

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS

According to Polaris National Hotline statistics, human trafficking is on the rise in the U.S. In 2018, there were approximately 10,300 cases of potential human trafficking reported. This is a 19% increase over the previous year, and 841% increase since 2009.

Consider the following alarming statistics for human trafficking in the State of Georgia:

- From July 2017 to March 2018, Georgia Cares, (a non-profit serving child sex trafficking victims), received 1,897 calls to the Statewide 24/7 hotline for domestic minor sex trafficking (DMST).
- Since 2009, youth have been referred to Georgia Cares from 145 of 159 Georgia counties.
- More than 91% of domestic minor sex trafficking victims in Georgia were enrolled in school at the time of their exploitation. (Georgia Cares).
- More than 50% of victims are recruited by friends and family. (Georgia Cares).
- Approximately 7,200 men purchase sex from a minor every month in Georgia, accounting for 8,700 sex acts. (The Schapiro Group).

National Statistics

- Between 100,000 – 300,000 children are at risk of being victimized by domestic minor sex trafficking (DMST) in the United States every year. (Shared Hope International).
- The average age of entry into the commercial sex market for children is between 12 and 14 years old. (Shared Hope International).
- 1 in 6 reported endangered runaways are believed to be victims of child sex trafficking. (National Center for Missing and Exploited Children).
- The size of the commercial sex economy in major U.S. cities ranges from an estimated \$39.9 million to \$290 million per year. (Urban Institute).



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