

OVERVIEW OF INCOMING SIGNALS

The following information is based on incoming communication with the National Human Trafficking Hotline from January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021 about human trafficking cases and issues related to human trafficking in California. Communication can take the form of **phone calls, SMS, Webchat¹, online tip reports², or emails**. Communication regarding topics unrelated to human trafficking are not included in this report. In 2021, the National Human Trafficking Hotline received a total of **5,257** substantive³ phone calls, SMS, Webchats, emails, or online tip reports from California.



3,415 Phone



1,180 SMS



395 Online



233 Emails



34 Webchat

¹ Webchats are a means of communicating with NHTH staff directly on the website using the online chat feature

² Online tip reports are a standardized form which can be completed on the website, allowing signalers to provide details without directly interacting with NHTH staff.

³ Substantive signals excludes hang-ups, wrong numbers, missed signals and signals in which the Hotline could not determine the signaler's reason for contacting the Hotline

SUBSTANTIVE SIGNAL DATA

The following statistics are based solely on substantive signals about human trafficking and issues related to human trafficking made to the National Human Trafficking Hotline between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021 from signalers in California at the time of their signal. Substantive signals exclude hang-ups, missed calls, wrong numbers, and signals in which the signaler's reason for contacting is unknown.

Number of Substantive Signals Received from California: 5,257

This constitutes the highest signal volume of all 50 states and Washington, D.C. in 2021.

SIGNALER TYPE	# OF SIGNALS	% OF SIGNALS
Victim of Trafficking	1,999	38%
Victim of Other Crime	786	15%
Community Member	740	14%
Other ¹	465	9%
NGO Representative	318	6%
Family Member of Trafficking Victim	190	4%
Not Specified	122	2%
Business	93	2%
Medical Professional	80	2%
Friend of Trafficking Victim	72	1%
Victim of Labor Exploitation	68	1%

Law Enforcement	53	1%
Acquaintance of Trafficker	53	1%
Legal Professional	38	1%
Educator/School Personnel	36	1%
Government Official	32	1%
Mental Health Professional	28	1%
Faith-Based Representative	25	0%
Airline/Airport Personnel	17	0%
Buyer of Commercial Sex	14	0%
Trucker	10	0%
Student	6	0%
Family/Friend of Potential Victim of Unknown Situation	5	0%
Caller Types Referenced Fewer than Three Times ²	7	0%
TOTAL # OF SUBSTANTIVE SIGNALS	5,257	100%

¹Other is selected when the signaler specifies a Signaler Type that is not listed and does not logically fit any of the existing categories.

²To protect the identity of the people we serve, the National Human Trafficking Hotline does not disclose exact statistics related to venues, industries, victim information or caller information referenced fewer than three times.

DATA ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING SITUATIONS

Each request submitted to the Hotline is evaluated for evidence of potential human trafficking. **In California, a total of 1,334 unique situations (incidents) of potential human trafficking were reported to the Hotline.**

PRIMARY REASON FOR CONTACTING THE NATIONAL HOTLINE	# OF SITUATIONS	% OF SITUATIONS
Access Service Referrals	403	30%
Report a Trafficking Tip	804	60%
Request Crisis Assistance	127	10%
Request General Information ²	0	0%
TOTAL # OF SITUATIONS	1,334	100%

²Requests for general information are situations in which an individual who is aware of a specific situation of potential trafficking may contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline for general information about human trafficking or to learn more about services available to trafficking victims. Requests for T&TA (Training and Technical Assistance) are situations in which service providers or law enforcement working with a victim of trafficking contact the Hotline for technical assistance.

VENUE/INDUSTRY OF POTENTIAL TRAFFICKING	# OF SITUATIONS	% OF SITUATIONS
Sex	1,023	77%
Venue Not Specified	509	50%
Illicit Massage/Spa Business	105	10%
Hotel/Motel-Based	88	9%
Pornography	71	7%
Residence-Based Commercial Sex	70	7%

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Street-Based	66	6%
Other Venue	46	4%
Online Ad, Venue Unknown	38	4%
Escort/Delivery Service	17	2%
Hostess/Strip Club-Based	6	1%
Bar/Club-Based	4	0%
Industries Referenced in Fewer than Three Cases ⁴	3	0%
Labor	131	10%
Venue/Industry Not Specified	32	24.5%
Domestic Work	26	20%
Agriculture/Farms	12	9%
Peddling Ring	9	7%
Construction	6	5%
Illicit Activity	6	5%
Retail/Other Small Business	4	3%
Restaurant/Food Service	4	3%
Begging Ring	4	3%
Health and Beauty Services	4	3%
Traveling Sales Crew	3	2%
Health Care	3	2%
Landscaping Service	3	2%
Industries Referenced in Fewer than Three Cases ⁴	15	11.5%
Sex and Labor	63	4%
Trafficking Type Not Specified⁵	117	9%
TOTAL # OF POTENTIAL TRAFFICKING SITUATIONS	1,334	100%

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⁵Cases where trafficking type is not specified typically occur when a law enforcement agent or service provider contacts the Hotline for resources and referrals but does not disclose details about the trafficking situation due to confidentiality. This category also includes cases in which the person reporting the information references human trafficking but does not provide further detail regarding the presence of labor or commercial sex. These cases are often submitted to the Hotline through anonymous online tip reports.

VICTIM DEMOGRAPHICS ⁶	# OF SITUATIONS	% OF SITUATIONS
Adults	978	73%
Minors	246	18%
Females	1,108	83%
Males	164	12%
Another Gender Identity ⁷	12	1%
US Citizens/Legal Permanent Residents	111	8%

Foreign Nationals ⁸	130	10%
NON-CUMULATIVE ⁹		

⁶These statistics are non-cumulative. Cases may involve multiple victims and include female, male, transgender and gender non-conforming individuals, foreign nationals and U.S. citizens, adults and minors. In some cases, demographic information is not reported. This table shows the number of cases referencing each demographic and not the number of individual victims.

⁷Other gender identities include any individuals whose gender identified was not cisgender male or female. This would include individuals who identify as transgender male, transgender female, two-spirit, agender, genderfluid, or other specified genders. At times, this information is self-reported. Other times NHTH staff may explicitly ask about gender identity for the purposes of connecting that person with appropriate service provider resources to meet their needs. Situations where the likely victims' gender was unstated or unclear due to conflicting information are recorded as Unknown.

⁸A Foreign National in this data set is defined as any individual who is not currently a US Citizen or Legal Permanent Resident.

⁹These statistics are non-cumulative. Cases may involve multiple victims and include female, male, transgender and gender non-conforming individuals, foreign nationals and U.S. citizens, adults and minors. In some cases, demographic information is not reported. This table shows the number of cases referencing each demographic and not the number of individual victims.

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Important Note: The data displayed in this report was generated based on information communicated to the National Human Trafficking Hotline via phone, email, and online tip report. The National Human Trafficking Hotline cannot verify the accuracy of the information reported. This is not a comprehensive report on the scale or scope of human trafficking within the state. Data is dynamic and subject to change as the hotline continues to respond to victims of trafficking. Therefore, the data reported is likely to have minor fluctuations based on when the data for the report was retrieved. The current report is based on data retrieved on November 15, 2022, 5:00 PM.