

The Facts About Elder Abuse

Elder abuse is the harming of an older person. It can include neglect, physical, emotional, financial or sexual abuse.

Here are some elder abuse facts that everyone should know.

- > About 1 in 10 Americans age 60+ have experienced abuse.¹
- > Without decent health care and public resources, our population becomes more at risk for abuse as we age.²
- > The impact of elder abuse is felt by people of all ages.
- > Elder abuse also reduces older people's participation in the life of our communities.
- > Elder abuse creates health care and legal costs that are often carried by public programs like Medicare and Medicaid.³



It is up to **all of us** to prevent and address elder abuse!

Our country's value of justice for all requires that we construct strong supports that help people of all ages. Ending isolation, creating and improving transportation, law enforcement, senior centers and social services can help stop abuse.

Visit **ncea.acl.gov** to learn more.

¹ Acierno, R., Hernandez, M.A., Amstadter, A.B., Resnick, H.S., Steve, K., Muzzy, W., & Kilpatrick, D.G. [2010]. Prevalence and correlates of emotional, physical, sexual, and financial abuse and potential neglect in the United States: The national elder mistreatment study. *American Journal of Public Health, 100*(2), 292-297. doi:10.2105/AJPH.2009.163089

² Lachs, M.S., & Pillemer, K.A. [2015]. Elder abuse. *New England Journal of Medicine, 373*(20), 1947-1956. doi:10.1056/NEJMr1404688

³ National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, Virginia Tech, & MetLife Mature Market Institute. [2011]. *The MetLife study of elder financial abuse: Crimes of occasion, desperation and predation against America's elders*. New York, NY: Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. Retrieved from <https://ltcombudsman.org/uploads/files/issues/mmi-elder-financial-abuse.pdf>