

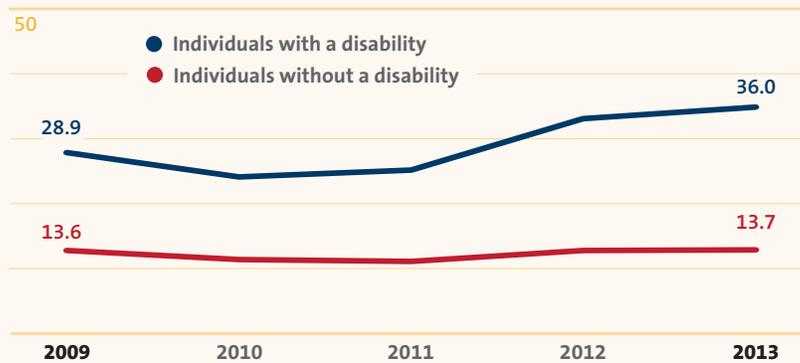
Crimes against People with Disabilities

Individuals with disabilities are particularly vulnerable to crime for a wide variety of reasons, including, but not limited to, reliance on caregivers, limited transportation options, and isolation from the community. In addition, while people with disabilities often experience the same types of intimate partner violence as people without disabilities, they also experience unique forms of violence, such as denial of care or assistance, destruction of medical equipment, and manipulation of medications.^A These vulnerabilities not only increase opportunities for abuse and neglect, but they also make reporting victimization more difficult for victims.

Trends

Since 2009, the rate of **violent victimization** has increased almost **25%** among individuals with disabilities, from about 29 per 1,000 people with disabilities to 36 per 1,000. Comparatively, the rate of violent victimization among individuals without disabilities has increased by less than 1%. In 2013, the rate of violent victimization—including rape/sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault—among individuals with disabilities was more than **2x** that of individuals without disabilities.^{B*}

Violent Victimization^B
rate per 1,000 people



Did You Know?

In 2013, **24%** of violent crime victims with disabilities believed they were targeted **due to their disability**, a 13% increase from 2009.^B

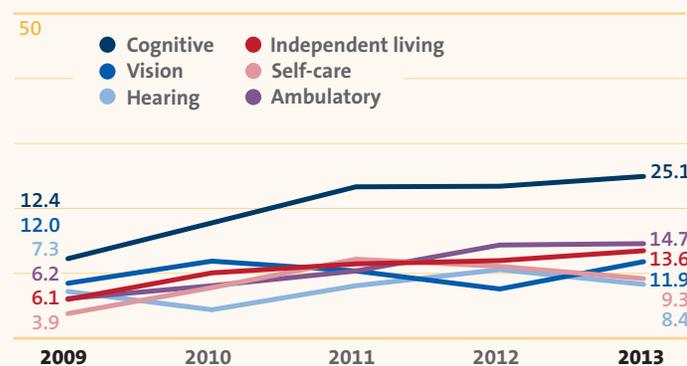
The **National Crime Victimization Survey** first included questions about disability victimization in **2009**.^B

1 in 5 adults has a disability.^C

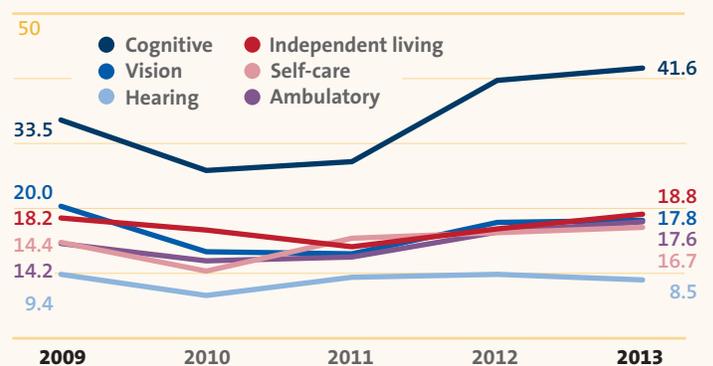
People with multiple disabilities are more frequently victims of rape and sexual assault compared to victims with only one form of disability. In 2013, **68% of rape/sexual assault victims had multiple types of disability**.^B

Among crime victims with disabilities, the rate of violent victimization of individuals with **cognitive disabilities** is 67 per 1,000 individuals, more than **2x** the rate of individuals with other types of disabilities.^B

Serious Violent Victimization by Disability Type^{B*}
rate per 1,000 people



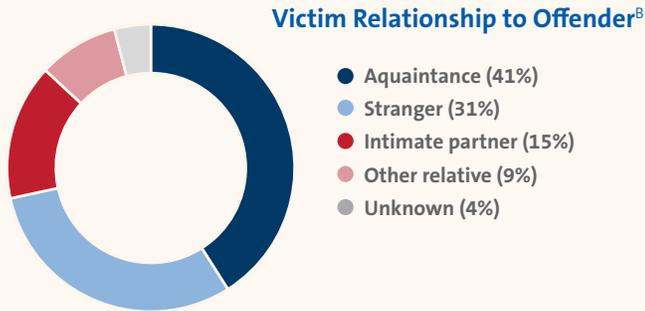
Simple Assault by Disability Type^B
rate per 1,000 people



*Violent victimization encompasses rape, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Serious violent victimization excludes simple assault.

