



## Minutes Tempe Family Justice Commission January 7, 2020

Minutes of the TEMPE FAMILY JUSTICE COMMISSION held on Tuesday, January 7, 6:00 p.m., at the Tempe Public Library – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Board Room, Tempe, Arizona.

**(MEMBERS) Present:**

Margaret “Peggy” Tinsley, Chair  
Ilene Dode, Vice-Chair  
Jeanette Costa  
Jeffrey Glover  
Robin Nelson  
Mary O’Grady  
Jill Oliver  
Patricia Riggs

**(MEMBERS) Absent:**

Patrick Foster  
Karyn Lathan  
Kristen Scharlau

**City Staff Present:**

Paul Bentley, Deputy Human Services Director  
Nikki Ripley, Communications Manager  
Lori Robinson, CARE7 Training Facilitator

**Guests Present:**

Elizabeth Cling, 2020 U.S. Census Complete Count Committee Co-Chair  
Candyce Lindsay, 2020 U.S. Census Complete Count Committee Co-Chair  
Jana Lynn Granillo, 2020 U.S. Census Complete Count Committee

**Public Appearances**

None present

**Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order**

Chair Margaret “Peggy” Tinsley called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**Agenda Item 2 – Attendance**

**Agenda Item 3 – Public Appearances**

None

**Agenda Item 4 – Review and Approval of November 19, 2019 Minutes**

**MOTION:** Commission Member Ilene Dode moved to APPROVE the November 19, 2019 minutes.

**SECOND:** Motion Seconded by Commission Member Patricia Riggs; Motion passed on a 8-0 Vote

**AYES: Chair Peggy Tinsley, Vice-Chair Ilene Dode, Commission Members Jeanette Costa, Jeffrey Glover, Robin Nelson, Mary O'Grady, Jill Oliver and Patricia Riggs**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: Commission Members Patrick Foster, Karyn Lathan, and Kristen Scharlau**

**Agenda Item 5 – Chair Remarks**

- Chair Margaret “Peggy” Tinsley thanked Commission members for the accommodating the rescheduled January meeting. The Commission discussed possibly rescheduling the Tuesday meetings; due to scheduling conflicts, the Commission agreed to keep the current meeting scheduled (third Tuesday of every month)

**Agenda Item 6 – Officer Elections**

The Commission agreed for Peggy and Vice-Chair Ilene Dode to remain as officers.

**Agenda Item 7 – 2020 Census Complete Count Committee Presentation (attachment)**

The City of Tempe’s 2020 U.S. Census Complete Count Committee is responsible for developing and implementing a 2020 Census awareness campaign to encourage a response to the Census in Tempe. The primary goal of the 2020 Census is to count everyone once, only once, and in the right place. A full and accurate count of the residents helps ensure that the City receives Federal funding for transportation, housing assistance, and other needs. The Complete Count Committee utilizes local knowledge, influence, and resources to educate the community and promote the Census through locally based, targeted outreach efforts; provides a vehicle for coordinating and nurturing cooperative efforts between the City government, community, and the Census Bureau; and, helps the Census Bureau obtain the most accurate count of Tempe residents in 2020 through partnerships with the City government and community organizations. The Census Committee encourages Commission Members to share this information with their organizations and/or community.

The Census Bureau is hiring. They are accepting applications through the beginning of January and continue to hire and start groups every two weeks through the end of February. These vacancies are for the National Processing Center - Phoenix and not Field Operations for people going door to door to collect Census information. These positions are Full-Time and Part-Time, indoor jobs with full benefits as listed above within the processing center located near 43rd Avenue and Buckeye Road. The application process is through [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov).

**Agenda Item 8 – Social Media Discussion**

Peggy shared her vision for possibly creating a safe online forum for victims to report crimes and/or seek services and creating a communication campaign surrounding awareness months related to the Commissions scope of work. Nikki encouraged the Commission to submit any communication they would like posted to the various City social media accounts.

**Agenda Item 9 – Review Commission Talking Points (attachments)**

Commission Member Jeffrey Glover shared information provided at the recent Human Sex-Trafficking Council Led Working Group. This information will assist with future recommendations and communications to Mayor & Council and social media outlets

**Agenda Item 10 – Human Sex-Trafficking Recommendations Review (attachment)**

Peggy reviewed the memorandum and agreed to submit edits to Paul and Melissa by close of business on January 6, 2020. Paul will submit to Human Services Director Naomi Farrell for approval.

**Agenda Item 11 – Discuss and Select Next Formal Memorandum for Mayor & Council**

The Commission agreed the next formal memorandum submitted will be the Human Sex-Trafficking Memo. At the February meeting, the Commission will draft and approve a communication plan memorandum.

## **Agenda Item 12 – Review and Update Strategic Plan Accomplishments**

### **1.0 Access to Justice/Safety**

- ☑ 1.1 Family Justice Center (Tinsley) – MEMO COMPLETE
- 1.2 Less Fear More Reporting (Scharlau)

### **2.0 Wrap Around Services**

- ☑ 2.1 An EMS Liaison - like A. Carbajal (Carbajal) - COMPLETE
- ☑ 2.2 Supporting Next Steps: Re-Entry Program (Lathan) - COMPLETE
- 2.3 Trauma Informed Department Champions (Scharlau)
- ☑ 2.4 Better Use of Existing Resources/Identify Partners/Identify Other Agencies Doing Trauma Informed Care\_in Tempe [Combined Accomplishments] (Dode) - COMPLETE

