



Sex Trafficking in the United States

- In 2005, the Department of Justice reported there have been an estimated **100,000 to 150,000 sex slaves in the U.S.** since 2001.ⁱ
- In 2009, a University of Pennsylvania study estimated nearly **300,000 youth in the United States** were at risk of being **sexually exploited for commercial uses** - "most of them runaways or thrown-aways," said Ernie Allen, president of the NCMEC.ⁱⁱ
- Almost **300,000 American children** are at risk for trafficking into the sex industry. (*U.S. Dept of State*)ⁱⁱⁱ
- There are girls as young as **5 and 6 years old in the U.S.** that are forced to do sexual acts for economic gain by their pimp (*USDOJ*)^{iv}
- **St. Louis** woman Pleads Guilty to Federal Sex Trafficking Charge (*USDOJ*)^v
- Since 2000, Child Protective Services in **Kansas City, MO** estimates that at least one victim of commercial sexual exploitation is identified each month through substantiated sexual abuse and neglect allegations, totaling a minimum of **84** Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking victims that have been **identified by a single agency** in Jackson County, MO alone. (*Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking Assessment Report*)^{vi}
- There is a severe lack of protective shelter for victims of Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking in the **Independence/Kansas City** area. Most of the available placements do not serve victims who are under the control of a trafficker/pimp because they are short term and lack the necessary protection. (*Shared Hope International*)^{vii}
- The lack of protective shelter has caused inappropriate placement of Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking victims in juvenile detention facilities. Of the 214 beds available throughout the juvenile court system in **Missouri** only 25 of those beds are available for girls. (*Shared Hope International*)^{vi}

- In 2009, a **Kansas City** man pleaded guilty in federal court today to **child sex trafficking** involving the sale of at least **five minor** victims for prostitution in Chillicothe, Missouri. He was sentenced to 21 years in federal prison without parole. (*USDOJ*)^{viii}
- Federal agents and local police in **Johnson County, Missouri** raided 12 businesses and four homes on 10 May 2007, rescuing **15 women** from 'massage parlors'. (*Humantrafficking.org*)^{ix}
- The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention reported **1,600 juveniles** were arrested for prostitution and commercialized vice in 2006; 74% were female and 14% were under 14 years old. (*OJJDP*)^x
- In December 2007, research by the U.S. Department of Justice National Institute of Justice based on interviews with pimps and sexually exploited children in several U.S. cities found that most pimps manage one to three girls at a time and operate as follows:
 - At least half appear to operate at the local level only.
 - At least one quarter may be tied to city-wide crime rings (often engaged in drug sales as well as prostitution) and are constantly looking for new recruits.
 - About 15 percent are tied to regional or national networks that are well financed and organized, in which the pimps communicate easily with one another electronically; provide support services such as recruitment, selection, indoctrination, and movement of new girls; and occasionally assist in locating and disciplining girls who escape from other pimps.
 - About 10 percent appear to be tied to international sex crime networks and, through them, actively participate in the international trafficking of children. Some pimps also are part of international drug networks and may use children to move drugs in to and across the U.S.^{xi}
- In 2009, a three day operation across 36 cities across 30 FBI divisions around the U.S. led to the recovery of **52 children** who were being victimized through prostitution. Additionally, nearly 700 others, including 60 pimps, were arrested on local and state charges. (*FBI*)^{xii}
- In 2008, a **mother** and the man she lived with made her a dominatrix and schooled her in the ways of violent sex when she was **only 12**. By the time she reached 14, they had billed her as "Mistress Alisha," and they offered her online for two years to service the sadomasochistic fantasies of anyone willing to pay. (*USDOJ*)^{xiii}
- In 2009, five men and one woman have been charged in a 16-count indictment with conspiracy and sex trafficking of children and forcing and coercing adults to engage in commercial sex acts. This case represents the single largest domestic sex trafficking case in the history of the Southern District of **Texas**. The criminal enterprise transported women and **minors** to and from the **Houston** area and had ties to **Kansas, Nevada, Arizona and Florida**. Women and minors as young as 16 were enticed and coerced into prostitution and were routinely beaten and threatened. (*USDOJ*)^{xiv}
- In June 2008, the FBI Innocence Lost Task Forces in 16 cities participated in the operation by targeting venues such as street tracks, truck stops, motels, casinos and the Internet where children

are prostituted. Over 350 law enforcement officers from over 50 state, local, and federal law enforcement agencies, joined together to rescue child victims and the criminals who victimize them. This operation included sting operations in 16 cities across the country, resulting in the **arrest of 356 individuals** and the **recovery of 21 children**. (*FBI*)^{xv}

