NORTH AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
The current legislation on trafficking in persons in Canada covers all forms of exploitation indicated in the UN Trafficking Protocol.

Canada’s information is collected under different mechanisms. The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) at Statistics Canada collects police and court-reported information through two separate surveys – the Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS) and the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (IUCRS). There is generally a two-year delay in the collection of CCJS data. Police reported data collected over a calendar is available within 7 months after collection while court data is compiled over a fiscal year (ending in March) and is generally available within 15 months of collection.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police’s Human Trafficking National Coordination Centre (RCMP HTNCC) also strives to collect current data on cases where human trafficking specific charges are laid. While RCMP statistics are typically more current than CCJS data, they should not be interpreted as a comprehensive accounting of all human trafficking cases charged or prosecuted in Canada.

The Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) collects information on the number of temporary resident permits issued to foreign national victims of trafficking. This data is not linked to law enforcement statistics and a victim need not cooperate with law enforcement in order to receive a temporary resident permit. The purpose is to provide victims with legal immigration status.

Investigations and suspects

Number of cases where human trafficking specific charges were laid, 2010-2013

![Chart showing the number of cases where human trafficking specific charges were laid from 2010 to 2013.](chart)

Source: Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) – Human Trafficking National Coordination Centre (HTNCC).
Number of individuals charged with human trafficking specific offences, by gender, 2010-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>unknown</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) – Human Trafficking National Coordination Centre (HTNCC).

Number of prosecuted cases for trafficking in persons, by gender, FY2010/2011-FY2011/2012*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY-2010/2011</th>
<th>FY-2011/2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The period represented in the chart is indicative of when the prosecution was completed. Not all criminal court data are represented. The reference period is based on a fiscal year (e.g., 2010/2011 refers to April 2010-March 2011), and not a calendar year.

During the period FY2010/2011 and FY2011/2012 the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics reported nine persons convicted for trafficking in persons. The reported counts represent the number of cases where the trafficking in persons charge was the most serious charge in the case. Not all criminal court data are represented. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police Human Trafficking National Coordination Centre reported that 36 persons were convicted of human trafficking-specific charges between 2010 and 2013. Eight of them were females, all the others were males.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS)/Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) – Human Trafficking National Coordination Centre (HTNCC).

Victims

Number of victims of trafficking detected by police, by age and gender, 2010-2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of victims of trafficking detected by law enforcement, by age and gender, 2010-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unknown Age</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) – Human Trafficking National Coordination Centre (HTNCC).

Number of victims of trafficking detected by law enforcement, by citizenship**, 2010-2013

- Canada-domestic trafficking: 82
- Poland: 61
- Hungary: 26
- Other Western and Central Europe: 8
- Asia: 4
- Africa: 6
- Other: 1

** There are numerous victims whose citizenship is unknown

Source: Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) – Human Trafficking National Coordination Centre (HTNCC).
Number of victims of trafficking detected by law enforcement, by form of exploitation, 2010-2013

- Sexual exploitation, 170
- Forced labour, 99

Source: Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) – Human Trafficking National Coordination Centre (HTNCC).

Number of foreign victims of trafficking detected by Citizenship and Immigration Canada, by age and gender, 2010-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada.
Number of foreign victims of trafficking detected by Citizenship and Immigration Canada, by country of birth, 2010-2013

- Philippines, 12
- Thailand, 10
- Europe, 17
- Americas, 9
- Other Asia, 2

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada.
This section covers Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago. The specific offence of trafficking in persons does not currently exist in the legislation of Grenada. The current legislations on trafficking in persons in Bahamas (adopted 2008), Barbados (in 2011), Dominican Republic (2008), Haiti (2014), Jamaica (2007), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (2011) and Trinidad and Tobago (2011) cover all forms of exploitation indicated in the UN Trafficking Protocol. The current legislation on trafficking in persons in Cuba covers sexual exploitation.

Investigations and suspects

In 2013, two cases of sexual exploitation were investigated in the Barbados, and three persons were arrested in connection with them. No other cases related to trafficking in persons were reported during the period here considered.

Source: Police – Barbados.

The authorities in Cuba report nine cases of trafficking in persons concluded with a conviction in the year 2012. 14 persons have been convicted, 12 males and 2 females, all local nationals. These persons have been prosecuted and convicted for pandering and sexual exploitation of minors.

Source: Tribunal Supremo Popular – Cuba.

Between 2010 and 2013, 40 cases have been investigated in the Dominican Republic. During the same period, 104 persons have been prosecuted and 19 (10 males and 9 females) were convicted, mostly Dominican nationals.

Source: Ministerio Publico – Dominican Republic.

In Jamaica, between 2010 and 2013 seven trafficking investigations were launched and 12 persons have been prosecuted (5 males and 7 females). No convictions have been recorded during the period here considered.

