

CHILDHOOD MALTREATMENT

and the link with victimization in adulthood:

Findings from the 2019 General Social Survey

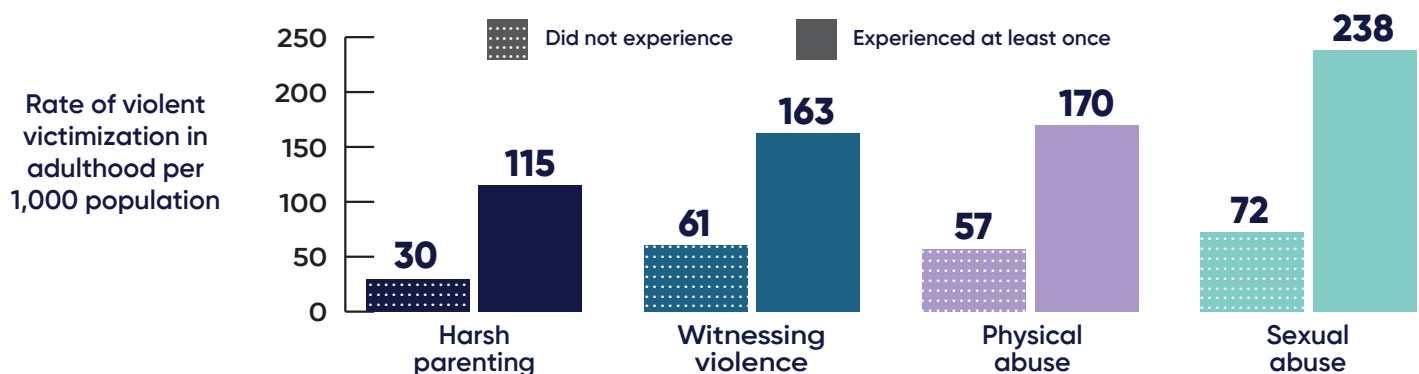
Measuring childhood maltreatment

- There is a clear link between adverse childhood experiences and negative outcomes in adulthood, including being a victim of violence.
- The 2019 General Social Survey on Victimization measured four types of childhood maltreatment: physical abuse, sexual abuse, witnessing violence in the home, and harsh parenting (e.g., emotional abuse, neglect).
- These types of childhood maltreatment were each associated with a higher risk of victimization in adulthood, even when controlling for other factors.

Harsh parenting was the most common form of childhood maltreatment, experienced by **6 in 10** Canadians **before** age 15.



All types of childhood maltreatment were linked to higher rates of violent victimization in adulthood.



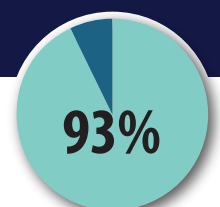
Link between childhood maltreatment and adult victimization was more pronounced for women.

In 2019, **women and men** who were physically or sexually abused during childhood recorded **higher** violent victimization rates as **adults**, compared with those who were not.

Women who **were abused** as children were victimized at a rate **4 times higher** than those who **were not abused** as children. For **men**, the rate was **twice as high** among those who were abused as children.

Most childhood abuse goes unreported.

More than **9 in 10 (93%)** people who experienced childhood physical or sexual abuse said that it was **not reported** to police, child protective services, or another agency.



For more information, see the *Juristat* article "Criminal victimization in Canada, 2019."

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 2019.

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