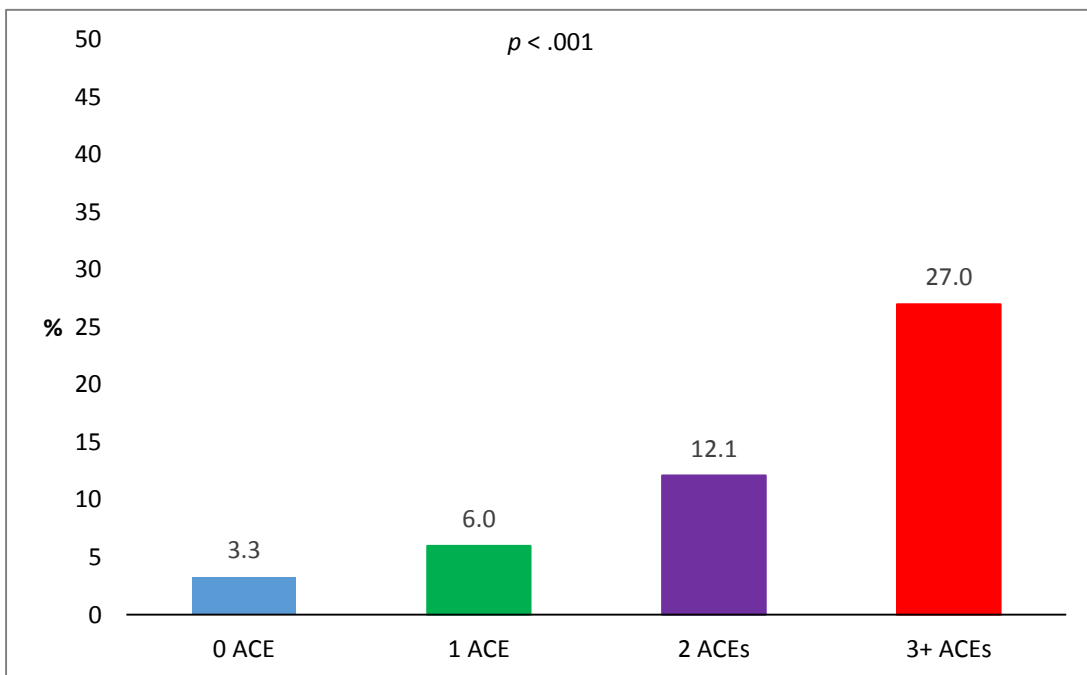
\*During the 12 months before the survey

**Figure 15: Percentage of students who made a plan about how they would attempt suicide\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



\*During the 12 months before the survey

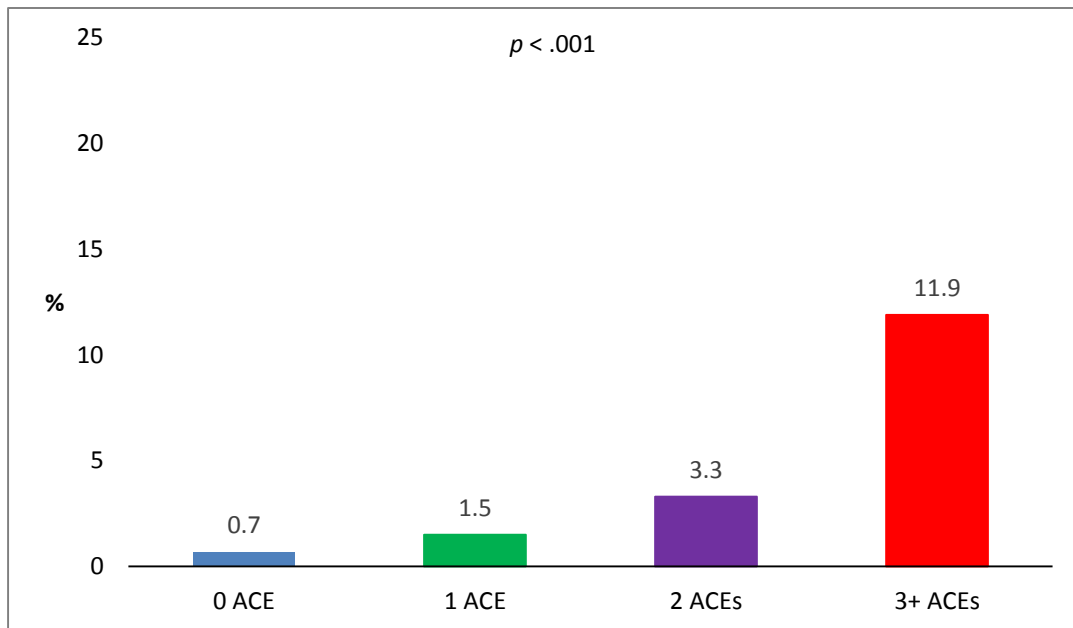
**Figure 16: Percentage of students who attempted suicide\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



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

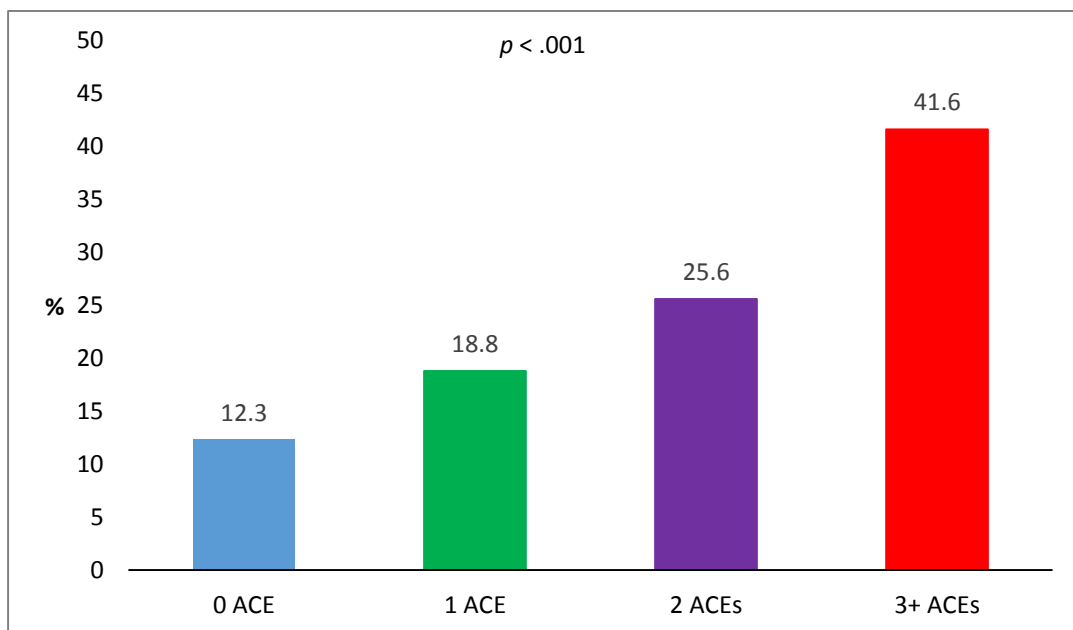


**Figure 17: Percentage of students who attempted suicide that resulted in an injury, poisoning, or overdose that had to be treated by a doctor or nurse\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



\*During the 12 months before the survey

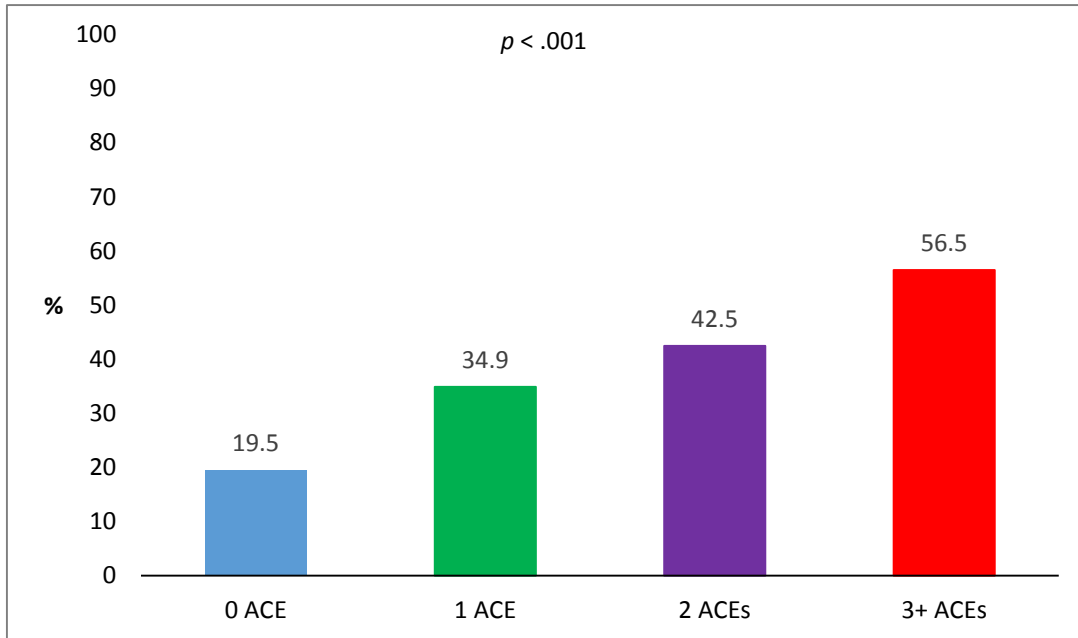
**Figure 18: Percentage of high school students who did something to purposely hurt themselves without wanting to die, such as cutting or burning themselves on purpose\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



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

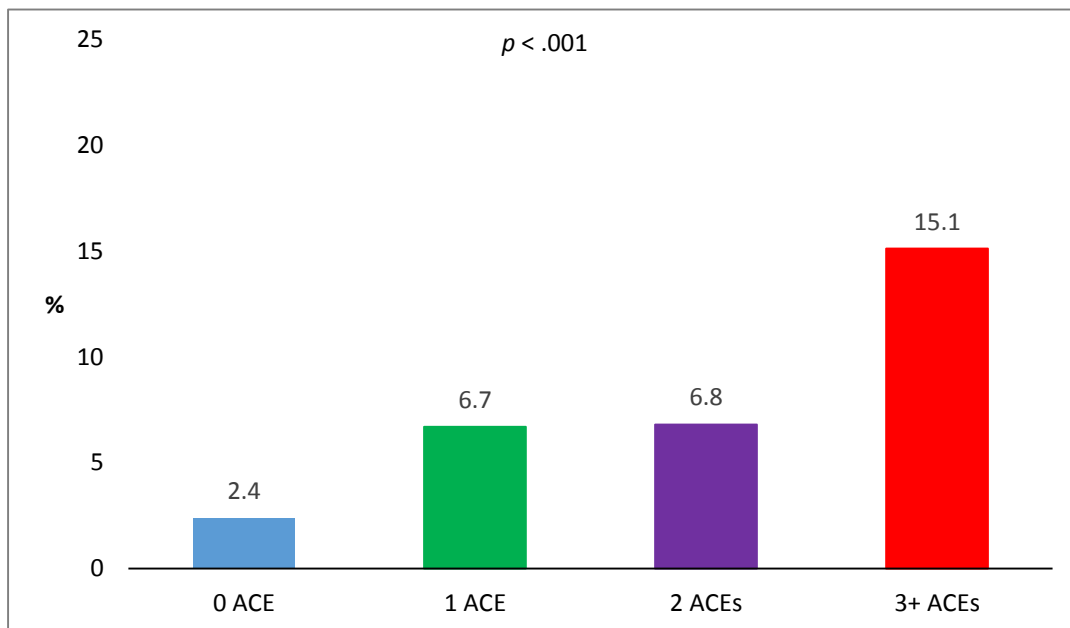
## Select Behavioral Health Outcomes by ACE Score: Substance Use

