



Interagency Task Force
on Human Trafficking

2020

Annual Report

New York State Interagency Task Force on Human Trafficking
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**New York State
Interagency Task Force on Human Trafficking
2020 Annual Report**

This report is submitted by the New York State Interagency Task Force on Human Trafficking as required by Section 483-ee (c) of the New York State Social Services Law. It details information about the Task Force's activities and the individual agencies and their efforts to fight human trafficking throughout New York State.

Representatives from two state agencies, the Division of Criminal Justice Services and the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, serve as co-chairs of the Interagency Task Force and staff from those agencies support its work.

Kathy Hochul
Governor
State of New York

Daniel W. Tietz
Acting Commissioner
New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

Rossana Rosado
Acting Commissioner
New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services

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Overview

The New York State Interagency Task Force on Human Trafficking coordinates all the state's interagency activities regarding human trafficking. The commissioner or a designee from the state Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) and the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) co-chair the Task Force, which also has representation from the Department of Health (DOH), the Office of Mental Health (OMH), the Department of Labor (DOL), the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), the Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS), the Office of Victim Services (OVS), the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV), and the New York State Police (NYSP).

Established in 2007, the Task Force emerged from state legislation enacted to target sex and labor trafficking and to support the victims of these crimes. Under this law, OTDA and DCJS began confirming human trafficking referrals from law enforcement so that victims would be eligible for assistance and services. The Task Force was reauthorized by the state Legislature in 2016. For the first time, agencies other than law enforcement could submit human trafficking referrals to the two agencies. As a result of this change, OTDA and DCJS experienced a 150 percent increase in referrals in 2016. Referral levels have remained consistent since this time. The Task Force will continue to exercise its authority to address the needs of trafficking victims.

The Task Force was presented with numerous challenges in 2020, including the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic during the late winter. Task Force members participated in one informal in-person meeting in January at the State University of New York at Albany, which coincided with a roundtable discussion at the campus in recognition of [National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month](#).

Subsequent Task Force meetings were conducted remotely due to the global health crisis. At the meeting in June, Task Force members discussed responses to COVID-19 from service providers and reviewed graphics drafted for a social media awareness campaign. In September, the Western New York Task Force conducted a remote presentation of its regional operations. The December meeting featured a planning session for the 2021 Human Trafficking Awareness Month and a discussion about a digital handbook in the making to assist service providers and victim advocates with making human trafficking referrals.

Referrals to the state's Response to Human Trafficking Program in 2020 significantly outpaced recent years, with 338 cases—more than any prior year since the referral process was started in 2007. Of these referrals, 300 were confirmed: 79 for labor trafficking, 205 for sex trafficking, and 16 for both. These cases were spread throughout the state, with 115 in New York City, 60 in the Long Island and lower Hudson Valley regions, and 126 Upstate.

In addition to outlining its duties, the Task Force is required by New York State Social Services Law Section 483-ee (b) to collect and organize data detailing the nature and extent of human trafficking throughout the state. Attachment A includes a summary of this data.

Interagency Task Force Activities

The Task Force engaged in collaborative and individual agency efforts to respond to human trafficking in New York State.

Member Collaborations

Task Force Training and Outreach

The Task Force sponsored a panel discussion at the State University of New York at Albany, where advocates discussed the nature of human trafficking and its nuances as part of National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month in January 2020. Facilitated by the student group, [UAlbany Students Stopping Trafficking of People](#), the discussion brought together members of the community to take a closer look at trafficking in the eight-county Capital Region. The panel discussed how areas like this can be readily exploited by traffickers, due to its characteristics and proximity to a major urban center like New York City. The panel also discussed how the approximately 100 victims confirmed in the Capital Region since 2007 is likely underrepresented since many trafficking cases go unreported. The panel discussed how traffickers can recognize vulnerability and effectively use coercion to identify individuals they can exploit and then compel into service. “[Victims] end up in a trafficking situation and they don’t even know how they got there,” explained Sarah McGaughnea, a program director at Unity House of Troy, Inc. a service provider under contract with OTDA, who spoke on the panel. “This can happen to anybody.”



#TruthAboutTrafficking Awareness Campaign

The Task Force launched a statewide social media campaign in June 2020 to raise awareness of human trafficking and help dispel common misconceptions about the crime and its victims. With assistance from member agencies, the Task Force produced [seven unique graphics](#) to share on social media, with each including a quote about human trafficking that is either false or misleading. Underneath each quote is a fact that corrects the misconception and provides the contact information for victims to get help and for the public or service providers to report trafficking.



The graphics were shared on the social media pages of the Task Force’s member agencies along with the hashtag, #TruthAboutTrafficking. Digital posters were also displayed at New York State Thruway service areas over the summer. The campaign coincided with a period when human trafficking referrals were steadily rising statewide. The New York State Trafficking Victim Referral Process received 177 referrals between January 2020 and June 2020, a 70-percent increase over the same period in 2019.

Regional Task Forces

There are four regional task forces in specific geographic areas of the state: North Country, Capital Region, Central New York, and Southern Tier. Each regional group meets separately and includes representatives from law enforcement, advocates, and service providers. The Task Force lends support to these groups and is dedicated to ensuring their efficacy. Individually, the regional task forces seek to address needs specific to their area and provide a network of services to address the unique needs of trafficking victims.

The federal Bureau of Justice Assistance also funds regional task forces in Western New York and the New York City area. Both are also supported by the state Task Force through various training opportunities and collaborations. Representatives from OTDA participate on the New York City task force, while DCJS representatives attend most meetings of the upstate regional task forces.