- In 2009, Metro Police detectives and FBI agents busted what they believe is a **family-run prostitution ring** using underage **teens** as prostitutes in Murfreesboro, TN. (*Daily News Journal*)^{xvi}
- Since 2003, **308 pimps and hookers** have been convicted in (U.S.) state and federal courts of forcing youngsters into prostitution and **433 child victims** have been rescued, according to FBI Director Robert Mueller. (*AP*)^{xvii}
- In 2009, two Macon, **Georgia** men were indicted on charges that they locked a **14-year-old girl** in a house and forced her to have sex with up to 15 people, then sold her for \$500. (Crawford County Sheriff's Office, Nov. 2009). (*macon.com*)^{xviii}
- In 2009, four men were been indicted—one of which was an Army soldier—for allegedly running a sex trafficking business out of a Millersville, Maryland apartment. Prosecutors say the four used online **classified ads** and **social networking** sites to recruit females for prostitution and to advertise sexual services. The men allegedly arranged for the travel of females, including a **16-year-old girl**, from Ohio to Maryland to engage in prostitution. (*AP*)^{xix}
- **Teen Girls' Stories of Sex Trafficking in U.S. International Sex Trafficking is a well-known problem, But It Happens Here as Well** (*ABC Primetime*, 2006)^{xx}
- Between **14,500 and 17,500 victims** are trafficked into the **USA** each year (*TVPA*)^{xxi}; The CIA estimates **45,000—50,000** victims^{xxii}
- Three Plead Guilty to Sex Trafficking of Children (*FBI*)^{xxiii}
- Halting Human Trafficking, **31 Arrests** in Major Prostitution Ring (*FBI*)^{xxiv}
- **797,500 children** (younger than 18) were reported missing in a one-year period of time studied resulting in an average of 2,185 children being reported missing each day. (*FBI*)^{xxv}
- **One in 12** (82 of 1000) **youth** experienced **sexual victimization**, including sexual assault (32 per 1000) and attempted or completed rape (22 per 1000). (*Crimes Against Children Research Center*)^{xxvi}
- In the first 21 months of operation, the Human Trafficking Reporting System recorded information on more than **1,200 alleged incidents of human trafficking** between January 1, 2007, and

September 30, 2008. Most (83 percent) of the reported human trafficking incidents involved allegations of sex trafficking. (*USDOJ*)^{xxvii}

Sex Trafficking Around the World

- **1.2 million children** are being trafficked every year; this is in addition to the millions already held captive by trafficking (*UNICEF*)^{xxviii}
- Every **2 minutes** a child is being prepared for sexual exploitation (*UNICEF*)^{xxix}
- The average age of a trafficked victim is **12-14 years old** (*U.S. Department of Justice*)^{xxx}
- UNICEF reports approximately **30 million children** have lost their childhood through sexual exploitation over the past 30 years (*IAST*)^{xxxi}
- The International Labor Organization—the UN agency charged with addressing labor standards, employment, and social protection issues—estimates that there are at least **12.3 million** adults and children in forced labor, bonded labor, and commercial sexual servitude at any given time. Of these victims, **1.4 million** are victims of **commercial sexual servitude**. Also, 56% of all forced labor victims are women and girls. (*ILO*)^{xxxii} In the case of all forced labor, 40-50% of persons exploited may be children. (*ILO*)^{xxxiii}
- People are trafficked from 127 countries to be exploited in **137 countries** (*UN*)^{xxxiv}
- The total market value of illicit human trafficking is estimated to be in excess of **\$32 billion** (*UN*)^{xxxv}

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ⁱ U.S. Department of Justice. *Report on Activities to Combat Human Trafficking Fiscal Years 2001 – 2005*. 2006. Pg. 9. http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/crim/trafficking_report_2006.pdf

ⁱⁱ National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. Human Trafficking Briefing by Ernie Allen. (21 July 2009). Web: http://www.missingkids.com/missingkids/servlet/NewsEventServlet?LanguageCountry=en_US&PageId=4079

ⁱⁱⁱ U.S. Department of Justice Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section. (Nov 2009). Web: <http://www.justice.gov/criminal/ceos/trafficking.html>