### **3.0 Training**

- 3.1 Simulation Strategies – (Kastenbaum)
- 3.2 Outreach and Training for Justice, Health Community, Public Officials – (Oliver/O’Grady)
  - Update provided (attachment)
- 3.3 All Departments Use Organization Assessment Tool (Scharlau)
- 3.4 Supervisor Trained to Recognize and Respond to Traumatized Staff (Oliver)

### **4.0 Education & Opportunity**

- 4.1 Education and Outreach – (Tinsley/Lathan)
- 4.2 Outreach, Networking and Training Activities (Foster)
- 4.3 Identify the Populations that are Vulnerable – (O’Grady)
  - Update provided (attachment)

## **Agenda Item 13 – Commission Member Updates**

- **Family Advocacy/Justice Center Needs Template Update – Commission Member Patricia Riggs**
  - Patricia is unable to draft a needs template

## **Agenda Item 11 – Future Agenda Items**

## **Agenda Item 12 – Adjournment**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m**

Next meeting will be on February 18, 2020

Minutes Prepared by: Melissa Placencia

Reviewed by: Paul Bentley

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Margaret “Peggy” Tinsley, Chair  
Tempe Family Justice Commission

# How You Can Take Part in the Census



**EASY • SECURE • IMPORTANT**

## RECEIVE CENSUS INVITATION LETTER

Most Tempe households will get their Census invitation letter in the mail.



**NEXT  
STEP**

**OR**

### RESPOND ONLINE OR BY PHONE



#### ONLINE

It's safe, secure and confidential. Your information and privacy are protected.

It's user friendly offering you help screens and the ability to review your answers.



#### BY PHONE

Census enumerators can take your information from the convenience of your phone.

#### Answer the census in one of these languages:

English, Arabic, Chinese, French, Haitian Creole, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, or Vietnamese. Details will be in your invitation letter.

A small percentage of households will receive a paper questionnaire.

### INVITATION LETTER

**March 12 – 20**

Your invitation letter to respond online

**March 16 – 24**

A reminder letter

### IF YOU HAVEN'T RESPONDED

**March 26 – April 3**

A reminder postcard

**April 8 – 16**

A reminder letter and a paper questionnaire

**April 20 – 27**

A final reminder postcard before census follows up in person

### IN-PERSON INTERVIEW

Census enumerators will visit residences that do not choose to self-respond.

They will be representative of the varied communities and languages.

More information

**[www.iCount2020.info](http://www.iCount2020.info)**

To verify a Census worker, call the Dallas/Denver region office at 972-510-1800 or email [dallas.rcc.partnership@2020census.gov](mailto:dallas.rcc.partnership@2020census.gov).

**How iCount for Tempe**

Contact Tempe staff at [census@tempe.gov](mailto:census@tempe.gov)



**2017 Youth Experiences Survey**  
Year Four

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UMOM

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Thank you to Our Family Services in Tucson, Arizona, Native American Connections and one•n•ten in Phoenix and the staff at UMOM for their assistance in collecting this research.

**THE MCCAIN INSTITUTE**

*for* INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP

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ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### **Youth Experiences Survey: Exploring the Sex Trafficking Experiences of Homeless Young Adults in Arizona, Year 4.**

The Youth Experiences Survey (YES) has been given each year for the past four years to a complex and difficult population to assess. Homeless runaway young adults (ages 18 to 25) are difficult to find and can be difficult to engage and there is limited knowledge about their needs and experiences. This survey was given to homeless young adults in both Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona through a small web of homeless youth-targeted service providers to explore their experiences and service needs. Over the past three years, the findings from the YES study have helped to provide insight to service providers and the community about the challenges and needs of Arizona's homeless young adults. Information from the YES study provides the Arizona community with rich data about the scope and complexity of their needs and challenges including the sex trafficking experiences of these young people.

Identifying sex trafficking among homeless young adults is confounded by access issues which make this population difficult to study- issues such as that they are transient, are difficult to find, and are involved in fewer social service and medical service agencies than other homeless youth due to their status as adults. This study targeted homeless young adults in transitional housing, drop-in centers, and on the streets of Tucson and Phoenix.

A six-page paper survey was distributed to homeless young adults over two weeks in July 2014, July 2015, August 2016, and August 2017 by agency staff from four agencies. This report will begin with a description of the 2017 survey results of the respondents, proceed to compare the respondents that reported that they were sex trafficking victims with the non-sex trafficking victim respondents in the 2017 sample, and then conclude with comparisons across the four years of data collection regarding the experiences of the sex trafficking victims.

#### **Status of Homeless Young Adults in Arizona in the 2017 Youth Experiences Survey**

- 187 participants responded to the Youth Experiences Survey in 2017.
- The average age of the 187 homeless young adult respondents was 21.1 years old.
- Males represented 49.2% of the respondents, followed by females at 40.6% and transgender at 7% and other (genderqueer, two-spirit, non-conforming) at 2.7%.
- Of the 160 participants that reported their sexual orientation, 48.8% were heterosexual and 51.2% LGBTQ.
- The homeless young adults reported their living situations as living in a transitional housing program (28.9%), living on the streets (22.5%), living in a shelter (20.9%), couch surfing (15.5%), living in their own place paid by self (5.9%) or living in a hotel (1.6%).

- 52.4% of the respondents were raised in the state of Arizona, while the rest were from 26 other states and four other countries: Canada, Mexico, China, and Japan.
- Nearly two-thirds of the respondents (64.7%) reported that they had used drugs or alcohol, while 16.6% believed they had an addiction to drugs and 10.7% had an addiction to alcohol.
- The drug used most often by the respondents was marijuana (40.1%) followed by methamphetamines (33.2%), and heroin (18.2%).
- A suicide attempt was reported by 102 (54.5%) of the respondents.
- 67.9% (n =127) of the respondents reported experiencing a current mental health problem, 54% (n =101) had more than one mental health problem, with the most common mental health problems identified as anxiety (n = 89, 47.6%) and depression (n = 84, 44.9%).
- Over half (53.5%) of the respondents identified a current medical problem with 24.6% reporting they had received treatment for the identified problem(s).
- The most common medical problems reported included asthma (n = 46, 24.6%) and poor vision (n = 38, 20.3%).

