



Youth Violence



What is youth violence?

Youth violence is the intentional use of physical force or power to threaten or harm others by young people ages 24 and below. It can include assaults, fighting, and use of weapons.



Adverse Childhood Experiences are risk factors for youth violence.

Youth violence is an Adverse Childhood Experience(s) (ACE). Children who experience an ACE have a greater chance of poor outcomes later in life, including increased risk of heart disease, diabetes, obesity, depression, substance abuse, smoking, poor academic achievement, time out of work, and early death.



Youth violence is preventable.

Protective factors that can prevent youth violence include:

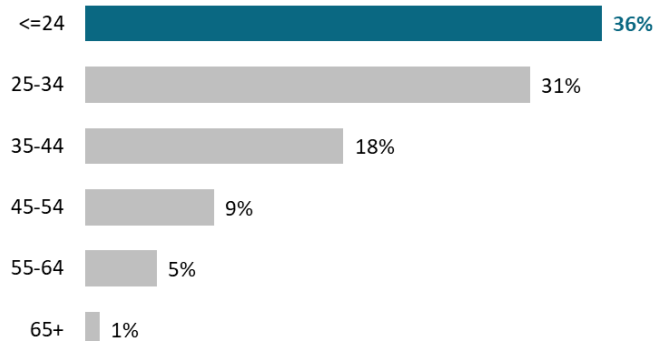
- Family environments that support healthy development
- Quality education early in life
- Connecting to caring adults and activities
- Protective community environments.

Youth are most likely to be involved in violence in Madison.

For incidents where ages of suspects in violent crime are known:

- More than a third (36%) of incidents are youth suspects (ages 24 and younger)
- 22% of youth suspects are involved in multiple crimes
- The most common youth-involved crimes are:
 - Assault-related — 59%
 - Weapons offenses — 18%

More than a third of people involved in Madison violence are 24 years old or younger.



Madison and Dane County Coalition to Prevent Violence

Preventing Youth Violence is Goal 2: Support Community Engagement with Children, Youth, and Families.

Successful youth violence prevention plans must include opportunities to support children, youth, and families in many settings—homes, schools, jobs, and other community environments.

Approaches should address many factors that impact healthy youth development and wellbeing, including early education, access to positive programs, family engagement and adult support, and employment opportunities.