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#### **Additional Resources**

#### **NSSP Overview:**

https://www.cdc.gov/nssp/php/about/index.html

#### **NSSP Community of Practice:**

https://nsspcommunityofpractice.org/ resources/#ss-nation

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# **Table of Contents**

ecommended Citation:	1
ınding Source:	1
Additional Resources	1
For additional information regarding this publication, contact:	1
ackground	4
Adverse Childhood Experiences	4
Syndromic Surveillance	6
Purpose	6
ethods	7
National Syndromic Surveillance Program (NSSP)	7
esults	8
Direct Experience of ACEs	8
Figure 1. Number of ACE-related emergency department encounters among youth (ages 0-17) in Nevada, 2023	
Figure 2. Number of ACE-related emergency department encounters among youth (ages 0-17) in Nevada, 2023, by month	
Figure 3. Rate of ACE-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 0 -17) in Nevad 2023	
Figure 4. Rate of ACE-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 0 -17) in Nevad 2023, by age group	
Figure 5. Rate of ACE-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 0-17) in Nevada 2023, by sex	
Figure 6. Rate of ACE-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 0-17) in Nevada 2023, by race/ethnicity	
Figure 7. Rate of ACE-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 0-17) in Nevada 2023, by urbanicity	
otential Outcomes of ACEs Among Youth	12
Mental Health Encounters	. 12
Figure 8. Number of mental health emergency department encounters among youth (ages 5-17) in Nevad 2023	
Figure 9. Number of mental health emergency department encounters among youth (ages 5-17) in Nevad 2023, by month	
Figure 10. Rate of mental health emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023	. 13
Figure 11. Rate of mental health emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by sex	. 13
Figure 12. Rate of mental health emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by race/ethnicity	. 14

Figure 13. Rate of mental health emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by urbanicity	14
Suicide-Related Encounters	15
Figure 14. Number of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) among youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023	15
Figure 15. Number of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) among youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by month	15
Figure 16. Rate of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023	
Figure 17. Rate of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by sex	
Figure 18. Rate of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by race/ethnicity	
Figure 19. Rate of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by urbanicity	
Substance Use Encounters	18
Figure 20. Number of substance use emergency department encounters among youth (ages 5-17) in Nevac	
Figure 21. Number of substance use emergency department encounters among youth (ages 5-17) in Nevac	
Figure 22. Rate of substance use emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023	19
Figure 23. Rate of substance use emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by sex	19
Figure 24. Rate of substance use emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by race/ethnicity	20
Figure 25. Rate of substance use emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by urbanicity	20
lousehold and Community Challenges Among Adults2	<u>'</u> 1
Suicide-Related Encounters	21
Figure 26. Number of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) among adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023	21
Figure 27. Number of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) among adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by month	21
Figure 28. Rate of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023	
Figure 29. Rate of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by sex	
Figure 30. Rate of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by race/ethnicity	23
Figure 31. Rate of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by urbanicity	
Substance Use Encounters	24

	Figure 32. Number of substance use emergency department encounters among adults (ages 18+) in Neva 2023	
	Figure 33. Number of substance use emergency department encounters among adults (ages 18+) in Neva 2023, by month	
	Figure 34. Rate of substance use emergency department encounters per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023	25
	Figure 35. Rate of substance use emergency department encounters per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by sex	25
	Figure 36. Rate of substance use emergency department encounters per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by race/ethnicity	26
	Figure 37. Rate of substance use emergency department encounters per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by urbanicity	26
٧	iolence-Related Encounters	. 27
	Figure 38. Number of violence-related emergency department encounters among adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023	27
	Figure 39. Number of violence-related emergency department encounters among adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by month	27
	Figure 40. Rate of violence-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023	28
	Figure 41. Rate of violence-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by sex	28
	Figure 42. Rate of violence-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by race/ethnicity	29
	Figure 43. Rate of violence-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by urbanicity	29
۱q	pendix 1	.30
	Table 1. Description of ACE indicators and potential outcomes of ACEs included in NSSP ACEs Dashboard	

# **Background**

### **Adverse Childhood Experiences**

Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are potentially traumatic experiences that occur during childhood that can negatively influence health across the lifespan. ACEs include measures of abuse, neglect, household dysfunction, and other forms of adversity that can contribute to negative health outcomes in adolescence and later life.

# **Types of ACEs**



#### Abuse

Emotional Physical Sexual



#### Neglect

Emotional Physical



#### Household Challenges\*

Substance misuse

Mental illness

Suicidal thoughts and behavior

Divorce or separation

Incarceration

Intimate partner violence or domestic violence



**Other Adversity** 

Bullying

Community violence

Natural disasters

Refugee or wartime experiences

Witnessing or experiencing acts of terrorism

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2023. https://www.cdc.gov/museum/education/newsletter/2023/mar/index.html.

<sup>\*</sup> The child lives with a parent, caregiver, or other adult who experiences one or more of these challenges.

#### **Syndromic Surveillance**

Syndromic surveillance is a useful tool that allows public health and medical professionals to measure the occurrence of health-related events by leveraging data from hospitals and emergency departments. These pre-diagnostic encounters can serve as an early warning system for outbreaks and occurrence of disease in near-real time. Syndromic surveillance systems have historically been leveraged to monitor health indicators related to infectious disease (e.g. influenza), however, more recently, syndromic surveillance approaches have been leveraged to monitor the occurrence of other health-related behaviors and outcomes, including opioid overdose and exposure to adverse childhood experiences.

#### **Purpose**

This report provides a summary of ACE-related emergency department encounters among Nevada youth (ages 0-17) using syndromic surveillance and describes the sociodemographic characteristics of the ACE-related emergency department visits.

#### **Methods**

#### **National Syndromic Surveillance Program (NSSP)**

Data for emergency department visits tied to ACE exposures were captured using the National Syndromic Surveillance Program (NSSP). NSSP is a collaboration of federal, state, and local health partners that collect, analyze, and share electronic patient encounter data in near real time. De-identified data from emergency department encounters are uploaded and available for analysis within 24 hours of the patient's visit. As described earlier, NSSP has historically been leveraged as early warning system for outbreaks and other public health concerns (e.g., influenza and opioid overdose), but is now being used by several states to monitor ACE-related emergency department encounters.

