



**Office of the
California Surgeon General**

**Medi-Cal Children's Health
Advisory Panel**

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Executive Order: N-02-19

WHEREAS California faces serious health challenges rooted in early social determinants of health; and

WHEREAS these challenges are not only serious but inequitable, disproportionately impacting low-income Californians and communities of color; and

WHEREAS some of the most pernicious, but least addressed, health challenges are the upstream factors that eventually become chronic and acute conditions that are far more difficult and expensive to treat; and

WHEREAS the overwhelming scientific consensus is that these upstream factors, including toxic stress and the social determinants of health, are the root causes of many of the most harmful and persistent health challenges facing Californians; and

WHEREAS California is home to many of the world's leading experts on proactively addressing these root causes, including State and local health officials; and

WHEREAS these experts are endeavoring to identify and implement solutions proven successful by our best science; and

WHEREAS medical and policy experts cannot effectively do this work alone—they must leverage the expertise of Californians whose lived experience is critical to the development of working solutions; and

WHEREAS it is time that California appoints a leader who can marshal the insights and energy of medical professionals, public health experts, public servants, and everyday Californians to solve our most pressing health challenges with surgical focus.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby issue this Order to become effective immediately.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that there is established the position of Surgeon General, a public entity within the Governor's direct executive authority.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Surgeon General shall advise the Governor on a comprehensive approach to addressing health risks and challenges as effectively and as early as possible.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Surgeon General shall marshal the insights and energy of medical professionals, scientists and other academic experts, public health experts, public servants, and everyday Californians to solve our most pressing public health challenges.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Surgeon General shall be a key spokesperson on public health issues throughout the State of California by providing Californians with the best medical and scientific evidence through public health reports and other tools of communicating widely to the public.



