

ESTIMATING THE PREVALENCE OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

NATIONAL STATISTICS

THE GALLUP ORGANIZATION. (1995). *DISCIPLINING CHILDREN IN AMERICA: A GALLUP POLL REPORT*. PRINCETON, NJ: THE GALLUP ORGANIZATION.

This 1995 telephone survey, conducted by the *Gallup Poll*, indicated that as many as 19 per 1,000 children have suffered sexual abuse. The results indicate that more children are abused (all types of abuse) and neglected than are found in Child Protective Services reports.

WANG, C. & DARO, D. (1998). *CURRENT TRENDS IN CHILD ABUSE REPORTING AND FATALITIES: THE RESULTS OF THE 1997 ANNUAL FIFTY STATE SURVEY*. THE CENTER ON CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION RESEARCH. CHICAGO, IL: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE.

In 1998 a survey was sent to the "federally appointed liaisons for child abuse and neglect" in each of the fifty states and the District of Columbia. Information presented in this 1997 report included (but is not limited to) the following: the number of reported and substantiated victims of child maltreatment during 1995, 1996, and 1997; a breakdown by type of maltreatment; and the number of confirmed fatalities resulting from child abuse. Child sexual abuse constituted 7% of reported cases and 8% of substantiated cases. However, not all states responded to the survey.

STATEWIDE STATISTICS

Only 30 States and the District of Columbia published empirical studies concerning sexual abuse statistics.

ALABAMA

CHILD PROTECT: THE MONTGOMERY AREA CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER (1999). *CHILD ABUSE STATISTICS*. RETRIEVED MARCH 26, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.CHILDPROTECT.ORG/STATISTICS.HTM](http://www.childprotect.org/statistics.htm)

In 1999, the child advocacy group Child Protect amassed the following figures regarding child sexual abuse within Alabama: a total of 763 cases of child abuse and neglect were reported and 566 of these cases were indicated; 54% of the cases involved neglect, 25% involved physical abuse, 12% involved sexual abuse, and 9% were unspecified. This data is based upon figures derived from the counties of Montgomery, Autauga, Chilton, Elmore, and Lowndes.

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA (2001). *ALABAMA'S CHILDREN 2001*. RETRIEVED MARCH 26, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.CWLA.ORG/ADVOCACY/STATEFACTSHEETS/2001/ALABAMA.HTM](http://www.cwla.org/advocacy/statefactsheets/2001/alabama.htm)

During 1998, a total of 16,668 cases of child abuse and neglect were reported. It was computed 15.4 per 1,000 children were abused. When the types of abuse are specified, 7.1 were neglected, 6.1 were physically abused, and 3.3 were sexually abused (per 1,000 children).

ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF FAMILY AND YOUTH SERVICES. (1994). *FISCAL YEAR 1993 ANNUAL REPORT*. DIVISION OF FAMILY AND YOUTH SERVICES.

The rate of child sexual abuse in Alaska is six times the national average. This figure is based upon the following data: Child Protective Services received 1,431 reports of sexual abuse in 1989 (out of 7,786 reports total), 1,556 in 1990 (out of 9,021 reports total), 1,681 in 1991 (out of 10,283 reports total), 2,039 in 1992 (out of 12,386 reports total), and 2,249 in 1993 (out of 14,617 reports total).

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES—
DIVISION OF FAMILY AND YOUTH SERVICES. (1996).
FISCAL YEAR 1993 ANNUAL REPORT. DIVISION OF
FAMILY AND YOUTH SERVICES.

Child Protective Services received 2,421 reports of
child sexual abuse in 1994, and 2,031 reports of
child sexual abuse in 1995. The total number of
maltreatment reports was 15,465 in 1994 and
15,706 in 1995. The at-risk population is listed as
186,271 in 1994 and 187,351 in 1995.

