

Incidence and prevalence of Shaken Baby Syndrome

- Approximately four million children are abused annually.
- Less than half of those cases get reported.
- Approximately two thousand children die from abuse and neglect each year (<http://www.childdeathreview.org/causesCAN.htm>).
- There are approximately two deaths per 100,000 children (<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/dvp/CMP/CMP-conque.htm>).
- Infants make up almost half of these deaths.
- Most non-accidental head trauma victims are under one year of age, but may be as old as four years of age.
- Approximately 1,300 children experience near-fatal and fatal head trauma annually. (http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/dvp/CM_Data_Sheet.pdf)
- According to CPS databases, for every one thousand children between the ages of 0 . 1 year-olds, 24 of them are maltreated.
- And for every one thousand children between the ages of 1 . 3 year-olds, 14 of them are maltreated.
- According to the CDC, non-CPS studies approximately 4,600 per 100,000 children are maltreated.
- It is estimated that one out of seven children experiences some kind of abuse between the ages of 2 and 17 years of age.
- According to some experts, it is postulated that some of the children with attention deficit disorders and autism may have been victims of non-accidental head trauma or Shaken Baby Syndrome that did not get recognized during infancy and young childhood.
- Most Shaken Baby Syndrome cases are inflicted on babies by caregivers and parents.
- Abusers are more often female however; abuse of greater severity is more often inflicted by male abusers.
- A majority of those cases involve the boyfriend of the mother or the father of the baby.

- It is widely accepted that the true number of victims and incidence of Shaken Baby Syndrome is under-reported.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported for 2006 that 1,530 children died in the United States from abuse and neglect.
- There were 905,000 known child victims of maltreatment that same year.