



APRIL 2011

SPECIAL REPORT

NCJ 233732

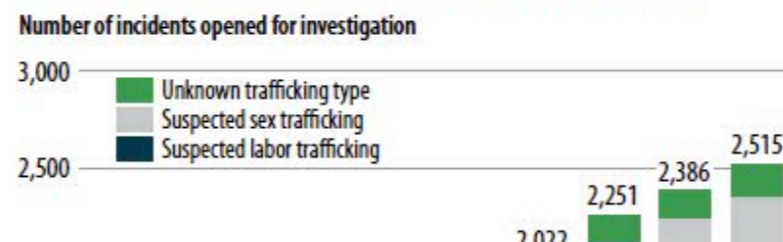
<http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/cshti0810.pdf>

Characteristics of Suspected Human Trafficking Incidents, 2008-2010

by Duren Banks and Tracey Kyckelhahn, BJS Statisticians

Federally funded human trafficking task forces opened 2,515 suspected incidents of human trafficking for investigation between January 2008 and June 2010 (figure 1). Most suspected incidents of human trafficking were classified as sex trafficking (82%), including more than 1,200 incidents with allegations of adult sex trafficking and more than 1,000 incidents with allegations of prostitution or sexual exploitation of a child. Eleven percent of the suspected incidents opened for investigation were classified as labor trafficking, and 7% had an unknown trafficking type.

FIGURE 1
Cumulative number of incidents of human trafficking between January 2008 and June 2010, by suspected trafficking type and reported investigation start date



HIGHLIGHTS

- Federally funded task forces opened 2,515 suspected incidents of human trafficking for investigation between January 2008 and June 2010.
- About 8 in 10 of the suspected incidents of human trafficking were classified as sex trafficking, and about 1 in 10 incidents were classified as labor trafficking.
- Federal agencies were more likely to lead labor trafficking investigations (29%) than sex trafficking investigations (7%).
- Among the 389 incidents confirmed to be human trafficking by high data quality task forces—
 - There were 488 suspects and 527 victims.
 - More than half (62%) of the confirmed labor trafficking victims were age 25 or older, compared to 13% of confirmed sex trafficking victims.
 - Confirmed sex trafficking victims were more likely to be white (26%) or black (40%), compared to labor trafficking victims, who were more likely to be Hispanic (63%) or Asian (17%).
- Four-fifths of victims in confirmed sex trafficking incidents were identified as U.S. citizens (83%), while most confirmed labor trafficking victims were identified as undocumented aliens (67%) or qualified aliens (28%).
- Most confirmed human trafficking suspects were male (81%). More than half (62%) of confirmed sex trafficking suspects were identified as black, while confirmed labor trafficking suspects were more likely to be identified as Hispanic (48%).
- Among trafficking incidents opened for at least one year, 30% were confirmed to be human trafficking, 38% were confirmed not to be human trafficking, and the remaining incidents were still open at the end of the study period.
- The confirmed human trafficking incidents open for at least a year led to 144 known arrests.

Over a period of 30 months, the US Government reported the following information relating to alleged human trafficking victims:

Federally funded task forces opened 2,515 suspected incidents of human trafficking for investigation between January 2008 and June 2010.

From January 2008 to September 2008, there is an overlap with the 2007- 2008 stats, which can be found on previous pages.

The statistics from 2008- 2010 (30 months) indicate that there were **approximately 83 alleged victims per month** reported.

At the closed of this report, **30% WERE confirmed to be human trafficking, 38% confirmed NOT to be human trafficking (totaling 68% of cases investigated)** and the remaining incidents were undetermined at the end of the study period (32%).

Continued next page

WHERE ARE THE VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING?