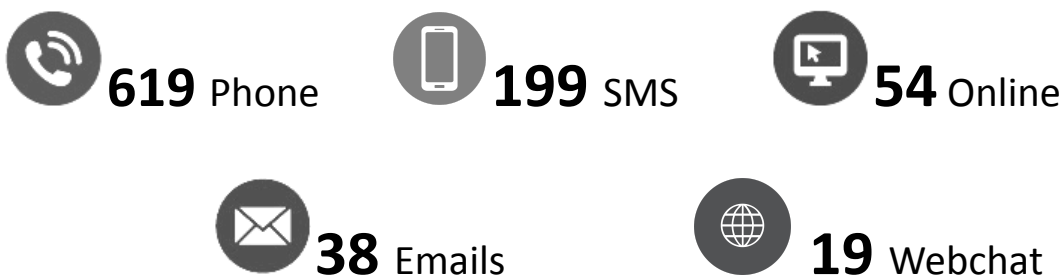


## OVERVIEW OF INCOMING SIGNALS

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 Illinois. Communication can take the form of **phone calls**, **SMS**, **Webchat**<sup>1</sup>, **online tip reports**<sup>2</sup>, 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 **929** substantive<sup>3</sup> phone calls, SMS, Webchats, emails, or online tip reports from Illinois.



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

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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 Illinois 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 Illinois: 929

This constitutes the 11th highest signal volume of all 50 states and Washington, D.C. in 2021.

SIGNALER TYPE	# OF SIGNALS	% OF SIGNALS
Victim of Trafficking	336	36%
NGO Representative	124	14%
Victim of Other Crime	124	14%
Community Member	111	12%
Other <sup>1</sup>	51	5%
Family of Trafficking Victim	41	4%
Medical Professional	34	4%
Not Specified	19	2%
Victim of Labor Exploitation	15	2%
Law Enforcement	15	2%

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Mental Health Professional	10	1%
Business	7	1%
Educator/School Personnel	7	1%
Acquaintance of Trafficker	6	1%
Government Official	5	0.5%
Friend of Trafficking Victim	5	0.5%
Legal Professional	3	0%
Potential Trafficker	3	0%
Trucker	3	0%
Caller Types Referenced Fewer than Three Times <sup>2</sup>	4	0%
<b>TOTAL # OF SUBSTANTIVE SIGNALS</b>	<b>929</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

<sup>2</sup>To 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 Illinois, a total of 243 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	67	28%
Report a Trafficking Tip	151	66%
Request Crisis Assistance	15	6%
Request General Information <sup>2</sup>	0	0%
<b>TOTAL # OF SITUATIONS</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>2</sup>Requests 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
<b>Sex</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>73%</b>
Venue Not Specified	72	42%
Illicit Massage/Spa Business	22	12%
Residence-Based Commercial Sex	21	12%
Pornography	18	10%
Hotel/Motel-Based	14	8%
Online Ad, Venue Unknown	12	7%
Other Venue	9	5%
Street-Based	4	2%

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Escort/Delivery Service	4	2%
Venues Referenced in Fewer than Three Cases <sup>4</sup>	1	1%
<b>Labor</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>11%</b>
Industry Not Specified	6	22%
Domestic Work	4	15%
Restaurant/Food Service	3	11%
Traveling Sales Crew	3	11%
Industries Referenced in Fewer than Three Cases <sup>4</sup>	11	41%
<b>Sex and Labor</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>Trafficking Type Not Specified<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>24</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>TOTAL # OF POTENTIAL TRAFFICKING SITUATIONS</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>4</sup>To 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.

<sup>5</sup>Cases 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 <sup>6</sup>	# OF SITUATIONS	% OF SITUATIONS
Adults	172	71%
Minors	50	21%
Females	195	80%
Males	28	12%
Another Gender Identity <sup>7</sup>	6	2%
US Citizens/Legal Permanent Residents	14	6%
Foreign Nationals <sup>8</sup>	26	11%
<b>NON-CUMULATIVE<sup>9</sup></b>		

<sup>6</sup>These 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.

<sup>7</sup>Other 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.

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

<sup>9</sup>These 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.

<sup>10</sup>To 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.

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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.*