

What's an ACE (Adverse Childhood Experiences) score?

Use **The ACE Score Calculator to find out!** The ACE Score attributes one point for each category of exposure to child abuse and/or neglect. Add up the points for a Score of 0 to 10. The higher the score, the greater the exposure, and therefore the greater the risk of negative consequences. These consequences are discussed throughout the publications also available for download from this site: <http://www.cdc.gov/ace/about.htm>

About the Study



The initial phase of the ACE Study was conducted at Kaiser Permanente from 1995 to 1997, and more than 17,000 participants had a standardized physical examination. No further participants will be enrolled, but we are tracking the medical status of the baseline participants.

Each study participant completed a confidential survey that contained questions about childhood maltreatment and family dysfunction, as well as items detailing their current health status and behaviors. This information was combined with the results of their physical examination to form the baseline data for the study.

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Finding Your ACE Score

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While you were growing up, during your first 18 years of life:

1. Did a parent or other adult in the household often or very often...

Swear at you, insult you, put you down, or humiliate you?

or

Act in a way that made you afraid that you might be physically hurt?

Yes No If yes enter 1 _____

2. Did a parent or other adult in the household often or very often...

Push, grab, slap, or throw something at you?

or

Ever hit you so hard that you had marks or were injured?

Yes No If yes enter 1 _____

3. Did an adult or person at least 5 years older than you ever...

Touch or fondle you or have you touch their body in a sexual way?

or

Attempt or actually have oral, anal, or vaginal intercourse with you?

Yes No If yes enter 1 _____

4. Did you often or very often feel that ...

No one in your family loved you or thought you were important or special?

or

Your family didn't look out for each other, feel close to each other, or support each other?

Yes No If yes enter 1 _____

5. Did you often or very often feel that ...

You didn't have enough to eat, had to wear dirty clothes, and had no one to protect you?

or

Your parents were too drunk or high to take care of you or take you to the doctor if you needed it?

Yes No If yes enter 1 _____

6. Were your parents ever separated or divorced?

Yes No If yes enter 1 _____

7. Was your mother or stepmother:

Often or very often pushed, grabbed, slapped, or had something thrown at her?

or

Sometimes, often, or very often kicked, bitten, hit with a fist, or hit with something hard?

or

Ever repeatedly hit at least a few minutes or threatened with a gun or knife?

Yes No If yes enter 1 _____

8. Did you live with anyone who was a problem drinker or alcoholic or who used street drugs?

Yes No If yes enter 1 _____

9. Was a household member depressed or mentally ill, or did a household member attempt suicide?

Yes No If yes enter 1 _____

10. Did a household member go to prison?

Yes No If yes enter 1 _____

Now add up your "Yes" answers: _____ T