Individual Member Agency Efforts

Division of Criminal Justice Services and Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

These agencies direct the focus and goals of the Task Force, providing statewide coordination for delivering services to victims of human trafficking. Both agencies participate in regional task forces, collaborate with state, local and federal partners, and help address issues involving human trafficking throughout New York. Collectively, they offered 30 training opportunities that were attended by more than 1,000 law enforcement officers, service providers and advocates. Despite the restrictions and conditions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, both agencies assured victim advocates and service providers that they had staff in place to address the needs of victims they served and provided continued support. Additionally, during this historically perilous period, the two agencies met training needs as requested by providers through remote and live presentations, of course following appropriate safety guidelines.

DCJS and OTDA coordinate the referral process for human trafficking victims under New York's Social Services Law. When a law enforcement agency or service provider identifies a human trafficking victim, the source submits a referral that is automatically transmitted to both agencies. The law requires consultation between the referral source, OTDA and DCJS. State regulations then provide a framework for DCJS to review the referral and, after consultation with OTDA, confirm whether the individual is a victim of human trafficking. The COVID-19 pandemic provided several challenges to this process in 2020.

At the outset of the pandemic, referral sources raised issues about the referral process. Prior to 2020, referrals could be submitted by fax only. Referral sources, having been forced from their offices due to the pandemic, often lacked access to fax machines. In the short term, DCJS and OTDA implemented an email policy — eliminating personally identifying information for security reasons — so that agencies lacking access to a fax machine could continue making referrals. In the meantime, DCJS and OTDA established a new electronic submission procedure to eventually replace the fax system. That system is presently in place, allowing for a much more efficient and expedited confirmation process.

This confirmation enables victims to access services through the [New York State Response to Human Trafficking Program](#). Established by OTDA when New York's human trafficking statutes were enacted, this program offers a coordinated, community-based approach and comprehensive case management to trafficking victims as they are identified through specified regions within New York State.

Each region is served by contracted providers. Through these efforts, trafficking victims receive a broad range of services including health care, counselling, job placement, food, clothing, and shelter. Between 2007 and 2020, there were 1,992 individuals referred as possible victims of human trafficking, with 1,841 of them ultimately confirmed and found eligible for services. For information on the demographics of these victims, please see Attachment A.

New York State Police

The State Police conducted undercover operations and investigations statewide to identify both victims and perpetrators of human trafficking. Generally, the largest hurdle facing these investigations was gaining cooperation from potential victims.

- **Special Investigations Unit:**

In January 2020, the Special Investigations Unit based in Rochester began a sex trafficking investigation that resulted in a perpetrator being charged with sex trafficking, criminal possession and sale of controlled substances, conspiracy to commit murder, forgery, unlawful surveillance, dissemination of an unlawful image, criminal use of a benefit card, sale of untaxed cigarettes, endangering the welfare of a child, and tampering with a witness. The individual and three associates were subsequently arraigned on a 50-count indictment stemming from the sex trafficking ring.

- Members of the unit based in Valhalla utilized fictitious social media and dating accounts for criminal investigations and intelligence gathering and often scrape these sites for any potential signs of human trafficking.

- **New York State Intelligence Center:**

The Center helped develop and support human trafficking investigations, thereby furthering the understanding of the threat that such crimes pose throughout the state. The Center collaborated with local, state, and federal agencies to further investigations and identify new victims. This work helped identify elements of labor and sex trafficking in cases focused on money laundering, gang activity and gun violence. In these instances, traffickers tended to exploit vulnerable populations, including minors and undocumented individuals.

- **Troopers and Computer Crimes Unit:**

Troopers conducted undercover investigations into prostitution and illicit activity at massage parlors to identify victims and perpetrators of sex trafficking. Troopers conducted child enticement investigations that resulted in arrests of individuals attempting to meet with a child for sex. Many of these cases are prosecuted federally. State police also assisted the FBI and U.S. Homeland Security task forces, which are designed specifically to investigate child exploitation and human trafficking. Noteworthy investigations include the following:

- o In May 2020, investigators from Troop A in Clarence opened an investigation into a trafficking ring after a man who solicited a local escort service was robbed of \$200 and extorted an additional \$2,400. The women he accused led investigators to a 43-year-old man who was exploiting them and four others for services, managing their activities and sharing the proceeds of their prostitution acts. Working with the Erie County District Attorney's Office and the Western New York Human Trafficking Task Force, investigators arrested the man and he later admitted to promoting prostitution.
- o Troop B assisted the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in investigating a smuggling organization transporting Turkish citizens of Kurdish origin through Central America and Mexico into the United States to assume illegal residence and employment or to travel into Canada to claim refugee status. The trafficking organization used the United States as a conduit to get its victims into Canada, where they were put to work for a Canadian crime organization until their debt was paid. The Turkish smuggler who initiated the human trafficking was subsequently arrested in Turkey.
- o Acting on a tip from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, an investigator with Troop B arrested a local man on numerous charges related to child pornography. Due to the volume of material recovered, federal prosecution may be pending.
- o Troop D conducted investigations into several Asian massage parlors where sex trafficking and prostitution were occurring. These cases resulted in four felony arrests for unlicensed operation, three prostitution arrests and a cash seizure of \$41,000.
- o A 24-year-old male from Rochester was arrested on federal child enticement charges resulting from an undercover investigation by Troop E. The suspect contacted an investigator posing online as

the stepmother of a 13-year-old female and selling the child for sex. The suspect offered to pay the stepmother to have sex with the child and was subsequently arrested when he attempted to meet them at a local apartment complex.

- o In May 2020, Troop G investigators arrested two individuals in connection with interstate sex trafficking. The individuals were trafficking a woman who had been reported missing to the Vermont State Police. While in New York, the suspects arranged for the woman to use her earnings from commercial sex to purchase narcotics from their associates.
- o In June 2020, Troop G joined an undercover operation with the FBI in Warren County that resulted in the arrest of a man communicating with an undercover investigator he believed to be an 11-year-old girl. The man was subsequently charged with the federal offense of sex trafficking.
- o Troop K investigators conducted cellular phone and app communications (Tinder, Grinder, Snapchat, etc.) with suspected perpetrators through undercover accounts and account takeovers from minors or victims. These communications led to arrests.

