



## Hawaii Human Trafficking Statistics

### HAWAII HUMAN TRAFFICKING FACTS AND RESOURCES

- ❖ Hawaii adopted several new laws that address the state's severe lack of coordinated services for human trafficking victims by codifying enhanced legal protections and adding awareness provisions into Hawaii's statutory scheme.
- ❖ 300 children in Hawaii go missing every month, and one third of them are trafficked.
- ❖ In Honolulu, a woman can sell for as little as \$150 or as much as \$10,000 for a single night.
- ❖ In 2015: the state reported 27 cases of human trafficking; 68 calls were made to the NHTRC Hotline.

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING NEWS FROM HAWAII

Paradise lost: Sex trafficking in Hawaii. (Aljazeera, January 22, 2016)

Honolulu, Hawaii - Contrary to its idyllic image, Hawaii is a hub for the sex trafficking of girls and women. "It doesn't seem like there's any action today," Tammy Bitanga says, pointing out all the possible prostitutes in Honolulu's Chinatown. For the uninitiated, she breaks the city down into two zones. The area around Waikiki beach, lined with posh hotels and boutiques, is, she says, for "high-class street walkers". "This area - drug addicts, low-class streetwalkers," she adds.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2016/01/paradise-lost-sex-trafficking-hawaii-160120111423579.html>

BYU-Hawaii soccer player fighting 'national disgrace' of child trafficking in Ghana (FOX Soccer, September 2, 2015)

...That's because you have to look pretty far and pretty deep to find this story: halfway across the Pacific Ocean, to a Division II women's soccer team in Hawaii. It's a story of survival and of faith, of getting out of a hopeless situation and then of returning to that place in order to save others. It's a story that'll make you feel like you've accomplished very, very little in your own life but also one that'll inspire you to do more.

<http://www.foxsports.com/soccer/story/ghana-child-trafficking-byu-hawaii-soccer-player-fighting-090215>

Hawaii Gov. David Ige vetoes bill to ban sex trafficking (Hawaii News Now, July 14, 2015)

Honolulu – Hawaii Gov. David Ige has vetoed a bill that would have created a victim-centered approach to combating sex trafficking in Hawaii. Prosecutors say the bill was it is written in confusing. They say it will make catching pimps more difficult, and that Hawaii's law already prohibits the behavior. Advocates for the bill say they're disappointed that victims of sex trafficking will have to wait for the protection they need. Hawaii law bans human trafficking, but the state is the last in the nation to have a law specifically banning sex trafficking. Honolulu Prosecuting Attorney, Keith Kaneshiro, says the conduct covered by the proposed ban is already prohibited in the state.

<http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/29548387/hawaii-gov-david-ige-vetoes-bill-to-ban-sex-trafficking>

#### State Grade D

\*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 13 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. 13 of the 15 flash points are found in Hawaii.

#### 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 1 indicates the state has passed significant laws to combat human trafficking and should continue to take steps to improve and implement its laws. Hawaii meets 8 parts of the 10 categories of laws necessary to combat human trafficking, out of a possible score of 12

[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 HAWAII

Rise in human trafficking impacts Hawaii (Hawaii Reporter, July 11, 2014)

Honolulu - The Senate Foreign Relations Committee held a hearing on how forced labor and modern-day slavery is being combated, and reviewed an earlier report that documented human trafficking around the world... Some 1,000 workers from Laos were trafficked to Oahu via a B-2 visitor visa scam over the last decade, forced to work off their debt to traffickers – as much as \$25,000 each.

<http://www.hawaiireporter.com/rise-in-human-trafficking-impacts-hawaii>

2 California men indicted in Oahu sex-trafficking case (Star Advertiser, March 21, 2013)

Two men from California accused of trafficking a woman to Oahu to work as a prostitute are in custody facing prostitution and threatening charges.

Deputy City Prosecutor Keith Seto told Perkins the two men brought the woman to Oahu last Friday and arranged all of her “dates.” To discourage the woman from fleeing, Seto said the men showed her violent videos on a laptop computer.

[http://www.staradvertiser.com/news/breaking/20130321\\_2\\_California\\_men\\_indicted\\_in\\_Oahu\\_sextrafficking\\_case.html](http://www.staradvertiser.com/news/breaking/20130321_2_California_men_indicted_in_Oahu_sextrafficking_case.html)

Hawaii’s Youngest Sex Trafficking Victims ‘Get Out’ When Rescued by First Responders (Hawaii Reporter, August 31, 2012)

"I did it because my pimp was threatening to kill my family. Because he found out where my family lived. He threatened to kill them or to kill me. So I did it because I was scared. It was mostly out of fear," Dee Dee told Hawaii Reporter in an exclusive interview about her experiences.

Dee Dee essentially worked as a sex slave. Keeping any of the money she made – even \$2 to buy French Fries after working all night – could earn her a severe beating. "There were consequences all the time," she said.

<http://www.hawaiireporter.com/hawaiis-youngest-sex-trafficking-victims-only-get-out-when-rescued-by-first-responders/123>

Two indicted for human trafficking and prostitution (Hawaii News Now, March 28, 2013)

A Cuyahoga County grand jury has indicted two suspects in a human trafficking case. Jalal McDowell and Kirianna Louie have been charged with trafficking in persons, promoting and compelling prostitution, kidnapping and possessing criminal tools. The first incident, according to the indictment, involved a victim being forced into prostitution from March 2011 to February 2012. The second incident took place from March 10th, 2013 to March 20th, 2013.

<http://www.hawaiinews8.com/story/21823720/www.hawaiinewsnow.com>

Hawaii Hot-Spot for Human Trafficking (Hawaii Reporter, February 24, 2012)

Hawaii is a hot spot for sex and labor trafficking. So much so, that when Google.org awarded a sizable grant to the Polaris Project and International Justice Mission last year to work on the ground in 5 key states to help establish stronger laws against trafficking, the alliance chose Hawaii as the first stop. The National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline that connects trafficking victims to services they require, has received an estimated 164 calls since December 2007 related to human trafficking in Hawaii. The Pacific Alliance to Stop Slavery has documented many more.

<http://www.hawaiireporter.com/hawaii-hot-spot-for-human-trafficking/123>

3 plead guilty to forced farm labor of Thais in U.S. (The Washington Times, June 15, 2011)

Officials of a Beverly Hills, Calif.-based farm-labor contracting firm pleaded guilty June 15 to federal charges of conspiring to lure 600 Thai nationals to the United States to work on farms in Hawaii and Washington state, where they were subjected to severe abuse. The Thai workers were assigned to work at six farms in Hawaii and two in Washington harvesting a variety of crops, from pineapples to coffee beans, the lawsuit said. It also said the farms not only ignored abuses, but engaged in obvious mistreatment, intimidation, harassment and pay inequality.

[www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/jun/15/3-plead-guilty-to-forced-farm-labor-of-thais-in-us/](http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/jun/15/3-plead-guilty-to-forced-farm-labor-of-thais-in-us/)