Data presented in this report were accessed through the Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-Based Epidemics (ESSENCE) – a user-friendly tool for querying and analyzing NSSP data. Potential ACE exposures for abuse and neglect, sexual violence, firearm injury, and homelessness were identified using standardized syndrome definitions developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and their partners. A summary of the potential ACE exposure measured using NSSP are presented below. A complete description of the syndrome definitions are presented in Appendix 1.

#### Direct ACEs (among children)

Abuse and neglect

Sexual violence

Firearm injury

Experience of homelessness

### Potential Outcomes of ACEs

(among children)

Mental health conditions (anxiety, depression, trauma disorders)

Suicide-related encounters and attempts

Drug overdose or alcohol misuse

#### Household and Community Challenges (among adults)

Mental health conditions

Suicide-related visits

Overdose or alcohol misuse

Sexual violence

Intimate partner violence

Firearm injury

## **Results**

#### **Direct Experience of ACEs**

Figure 1. Number of ACE-related emergency department encounters among youth (ages 0-17) in Nevada, 2023

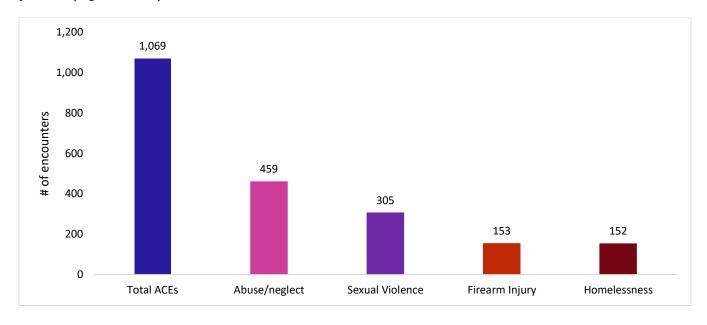


Figure 2. Number of ACE-related emergency department encounters among youth (ages 0-17) in Nevada, 2023, by month

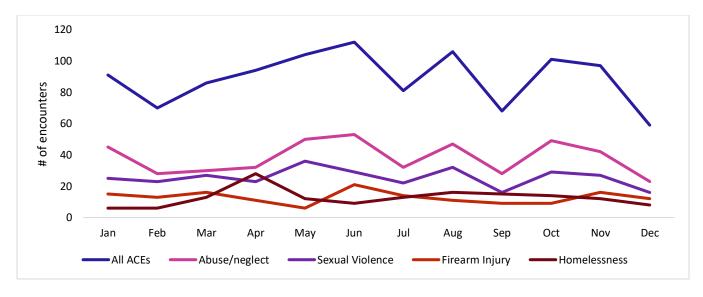


Figure 3. Rate of ACE-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 0 -17) in Nevada, 2023

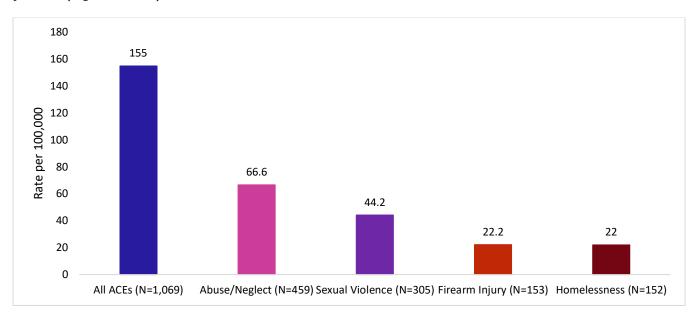


Figure 4. Rate of ACE-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 0 -17) in Nevada, 2023, by age group

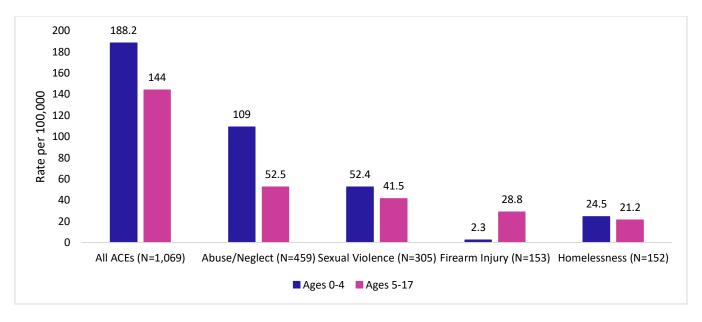


Figure 5. Rate of ACE-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 0-17) in Nevada, 2023, by sex

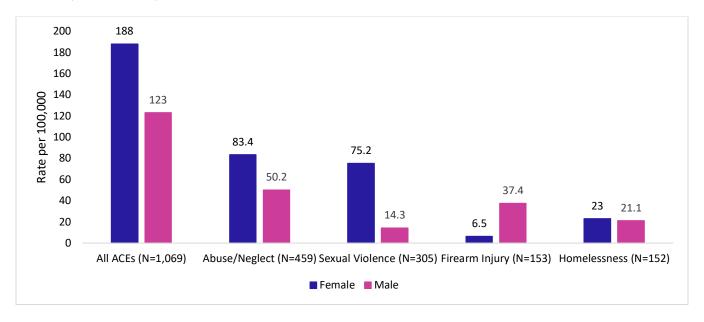


Figure 6. Rate of ACE-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 0-17) in Nevada, 2023, by race/ethnicity

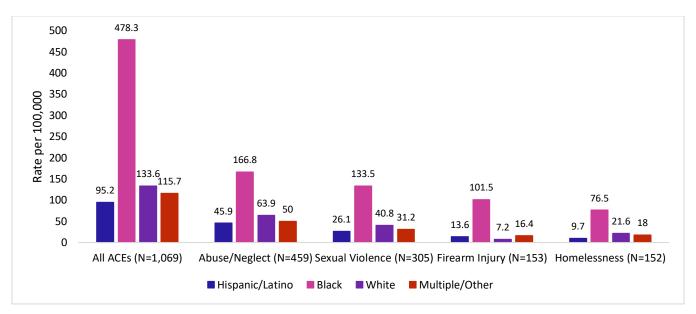
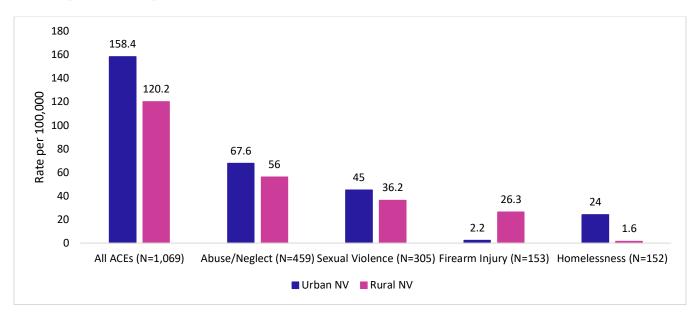


