

Youth

- Among high school students surveyed nationwide, about 8% reported having been forced to have sex. Females (11%) were more likely to report having been forced to have sex than males (4%).¹
- Teens 16 to 19 were three and one-half times more likely than the general population to be victims of rape, attempted rape, or sexual assault.²
- Among female rape victims, 61% are under age 18.³
- A recent study of the effects of teen dating violence on 9th through 12th grade females found 1 in 5 experienced physical or sexual dating violence.⁴
- Girls who had experienced dating violence were less likely to use condoms and were at greater risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases.⁵
- Witnessing violence between parents was a significant predictor of physical dating violence for a group of college males involved in a recent survey.⁶
- Juvenile prostitution offenders known to police were more often male (61%) than female (39%), a greater disproportion than among adult prostitution offenders (53% male and 47% female).⁷
- 32% of homeless youth reported having been sexually assaulted, 15% after living on the streets.⁸
- Thirty percent (30%) of shelter youth and 70% of street youth are victims of commercial sexual exploitation. 12-14 is the average age of entry into prostitution for girls under 17. 11-13 is the average age of entry into prostitution for boys under 17.⁹

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2005. MMWR 2006;55(SS-5):1-112. Available from: URL: www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/SS/SS5505.pdf

² National Crime Victimization Survey. Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 1996

³ American Academy of Pediatrics, Committee on Adolescence. "Sexual Assault and the Adolescent". Pediatrics, 1994;94(5): 761-765

⁴ Silverman, J.G., Raj, A., Mucci, L.A., & Hathaway, J.E. (2001) "Dating Violence Against Adolescent Girls and Associated Substance Abuse, Unhealthy Weight Control, Sexual Risk Behavior, Pregnancy and Suicidality" JAMA: The Journal of the American Medical Association. Vol. 286, No. 5

⁵ Silverman, J.G., Raj, A., and Clements, K. (2004) "Dating Violence and Associated Sexual Risk and Pregnancy Among Adolescent Girls in the United States". Pediatrics, Vol. 114, No. 2, p.220-225.

⁶ Carr, J.L., & VanDeusen, K.M. (2002). "The Relationship Between Family of Origin Violence and Dating Violence in College Men" Journal of Interpersonal Violence Vol. 17, No. 6, 630-646.

⁷ Flores, J. Robert. "Prostitution of Juveniles: Patterns From NIBRS", Juvenile Justice Bulletin, Washington, D.C.: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, U.S. Department of Justice, June 2004.

⁸ WCSAP, 2004.

⁹ WCSAP, 2004.

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- As with the general population, homeless youth are more likely to be victimized by a friend or acquaintance.¹⁰
- GLBT homeless youth were physically and sexually victimized on average by seven more people than heterosexual homeless youth.¹¹
- 27.5% of “street youth” and 9.5% of “shelter youth” engaged in survival sex (selling of sex for shelter, food, drugs or money) with participation highest among males, whites of both genders, those of “other” races, and those who had been victimized.¹²
- According to another source, 61% of homeless girls and 16% of homeless boys reported having been sexually abused before leaving home.¹³

¹⁰ WCSAP, 2004.

¹¹ WCSAP, 2004.

¹² WCSAP, 2004.

¹³ Estes & Weiner, 2001.

