

# A21 NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINES REPORT 2022



**ONE CALL CAN BE THE DIFFERENCE  
BETWEEN SLAVERY & FREEDOM.**

## YEAR IN REVIEW

A21 operates human trafficking hotlines nationally in Bulgaria, Greece and South Africa (collectively, the 'A21 Hotlines'). In 2022, the A21 Hotlines received 6,135 telephone and online contacts, resulting in the identification and/or assistance of 159 victims of trafficking. Notably, over three-quarters of the contacts to A21's Hotlines in 2022 related directly to human trafficking, with the general public responsible for the highest percentage of these contacts.

In October 2022, A21 Bulgaria reached potentially 4.2 million people through its *Can You See Me?* public awareness campaign, which both educates on human trafficking and promotes the Hotline. Contacts to the Bulgarian Hotline increased by 102% in the subsequent months following the campaign launch compared to the same period in the previous year. Notably, one call from a trafficking victim in response to the campaign materials, led to the recovery of an entire family from an exploitative situation, as detailed in the Bulgarian Annual Hotline Report.

Following the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions in 2022, the A21 Hotlines observed an increase in the identification of foreign national trafficking victims. False job opportunities and promises accounted for the most common recruitment method recorded by all three hotlines; A21 attributed this trend to the economic challenges each country faced following the pandemic and the impact of the war in Ukraine. Furthermore, the Bulgarian Hotline identified Ukrainian victims for the first time; this is noteworthy, considering that both countries

are typically recognised as source countries for human trafficking.

During the reporting year, sexual exploitation emerged as the primary form of trafficking in South Africa, while both sexual and labour exploitation were prevalent in Bulgaria. In Greece, forced begging surpassed sexual exploitation for the first time as the most pervasive type of exploitation reported to its Hotline.

Throughout 2022, the A21 Hotlines continued to offer a 'job vetting' service in response to the increasing number of people exploited through false job opportunities. Call specialists provide guidance on safely seeking employment through this service and verify the legitimacy of job advertisements. This service gained popularity in South Africa and Bulgaria as individuals sought new job opportunities domestically and abroad. Both South Africa and Bulgaria Hotlines recorded an increase in 'job vetting' requests and resulting identification of potentially fraudulent jobs.

A21 Hotlines establish and depend on robust partnerships with government, law enforcement and nongovernmental organisations to facilitate a comprehensive approach to countering human trafficking. In 2022, the A21 Hotlines prioritised the expansion of their partnership networks and cultivated stronger relationships with essential stakeholders.

*Each A21 Hotline is equipped to receive calls in over 230 languages and web-based reports. They are the only reporting mechanism to receive and manage reports of exclusively human trafficking in Bulgaria, Greece and South Africa, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.*

*Specially trained, trauma-informed hotline call specialists receive, manage and refer reports of suspected human trafficking from potential victims, concerned members of the community, private organisations and public institutions. In addition, A21 Hotlines provide resources and referrals for direct services for human trafficking survivors.*

## CONTENTS

<b>BULGARIA</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>GREECE</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>	<b>12</b>

# BULGARIA ANNUAL HOTLINE REPORT 2022

## ABOUT THE BULGARIAN NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

The Bulgarian National Human Trafficking Hotline (The Hotline) is a dedicated service that supports victims of human trafficking and provides advice and assistance on human trafficking issues to the general public. A21 Bulgaria officially launched the Hotline in 2015 in partnership with the National Commission for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings. The Hotline is the only resource in Bulgaria committed to solely handling human trafficking reports 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Trained call specialists are equipped to handle calls in over 230 languages through a tele-interpretation service. As Bulgaria continues to be one of the primary source countries of human trafficking in the EU,<sup>1</sup> the Hotline receives a high proportion of reports regarding potential victims of trafficking located outside of Bulgaria. Therefore, the Hotline's trained call specialists work in close partnership with both Bulgarian national institutions and those in other EU nations to respond quickly and effectively to each report.

*'I will always be grateful for what you have done for me and my family.'*

—Survivor Recovered After Calling the Hotline

## OVERVIEW OF DATA<sup>2</sup>

The Bulgarian National Human Trafficking Hotline receives reports via phone, email, text, and the dedicated Hotline website ([www.080020100.bg](http://www.080020100.bg)). In 2022, the Hotline received 1,071 contacts, 35% more than the previous year. This increase may in part be a result of improved awareness campaigns of the Hotline and its services, including promoting the Hotline at in-person presentations and trainings which resumed after the government lifted COVID-19 restrictions. The majority (69.9%) of contacts to the Hotline were human trafficking related. The number of online contacts to the Hotline continues to increase (up by 243.7% since 2020) but still only accounts for 5.1% of the total contacts made to the Hotline.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

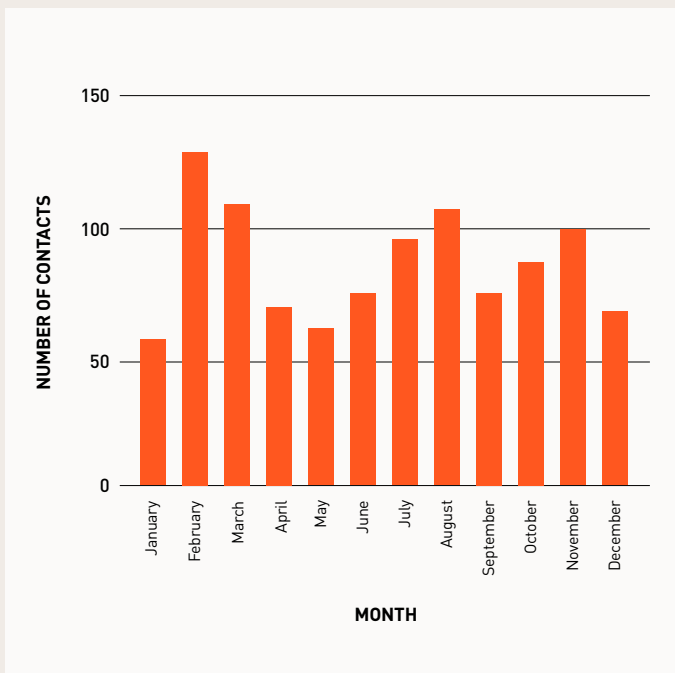
- The Hotline received a total of **1,071 CONTACTS**
- The Hotline identified and/or assisted **42 VICTIMS** of trafficking
- The majority of potential victims reported to the Hotline were **FEMALE (69.1%)**
- **ADULTS (90.1%)** comprised the majority of potential victims reported to the Hotline.
- The majority of potential victims reported to the Hotline were **BULGARIAN (89%)**
- The most common recruitment method in cases reported to the Hotline was **FALSE JOB OPPORTUNITIES (43.2%)**
- The Hotline team submitted **32 POLICE REPORTS**
- There were **44%** more **JOB VETTING REQUESTS** in 2022 than in 2021
- The majority of victims reported to the hotline were victims of either **LABOUR EXPLOITATION (37%)** or **SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (38.8%)**

Contacts to the Bulgarian National Human Trafficking Hotline comprise all incoming enquiries to the Bulgarian National Human Trafficking Hotline through any means, including but not limited to phone calls, emails, SMS and online web submissions. These enquiries include all reports on potential human trafficking, various crimes both related and unrelated to human trafficking, and queries about human trafficking generally, as well as requests for various types of assistance related to human trafficking, such as safety planning or job vetting.

'Reports' only include contacts to the Bulgarian National Human Trafficking Hotline relating to a potential human trafficking situation.

The statistics below are exclusively drawn from substantive contacts made to the Bulgarian National Human Trafficking Hotline from January - December 2022 concerning human trafficking matters. This report is not a reflection of all substantive calls to the Bulgarian National Human Trafficking Hotline which may include calls related to other high-risk crimes, labour exploitation and other non-trafficking issues.

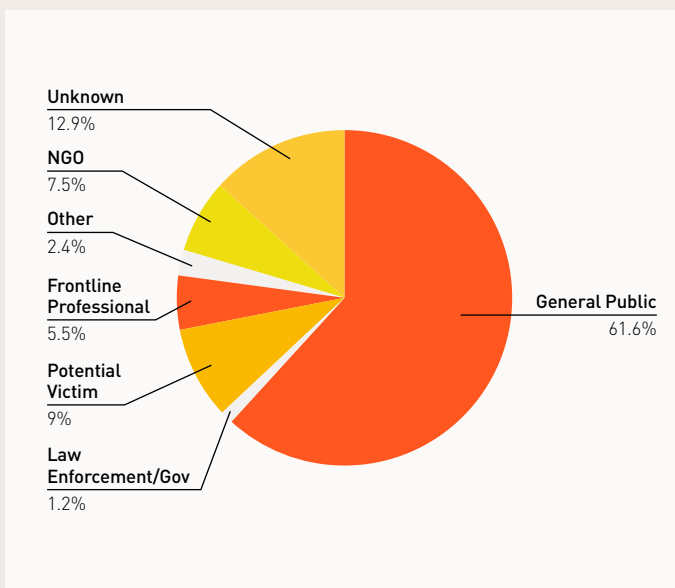
Disaggregated data has been collected on each individual case based on descriptive factors including gender, age, type of trafficking, methods of control and recruitment methods. The data contained herein is based on the cases where the information was available. In the majority of cases, the call specialists were unable to glean full or specific details about the case. The data contained herein is based on cases where the specified information was made available.



The above chart reflects the number of contacts to the Hotline.

## CALLER DEMOGRAPHICS

Since its inception in 2015, the Hotline has received reports from potential victims, nongovernmental organisations (NGOs), law enforcement, frontline professionals and the general public. In 2022, the majority of contacts to the Hotline (61.6%) originated from the general public. These contacts include concerned friends and family members of potential victims and witnesses of suspicious activity from within the community. The significance and success of A21's efforts in promoting the Hotline to the community are demonstrated in this consistently high number of contacts from the general public. Although potential victims of trafficking only account for 9% of contacts to the Hotline, these contacts generated 26% of the cases related to a confirmed human trafficking victim.