Source: Jamaica Constabulary Force.

During the period March-August 2012, United Nations Mission for Stabilization in Haiti (MINUSTAH) reported five cases of child trafficking and six cases of child abduction. During the period August 2012 - March 2013 no cases of trafficking have been reported, but 28 cases of child abduction were conducted during the same period.


No cases of trafficking in persons have been investigated in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, in Grenada and in the Bahamas during the period here considered.
In Trinidad and Tobago, during the year 2013, two cases of trafficking in persons have been investigated and four males, local nationals have been charged for trafficking in persons related offences.

Source: Ministry of National Security-Trinidad and Tobago.

**Victims**

In Barbados, the national Police identified 10 women victims of sexual exploitation in the year 2013. Victims were all nationals of Guyana.

Source: Royal Barbados Police Forces.

In the year 2012, 13 victims have been identified as victims of trafficking, four women and nine girls, all local nationals and sexually exploited.

Source: Tribunal Supremo Popular – Cuba.

Between 2011 and 2013, 182 victims of trafficking (155 children and 27 adults) have been detected in the Dominican Republic. Most of the victims were local nationals, while 36% were Haitian nationals. One victim from East Asia was detected in 2013.

Source: Ministerio Publico – Dominican Republic.

In Jamaica, between 2010 and 2013 43 victims of trafficking have been detected. 28 victims were children (21 boys, 5 girls) and 15 adults (8 males, 7 females). Victims were trafficked mainly from Central America and other countries of the Caribbean. Victims from South Asia and East Asia were also detected. Victims were trafficked for forced labour (30) and for sexual exploitation (12).

Source: Jamaica Constabulary Force.

In Haiti, during the period here considered, MINUSTAH reported cross border trafficking with the Dominican Republic. MINUSTAH and The High Commissioner for Human Rights widely reported about the phenomenon of *restavek*, Haitian children exploited as domestic servants in Haiti and abroad. Also cases of illegal adoptions are reported. These authorities indicate also cross border trafficking transiting to the Dominican Republic.

Source: Rapports semestriel sur la situation des droits de l'homme en Haïti.

Since 2010, IOM assisted more than 774 victims of trafficking in Haiti. Most of these are *restavek* children.

In Trinidad and Tobago, national authorities report of 11 women victims of sexual exploitation detected between 2010 and 2012. Victims were mostly nationals of the Dominican Republic, and one from South America. In 2013, seven additional victims were detected, mostly women trafficked for sexual exploitation with the exception of one trafficked for domestic servitude. These victims were mostly South Americans and one trafficked from the Caribbean.

Source: Ministry of National Security-Trinidad and Tobago.
The current legislation on trafficking in persons in Costa Rica covers all forms of exploitation indicated in the UN Trafficking Protocol.

**Investigations and suspects**

The authorities reported 72 cases of trafficking in persons investigated between 2010 and 2011. During the same period, 75 persons have been prosecuted, and 17 (15 males and 2 females) convicted.

The persons convicted were all nationals of Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

Source: Poder Judicial - Departamento de Planificacion.

**Additional information**

The authorities in Costa Rica established a National Action Plan for the period 2011-2014. Four working Commissions are in place in order to address the crime of trafficking in persons; the Commission for Prevention, the Commission for Victim Protection, the Commission for Law Enforcement and the Commission for Information, Analysis and Investigation.
The current legislation on trafficking in persons in El Salvador covers all forms of exploitation indicated in the UN Trafficking Protocol.

**Investigations and suspects**

**Number of persons brought to the courts for trafficking in persons, by gender, 2010-2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>Males</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Fiscalia General de la Republica.

**Number of persons prosecuted for trafficking in persons, by gender, 2010-2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>Males</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Fiscalia General de la Republica.
Number of persons convicted of trafficking in persons, by gender, 2010-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>Males</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The persons convicted were all citizens of El Salvador, with the exception of one foreigner convicted in 2012.

Source: Fiscalia General de la Republica.

**Victims**

Number of detected victims of trafficking, by age and gender, 2010-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Fiscalia General de la Republica.
Number of detected victims of trafficking, by form of exploitation, 2010-2013

- Sexual exploitation, 285
- Forced labour, 5
- Organs removal, 1

Source: Fiscalía General de la República.

Number of detected victims of trafficking, by country of citizenship, 2010-2013

- El Salvador, 210
- Honduras, 8
- Nicaragua, 8
- Others, 8
- Unknown, 60

Source: Unidad Central de Análisis y Tratamiento de la Información (UCATI), Sub Dirección de Investigaciones. 2013 Sistema de Gestion Migratoria, Modulo de trata y trafico dirección General de Migración y Extranjería.
The Government of El Salvador established a National Action Plan against Human Trafficking for the period 2009-2012. The plan includes activities such as training material for civil servants active in the field of human trafficking, national guidelines to strengthen the inter-institutional coordination and cooperation in the work against human trafficking and inter-institutional guide for the prosecution on human trafficking offenses. El Salvador signed bilateral agreements with Costa Rica, Mexico and Guatemala. Similar agreements are currently in process with Nicaragua, Colombia and Belize.
The current legislation on trafficking in persons in Guatemala covers all forms of exploitation indicated in the UN Trafficking Protocol.