Figure 7. Rate of ACE-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 0-17) in Nevada, 2023, by urbanicity



# **Potential Outcomes of ACEs Among Youth**

#### **Mental Health Encounters**

Figure 8. Number of mental health emergency department encounters among youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023

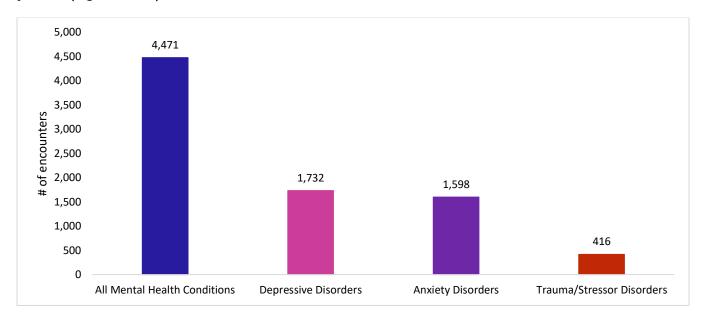


Figure 9. Number of mental health emergency department encounters among youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by month

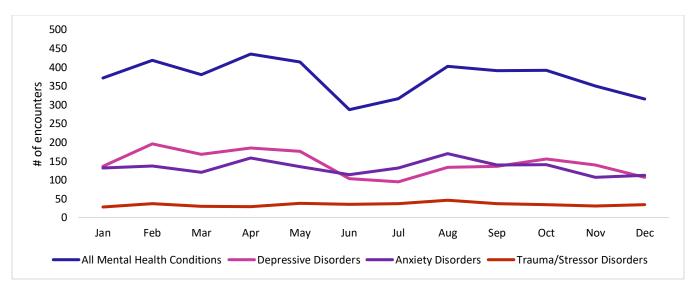


Figure 10. Rate of mental health emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023

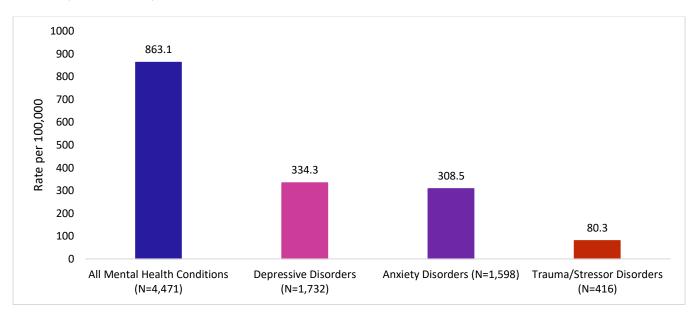


Figure 11. Rate of mental health emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by sex

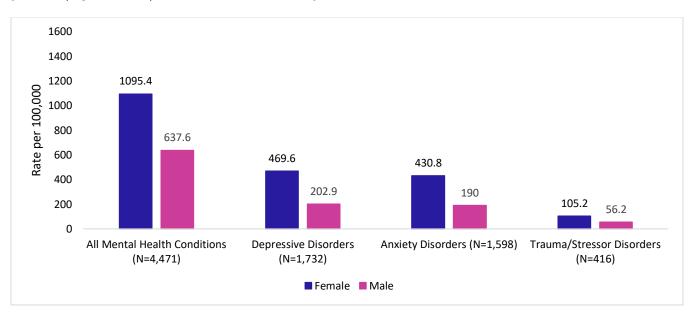


Figure 12. Rate of mental health emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by race/ethnicity

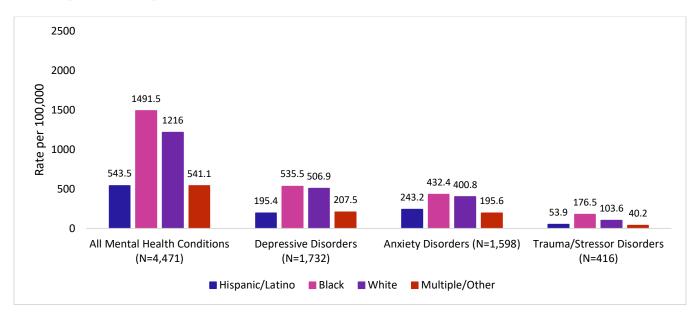
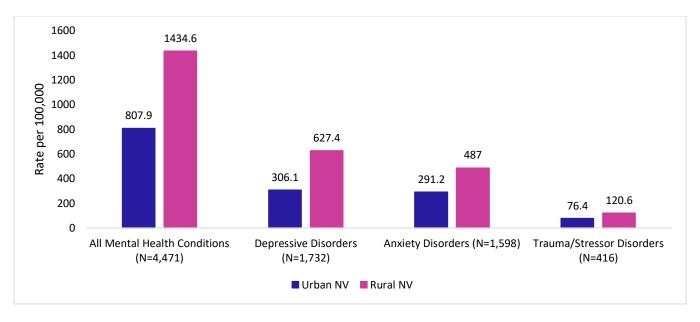
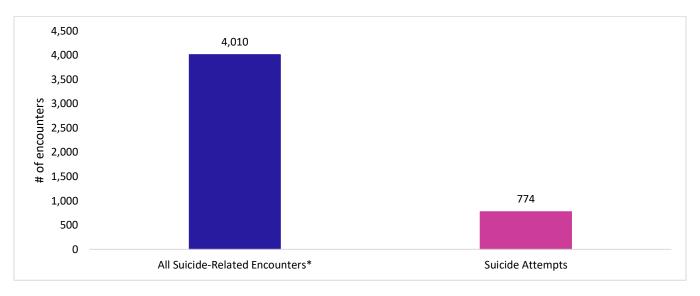


