



## New Jersey Human Trafficking Statistics

### NEW JERSEY HUMAN TRAFFICKING FACTS AND RESOURCES

- ❖ New Jersey jumped up six points from 2012 to 2013, making it one of the most improved in the country.
- ❖ New Jersey is one of two states to receive a perfect score from the Polaris Project's 2013 state rankings, meeting all aspects of the ten categories of laws that are critical to fighting human trafficking.
- ❖ A 2010 survey done by Polaris Project found there are over 525 massage parlors in New Jersey that serve as a front for commercial sex. New Jersey is also prime breeding ground for trafficking due to its positioning near I-95, a major Eastern artery, and its proximity to airports in Newark, Philadelphia, and Manhattan.
- ❖ In 2015, NJ reported 169 cases; 543 calls were made to the National Human Trafficking Hotline.

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING NEWS FROM NEW JERSEY

'Silhouettes' to spotlight human trafficking (NJN, February 3, 2016) - As part of its efforts to increase awareness of and enlist fighters in the war against modern-day slavery, the NJ Coalition Against Human Trafficking is sponsoring the Silhouettes Project.

<http://njewishnews.com/article/29782/silhouettes-to-spotlight-human-trafficking#.VrpPE1grK70>

NJ Coalition Applauds NJ State League of Municipalities

Passage of Anti-Human Trafficking Resolution (NJ Coalition Against Human Trafficking, November 30, 2015) - The NJ Coalition Against Human Trafficking applauds the NJ State League of Municipalities for unanimously passing the resolution Urging Local Officials to Provide Leadership in Ending Human Trafficking at their Annual Business Meeting in Atlantic City. The Coalition is working to create a zero-tolerance abolitionist movement throughout the state.

<http://www.njhumantrafficking.org/#!/coalition-pr-2015-11-resolution/cc40>

FBI: Agents Recover 6 Underage Trafficking Victims in NJ (4 New York, October 15, 2015) - FBI officials say agents in New Jersey have recovered six underage victims of human trafficking and subsequently arrested two alleged pimps as part of a nationwide operation. NJ.com reports Operation Cross Country has netted the FBI 153 individual arrests and led to the recovery of 149 children identified as human trafficking victims.

<http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/FBI-Agents-Recover-6-Underage-Trafficking-Victims-in-NJ--333006321.html>

Former forced prostitute is charged in human trafficking case (Philly News, July 22, 2015)

Staysha Hackmann is sitting in the Camden County Jail, the lines between victim and suspect blurred. The prosecutor's office said her and Michelle Rolon, 21 are accused of helping Michael D. Watts, 43, force a 20 year old Texas woman to dance at a Port Richmond strip club after she answered a Craigslist ad for a modeling job. Hackmann and Rolon allegedly chased the woman in their car and on foot after she escaped from a hotel room where Watts allegedly had held her against her will. She made her way to a bank there and employees called the police.

[http://articles.philly.com/2015-07-22/news/64687801\\_1\\_watts-craigslist-ad-](http://articles.philly.com/2015-07-22/news/64687801_1_watts-craigslist-ad-)

#### State Grade

**C**

\*Shared Hope Report Cards grade each state on 6 key principles which set a national standard of protection against domestic minor sex trafficking. Graded from A-F: 'A' being most protected, 'F' being least protected.

#### Flash Points

**11 out of 15**

\*Trafficking is a complex issue influenced by several underlying factors, such as transportation, entertainment, or tourism. Each state is assessed based on the 15 major factors that contribute to trafficking. These determine the influences present in each state that increase residents' risk of being trafficked. 11 of the 15 flash points are found in New Jersey.

#### Tier

**1 of 4 (Green)**

\*Polaris Project rates all 50 states on a 4 tier scale based on 10 categories of laws which are critical to a basic legal framework that combats human trafficking, punishes traffickers and supports survivors. Tier 1 meets the most categories while tier 4 meets the least. Tier 2 indicates the state has made nominal laws to combat human trafficking and should take more steps to improve and implement its laws. New Jersey meets 6 of the 10 categories of laws necessary to combat human trafficking.

