

# VIOLENCE FACT SHEET

HEALTHY DELAWAREANS  
WITH DISABILITIES

## RESEARCH

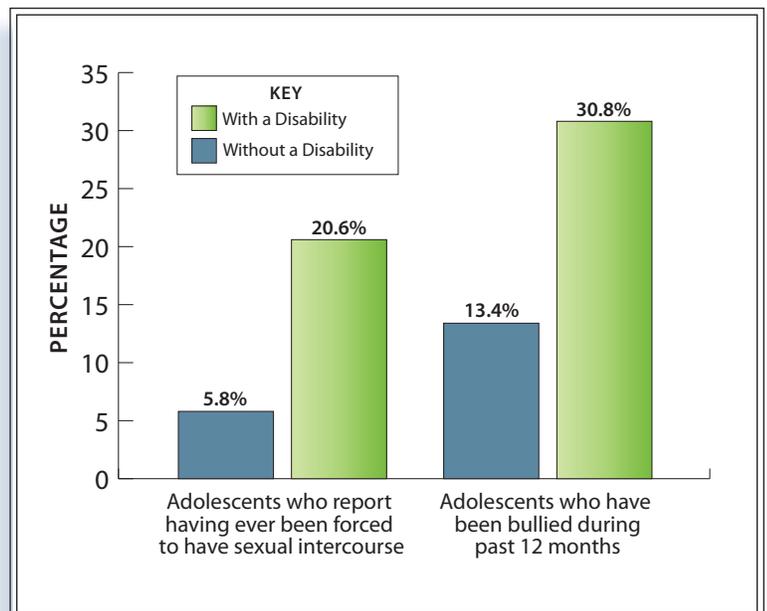
**Individuals with disabilities are more likely to be victims of violence and other crimes. They can be exposed to physical violence, sexual violence, and even theft and property crimes.**

- The violent victimization rate for people with disabilities is almost twice the rate among people without disabilities.<sup>1</sup>
- Serious violence (rape/sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault) accounts for about 50% of all violence against people with disabilities.<sup>1</sup>
- People with cognitive disabilities have the highest rate of violent victimization.<sup>1</sup>
- People with disabilities are more likely than people without disabilities to be attacked by people well known to them or who are casual acquaintances of the victim.<sup>1</sup>
- Developmental disabilities increase a person's risk for property crime, and ADD and ADHD increase a person's risk for both property crime and peer victimization.<sup>2</sup>
- Adolescent girls with disabilities are approximately two times more likely to have been physically forced to have sexual intercourse than adolescent girls without disabilities.<sup>3</sup>

## IN DELAWARE

**20.6%** of adolescents with a disability reported they had ever been physically forced to have sexual intercourse, compared to **5.8%** of adolescents that do not have a disability.<sup>4</sup>

**30.8%** of adolescents with a disability reported having ever been bullied at school during the past 12 months, compared to **13.4%** of adolescents without a disability.<sup>4</sup>



## COMMUNITY VOICE

***The Healthy Delawareans with Disabilities Needs Assessment asked individuals with disabilities and their caregivers to speak out about barriers they face and improvements they would like to see in accessing violence prevention and support services.***

“There is no ‘road map’ to assist in finding needed services...no one seems to pass information along about services that pertain to your loved one...”

## COMMUNITY ASSETS

***Many community and state-based programs exist targeting violence prevention and support. These programs represent available assets within Delaware. This is not intended to be a complete listing.***

*Delaware Injury Prevention Coalition*

*Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence*

*Domestic Violence Coordinating Council*

*Delaware State Police Victims Center*

## REFERENCES

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