

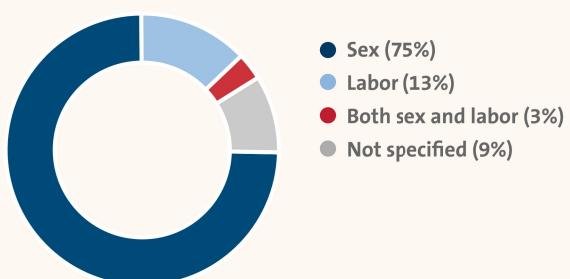
Human Trafficking

Human trafficking involves the use of force, coercion, or fraud to induce an individual into performing a commercial sex act (sex trafficking), or to subject them to involuntary servitude, debt bondage, or slavery (labor trafficking). Language barriers, lack of personal freedom, fear of harm to self or others, and fear of law enforcement often prevent victims from reporting their victimization or seeking services. As a result, human trafficking and any subsequent victimization is difficult to measure. Multiple agencies are charged with investigating and prosecuting human trafficking cases, at both the federal and state level; however, their record-keeping systems do not allow for cross-referencing. The National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC), funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, operates a 24-hour hotline for trafficking victims and service providers and manages one of the most comprehensive data sets on human trafficking in the United States.

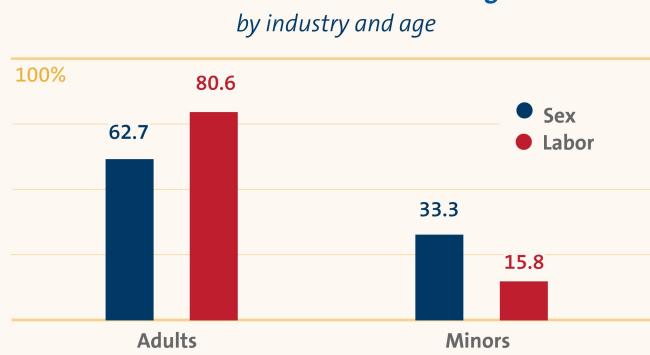
Current Data

In 2015, the NHTRC received **24,757** “signals” regarding human trafficking, which include **phone calls, emails, and online tip reports**. Of those, **5,544 were identified as unique cases** of potential human trafficking. More than 75% of cases were related to sex trafficking, 13% were related to labor trafficking, and 3% were related to both sex and labor trafficking. More than 1/3 of sex trafficking-related cases did not specify the industry of potential trafficking. The majority of cases—81% of labor trafficking and 63% of sex trafficking—involve adults. Comparatively, 33% of sex trafficking cases and 16% of labor trafficking cases involve children.^A

Potential Human Trafficking by Type^A

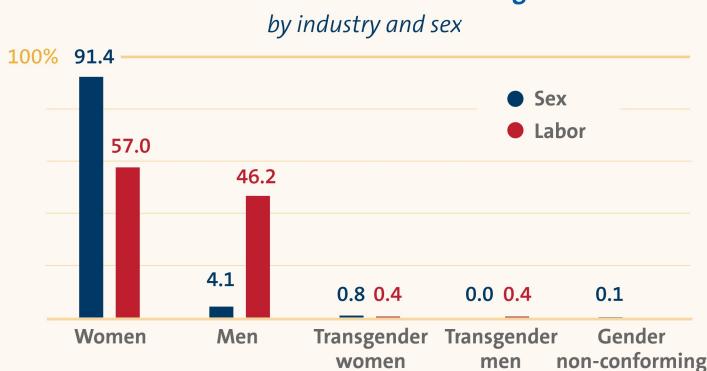


Victims of Human Trafficking^A

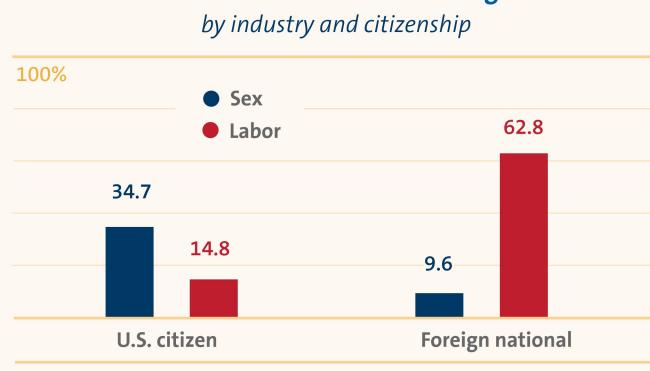


More than 90% of sex trafficking cases and 57% of labor trafficking cases involved women. Comparatively, only 4% of sex trafficking cases and 46% of labor trafficking cases involved men. Transgender men, transgender women, and gender non-conforming individuals each made up less than 1% of labor and sex trafficking cases. **In most labor trafficking cases (63%) the victim was identified as a foreign national.** For sex trafficking, 35% of reports involved U.S. citizens and 10% involved foreign nationals.^A