**Figure 19: Percentage of high school students who ever smoked cigarettes\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**

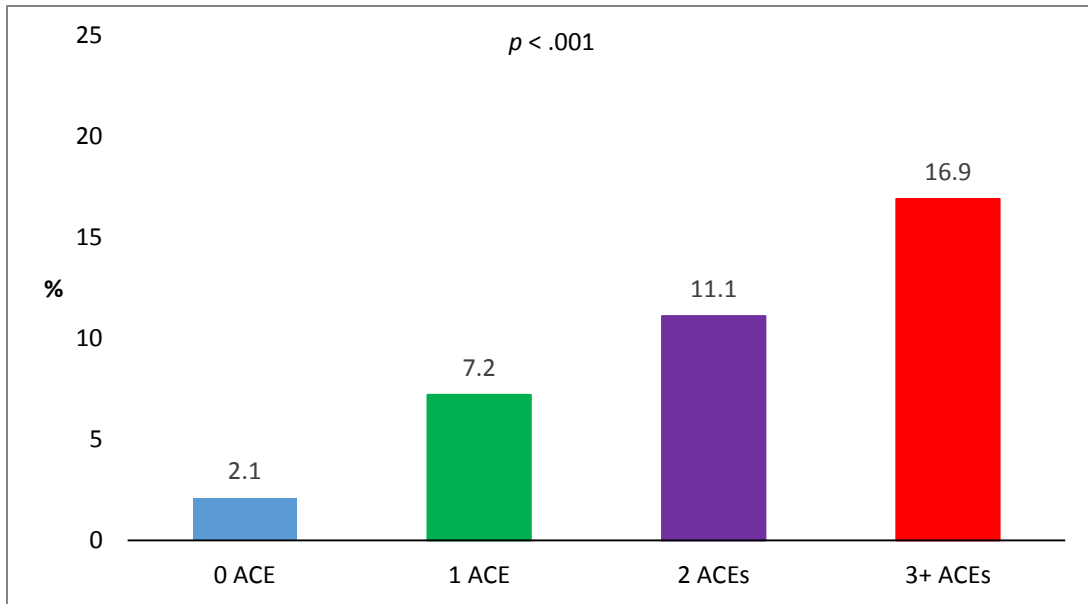


\*Ever tried smoking, even one or two puffs

**Figure 20: Percentage of high school students who smoked a whole cigarette for the first time before age 13 years, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**

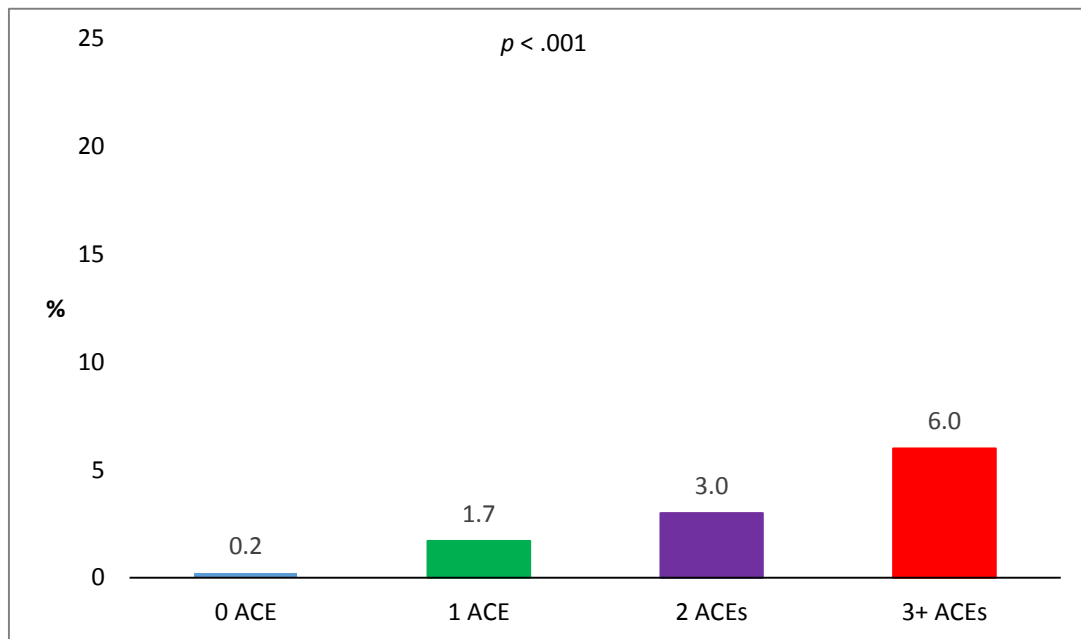


**Figure 21: Percentage of students who currently smoked cigarettes\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



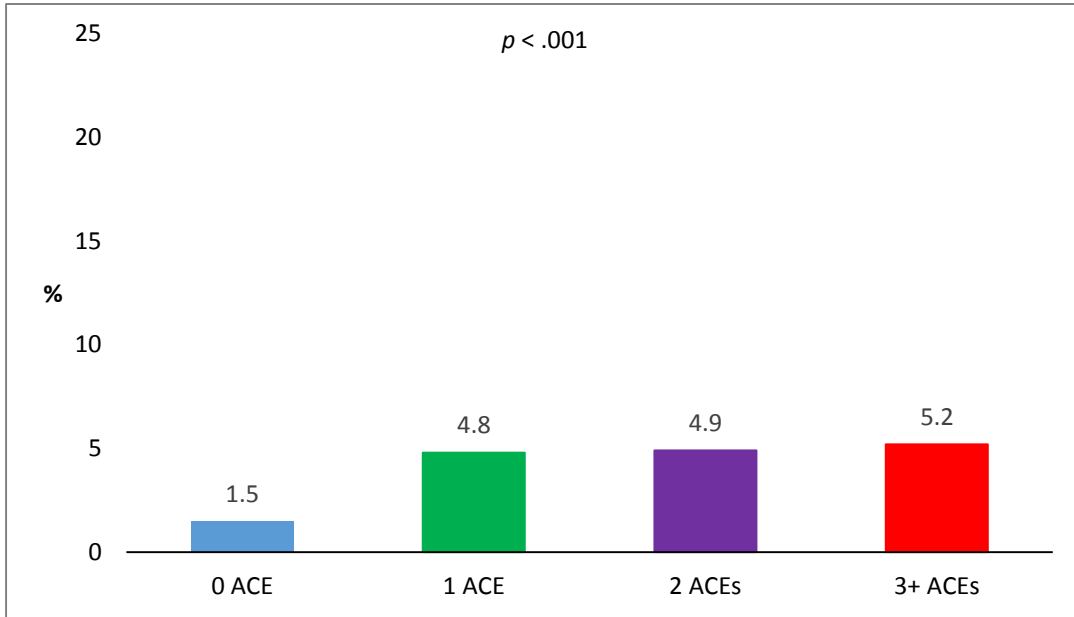
\*On at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey

**Figure 22: Percentage of students who currently frequently smoked cigarettes\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



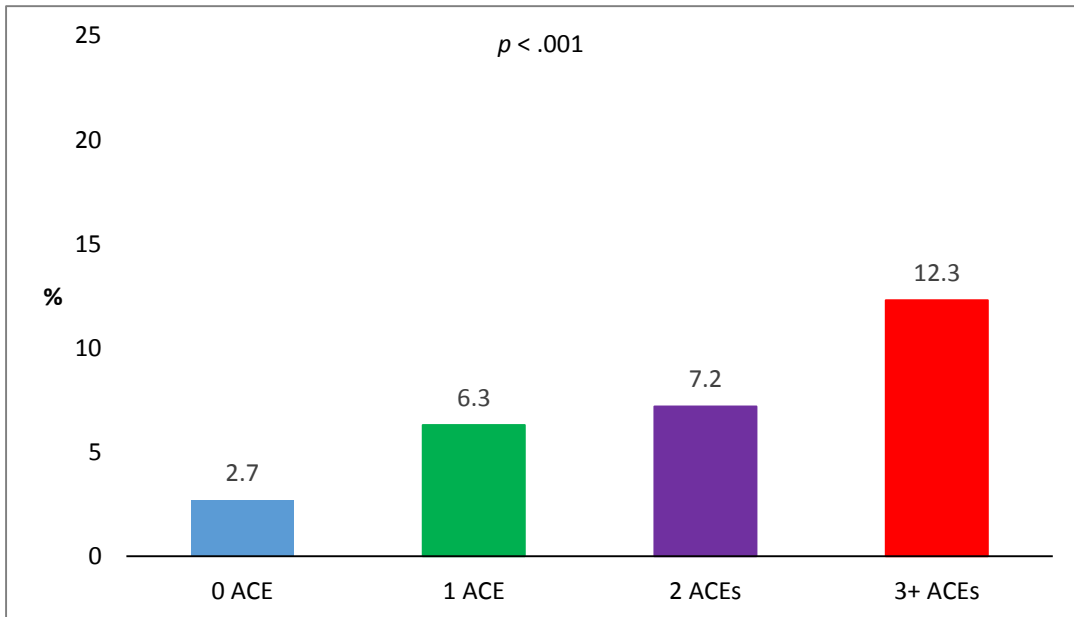
\*On 20 or more days during the 30 days before the survey

**Figure 23: Percentage of students who currently used smokeless tobacco\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



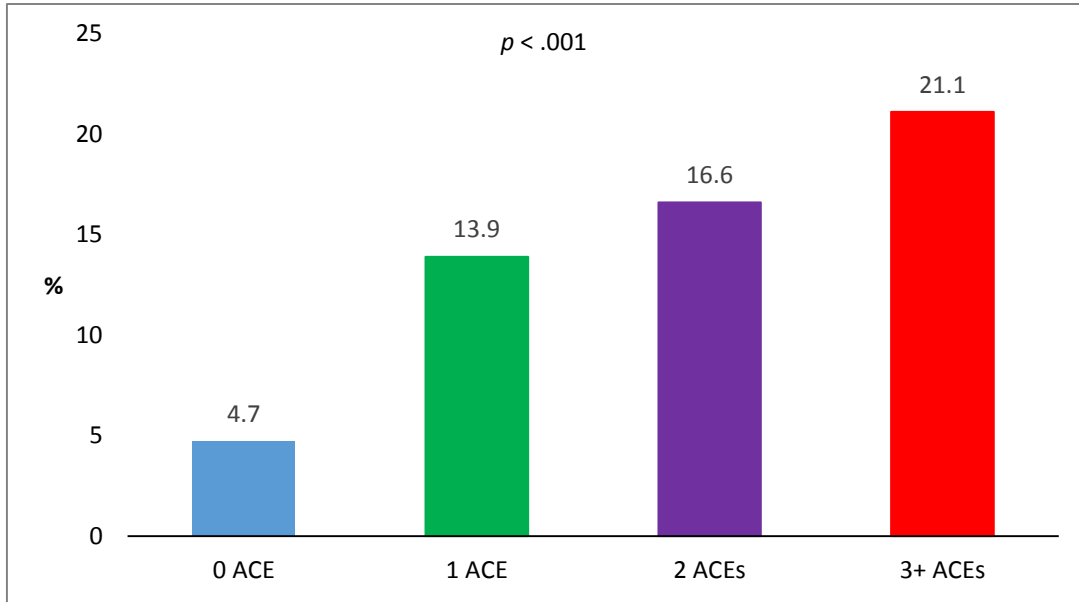
\*Chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey

**Figure 24: Percentage of high school students who currently smoked cigars\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



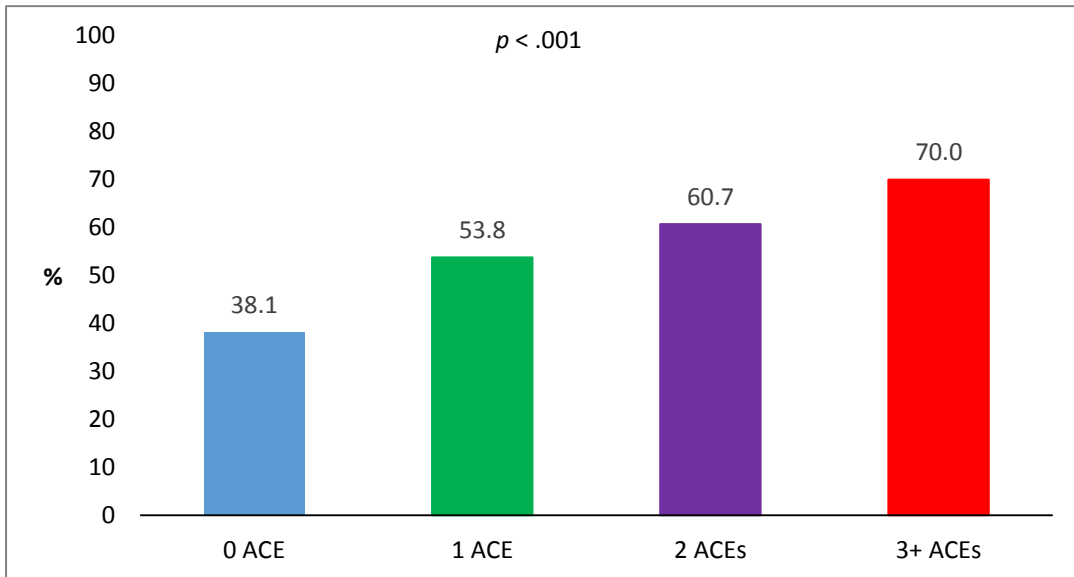
\*Smoked cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey

**Figure 25: Percentage of high school students who currently used tobacco\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



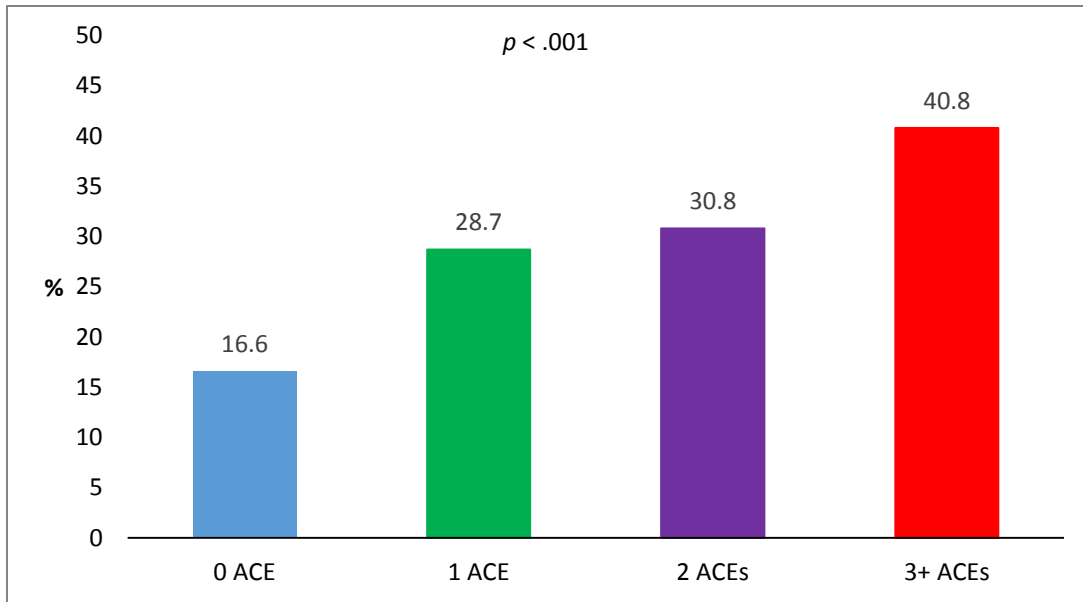
\*Cigarette, smokeless tobacco, or cigar use on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey

**Figure 26: Percentage of students who ever used electronic vapor products\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



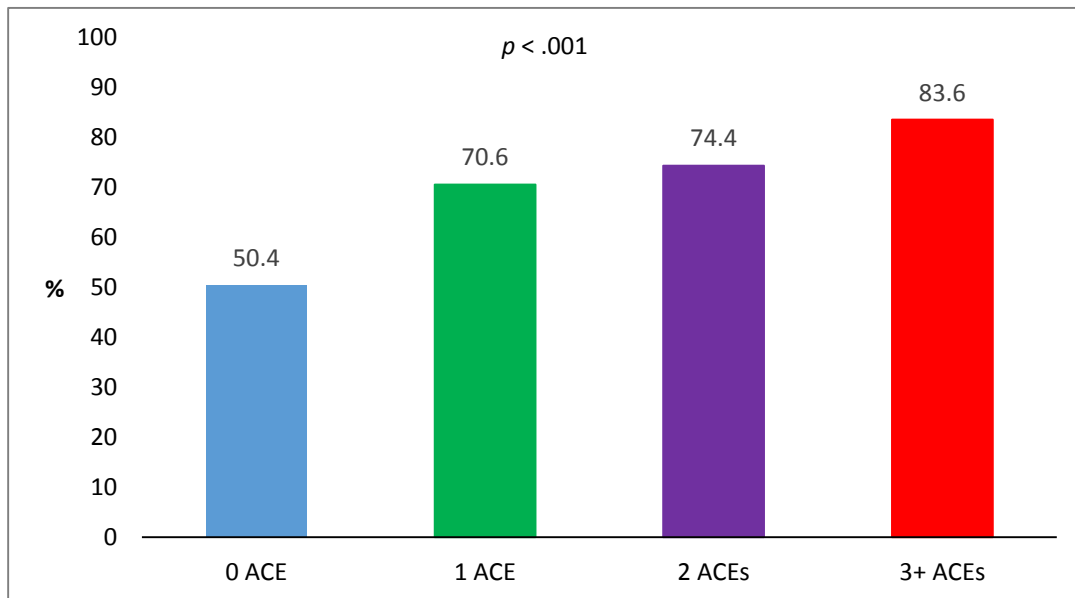
\*E-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, vape pipes, vaping pens, e-hookahs, and hookah pens such as blu, NJOY, or Starbuzz

**Figure 27: Percentage of students who currently used electronic vapor products\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



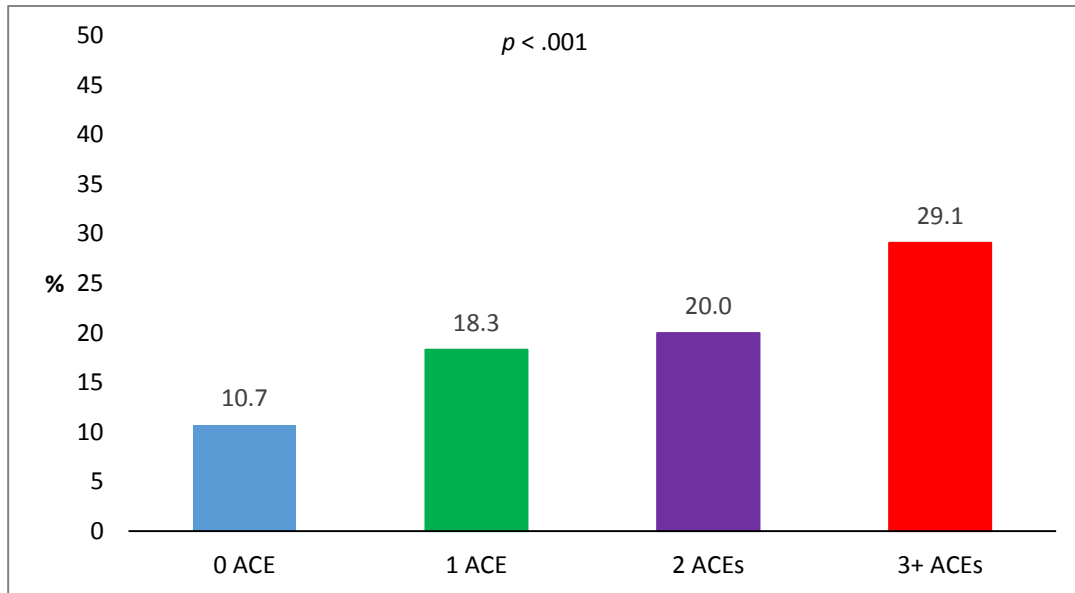
\*E-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, vape pipes, vaping pens, e-hookahs, and hookah pens such as blu, NJOY, or Starbuzz on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey

**Figure 28: Percentage of students who ever drank alcohol\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



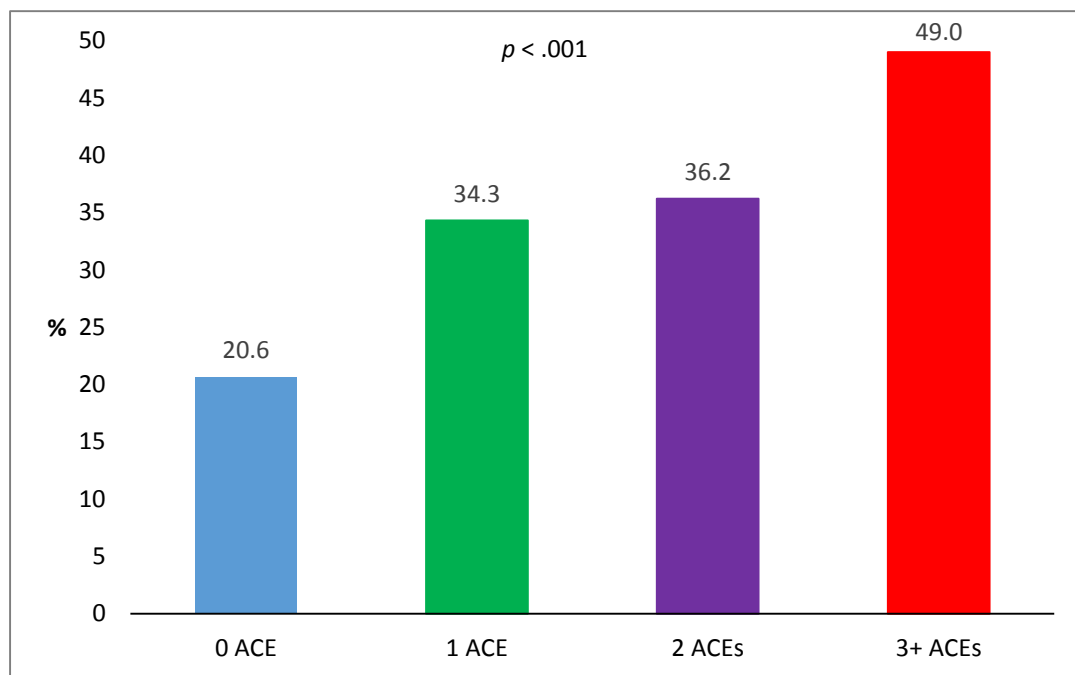
\*At least one drink of alcohol on at least 1 day during their life