### **Status of Homeless Young Adult Victims of Human Trafficking in Arizona**

Of the overall sample of 187 homeless young adult respondents, 58 (31%) reported experiencing sex trafficking exploitation, and 60 (32.1%) reported experiencing labor trafficking exploitation. At least one form of human trafficking (either sex or labor) was reported by 80 (42.8%) respondents and 38 (20.3%) respondents reported experiencing both sex and labor trafficking exploitation.

### ***Sex Trafficking Findings***

- 58 (31%) of the total sample (N = 187) reported experiencing sex trafficking exploitation.
- Over one out of every three (n = 29, 38.2%) female respondents self-reported that they had been sex trafficked.
- One out of four (n = 23, 25%) male participants self-reported a sex trafficking experience.
- The average age of first sex trafficking experience was 16.6 years old with 43.1% reporting that they were sex trafficked before the age of 18.
- 82.8% of the respondents who reported being sex trafficked reported that they had at some point had a sex trafficker, with 6.9% of the respondents reporting the current presence of a sex trafficker.
- The most common reasons identified by the 58 participants that reported sex trafficking victimization were for money (58.6%), for a place to stay (39.7%), and for food (36.2%).
- When comparing the sex trafficked homeless young adult respondents with the non-sex trafficked homeless young adult respondents using an odds ratio test, the sex trafficked group was found to be:

- Nine times more likely to report the self-harm activity of cutting.
- Six times more likely to have a history of sexual abuse.
- Six times more likely to have had a mental health problem/diagnosis.
  - Three times more likely to have diagnosis of Depression.
  - Three times more likely to have a diagnosis of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.
  - Four times more likely to have a diagnosis of Anxiety.
  - Three and a half times more likely to have a diagnosis of Bipolar Disorder.
  - Three times more likely to have a diagnosis of Schizophrenia.
  - Three times more likely to have a diagnosis of Borderline Personality Disorder.
- Five times more likely to have faced harassment by peers.
- Five times more likely to have more than one mental health problem/diagnosis.
- Four times more likely to report being addicted to drugs.
- Four times more likely to have attempted suicide.
- Four times more likely to have been kicked out of the home because the family did not approve of the respondents' sexual orientation.
- Four times more likely to have run away from home.
- Four times more likely to have a history of emotional abuse by a parent or guardian.
- Three times more likely to have been bullied by school peers.
- Three times more likely to have a history of physical abuse by a parent or guardian.
- Three times more likely to be a methamphetamine user.
- Three times more likely to be addicted to alcohol.
- Three times more likely to have been abused in a domestic violence relationship.
- Three times more likely to have been kicked out of the home due to using substances.
- Two times more likely to be LGBTQ.
- Two times more likely to have witnessed domestic violence in the home as a child.
- Two times as likely to have been the abuser in a domestic violence relationship.

***Labor Trafficking Findings***

- 60 (32.1%) of the total sample (N = 187) reported experiencing labor trafficking exploitation.
- Over one out of every three (n = 27, 35.5%) female respondents reported that they had been labor trafficked.
- Over one out of every four (n = 25, 27.2%) male participants reported a labor trafficking experience.



- The average age of first labor trafficking experience was 16.5 years old with 35% reporting that they were labor trafficked before the age of 18.
- 66.7% of the respondents who reported being labor trafficked reported that they had at some point had a labor trafficker, with 18.3% of the respondents reporting the current presence of a labor trafficker.
- The most common reasons identified by the 60 participants that reported labor trafficking victimization were for money (66.7%), for food (58.3%), and for a place to stay (55%).
- When comparing the labor trafficked homeless young adult respondents with the non-labor trafficked homeless young adult respondents using an odds ratio test, the labor trafficked group was found more likely to:
  - Seven times more likely to have been abused in a domestic violence relationship.
  - Six times more likely to have a history of sexual abuse.
  - Five times more likely to have participated in self-harm activities including cutting.
  - Five times more likely to have faced harassment by peers.
  - Four times more likely to be addicted to drugs.
  - Four times more likely to have a mental health problem/diagnosis.
    - Four times more likely to have a diagnosis of Depression.
    - Five times more likely to have a diagnosis of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.
    - Three times more likely to have a diagnosis of Anxiety.
    - Two times more likely to have a diagnosis of Bipolar Disorder.
    - Four times more likely to have a diagnosis of Schizophrenia.
  - Four times more likely to have more than one mental health problem/diagnosis.
  - Three times more likely to have been the abuser in a domestic violence relationship.
  - Three times more likely to have a current medical issue.
  - Three times more likely to have attempted suicide.
  - Two times more likely to have been kicked out by his/her family home.
  - Two times more likely to have witnessed domestic violence in the home as a child.
  - Two times more likely to have a diagnosis of ADD/ADHD.
  - Two times more likely to be a methamphetamine user.
  - Two times as likely to have been enrolled in special education classes.
  - Two times more likely to have a gang affiliation.
  - Two times more likely to have been bullied by school peers.
  - Two times more likely Have a history of physical abuse by a parent or guardian.
  - Two times as likely to have a history of emotional abuse by a parent or guardian.