RID ALASKA. (2000). *FAMILY SERVICE CHILD
REPORTS OF HARM BY REGION, FISCAL YEAR 2000*.
RETRIEVED MARCH 1, 2003 FROM
[HTTP://WWW.ALASKA.NET/~ROSENBAU/STAT.HTML](http://www.alaska.net/~rosenbau/stat.html)

This report divided Alaska into four regions:
Northern Region, Southcentral Region, Southeast
Region, and Anchorage Region. The total number
of child sexual abuse cases (reported), for all
regions, was 1,869 (11.5% of abuse statistics).
Statistics are also included on a breakdown of
felony and misdemeanor cases by city court site.

ARKANSAS

ARKANSAS COMMISSION ON CHILD ABUSE. (2002).
FACT SHEET ABOUT CHILD ABUSE IN ARKANSAS.
RETRIEVED MARCH 26, 2003 FROM
[WWW.ACCARDV.UAMS.EDU/FACTS.HTM](http://www.accardv.uams.edu/facts.htm)

The source of this information gathered by the
Arkansas Commission is the US Department of
Health and Human Services—Administration for
Children and Families (April 2000). This fact sheet
provides statistics on general information about
child abuse in Arkansas. The types of abuse are not
differentiated. In 1998, based upon a child popula-
tion of 653,721, 13.1 per 1,000 children were vic-
tims of abuse, compared to 12.9 for the nation. The
fact sheet also states that nearly 12% of child abuse
victims were sexually abused.

ARIZONA

ARIZONA'S CHILD ABUSE INFOCENTER. (2003).
CHILD ABUSE STATISTICS. RETRIEVED MARCH 26,
2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.AHSC.ARIZONA.EDU/
ACAINFO/STATISTICS/FACT_SHEET.HTM](http://www.ahsc.arizona.edu/ACAINFO/STATISTICS/FACT_SHEET.HTM)

The Arizona Child Abuse InfoCenter reported that
out of 17,104 cases of abuse, 60% involved alleged
neglect, 32% physical abuse, 6% sexual abuse, and
2% emotional abuse. These figures are based upon
the Semi-annual Report; Arizona Department of
Economic Security; Division of Children, Youth
and Families from April 1st, 2002 until September
30, 2002.

CHILDREN'S ACTION ALLIANCE (2002). *ARIZONA'S
ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN: CHILD
PROTECTIVE SERVICES (CPS) REPORTS AND
RESPONSE*. RETRIEVED MARCH 26, 2003, FROM
[HTTP://WWW.AZCHILDREN.ORG/CAA/_MAIN
PAGES/FACT_SHEETS_&_LINKS/FACTS_ABOUT_ABUSE_
AND_NEGLECT.ASP](http://www.azchildren.org/caa/_main/pages/fact_sheets_&_links/facts_about_abuse_and_neglect.asp)

Based upon the Arizona Children Organization,
6% of abuse reports were related to alleged sexual
abuse. The majority of the cases are related to situ-
ations of alleged neglect (60%) and physical abuse
(32%) while allegations of emotional abuse are the
least reported (2%). When these reports are further
evaluated, 13% are classified as high risk, 27% as
moderate risk, 40% as low risk, and 20% as poten-
tial abuse and neglect.

CALIFORNIA

CHILDREN NOW. (2001). *CALIFORNIA REPORT CARD
2001: FACTORS FOR SCHOOL SUCCESS*. RETRIEVED
FROM [HTTP://WWW.CHILDRENNOW.ORG/CALIFORNIA
/RC-2001/REPORTCARD-2001.HTM](http://www.childrennow.org/california/rc-2001/reportcard-2001.htm)

The Children Now Organization has concluded
that over 660,000 children were abused in 2000.
However, there is no differentiation between the
types of abuse reported. In 1996, 78 per 1,000
reports were filed whereas in 2000, there was a
decrease to 68 reports per 1,000 children. When the
data is evaluated by region, there appears to be an
increase in Glenn, Inyo and Tehama counties while
Lassen, Solano and Yuba counties have displayed
a decline.

