The prevalence of developmental disability among US children aged 3 to 17 years increased between 2009 and 2017. Changes by demographic and socioeconomic subgroups may be related to improvements in awareness and access to health care.

They are 3 times more likely to be seriously injured by maltreatment.

17% of children aged 3–17 years have a developmental disability and this issue is on the rise.
What We Know About Disability and Maltreatment

Parents can more easily become stressed with the demands placed on them by parenting a child with a disability.

Kids with behavior problems, like, Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) or other conduct problems, may be more likely to experience physical abuse because parents can become frustrated by the child’s difficult behavior and respond harshly.

Kids who are less able to do things independently rely more on adults for their care. These children may be more likely to be sexually abused or neglected by adults.