Office of Addiction Services and Supports

The agency continues to promote "[Counselor Sensitivity to Sex Work and Substance Use Disorders](#)," a 90-minute distance learning segment that was featured on Learning Thursdays, the agency's series of training videos geared toward the state's addiction and substance use disorder workforce. The video was viewed by 1,348 individuals seeking certification as a credentialed alcoholism and substance abuse counselor. The agency also featured a second presentation, "The Intersection of Sex Trafficking, Trauma, and Substance Abuse," which was available from January 2020 through October 2020. This program discussed clinical counselor knowledge and abilities for assisting clients experiencing trauma related to sex work. There were 513 viewers who sought credentialing clock hours associated with this video.

The agency's addiction treatment centers were able to identify subject matter experts to provide training to 55 agency staff members in October 2020. The training, Trauma Informed Care: Transforming Principles into Practice, featured Dr. Anita Ravi, co-founder of Purple Health Foundation, who discussed the appropriate treatment environment for individuals subjected to human trafficking. The centers also worked with the State University of New York at Buffalo's School of Social Work to receive training in developing and implementing a trauma informed environment.

Like many other areas of government, the centers were greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Treatment programs had their capacity halved and the human trafficking intervention courts were closed. Despite these closures, the centers did receive seven direct referrals and were actively involved in the development and coordination with human trafficking intervention courts in Buffalo, Rochester, Utica, Watertown, and Suffolk County.

All patients discharged from the centers receive a discharge transition plan, which includes a list of appointments and aftercare treatment services; a list of supports, including self-help, peers, and hot line telephone numbers in the event of a relapse; and contact information to the Human Trafficking Resource Center. All discharge plans are reviewed by the multi-disciplinary treatment team to ensure that the individual has met court conditions, has appropriate and safe housing, and has treatment appointments to support on-going recovery of their substance use disorder.

Department of Labor

The agency's Division of Immigrant Policy and Affairs (DIPA) uses a trauma-informed practice to evaluate potential labor trafficking situations. The division conducts outreach throughout the state, covering worker's rights under New York State Labor Law, including the right to be free from retaliation or the employer's use of force, fraud, or coercion to compel an individual to work. DIPA's counsel additionally conducts outreach to community-based organizations on labor trafficking and the agency's areas of service to victims, including referrals to the Response to Human Trafficking Program and law enforcement; investigations of unpaid wages; and U and T Visa certifications for immigrant victims of employment-related crime.

DIPA conducted an outreach push during Human Trafficking Awareness Month in January 2020, featuring 110 anti-trafficking posters in English and Spanish that were posted in grocery stores, churches, gas stations, community centers, laundries, schools, and other visible areas throughout the state. DIPA’s counsel was featured at six events on labor trafficking that were attended by 576 participants in locations extending between Ulster County and Nassau County. DIPA staff also accompany Labor Standards investigators on field visits and meet with workers individually to educate on labor rights and offer referrals to labor trafficking victim services.

The agency continued issuing U and T visa certificates to immigrant victims of crime in the workplace, a process that began in 2012 and 2015 respectively. These certifications are an essential component of an application for a humanitarian visa for immigrant victims of enumerated qualifying criminal activities. If granted by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, the victim receives employment authorization and a four-year visa. These visas provide a substantial benefit to immigrant victims by resolving a major point of vulnerability.

All agency staff that interact with the public receive an annual one-hour training covering the legal definition of trafficking and an overview of victim typology; red flags and examples of labor trafficking, the Response to Human Trafficking Program; and areas of service for labor trafficking victims, including the provision of U and T visa certifications. Staff are advised to refer any potential trafficking to the DIPA counsel and to ask no questions about immigration status unless it is required by their division policies.

Office of Children and Family Services

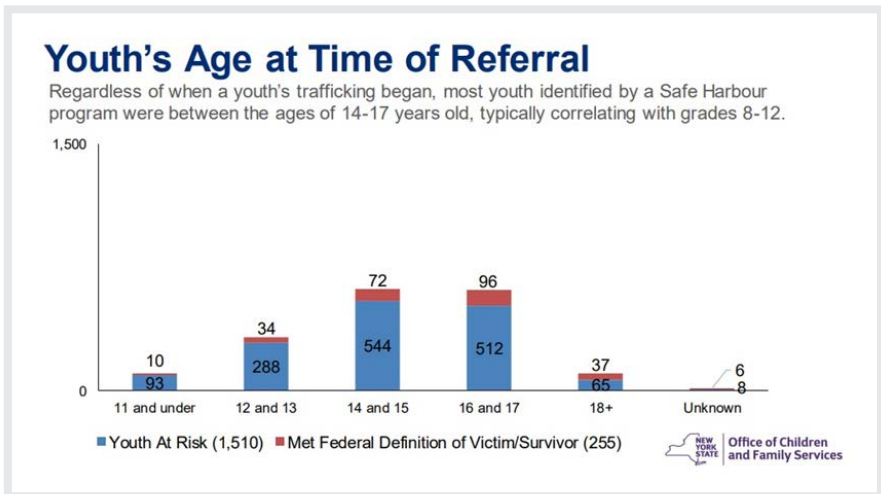
OCFS continued to support the [Safe Harbour: NY program](#), which funds and supports counties in developing a child welfare-led response to trafficking, in addition to an annual conference to offer training and technical assistance to youth-serving professionals throughout the state. Safe Harbour is focused on identifying and meeting the service, opportunity and support needs of children and youth who are at risk of or have been victims of trafficking. The program achieved its full scale for the first time, with participation from each county.