COLORADO

COLORADO COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT. (2003). *TOWARD HEALING AND JUSTICE: A HANDBOOK FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT*. DENVER, CO: COLORADO COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT.

This resource for survivors of sexual assault includes information on the definitions of sexual violence and assault, health and medical concerns, various agency responses to the problem, contacts for survivors, and some basic statistics. In Colorado, one in four women suffered an attempted or completed sexual assault in her lifetime, whereas one in seventeen men experienced the same. Sixty-one percent of rape cases occurred before the victim was eighteen.

OATES, R. KIM. (2000). ERRONEOUS CONCERNS ABOUT CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE. *CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT*, 24 (1), 149-157.

The aim of the author was to assess the incidence of child sexual abuse, with a focus on false reporting (what Oates classifies as "erroneous concerns"). Case records of reported child sexual abuse, from January 1st, 1992 to December 31st, 1992, were evaluated; the cases had been investigated by the Denver Department of Social Services. In total, 551 cases were reviewed. Of those, 43% were substantiated, 31% were inconclusive, and 34% were not considered cases of abuse.

CONNECTICUT

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA. (2000). *CONNECTICUT'S CHILDREN 2001: CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT*. RETRIEVED MARCH 26, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.CWLA.ORG/ADVOCACY/STATEFACTSHEETS/2001/CONNECTICUT.HTM](http://www.cwla.org/advocacy/statefactsheets/2001/connecticut.htm).

Based upon figures from the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) in 1998, Connecticut had 16,923 reports of child abuse and neglect. This indicates that abuse occurred at a rate of 21.4 per 1,000 children in the population. When the type of abuse is examined, 18.5 children were neglected, 3.5 were physically abused, and 0.9 were sexually abused.

FORDHAM INSTITUTE FOR INNOVATION IN SOCIAL POLICY. (1999). *SOCIAL STATE OF CONNECTICUT '99: PART III A CLOSER LOOK: A SOCIAL PROFILE OF CONNECTICUT*. RETRIEVED MARCH 26, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.CGA.STATE.CT.US/COC/SOC_INDEX00/PART_III.HTML](http://www.cga.state.ct.us/coc/soc_index00/part_III.html)

Based upon data from 1997, 36,638 cases of child abuse were filed. The abuse occurred at a rate of 45.7 per 1,000 children and there were more than 1,000 reported cases of child sexual abuse. This appears to be a slight improvement when compared to previous years; however, the authors contend that it is still higher than any year prior to 1995.

DELAWARE

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA. (2003). *DELAWARE'S CHILDREN 2003*. RETRIEVED MARCH 29, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.CWLA.ORG](http://www.cwla.org)

Based on annual statistics of child abuse and neglect for the year 2000, this agency reports a rate of 0.9 per 1,000 children in Delaware as being sexually abused.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES. (2003). RETRIEVED MARCH 29, 2003 FROM [HTTP://WWW.ACF.HHS.GOV/PROGRAMS/CB/PUBLICATIONS/CWO99/STATEDATA.HTM](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/publications/cwo99/statedata.htm)

In 1998, 8.6% of substantiated child abuse reports were sexual in nature compared to 1999, when 11.1% of substantiated cases were related to sexual abuse.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA (2002). *DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA'S CHILDREN 2002: CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT*. RETRIEVED MARCH 26, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.CWLA.ORG/ADVOCACY/STATEFACTSHEETS/2002/DC.HTM](http://www.cwla.org/advocacy/statefactsheets/2002/dc.htm).

The Child Welfare League of America, an advocacy organization, concluded that 2,308 cases of child abuse were reported in the District of Columbia during 1999. This is a rate of 24.2 children per 1,000 that were abused. When this figure is examined on the basis of types of abuse, 17.4 were neglected, 3.5 were physically abused, and 0.4 were

sexually abused. These figures are encouraging as there is a reported decline of 113% from 1998.