Figure 13. Rate of mental health emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by urbanicity



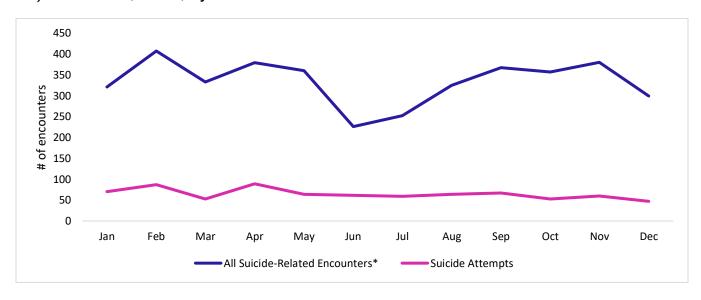
#### **Suicide-Related Encounters**

Figure 14. Number of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) among youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023



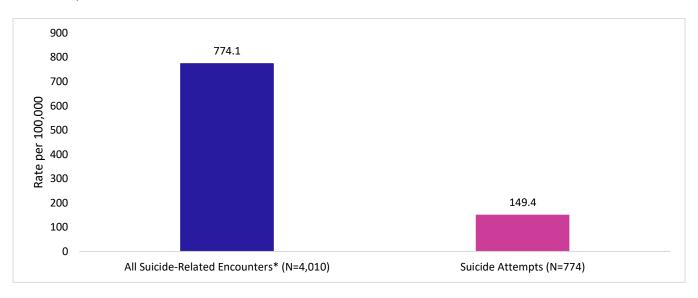
<sup>\*</sup>All suicide-related encounters include encounters related to suspected self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt.

Figure 15. Number of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) among youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by month



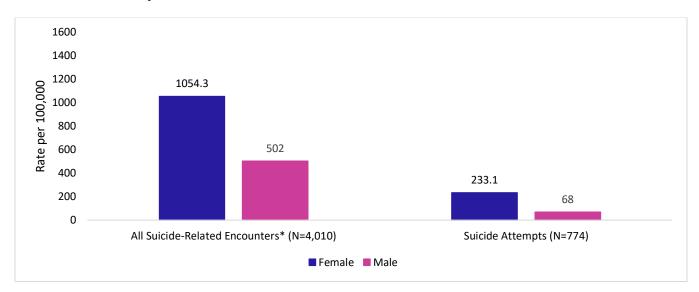
<sup>\*</sup>All suicide-related encounters include encounters related to suspected self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt.

Figure 16. Rate of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023



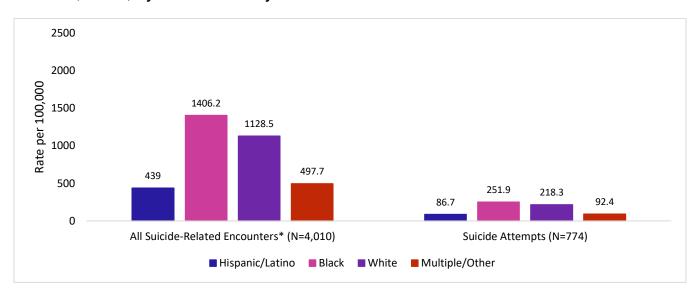
<sup>\*</sup>All suicide-related encounters include encounters related to suspected self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt.

Figure 17. Rate of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by sex



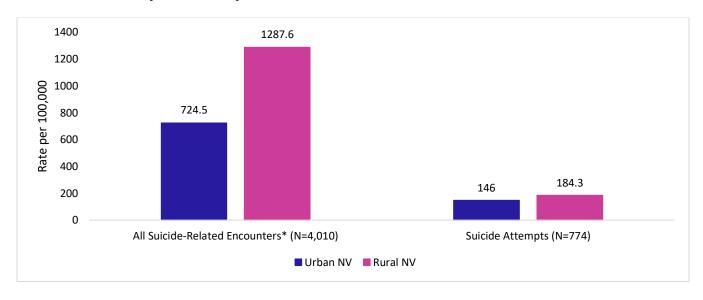
<sup>\*</sup>All suicide-related encounters include encounters related to suspected self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt.

Figure 18. Rate of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by race/ethnicity



<sup>\*</sup>All suicide-related encounters include encounters related to suspected self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt.

Figure 19. Rate of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by urbanicity



<sup>\*</sup>All suicide-related encounters include encounters related to suspected self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt.

#### **Substance Use Encounters**

Figure 20. Number of substance use emergency department encounters among youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023

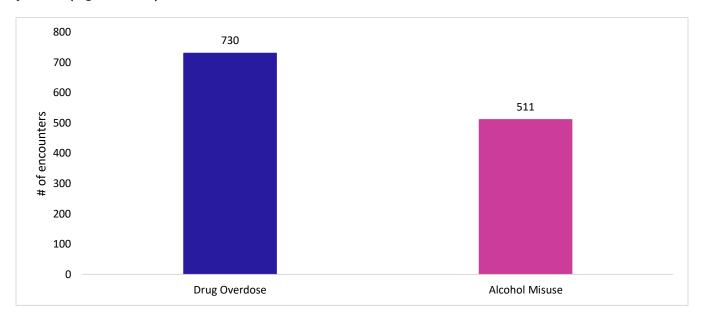


Figure 21. Number of substance use emergency department encounters among youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by month

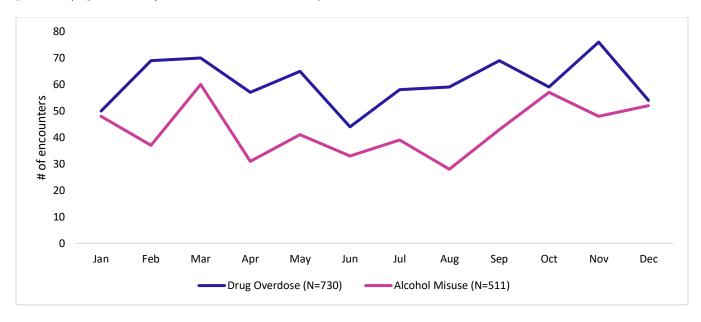


Figure 22. Rate of substance use emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023

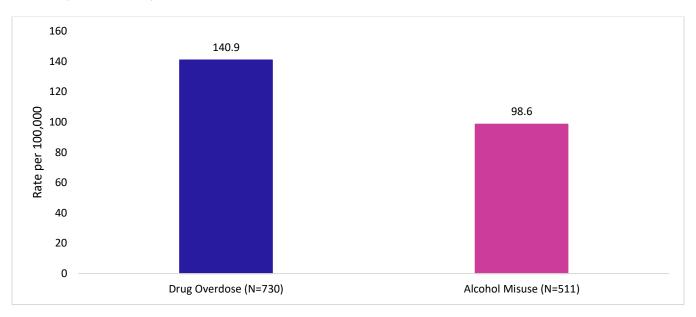


Figure 23. Rate of substance use emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by sex

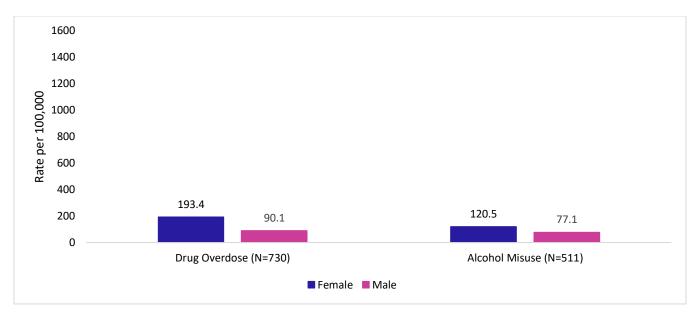


Figure 24. Rate of substance use emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by race/ethnicity

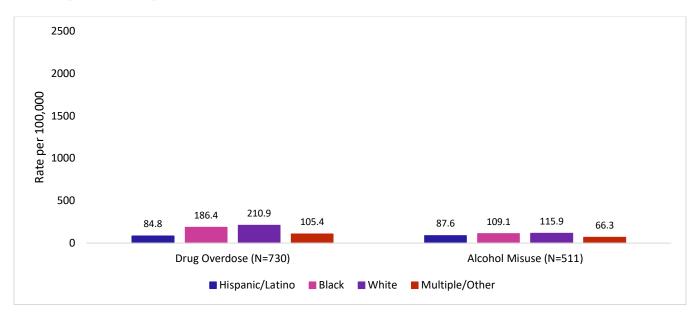
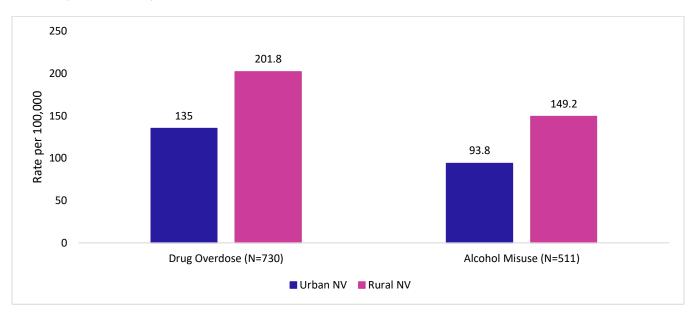


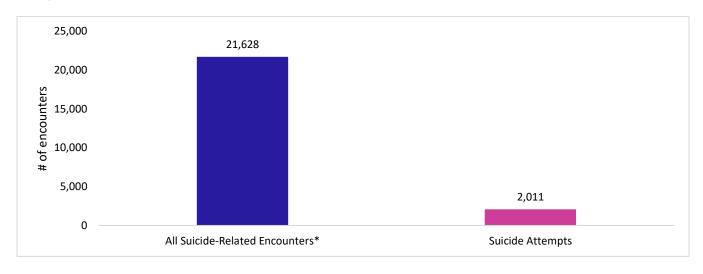
Figure 25. Rate of substance use emergency department encounters per 100,000 youth (ages 5-17) in Nevada, 2023, by urbanicity



# **Household and Community Challenges Among Adults**

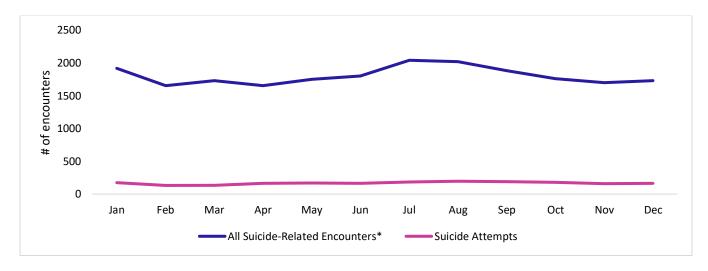
#### **Suicide-Related Encounters**

Figure 26. Number of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) among adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023



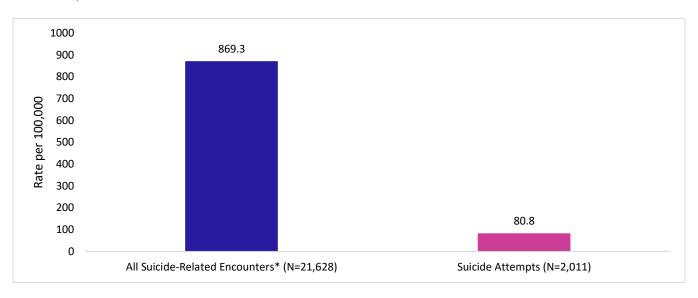
<sup>\*</sup>All suicide-related encounters include encounters related to suspected self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt.

Figure 27. Number of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) among adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by month



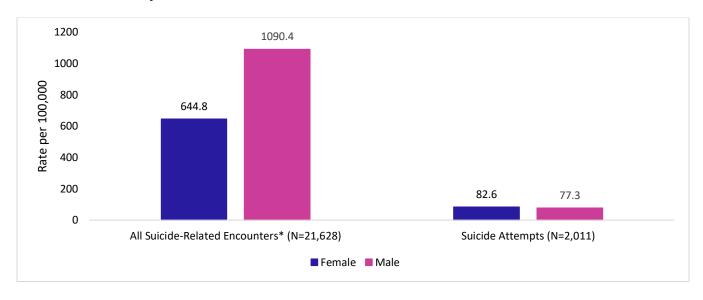
<sup>\*</sup>All suicide-related encounters include encounters related to suspected self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt.

