Child Abuse Statistics
Information collected for the book – From Despair to an Heir, 2008

During Federal fiscal year (FFY) 2005, an estimated 3.3 million referrals, involving the alleged maltreatment of approximately 6.0 million children, were made to CPS agencies. The increase of approximately 73,000 children who received an investigation during FFY 2005, compared to FFY 2004, is largely due to the inclusion of data from Alaska and Puerto Rico for FFY 2005.

An estimated 3.6 million children in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico received investigations by CPS agencies.

Source: 2005 Child Maltreatment
The 16th Annual Publication of the
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
Children’s Bureau, Pg. 16.

A high percentage of girl prostitutes have been victims of incest, rape, beatings, neglect, and other domestic violence and related problems. The Huckleberry House Project reported that 90 percent of the girl prostitutes had been sexually molested.”

SOURCE: Runaway Kids and Teenage Prostitution: America’s Lost, Abandoned, and Sexually Exploited Children
R. Barri Flowers (2001, Praeger Paperback)

These specific statistics are the current statistics for SEXUAL abuse percentages for men/women, not abuse in general. I was not able to find comparable “abuse” statistics.

“Statistics Surrounding Child Sexual Abuse:

- 1 in 4 girls is sexually abused before the age of 18.
- 1 in 6 boys is sexually abused before the age of 18.
- 1 in 5 children are solicited sexually while on the internet.
- Nearly 70% of all reported sexual assaults (including assaults on adults) occur to children ages 17 and under.
- An estimated 39 million survivors of childhood sexual abuse exist in America today.

Source:
http://www.darkness2light.org/KnowAbout/statistics_2.asp
Who were the child victims?

- Children in the age group of birth to 3 years had the highest rate of victimization at 16.5 per 1,000 children of the same age group in the national population.
- More than one-half of the victims were 7 years old or younger (54.5%)
- More than one-half of the child victims were girls (50.7%) and 47.3 percent were boys; and
- Approximately one-half of all victims were White (49.7%); one-quarter (23.1%) were African-American; and 17.4 percent were Hispanic.

Source: 2005 Child Maltreatment
The 16th Annual Publication of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
Children’s Bureau, Pg. 16-17, “Who were the Child Victims”

Who is responsible for the abuse and neglect?

- In FFY 2005, more than three-quarters of perpetrators of child maltreatment (79.4%) were parents, and another 6.8 percent were other relatives of the victim.
- Unrelated caregivers (foster parents, residential facility staff, child daycare providers, and legal guardians) accounted for less than 10.1 percent of perpetrators.
- Women comprised a larger percentage of all perpetrators than men, 57.8 percent compared to 42.2 percent.
- More than three-fourths of all perpetrators were younger than age 40.
- Of the perpetrators who maltreated children, less than 8 percent (7.7%) committed sexual abuse, while 61.0 percent committed neglect.
- Of the perpetrators who were parents, more than 90 percent (90.6%) were the biological parents, 4.3 percent were the stepparents, and 0.7 percent were the adoptive parents of the victim.
- The parental relationship was unknown for 4.5 percent of the victims.

Source: 2005 Child Maltreatment
The 16th Annual Publication of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
100% of violent inmates in San Quentin prison had experienced extreme violence between the ages of 1 to 10 years


"1979 book Family Violence, Dr. Richard Gelles cited two interesting studies. One was the 1976 study by Dr. Adah Maurer, reported in her paper The Physical Punishment of Children, which found that 100% of violent inmates in San Quentin prison had experienced extreme violence between the ages of 1 to 10 years. The second was a 1973 study by Dr. Alan Button reported in his article Some Antecedents of Felonious and Delinquent Behavior, which found that American presidential assassins and would-be assassins had experienced violent childhoods, often at the hands of mothers. The unspeakable human tragedy of family violence, the brokenness of children and of family members, and the resulting brokenness in society will not diminish until female violence is confronted and reduced. The issue of the day is female aggression and its consequent brokenness in the body politic of our nations."

Source:
http://www.geocities.com/cddugan/NoFear5.htm

Ninety-seven percent of hard-core juvenile delinquents report a history of severe physical punishment and even assault in the home.


90 percent of the girl prostitutes had been sexually molested."

SOURCE: Runaway Kids and Teenage Prostitution: America’s Lost, Abandoned, and Sexually Exploited Children
R. Barri Flowers (2001, Praeger Paperback)

In 2005, given the stats from the US Department of Health and Human Services Children’s Bureau publication “Child Maltreatment 2005", the statistic is now
every 6 hours a child dies from abuse and neglect in our society. [based on an estimated 1,460 child fatality victims, and there being 8760 hours in a year]

Source: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/pubs/cm05/chapterfour.htm#child
Child Maltreatment 2005, Chapter 4

Two of every three prisoners convicted of first-degree murder report childhood histories of physical abuse.

http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/publications/infores/clergy/chldabus.htm

In Orange County CA, as of 2004/05, there was a monthly average of 3,399 children who were dependents of the court. Of this total, 2,566 children were in out-of-home care.
The social-service workers tell us that more than five hundred of these kids will never have a birthday party or present.
“Dependents of the Court and Out-of-Home Care”

Most recent nationwide Stats are for 2003: As of September 30, 2003, there were an estimated 523,000 children in foster care.
Source: Child Welfare Information Gateway
http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/foster.cfm

One woman in three is molested. One in six men is molested, beaten, abused or neglected.
Recent studies show that by the age of 18 one woman in three and one man in four has been sexually molested.
Approximately one in six boys is sexually abused before age 16.
The median age for reported abuse is **9 years old**.