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- ^{iv} U.S. Department of Justice Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section. (Sept 2010). Web: <http://www.justice.gov/criminal/ceos/trafficking.html>
- ^v USDOJ Press Release. (13 April 2008).
- ^{vi} Wade, Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking Assessment Report — Independence, Missouri, pg. 37
- ^{vii} Linds A. Smith, Samantha Healy Vardaman & Melissa A. Snow. *The National Report on Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking: Americans prostituted children*. Shared Hope International. (May 2009). Web: http://www.sharedhope.org/files/SHI_National_Report_on_DMST_2009.pdf
- ^{viii} USDOJ Press Release. (7 October, 2010). Web: www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html
- ^{ix} Humantrafficking.org. *Massage Parlors Raided in Kansas City, Missouri; Trafficking Suspected*. (17 May 2007). Web: <http://www.humantrafficking.org/updates/631>
- ^x Missouri Uniform Crime Reporting Program. (2008). Web: <http://notes.mshp.dps.mo.gov/cgi-bin/ibi/cgi/ibiweb.exe>
- ^{xi} U.S. Department of Justice Institute of Justice. *Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: What do we know and what do we do about it?* (Dec. 2007). Web: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/215733.pdf>
- ^{xii} Federal Bureau of Investigation Press Release. (26 October 2009). Web: http://www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel09/crosscountry_102609.htm
- ^{xiii} Office of the U.S. Attorney. News Release. (12 May 2008). Web: <http://kansascity.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel08/humantrafficking051208.htm>
- ^{xiv} U.S. Department of Justice U.S. Attorney's Office. Press Release. (25 Aug. 2009). Web: http://www.justice.gov/usao/txs/releases/August%202009/082509Operation%20Total%20Exposure_print.htm
- ^{xv} Federal Bureau of Investigation. Web: http://www.fbi.gov/innolost/cross_country.htm
- ^{xvi} Daily News Journal. (18 Aug. 2009).
- ^{xvii} Associated Press. (25 June 2008).
- ^{xviii} Amy Leigh Womack. (18 Nov 2009). Web: http://www.macon.com/198/story/921005.html?storylink=omni_popular
- ^{xix} Associated Press. (29 Sept. 2009).
- ^{xx} ABC Primetime. *Teen Girls Stories of Sex Trafficking in the U.S.* (9 Feb. 2006). Web: <http://abcnews.go.com/Primetime/story?id=1596778&page=1>
- ^{xxi} U. S. Department of State, Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act 2000: Trafficking in Persons Report, July 2004. Web: <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/34158.pdf>
- ^{xxii} Center for the Study of Intelligence DCI Exceptional Intelligence Analyst Program. *An Intelligence Monograph International Trafficking in Women to the United States: A Contemporary Manifestation of Slavery and Organized Crime*. (Nov 1999). Web: <https://www.cia.gov/library/center-for-the-study-of-intelligence/csi-publications/books-and-monographs/trafficking.pdf>
- ^{xxiii} Federal Bureau of Investigation of San Diego. Department of Justice Press Release. (20 Jan 2009). <http://sandiego.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel09/sd012009.htm>.
- ^{xxiv} Federal Bureau of Investigation. Press Release. (16 Aug 2006). Web: http://www.fbi.gov/page2/aug06/ny_prostitution081606.htm
- ^{xxv} Federal Bureau of Investigation. Press Release. (22 Nov 2006). Web: <http://www.fbi.gov/page2/nov06/missing112206.htm>
- ^{xxvi} Crimes Against Children Research Center. (viewed 27 Sept 2010) Web: <http://www.unh.edu/ccrc/statistics/index.html>
- ^{xxvii} US Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Special Report: Characteristics of Suspected Human Trafficking Incidents, 2007-08 (Jan 2009) Web: http://files.meetup.com/1160329/Post_on_Site.pdf
- ^{xxviii} UNICEF. (23 Sept 2009). Web: http://www.unicef.org/protection/index_exploitation.html
- ^{xxix} UNICEF. (23 Sept 2010). Web: http://www.unicef.org/protection/index_exploitation.html
- ^{xxx} U.S. Department of Justice. Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section. (viewed 27 Sept 2010). <http://www.justice.gov/criminal/ceos/prostitution.html>
- ^{xxxi} Salvation Army Initiative Against Sex Trafficking. (viewed 27 Sept 2010) Web: <http://www.iast.net/thefacts.htm>
- ^{xxxii} International Labor Organization, *A global alliance against forced labour*. (2005).
- ^{xxxiii} International Labor Organization. *ILO minimum estimate of forced labour in the world*. (2005).
- ^{xxxiv} United Nations. Press Release Note No. 6152. (2 June 2008). Web: <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2008/note6152.doc.htm>
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