**Figure 29: Percentage of high school students who drank alcohol for the first time before age 13 years\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



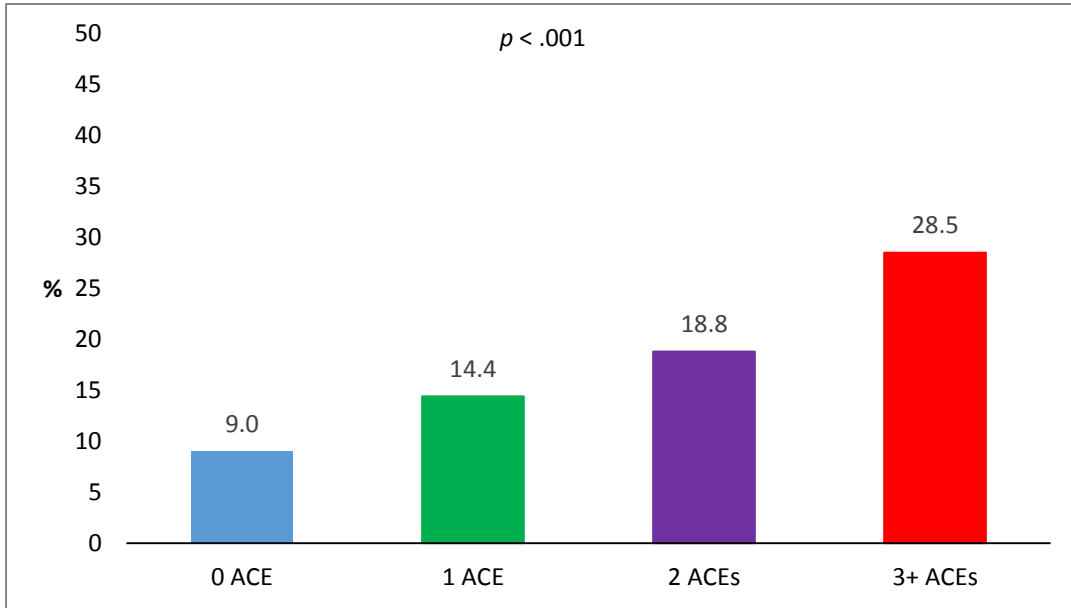
\*Other than a few sips

**Figure 30: Percentage of students who currently drank alcohol\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



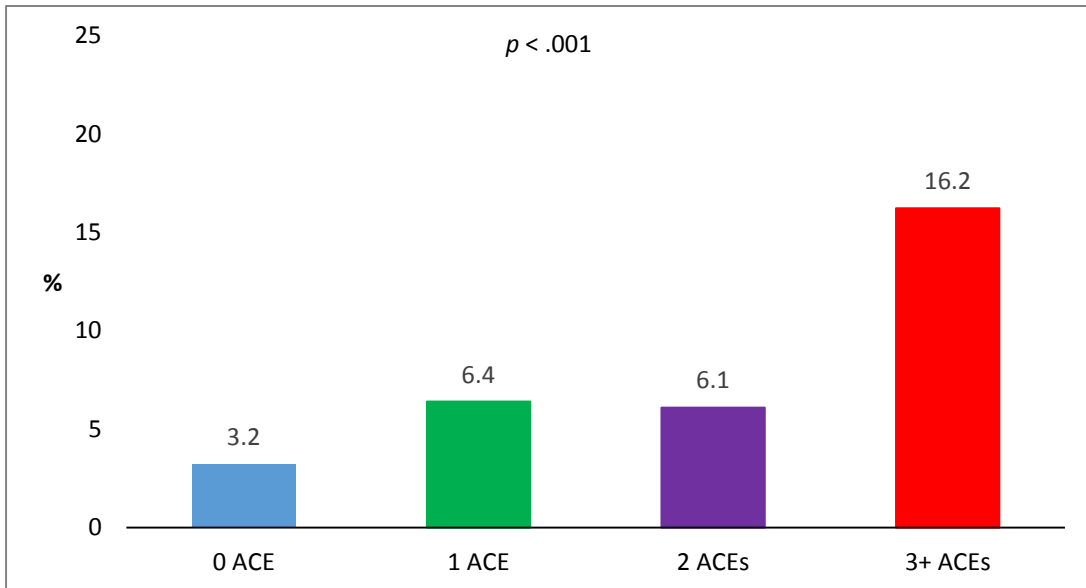
\*At least one drink of alcohol on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey

**Figure 31: Percentage of students who recently participated in binge drinking\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



\*Had five or more drinks in a row within a couple of hours on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the Survey

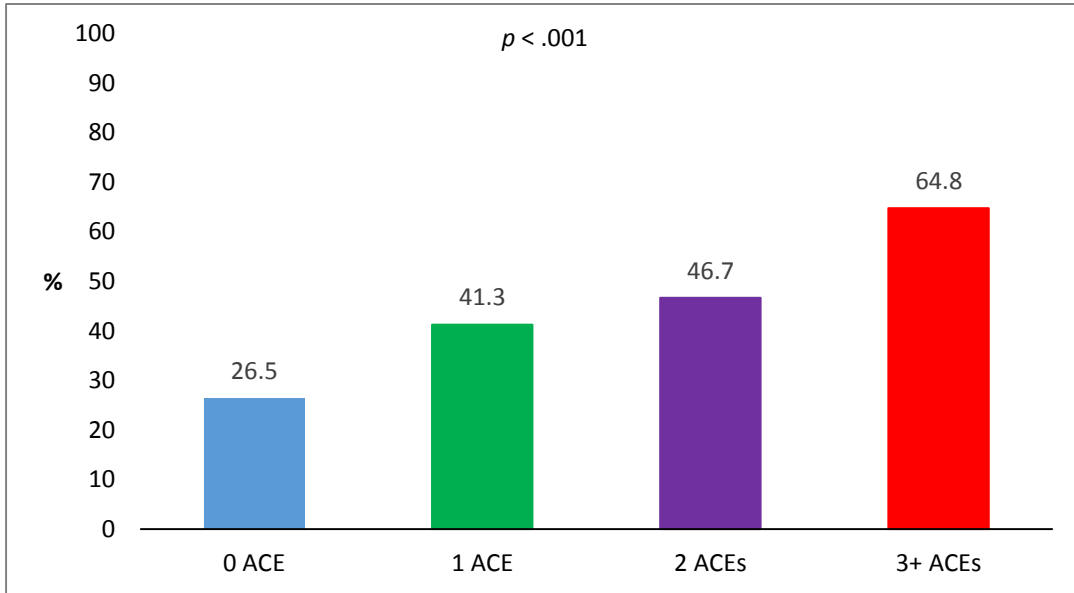
**Figure 32: Percentage of students who drove when drinking alcohol\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



\*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

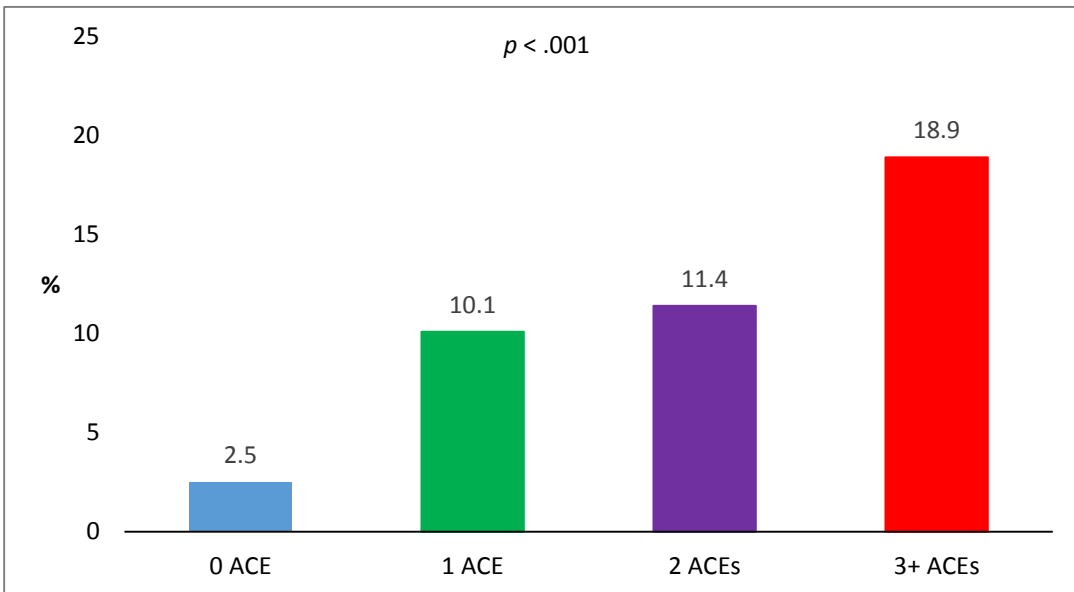


**Figure 33: Percentage of students who ever used marijuana\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**

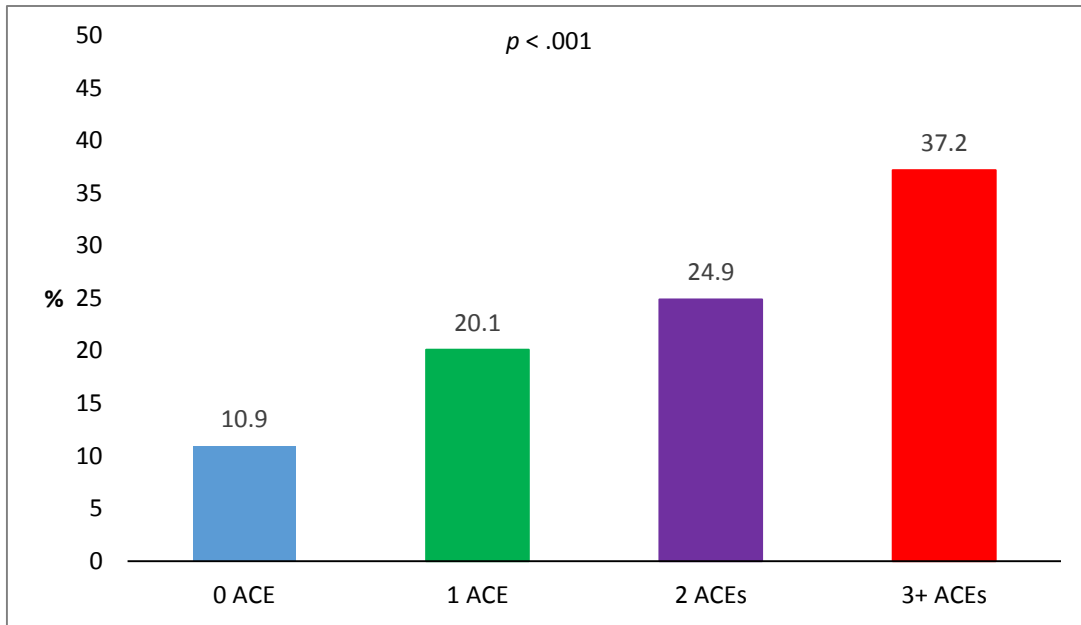


\*One or more times during their life

**Figure 34: Percentage of students who tried marijuana for the first time before age 13 years, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**