Abuse typically occurs within a long-term, on-going relationship between the offender and victim, escalates over time and lasts an average of four years.\(^3\,5\)

Sexual abuse is one of the top three reasons that children run away from home.

80% of runaway and homeless girls reported having ever been sexually or physically abused. 34% of runaway youth (girls and boys) reported sexual abuse before leaving home and forty-three percent of runaway youth (girls and boys) reported physical abuse before leaving home.

Over 70% of runaway and throwaway youth in 2002 were estimated to be endangered, based on 17 indicators of harm or potential risk. The most common endangerment component was physical or sexual abuse at home or fear of abuse upon return. The second most common endangerment component was the youth’s substance dependency.
Because of the methodology of the National Crime Victimization Survey, these figures do not include victims 12 or younger. While there are no reliable annual surveys of sexual assaults on children, (PDF, 37KB) the Justice Department has estimated that one of six victims are under age 12. Last study was 1992, Access PDF at:

http://www.rainn.org/docs/statistics/child rape victims92.pdf?PHPSESSID=9e57ba3c9c27c015ff38a97a3f556381


A recent Department of Justice report found that half of the women who reported rapes in 1992 were under the age of 18, 16 percent were under 12.24


Around 75 percent of reported sexual abusers say they knew their victim before the first incidence of abuse.

Contrary to the belief that rapists are hiding in the bushes or in the shadows of the parking garage, almost two-thirds of all rapes were committed by someone who is known to the victim. 73% of sexual assaults were perpetrated by a non-stranger — 38% of perpetrators were a friend or acquaintance of the victim, 28% were an intimate and 7% were another relative.

Studies show that about 50 percent of all reported child sexual abuse cases involve incest.

Research indicates that 46 percent (46%) of children who are raped are victims of family members.


Incest has been cited as the most common form of child abuse. Studies conclude that 43 percent (43%) of the children who are abused are abused by family members, 33 percent (33%) are abused by someone they know, and the remaining 24 percent (24%) are sexually abused by strangers (Hayes, 1990). Other research indicates that over 10 million Americans have been victims of incest.


In 2003, nine out of every ten rape victims were female according to the 2003 National Crime Victimization Survey; one in every ten rape victims were male.


About 35 percent of adult sex offenders had already begun to exhibit behaviors such as exhibitionism and voyeurism when they were adolescents.

Related Statistic: “The most serious and chronic offenders often show signs of antisocial behavior as early as the preschool years.”


In 75 percent of child molestation cases, the pedophile is known to the victim.”


1/3 of abused parents later go on to abuse their children.

**SOURCE:** Intergenerational transmission of child abuse: Rates, research, and Clinical Implications. *The American Journal of Psychiatry;* Sep 1993; 150, 9; ProQuest Psychology Journals, 1315.

Parental substance abuse is reported to be a contributing factor for between one- and two-thirds of maltreated children in the child welfare system.

If every church in America recruited just one foster family, every child now awaiting placement in the foster-care system could be placed tomorrow in a Christian home. (15)

Same is true today.

Boys abused by men, when the man was involved in a relationship with a female relative of the boy, i.e. step Father / boyfriend.

Could not find exact statistic, but recent similar statistics listed below:
- In one study of physical abuse, boyfriends accounted for 64 percent of non-parental abuse, even though boyfriends performed only 2 percent of non-parental care.
- A 1997 study of more than 600 families in upstate New York found that children living with stepfathers were more than three times more likely to be sexually abused than children living in intact families.
- Another study found that the presence of a stepfather doubles the risk of sexual abuse for girls - either from the stepfather or another male figure.


An estimated 39 million survivors of childhood sexual abuse exist in America today.

Source:
http://www.darkness2light.org/KnowAbout/statistics_2.asp

Historical child abuse reporting stats AND an explanation of how these stats are best viewed:

http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/stats_research/index.htm [historical Child Maltreatment reports for the last several
years—to compare apples with apples—not all states reported in every year and there are some slight discrepancies from year to year, but these are the best stats available.]

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Kid-size portion of population shrinking
Government research suggests that the percentage of the U.S. population under the age of 18 is on the decline. According to Childstats.gov, in 1964, children made up 36 percent of the population. In 1980, the percent had fallen to just 28. Currently, children are about 25 percent of the nation's population, but that's expected to drop to 24 percent by 2020. [Source: USAToday.com, "Snapshots"]