FLORIDA

CPS WATCH (2001). *FLORIDA FOSTER CARE STATISTICS*. RETRIEVED MARCH 26, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.CPSWATCH.COM/OLDSITE/STATS/STATES/FL.HTM](http://www.cpswatch.com/oldsite/stats/states/fl.htm)

Based upon data gathered from the Florida Department of Children and Families, CPS Watch has compiled figures concerning child abuse and neglect. While the date of when these figures were compiled is unclear, the 2001 publication shows that 6,011 cases of child sexual abuse were reported, accounting for 7.32% of all types of maltreatment.

GEORGIA

PREVENT CHILD ABUSE GEORGIA. (N.D.). *STATISTICS*. RETRIEVED MARCH 26, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.PREVENTCHILDABUSEGA.ORG/HTML/STATISTICS.HTML](http://www.preventchildabusega.org/html/statistics.html)

Based upon official reports of child abuse, an examination of the data illustrates that from 1998 to 2000, there was an increase in reports of child abuse and neglect. There were 2,050 reports of sexual abuse in 1998, 2,265 reports in 1999, and 2,354 in 2000. This indicates that there was a change of + 4% during the three years. Note that "Other" includes drug exposure, addiction at birth, gunshot wounds, medical care needed and child fatalities, among others.

HAWAII

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA. (2003). *HAWAII'S CHILDREN 2003*. RETRIEVED MARCH 29, 2003 FROM [HTTP://WWW.CWLA.ORG/ADVOCACY/STATEFACT_SHEETS/2003/HAWAII.PDF](http://www.cwla.org/advocacy/statefact_sheets/2003/hawaii.pdf)

In 2000, there were 295,767 estimated children under the age of 18 in Hawaii. Of every 1,000 children, 0.8 were sexually abused (based on official statistics).

IDAHO

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA. (2001). *IDAHO'S CHILDREN 2001: CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT*. RETRIEVED MARCH 26, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.CWLA.ORG/ADVOCACY/STATEFACT_SHEETS/2001/IDAHO.HTM](http://www.cwla.org/advocacy/statefact_sheets/2001/idaho.htm)

In 1998, the CWLA reports that there were 7,936 cases of child abuse and neglect in Idaho. This is an abuse rate of 2.6 per 1,000 children in which 10.7 were neglected, 7 were physically abused, and 3.7 were sexually abused.

CPS WATCH. (N.D.). *IDAHO FOSTER CARE STATISTICS*. RETRIEVED MARCH 26, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.CPSWATCH.COM/OLDSITE/STATS/STATES/ID.HTM](http://www.cpswatch.com/oldsite/stats/states/id.htm)

Based upon data collected by the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Family and Community Services, CPS Watch has listed the prevalence of child abuse and neglect. While the date of when these figures were compiled is unclear, there were 1,290 cases of child sexual abuse reported, accounting for 47.54% of all types of child maltreatment.

ILLINOIS

CANTS ALLEGATION. (1998). *CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT STATISTICS ANNUAL REPORT—FISCAL YEAR 1997*. RETRIEVED APRIL 15, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.STATE.IL.US/DCFS/CANTS97_FIG4.SHTML](http://www.state.il.us/dcfs/cants97_fig4.shtml)

Based on government statistics this organization concluded that 7.58% of abuse allegations received by DCFS concerned sexual abuse and 10.25% of all abuse allegations were sexual in nature.

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA. (2003). *ILLINOIS'S CHILDREN 2003*. RETRIEVED MARCH 29, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.CWLA.ORG/ADVOCACY/STATEFACTSSHEETS/ILLINOIS.PDF](http://www.cwla.org/advocacy/statefactssheets/illinois.pdf)

According to statistics for 2000, 1.0 out of every 1,000 children was sexually abused in Illinois. This is based upon an estimated population of 3,245,451 children under the age of 18.

INDIANA

DUNEBROOK. (2000). *CHILD ABUSE STATISTICS*. RETRIEVED APRIL, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.DUNEBROOK.ORG/STATS.HTML](http://www.dunebrook.org/stats.html).

