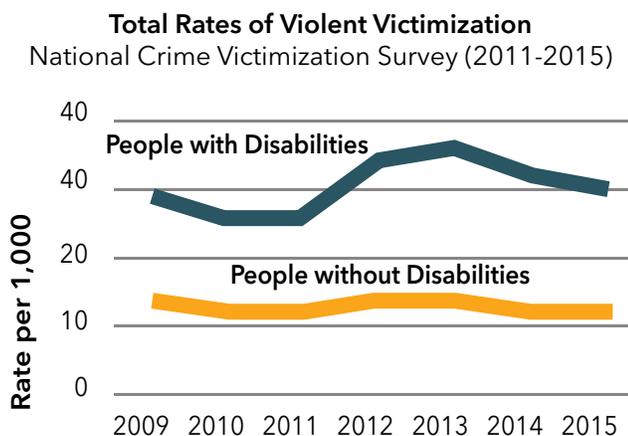


Individuals with disabilities are at an increased risk for victimization.<sup>1</sup> Compared to people without disabilities, **they experience more severe victimization over a longer duration.**<sup>2</sup> Reliance on caregivers, isolation from the community, communication barriers such as lack of access to assistive devices, and barriers to healing services and the legal system all contribute to this.

## Victimization Trends

Between 2009 and 2015, individuals with a disability were **3 times more likely to experience violent crime than the general population.**<sup>3</sup> Individuals with a disability who experienced crime were also more frequently victimized by relatives and acquaintances.\*

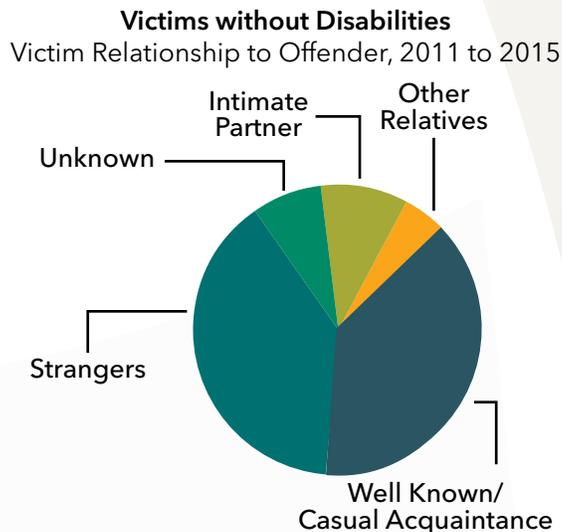
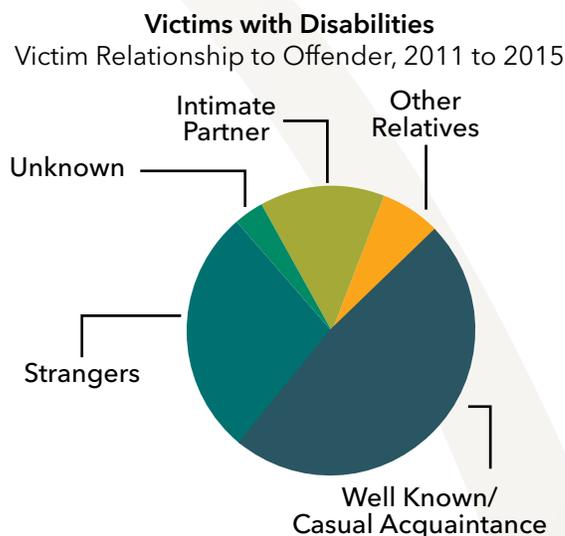
\*An acquaintance is defined as someone who is or was well or casually known to the victim, including caregivers.



## Youth Victimization

Children (0-17) with a disability **reported significantly higher rates of victimization** compared to children without a disability. Youth (under the age of 24) with disabilities were also at a higher risk of various types of victimization; they were more likely to experience bullying and dating violence compared to their peers without a disability.<sup>5</sup>

**Almost 95% of individuals with a disability could identify their assailant;** 40% were victimized by an acquaintance, 30% reported a stranger, and 15% were victims of intimate partner violence (IPV).<sup>3</sup>



## Sexual and Dating Violence

Men and women with a disability are **3.5 times more likely to be a victim of rape or sexual assault** than the general population; those with multiple disabilities have an even higher risk of experiencing sexual and dating violence.<sup>3</sup> Further, individuals with a disability have nearly **double the lifetime risk of experiencing intimate partner violence compared to the general population.**<sup>3</sup> Women with a disability are more likely to report rape, physical/sexual violence, stalking, psychological aggression, and control of reproductive health by an intimate partner. For men, having a disability is associated with a greater risk of stalking and psychological aggression by a partner.<sup>4</sup>

### Limitations

Interpret data with caution. For example, there is not a consistent definition of “disability,” which can make comparing data samples difficult. Additionally, some data refers to lifetime reports of victimization while other data only reports victimization within the last year.

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## Did You Know?

- The National Crime Victim Survey (NCVS) first included questions about disability victimization in 2007.
- In 2010, 23.8% of women and 20.1% of men reported having at least one disability.
- 1 in 4 U.S. adults – 61 million Americans – have a disability that impacts major life activities.<sup>7</sup>