The pandemic highlighted the need for guidance and resources for youth, adults and providers on the safety of digital platforms. OCFS conducted its annual summit for Safe Harbour programs and anti-trafficking service providers in October 2020, with a theme of “Making Connections: Navigating Social Media Safely with Youth.” The weeklong virtual event included presentations from nationally recognized anti-trafficking organizations, including Shared Hope, Thorne, ChildSafe AI and National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

In addition, many other Safe Harbour partners provided presentations on their use of social media and technology for case management and community engagement. OCFS also dedicated a section of [the agency’s YouTube channel](#) to store presentation and training videos related to child trafficking.

OCFS partnered with OTDA and DCJS to offer web-based training on the various ways child trafficking can be reported and survivors can be connected to services. OCFS also continued to offer in-house training, notably to personnel in the agency’s Division of Juvenile Justice and Opportunities for Success.

OCFS featured an essay on its social media accounts on child trafficking and its intersection with runaway and homelessness to mark National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. The agency also participated in the panel discussion hosted at the University at Albany.



Office of Mental Health

Spotlight on: Human Trafficking

Did you Know?

- Any person under age 18 who engages in a commercial sex act is a victim of human trafficking, regardless of whether there is force, fraud, or coercion.
- Men, women, and children of all ages, races, genders, and sexualities are at risk of human trafficking.
- Traffickers use physical force and psychological tactics to get their victims to do what they want, making false promises, threatening, manipulating, and/or defrauding their victims.
- Traffickers are often people their victims trust: romantic partners (or people they thought were romantically interested in them), friends, or family members (including parents).

Human trafficking is happening throughout New York State. In 2020, 62% of confirmed trafficking cases occurred outside of New York City, with the highest percentages in Westchester and Western NY.

Traffickers take advantage of people who are vulnerable. Some groups that are at higher risk include:

- people in unstable living situations;
- people who have experienced interpersonal violence and/or sexual abuse;
- people with mental health and/or substance use conditions; and
- people who are undocumented immigrants or have limited access to safe social supports in their community.

Take Action

For the Community

Learn the signs of human trafficking through trustworthy websites. Here are a few we recommend:

- The NYS Interagency Task Force on Human Trafficking: <https://tasks.ny.gov/interagency-human-trafficking-task-force>
- Polaris operates the National Human Trafficking Hotline: <https://polarisproject.org>

If you suspect trafficking, report it. The National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) is a toll-free and confidential hotline, available to answer calls from anywhere in the country. 24/7 Call 1-888-873-7888 or text BeFree to 233733. If you believe a person's life is in immediate danger, call 911.

Help increase awareness about trafficking. Share NYS' #TruthAboutTrafficking awareness campaign on social media: <https://tasks.ny.gov/interagency-human-trafficking-task-force>

For Providers

Take a critical look at how your workplace screens and identifies people who are at risk of human trafficking. Learn more about how to identify human trafficking here: <https://tasks.ny.gov/interagency-human-trafficking-task-force> and how to screen children and youth here: <https://tasks.ny.gov/interagency-human-trafficking-task-force>

Learn what resources for human trafficking victims and survivors are available in your community. Check out: <https://humantrafficking.ny.gov/interagency-human-trafficking-task-force> and for information on resources in NYC: <http://nysic.ny.gov/interagency-human-trafficking-task-force>

Seek out training and continuing education on human trafficking. Trainings are available through the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), Office for Temporary Disability Assistance (OTDA), and the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS). Continuing education is also available through The National Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistance Center (NHTTAC) and Polaris.

Need Help?

Human Trafficking Resource Center: 1-888-873-7888 or text BeFree to 233733
Crisis Text Line: Text COTS to 747474
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
NY Project Hope Emotional Support Helpline: 1-844-863-9314
OMH's Customer Relations: 1-800-597-5481

Office of Mental Health

The Office of Mental Health supports the Task Force’s mission by providing trauma-informed mental health services to individuals within the agency’s system that are identified as victims or survivors of human trafficking. In 2020, the agency did an assessment of the services available to meet the needs of human trafficking victims and survivors via its field offices throughout the state, with the resulting feedback used to inform how these individuals may be better served within the system of care. The agency also established an Anti-Human Trafficking Workgroup with representatives from its various divisions to assist with reviewing proposed changes to staff training; screening and assessment; documentation; and reporting within licensed and funded programs.

The agency also reached out to Task Force partners to discuss existing training and offered to assist any forthcoming updates to ensure there is consideration of potential immediate and long-term mental health service needs for trafficking victims and survivors. Staff also continued to participate in the Task Force meetings, offering to share awareness and educational campaigns from the other member agencies on its social media pages and website.

The agency continued to promote anti-human trafficking activities internally by coordinating with its field offices to disperse training opportunities and resources to its licensed and funded programs. The Public Information Office designed an ‘[OMH Spotlight on Human Trafficking](#)’ infographic with feedback from Task Force partner agencies for National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month in January 2021.

Department of Health

The agency was largely limited to attending Interagency Task Force meetings due to its ongoing statewide response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the Bureau of Community Support Services, the agency informed funded providers of the human trafficking identification and reporting processes.

Office of Victim Services

OVS continues to fund 28 programs that either exclusively serve victims of human trafficking or assist victims of this crime, as well as other crime victims. Additional OVS-funded programs also may encounter and serve individuals who identify as being a victim of human trafficking. From Oct. 1, 2019 through Sept. 30, 2020, programs funded by OVS assisted 4,973 individuals who were victims of human trafficking, a 72 percent increase, compared to 2,884 individuals assisted during the prior reporting period. Programs reported assisting 1,369 individuals who were victims of human trafficking between October 2020 and the end of the year.