Based upon official figures collected by Child Protective Services, 42,979 reports were filed concerning child abuse and neglect during 2000. When the types of abuse are examined, 63% involved neglect, 19% involved physical abuse, 10% involved sexual abuse, and 8% involved sexual maltreatment. When sexual abuse was examined, a rate of 1.7 victims per 1,000 female children and 0.4 victims per 1,000 male children was established.

IOWA

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA. (2003). *IOWA'S CHILDREN 2003*. RETRIEVED MARCH 29, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.CWLA.ORG/ADVOCACY/STATEFACTSHEETS/IOWA.PDF](http://www.cwla.org/advocacy/statefactsheets/iowa.pdf)

In 2000, based upon official statistics, 1.3 out of every 1,000 children was sexually abused. There were an estimated 733,638 children under the age of 18 in 2000.

KANSAS

CPS WATCH. (N.D.). *KANSAS FOSTER CARE STATISTICS*. RETRIEVED APRIL, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.CPSWATCH.COM/OLDSITE/STATS/STATES/KS.HTM](http://www.cpswatch.com/oldsite/stats/states/ks.htm)

CPS Watch collected statistics from the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services based upon a child population of 697,452, of which 8,488 are in the care of the state. While the date of when these figures were compiled is unclear, there were 1,023 cases involving sexual abuse.

KENTUCKY

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE: KENTUCKY ABUSE NUMBERS HAVE TRIPLED IN TEN YEARS. (1997, MARCH 24). *SEX WEEKLY*. RETRIEVED MARCH 30, 2003, FROM LEXIS-NEXIS.

In 1996, the rape crisis centers in Kentucky reported 5,800 cases of sexual abuse/assault. This is triple the amount from one decade ago. Of the

5,800 recorded cases, 34% involved children ages seventeen and under.

RECORD NUMBER OF CHILD ABUSERS PROSECUTED. (1997, JULY 7). *SEX WEEKLY*. RETRIEVED MARCH 30, 2003, FROM LEXIS-NEXIS.

This report evaluates cases between the years of 1994 and 1996 in Kentucky. Statewide, 10,610 incidents of child abuse were reported and of those cases, 4,624 were substantiated by social workers. The news article focuses upon the subject of child sexual abuse, but the numbers are not distributed according to specific types of abuse. It appears as if the phrases "child sexual abuse" and "child abuse" are used interchangeably.

LOUISIANA

LOUISIANA CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND. (N.D.). *WHAT IS CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT?* RETRIEVED APRIL, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.LCTF.ORG/ABUSE%20AND%20NEGLECT%20IN%20LOUISIANA.HTM](http://www.lctf.org/abuse%20and%20neglect%20in%20Louisiana.htm)

As based upon official reports in 1999, 31,699 reports were filed concerning child abuse and neglect resulting in the investigation of 23,921 cases. The investigations yielded 7,664 valid cases (32%) involving 12,813 children.

MAINE

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA. (2003). *MAINE'S CHILDREN 2003*. RETRIEVED MARCH 30, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.CWLA.ORG/ADVOCACY/STATEFACTSHEETS/MAINE.PDF](http://www.cwla.org/advocacy/statefactsheets/maine.pdf)

Based upon statistics for the year 2000, 3.2 out of every 1,000 children were sexually abused. The estimated child population in 2000 was 301,238.

MINNESOTA

MINNESOTA STUDENT SURVEY 1991: A REPORT ON SPECIAL POPULATIONS. (1991). ST. PAUL: MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

The original Minnesota survey was conducted in order to ascertain a portrait of adolescent life.

