



Human Trafficking **at a Glance**

It is estimated that there are more people trapped in trafficking and exploitation today than at any other point in history.

Human trafficking is the illegal and highly profitable recruitment, transport, and sale of human beings for exploitative purposes such as sex trafficking, sexual exploitation, forced labor or servitude. Victims are forced, coerced bought or sold for work they are forced to do. Trafficking can happen in any community, and victims can be any age, race, gender, or nationality. Traffickers lure victims into trafficking situations and keep victims from seeking help, which continues to keep human trafficking a hidden crime.

Traffickers prey on vulnerability.

This often looks like:

- economic hardship
- psychological or emotional vulnerability
- a lack of a social safety net
- natural disasters
- political instability or conflict

Common trafficking methods include:

- violence
- manipulation
- false promises of well-paying jobs
- romantic relationships
- language barriers
- fear of their traffickers and/or fear of law enforcement

By the numbers:

- 70% of victims of trafficking are **women and girls**
- 57% of traffickers work under the **business-enterprise organized criminal groups**; they are owners of dance clubs, strip clubs, brothels, massage parlors, cantinas, and other businesses.
- 51% of victims cases that were reported in the GLOTIP court cases showed that **traffickers took advantage of the economic need** to exploit their victims. *(UNODC 2021 report page 71)*
- When examining the court cases, **children account for a significant proportion** of the victims exploited due to economic needs. *(UNODC 2021 report page 72)*
- The **absence of a family member** is particularly prevalent in the cases of children trafficked for sexual exploitation. *(UNODC 2021 report)*

The COVID pandemic created vulnerability in new places, changing the landscape of trafficking.

This looks like:

- A 22% increase in **online recruitment**
- A 125% increase in recruitment through **Facebook**
- A 95% increase through **Instagram** *Source: POLARIS

Atlas Free is building a global movement to put sex trafficking and exploitation out of business.

We are solution agnostic, focusing on uniting funders, adventurers, and everyday people with the best local experts in the world. We specialize in accelerating frontline solutions and creating resources and tools to address one of the current most pressing global issues of our time. No organization can do it all, but one can coordinate it all into a holistic and strategic plan, giving you one place to make a real difference. With each donation you make, you support and empower people to live a life of independence and hope.

Become a part of the solution

Join the team of monthly donors powering the fight to stop trafficking in its tracks.

Join Team Freedom at

atlasfree.org/donate-monthly

