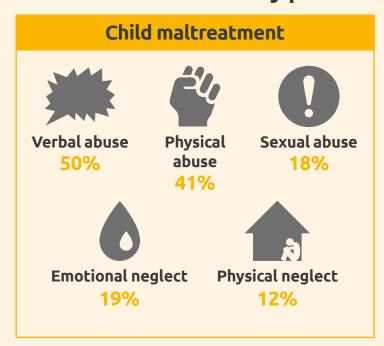
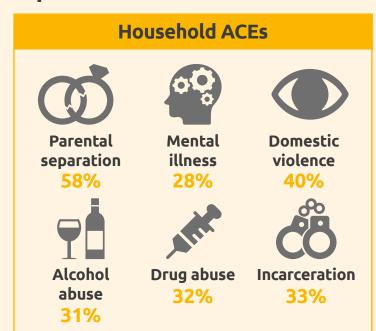
# Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) in an offender population in Wales

The Prisoner ACE Survey interviewed 468 adults (aged 18-69)<sup>a</sup> in a Welsh prison between February and June 2018. Participants were asked about their exposure to 11 ACEs in childhood, their offending history and recent involvement in violence.

#### How many prisoners reported each ACE?





Over 8 in 10 prisoners reported at least 1 ACE, and nearly half had 4 or more ACEs<sup>b</sup>



0 ACEs 16%

1 ACE 18% 2-3 ACEs 21% ≥4 ACEs 46%

Prisoners with 4 or more ACEs were 4 times more likely to have ever served a sentence in a young offender institution (YOI) than those with no ACEs

Of the 46% of prisoners who had ever served a sentence in a YOI:



9 in 10

had **at least 1 ACE** compared to **8 in 10** of those who did not spend time in a YOI



6 in 10

had **4 or more ACEs** compared to **3 in 10** of those who did not spend time in a YOI

#### Compared with prisoners with no ACEs, those with 4 or more ACEs were:

- more likely to have ever been convicted of criminal damage
- more likely to have ever been convicted of violence against the person
- more likely to have ever been convicted of theft
- more likely to have ever been convicted of drugs offences

## Those with 4 or more ACEs were also 3.5 times more likely to be prolific offenders<sup>c</sup>

#### Of the 39% of prisoners categorised as prolific offenders:



#### 9 in 10

had **at least 1 ACE** compared to **8 in 10** of those not categorised as prolific offenders



#### 6 in 10

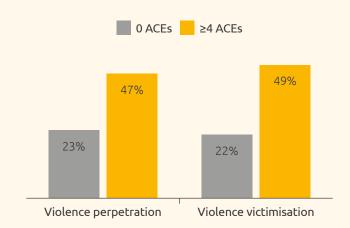
had **4 or more ACEs** compared to **4 in 10** of those not categorised as prolific offenders

## The proportion of individuals reporting 4 or more ACEs increased with number of times in prison



### ACEs substantially increased the risks of recent<sup>d</sup> violence involvement

% reporting recent violence involvement



<sup>c</sup>Based on how many convictions they reported, classified using the Ministry of Justice prolific offending definition, see main report; <sup>d</sup> In the past 12 months.

We are grateful to all those who voluntarily gave their time to participate. We would like to thank HMP Parc Prison and all their staff for their help with facilitating this research. The information in this infographic is taken from Ford et al. (2019). Understanding the prevalence of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) in a male offender population in Wales: The Prisoner ACE Survey. Wrexham: Public Health Wales NHS Trust, Bangor University.