Office of California Surgeon General Priorities

- **Health Equity**
- **Early Childhood**
- **Toxic Stress**



Adverse Childhood Experiences

ABUSE



Physical



Emotional



Sexual

NEGLECT



Physical



Emotional

HOUSEHOLD DYSFUNCTION



Mental Illness



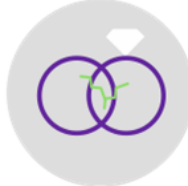
Incarcerated Relative



Mother treated violently



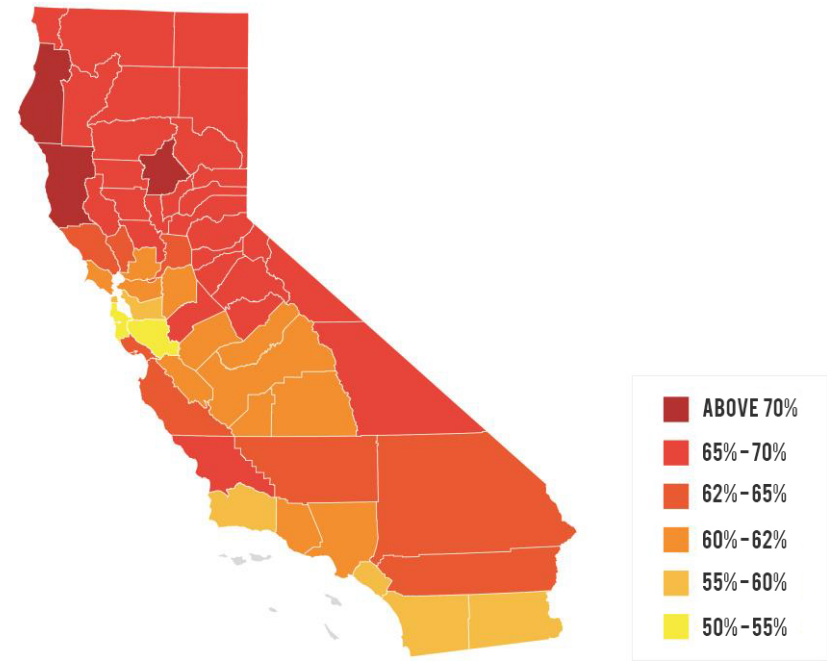
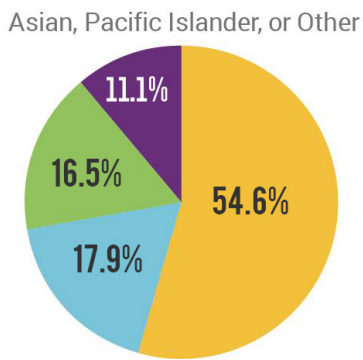
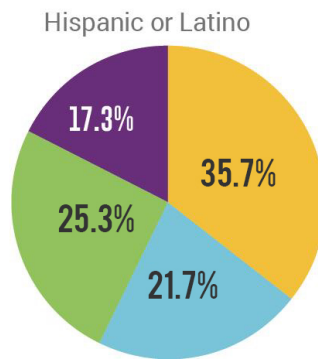
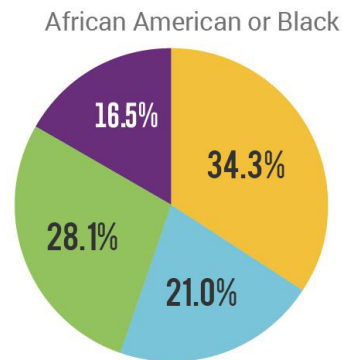
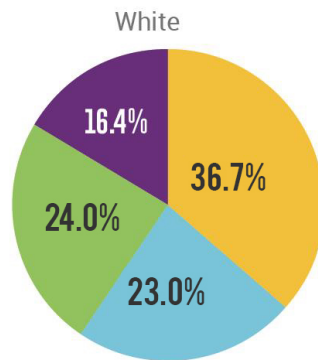
Substance Abuse



Divorce

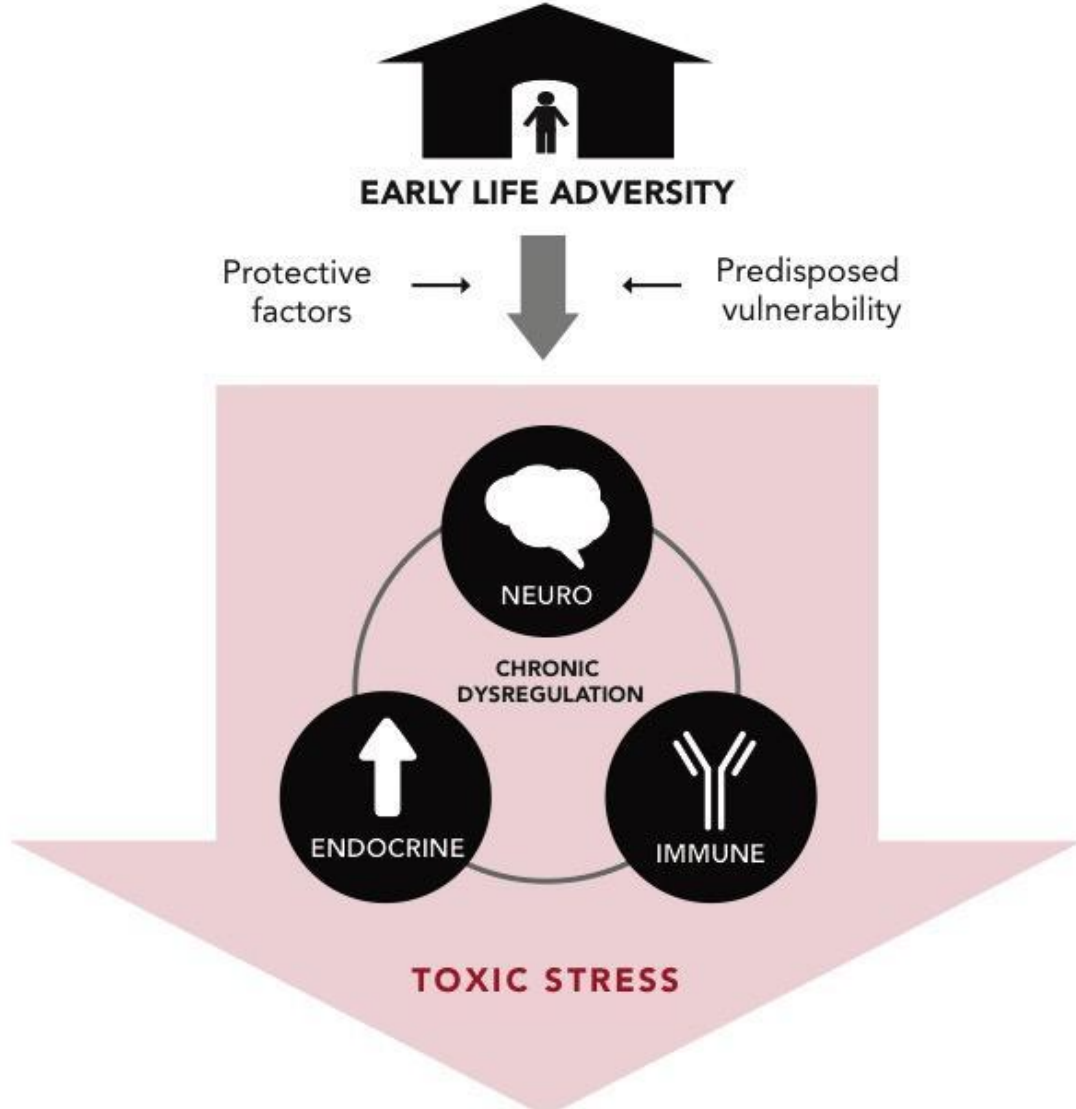
63.5% Californians with ≥ 1 ACEs 17.6% have ≥ 4 ACEs