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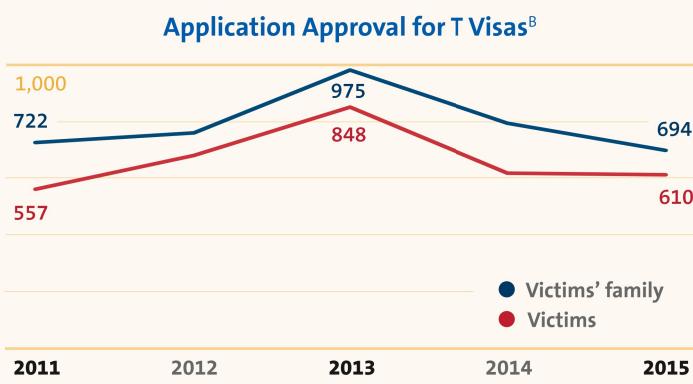


Services Provided to Victims of Human Trafficking

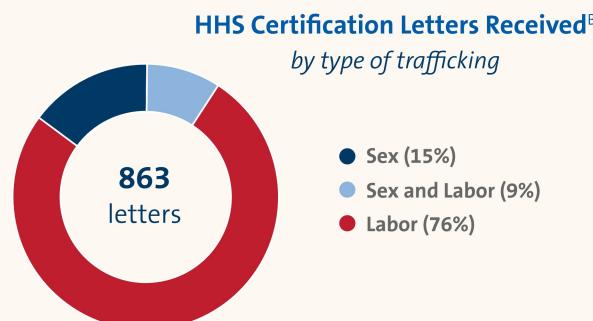
U.S. Health and Human Services Certification letters allow victims of severe forms of human trafficking who are not U.S. citizens to receive **benefits and services from government programs**. Adults who receive the letters must be willing to assist with the investigation and prosecution of the crime, and apply for a T visa (see below). Certification letters do not grant legal immigrant status. Since 2011, the number of certification letters issued to **adults has increased by 35%**. The number of letters issued to **child victims has more than doubled**.^B



Victims who are in the United States as a result of trafficking are eligible to apply for **T nonimmigrant status**, also called a T visa. A T visa allows victims who are not U.S. citizens to remain in the United States for up to four years if their removal would otherwise cause them extreme hardship. The visa allows victims to obtain employment and apply for Legal Permanent Residence. Certain family members of trafficking victims are also able to apply for a T visa, regardless of their current residence. Since 2011, the **number of approved T visa applications for victims has increased almost 10%**. However, approved applications for family members of victims have **decreased almost 4%**.^B

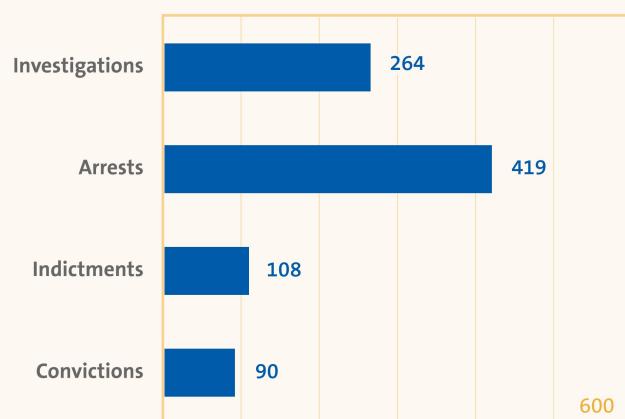


In 2015, 76% of people who received certification letters were victims of labor trafficking, 15% were victims of sex trafficking, and 9% were victims of both.^B



In 2015, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) conducted **264 investigations** connected to human trafficking in 2015, resulting in 419 arrests and 108 indictments. However, only 90 people were convicted of charges regarding human trafficking.^B

FBI Investigations regarding Human Trafficking^B



SOURCES

- A National Human Trafficking Resource Center, "National Human Trafficking Resource Center Data Breakdown 2015," (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2016), <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/resources/2015-nhtrc-annual-report>
- B U.S. Department of Justice, "Attorney General's Annual Report to Congress and Assessment of U.S. Government Activities to Combat Trafficking in Persons: Fiscal Year 2015," (2016), <https://www.justice.gov/ag/file/870826/download>