## **Four Year Analysis**

Sex trafficking was reported by the participants over the four years with an average of 31.4% (ranging from 25.6% to 35.8%). LGBTQ participants were increasingly likely over the four years to report being a sex trafficking victim from 38.4% in 2014 to 60.7% in 2017 of the sex trafficked group. Other increases among the sex trafficked group of participants included reported suicide attempts, reports of more than one mental health diagnosis, and reported diagnoses of depression, anxiety, posttraumatic stress disorder, and bipolar disorder. Regarding the sex trafficking experiences, over the four years, participants reported increased use of technology in their exploitation including the use of backpage.com.

## **Key Findings**

The average age of first homeless for the 187 participants was 16 years old creating a particular set of risks for victimization as they are minors with limited options for employment and many are avoiding contact with child welfare services or any systems (medical, mental health, law enforcement) thus creating even more risks. Homeless young adults who have experienced sex trafficking are at increased risk among their peers to have serious drug and alcohol problems, have experienced abusive childhoods, particularly sexual abuse histories, been in abusive dating relationships, and were more likely to have serious mental health challenges including a history of suicide attempts, depression, anxiety, and Post- Traumatic Stress Disorder. Forty-three percent of the sex trafficked youth were sex trafficked before they were adults and over a third of the participants reporting labor trafficking were minors when they were first labor trafficked. . Due to the broad spectrum of challenges faced by sex trafficked homeless young adults, targeted programming and interventions continue to be recommended.

## **Brief Conclusion**

The experiences of homeless young adults in Arizona continue to be complex and multi-faceted with the necessity to address the resulting problems or challenges with innovation, creativity, and partnerships within each community. Sex trafficked and labor trafficked homeless young adults may appear to have some of the most complex needs among homeless young adults. Screening for sex trafficking and labor trafficking can assist programs in identifying victims and providing intensive and purposefully designed housing and therapeutic interventions addressing a wide array of issues that the victims face. The results of the 2017 YES survey call on Arizona's community to develop a comprehensive approach to screen for both labor and sex trafficking among homeless and runaway young people and to develop community protocols that outline services standards. Additional state and community based funding is necessary to assist providers in maintaining services that meet the complex needs of our homeless youth and young adults.

## **Full Report**

### **2017 Youth Experiences Survey: Exploring the Sex Trafficking Experiences of Homeless Young Adults in Arizona, Year Four.**

#### **Introduction**

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 defined human trafficking as “the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for sexual or labor services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery” (U.S. Dept. of State, 2000, p. 7). The issue of human trafficking, particularly sex trafficking, has received much attention over the past nearly 20 years, but many questions still remain about the true prevalence and impact of this social injustice in our society. It is unclear how many children and adults have been victimized by either sex trafficking or labor trafficking, due to the illicit nature of this crime and the difficulty identifying victims as a result of many elements, including social stigma, distrust of public service providers, citizenship status, and control of the trafficker. Although much has been learned about vulnerabilities that put certain populations at risk for human trafficking, little is known about the impact of human trafficking on homeless youth and young adults.

Over the past decade the experiences of homeless young adults are more clearly understood in the United States through substantial research by the National Alliance to End Homelessness (2012), the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (2015) and the Family and Youth Services Bureau (2016). Homeless young adults can be defined to include persons from age 18 to 25 years “who have dropped out of school, are without regular employment, live in precarious conditions and often have little social support from their families or communities” (Haley et al. p. 526). Risk factors have been identified in the literature to explain young adult homelessness including transitioning from foster care to adulthood (Dworsky, Napolitano, & Courtney, 2013) and others which are similar to youth homeless including substance abuse, family conflict, history of childhood maltreatment, and identifying as LGBTQ.

Being homeless has been found to be a risk factor for commercial sexual exploitation (Hudson & Nandy, 2012). In a study of 185 homeless young people ages 18-23, Covenant House (2013) found that nearly 23% of their sample reported some experience of human trafficking. The researchers found that survival sex, the exchange of sex for subsistence needs, “frequently turned into coercive and violent trafficking experiences” (Covenant House, 2013, p. 6). According to a study conducted by Dank et al, (2015), youths’ engagement with survival sex may change over time; i.e., a youth may be recruited by a trafficker but later independently trade sex; or a youth may independently sell sex until she meets someone who begins exploiting her.

The purpose of this ongoing study is to explore the experiences reported by homeless young adults in Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona and to explore the prevalence of sex and labor

trafficking among the participants. This study will also compare the life experiences and treatment needs of sex trafficked and non-sex trafficked homeless young adults from around Arizona and labor trafficked and non-labor trafficked homeless young adults. The findings from this study will be compared to the 2014, 2015, and 2016 studies to examine trends over time regarding sex trafficking.

### **Research Questions**

The purpose of this study is to understand the scope and complexity of sex and labor trafficking among homeless young adults in Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona. Homeless young adults were surveyed by staff at four agencies about their life experiences including sex trafficking victimization.

The specific research questions are:

1. What are the experiences of homeless young adults in Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona related to place of origin, use of drugs and alcohol, mental and physical diagnoses, family connectedness, reasons for homelessness, and risk (childhood maltreatment, school problems, being bullied, history of foster care placement) and protective factors (said not to drugs when offered, able to stand up for themselves, practicing safe sex, being part of a club or organization, having supportive friends/family, knowing area resources)?
2. Are sex trafficked homeless young adults different from non-sex trafficked homeless young adults on demographics, family connectedness, sexual orientation, medical and mental health issues, high risk behaviors, school and social issues, child abuse experiences, drug and alcohol use/abuse and risk and protective factors?
3. Are labor trafficked homeless young adults different from non-labor trafficked homeless young adults on demographics, family connectedness, sexual orientation, medical and mental health issues, high risk behaviors, school and social issues, child abuse experiences, drug and alcohol use/abuse and risk and protective factors?