The agency publishes a quarterly newsletter that is distributed to approximately 6,000 individuals. The Winter 2020 edition focused on Human Trafficking Awareness Month and included information detailing how OVS, OTDA, DCJS and OCFS work together and separately to provide compensation to victims; fund programs that help these victims; support victims and survivors with programs targeted to help them; and train industry professionals on how to identify, investigate and prosecute these crimes. This newsletter also provided links to additional information about human trafficking to raise awareness and greater understanding of this crime. Training efforts for 2020 were significantly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The agency continued to review and update training materials in anticipation of a comprehensive offering in 2021.

Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

Agency staff received training on human trafficking-related topics from DCJS' director of Human Trafficking Prevention, with specific regards to the new electronic referral system. The agency is working with domestic violence and sexual assault service providers via monthly meetings to relay this information. Human trafficking awareness was incorporated into the agency's public awareness and social media strategy. Agency staff helped to promote the Task Force's social media campaign in June 2020.

Other Activities

Department of State

The agency continued to address and engage the issue of human trafficking through a multi-level approach in 2020. This included referring specific human trafficking cases for assistance, training community partners across the state and integrating the response to human trafficking into broader policy initiatives. The agency's Division of Licensing Services' inspectors are trained to identify suspected cases of human trafficking as they inspect licensed establishments. This training incorporates DOS' internal referral process and is focused on a victims-first approach. DOS waits for the appropriate investigations to take place prior to issuing a licensing determination.

COVID-19-related closures of licensed nail salons — where most of the trafficking cases uncovered by the agency tend to originate — resulted in far fewer referrals in 2020. Still, the impact of the training has helped prevent other illegal behavior. An astute licensing investigator reported a salon business inspected the prior year under suspicion that employees were being compelled to engage in sex work. The case investigation was launched in 2020 and resulted in a DOS administrative judge finding in favor of the investigator's conclusions.

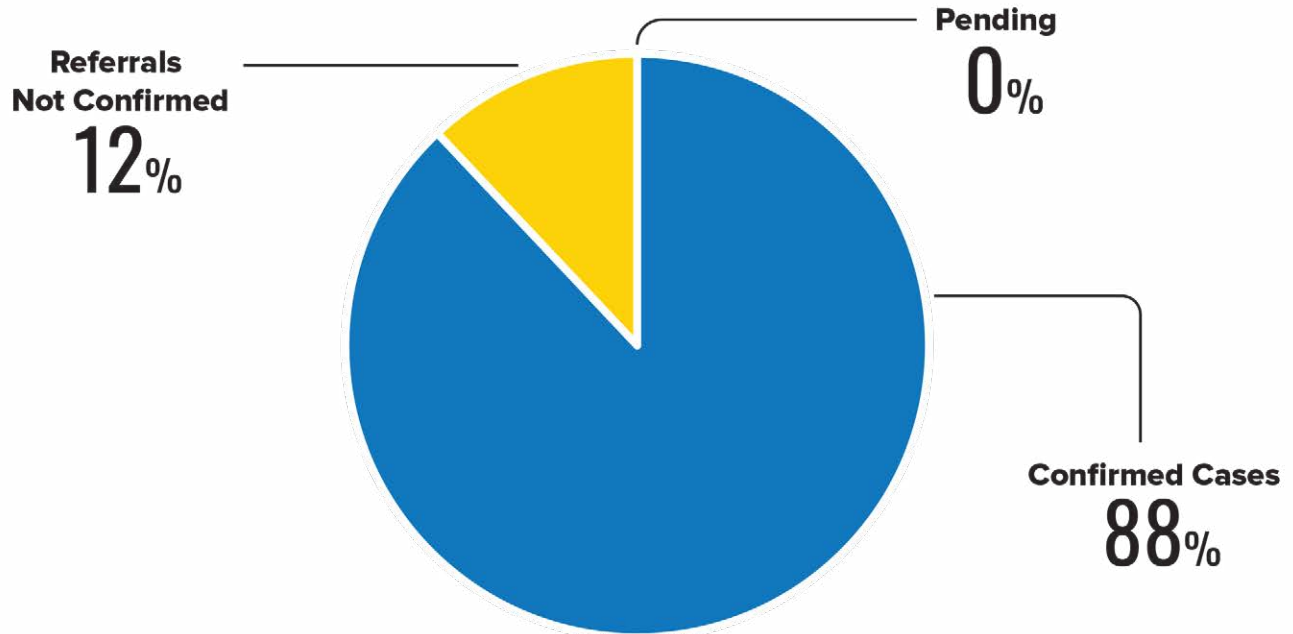
The agency's Office for New Americans engaged in various outreach and awareness efforts with its community-based partners and how to best assist those most affected by human trafficking in the immigrant community. These efforts included a domestic violence webinar in October 2020 that highlighted the Address Confidentiality Program now available for victims of trafficking. The program was utilized by 25 trafficking victims in 2020.

The New Americans Hotline (1-800-566-7636) also shares up-to-date information and resources with individuals across the state who call with human trafficking-related questions. The hotline received 14 human trafficking related calls in 2020.

