



Stop It Now![®]

Trainer's *Circles of Safety* Source of Cited Materials

1 in 10 - 10% of US population has experienced contact sexual abuse.

- Townsend, C. & Rheingold, A.A. (2013). *Estimating a child sexual abuse prevalence rate for practitioners: A review of child sexual abuse prevalence studies*. Retrieved from <https://www.d2l.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Child-Sexual-Abuse-All-Statistics.pdf>

In the U.S., about 28% of teens experience sexual abuse online or in person.

- *Child Sexual Abuse Statistics*. National Center for Victims of Crime. (n.d.-a). <https://victimsofcrime.org/child-sexual-abuse-statistics/>

Approximately 15-25% of girls experience child sexual abuse.

- Pereda, N., Guilera, G., Forns, M., & Gómez-Benito, J. (2009). The prevalence of child sexual abuse in community and student samples: A meta-analysis. *Clinical Psychology Review*, 29(4), 328–338. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cpr.2009.02.007>

And 5-10% of boys experience child sexual abuse.

- Finkelhor, D., Shattuck, A., Turner, H. A., & Hamby S. L. (2014). The lifetime prevalence of child sexual abuse and sexual assault assessed in late adolescence. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 55(3):329-33. doi: 10.1016/j.jadohealth.2013.12.026.
- Finkelhor, D., Turner, H., & Colburn, D. (2024). The prevalence of child sexual abuse with online sexual abuse added. *Child abuse & neglect*, 149, 106634. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2024.106634>

Approximately 60% of child sexual abuse cases are not reported until long after the abuse has happened.

- London, K., Bruck, M., Ceci, S., & Shuman, D. (2003) Disclosure of child sexual abuse: What does the research tell us about the ways that children tell? *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*, 11(1), 194-226.
- Ullman, S. E. (2007). Relationship to perpetrator, disclosure, social reactions, and PTSD symptoms in child sexual abuse survivors. *Journal of Child Sexual Abuse*, 16(1), 19-36.

More than 90% of sexual abuse involves someone the child or their family knows – possibly loves, respects, trusts. More than half the time, when a child is abused by an adult, that adult is a parent or other family member.

- Finkelhor, D. (2012). *Characteristics of crimes against juveniles*. Durham, NH: Crimes against Children Research Center.
- Whealin, J. (2007-05-22). "Child Sexual Abuse". National Center for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, US Department of Veterans Affairs

Prevalence of child sexual abuse by identity demographics

- Darkness to Light. (2025, February). *Child sexual abuse: All statistics* [PDF]. Darkness to Light. <https://www.d2l.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Child-Sexual-Abuse-All-Statistics.pdf>

You may hear about sexual abuse happening in large institutions like large churches, schools, or athletic programs. But the reality is that most sexual abuse happens in the home.

- U.S. Department of Justice: Office of Justice Programs. (n.d.). *Sexual Assault of Young Children As Reported to Law Enforcement: Victim, Incident, and Offender Characteristics*. Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/saycrle.pdf>

Sexual activity between children and teens can be harmful or abusive, and research estimates that as much as 70 – 77% of all reported cases of child sexual abuse involve a youth harming another young person.

- Gewirtz-Meydan, A., & Finkelhor, D. (2019). Sexual abuse and assault in a large national sample of children and adolescents. *Child Maltreatment*, online first, 1-12. doi:10.1177/1077559519873975

The impacts of child sexual abuse

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2023, June 29). *Adverse childhood experiences (aces)*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/aces/index.html>
- Sigurdardottir S., Halldorsdottir S. (2018). Screaming body and silent healthcare providers: a case study with a childhood sexual abuse survivor. *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health* 15:94. 10.3390/ijerph15010094

In the US, over \$200,000 is spent for each victim of sexual abuse on costs associated with medical and psychological care, as well as education, legal and criminal justice costs to name just a few.

- Letourneau, E. J., Brown, D. S., Fang, X., Hassan, A., & Mercy, J. A. (2018). The economic burden of child sexual abuse in the United States. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 79, 413–422. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2018.02.020>

Kids with problematic sexual behaviors get help at CACs. Treatments offered for children and youth with problematic sexual behaviors are successful; after treatment, 98% never go on to hurt another child.

- National Children's Alliance. National Statistics on Child Abuse. <https://www.nationalchildrensalliance.org/media-room/national-statistics-on-child-abuse/>

On healthy sexuality education being a key tool to preventing sexual abuse

- Schneider, M. & Hirsch, J.S. (2020). Comprehensive sexuality education as a primary prevention strategy for sexual violence perpetration. *Trauma, Violence and Abuse*. Vol. 21(3) 439-455. Doi: 10.177/1524838018772855.

Healthy sexual behaviors in children

- *Sexual Development and Behavior in Children: Information for Parents and Caregivers*. The National Child Traumatic Stress Network. (2023, November 6). <https://www.nctsn.org/resources/sexual-development-and-behavior-children-information-parents-and-caregivers>

Research shows the greatest risk for children behaving inappropriately with other children sexually is between 12-14 years old.

- Finkelhor, D., Ormrod, R., Chaffin, M. (2009) Juveniles who commit sex offenses against minors. *Juvenile Justice Bulletin*, OJJDP, Office of Justice Programs

Age of consent

- *United States Age of Consent Map*. Age Of Consent. <https://www.ageofconsent.net/states>

Safety/victimization of children with disabilities

- Lund, Emily M., and Vaughn-Jensen, J. (2012). "Victimisation of Children with Disabilities." *The Lancet*, Volume 380 (Issue 9845), 867-869.

Mandated reporting

- Child Welfare Information Gateway. <https://www.childwelfare.gov/resources/states-territories-tribes/>

Pedophilia definition.

- Brown, G.R. (2023, July). *Pedophilic Disorder*. Marck Manual Professional Version. <https://www.merckmanuals.com/professional/psychiatric-disorders/paraphilias-and-paraphilic-disorders/pedophilic-disorder>

Studies have found that roughly 33% of people engaged in contact sexual abuse and 70% of people who view child sexual abuse material demonstrate a sexual preference for children. So anywhere from 30%- 67% of adults who sexually abuse children do not fit the criteria for pedophilia.

- Seto, M. C., & Lalumière, M. L. (2001). A Brief Screening Scale to Identify Pedophilic Interests Among Child Molesters. *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 13(1), 15-25. doi:10.1177/107906320101300103
- Seto, M. C., Cantor, J. M., & Blanchard, R. (2006). Child Pornography Offenses are a Valid Diagnostic Indicator of Pedophilia. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 115(3), 610-615. Retrieved from <https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/193a/0468785fa0d51115dd7bfdb5bcc4dd173097.pdf>.

The importance of person-first language.

- Willis, G. M. (2018). Why call someone by what we don't want them to be? The ethics of labeling in forensic/correctional psychology. *Psychology, Crime & Law*, 24(7), 727-743.

Why adults sexually abuse.

- Seto, M. C. (2008). *Pedophilia and Sexual Offending Against Children: Theory, Assessment, and Intervention*. American Psychological Association
- Seto, M. C., & Lalumière, M. L. (2010). What is so special about male adolescent sexual offending? A review and test of explanations through meta-analysis. *Psychological Bulletin*, 136(4), 526–575
- Cantor, J. M., Blanchard, R., Robichaud, L. K., & Christensen, B. K. (2005). Quantitative reanalysis of aggregate data on IQ in sexual offenders. *Psychological Bulletin*, 131(4), 555–568
- Cantor, J. M., & McPhail, I. V. (2016). Non-offending pedophiles. *Current Sexual Health Reports*, 8(3), 121–128