Figure 28. Rate of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023



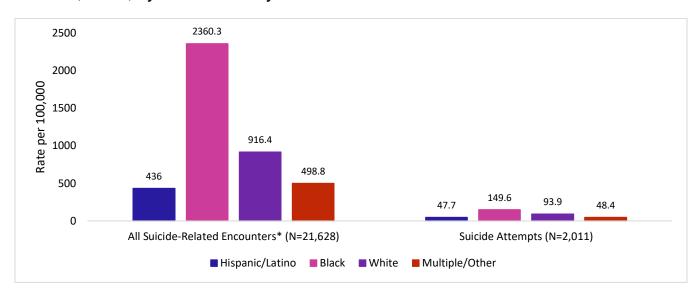
<sup>\*</sup>All suicide-related encounters include encounters related to suspected self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt.

Figure 29. Rate of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by sex



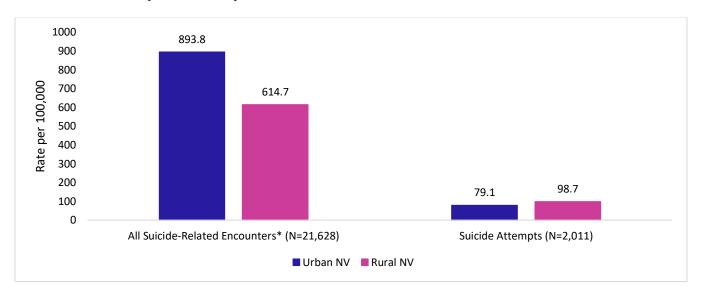
<sup>\*</sup>All suicide-related encounters include encounters related to suspected self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt.

Figure 30. Rate of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by race/ethnicity



<sup>\*</sup>All suicide-related encounters include encounters related to suspected self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt.

Figure 31. Rate of suicide-related emergency department encounters (including self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt) per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by urbanicity



<sup>\*</sup>All suicide-related encounters include encounters related to suspected self-harm, suicide ideation, and suicide attempt.

#### **Substance Use Encounters**

Figure 32. Number of substance use emergency department encounters among adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023

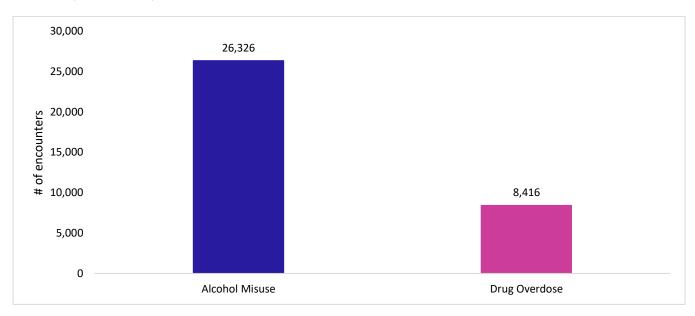


Figure 33. Number of substance use emergency department encounters among adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by month

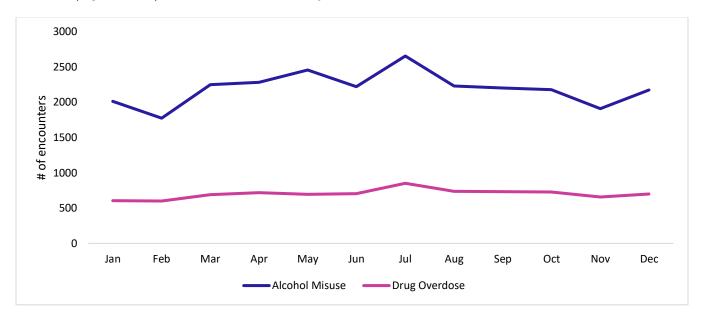


Figure 34. Rate of substance use emergency department encounters per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023

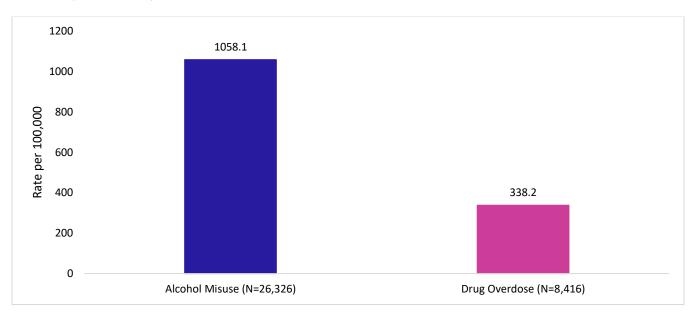


Figure 35. Rate of substance use emergency department encounters per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by sex

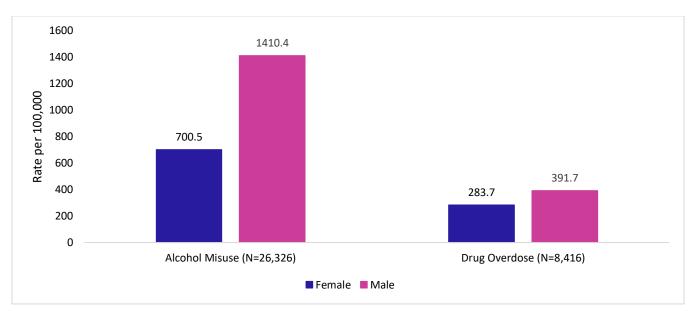


Figure 36. Rate of substance use emergency department encounters per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by race/ethnicity