■ 4 OR MORE ACEs
 ■ 2 TO 3 ACEs
 ■ 1 ACE
 ■ 0 ACEs



ACEs dramatically increase risk for 7 out of 10 leading causes of death

	Leading Causes of Death in US, 2015	Odds Ratio Associated with ≥ 4 ACEs
1	Heart Disease	2.1
2	Cancer	2.3
3	Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	3.0
4	Accidents	
5	Stroke	2.4
6	Alzheimer's	11.2
7	Diabetes	1.5
8	Influenza and Pneumonia	
9	Kidney Disease	
10	Suicide	30.1



CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS

Epigenetic		
Endocrine Metabolic Reproductive	Neurologic Psychiatric Behavioral	Immune Inflammatory Cardiovascular

Adapted from Bucci et al, 2016




Key Drivers for Addressing Toxic Stress




Prevention Efforts




Community and Ecological Action




Universal Screening




Effective Referral System




Comprehensive and Available Service Array



Payment for Services



Robust Research Agenda



Biomedical Advances

Prevention

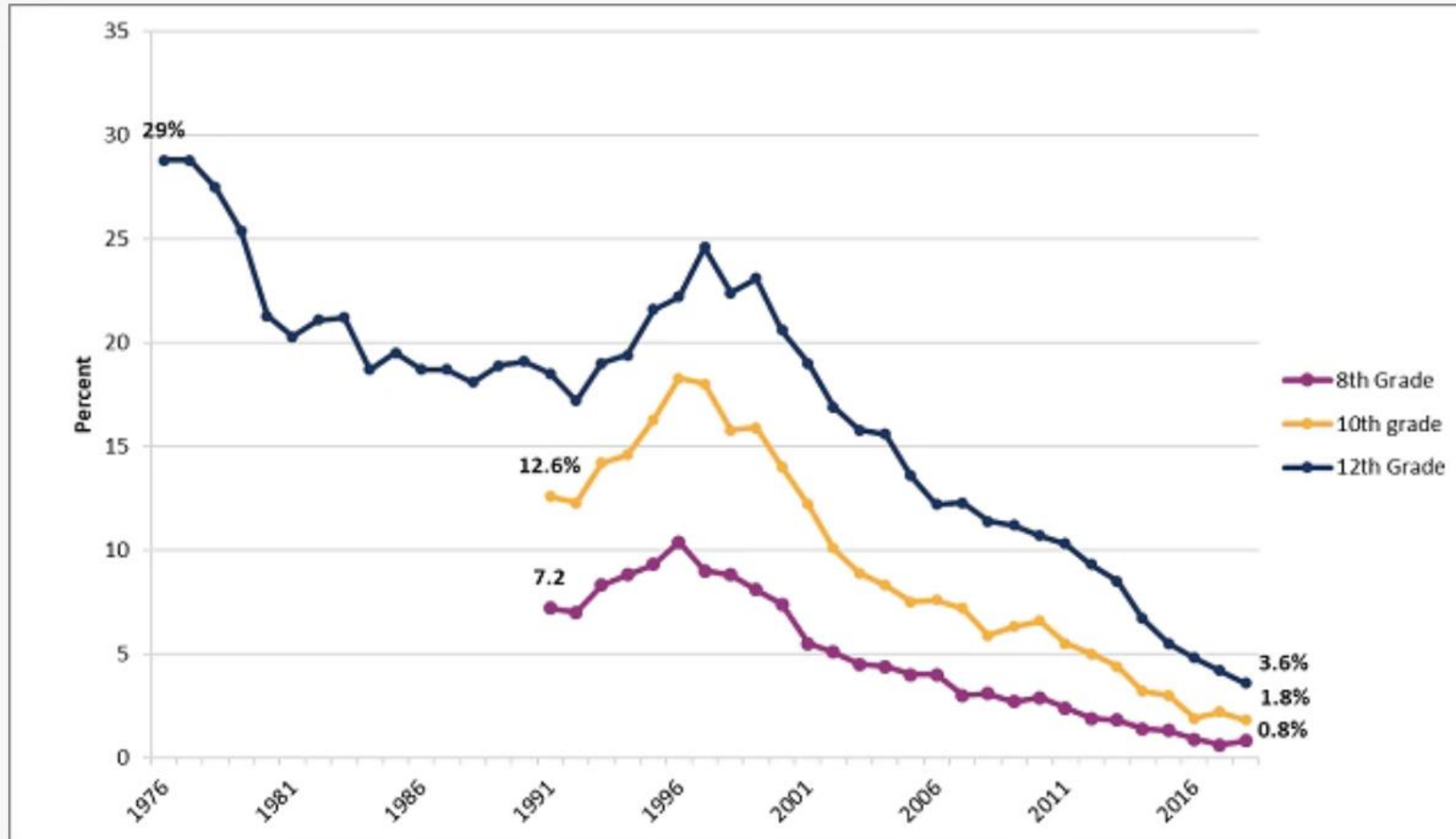
Practice Transformation

Research + Innovation



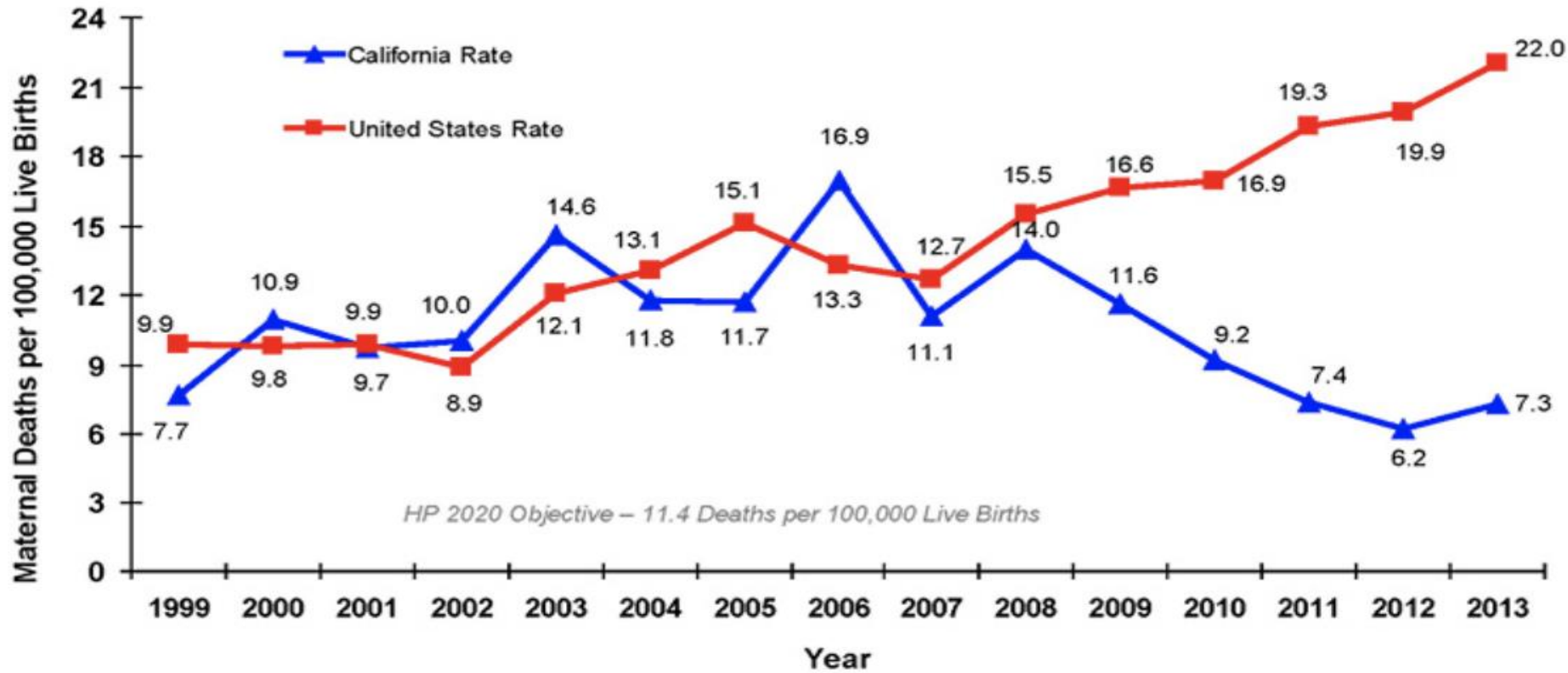
THE POWER OF A PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACH

Figure 1: 30 Day Prevalence of Daily Use of Cigarettes, by Grade, 1976-2018



Source: Johnston, L. D., Miech, R. A., O'Malley, P. M., Bachman, J. G., Schulenberg, J. E., & Patrick, M. E. (2019). *Monitoring the Future national survey results on drug use 1975-2018: Overview, key findings on adolescent drug use*. Ann Arbor: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan. Retrieved from <http://www.monitoringthefuture.org/pubs/monographs/mtf-overview2018.pdf> - PDF

Maternal Mortality Rate, California and United States; 1999-2013



SOURCE: State of California, Department of Public Health, California Birth and Death Statistical Master Files, 1999-2013. 



**BOLD VISION:
California will cut ACES and Toxic
Stress in half in one generation.**



- **Establish primary prevention through coordinated public awareness campaigns.**
- **Systematically deploy broad scale screening, early detection and early intervention of ACEs/toxic stress.**
- **Interrupt vertical transmission of ACEs by advancing screening and children in adults – with special focus on the prenatal and early parenting years.**
- **Coordinate and strengthen the network of referral and treatment systems to make them more effective, accountable and easy to navigate for children, adults and providers.**



**Dr. Nadine Burke Harris,
California Surgeon General**