Within the sex trafficked homeless young adults:

What were the most common reasons the sex trafficking victims identified as how they were sex trafficked (money, food, clothes, drugs, protection, a place to stay)?

How prevalent was the use of technology in their sex trafficking experience?

What is a profile of a sex trafficked homeless young adult from Phoenix/Tucson, Arizona?

Within the labor trafficked homeless young adults:

What were the most common reasons the labor trafficking victims identified as how they were labor trafficked (money, food, clothes, drugs, protection, a place to stay)?

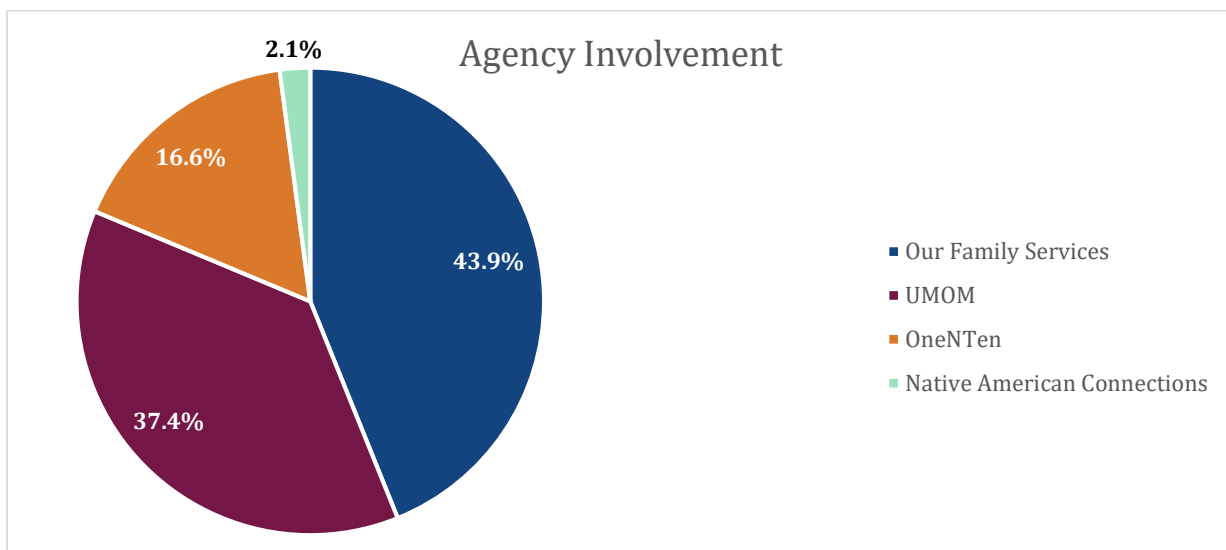
How prevalent was the use of technology in their labor trafficking experience?

What is a profile of a labor trafficked homeless young adult from Phoenix/Tucson, Arizona?

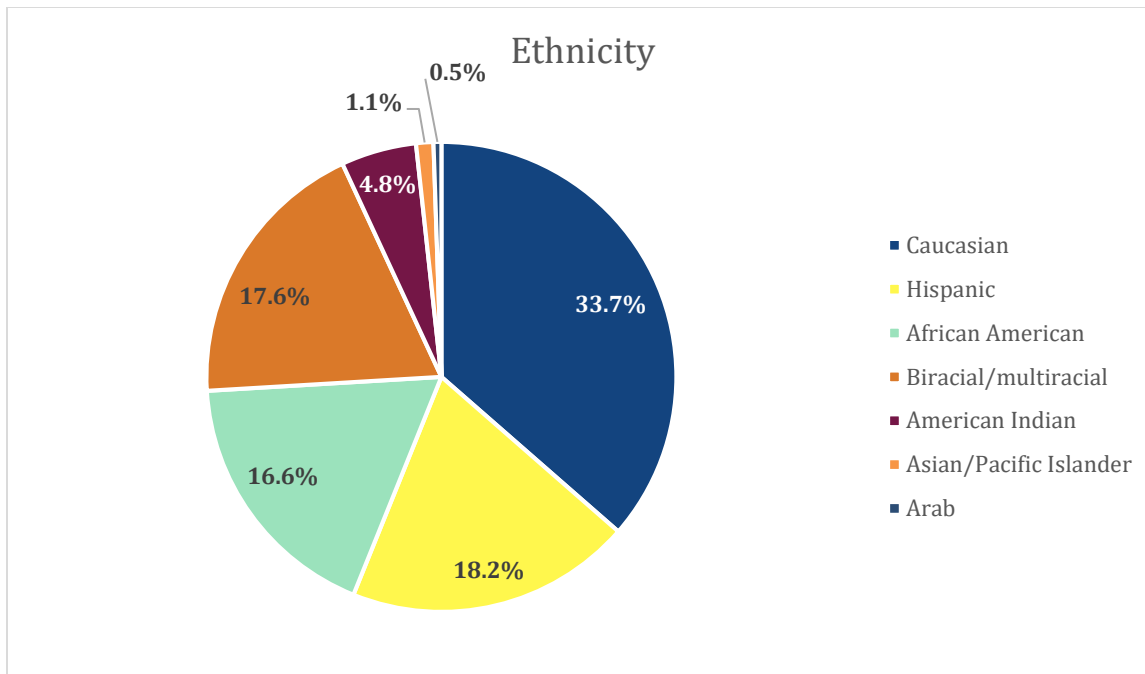
## METHOD

### Participants

In 2017, during a two-week period in August, 187 homeless young adults from the greater Phoenix, Arizona area and Tucson, Arizona completed the Youth Experiences Survey. Respondents were drawn from four agencies including Tumbleweed a Service of UMOM (Phoenix, Arizona), Our Family Services (Tucson, Arizona), One•n•ten (Phoenix, Arizona), and Native American Connections (Phoenix, Arizona). Our Family Services had 82 (43.9%) respondents; Tumbleweed had 70 (37.4%) respondents; One•n•ten had 31 (16.6%) respondents; and Native American Connections had 4 (2.1%) respondents.



