



Facts About Child Sexual Abuse

**IT IS HIGHLY LIKELY THAT YOU KNOW A CHILD WHO HAS BEEN OR IS BEING ABUSED.**

- Experts estimate that about 1 in 10 children are sexually abused before their 18th birthday.\*<sup>3</sup>
- Youth are the victims in 66% of all sexual offenses reported to law enforcement.<sup>26</sup>
- Youth are 2.5 times more likely to be raped than adults.<sup>27, 28</sup>
- 35% of child victims are 11 years old or younger.<sup>28, 29</sup>
- Children living without either parent (foster children) are 10 times more likely to be sexually abused than children that live with both biological parents.<sup>30</sup>
- Children who live with a single parent who has a live-in partner are at the highest risk: they are 20 times more likely to be victims of child sexual abuse than children living with both biological parents.<sup>30</sup>
- Children who witness or are the victim of other crimes are significantly more likely to be sexually abused.<sup>13</sup>
- 9% of all 10-17 year olds receive unwanted sexual requests while on the Internet.<sup>31</sup>
- 23% of all 10-17 year olds experience unwanted exposure to pornography.<sup>31</sup>
- About 75% of child pornography victims are living at home when they are photographed. Parents are often responsible.<sup>25</sup>

\*The rate "1 in 10 children are sexually abused" reflects only physical contact acts of sexual abuse.

**90%**  
of children who are victims of sexual abuse **know their abuser.**<sup>28, 32</sup>

**30%**  
of children who are sexually abused are abused by **family members.**<sup>28, 32</sup>

**60%**  
of children who are sexually abused are abused by **people the family trusts.**<sup>2</sup>

**40%**  
of children who are sexually abused are abused by **older, or more powerful children.**<sup>28</sup>

**10%**  
or less of children who are sexually abused are abused **by a stranger.**<sup>28</sup>