***'I am happy for you, that you are dedicated and want to help women, men, and children in need. God bless you for your good work.'***

—A Hotline Caller

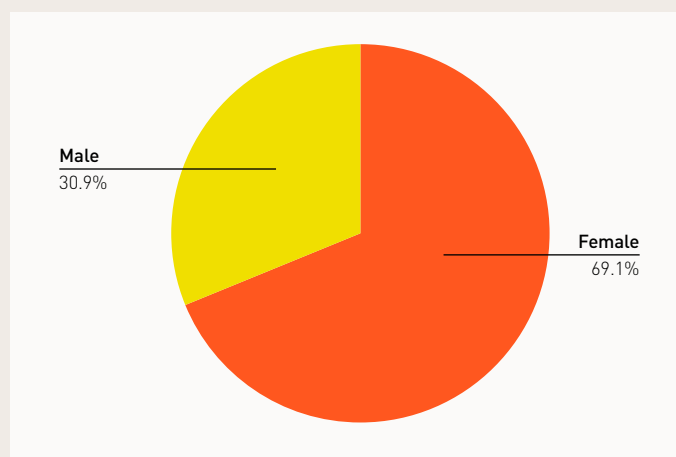
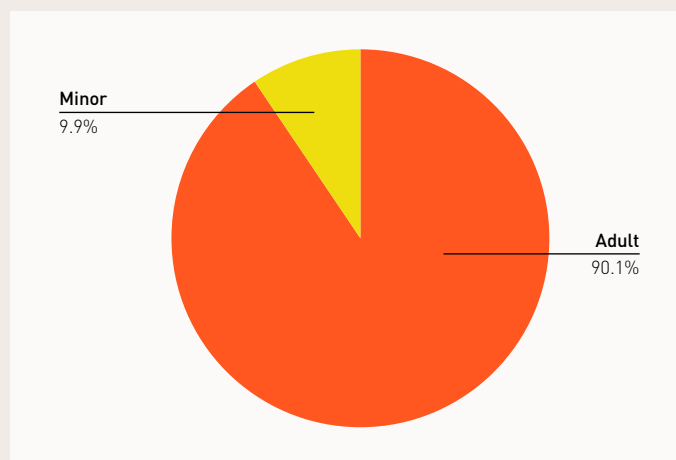
## VICTIM DEMOGRAPHICS

In 2022, the Hotline successfully identified and/or assisted 42 victims of trafficking, 25 of whom subsequently entered A21's After-care Program for support throughout their recovery. This support included international repatriation services for eight survivors as well as national relocation for 11 survivors.

## AGE AND GENDER

Females comprised 69.1% of the potential victims reported to the Hotline, with males constituting the remaining 30.9%. While the percentage of potential male victims reported to the Hotline has decreased since 2021, this number is still significantly higher than the 6.9% of reported male victims in 2020.

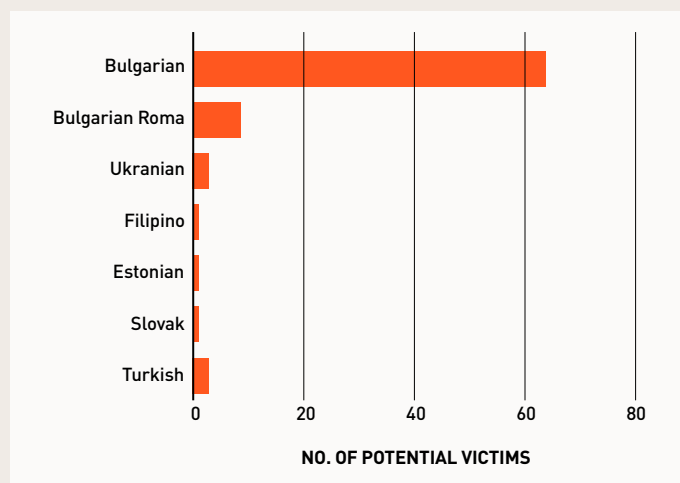
In 2022, the Hotline received nine times more cases involving adults compared to minors. This ongoing trend of higher adult cases is not surprising as cases related to minors are normally reported to the State Agency for Child Protection (SACP) Hotline in Bulgaria. For any cases involving minors, the Hotline works with the SACP to appropriately support the minor.



## VICTIM NATIONALITY

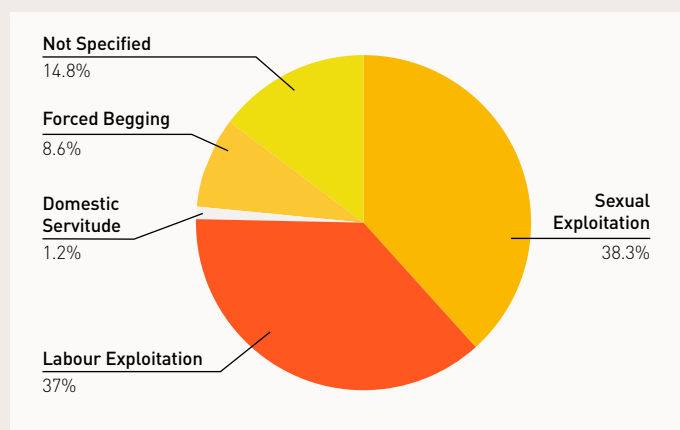
Eighty-nine percent of potential victims reported to the Hotline in 2022 were Bulgarian nationals; of these, 11.1% were Bulgarian nationals of Roma ethnic origin. While this follows the year-on-year trend that Bulgarians constitute the majority of potential victims reported, Hotline data reveals a significant decrease in reports of Roma potential victims from 54.4% in 2021 to 11.1% in 2022. The high number of Bulgarian potential victims may be due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has increased unemployment in Bulgaria, thus making Bulgarian nationals more vulnerable to exploitation.

The remaining 11% of potential victims were foreign nationals, with Turkish and Ukrainian being the most prevalent. While this number remains low, the number of reported cases involving foreign nationals has increased by 233% since 2021 with the reopening of borders post-pandemic.



## EXPLOITATION TYPE

In 2022, 37% of victims reported to the Hotline experienced labour exploitation, and 38.3% experienced sexual exploitation. Although this reflects an increase in cases involving sexual exploitation since 2021, this is still significantly lower than in 2020, when sexual exploitation comprised 86.2% of reported cases. Interestingly, in 2022, the Hotline addressed misconceptions of trafficking being limited to the sexual exploitation of women during their promotion of the Hotline's services on an employment website. In addition, as many Bulgarians lost their jobs as a result of COVID-19, many sought new jobs abroad.

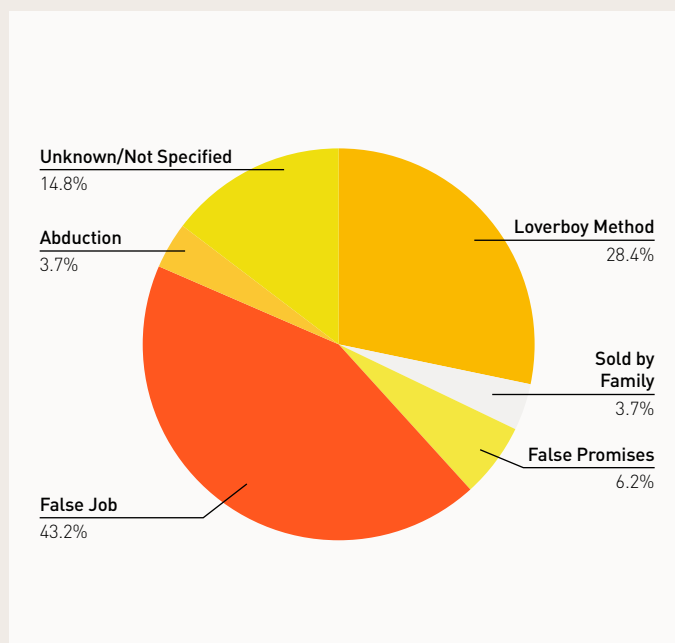


## RECRUITMENT METHODS

Perpetrators of human trafficking use certain recruitment methods to deceive and coerce victims into situations of exploitation. These methods vary from the 'loverboy' method to false promises to being sold by a family member. Throughout 2022, the leading recruitment method used by perpetrators was through false job opportunities, constituting 43.2% of cases reported to the Hotline. The most consistent prevalent recruitment method over the past three years have been false job opportunities; this is likely because Bulgaria has the lowest GDP in Europe, sitting at 43% lower than the rest of the EU,<sup>3</sup> making Bulgarian nationals more vulnerable to exploitation.

Consistent with the Hotline's 2021 report, the Hotline identified the 'loverboy' method, a scheme involving grooming and manipulating a victim into a false romantic relationship to exploit them, as the next main type of recruitment method. This was the primary method of recruitment in 28.4% of cases.

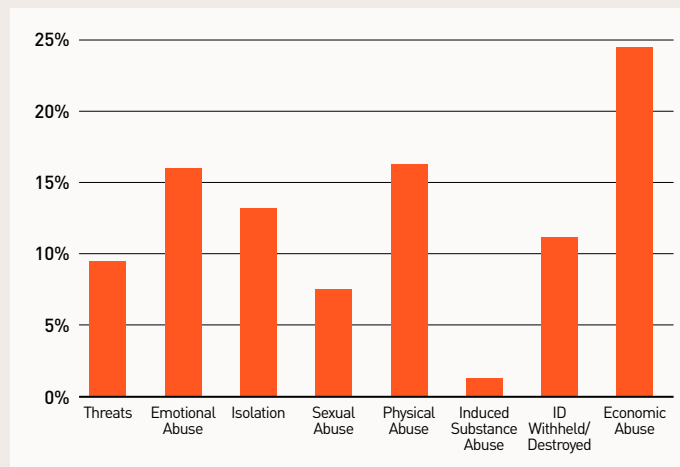
Other methods used in cases reported to the Hotline include false promises, where perpetrators promise the victim a better life (6.2%), abduction (3.7%) and being sold by a family member (3.7%).



As part of its effort to curtail those being recruited through false job opportunities, the Hotline offers A21's Job Vetting Program, a service that screens employment opportunities. Under the Job Vetting Program, call specialists provide guidance on safely seeking employment to callers inquiring about the validity of certain job postings. In 2022, the Hotline advertised this service on Bulgaria's largest job search website, [www.jobs.bg](http://www.jobs.bg), and in Facebook groups focused on international employment opportunities. After advertising this service, 'job vetting' requests increased by 44% from the previous year. Notably, while screening these employment opportunities, call specialists identified a suspicious job in over half of the requests submitted during the reporting year (53.8%). Most job vetting requests involved employment opportunities abroad, primarily in Germany or the Netherlands.

