

# Human Trafficking

## WHAT IS IT?

Human trafficking, or 'modern slavery' is defined as the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for the purposes of commercial sex acts or labor services through the use of force, fraud or coercion.

**The most common forms of human trafficking are labor trafficking and sex trafficking.**

Human trafficking is a unique crime, and one that is often hard to identify, investigate, and prosecute and often occurs in conjunction with other crimes, which may mask the trafficking components of the activities.

Victims of human trafficking may be unwilling or afraid to cooperate with first responders, law enforcement, and victim advocates. Language and cultural barriers can hinder even voluntary communication with trafficking victims.

## Who is at risk?

- Prior sexual abuse
- Physical and emotional abuse
- Homelessness and poverty
- Youth with family and friends who have been trafficked
- Displacement (due to war, natural disaster)
- Unstable family conditions or family rejection
- System involvement (child welfare or juvenile justice)
- Running away or truancy
- Mental health disorders
- Substance use/abuse

[Find Resources Here:](#)



**More than one in four women became pregnant while trafficked.**

[www.polarisproject.org/human-trafficking-101](http://www.polarisproject.org/human-trafficking-101)

<https://blogs.bmj.com/ebn/2020/01/05/human-trafficking-an-emerging-and-critical-challenge-for-maternity-and-health-care/>

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<https://www.state.gov/humantrafficking-about-human-trafficking/>

<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/en/human-trafficking>

<https://safehouseproject.org/>

<https://ourrescue.org/education/research-and-trends/human-trafficking-statistics>