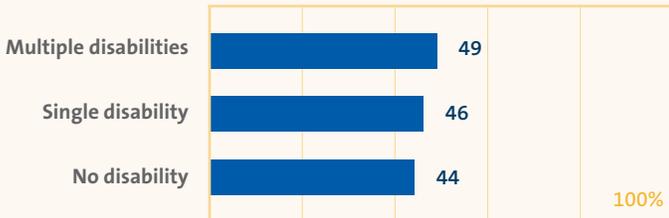
Current Data on Crimes against People with Disabilities

In 2013, **96%** of individuals with a disability who were victims of violent crime could **identify their perpetrator**. Of those, 41% were victimized by an acquaintance, 31% were victimized by a stranger, and 15% were victimized by an intimate partner. An acquaintance is defined as someone who was well or casually known to the victim, including caregivers.^B



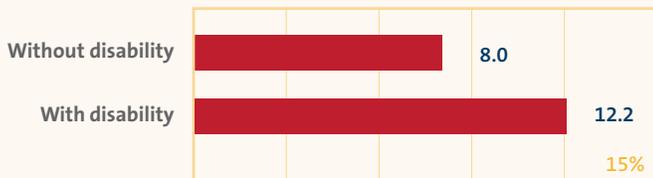
In 2013, individuals with a disability **reported violent victimization to the police 48%** of the time, compared to individuals without a disability who reported their victimization to the police 44% of the time. The majority of crimes reported to the police were **reported by the victim**.^B

Violent Crime Reported to Police^B
by disability status



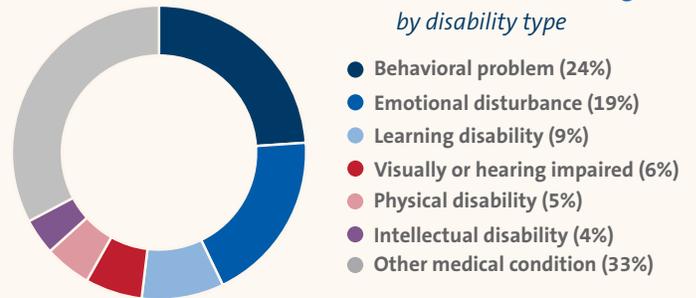
In 2013, individuals with a disability were slightly more likely to receive assistance from **victim service agencies** compared to individuals without a disability. Overall, only a small percentage of violent crime victims receive victim services.^B

Victims Who Receive Services^B
by disability status



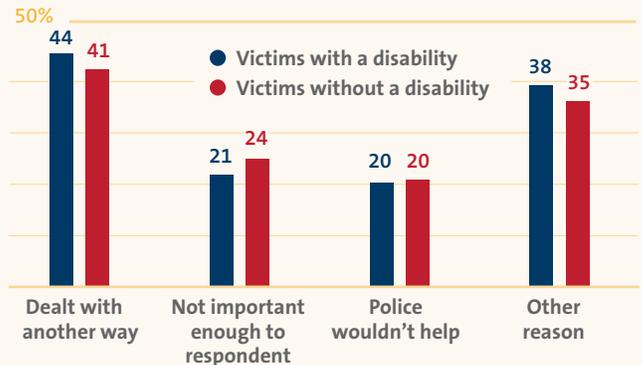
In 2013, **12.6% of children** who were **abused or neglected** had a disability. Of those, children with behavioral problems were most frequently victimized (24%), followed by children with emotional disturbance (19%). One-third had an unlisted medical condition.^D

Child Victims of Abuse and Neglect^D
by disability type



In 2013, victims with and without disabilities reported similar reasons for **not reporting the crime** to the police: the most commonly stated reason was because the victim dealt with the crime a different way. Other reasons included believing insurance wouldn't cover costs related to the crime, thinking the police wouldn't be able to help, not wanting the offender to get in trouble, and fear of reprisal.^B

Reasons for Not Reporting Crime to Police^B



SOURCES

- A Beckie Child et al., "Understanding the Experience of Crime Victims with Disabilities and Deaf Victims," *J of Policy Practice* Vol. 10, 4(2011): 247-67, <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15588742.2011.605829>
- B Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Crime Against Persons with Disabilities, 2009-2013 Statistical Tables*, (U.S. Department of Justice, 2015), <https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/capd0913st.pdf>
- C Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Disability & Health Data System, 2014*, <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/dhds.html>
- D Children's Bureau, *Child Maltreatment 2013*, (U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, 2015), <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cm2013.pdf>