Investigations and suspects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Fiscalía de Sección contra la Trata de Personas.

The traffickers convicted were all Guatemalan citizens, with the exception of two foreigners.

Source: Fiscalía de Sección contra la Trata de Personas.
**Victims**

**Number of detected victims of trafficking, by gender and age, 2012**

- Boys, 14
- Girls, 45
- Women, 9

Source: Fiscalia de Seccion contra la Trata de Personas.

Victims were all trafficked for Sexual Exploitation.

Source: Fiscalia de Seccion contra la Trata de Personas.

**Guatemalan victims of trafficking detected abroad, by country of repatriation, 2010-2012**

- Mexico, 41
- Other Central America, 9
- Middle East, 16

Source: Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores.

During the reporting period, 12 victims detected in Guatemala were repatriated to their origin countries in Central and South America.

Source: Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores.
A new legislation on trafficking in persons covering all aspects listed in the UN Protocol was adopted in April 2012. The previous offence covered just trafficking for sexual exploitation.

*Investigations and suspects*

Local authorities report of 58 cases of trafficking for sexual exploitation investigated in 2010, and 44 in 2011. 23 prosecutions were conducted in 2010, and 13 in 2011. Six persons were convicted in 2010 and 7 in 2011.

Source: Ministerio Publico.
The current legislation on trafficking in persons in Mexico covers all forms of exploitation indicated in the UN Trafficking Protocol.

**Investigations and suspects**

**Number of cases investigated for trafficking in persons, 2010-2013**

![Number of cases investigated for trafficking in persons, 2010-2013](chart.png)

Source: Oficina de la Fiscalía Especializada para la Violencia contra la Mujer y el Tráfico de Personas (Fevimitra)/Subprocuraduría especializada en investigación de delincuencia organizada (SEIDO PGR)/Unidad Especializada en Investigación de tráfico de menores, personas y órganos.

**Number of persons prosecuted of trafficking in persons, by gender, 2010-2013**

![Number of persons prosecuted of trafficking in persons, by gender, 2010-2013](chart.png)

Source: Oficina de la Fiscalía Especializada para la Violencia contra la Mujer y el Tráfico de Personas (Fevimitra)/Subprocuraduría especializada en investigación de delincuencia organizada (SEIDO PGR)/Unidad Especializada en Investigacion de trafico de trafico de menores, personas y órganos.
Seven Mexican nationals (three males and four females) were convicted in 2011-2012. Other 56 persons were convicted in the year 2013.

Source: Instituto Nacional de Migración (INM)/Oficina de la Fiscalía Especializada para la Violencia contra la Mujer y el Tráfico de Personas (Fevimitra)/Procuraduría Social de Atención a las víctimas de delitos (PROVÍCTIMA).

**Victims**

**Number of detected victims of trafficking, by age and gender, 2010-2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children unknown gender</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Instituto Nacional de Migracion (INM)/ Oficina de la Fiscalia Especializada para la Violencia contra la Mujer y el Tráfico de Personas (Fevimitra)/Subprocuraduria especializada en investigación de delincuencia organizada (SEIDO PGR)/Unidad Especializada en Investigacion de trafico de menores, personas y órganos.

**Number of detected victims of trafficking, by form of exploitation, 2010-2013**

- Sexual Exploitation: 402
- Forced Labour: 259
- Labour Exploitation: 33

Source: Instituto Nacional de Migración (INM)/ Oficina de la Fiscalía Especializada para la Violencia contra la Mujer y el Tráfico de Personas (Fevimitra)/Subprocuraduría especializada en investigación de delincuencia organizada (SEIDO PGR)/Unidad Especializada en Investigación de tráfico de menores, personas y órganos.
Number of detected victims of trafficking, by country of citizenship, 2010-2013

Mexico, 354
Guatemala, 204
Honduras, 76
Haiti, 20
Colombia, 20
Other, 81

Source: Instituto Nacional de Migración (INM)/ Oficina de la Fiscalía Especializada para la Violencia contra la Mujer y el Tráfico de Personas (Fevimitra)/Subprocuraduría especializada en investigación de delincuencia organizada (SEIDO PGR)/Unidad Especializada en Investigación de tráfico de menores, personas y órganos.
The current legislation on trafficking in persons in Nicaragua covers all forms of exploitation indicated in the UN Trafficking Protocol.

*Investigations and suspects*

National authorities reported to have prosecuted 57 cases of trafficking in persons between 2010 and November 2012. During the same period, 40 persons have been prosecuted and 22 convicted.