[www.warinternational.org](http://www.warinternational.org) - [info@warinternational.org](mailto:info@warinternational.org) - 616-855-0796

Trafficking Tip Line: 1.877.END.SLAVERY

National Trafficking Hotline 1.888.373.7888

U.S. Dept. of Justice Trafficking and Workers' Exploitation Hotline 1.888.428.7581

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## HUMAN TRAFFICKING NEWS FROM NEW JERSEY

### Web groups sue to block NJ law on underage sex ads (KTVU, July 7, 2013)

Two Internet groups are suing to block a New Jersey law concerning online ads for underage sex workers, saying libraries and other third-party service providers could be at risk of prosecution. The law, signed by Gov. Chris Christie in May, is part of legislation aimed at cracking down on human trafficking. But the Internet Archive, a San Francisco-based nonprofit, and backpage.com, a classified advertising website, sued, claiming the law violates a 1996 federal statute that says service providers can't be responsible for most things users do online.

<http://www.ktvu.com/news/news/local/web-groups-sue-block-nj-law-underage-sex-ads/nYf5c/>

### N.J. plans crackdown on human trafficking at Super Bowl (NorthJersey.com, June 25, 2013)

New Jersey is preparing for what officials fear will be a spike in human trafficking when the Super Bowl comes to the Meadowlands next year. The 2014 Super Bowl, like other large events, creates new markets and opportunities for traffickers, said Assistant Attorney General Tracy Thompson. The football game will be held in MetLife Stadium on Feb. 2. "The massive crowds essentially allow pimps to go unnoticed," Thompson said during a human trafficking symposium at State Police headquarters Tuesday.

[http://www.northjersey.com/news/NJ\\_plans\\_crackdown\\_on\\_prostitution\\_at\\_Super\\_Bowl.html](http://www.northjersey.com/news/NJ_plans_crackdown_on_prostitution_at_Super_Bowl.html)

### New Jersey man, collector and distributor of child sexual abuse images sentenced to 292 months in federal prison (ICE News Release, June 3, 2013)

Martin Villalobos, 41, of Lodi, N.J., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Stanley R. Chesler. HSI special agents discovered an individual who was sharing images of child sexual abuse over the Internet. Agents used the IP address of Villalobos' computer to identify him. After obtaining a court-ordered search warrant, the agents found Villalobos in a locked bedroom with eight computer hard drives, more than 100 DVDs and other electronic media. A forensic analysis of the materials found revealed that he was in possession of 5,442 photographs and 164 videos of children, including prepubescent minors, nude and engaged in sexual acts with one another and adults.

<http://www.ice.gov/news/releases/1306/130603newark.htm>

### Comprehensive Anti-Trafficking Legislation Signed into Law in New Jersey (Polaris Project Press Release, May 6, 2013)

Today, Governor Chris Christie signed a comprehensive piece of legislation that is a major step forward in New Jersey's ability to fight human trafficking and support survivors of this crime. The Human Trafficking Prevention, Protection and Treatment Act (A. 3352/S. 2239) will make a tangible difference in the lives of vulnerable people whose rights and freedom have been stolen. This bill allows victims of sex trafficking to remove unjust convictions from their criminal records that were a direct result of their exploitation, making it easier for them to rebuild their lives. It also helps victims access assistance by promoting the National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline, provides witness protection to survivors who testify against their traffickers, and makes it easier for law enforcement to prosecute traffickers for their crimes.

<http://www.polarisproject.org/media-center/news-and-press/press-releases/793-comprehensive-anti-trafficking-legislation-signed-into-law-in-new-jersey>

### From N.J. suburban mall to sex-trade bondage: Survivor now warns others of human traffickers (Newsworks, March 21, 2013)

It wasn't until they left the mall, that Smith began to sense that something was seriously wrong. Greg seemed different, not as friendly as he did on the phone. All of a sudden, it was as if she were caught in a whirlwind. He took her to a motel where another woman, Nikki, was waiting. "And she had me put on a red dress and the guy came back and he started to go over what he called, 'the rules,' and he started to say things like, 'You need to charge this much money ... you need to talk to this kind of guy, not this kind of guy.'" Greg said she would now go by the name Stacey Kumbas. "It was just, 'This is what you're doing. This is your new name.' And then a taxi was called and Nikki and I were on our way to Atlantic City."

<http://www.newsworks.org/index.php/local//newsworks/52549-from-nj-suburban-mall-to-sex-trade-bondage-survivor-now-warns-others-of-human-traffickers>