



Child Maltreatment Prevention



Child maltreatment includes all types of abuse and neglect of a child under the age of 18 by a parent, caregiver, or another person in a custodial role (e.g., clergy, coach, teacher). There are four common types of abuse:

- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Neglect

CDC's research and programs work to understand the problem of child maltreatment and prevent it before it begins.

Data & Statistics

- More than 740,000 children and youth are treated in hospital emergency departments as a result of violence each year—that's more than 84 every hour.²
- The total lifetime cost of child maltreatment is \$124 billion each year.¹
- More than 3 million reports of child maltreatment are received by state and local agencies each year—that's nearly 6 reports every minute.³

In The Spotlight

- [Essentials for Childhood \(/ViolencePrevention/childmaltreatment/essentials/index.html\)](/ViolencePrevention/childmaltreatment/essentials/index.html)
- [Read our Director's View Blog \(http://blogs.cdc.gov/ncipc/2012/04/20/stepping-in-for-child-abuse-prevention/\)](http://blogs.cdc.gov/ncipc/2012/04/20/stepping-in-for-child-abuse-prevention/)
- [Economic Cost of Child Abuse \(EconomicCost.html\)](#)
- [Adverse Childhood Experiences \(ACE\) Study \(http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/ace/\)](http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/ace/)
- [Public Health Leadership Initiative \(/ViolencePrevention/phl/index.html\)](/ViolencePrevention/phl/index.html)
- [Prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome \(http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/sbs.html\)](http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/sbs.html)
- [Injury Center Priority: Preventing Child Maltreatment \(/injury/about/focus-cm.html\)](/injury/about/focus-cm.html)

Popular Publications & Articles



- [Child Maltreatment: Facts at a Glance \(/ViolencePrevention/pub/CM_datasheet.html\)](/ViolencePrevention/pub/CM_datasheet.html)
This fact sheet proves up-to-date data and statistics on child maltreatment.
- [Child Maltreatment Surveillance \(/ViolencePrevention/pub/CMP-Surveillance.html\)](/ViolencePrevention/pub/CMP-Surveillance.html)
Uniform Definitions for Public Health and Recommended Data Elements
- [Preventing Child Maltreatment: Program Activities Guide \(/ViolencePrevention/pub/PreventingCM.html\)](/ViolencePrevention/pub/PreventingCM.html)
- [Understanding Child Maltreatment \(/ViolencePrevention/pub/CM_factsheet.html\)](/ViolencePrevention/pub/CM_factsheet.html) This fact sheet provides a basic overview of child maltreatment. It is intended for the general public.
- [Pediatric Abusive Head Trauma: Recommended Definitions for Public Health Surveillance and Research \(/ViolencePrevention/pub/PediatricHeadTrauma.html\)](/ViolencePrevention/pub/PediatricHeadTrauma.html)
- [Preventing Child Abuse Within Youth-serving Organizations \(/ViolencePrevention/pub/PreventingChildAbuse.html\)](/ViolencePrevention/pub/CMP-Surveillance.html)

Additional Resources

- [Better Start: Child Maltreatment Prevention as a Public Health Priority](http://www.zerotothree.org/maltreatment/child-abuse-neglect/30-5-zimmerman.pdf) [PDF 703 KB]
(<http://www.zerotothree.org/maltreatment/child-abuse-neglect/30-5-zimmerman.pdf>)
(<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>)
- [Child Maltreatment 2010](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/pubs/cm10/cm10.pdf) [PDF 4MB]
(<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/pubs/cm10/cm10.pdf>)
(<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>)
- [Child Welfare Information Gateway](http://www.childwelfare.gov/) (<http://www.childwelfare.gov/>)
(<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>)
- [National Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-4-A-CHILD](http://www.childhelp.org/) (<http://www.childhelp.org/>)
(<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>)
- [World Report on Violence and Health](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/global_campaign/en/chap3.pdf) [PDF 176KB]
(http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/global_campaign/en/chap3.pdf)
(<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>)

Child Maltreatment Topics

- [Consequences \(consequences.html\)](consequences.html)
- [Definitions \(definitions.html\)](definitions.html)
- [Data Sources \(datasources.html\)](datasources.html)
- [Prevention Strategies \(prevention.html\)](prevention.html)
- [Publications \(/ViolencePrevention/overview/VP_publications.html\)](/ViolencePrevention/overview/VP_publications.html)
- [Risk and Protective Factors \(riskprotectivefactors.html\)](riskprotectivefactors.html)

- [Translation \(translation.html\)](#)
- [Additional Resources \(resources.html\)](#)

References

1. Fang X, Brown DS, Florence C, Mercy J. The economic burden of child maltreatment in the United States and implications for prevention. *Child Abuse and Neglect*. January 2012.
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. United States, Assault all injury causes nonfatal injuries and rates per 100,000, all races, both sexes, ages 0 to 24. Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS) [online] (2008) [accessed 2011 Dec 7]. Available from: <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars> (<http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars>)
3. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth, and Families. Child Maltreatment 2008: Summary [online]. Washington (DC): Government Printing Office; 2010. [accessed 2011 Nov 1]. Available from: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/pubs/cm08/summary.htm> (<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/pubs/cm08/summary.htm>)  (<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>)

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