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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