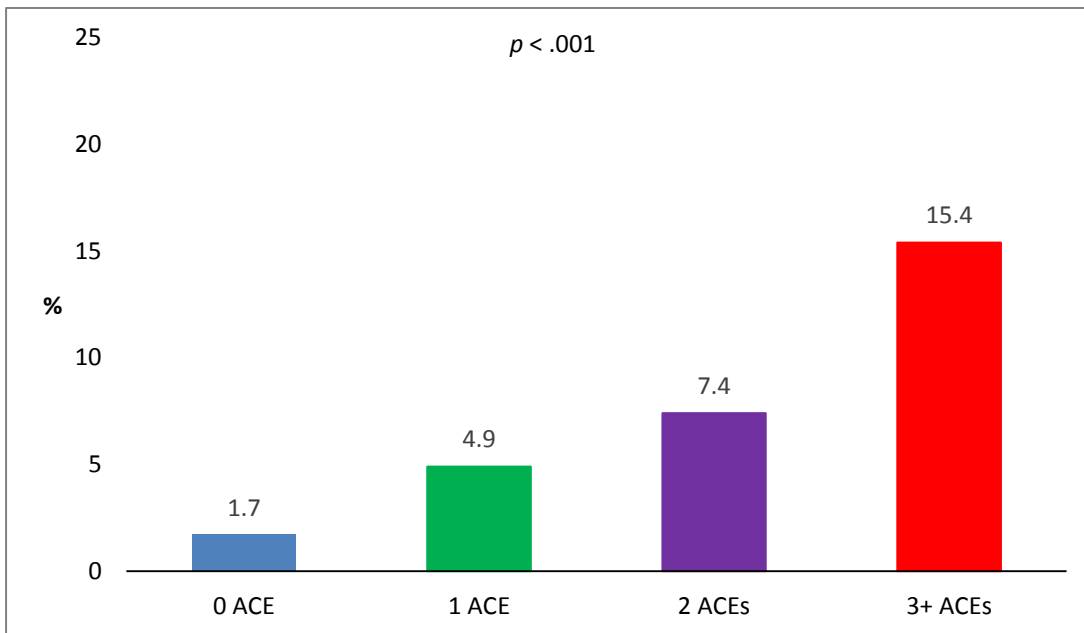


**Figure 35: Percentage of students who currently used marijuana\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



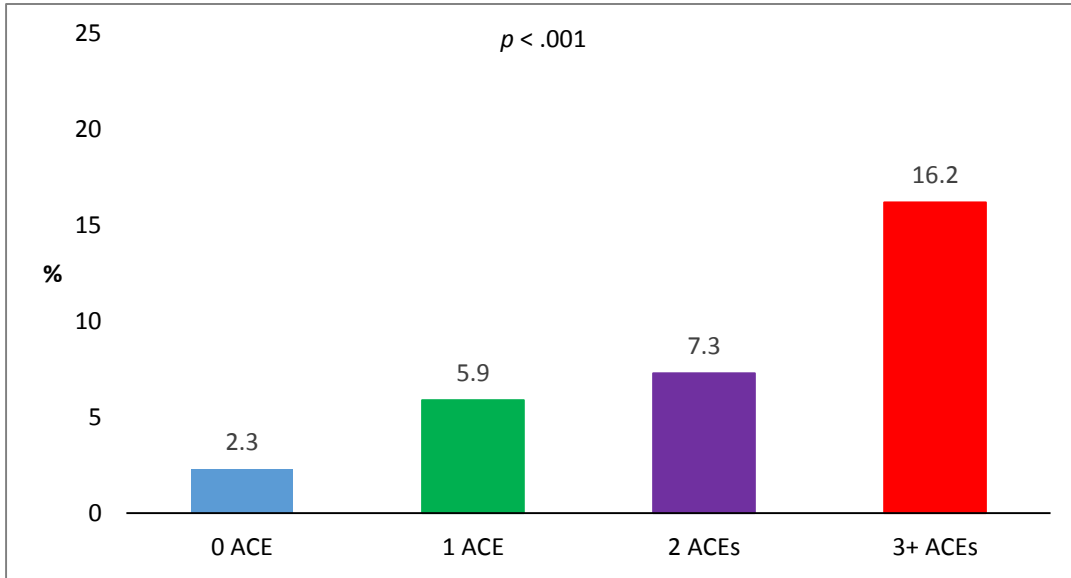
\*One or more times during the 30 days before the survey

**Figure 36: Percentage of high school students who ever used cocaine\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



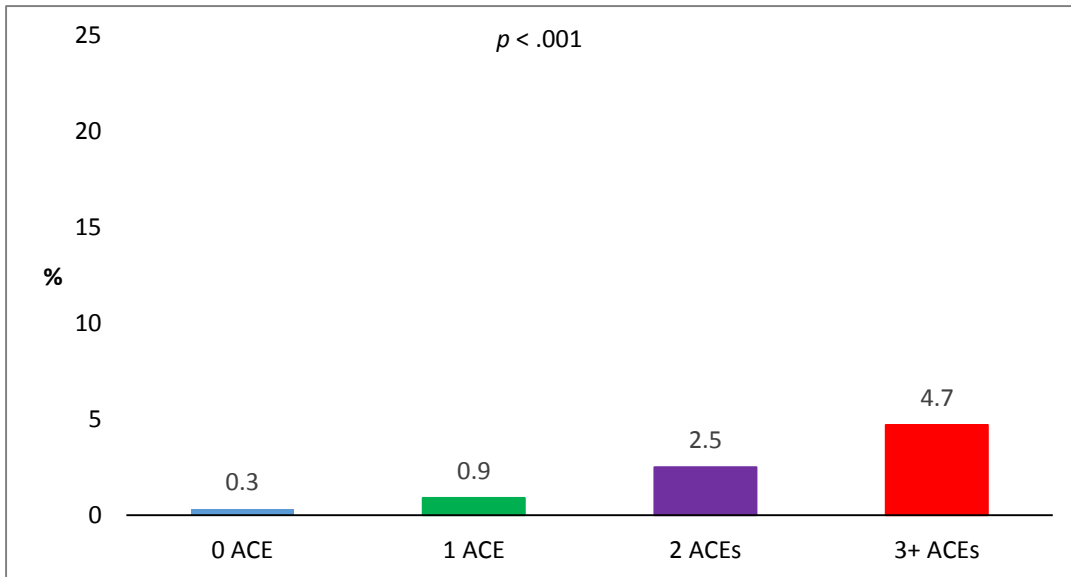
\*Used any form of cocaine (e.g., powder, crack, or freebase) one or more times during their life

**Figure 37: Percentage of high school students who ever used inhalants\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



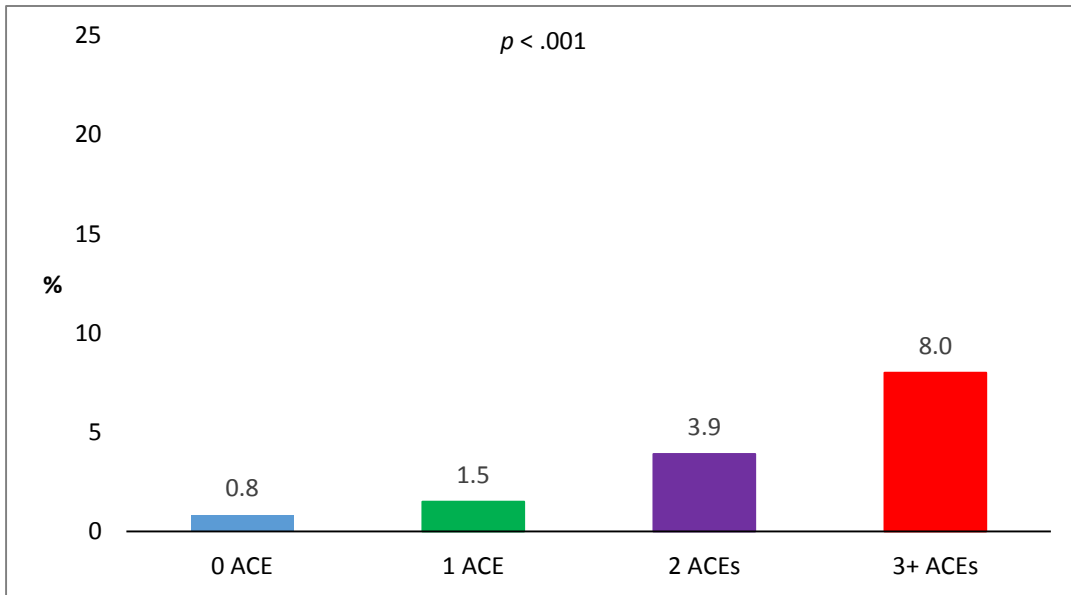
\*Sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans, or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high one or more times during their life

**Figure 38: Percentage of students who ever used heroin\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



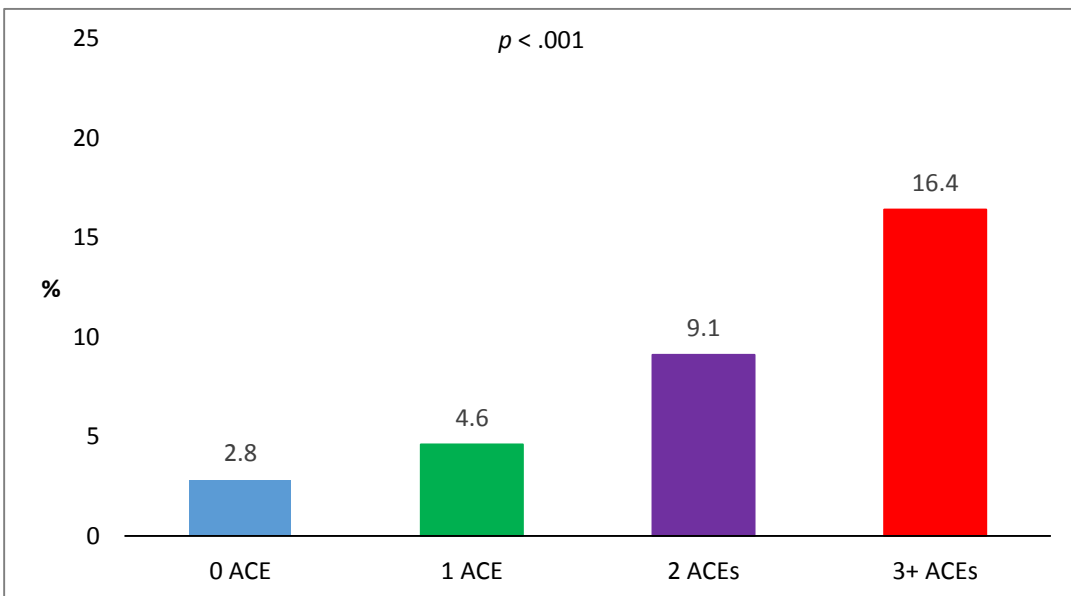
\*Also called "smack," "junk," or "China white," one or more times during their life