However, the authors of this piece felt that the portrait was inaccurate, because at-risk adolescents were excluded due to the design of the study (i.e., it was given to students at public schools to fill out, thus neglecting adolescents in custody or alternative schools). A slightly revised edition of the 1989 study was administered in 1991 to a sample of 3,573 students in Minnesota alternative schools, area learning centers, residential treatment centers, and Corrections/Detention centers. The data collected from this group was then compared to the 91,175 students who participated in the original 1989 Minnesota Student Survey. For alternative schools there were 2,425 completed surveys that included students ages 12 to 21. The results are as follows: 16% of females and 2% of males reported intrafamilial sexual abuse (compared to 8% of females and 2% of males in regular schools); 35% of females and 5% of males reported extrafamilial abuse (compared to 17% and 3% respectively); and, 38% of females and 5% of males reported either/both types of sexual abuse (compared to 20% and 4% respectively). Four hundred and sixty-one surveys were collected from Corrections/Detention centers. These results illustrate that 17% of females and 9% of males reported intrafamilial sexual abuse (compared to 5% and 2% respectively); 45% of females and 15% of males reported extrafamilial sexual abuse (compared to 17% and 2% respectively); and 48% of females and 17% of males reported either/both types of sexual abuse (compared to 18% and 3% respectively). Males greatly outnumbered females in this sample. Three hundred and forty-eight surveys were returned from adolescents in Residential Treatment Centers. Forty-one percent of females and 8% of males reported intrafamilial abuse (compared to 10% and 2% respectively); 54% of females and 16% of males reported extrafamilial abuse (compared to 16% and 3% respectively); and 63% of females and 18% of males reported either/both types of sexual abuse (compared to 19% and 3% respectively).

MISSOURI

DRAKE, B. (1996). PREDICTORS OF PREVENTIVE SERVICES PROVISIONS AMONG UNSUBSTANTIATED CASES. *CHILD MALTREATMENT*, 1, 168-175.

This article evaluates unsubstantiated child maltreatment reports where voluntary preventive services were provided by the state. Data is also presented on substantiated cases in order to see how the services offered varied when based upon substantiation. The initial data consisted of all child abuse and neglect cases reported to the Missouri Department of Family Services (N = 48,415) during the 1992 calendar year. Of the 48,415 cases in the database, 35,014 were unsubstantiated cases. Of these, 28,039 cases (80%) were free of missing data. Among these cases, 2,674 were reports of sexual abuse. Sexual abuse cases showed statistically significant differences between the preventive services group and the control group.

Way, I., Chung, S., Jonson-Reid, M., & Drake, B. (2001). Maltreatment perpetrators: A 54-month analysis of recidivism. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 25, 1093-1108.

This study looks at recidivism rates for alleged child abuse perpetrators. A comparison is made between those whose initial reports were substantiated and those whose initial report was not substantiated in order to determine if one groups recidivates at a higher rate than the other. This sample included 31,531 perpetrators who committed intrafamilial maltreatment. The cases that were examined came from the Missouri Department of Family Services. Abuse is broken down into three types: sexual abuse, physical abuse, and neglect. In the sample, 1,321 (or 4.2%) of the index cases were sexual abuse. Overall, the recidivism rate was 42.4%; for sexual abuse it was 4%. The primary finding of this study was that perpetrators whose index event was unsubstantiated returned to the system at a higher rate. In conclusion, the authors state that there needs to be a way to determine which individuals with unsubstantiated cases of abuse are likely to be at risk of recidivating.

NEVADA

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO. (N.D.). *REPORTING CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT*. RETRIEVED MAY, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.UNCE.UNR.EDU/PUBLICATIONS/FS01/FS0140.HTM](http://www.unce.unr.edu/publications/FS01/FS0140.htm)

According to the *Nevada Child Abuse & Neglect Statistics (2000)*, compiled by the State of Nevada Division of Child and Family Services, a total of 6,976 cases of child abuse and neglect were reported in 2000. Of these cases, 254 involved sexual abuse/exploitation.