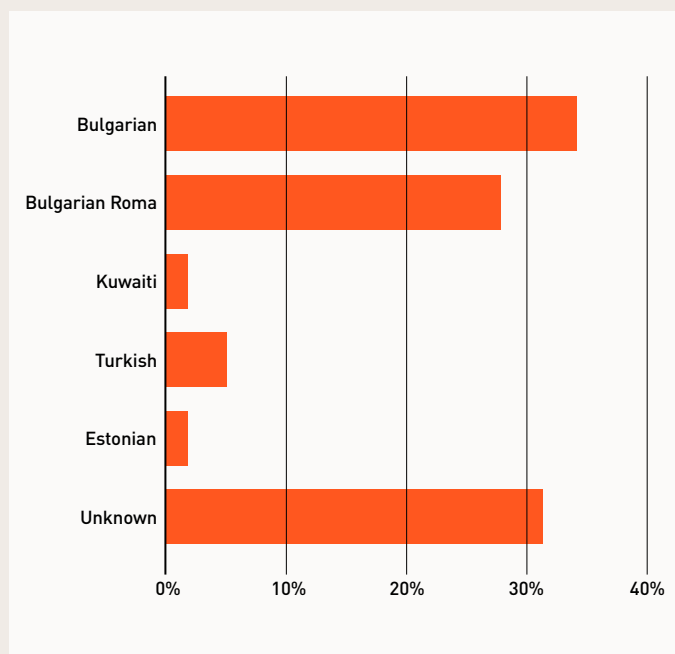
## METHODS OF CONTROL

To keep victims in exploitative situations, traffickers use various methods of control involving manipulation and coercion. The methods of control used in cases reported to the Hotline include threats,<sup>4</sup> isolation,<sup>5</sup> emotional, physical, sexual, or economic<sup>6</sup> abuse, forced substance misuse, and the destruction or withholding of personal identification documents. Victims of human trafficking often experience multiple methods of control to keep them in exploitative situations. Reports to the Hotline in 2022 support economic abuse as the most common method of control, used in nearly 25% of cases reported to the Hotline; this includes withholding of wages or debt bondage. The Hotline also identified both physical (17%) and emotional (16.3%) abuse as common methods of control used by traffickers in reported cases.



## PERPETRATOR DEMOGRAPHICS

The perpetrator's nationality is often unknown in a significant proportion of cases reported to the Hotline (30.9%). However, in cases where the suspected trafficker's nationality is reported, the most common nationality was Bulgarian (34.6%), followed by Bulgarian Roma (28.4%). Other nationalities reported include Turkish, Kuwaiti, and Estonian.



## CAN YOU SEE ME? HOTLINE CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED.



In October 2022, A21 Bulgaria launched the *Can You See Me?* (CYSM) public awareness campaign in Bulgaria. A21's CYSM campaign is a global public awareness campaign designed to educate viewers to recognise and report possible human trafficking to the appropriate hotline, which in Bulgaria is operated by A21. The CYSM campaign in Bulgaria depicts common labour and sexually exploitative situations encountered by Bulgarians. Through film, imagery and audio, the recipient is made aware of these common types of exploitative situations, along with a means of reporting their suspicions or requesting assistance through the advertisement of the Bulgarian

National Human Trafficking Hotline number. The CYSM campaign reached a potential 4.2 million people in Bulgaria through billboards along main roads, metro station television screens, airport television screens, as well as national radio. Within weeks of the launch, the Hotline received reports of suspected trafficking as a direct result of the CYSM campaign, including the identification and extraction of a family being trafficked for labour. After the successful launch of the CYSM campaign, the number of contacts to the Hotline in November and December 2022 increased by 102% compared to the same period in 2021.



## HIGHLIGHTS

The survivors in each of these cases courageously took steps to escape and, against all odds, are now free.

---



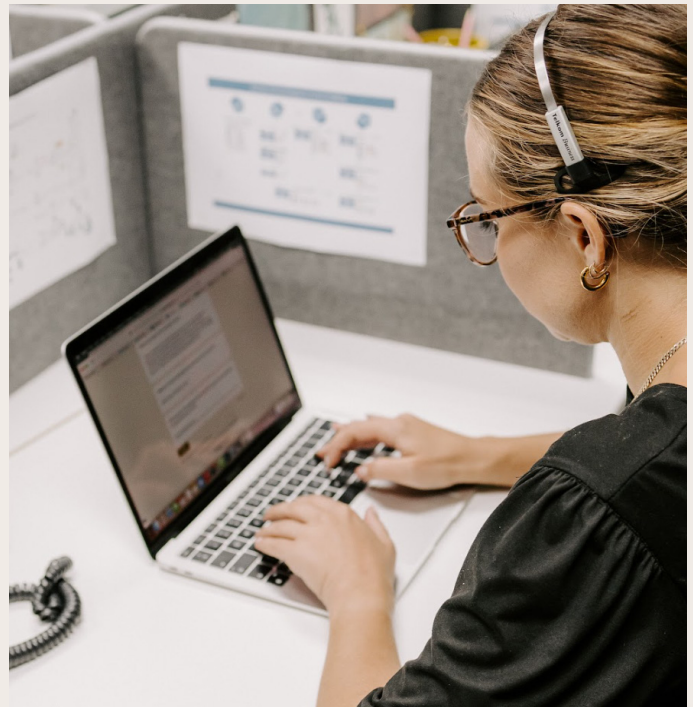
### TRAFFICKING VICTIM SELF-IDENTIFIES AFTER HEARING CYSM RADIO CAMPAIGN

As a direct result of A21's *Can You See Me?* public awareness campaign in Bulgaria, a family of four was discovered and recovered from exploitation. The parents had been victims of labour trafficking for seven years. Although the children themselves were not trafficked, they were subject to the same living conditions as their parents - living without electricity or heating for the last five years. The father heard the CYSM? campaign and the advertised Hotline number on a small radio he had access to, with limited stations, including the National Radio Station. The father was extremely hesitant to call the Hotline as he had previously unsuccessfully attempted to escape. On that prior occasion, the trafficker had beaten and threatened him. However, despite his initial fears, the father, after thinking through options, summoned enough courage to call the Hotline. The Hotline call specialists worked closely with the police, coordinating to safely extract the whole family. The family is now safe, and the father has since called the Hotline to thank them for their assistance. The entire family has entered A21's Aftercare Program, where A21 caseworkers are assisting them obtain new identification documents, rebuild their lives and enrol the children in school.

### HOTLINE SECURES HOUSING FOR SURVIVOR OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

The Hotline received a call from a physician regarding a woman who had experienced years of sexual exploitation before escaping from her trafficker. The victim had been recruited via the 'loverboy' method, by a man she met whilst visiting another city. Soon thereafter, he began to sexually exploit her, controlling her through both physical and emotional abuse. The trafficker withheld her identification documents and at one point transported her to another country. Eventually, she escaped from her trafficker. However, while now physically free, she found herself homeless. After a few days, a member of the public saw her and called the police for assistance, who in turn contacted an ambulance for medical assistance.

Upon meeting and examining the survivor, a physician called the Hotline for assistance. Within three hours of receiving this report, the Hotline call specialists procured safe accommodation for the survivor. The survivor then entered the A21 Aftercare Program where she is receiving assistance to support her recovery, including care packages, access to medical care, and support from her caseworker, amongst other services.





## FOREIGN NATIONAL ESCAPES DOMESTIC SERVITUDE IN BULGARIA

The Hotline received a call from a man providing shelter to a woman who had escaped domestic servitude. The woman had travelled to Bulgaria with her ‘employer’ under the impression that she would be employed as a housekeeper for his family. Instead, she was trafficked and forced to work up to 20 hours a day upon arrival. Her trafficker withheld her identification documents, emotionally abused her and left her without any food. She became isolated as she was no longer able to contact any family or friends.

The woman managed one day to successfully access the internet, and find community members willing to assist her. Working with these community members, she courageously decided to escape, and did so successfully. She first ran to the nearest police station, and then connected with those community contacts who provided her with temporary housing. Once safe, she called the Hotline for assistance in finding permanent housing and retrieving her identification documents. She now has a safe place to live and is receiving support in the A21 Aftercare Program.

### ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> “2022 Trafficking in Persons Report.” *US Department of State*, July 2022, [www.state.gov/reports/2022-trafficking-in-persons-report](https://www.state.gov/reports/2022-trafficking-in-persons-report). Accessed 14 Feb. 2023.

<sup>2</sup> To ensure data integrity, the data presented is extracted from reports submitted to the Bulgarian National Human Trafficking Hotline consisting of those identified as victims and likely potential victims of trafficking. This report takes a conservative approach in presenting Hotline data and analysis, omitting reports of potential victims of human trafficking which were unable to be minimally substantiated.

<sup>3</sup> “GDP per capita, consumption per capita and price level indices - Statistics Explained.” Eurostat, December 2022, [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=GDP\\_per\\_capita,\\_consumption\\_per\\_capita\\_and\\_price\\_level\\_indices#Overview](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=GDP_per_capita,_consumption_per_capita_and_price_level_indices#Overview) Accessed 24 April 2023.

<sup>4</sup> Threats include threats of harm to the victim, their family or other individuals; to the victim’s reputation; or to report them to the police, immigration authorities or other government authorities.

<sup>5</sup> Isolation may include physical isolation or deprivation of liberty, denying access to medical support, surveillance or control of the victim in public, and isolating the victim by moving them frequently from place to place.

<sup>6</sup> Economic abuse includes situations of debt bondage or where traffickers limit the victim’s finances either in whole or in part.