**Figure 39: Percentage of high school students who ever used methamphetamines\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



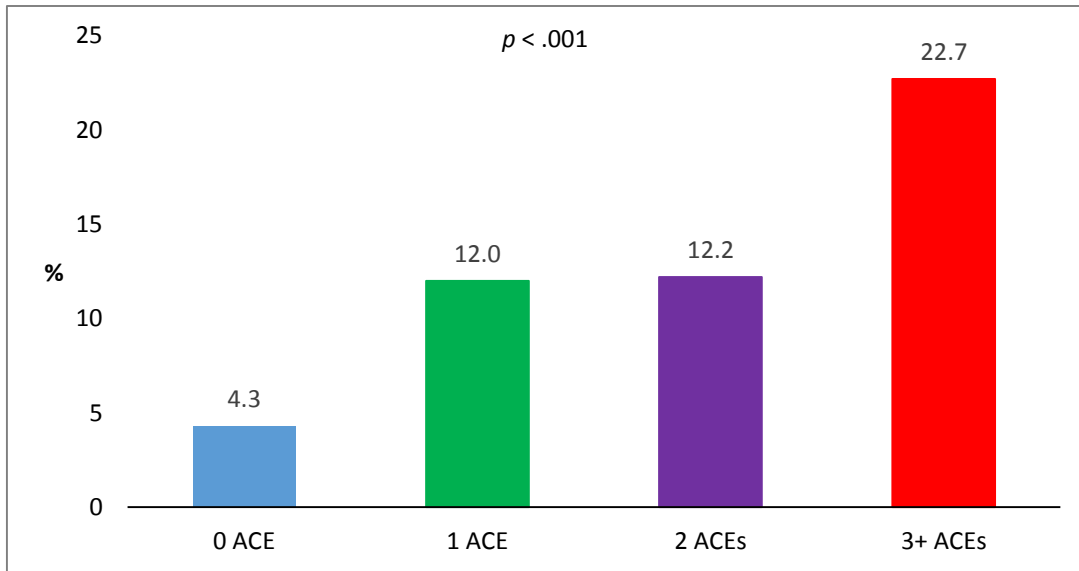
\*Used methamphetamines (also called “speed,” “crystal,” “crank,” or “ice”) one or more times during their life

**Figure 40: Percentage of high school students who used ecstasy\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



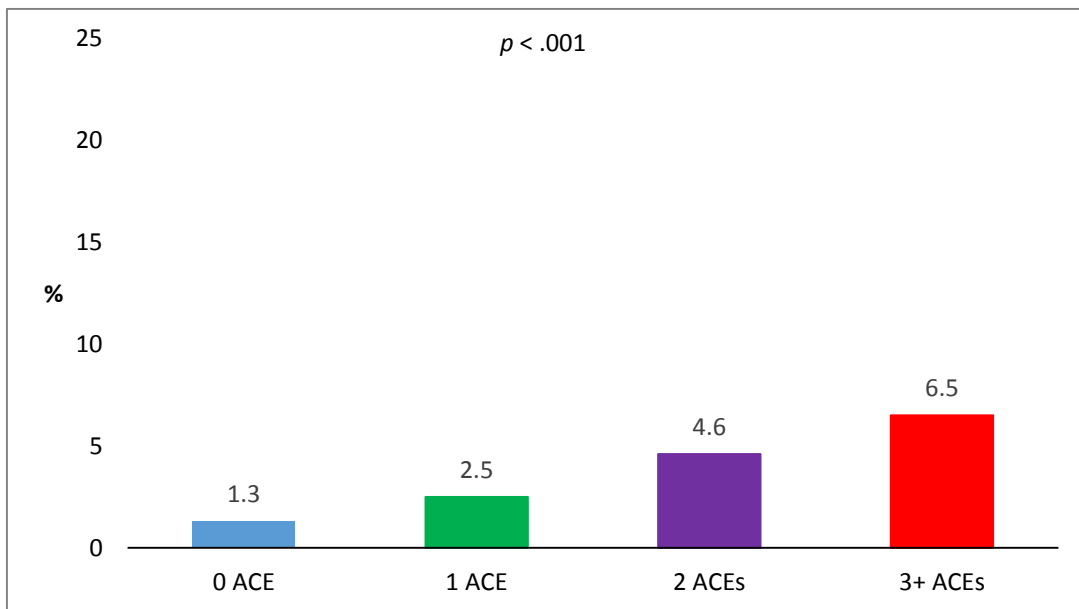
\*Used ecstasy (also called “MDMA”) one or more times during their life

**Figure 41: Percentage of high school students who ever used synthetic marijuana\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



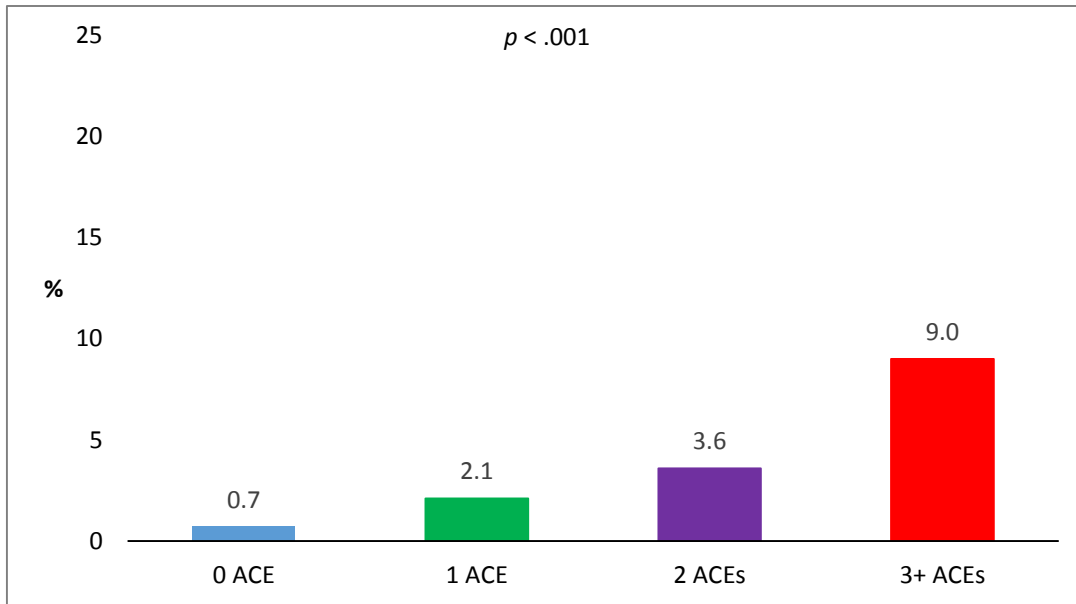
\*Also called “K2,” “Spice,” “fake weed,” “King Kong,” “Yucatan Fire,” “Skunk,” or “Moon Rocks” one or more times during their life

**Figure 42: Percentage of students who currently use synthetic marijuana\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



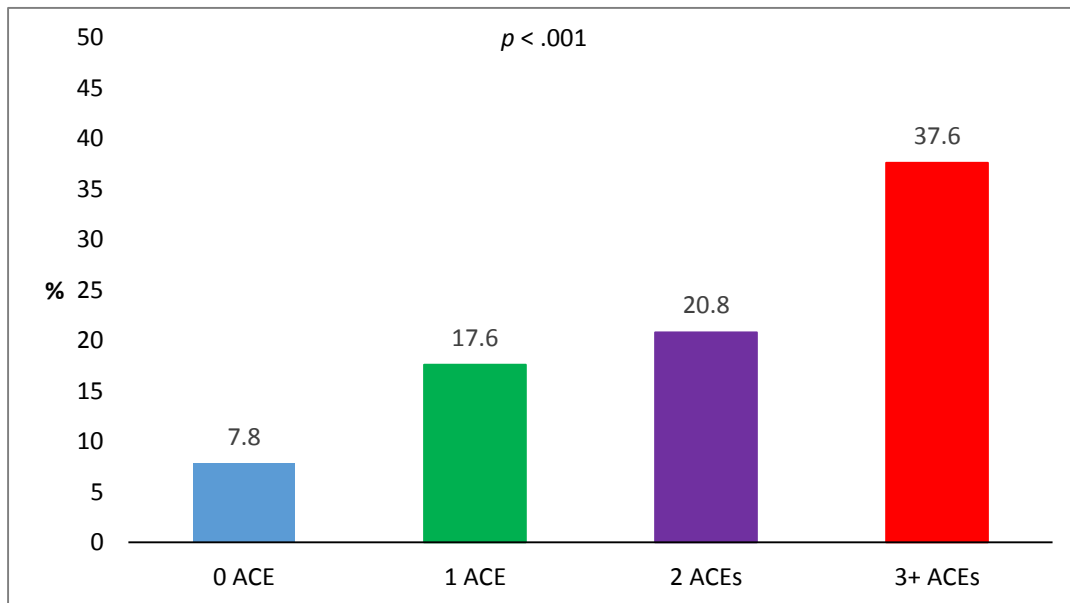
\*Also called “K2”, “Spice”, “fake weed”, “King Kong”, “Yucatan Fire”, “Skunk”, or “Moon Rocks”, one or more times during the 30 days before the survey

**Figure 43: Percentage of students who ever took steroids without a doctor's prescription\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



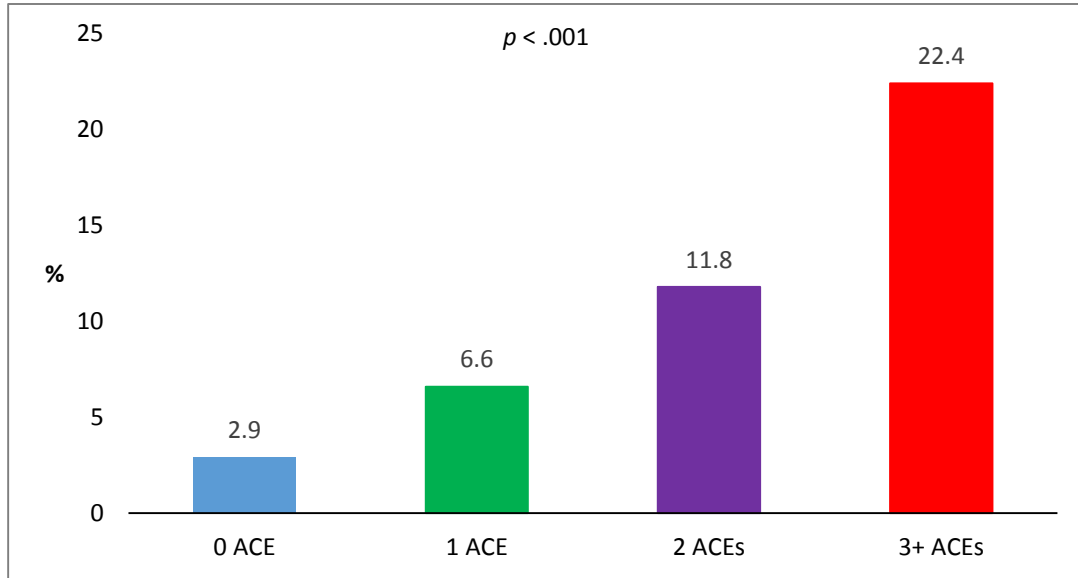
\*Pills or shots, one or more times during their life