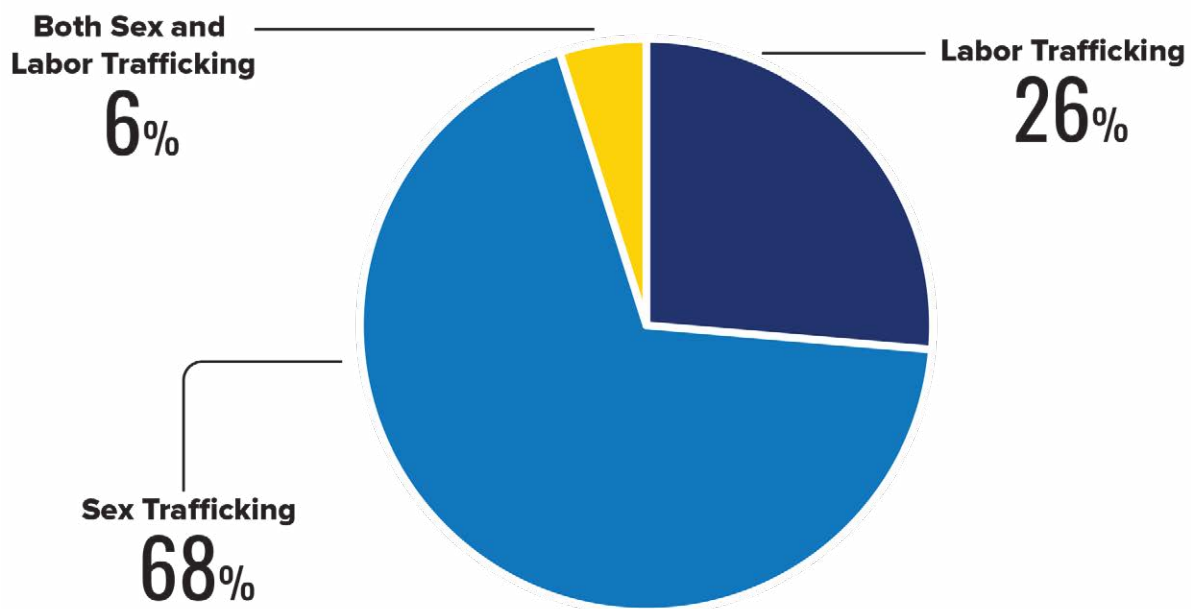
In November 2020, Ramirez June Developmental Disabilities Navigator Cynthia Stewart was the keynote speaker for the virtual Capital Region Culture of Respect and Empowerment Day, which brought in 35 viewers. Her presentation focused on human trafficking among new Americans with disabilities. This Initiative represents a collaboration between Unity House of Troy's Domestic Violence Services, the Independent Living Center of the Hudson Valley and the Sexual Assault and Crime Victims Assistance Program to help end abuse of people with disabilities.

Attachment A

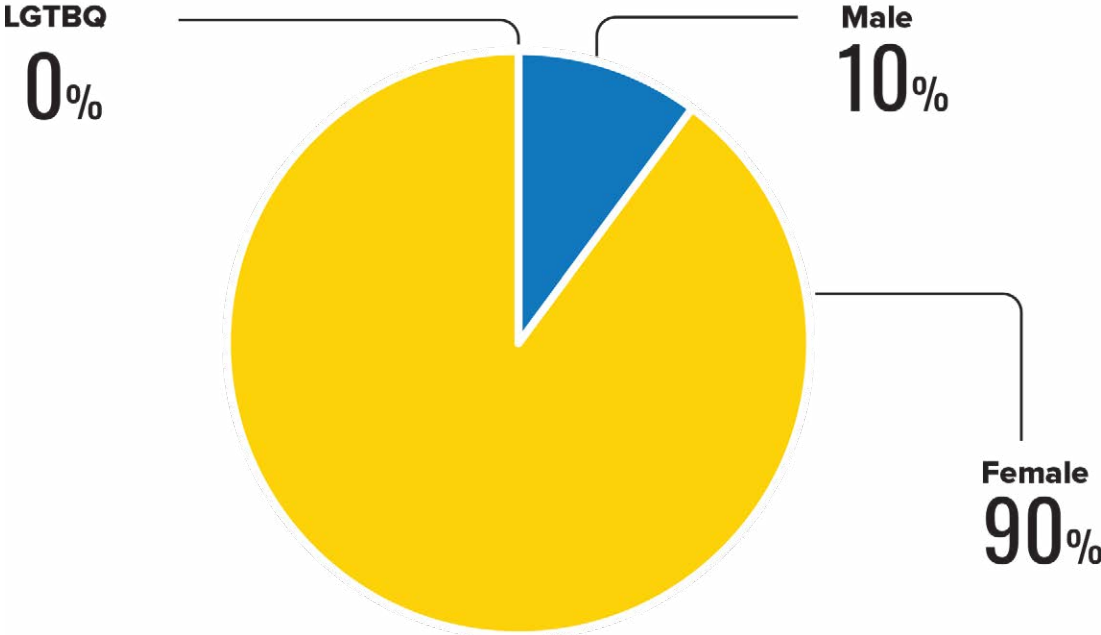
2020 Response to Human Trafficking Program Statistics Total Referrals 338