*As a service situated to support those in exploitative situations, the Bulgarian National Human Trafficking Hotline is at the forefront of understanding emerging human trafficking trends in Bulgaria. Each year the Bulgarian National Human Trafficking Hotline commits to expanding its networks and partners across Bulgaria to ensure that an accurate scope of trafficking is reflected in the data collected. The Bulgarian National Human Trafficking Hotline welcomes new partners interested in counter-human trafficking efforts in Bulgaria. Partnerships are vital not only to provide services to identified trafficking survivors and communities requesting training, but also to increase awareness about the services provided by the Bulgarian National Human Trafficking Hotline across Bulgaria.*



**info@080020100.bg**

**www.080020100.bg**

*The observations contained in this report are limited to information communicated to the Bulgarian National Human Trafficking Hotline during the reporting period. Nothing arising from the data should be interpreted as showing the full extent or prevalence of human trafficking in Bulgaria.*

# GREECE ANNUAL HOTLINE REPORT 2022

## ABOUT THE 1109 HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

The '1109' Human Trafficking Hotline (1109 Hotline) is the only hotline in Greece dedicated to both responding to reports of and supporting victims of human trafficking. Operated nationally by the nongovernmental organisation (NGO) A21, trained call specialists are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to provide advice, assistance, and access to victim support services, as well as receive reports about potential human trafficking. The 1109 Hotline utilises a tele-interpreting service that enables Greek and English-speaking operators to handle calls in over 230 languages. These specially trained professionals work closely with national institutions to ensure fast and effective responses to each case.

*'A21 is an NGO, but we call them partners. They provide solutions to our problems.'*

—Police Officer, Anti-Trafficking Division

## OVERVIEW OF DATA<sup>1</sup>

In 2022, the 1109 Hotline received 1,690 contacts via phone, email, text, and the dedicated website (1109.gr), 419 of which related to new unique cases. 1109 Hotline data indicates a shift in preferred communication methods; hotline users reported 28.16% of new unique cases online in 2022, a 46.6% increase since 2021.

A noticeable number of contacts to the 1109 Hotline (80.5%) were human trafficking related. A number of callers advised that they were made aware of the 1109 Hotline's services through various public service announcements (PSA) as well as news stories resulting from reports to the 1109 Hotline. In 2022, the 1109 Hotline advertised its service through a month-long PSA broadcasted on national television networks, advertising the hotline number across public transportation in Athens, and promoting the hotline at in-person or online training and networking events. Moreover, a social media campaign inspired and executed by well-known and award-winning artists, namely director Konstantinos Mousoulis and photographer Akis Douslatzis, featuring well-known athlete Errika Prezerakou and popular actresses Maria Korinthiou and Ifigenia Tzola, resulted in increased awareness.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The 1109 Hotline received **1,690 CONTACTS**
- **80.5%** of contacts were specifically related to **HUMAN TRAFFICKING**
- The majority of potential victims reported to the 1109 Hotline were **FEMALE (68.9%)**
- The 1109 Hotline received reports of **309 POTENTIAL VICTIMS** of trafficking from **35 DIFFERENT NATIONS**
- The 1109 Hotline received **118 ONLINE REPORTS**, a **42.2% INCREASE** since 2021
- The 1109 Hotline identified and/or assisted **67 VICTIMS** of human trafficking, **54** of whom entered the A21 Aftercare Program
- **45.9%** of all contacts were from the **GENERAL PUBLIC**
- **MINOR VICTIMS** accounted for **22.7%** of reports to the 1109 Hotline
- The 1109 Hotline submitted **DOUBLE** the number of **POLICE REPORTS** compared to 2021

<sup>1</sup>'Contacts' to the 1109 Hotline comprise of all incoming enquiries to the 1109 Hotline through any means, including but not limited to phone calls, emails, SMS and online web submissions. These enquiries include all reports on potential human trafficking, various crimes both related and unrelated to human trafficking, and queries about human trafficking generally, as well as requests for various types of assistance related to human trafficking, such as safety planning or job vetting.

<sup>2</sup>'Reports' only include contacts to the 1109 Hotline relating to a potential human trafficking situation.

The statistics below are exclusively drawn from substantive contacts made to the 1109 Hotline from January - December 2022 concerning human trafficking matters. This report is not a reflection of all substantive calls to the 1109 Hotline which may include calls related to other high-risk crimes, labour exploitation and other nontrafficking issues.

Disaggregated data has been collected on each individual case based on descriptive factors including gender, age, type of trafficking, methods of control and recruitment methods. The data contained herein is based on the cases where the information was available. In the majority of cases, the call specialists were unable to glean full or specific details about the case. Therefore the data below is based on cases where the specified information was made available.

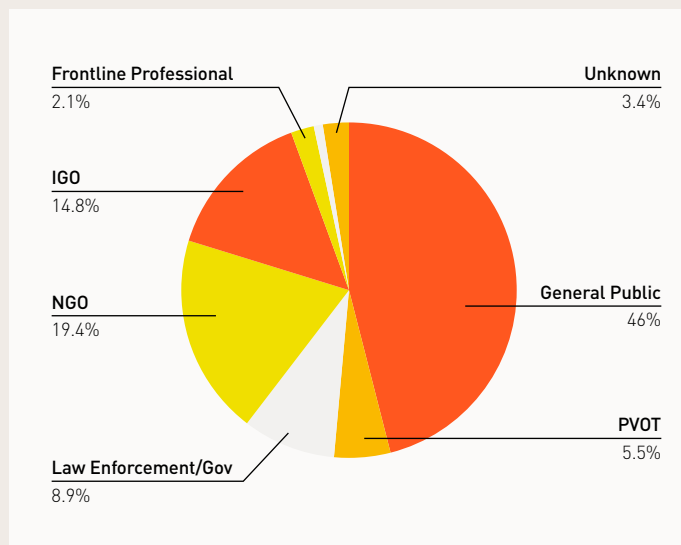


## CALLER DEMOGRAPHICS

Potential victims, concerned friends or family members, NGOs, law enforcement, community members and other sources report suspected human trafficking to the 1109 Hotline. Despite a notable decline in contacts from the general public in 2021, likely due to the COVID-19 pandemic, contacts from this demographic have since increased by 32.3%, accounting for 45.9% of all contacts in 2022. The number of potential victims contacting the hotline quadrupled from the previous reporting year from 3 to 13.

NGOs or Intergovernmental Organisations (IGOs), particularly the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), cumulatively accounted for 34.2% of contacts to the 1109 Hotline. These contacts by NGOs and IGOs resulted in referrals of 45 potential victims, mostly migrants and refugees needing support, to the 1109 Hotline for assistance. A21 Greece's continued collaboration with Greek law enforcement resulted in referrals of 15 victims of human trafficking to the 1109 Hotline. In several cases, the 1109 Hotline also collaborated with the immigration police to assist individuals who had been held captive by smugglers. In two separate instances, the 1109 Hotline received reports that resulted in the extraction of 11 victims being held against their will by smugglers. One case involved seven victims, while the other involved four.

In 2022, A21 Greece submitted 87 reports relating to potential trafficking situations to the police, almost doubling the number of reports submitted the previous year. Of the cases reported to the police, 53% related to forced begging incidents and 30% related to suspected sex trafficking. As a result of reports sent by the 1109 Hotline, Greek police recovered two victims of forced begging. These two cases then drew media attention, leading to increased reports to the 1109 Hotline about incidences of begging.

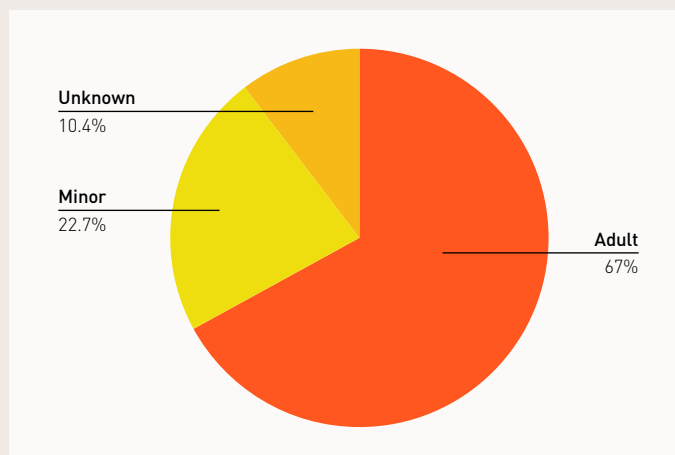


## VICTIM DEMOGRAPHICS

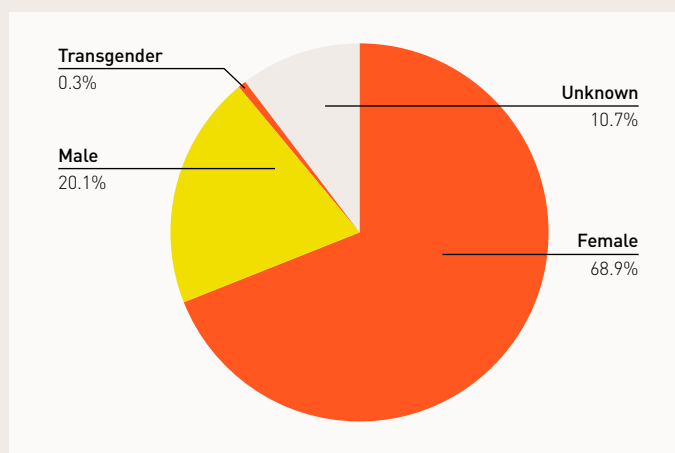
In 2022, the 1109 Hotline received reports relating to 309 potential victims of trafficking. After investigating further, the 1109 Hotline successfully identified and/or assisted 67 confirmed victims of trafficking. Fifty-four of these survivors entered A21's Aftercare Program, representing a 74% increase in survivors entering A21's Aftercare Program since 2021 from the 1109 Hotline.

## AGE AND GENDER

While adults still constituted the majority (67%) of potential victims reported to the 1109 Hotline, reports involving minor victims remained relatively high at 22.7%, consistent with the previous year. Notably, the predominant form of exploitation of minors regardless of gender, was forced begging, which accounted for over 70% of cases involving minors. While any individual can be exploited through forced begging, the 1109 Hotline has observed that often vulnerable children are targeted. Moreover, in such cases involving children, the 1109 Hotline has observed parents facilitating the trafficking.



The majority of potential victims reported to the 1109 Hotline were female (68.9%), trafficked predominantly for sexual exploitation, followed by forced begging. The primary form of exploitation reported for male potential victims, regardless of age, was forced begging, followed by forced labour.



## VICTIM NATIONALITY

The 1109 Hotline identified and/or assisted potential victims from 35 different nations in 2022, including Greece, Bulgaria and Romania. This represents a 29.6% increase in distinct nationalities engaged with by the 1109 Hotline compared to the 27 nationalities identified the previous year. Greek remained the most reported nationality of potential victims (11.3%), with the majority being Greek Roma, especially in cases of forced begging. The 1109 Hotline has also received

reports of Bulgarian Roma and Romanian Roma potential victims being exploited in forced begging rings. For example, a community member reported encountering such a situation involving 20 potential victims living in an apartment in Athens under appalling conditions. These individuals were coerced into begging on the streets for extended periods, even in harsh weather conditions. The majority of Romanian victims reported experiencing similar circumstances.

Callers reported potential victims from Nepal to the 1109 Hotline for the first time, all of whom had been exploited as domestic workers abroad before entering Greece. In addition, 22.7% of reported potential victims originated from countries of African origin.

Notably, the 1109 Hotline received reports that Cuban and Colombian victims had been trafficked in Athens' sex industry, where traditionally the sex workers hailed from Eastern European countries.

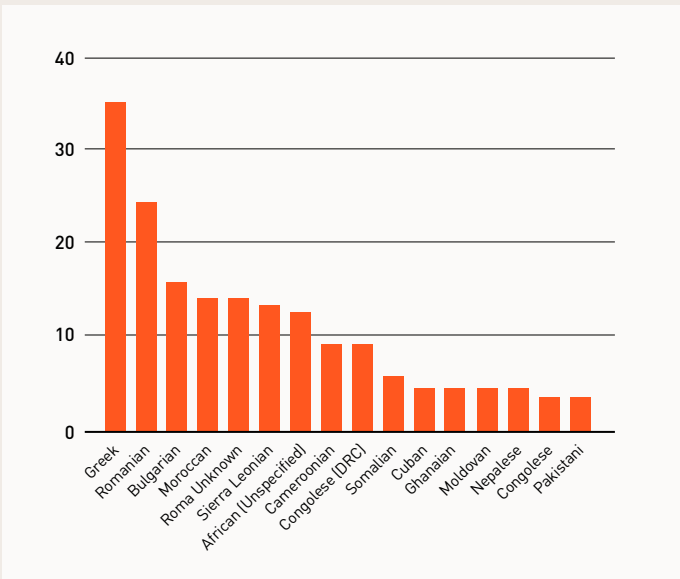
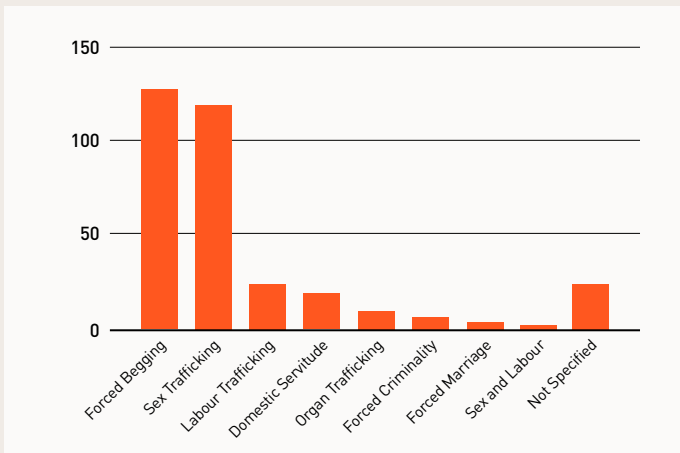


Chart: Top 16 Nationalities of Potential Victims reported to the 1109 Hotline

## EXPLOITATION TYPE

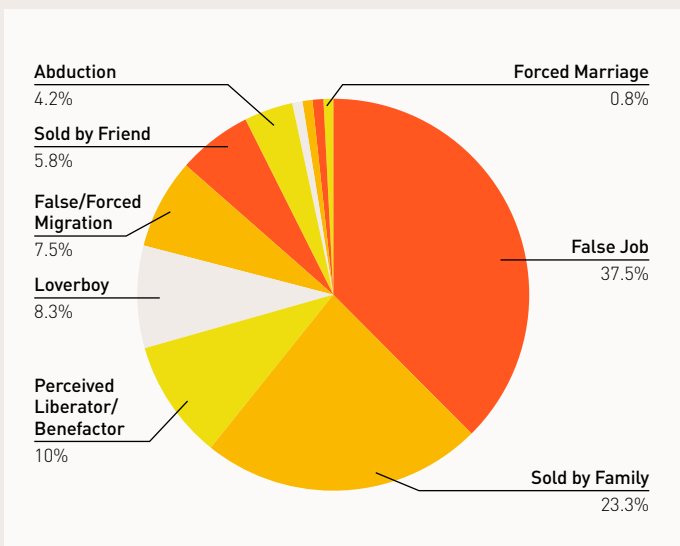
For the first time since the 1109 Hotline's inception, sex trafficking was not the primary form of exploitation reported. Forced begging exceeded the number of reported cases of sex trafficking by 9.5%. Greece's large cities suffer from forced begging, especially during the holiday season. However many people can also be seen begging in the summer. These individuals are usually very poorly dressed and often have babies or small children accompanying them, seemingly to arouse emotions of pity. Older children may be left on their own to beg in a different location than their 'guardian'. Growing up under this abuse, these children may not attempt to break free or aspire for a better future. In the forced begging cases reported to A21 Greece, the victims had not received any education and lacked access to fundamental necessities.

Among the trafficking cases reported to the 1109 Hotline, domestic servitude remains the fourth most reported form of trafficking. Reports of domestic servitude have all been related to the refugee and migrant population, and in most cases, the trafficking occurred before they entered Greece.



## RECRUITMENT METHODS

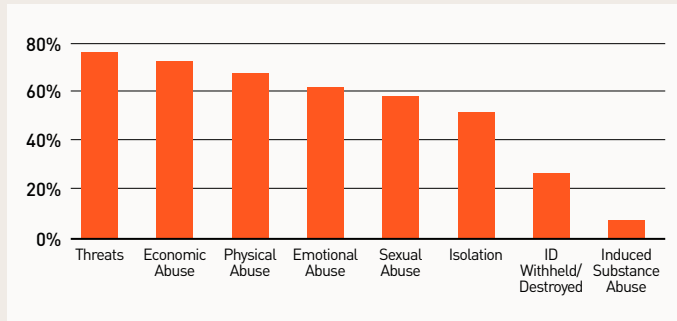
Human trafficking recruitment methods involve deception, coercion or force to lure victims and keep them in exploitative circumstances. For example, a trafficker may use a false job opportunity to recruit a potential victim with deceptive terms of an agreement to travel to another city. Upon arrival, the trafficker then traps the victim in debt bondage. In the complex, more drawn-out 'loverboy' scheme, a trafficker grooms and manipulates a victim into a false romantic relationship, with the ultimate goal of sexually trafficking the victim. In many cases reported to the 1109 Hotline, the actual recruitment methods are unknown. However, in reports with identified methods, the most prominent tactic used to recruit individuals was through a false job opportunity, often in a foreign country. Being sold by a family member, where family members sell or commercially exploit victims, emerged as the second most prevalent method accounting for 23.3% of cases of known recruitment methods. In many cases, the 1109 Hotline observed another prominent recruitment method involving a 'perceived liberator/benefactor.' Recruitment through a 'perceived liberator/benefactor' occurs when a perpetrator promises to liberate someone from exploitation, harm or hardship, only to then exploit them.



The above chart reflects the known recruitment methods in cases reported to the 1109 Hotline

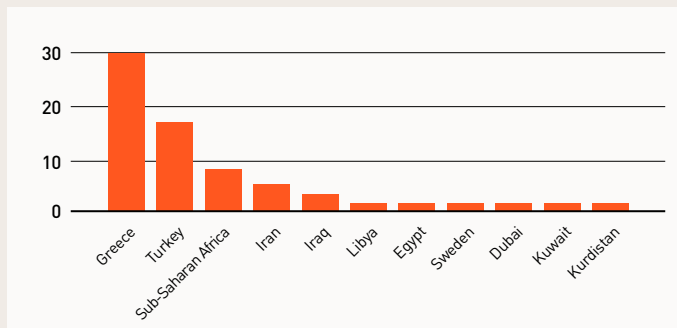
## METHODS OF CONTROL

Reports to the 1109 Hotline revealed psychological abuse as the most common primary method of control used by traffickers. However, traffickers rarely use just one method of control; rather, they use a combination of tactics to coerce and manipulate victims. Other reported tactics utilised by traffickers to control their victims include sexual, physical and emotional abuse; economic abuse<sup>2</sup>; isolation<sup>3</sup>; threats<sup>4</sup>; and withholding of personal identification documents.

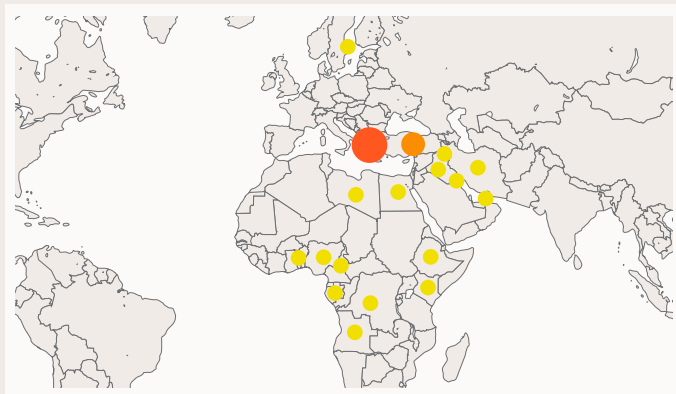


## RECRUITMENT AND EXPLOITATION LOCATION

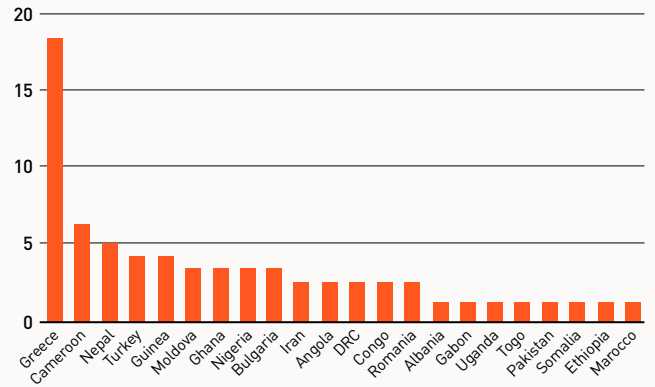
Notably, of the 67 confirmed victims of trafficking reported to the 1109 Hotline in 2022, only 42.9% were exploited in Greece, while in the majority of cases (57.1%), exploitation occurred abroad. A typical pattern amongst migrant and refugee victims showed their exploitation occurring either in their country of origin or along their journey towards Europe. For example, 25.7% of migrant/refugee victims were exploited in Turkey, a neighbouring country, before arriving in Greece. Similarly, only 26.9% of all confirmed cases involved recruitment in Greece, while the recruitment of the remaining 73.1% occurred in other countries, as seen in the following graph.