Respondents identified as female ( $n = 76, 40.6\%$ ), male ( $n = 92, 49.2\%$ ), transgender ( $n = 13, 7\%$ ), and non-conforming ( $n = 5, 2.7\%$ ). The respondents age ranged from 18 to 25 ( $M = 21.1, SD = 2.23$ ). The most prevalent races/ethnicities reported were White ( $n = 63, 33.7\%$ ), Hispanic ( $n = 40, 21.4\%$ ), African American ( $n = 30, 16\%$ ), biracial/multiracial ( $n = 22, 11.8\%$ ), and American Indian ( $n = 15, 8\%$ ).



Respondents identified their sexual orientation as heterosexual (n = 78, 48.8%) and LGBTQ (n = 82, 51.2%). Of the respondents who identified as LGBTQ, 78 participants reported the following sexual orientation:

Sexual Orientation	n	%
Bisexual	28	35.9%
Asexual	19	24.4%
Pansexual	11	14.1%
Gay	9	11.5%
Lesbian	4	5.1%
Transsexual / Heterosexual	4	5.1%
Other	2	2.6%
Demisexual	1	1.3%

### Instrument

The Youth Experiences Survey is a 65-item, six page paper and pencil survey with questions regarding demographics, personal history, such as where they are from, their living situation, drug and alcohol use, a health history section with questions about self-harm, history of suicide attempts, mental health issues and mental health treatment, medical issues and medical treatment access, and pregnancy. The family history section includes questions about how they define their family, how they feel about their connectedness and support from their families, reasons for being kicked out, and if the respondent witnessed domestic violence in the home. The

life experiences section includes questions about how they make money and if they have experienced sex trafficking and/or labor trafficking. If the respondent reported a sex trafficking or labor trafficking experience, the survey directed them to questions about the presence of a trafficker and what technology was used in the trafficking situation.

Sex trafficking was identified if the respondents answered yes to any of the following questions:

1. Have you ever been compelled, forced, or coerced to perform a sexual act, including sexual intercourse, oral or anal contact for: money, food, clothing, drugs, protection, or a place to stay?
2. Do you currently have a person who encourages/pressures/forces you to exchange sexual acts for money, drugs, food, a place to stay, clothing or protection?
3. In the past, has anyone encouraged/pressured/forced you to exchange sexual acts for money, drugs, food, place to stay, clothing or protection?

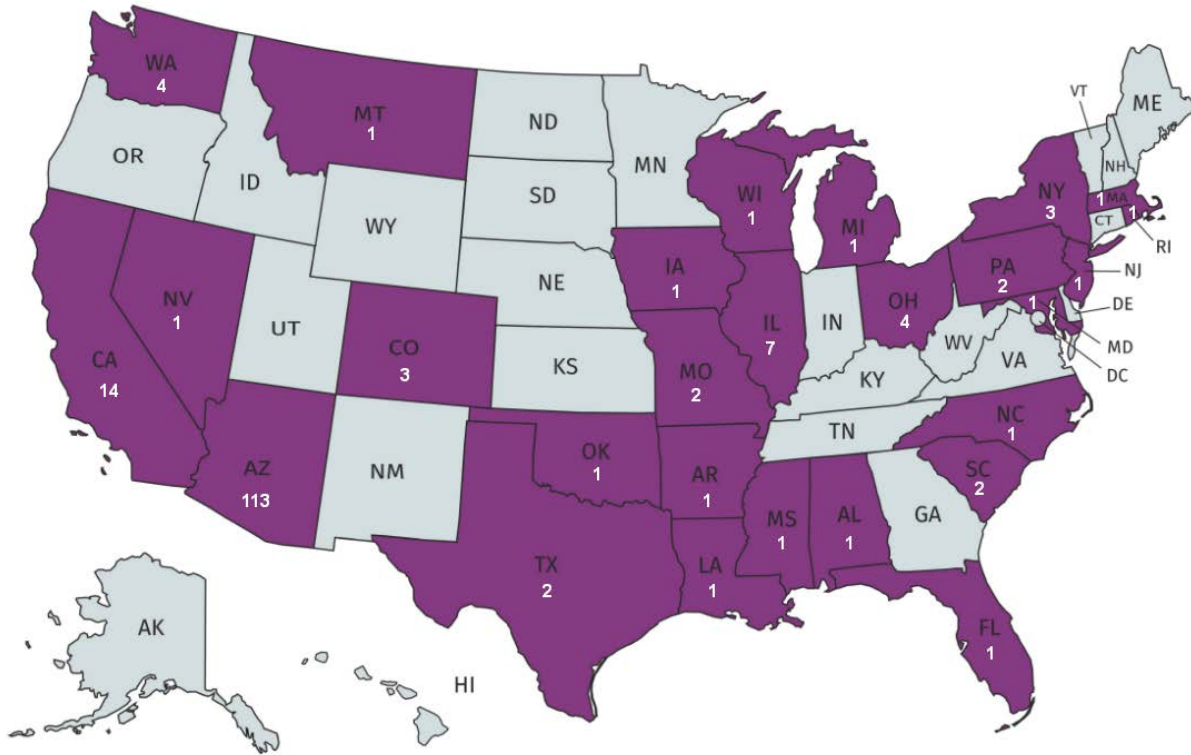
Labor trafficking was identified if the respondents answered yes to any of the following questions:

1. Have you ever been compelled, forced or coerced to perform a non-sexual act or form of labor, for money, food, clothing, drugs, protection, or a place to stay?
2. Do you currently have a person who encourages/pressures/forces you to exchange a form of labor for money, drugs, food, place to stay, clothing or protection?
3. In the past, has anyone encouraged/pressured/forced you to exchange a form of labor for money, drugs, food, place to stay, clothing or protection?