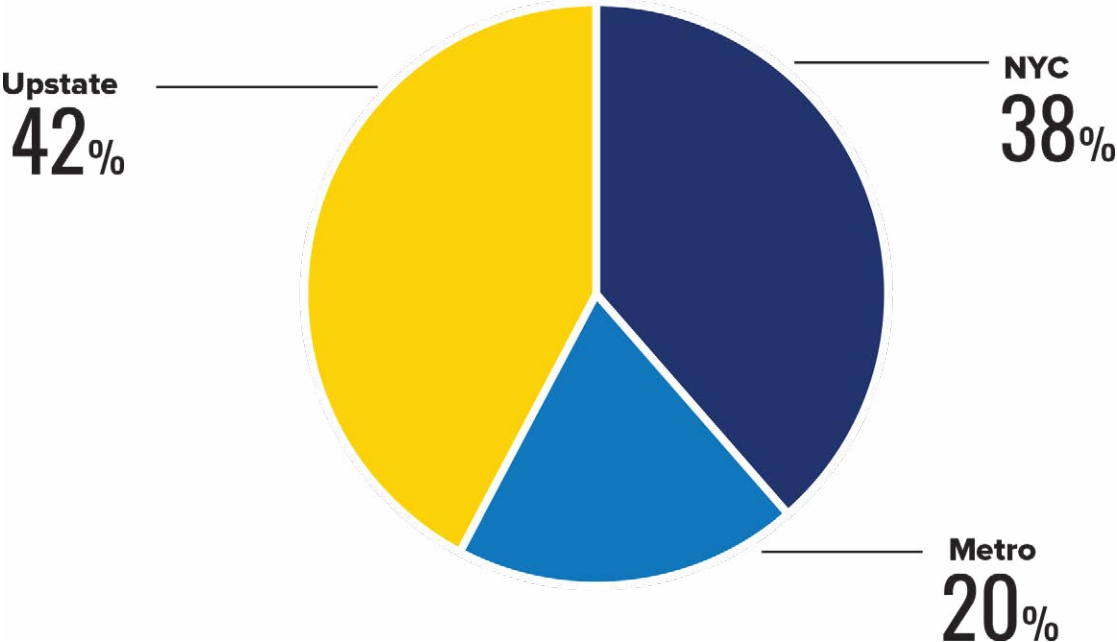
Confirmed Victims: Type of Trafficking



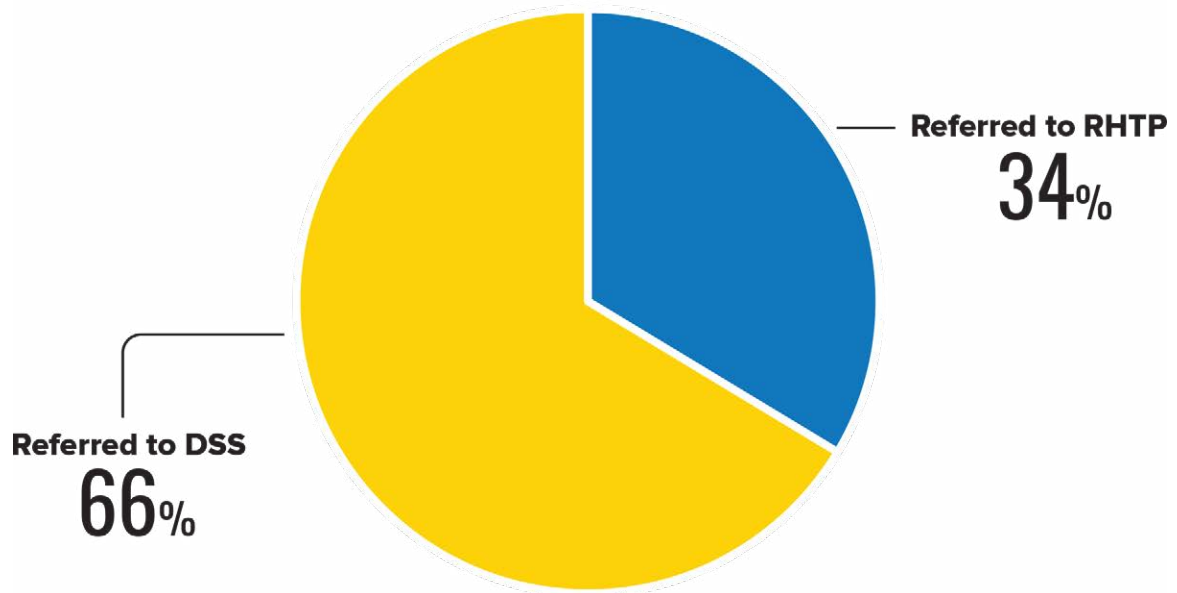
Gender



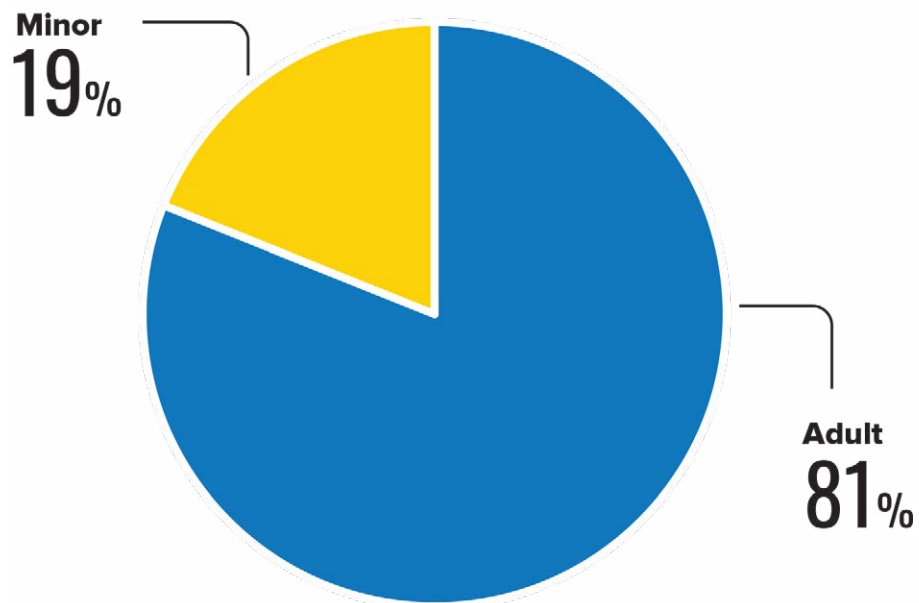
Region



Referral Status



Age



Response to Human Trafficking Program Statistics

(11/1/2007 – 12/31/2020, Source: OTDA)

Demographics

Total Confirmed Victims: 1,841

Female: 1,647

Male: 194

Adult (18 years and older): 1,392

Minor (younger than 18 years): 449

Overview of Referrals

Total Referrals: 1,992

Referrals Not Confirmed: 150

Referrals Pending Determination: 1

Offense

Sex Trafficking: 1,360

Labor Trafficking: 378

Both: 103

Victims by Region

New York City: 881

Metro: 411

Upstate: 619

Notes:

- More than half of confirmed victims were from outside of New York City.
- The “Metro” region includes: Dutchess, Nassau, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, Sullivan, Ulster, and Westchester counties.
- “Referrals not confirmed” include 86 denials, 58 duplicates, 5 withdrawals by referral source, and 1 inadmissible referral.