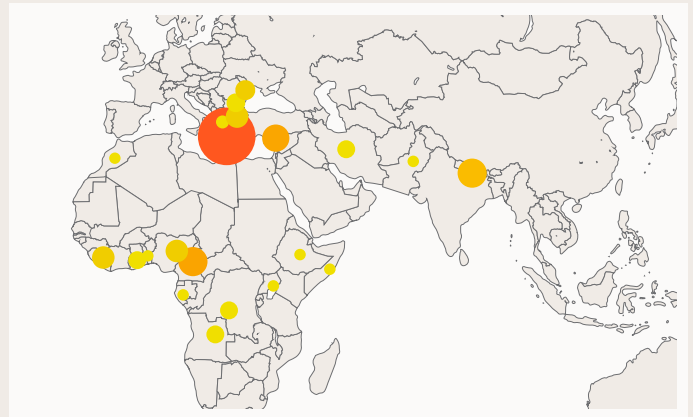
Exploitation Location of Confirmed Cases



Map of Exploitation Location (confirmed cases)



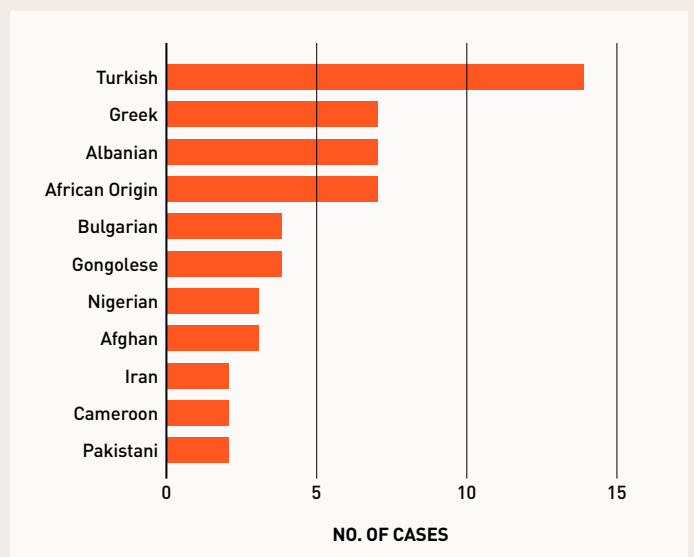
Recruitment Location of Confirmed Cases



Map of Recruitment Location (confirmed cases)

## PERPETRATOR DEMOGRAPHICS

'Perpetrator Demographics' are compiled from reports to the 1109 Hotline by trafficking victims. Females accounted for 15.8% of reported perpetrators, while the majority (84.2%) were male. The chart below displays the reported countries of origin most frequently associated with perpetrators, with Turkey being the most common, comprising 21.5% of known cases.





## PERSISTENT REPORTING LEADS TO THE SAFE RECOVERY OF A CHILD FORCED TO BEG

In response to multiple reports about a young child begging, the 1109 Hotline responded by filing police reports and closely monitoring the situation. In response to the reports from the 1109 Hotline, the anti-trafficking police conducted a multi-day investigation and arrested a woman perpetrator. The police investigation revealed that the woman, with the written consent from the child's foreign mother, travelled with the minor to the city centre every day for weeks. They sat outside commercial shops and begged for more than 12 hours each day, neglecting the child's well-being and appearance to elicit sympathy from passersby and maximise financial gain. Additionally, for over a year, the perpetrator had been transporting and exploiting the young girl at regular intervals throughout the country, for months at a time, disregarding her education, health and overall welfare. After the perpetrator's arrest, A21 accompanied the child to a clinic for completion of the necessary medical examinations for safe placement into a children's home.

## NEW YEAR'S INTERVENTION

Shortly after midnight on January 1st, 2022, the 1109 Hotline received a call from a brothel client. The caller, who had become acquainted with a young Latin American woman working in a brothel in Athens, believed she was there against her will. The caller initially hesitated to provide details, afraid both for his life and also for the wellbeing of the potential victim. However, after the hotline call specialist encouraged the caller and explained that the information was vital to the potential victim's escape, he agreed to provide more details about the case. He disclosed valuable information, giving a full description of the potential victim, her name and social media accounts, as well as her home address and a description of the brothel where she worked. After confirming the information, the call specialist submitted a report to the anti-trafficking police in Athens. The police later informed the 1109 Hotline they had been closely investigating the case, and along with additional intelligence from a local police department, conducted a raid and recovered three female victims and one male victim, all of Latin American origin. All four survivors were offered assistance and support from A21. Law enforcement arrested the perpetrators, a Bulgarian man and a Cuban woman, and charged them with a human trafficking offence.



## ENDNOTES

- <sup>1</sup> To ensure data integrity, the data presented is extracted from reports submitted to the 1109 Hotline consisting of those identified as victims and likely potential victims of trafficking. This report takes a conservative approach in presenting hotline data and analysis, omitting reports of potential victims of human trafficking which were unable to be minimally substantiated.
- <sup>2</sup> Economic abuse includes situations of debt bondage or where traffickers limit the victim's finances either in whole or in part.
- <sup>3</sup> Isolation may include physical isolation or deprivation of liberty, denying access to medical support, surveillance or control of the victim in public, and isolating the victim by moving them frequently from place to place.
- <sup>4</sup> Threats include threats of harm to the victim, their family or other individuals; to the victim's reputation; or to report them to the police, immigration authorities or other government authorities.

*As a service situated to support those in exploitative situations, the 1109 Hotline is at the forefront of understanding emerging human trafficking trends in Greece. Each year the 1109 Hotline commits to expanding its networks and partners across Greece to ensure that an accurate scope of trafficking is reflected in the data collected. The 1109 Hotline welcomes new partners interested in counter-human trafficking efforts in Greece. Partnerships are vital not only to provide services to identified trafficking survivors and communities requesting training but also to increase awareness about the services provided by the 1109 Hotline across Greece.*



**info@1109.gr    www.1109.gr**

*The observations contained in this report are limited to information communicated to the 1109 Hotline during the reporting period. Nothing arising from the data should be interpreted as showing the full extent or prevalence of human trafficking in Greece.*



# SOUTH AFRICA ANNUAL HOTLINE REPORT 2022

## ABOUT THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

The National Human Trafficking Hotline (NHTH) in South Africa is a dedicated service that supports victims of human trafficking and provides advice and assistance on human trafficking issues. Operated by A21 South Africa (A21), the NHTH works in partnership with law enforcement, key government entities, and public sectors across South Africa. The NHTH is available to receive reports of suspected trafficking 24 hours a day, seven days a week, through phone calls and electronic means. Reports are handled by call specialists specifically trained in the area of human trafficking, utilising a trauma-informed and victim-centred approach. Call specialists are equipped to respond to calls in English, Xhosa, Zulu, Sotho, Afrikaans and Shona, plus an additional 230 languages through a tele-interpreting service. The NHTH also offers a 'job vetting' service through which call specialists research potential job opportunities to determine their validity. The NHTH then provides potential applicants with feedback on their research findings, as well as safety advice to avoid being defrauded or otherwise exploited.

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRENDS IN 2022

False job opportunities remain the most prevalent recruitment method for the third straight year. Of the human trafficking cases reported to the NHTH in 2022, 60% were confirmed trafficking cases involving recruitment by fraudulent means, either through false job opportunities or false promises. Recruitment through 'false promises' involves situations where traffickers lure victims into trafficking initially through promises to improve their current life circumstances. This type of recruitment can manifest in several ways so long as a victim leaves home to travel in reliance on that false promise. One victim confronted with health issues relocated to a different province under the belief that her medical expenses would be sponsored, only to be sex trafficked upon arrival. Other examples of false promises involve 'free' education opportunities such as scholarships or study abroad. The NHTH has received several requests to ascertain the validity of a number of study opportunities and scholarships.

Reports to the NHTH showcase a pattern of traffickers using the recession and economic instability in South Africa to lure desperate South Africans with employment opportunities which are actually exploitative. The South African government department 'Statistics South Africa' (Stats SA) released data that revealed that by the fourth quarter of 2022, 7.8 million persons in South Africa were unemployed and actively seeking employment.<sup>1</sup> In 2022, the NHTH researched 51 'job vetting' requests of potential employment opportunities with 37 (72.6%) determined to be fraudulent.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The NHTH received **3,374 CONTACTS IN 2022**
- **76.6%** of contacts were **HUMAN TRAFFICKING RELATED**, an 18.7% increase from 2021
- **SEX TRAFFICKING** remained the most common form of exploitation reported at **49.5%**
- **MALES** accounted for **20%** of confirmed cases, an increase from **5.3%** reported in 2021
- **391 POTENTIAL VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING** were reported to the NHTH
- **42.7%** of all contacts were from the **GENERAL PUBLIC**
- **35.5%** of contacts to the NHTH originated from **GAUTENG PROVINCE**, with **30.9%** from the **WESTERN CAPE**
- **72.6%** of all jobs vetted were identified as **FRAUDULENT**
- The NHTH identified and assisted **50 VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING**
- **60%** of trafficking victims identified were recruited by **FALSE PROMISES OR JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

Contacts to the National Human Trafficking Hotline comprise all incoming enquiries to the NHTH through any means, including but not limited to phone calls, emails, SMS and online web submissions. These enquiries include all reports on potential human trafficking, various crimes both related and unrelated to human trafficking, and queries about human trafficking generally, as well as requests for various types of assistance related to human trafficking, such as safety planning or job vetting.