NEW JERSEY

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA. (N.D.). *NEW JERSEY'S CHILDREN*. RETRIEVED MAY 20, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.CWLA.ORG/ADVOCACY/STATEFACT_SHEETS/2003/NEWJERSEY.PDF](http://www.cwla.org/advocacy/statefact_sheets/2003/newjersey.pdf)

During 2000, 38,330 reported cases of child abuse and neglect were filed with child protective services at a rate of 18.4 children per 1,000. Of these cases, 8,727 were substantiated creating a rate of 4.2 per 1,000 children.

NORTH DAKOTA

THOMPSON, K.M., WONDERLICH, S.A., CROSBY, R.D., & MITCHELL, J.E. (2001). SEXUAL VICTIMIZATION AND ADOLESCENT WEIGHT REGULATION PRACTICES: A TEST ACROSS THREE COMMUNITY BASED SAMPLES. *CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT* 25, 291-305.

In a statewide survey of 966 children, prevalence of sexual abuse was found to be 12.4%. In an urban sample in which a different survey was utilized, a prevalence rate of 20.6% was found within the sample of 2,086. In a rural sample, which utilized a different survey, a prevalence rate of 13.7% prevalence was found in a sample of 2,629.

PENNSYLVANIA

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE. (N.D.). *OFFICE OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES*. RETRIEVED MAY 21, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.DPW.STATE.PA.US/OCYF/OCYFCA.ASP](http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/ocyf/ocyfca.asp)

During 2000, 22,809 cases of child abuse were filed with official organizations. Of these cases, 5,002 were substantiated (21.9%) and 50% of the substantiated cases involved allegations of sexual abuse.

TEXAS

SAPP, A.D. & CARTER, D.L. (1978). *A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF TEXAS RESIDENTS' ATTITUDES*. HUNTSVILLE, TX: SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY.

This study evaluated the opinions of Texas residents on issues of child abuse. Additionally, the researchers attempted to determine the extent of child abuse in the state and public awareness of the issue. The researchers randomly selected 2000 Texas residents from 178 counties to receive a mail survey. Of the 2000 surveys, 1,339 were returned with usable data. The authors found that 8.5% of respondents reported that their children had been abused and 37.5% of these cases involved sexual abuse.

UTAH

TAUTEOLI, K. & LEWIS, R. (1992). *CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE: STATISTICS, TRENDS, AND CASE OUTCOMES*. RETRIEVED APRIL 10, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.JRSA.ORG/PUBS/FORUM/ARCHIVES/MAR92.HTML](http://www.jrsa.org/pubs/forum/archives/mar92.html).

This article discusses awareness of child sexual abuse in the state of Utah. In the 1980's, a series of child abductions that resulted in murders led to the formation of a statewide taskforce that sought to determine the incidence of child sexual abuse in Utah. The main aim was to determine if child sexual abuse was increasing or decreasing. The authors took information from the 1990 Annual Report of the Central Register for Child Abuse and Neglect.

VERMONT

AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES—SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES. (2003). *ABUSE AND NEGLECT STATISTICS*. RETRIEVED MARCH 29, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.STATE.VT.US/SRS/ABUSE.HTM](http://www.state.vt.us/srs/abuse.htm)

Data reported by this agency found that in 1999, 436 (49% substantiated) children were sexually abused. During 2000, 471 (45% substantiated) were sexually abused and in 2001, 424 (38% substantiated) children were sexually abused. The highest number was reported in 1992, in which 811 children were sexually abused.

STATE SEES DROP IN CASES OVER SIX YEARS. (1997, AUGUST 4). *SEX WEEKLY*. RETRIEVED MARCH 30, 2003, FROM LEXIS-NEXIS.

This article reports that Vermont has a "higher rate of child sexual abuse than the rest of the nation." In 1990, there were 77 child victims of sexual abuse from ranging in age from infancy to age 3. In 1996, the number decreased to 21. There were no figures provided for other age groups and the source of this data is unclear.

WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON STATE INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY. (1998, AUGUST). *SEX OFFENSES IN WASHINGTON STATE: 1998 UPDATE*. OLYMPIA, WA: WSIPP.