**Figure 44: Percentage of students who ever took prescription drugs without a doctor's prescription\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



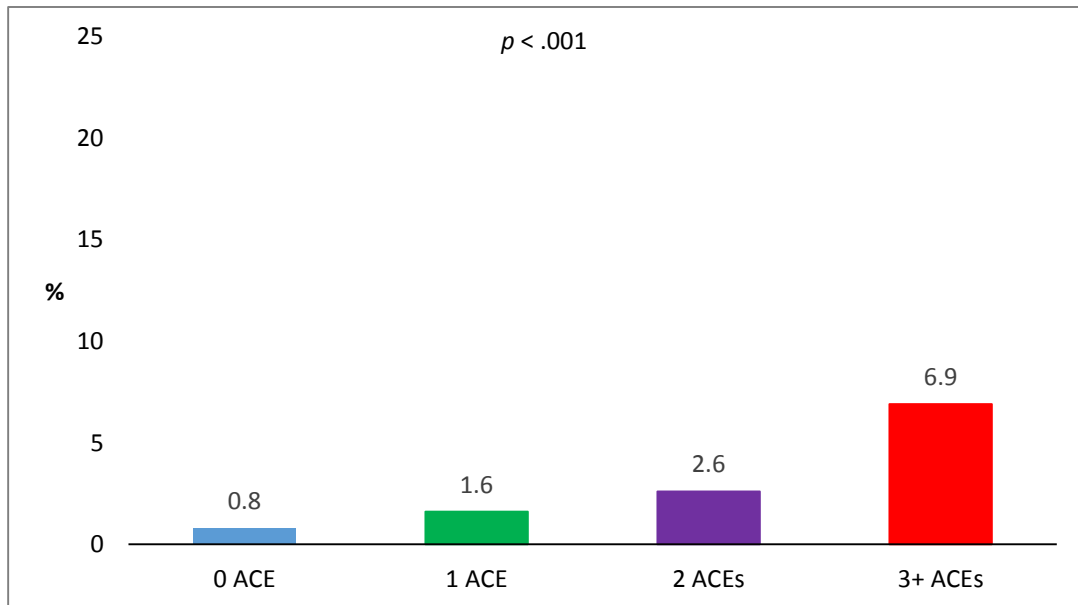
\*Such as OxyContin, Percocet, Vicodin, codeine, Adderall, Ritalin, or Xanax, one or more times during their life

**Figure 45: Percentage of students who currently use prescription drugs without a doctor's prescription\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



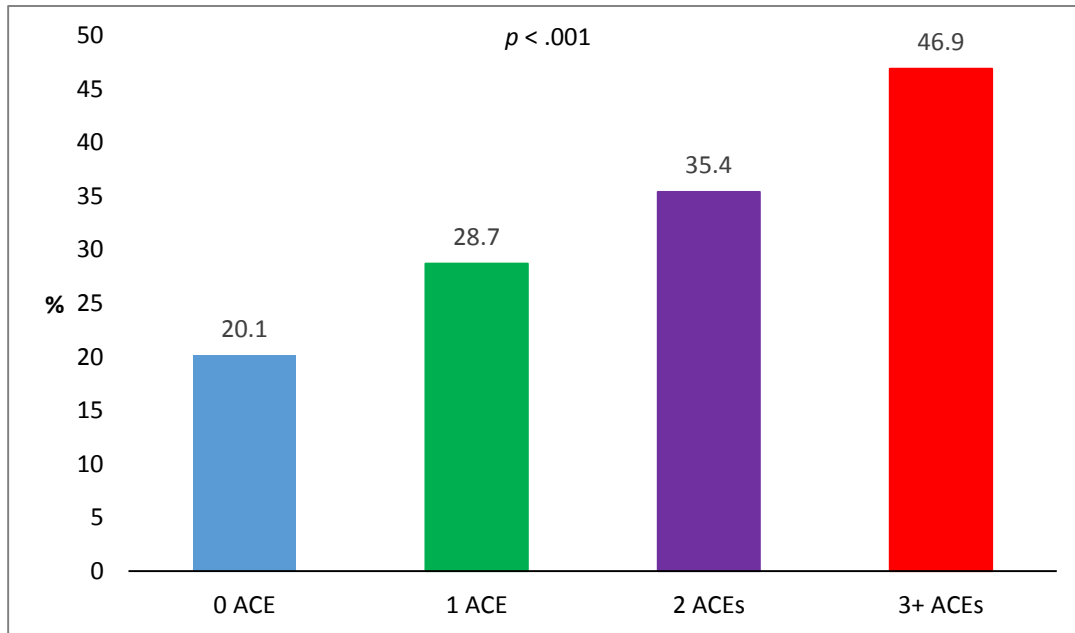
\*Such as OxyContin, Percocet, Vicodin, codeine, Adderall, Ritalin, or Xanax, one or more times during the 30 days before the survey

**Figure 46: Percentage of students who ever injected any illegal drug\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



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

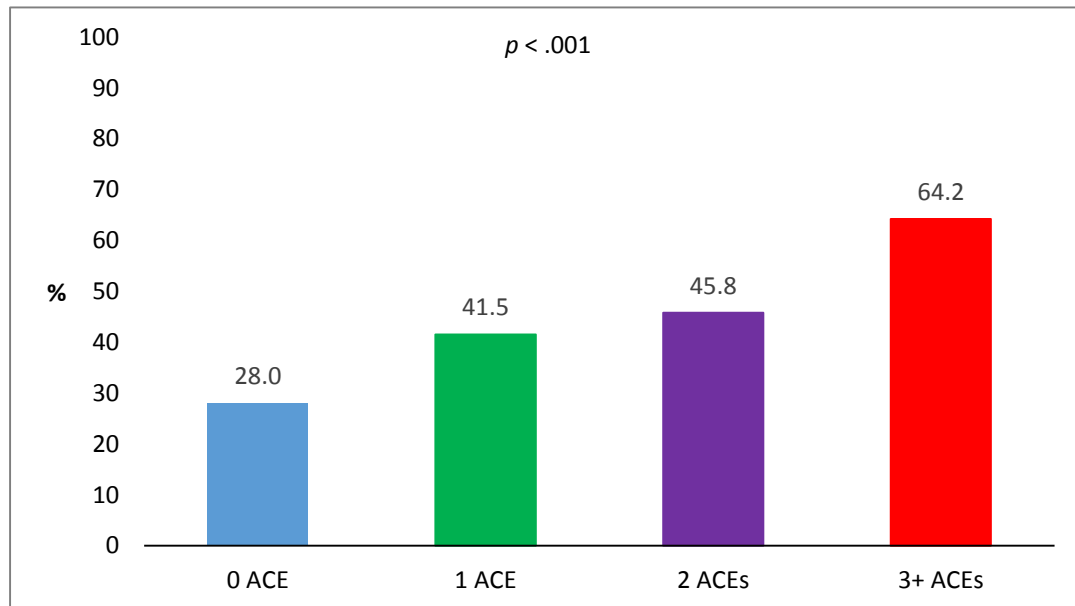
**Figure 47: Percentage of students who were offered, sold, or given an illegal drug on school property\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



\*During the 12 months before the survey

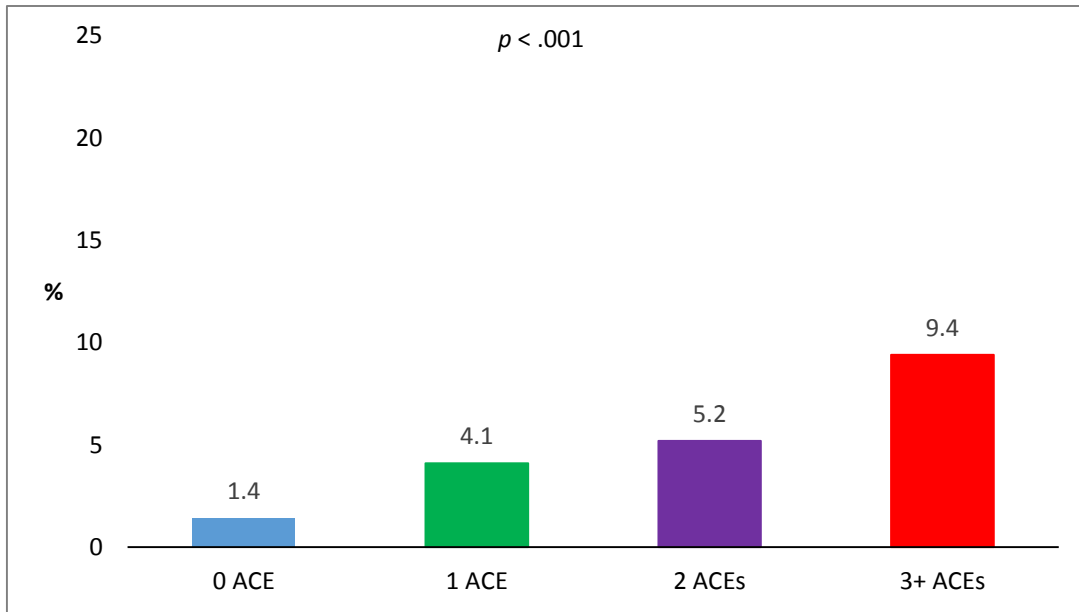
### Select Behavioral Health Outcomes by ACE Score: Sexual Behaviors

**Figure 48: Percentage of students who ever had sexual intercourse, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**