Life experience questions included a range of possible experiences, such as: residential treatment, negative contact with law enforcement, dating violence, foster care/group home, involvement with the juvenile justice system, academic difficulties, running away from home, expelled from school, special education classes, bullied by school peers, harassed by peers, working in the adult industry (pornography, stripping, escort, etc.), physical abuse by a parent/guardian, gang affiliation, emotional abuse by parent/guardian, sexual abuse (molested or raped) as a youth (ages 13-17), and sexual abuse (molested or raped) as a child (age 12-under). Protective factors were also surveyed, these included: said no to drugs, said no when they felt they were being forced into sex, steady employment, being a part of a club or organization, enrolled in school or technical program, volunteered in community, supportive, loving family or group of friends, healthy, safe and permanent place to live, safe sex, trust/good relationship with law enforcement, feel secure or safe standing up for yourself/protecting yourself, and awareness of community resources.

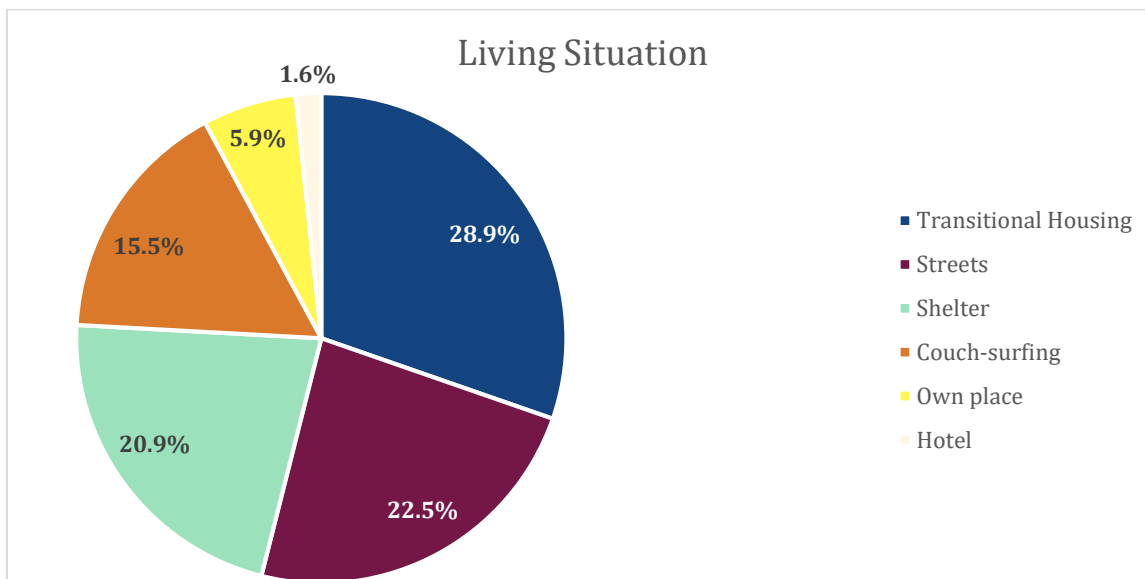
## **FINDINGS**

The 187 homeless young adult respondents reported they were from Arizona and 26 other states in the United States and four other countries: Canada, Mexico, China, and Japan. Over half (n = 98, 52.4%) of the respondents reported that they were raised in the state of Arizona. The majority of the respondents (n = 156, 83.4%) had lived in Arizona for more than a year with 7% (n = 13) living in Arizona for less than a year.



## Housing

The homeless young adult participants reported that their first homeless experience was between the ages of 1 and 25 years ( $M = 16.9$ ,  $SD = 4.06$ ). They reported their living situations as: living in a transitional housing program ( $n = 54$ , 28.9%), living on the streets ( $n = 42$ , 22.5%), living in a shelter ( $n = 39$ , 20.9%), couch surfing ( $n = 29$ , 15.5%), living in their own place, paid by self ( $n = 11$ , 5.9%), or living in a hotel ( $n = 3$ , 1.6%).





## Drug Use

Drug use was reported by 64.7% (n = 121) of the homeless young adult respondents. The age of first drug use ranged from 6 to 24 years (M = 14.6, SD = 3.47). Thirty-one (16.6%) believed they had an addiction to drugs, and 10.7% (n = 20) reported an addiction to alcohol. Respondents reported drug use frequency as daily (n = 37, 19.8%), weekly (n = 12, 6.4%), monthly (n = 8, 4.3%) and not currently using (n = 120, 64.2%). Similarly, respondents reported alcohol use frequency as daily (n = 8, 4.3%), weekly (n = 10, 5.3%), monthly (n = 33, 17.6%), and not currently using (n = 123, 65.8%). Levels of reported motivation to change regarding drug use by the homeless young adult respondents ranged from: not at all motivated (n = 15, 8%), somewhat motivated (n = 26, 13.9%), very motivated (n = 45, 24.1%), and no response (n = 12, 6.4%).