Source: Ministerio Publico.

*Victims*

In the year 2011, the authorities detected 86 victims, 68 females and 18 males. Seven of them were children, the rest adults.

Source: Ministerio Publico.

The International Organization for Migration documented cases of trafficking for domestic servitude, involving young women and girls from the eastern coast and from the rural areas trafficked to the Pacific coast. Spain is reported as a destination for Nicaraguan women exploited for labour and domestic servitude. IOM reported about men exploited in agriculture and in the construction sector, and the existence of sexual exploitation, especially in the touristic areas.

Source: IOM.
The current legislation on trafficking in persons in Panama was adopted in December 2011. The current law considers all aspects of trafficking indicated in the UN Trafficking Protocol, while the previous offence only criminalized trafficking for sexual exploitation.

Investigations and suspects

The authorities report that four persons (three men and one woman) were prosecuted for trafficking in persons since the law was adopted. No convictions have been registered during the period here considered.

Source: Fiscalía Especializada Contra la Delincuencia Organizada.
The United States of America criminalizes trafficking for sexual exploitation and forced labour.

**Investigations and suspects**

**Number of persons against whom prosecution was commenced for trafficking in persons at federal level, FY2010 – FY2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of persons prosecuted</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Department of State.

**Number of persons convicted of trafficking in persons offences at federal level, FY2010 – FY2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of persons convicted</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Fiscal years (FY) in the USA run from 1 October -30 September. For example, FY-2010 started on 1 October 2009 and ended on 30 September 2010. The numbers concerning prosecutions and convictions
include only proceedings related to federal trafficking in persons offences. They do not include prosecutions of human traffickers investigated for human trafficking, but tried and convicted of other non-trafficking offences based on the same conduct. They also do not include state-based prosecutions and convictions.

Source: U.S. Department of State.

**Victims**

*Foreign certified victims of trafficking in persons, by age, FY2010-FY2012*

![Chart showing foreign certified victims of trafficking in persons by age, FY2010-FY2012*](chart.png)

- **Women**: 202, 255, 231
- **Men**: 247, 208, 135
- **Girls**: 54, 60, 40
- **Boys**: 38, 41, 63

Source: U.S. Department of State.
Number of foreigners certified as victims of trafficking, by citizenship, FY2010-FY2012*

Mexico, 20%
Honduras, 9%
Guatemala, 5%
El Salvador, 5%
China, 2%
Thailand, 12%
Philippines, 13%
India, 9%
Others, 25%

Source: U.S. Department of State.

Number of foreigners certified as victims of trafficking, by forms of exploitation FY2010-FY2012*

Sexual exploitation, 323
Forced labour, 1134
Mixed Sexual and Labour exploitation, 117

Source: U.S. Department of State.

*Fiscal years (FY) in the USA run from 1 October -30 September. For example, FY-2010 started on 1 October 2009 and ended on 30 September 2010. The Department of Health and Human Services provides data disaggregated by gender on a subset of foreign national victims of human trafficking who have received certification and eligibility letters. The numbers above do not include information concerning national victims that are detected and assisted by the competent national authorities. U.S. citizens victims of trafficking can access services at the local level, but they do not need to be certified by the Department of Health and Human Services or receive immigration relief to do so.
Additional Information

The U.S. government supports all victims, male and female, foreign and U.S. citizen, during trafficking investigations and prosecutions by funding victim services providers and increasing the number of victim assistance coordinators in field offices. Federally-funded victim assistance includes case management and referrals, medical and dental care, translation and interpretation services, substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, immigration and legal assistance, sustenance and shelter, employment and training services, transportation assistance, and other essential services.

Federal funding specifically for victims of human trafficking is provided by the Department of Health and Human Services’ (HHS) Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) on a per capita basis for foreign national victims and by DOJ’s Office of Victims of Crime (OVC) through grants to non-governmental organizations funded to support services for all victims of human trafficking that may be identified within a specific geographic area. HHS-ORR and DOJ-OVC collect data on the number of trafficking victims in the United States provided with services funded or administered from these dedicated funds by the respective agency. However, the exact number of victims assisted is unknown because some were assisted with funding from both agencies but an unduplicated count is not available. In addition, victims of human trafficking may receive services from other federally-funded systems that do not provide disaggregated data specific to human trafficking.

HHS issues a Certification Letter (or, in the case of a minor, an Eligibility Letter) that enables a foreign national adult victim to receive certain federally-funded benefits and services to the same extent as a refugee when the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) grants Continued Presence or when a human trafficking victim has made a *bona fide* application for -T- nonimmigrant status. Certification should not be equated with victim identification, because not all victims are certified; U.S. citizen victims can access services at the local level, but they do not need to be certified by HHS or receive immigration relief to do so.