This report presents government statistics on the prevalence of child sexual abuse based upon cases accepted for investigation by DSHS. In 1985, about 10% of the cases accepted involved sexual abuse; in 1990, just over 10%; in 1995, about 7%; and in 1997, about 7.5%. The report also assesses the recidivism rates for Washington State sex offenders from 1985 to 1991.

WISCONSIN

PREVENT CHILD ABUSE. (2003). *WISCONSIN—PREVALENCE OF CHILD ABUSE*. RETRIEVED MARCH 29, 2003, FROM [HTTP://WWW.PREVENTCHILDABUSEWI.ORG/PREVALENCE.HTM](http://www.preventchildabusewi.org/prevalence.htm)

Based on data from the Department of Health and Human Services, in 2001 there were 4,606 cases of substantiated child sexual abuse in Wisconsin.

SEXUAL ASSAULTS IN WISCONSIN 1995. (1996). MADISON, WISCONSIN: WISCONSIN OFFICE OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS CENTER.

These statistics are based on official data (those reported to law enforcement agencies). In 1995, 6,101 estimated sexual assaults were reported to law enforcement agencies in the state. Seventy-five percent of the victims were juveniles and over 68% were 15 years of age or younger. These numbers are broken down further by age group and assault "type": 218 (17.2%) of children ages 1-12 and 222 (17.5%) of juveniles ages 13-15 reported having experienced forcible rape; 134 (10.6%) of teens ages 16-17 reported forcible rape and 163 (12.9%) of individu-

als age 18-20 reported experiencing a forcible rape. Two hundred and seventy five (53.8%) children ages 1-12 experienced forcible sodomy compared to 103 (20.2%) individuals ages 13-15. Thirty-seven (7.2%) individuals ages 16-17 and 25 (5.0%) individuals ages 18-20 also experienced forcible sodomy. One hundred and eighteen (60.2%) children ages 1-12 experienced assault with an object compared to 25 (12.8%) cases reported by individuals ages 13-15 and 7 (3.6%) individuals ages 16-17 and, 9 (4.6%) cases for individuals 18-20. In total, 1438 cases of forcible fondling were reported for children ages 1-12, 727 cases for children ages 13-15, 225 cases for individuals ages 16-17, and 161 cases for individuals ages 18-20.

SEXUAL ASSAULTS IN WISCONSIN 1998. (1999). MADISON, WISCONSIN: WISCONSIN OFFICE OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS CENTER.

This is official data based upon cases reported to law enforcement agencies in the state of Wisconsin during the year 1998. An estimated 6,056 individuals were victims of sexual abuse. This is a 3.0% increase from 1997. Seventy-eight percent of the victims were juveniles and over 70% were 15 years of age or younger. The average age of all sexual assault victims was 15 and the median was 14. Sexual assault was broken down into several categories: forcible rape (N=1,135), forcible sodomy (N=467), assault with an object (N=187), forcible fondling (N=2,658), statutory rape (N=1,257), and ejaculate/excrete upon victim (N=28). The categories of assault can be broken down by age group: ages 1-12 experienced 193 (17%) cases of forcible rape; 251 (53.7%) forcible sodomy; 87 (46.8%) assault with an object; 1,216 forcible fondling. Ages 13-15 experienced 207 (18.3%) forcible rape; 101 (21.6%) forcible sodomy; 43 (23.1%) assault with an object; 671 forcible fondling. For ages 16-17, 155 (13.7%) experienced forcible rape; 26 (5.6%) experienced forcible sodomy; and, 12 (6.5%) experienced assault with an object; 211 forcible fondling. Of those ages 18-20, 160 (14.1%) experienced forcible rape; 20 (4.3%) experienced forcible sodomy; 9 (4.8%) experienced assault with an object; 165 experienced forcible fondling. The average age of victims who were either ejaculated or excreted upon was 13.