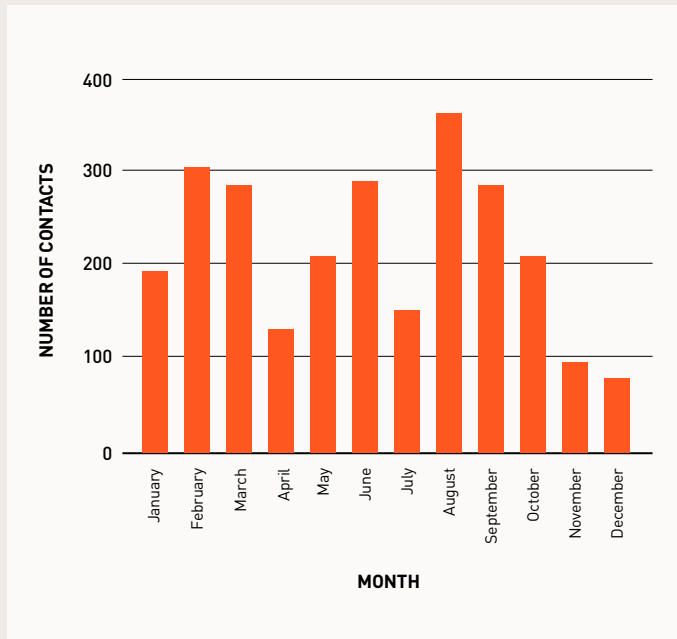
'Reports' only include contacts to the South African National Human Trafficking Hotline relating to a potential human trafficking situation.

The statistics below are exclusively drawn from substantive contacts made to the NHTH from January - December 2022 concerning human trafficking matters. This report is not a reflection of all substantive calls to the NHTH which may include calls related to other high-risk crimes, labour exploitation, and other nontrafficking issues.

Disaggregated data has been collected on each individual case based on descriptive factors including gender, age, type of trafficking, methods of control and recruitment methods. The data contained herein is based on the cases where the information was available. In the majority of cases, the call specialists were unable to glean full or specific details about the case. Therefore the data below is based on cases where the specified information was made available.

## OVERVIEW OF DATA<sup>2</sup>

In 2022, the NHTH received 3,374 contacts via phone, email, SMS and online web submissions. The number of contacts related to human trafficking increased by 18.7% from 2021 to 76.6% indicating an increase in the understanding of the NHTH's purpose and its services. Consistent with prior years, contacts decreased towards the end of the year as the holidays approached.



The above chart reflects the number of contacts to the Hotline.

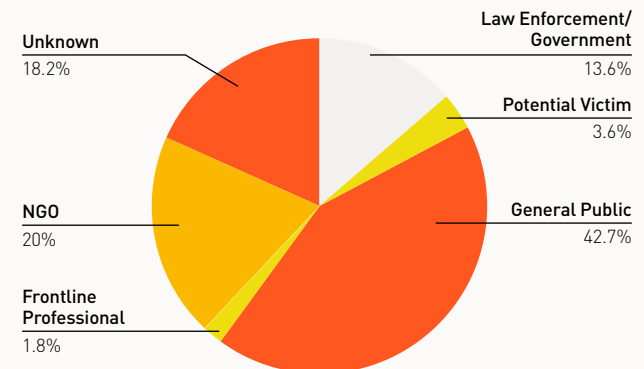
## CALLER DEMOGRAPHICS

The general public account for the highest percentage (42.7%) of contacts to the NHTH, suggesting community members' comfort with reporting human trafficking-related matters to a non-law enforcement body. Other explanations may include the willingness of the NHTH to accept anonymous reports and a lack of public confidence in local law enforcement. Unfortunately, there is a general fear of official complicity. Moreover, in several cases reported to the NHTH, victims have faced obstacles or a lack of support when reporting suspected trafficking cases directly to the local police station.

Throughout 2022, the NHTH focused on building relationships and networking with partner organisations and local law enforcement. As a result, there has been a 151.9% increase in contacts from law enforcement and government departments, as well as a 49.3% increase in contacts from the nongovernmental organisation (NGO) sector compared with 2021. This second consecutive increase for these groups since 2020 amounts to a 78.7% overall increase from 2020 to 2022. This is a result of an increased focus on partnerships both with long-standing partners of the NHTH network as well as establishing new relationships within the civil society sector and key government stakeholders across all nine provinces in South Africa and neighbouring countries. This concentrated focus has directly contributed to the increase in referrals to the NHTH and resulted in more victim identifications in 2022.

**'As coordinator of the Child Protection Empowerment Programme, I am grateful for the A21 hotline where members of our community can report concerns with regards to child trafficking as well as for the collaboration with A21 around particular cases. The hotline is a vital service in countering human trafficking and mobilising relevant services for human trafficking victims. Our hope is that the hotline will grow from strength to strength'.**

-Mariëtte Jacobs, Managing Director,  
Ezrah Community Training and Development



## VICTIM DEMOGRAPHICS

Three hundred ninety-one potential victims were reported to the NHTH in 2022 across 110 human trafficking cases. Call specialists screened each report to identify elements of human trafficking and, as a result, directly assisted 50 confirmed victims out of trafficking situations. Once victims are identified, the NHTH refers the individual to A21 aftercare or the appropriate partner services provided in each province. Seventeen of the 50 survivors assisted out of trafficking in 2022 entered A21's Aftercare Program.

## AGE AND GENDER

Traffickers in South Africa continue to prey on women and children, some of the most vulnerable groups in the country. A common theme emerged in reported cases involving minors in 2022; families forced their children to work to provide for their household, a possible reflection of the current economic circumstances in South Africa. For example, two foreign national minors from a neighbouring African country were sent by their parents to work in Gauteng with

the understanding they would receive wages for their family’s basic needs. However, upon arrival, the siblings were forced to sell bread without pay, and subjected to abuse by their perpetrator.

Although the majority of victims reported to the NHTH remain female, there has been a rise in the number of male victims reported. In the current reporting year, males accounted for 20% of confirmed cases, which is a significant increase from the 5.3% reported in 2021. This is likely a result from an increase in labour exploitation related cases being reported as men have typically been more the commonly reported victims of labour rather than sex trafficking. For example, the NHTH received a forced labour tip where a man was forced to work on a farm in a small town in the Western Cape. He was unpaid and received only sufficient food for one meal a day. The NHTH conducted a telephonic screening, before referring the case to the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation (DPCI), the Department of Social Development (DSD), as well as the Department of Labour (DOL), who extracted the victim and found him safe accommodation. Through this report, the NHTH became aware of more widespread labour trafficking in this town and was able to utilise this situation to build relationships with different stakeholders there. These relationships ultimately led to an opportunity to host an awareness event in that community on human trafficking generally, and more specifically in recognising trafficking.

**VICTIM NATIONALITY**

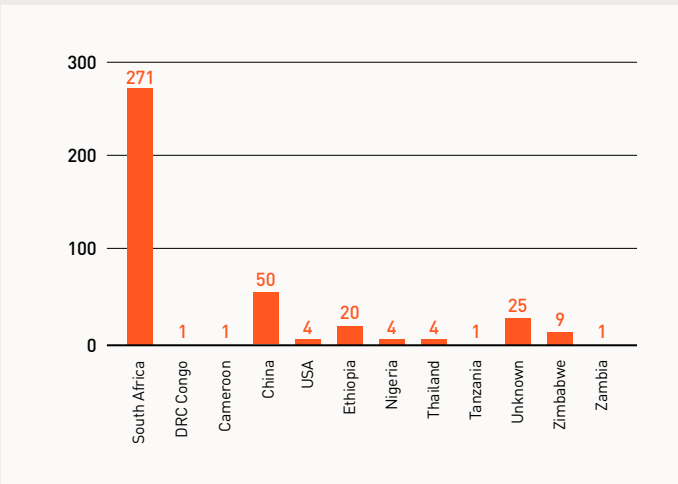
In 2022, South Africans constituted the majority (69.13%) of victims reported to the NHTH. Nonetheless, there has been a surge in reports of foreign national victims, consistent with pre-COVID-19 trends, with reports of victims recruited from different countries including China, Zimbabwe, Congo and Nigeria.

In November 2022, the DPCI requested the NHTH’s assistance in screening a large number of Chinese nationals discovered working in a factory, for labour exploitation. The factory that housed more than 50 Chinese nationals primarily specialised in producing steel resources for various machinery and construction equipment. More than 50 Chinese nationals worked either to maintain the machinery or as cleaners at the factory.

The NHTH call specialists screened a total of 32 potential Chinese victims, willing to be interviewed, using a tele-interpreting service and discovered the potential victims were either recruited through a company in China or heard about this factory position in South Africa from family or friends. The potential victims worked between nine and twelve hours a day, and lived in crowded, unhygienic dorms designed for one or two people, with at least five other people. A senior employer purchased food for the workers, but the workers were required to seek permission to eat. Pay was unequally distributed, and workers were forced to remain in the factory even when there was a pause in the available work. Although the employer promised to arrange their return to China, the employer withheld their visas and passports, preventing them from leaving the situation.

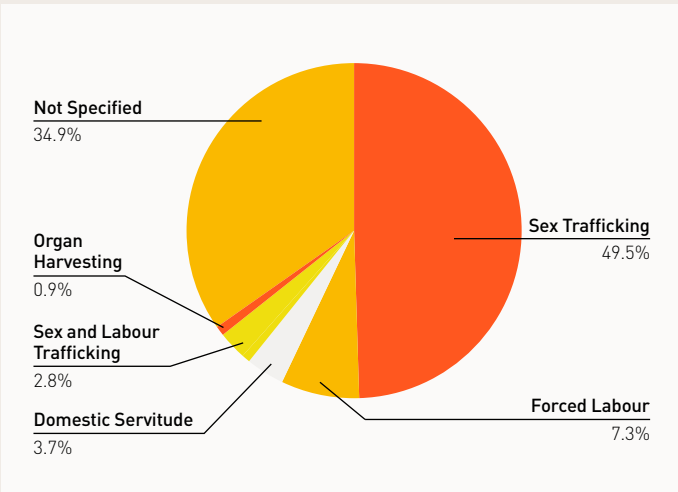
Many of the potential victims appeared apprehensive during the screening and provided limited information. Based on the limited information provided, the NHTH ultimately identified at least ten victims of trafficking. Although services were offered to the ten confirmed victims, they expressed a reluctance to be

separated from the other potential victims, and declined direct services. Consequently all the victims and potential victims were detained and deported back to China.

