What are ACES?
An ACE is a childhood traumatic experience that can have long-term negative physical and behavioral health outcomes, including substance use.

Parental Incarceration
High school students in Delaware with an incarcerated parent misused prescription drugs at 9x the rate of students without an incarcerated parent.

Mental Health
Among high school students experiencing two or more ACES, about 1 in 5 report attempting suicide in the past year.

The Delaware Household Health Survey found that more than half of Delaware residents had experienced at least one ACE. Those with one ACE are at heightened risk for exposure to additional trauma.

Past Month Substance Use and ACES (%)
High school students who report experiencing one or more traumatic experiences also report past month substance use at higher rates than other students.

Source(s):
"2017 Delaware Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)." Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Administered by the Center for Drug and Health Studies, University of Delaware on behalf of the Delaware Division of Public Health, Delaware Health and Social Services.)
"2015 Delaware Household Health Survey (DHHS)." The Delaware Public Health Institute.