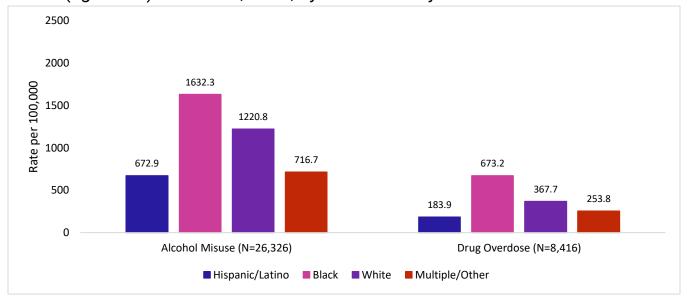
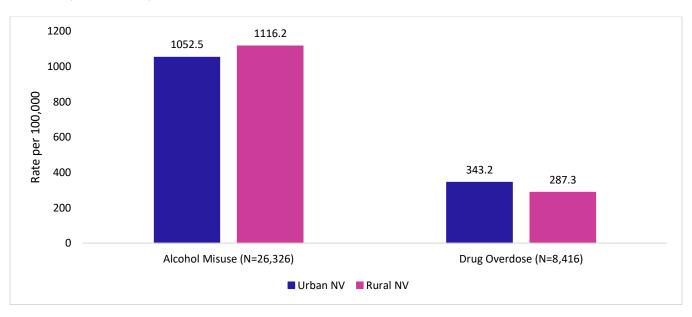


Figure 37. Rate of substance use emergency department encounters per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by urbanicity



#### **Violence-Related Encounters**

Figure 38. Number of violence-related emergency department encounters among adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023

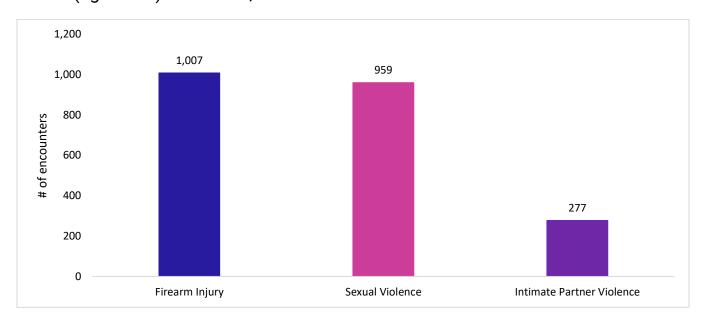


Figure 39. Number of violence-related emergency department encounters among adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by month

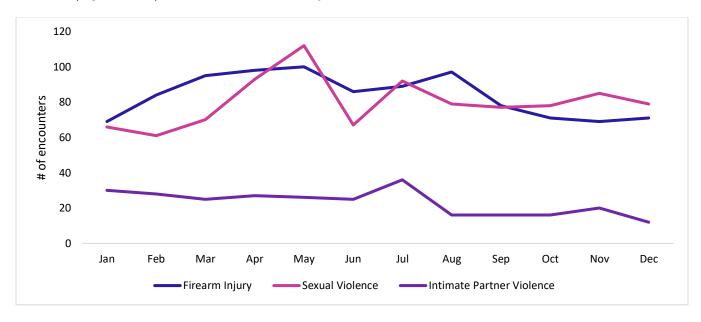


Figure 40. Rate of violence-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023

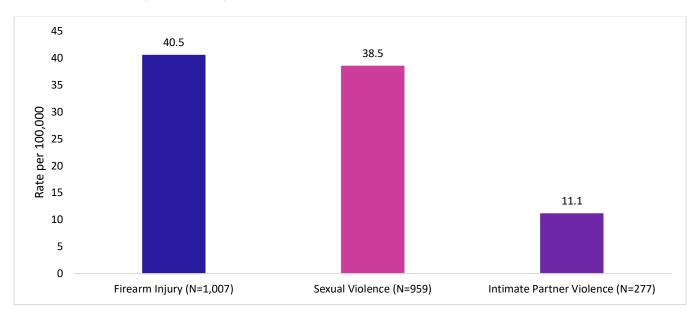


Figure 41. Rate of violence-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by sex

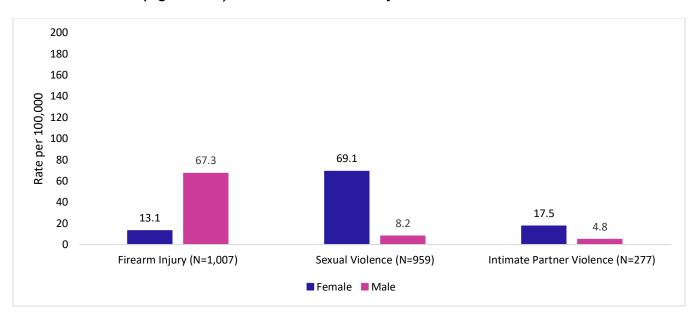


Figure 42. Rate of violence-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by race/ethnicity

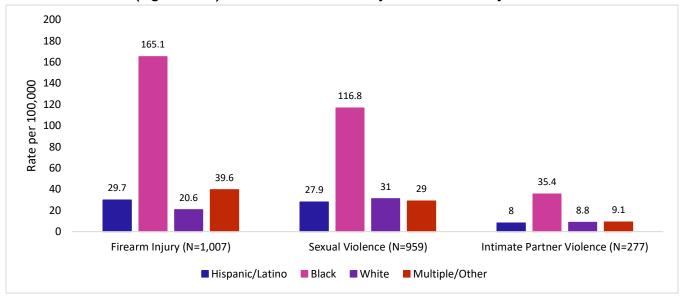
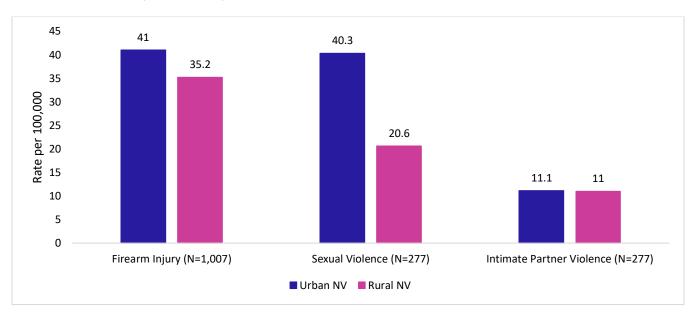


Figure 43. Rate of violence-related emergency department encounters per 100,000 adults (ages 18+) in Nevada, 2023, by urbanicity



# **Appendix 1**

Table 1. Description of ACE indicators and potential outcomes of ACEs included in NSSP ACEs Dashboard.

