

Child, Youth, and Teen Victimization

Children, youth, and teens experience high levels of victimization, with more than half of children and adolescents experiencing some form of physical assault in their lifetime. They also experience multiple forms of violence (polyvictimization), and a large percentage are exposed to additional physical and emotional violence in their homes, schools, and neighborhoods. The effects can be cumulative and extremely damaging over time. The exposure itself increases the probability of future victimization.^B Given the amount of time this age group spends at school, victimizations in this setting constitute an important subset of crime; see the School Crime Fact Sheet for more.

NOTE: Hover for data hyperlinks to source material.

Exposure to Violence

National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence (children 0-17)



57.7% of all children had been **exposed to violence** in 2011^{*B}

> More than **10%** reported **5 or more exposures**



41.2% were **physically assaulted** in 2011^B

> **10.1%** were **injured** in those assaults

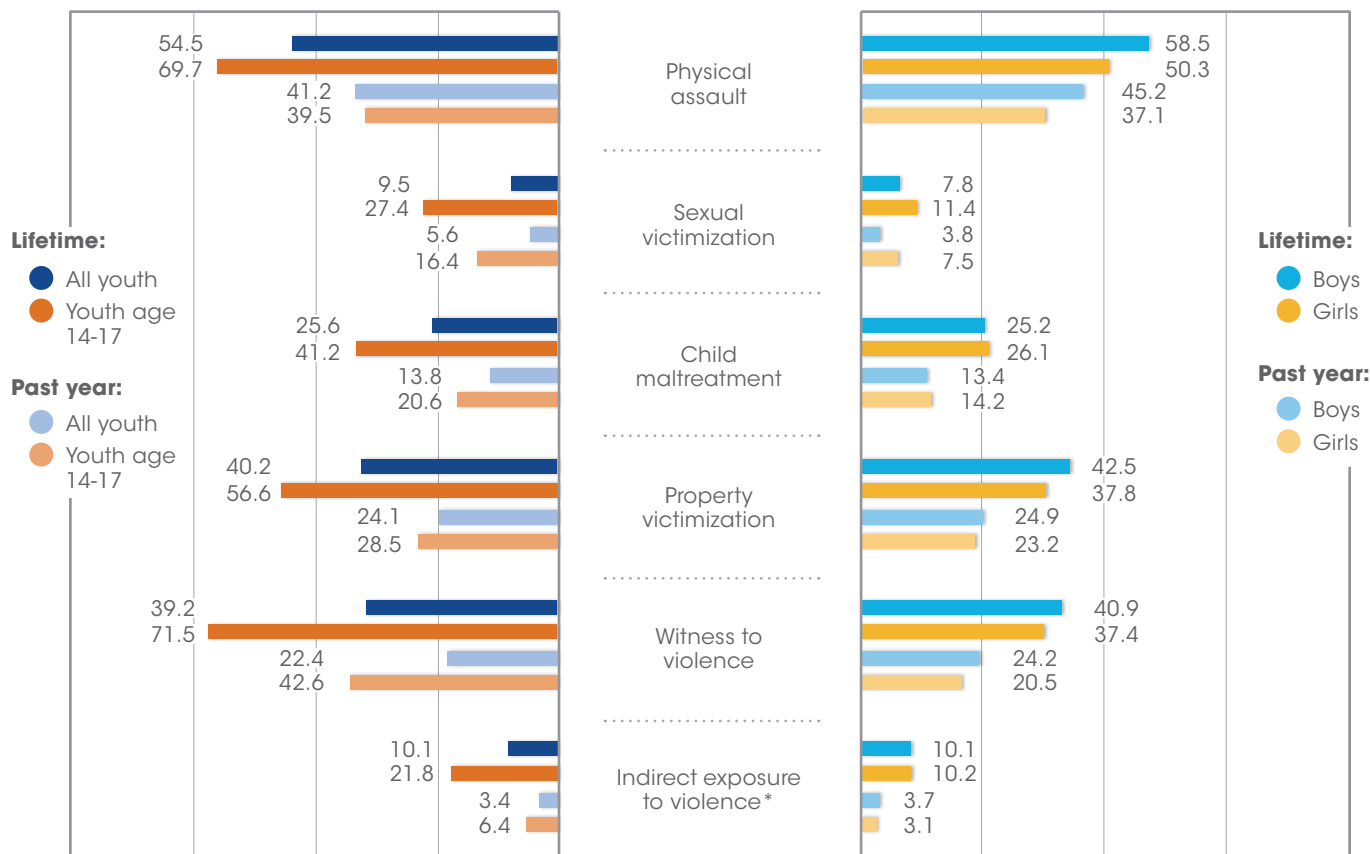
13.7% of children and youth were **physically bullied** in 2011

vs
36.5% were **emotionally bullied**^B

6.1% witnessed one **parent** assault the other parent or parental partner in 2011

vs
17.3% witnessed a **parental** assault in their lifetime^B

Percentage of youth by **age or sex** and **exposure** to types of violence in the past year:^B



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Child Maltreatment

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

679,000 children were maltreated

in 2013, or 9.1/1,000 children:^c

Most perpetrators are parents:^c



- Mother (40.7%)
- Father (20.3%)
- Both mother and father (22.5%)
- Non-parent (12.9%)
- Unknown (6.8%)

Types of maltreatment children suffer:^c

- Neglect (79.5%)
- Physical abuse (18.0%)
- Sexual abuse (9.0%)
- Psychological maltreatment (8.7%)
- Medical neglect (2.3%)
- Other maltreatment (10.0%)



Child maltreatment victims by race:^c

- White (44.0%)
- Hispanic (22.4%)
- African American (21.2%)
- American Indian/Alaska Native (1.2%)
- Asian/Pacific Islander (1.0%)
- Multiracial (4.5%)
- Unknown (5.7%)

1,520 children died due to child abuse or neglect in 2013^c

2.04/100,000 children, birth to age 17; the rate declines with age:

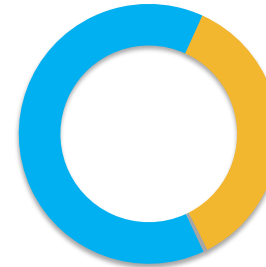


- > **46.5%** are **<1 year**
- > **17%** are **age 1**
- > **10.4%** are **age 2**
- > **7.1%** are **age 3**
- > **5.8%** are **age 4**
- > **2.9%** are **age 5**
- > **10.3%** are **age 6-17**

Homicide

Uniform Crime Reports, Federal Bureau of Investigation

9.1% of all homicides reported to law enforcement in 2014 (or 1,085) were **children under age 18**^{**A}



Child homicide victims by sex:^A

- Boys (63.8%)
- Girls (35.8%)
- Unknown (0.5%)



Child homicide victims by race:^A

- Black (50.2%)
- White (45.3%)
- Other/Unknown (4.4%)

NOTES

***Exposure to violence** includes physical assault, bullying, sexual victimization, child maltreatment and neglect, property victimization, and witnessed or indirect victimization. **Indirect exposure** to violence includes knowledge of violence in the family or community—e.g., household theft; learning of a family assault; or riots, bombings, shootings.

******For more on fatal violence against children, see the Homicide Fact Sheet in this series.

SOURCES

- A** Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2014*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2015), <https://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2014/crime-in-the-u.s.-2014>
- B** David Finkelhor et al., "National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence," *Children's Exposure to Violence, Crime, and Abuse: An Update, Juvenile Justice Bulletin*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2015), <http://www.ojdp.gov/pubs/248547.pdf>
- C** U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau, *Child Maltreatment 2013*, <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2013.pdf>