CDC is preventing violence in the District of Columbia

Violence is one of the leading causes of death in the US. CDC has been the leading federal agency focused on preventing injury and violence for over 40 years.

Violence is preventable. It's scientifically proven.

When traumatic events happen to children—such as experiencing abuse or neglect, living in a home with substance misuse, or witnessing community violence—these adverse childhood experiences, or ACEs, can cause lasting, negative effects on health including an increased risk of experiencing or perpetrating violence later in life. CDC is uniquely positioned to help communities across the country prevent ACEs and other forms of violence, to ensure that all people are safe, healthy, and thriving.

In 2024, the District of Columbia received \$689,053 from CDC to prevent violence before it happens. CDC funds states and communities to use data to implement proven prevention approaches with the greatest potential to reduce violence. CDC scientists provide data analysis, the latest research findings and additional expertise to support state and local health departments, community organizations, and others working to prevent violence. Their efforts help save lives and improve community safety and well-being.

Violence prevention is critical for the District of Columbia

Violence doesn't only affect victims and their families in the immediate term—it has long-term effects on their surrounding communities. Violence can lead to physical and mental illness, chronic diseases, fewer employment opportunities, childhood developmental delays, and premature deaths. Violence can discourage people from participating in neighborhood activities, limit business growth and prosperity, strain education, justice, and medical systems, and slow community progress.

Example Prevention Approaches

- Safe routes to and from school
 Job training programs
- Home visitation programs to support new mothers
- · Mentoring and afterschool programs
- Cleaning and maintaining vacant lots
- Programs in hospitals that provide social and job support to victims to prevent future violence

Violence in the District of Columbia, by the numbers

homicides in 2023

15% of adults have experienced four or more ACEs in their lifetimes

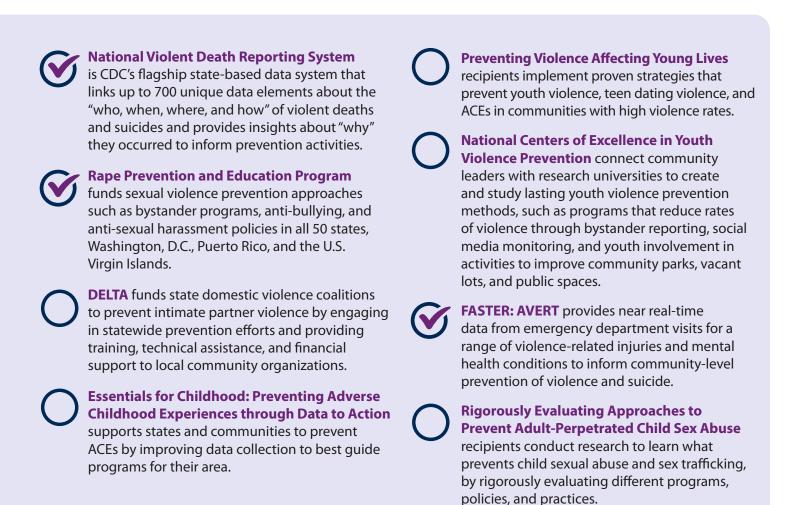
28% of women have experienced rape or survived rape attempts in their lifetimes



CDC funds violence prevention programs in the District of Columbia

CDC has been researching violence for over 40 years—building, implementing, and evaluating programs designed to reduce and prevent violence for entire populations.

Programs with a check mark below are active in the District of Columbia and are using the best available evidence to inform prevention in the district. Programs without a check mark are other CDC programs that the District of Columbia can apply for in the future.



CDC Supports the District of Columbia

CDC's Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) funding supports DC to implement several evidence-based programs to prevent sexual violence. For example, over the past five years, DC RPE has collaborated to provide healthy relationship and youth sexual harassment prevention trainings to high school-aged males and train-the-trainer sessions to DC Public Schools' social workers and mental health professionals. As a result of these trainings nearly 600 male students were educated and over 600 professionals were trained with a total reach of more than 120,000 individuals in the DC area.