

[MAP Resources](#) is a website that helps people attracted to those who have not finished puberty find mental health support. In casual conversation, these people are often called “pedophiles,” but this has a narrow medical definition, so many child protection and mental health professionals call them “minor-attracted people” or “MAPs” instead.

Many MAPs discover that they have these attractions while they are still minors. 14 is the [average age](#) for someone to realize they are a MAP. This means half of all MAPs ([who make up 1-5% of the population](#)) know they are a MAP by the time they turn 14. In the decades that follow this realization, the [vast majority](#) of MAPs never harm a child.

To be clear, this does not include children and teenagers who are attracted to minors the same age as them, [which is ordinary](#). A child or teenager generally must be at least 5 years older than the children they find attractive to be considered a MAP. There are also signs, such as attractions that aren’t “growing up” with them, which can indicate to a child or teenager that they may soon meet this definition.

Being a MAP can lead to [significant mental health issues](#), such as feelings of isolation, anxiety, and depression, especially for young MAPs. [Over 1 in 3](#) MAPs experience suicidal thoughts, and, [42%](#) of those who do start considering suicide before they turn 18. The most common age for a MAP to first attempt suicide is just [14 years old](#), with [36%](#) of first attempts occurring while the MAP is still a minor. (MAPs who didn’t survive could not be surveyed, so the real numbers may be higher.)

MAP Resources exists to address this. Since we were founded in 2021, we have worked alongside mental health researchers, child protection professionals, and others to build a collection of expert-backed support resources for MAPs who are struggling. This includes a [dedicated page](#) for MAPs who are minors, which contains information and resources tailored to young people with concerns about their attractions.

If you know or think you know a young person with these attractions, we have resources for you too. Our [page for family members of MAPs](#) has everything you need to learn more about MAPs and support the young MAP in your life.

We’re committed to ensuring MAP Resources is safe for our users, including young MAPs. We use strict [Content Guidelines](#) to evaluate resources and always provide links to reputable sources. You can learn about our approach by visiting our [Trust Center](#).

### **Additional Resources**

[MAP Resources Infographic](#) - *It could be your child*

[Prostasia Foundation Blog Post](#) - *Minor MAPs need support; society is failing them*

This explainer can be accessed at <https://docs.maphelp.page/explainers/parents.pdf>