

## Child Abuse Statistics

In 2000, more than 17,000 Utah children were reported to Child Protective Services as alleged victims of child maltreatment.

About 8,500 of those cases were substantiated.

More than three children die each day in the United States from child abuse and neglect.

In 1991, 838 children died as a result of physical abuse by a parent (Daro & McCurdy, 1992).

By age 18, one of every four girls and one of every six boys has been sexually abused.

It is estimated that 100,000-500,000 children are sexually abused each year.

Eighty-five percent of sexual assaults on children are committed by someone the child knows and usually trusts

Child abuse is a very serious problem in every community nationwide.

Child abuse knows no boundaries. It happens in every class, race, ethnic group, educational, and economic group. No family is immune.

A report of child abuse is made - on average - every 10 seconds.

More children (age four and younger) die from child abuse and neglect than any other single leading cause of death for infants and young children. This includes accidental falls, drowning, choking on food, suffocation or fires in the home.

Each day in the United States, more than three children die as a result of child abuse in the home.

Head trauma is the leading cause of child abuse death among babies. This includes Shaken Baby Syndrome, which kills 25% of its victims. The majority of survivors suffer brain damage.

Most child abuse and neglect fatalities are children below the age of 6.

Girls are sexually abused four times more often than boys, while boys are a greater risk of emotional neglect and serious injury.

Women sexually abused before age 18 have lower levels of interpersonal function and social adjustment as adults and are less likely to form trusting relationships.

It is estimated that half of all homes with adult violence also involve child abuse or neglect.

Child sexual abuse remains a crime most often perpetrated by relatives and acquaintances rather than strangers.

Sources:

United States Dept. of Health and Human Services

United States Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect

United States Department of Justice