Arrests/Arraignments for Sex Trafficking (PL 230.34/ PL 230.34A)

		Arrest Year											
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total	
New York State	Total Arrests-Arraignments	66	67	55	70	51	67	86	112	60	41	675	
	Open, No Dispo Reported	5	1	5	1	2	11	16	46	50	40	142	
	Total Dispositions	61	66	50	69	49	56	73	70	13	1	508	
	Convicted	40	55	38	55	34	44	61	49	8	1	385	
	Covered by Another Case	2	1	1	1	6	0	5	5	3	0	24	
	Dismissed-ACD	2	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	6	
	Dismissed-not ACD	14	7	9	10	7	10	6	14	1	0	78	
	Acquitted	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	
	DA Declined to Prosecute	2	3	1	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	10	
	Other	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	4	
	Convictions to:	Sex Trafficking	6	12	15	15	13	14	23	12	3	0	113
		Labor Trafficking	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
		Non-Trafficking Chg	34	43	23	40	21	30	37	37	5	1	271
	Sentences to:	Prison	24	38	22	42	23	28	44	33	5	0	259
		Jail	7	6	4	3	5	8	7	6	1	0	47
		Time Served	2	1	1	3	1	1	0	2	1	1	13
		Jail+Probation	2	2	2	1	2	2	3	1	0	0	15
Probation		2	2	5	2	2	1	2	4	0	0	20	
Fine		0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	5	
Cond Discharge		3	4	3	3	1	3	4	3	1	0	25	
Uncond Discharge		0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	

Source: DCJS, Computerized Criminal History system (as of 4/16/2021).

Arrests/Arraignments for Labor Trafficking (PL 135.35 & PL 135.37)

		Arrest Year											
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total	
New York State	Total Arrests-Arraignments	4	7	2	4	8	4	3	1	0	1	34	
	Open, No Dispo Reported	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	
	Total Dispositions	4	7	2	4	8	4	3	1	0	0	33	
	Convicted	4	6	2	2	5	4	2	1	0	0	26	
	Covered by Another Case	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Dismissed-ACD	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
	Dismissed-not ACD	0	1	0	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	6	
	Acquitted	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	DA Declined to Prosecute	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Convictions to:	Sex Trafficking	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Labor Trafficking	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3
		Non-Trafficking Chg	4	5	2	2	5	2	2	1	0	0	23
	Sentences to:	Prison	3	3	0	1	4	2	1	0	0	0	14
		Jail	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
		Time Served	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
		Jail+Probation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Probation		0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	
Fine		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Cond Discharge		0	2	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	6	
Uncond Discharge		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Note: Includes all dispositions where a PL 135.35 or PL 135.37 charge appeared as a top or underlying arrest or arraignment charge.
Source: DCJS, Computerized Criminal History system (as of 4/16/2021).

Attachment B

Enabling Legislation and Interagency Task Force Composition

Chapter 74 of the Laws of 2007 established the New York State Interagency Task Force on Human Trafficking.

As required by Section 483-ee (a) of the New York State Social Services Law, the Interagency Task Force (Task Force) is composed of 10 state agencies and seven additional members.

The Task Force consists of the following state agencies: the Division of Criminal Justice Services (co-chair); the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (co-chair); the Department of Health; the Office of Mental Health; the Department of Labor; the Office of Children and Family Services; the Office of Addiction Services and Supports; the Office of Victim Services; the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence; and the Division of State Police. Additionally, Task Force membership must include: four representatives recommended by the Legislature, two by the Senate president and two by the Assembly speaker; two representatives recommended by the not-for-profit organization in New York that receives the largest share of state funds for providing services to victims of human trafficking; and one representative recommended by the President of the New York State Bar Association.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Collect and organize data on the nature and extent of trafficking in persons in the state;
- Identify available federal, state and local programs that provide services to victims of trafficking, including but not limited to case management, housing, health care, mental health counseling, drug addiction screening and treatment, language interpretation and translation services, English language instruction, job training and placement assistance, post-employment services for job retention, and services to assist the individual and any of his or her family members to establish a permanent residence in New York State or the United States;
- Consult with governmental and non-governmental organizations in developing recommendations to strengthen state and local efforts to prevent trafficking, protect and assist victims of trafficking and prosecute traffickers;
- Establish interagency protocols and collaboration between federal, state, and local law enforcement, state and governmental agencies, child welfare agencies, and non- governmental organizations;
- Evaluate approaches to increase public awareness about trafficking and make recommendations on such approaches;
- Evaluate the effectiveness of training programs on human trafficking that have been designed for law enforcement personnel, criminal defense attorneys, social service providers and non-governmental organizations, and make recommendations for improving the quality and effectiveness of such programs;
- Measure and evaluate the progress of the state in preventing trafficking, protecting and providing assistance to victims of trafficking, and prosecuting persons engaged in trafficking;
- Convene any subcommittee necessary, provided such subcommittee has at least one of the members appointed by the speaker of the Assembly, temporary president of the Senate or governor, to consider specific issues, including, but not limited to: federal, state and/or local cooperation; juveniles and human trafficking; the importance of training and who should receive such training; how data is compiled and shared; and services for and treatment of domestic versus foreign born victims; and
- The task force shall report to the governor, the speaker of the Assembly, the minority leader of the Assembly, the temporary president of the Senate and the minority leader of the Senate no less than annually, and it shall additionally issue such reports and recommendations as it deems necessary to carry out its duties and responsibilities.