

Human trafficking is a growing problem in the US – and around the world. Georgia, with substantial immigrant and refugee populations as well as large agricultural industries is considered a major destination for US human trafficking.¹ In fact, Atlanta has been named one of the top sex trafficking destinations in the United States.² This fact sheet, intended for Georgia judges and court administrators, provides a basic overview of human trafficking numbers and demographics in Georgia, the US and globally. While a variety of internationally recognized reports were consulted for the purposes of this fact sheet, accurate and uniform statistics for human trafficking victims remain a challenge due primarily to the hidden nature of the population.

International Human Trafficking Statistics:

- 10-30 million modern day slaves exist in the world today.³ The majority of the reports consulted for the purposes of this fact sheet estimate that the number is around 27 million people⁴ with several respected analysts estimating the number to be much higher.⁵
- After drug trafficking, human trafficking is tied with the illegal arms industry as the second largest criminal industry in the world today – and is considered the fastest growing – generating \$32 billion a year.⁶
- \$15.5 billion is generated in industrialized countries alone.⁷
- The estimated financial cost of forced labor (compared to free employment) is \$21 billion a year.⁸
- 12.3 million adults and children are in forced labor world wide.⁹
- The International Labour Organization estimates that for every 1 victim of sex trafficking there are 9 victims of labor trafficking worldwide. However, sexual exploitation (79%) is by far the most *commonly identified* form of trafficking in persons, followed by forced labor (18%).¹⁰
- In 2011, 42,291 victims of human trafficking were identified worldwide. Of that number only 7,909 cases were prosecuted and resulted in only 3,969 convictions.¹¹
- In 2011 there were 15,205 labor trafficking victims identified resulting in only 278 convictions.¹²
- In 2006 there were only 5,808 prosecutions and 3,160 convictions throughout the world, which means for every 800 people trafficked, only one person was convicted.¹³
- 600,000 - 800,000 people are trafficked across international borders each year.¹⁴
- 80% of transnational victims are women and girls.¹⁵
- 50% of transnational victims are minors. An estimated 2 million children are exploited by the global commercial sex trade, with 100,000 minors in the commercial sex trade in the U.S. alone.¹⁶
- The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that 20% of all trafficking victims are minors.¹⁷
- 161 countries are affected by human trafficking.¹⁸
- The majority of suspects involved in human trafficking are nationals of the country where the trafficking process is occurring.¹⁹
- The majority (56%) of trafficking victims are subjected to forced labor in their place of origin or residence, with only 44% who are considered transnational trafficking victims. The International Labour Organization found that cross-border movement is closely linked to forced sexual exploitation.²⁰
- Only 54% of the recruiters are strangers, 46% are known to the victims.²¹

US-based human trafficking statistics:

- According to the Trafficking in Persons Report by the US State Department between 14,500 and 17,500 people are trafficked into the US annually (this is not the total number of trafficking victims in the US as it

excludes US nationals who are victims of human trafficking within US borders).²²

- A Department of Justice report extrapolating from a San Diego county survey estimated the potential number of unauthorized immigrant labor trafficking victims in the U.S. at 2.47 million.²³
- In 2010, 449 certifications were given to adult victims of human trafficking and 92 issued to child victims.²⁴
- 82% adult victims and 56% child victims of trafficking in the US were labor trafficking victims.²⁵
- 53% of adult victims and 66% of child victims of trafficking were women.²⁶
- Victims came from 47 different countries. The top 5 host countries include: Thailand, Mexico, Philippines, Haiti and India, in that order.²⁷
- While the ILO estimates that the ratio between sex:labor trafficking is 1:9, In 2011, 83% of reported incidents in the US were sex trafficking and only 12% of reported incidents were labor trafficking, leaving 5% categorized as “other.”²⁸
- Between FY 2000 and FY 2009 only 1,591 T visas were granted by the Department of Homeland Security. Approximately 1/5 of the annual cap for T-visas, which is 5,000.²⁹
- Types of labor trafficking in the US include: domestic servitude (nannies, housekeepers), small businesses (landscaping, nail salons, restaurants, industrial cleaning, construction, hospitality), Sale Crews (magazine, flower and candy sale crews) and large scale labor cases (agricultural, factory settings).³⁰
- Types of sex trafficking in the US include: Bar/Club operations (cantina bars, Stripping or exotic dancing clubs, salons, massage parlors, hostess clubs and karaoke clubs, domestic strip clubs and gentleman clubs); Residential brothel settings (homes, apartments, hotels, mobile trailers); Escort services (bar/hotel based, internet-based, private, boat cruises, chat lines); Pimp-controlled prostitution (hotel-based, internet-based, private parties, street-based, truck stops).³¹

Human trafficking and minors statistics³²:

- There are an estimated 100,000 - 300,000 prostituted children in the U.S.
- 244,000 American children and youth are estimated to be at risk of child sexual exploitation, including commercial sexual exploitation. Runaways and unaccompanied minors make up the majority of at-risk youth for both sexual and labor exploitation.
- 41.4% of suspected or confirmed child victims of domestic sex trafficking were repeat runaways.
- 46.7% of suspected or confirmed child victims of domestic sex trafficking ran from a group home, foster care, DCFS care or a shelter.
- 40-70% of all street youth engage, at least occasionally, in prostitution to meet their basic needs.
- The population of street youth engaging in prostitution is almost equally divided between boys and girls.

Georgia-based Human Trafficking Statistics

- In 2012, the National Human Trafficking Resource Center received 446 calls from GA, 103 of which were classified as high-risk.³³
- 5,000 girls are at-risk of being sex trafficked in Georgia.³⁴
- According to a former FBI agent Atlanta has an internal trafficking problem, where minors, many recruited from the city, are transferred to another county or state.³⁵
- Approximately 374 girls are commercially sexually exploited monthly in Georgia. Average age of entry into the commercial sex market for girls is 12 and 14 years.³⁶
- Each month, 12,400 men in Georgia pay for sex with a young woman and 7,200 of them end up exploiting an adolescent female.³⁷

- Craigslist is the most efficient medium for the marketing of sex; ads on this site had 3 times as many hits as similar ads on other websites.³⁸
- Around 65% of men who buy sex with young females do so in and around suburban and metro Atlanta with 9% near the airport.³⁹
- Atlanta has the highest number of trafficked Hispanic females in the nation.⁴⁰
- On average, 100 juvenile girls are exploited each night in Georgia.⁴¹

Georgia Immigration Statistics

- Georgia has a population of nearly 10 million people.⁴²
- There are around 856,000 Hispanics in Georgia.⁴³
- Fifty percent of Hispanics in Georgia are native born.⁴⁴
- A language other than English is spoken in 83% of Hispanic homes.⁴⁵
- Hispanics make up 11% of K-12 school children.⁴⁶
- In 2008, foreign-born individuals (910,000) made up 9.4% of Georgia's total population. Nearly 39% of those individuals entered after 2000.⁴⁷
- Georgia has the 18th highest percentage of foreign-born individuals in the U.S.⁴⁸
- Atlanta's metro immigrant population grew by 6% (42,000) from 2007-2009.⁴⁹
- In 2009, nearly three-quarters of the 910,000 foreign-born population lived in the 28 county metro area, accounting for 13% of the total population.⁵⁰
- In 2011, Georgia admitted nearly 45,000 visas for Temporary Workers and Families.⁵¹
- According to the Department of Homeland Security FY 2011 report from 2005 and 2011 there were between 4,000 to 9,000 aliens found inadmissible per year in Atlanta's DHS field office.⁵²
- Georgia admitted on average 24,700 Legal Permanent Residents per year between the years 2002 to 2011.⁵³
- The 2010 estimate of LPR's in Georgia was 230,000 (11th highest in U.S.) with 120,000 LPRs eligible to naturalize.⁵⁴
- Pew Hispanic Center estimates that in 2010, 425,000 unauthorized immigrants were living in Georgia.⁵⁵
- Unauthorized immigrants make up 4.4% of the population and 7.0% of the labor force in Georgia.⁵⁶
- Georgia's unauthorized immigrant population in 2000 was 220,000 and grew by 100% to a population of 440,000 in 2011.⁵⁷
- In 2010, Georgia had the 6th highest population of unauthorized immigrants in the U.S.⁵⁸
- Between 2000 and 2010 Georgia experienced the 4th largest absolute of children with immigrant parents, 231,000.⁵⁹
- The Georgia Budget and Policy Institute estimates that the tax contributions of undocumented immigrants to state and local coffers is between \$407 million.⁶⁰
- Georgia received nearly 56,000 refugees between the years 1983-2008. Ethiopian (2,683), Somali (6,013), Iraq (1,778), Sudanese (1,222), Vietnamese (18,159), and Yugoslavian (7,842), Cambodians (1,799).⁶¹
- The foreign-born population in Georgia changed by 63.3% from 2000 to 2011, growing from nearly 577,273 to more than 942,921.⁶²
- The foreign-born population makes up 9.6% of Georgia's total population.⁶³
- Latin American immigrants made up 54% of the foreign-born, with Asia next at 26.8% of the foreign-born.⁶⁴
- Naturalized citizens make 39.6% of the foreign-born.⁶⁵
- Of all children with immigrant parents in Georgia, 86.8% were US citizens by birth.⁶⁶

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