Topic	NSSP Syndrome*	Category of Experience	Description of Query	Population
Child physical abuse Child sexual abuse Child emotional abuse Child physical neglect Child emotional neglect	CDC Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect v1	Direct Experience of ACEs	This syndrome aggregates ED visits for all types of suspected child abuse and neglect, including suspected or confirmed physical, sexual, or emotional abuse; and physical or emotional neglect as perpetrated by parents, caregivers, or an authorized custodian of the child. Acts of violence perpetrated by peers, siblings, or intimate partners are excluded from the sCAN definition.	Children 0- 17 years

Childhood sexual violence	CDC Sexual Violence v3	Direct Experience of ACEs	By restricting the sexual violence definition to children under the age of 18 years, this query monitors ED visits related to sexual violence experienced by children aged 0-17 years. The query measures childhood sexual violence broadly, including any perpetrator in the definition.	Children 0- 17 years
Childhood firearm injury	CDC Firearm Injury v2	Direct experience of ACEs	This query measures ED visits among children aged 0-17 years injured by a firearm, which may be an indicator of family, peer, or community violence. This definition includes visits related to an initial encounter of a firearm injury presenting at an ED, including the following types: unintentional, intentional self-directed, assault, legal intervention, terrorism, and undetermined intent. This definition is intended to monitor firearm injury among victims aged 0-17 regardless of who perpetrated the violence. By restricting the broad CDC Firearm Injury v2 query to children aged 0-	Children 0- 17 years

			17 years, this indicator measures childhood experience of firearm injuries.	
Childhood experience of homelessness	Homelessness v1	Direct Experience of ACEs	This query monitors visits involving children who are experiencing homelessness.	Children 0- 17 years

Adult mental health conditions	CDC Mental Health v1	Household & Community Challenges Among Adults	This definition measures ED visits among adults with any mental health condition, including psychiatric screening. This includes visits where there are acute mental health crises (i.e., the sole or primary reason for the visit is only related to mental health) as well as visits where mental health conditions are present (defined as coded in the discharge diagnosis or mentioned in the chief complaint text) but may not be the sole reason for the visit.	Adults 18+ years
Adult suicide- related visits	CDC Suicide Related v1 CDC Suicide Attempt v2	Household & Community Challenges Among Adults	These definitions measure ED visits among adults experiencing a suiciderelated outcome. The Syndrome Definition Committee (SDC) Suicide Related v1 definition can be used to provide a broad view of visits for suiciderelated outcomes, including visits for self-harm, suicide ideation, and suspected suicide attempts. The CDC Suicide Attempt v2 definition includes visits just for a suspected suicide attempt.	Adults 18+ years

Adult drug overdose or alcohol misuse	CDC All Drug v2 CDC Alcohol v1	Household & Community Challenges Among Adults	These definitions measure ED visits among adults experiencing a suspected drug overdose (CDC All Drug v2) or who may be experiencing alcohol intoxication, or who have an alcohol use disorder (CDC Alcohol v1). The CDC All Drug v2 definition includes all types of suspected drug overdoses, regardless of substance. The CDC Alcohol v1 definition includes codes for alcohol use disorders as well as terms and codes for acute alcohol intoxication.	Adults 18+ years
Adult sexual violence	CDC Sexual Violence v3	Household & Community Challenges Among Adults	This query monitors ED visits related to sexual violence among adults. This query can be used to monitor visits for adult experiences of sexual violence in a community. The query measures sexual violence broadly, including any perpetrator in the definition.	Adults 18+ years

Adult intimate partner violence	CDC Intimate Partner Violence v2	Household & Community Challenges Among Adults	The purpose of this query is to capture visits related to intimate partner violence (IPV) among adults. By restricting the definition to adults, this query can be used to monitor visits for adult experiences of IPV in a community.	Adults 18+ years
Adult firearm violence	CDC Firearm Injury v2	Household & Community Challenges Among Adults	This query measures ED visits among adults injured by a firearm, which may be an indicator of family, peer, or community violence. By restricting the definition to adults, this query can be used to monitor visits related to adult firearm injuries in a community. This definition includes visits related to an initial encounter of a firearm injury presenting at an ED, including the following types: unintentional, intentional self-directed, assault, legal intervention, terrorism, and undetermined intent. This definition is intended to monitor firearm injury among victims aged 18+	Adults 18+ years

			regardless of who perpetrated the violence.	
Childhood mental health conditions	CDC Mental Health v1  CDC Anxiety Disorders v1  CDC Depressive Disorders v1  CDC Trauma and Stressor- related Disorders v1  CDC Eating Disorders v1	Potential Outcome of ACEs	There are five definitions in the dashboard that can be used to monitor visits related to mental health conditions among children.  The CDC Mental Health v1 query aggregates visits for all types of mental health conditions and visits for psychiatric or mental health screening. This is the broadest query and is inclusive of those below.  CDC Anxiety Disorders v1 can be used to monitor visits specific to anxiety disorders.  CDC Depressive Disorders v1 can be used to monitor visits specific to depressive disorders.	For each definition, there are two queries by age: Children aged 5-11 Children aged 12-17

CDC Trauma & Stressor-Related Disorders v1 can be used to monitor visits specific to trauma and stressor-related disorders, including PTSD, acute stress reactions, and adjustment disorders.

CDC Eating Disorders v1 can be used to monitor visits specific to eating disorders.

Please note that all definitions capture visits with acute mental health crises (i.e., the sole or primary reason for the visit is only related to mental health) and visits where the mental health condition is present (defined as coded in the discharge diagnosis or mentioned in the chief complaint text) but may not be the sole reason for the visit.

Suicide attempts in youth	CDC Suicide Attempt v1	Potential Outcome of ACEs	This query measures ED visits among children 5-17 years presenting to a participating site with a suspected suicide attempt.	Children 5– 17 years
Substance use problems in youth	CDC All Drug v2 CDC Alcohol v1	Potential Outcome of ACEs	This query measures ED visits among children 5-17 years presenting to a participating site with a substance use or alcohol problem.	Children 5– 17 years

<sup>\*</sup>Some syndromic surveillance queries undergo multiple iterations and have been improved or changed over time. Queries are often followed by an abbreviation (e.g., v1, v2) to indicate the version.