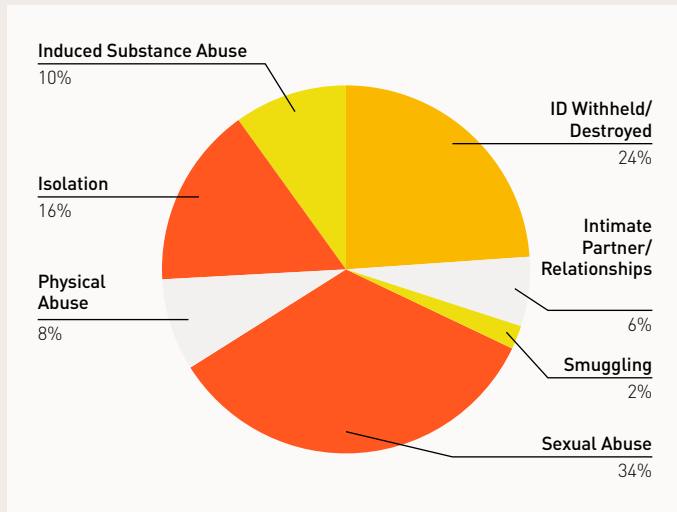


**EXPLOITATION TYPE**

While sex trafficking remained the most common form of exploitation reported to the NHTH accounting for 49.5% of all cases reported, it decreased from 2021 when it constituted 55.5% of cases. Forced labour accounted for 7.3% of cases reported in 2022, an increase from 5.5% from the prior year. Domestic servitude cases reported to the NHTH rose to 3.7% in 2022, a significant increase from only 0.7% reported in the previous year. Vulnerable individuals desperate for employment accept opportunities only to later discover themselves in an exploitative situation. In 2022, a case was reported to the NHTH regarding a woman recruited from South Africa to the Middle East to work as a domestic worker. Upon arrival, she was assigned to a family and worked for them for a few months. She worked long hours without pay, had no access to health care, and was not regularly provided food. Upon expressing her desire to leave, she was told of her obligation to repay the cost for her travel. She eventually received money from her family to give to her ‘employer’ so she could leave. Upon her return to South Africa, the NHTH provided the survivor with a referral for direct services.



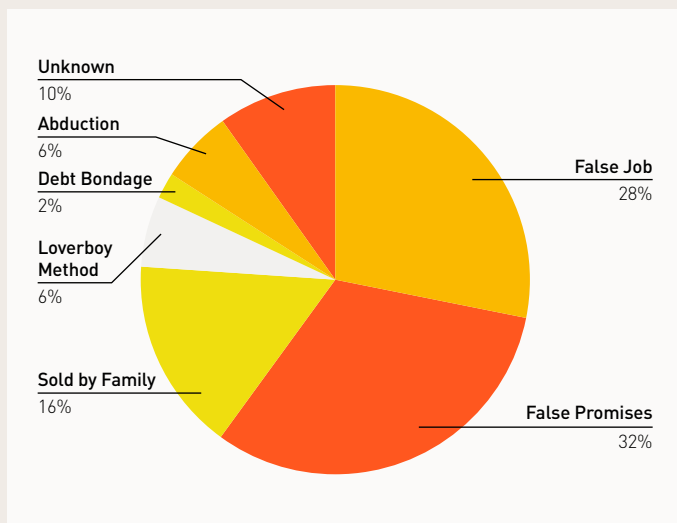
## METHODS OF CONTROL



Traffickers use various methods to control a victim recruited into a trafficking situation. Data captured by the NHTH show the most prevalent methods of control to be sexual abuse (34%), induced substance abuse (10%), isolation<sup>3</sup> (16%) and the withholding or destruction of documents (24%). In all confirmed sex trafficking cases reported to the NHTH, perpetrators forced victims to take drugs before forcing them to participate in commercial sex. Consequently, victims often form a drug dependency, thereby compelling them to remain in the exploitative situation.

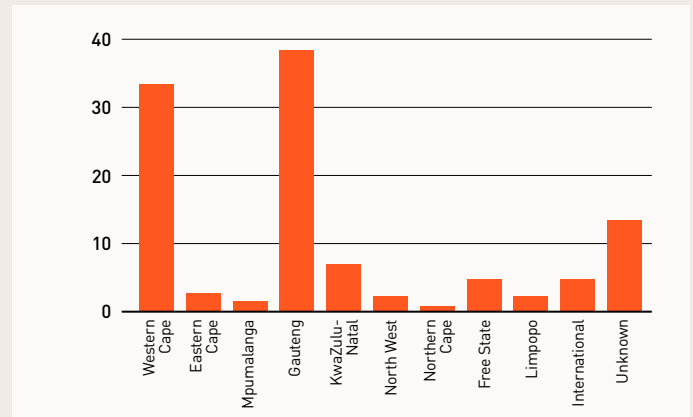
Withholding and destruction of victims' documents as a method of control, most commonly utilised by traffickers in labour exploitation cases, has increased by 352.8% in 2022. This significant increase is most likely a result of the increase in labour trafficking cases reported to the NHTH. Through withholding of documents, primarily of foreign national victims, traffickers are able to increase their control of victims. Victims are restricted not only from returning to their home country, but also from moving freely in the country of exploitation, hindering their ability to seek assistance or escape.

## RECRUITMENT METHODS



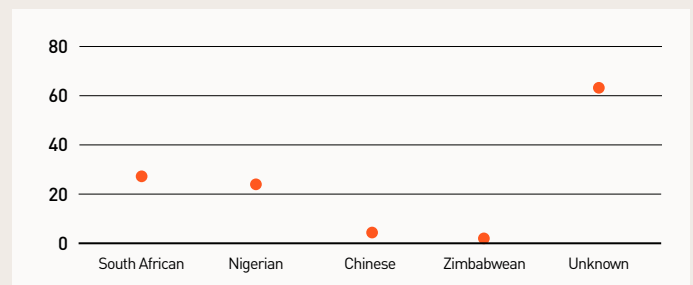
The adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the South African economy since 2019, has caused a significant number of job losses and a lack of employment opportunities. Traffickers have been deceiving individuals with false job opportunities to lure them into an exploitative situation. Based on data from confirmed human trafficking cases, false promises (32%) and false job opportunities (28%) are the most prevalent recruitment methods. The percentage of recruitment based on false promises has increased by 102.5% since 2021. The NHTH has seen a wide-array of false job opportunities, including modelling, call centre agents, administrative roles as well as domestic worker jobs.

## CASE ORIGIN



The most prevalent provinces traffickers recruit from remain Gauteng (35.5%) and Western Cape (30.9%). The NHTH has noted a common trend in 2022 whereby victims are recruited from various regions throughout South Africa and specifically brought to Brooklyn, Western Cape to be sex trafficked. In 2022 alone, the NHTH handled six cases involving sex trafficking of victims recruited from provinces such as Gauteng, North West, and Mpumalanga and brought to the Brooklyn area of Cape Town.

## PERPETRATOR DEMOGRAPHICS



South African (22.3%) and Nigerian (19.6%) perpetrators continue to account for the highest number of suspected traffickers in cases reported to the NHTH. A 42% increase in South African perpetrators compared to 2021 may be linked to the rise in cases involving victims sold by family members. In confirmed cases of trafficking, there has been a 100% increase in victims sold by family members compared to 2021. These cases primarily occurred in poverty-stricken communities where families lacking resources for basic necessities, ultimately sold their children to gang members in their local community.





## NEW YEAR'S EVE INTERVENTION

On New Year's Eve of 2021, the NHTH received a third-party tip regarding a sexually exploited minor female. The information provided in the tip advised a woman had tricked a 17-year old girl minor victim into travelling to an apartment in Gauteng province where traffickers were operating an illegal brothel. There, the minor victim was forced to engage in commercial sex acts by her trafficker, a Nigerian man. In addition to being trafficked in the illegal brothel, the trafficker also trafficked the minor victim in night clubs. The trafficker held her in an apartment where she had no freedom of movement, was abused regularly, and was forced to take drugs before being sold for sex.

According to the third-party tip, they feared official

complicity as the traffickers, also alleged drug dealers, had been arrested multiple times but had been released each time due to what the caller believed was bribery. The NHTH reported the case to the DPCI, the law enforcement entity responsive to complaints of official complicity. The DPCI responded immediately by conducting a raid of the premises within a day or two of being contacted by the NHTH, where they arrested four perpetrators. During the raid, not only did the DPCI safely extract the minor victim, but also discovered another adult victim of sex trafficking. Both victims were thereafter placed in shelters, and the four perpetrators were charged with contravening the Trafficking in Persons Act 7 of 2013 for sexual exploitation.

## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Department: Statistics South Africa, Republic of South Africa, *Incidence of long-term unemployment among women is higher than the national average*. (Feb 28, 2023) Retrieved from: <https://www.statssa.gov.za/?p=16113>

<sup>2</sup> To ensure data integrity, the data presented is extracted from reports submitted to the NHTH consisting of those identified as victims and likely potential victims of trafficking. This report takes a conservative approach in presenting hotline data and analysis, omitting reports of potential victims of human trafficking which were unable to be minimally substantiated.

<sup>3</sup> Isolation may include physical isolation or deprivation of liberty, denying access to medical support, surveillance or control of the victim in public, and isolating the victim by moving them frequently from place to place.

*As a service situated to support those in exploitative situations, the South African National Human Trafficking Hotline is at the forefront of understanding emerging human trafficking trends in South Africa. Each year the NHTH commits to expanding its networks and partners across South Africa to ensure that an accurate scope of trafficking is reflected in the data collected. The NHTH welcomes new partners interested in counter human trafficking efforts in South Africa. Partnerships are vital not only to provide services to identified trafficking survivors and communities requesting training, but also to increase awareness about the services provided by the NHTH across South Africa.*



[info@0800222777.org.za](mailto:info@0800222777.org.za)

[www.0800222777.org.za](http://www.0800222777.org.za)

*The observations contained in this report are limited to information communicated to the NHTH during the reporting period. Nothing arising from the data should be interpreted as showing the full extent or prevalence of human trafficking in South Africa.*