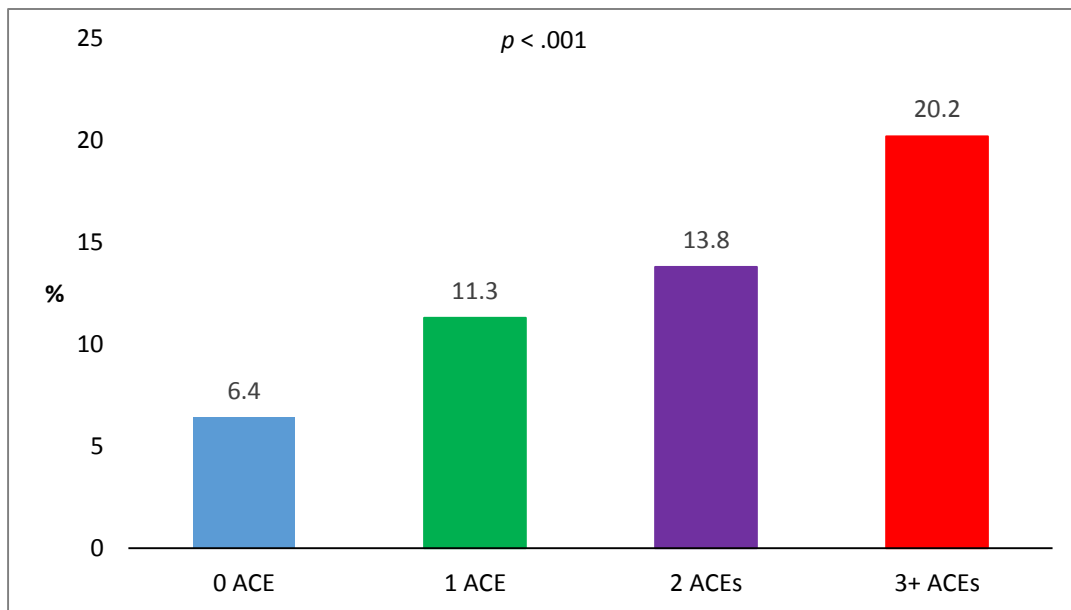




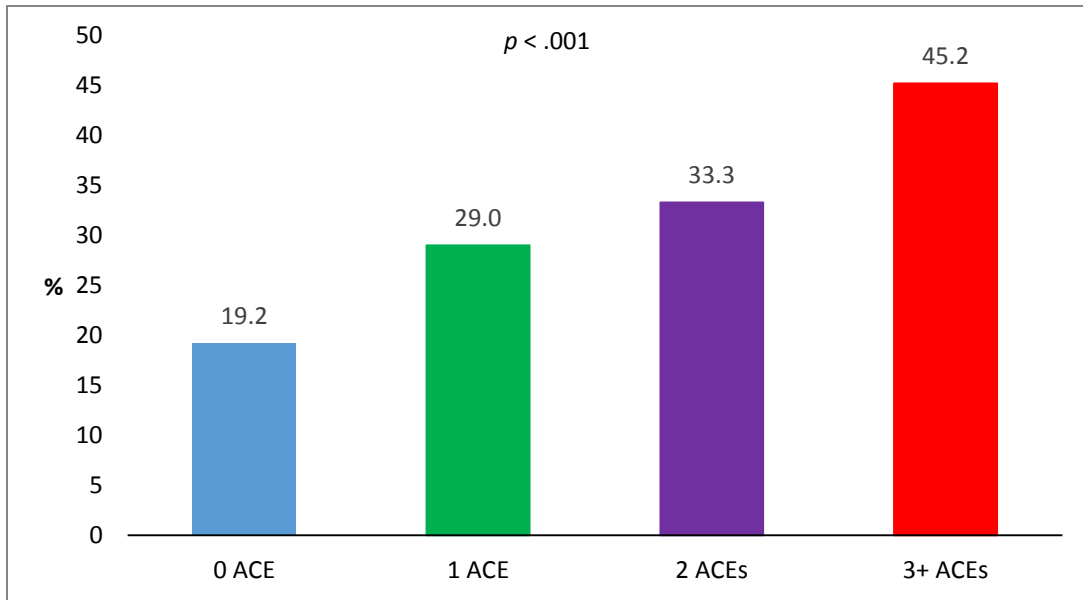
**Figure 49: Percentage of high school students who had sexual intercourse for the first time before age 13 years, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



**Figure 50: 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, 2015**

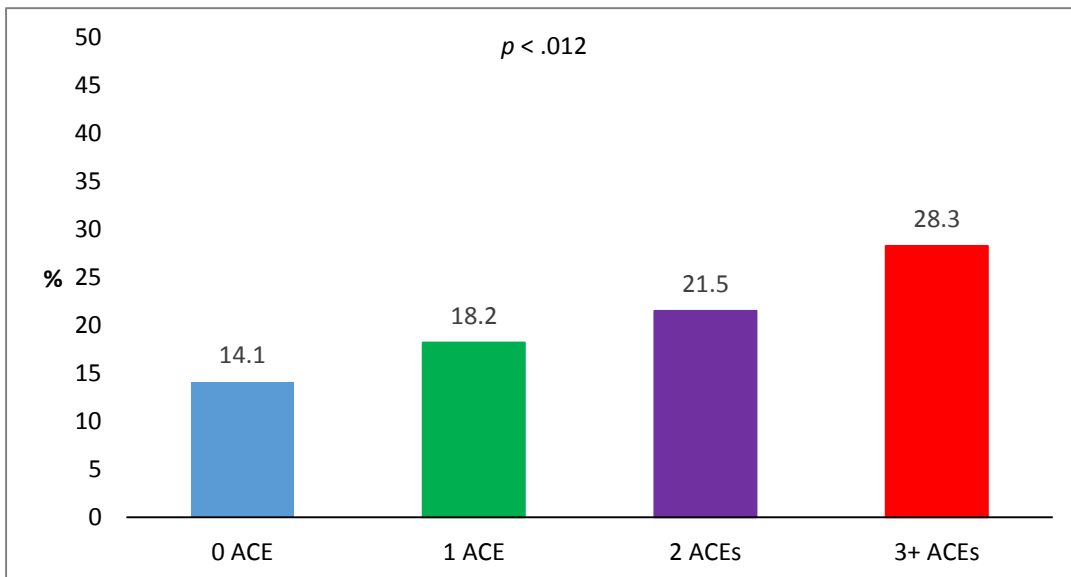


**Figure 51: Percentage of students who were currently sexually active\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



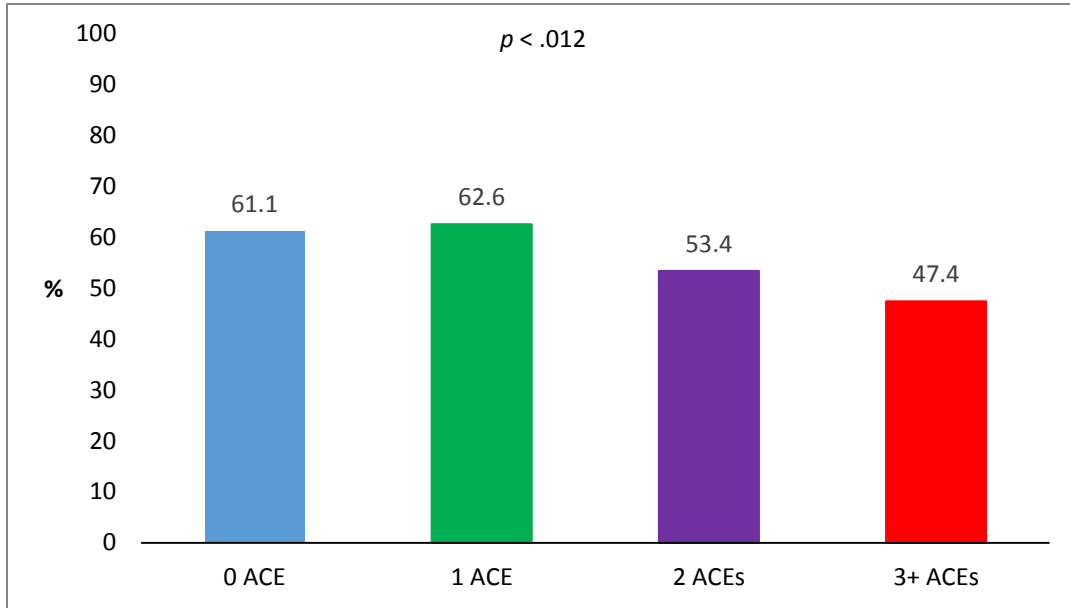
\*Sexual intercourse with at least one person during the 3 months before the survey

**Figure 52: Percentage of students who drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



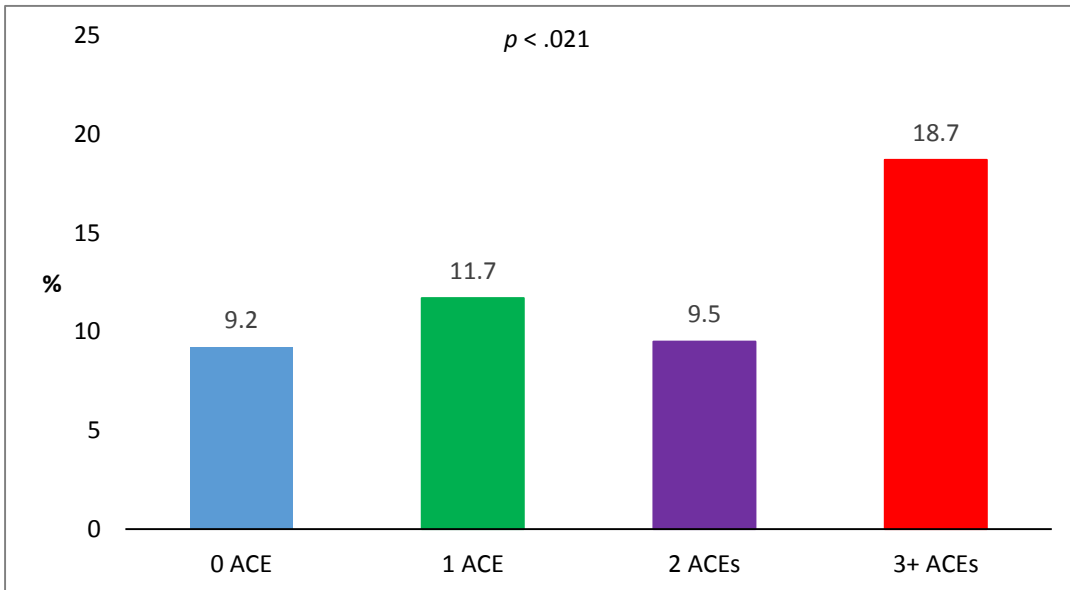
\*Among students who were currently sexually active

**Figure 53: Percentage of students who used a condom\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



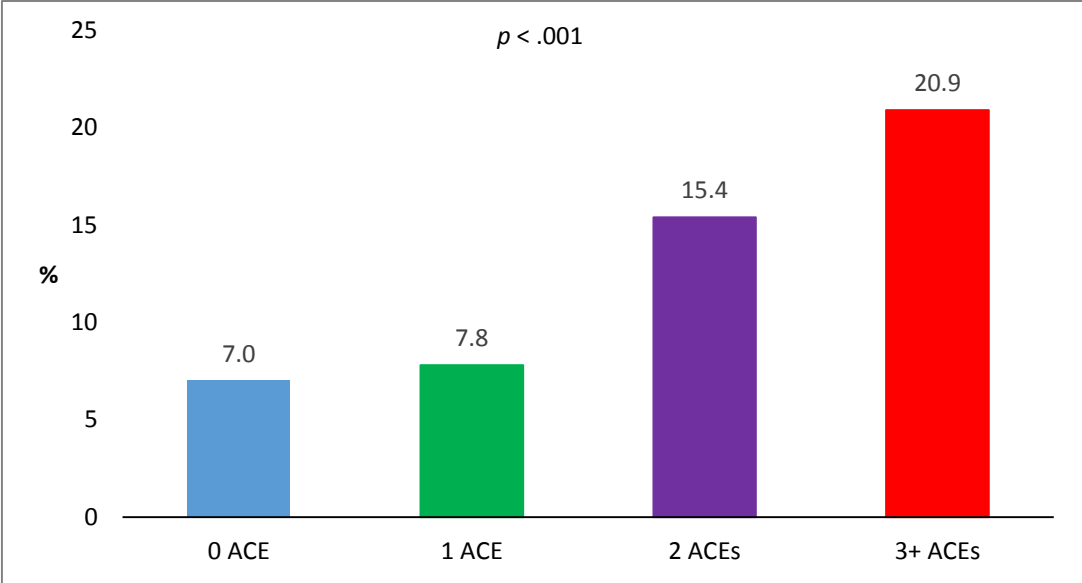
\*During last sexual intercourse among students who were currently sexually active

**Figure 54: Percentage of students who did not use any method to prevent pregnancy\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



\*During last sexual intercourse among students who were currently sexually active

**Figure 55: Percentage of students who were ever tested for HIV\*, by ACE score — Nevada, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2015**



\*Not including tests done when donating blood

2015 Nevada High School YRBS: ACE Analysis

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