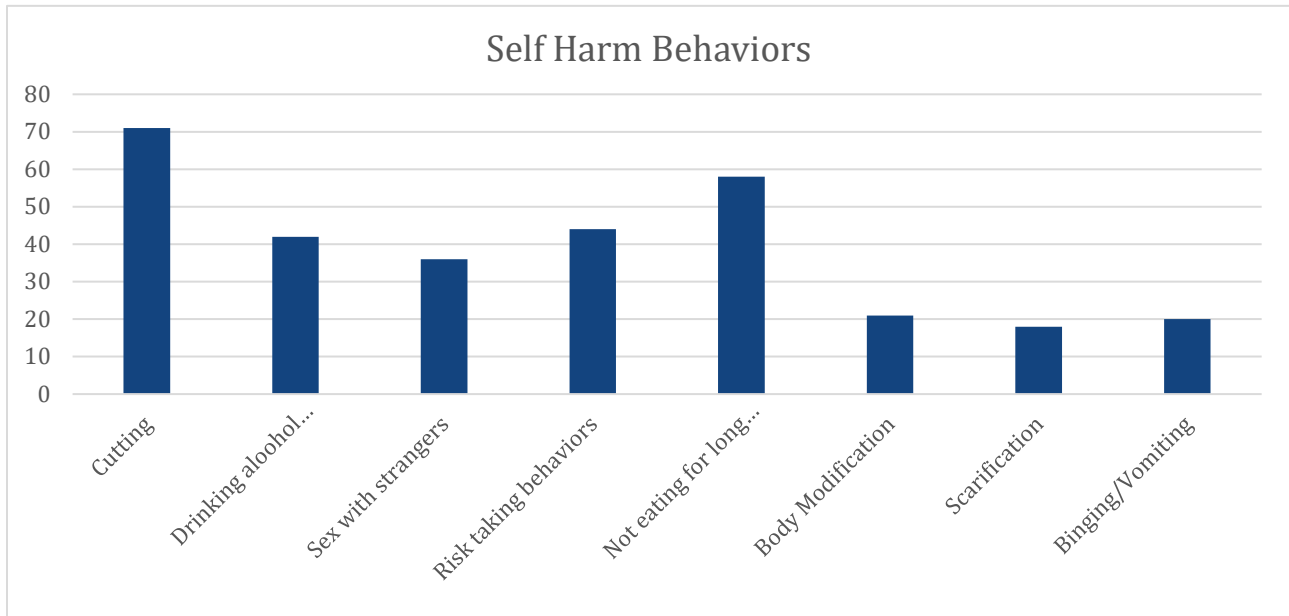
The types of drugs used by the respondents varied and some respondents identified using multiple drug types.

Drug Type	n	%
Marijuana	75	40.1%
Methamphetamines	62	33.2%
Heroin	34	18.2%
Crack/Cocaine	9	4.8%
Spice	5	2.7%
Acid	5	2.7%
Pills	4	2.1%
Opiates/OxyContin	3	1.6%
All drugs	3	1.6%
Ecstasy	1	0.5%
Gamma Hydroxybutyrate Rohypnol	1	0.5%
Special K/Ketamine	1	0.5%
Percocet/Percodan	1	0.5%
MDA	1	0.5%
PCP	1	0.5%

Respondents were asked directly if they had ever used methamphetamines and heroin. Thirty-four (18.2%) respondents reported heroin use, and sixty-two (33.2%) respondents reported methamphetamine use.

### Self-Harm Behaviors

Over half (n= 107, 57.2%) of the homeless young adult respondents reported that they participated in some form of self-harming behavior including: cutting (n = 71, 38%), drinking alcohol excessively (n = 42, 22.5%), having sex with strangers (n = 36, 19.3%), risk taking behaviors (n = 44, 23.5%), not eating for long periods (n = 58, 31%), body modification (defined as altering or modifying the human anatomy or physical appearance for self-expression, shock value or aesthetics (Featherstone, 1999) (n = 21, 11.2%), scarification (n = 18, 9.6%), and bingeing/vomiting (n = 20, 10.7%). Other self-reported self-harm behaviors included: burns, fighting, hitting things/self, breaking bones, poisoning, and shoplifting.



A suicide attempt was reported by over half (n = 102, 54.5%) of the homeless young adult respondents. Respondents reported last suicide attempt within the past week (n = 6, 3.2%), month (n = 2, 1.1%), six months (n = 23, 12.3%), year (n = 9, 4.8%), and over one year (n = 62, 33.2%).

### Mental Health Issues

A current mental health diagnosis was reported by over half (n = 127, 67.9%) of the homeless young adult respondents, with fifty-four percent (n=101) reporting more than one mental health issues/diagnoses.

Types of Mental Disorders Reported (N =187)	#	%
Anxiety	89	47.6%
Depression	84	44.9%
ADD/ADHD	75	40.1%

Bipolar disorder	69	36.9%
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder	38	20.3%
Schizophrenia	23	12.3%
Borderline Personality Disorder	16	8.6%
Autism	14	7.5%
Antisocial Personality Disorder	13	7%
Oppositional Defiant Disorder	11	5.9%
Dissociative Identity Disorder	2	1.1%
Asperger's	2	1.1%

Having received treatment for the reported mental health disorders was reported by 103 (55.1%) respondents.

### Medical Issues

The majority (n =134, 71.7%) of the respondents reported they had health insurance through the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System. A current medical problem was reported by 100 (53.5%) of the respondents, with 22 (11.8%) reporting a current dental issue. Medical problems included the following: asthma, vision issues, chronic pain, sexually transmitted infections, open wounds, skin problems and broken bones.

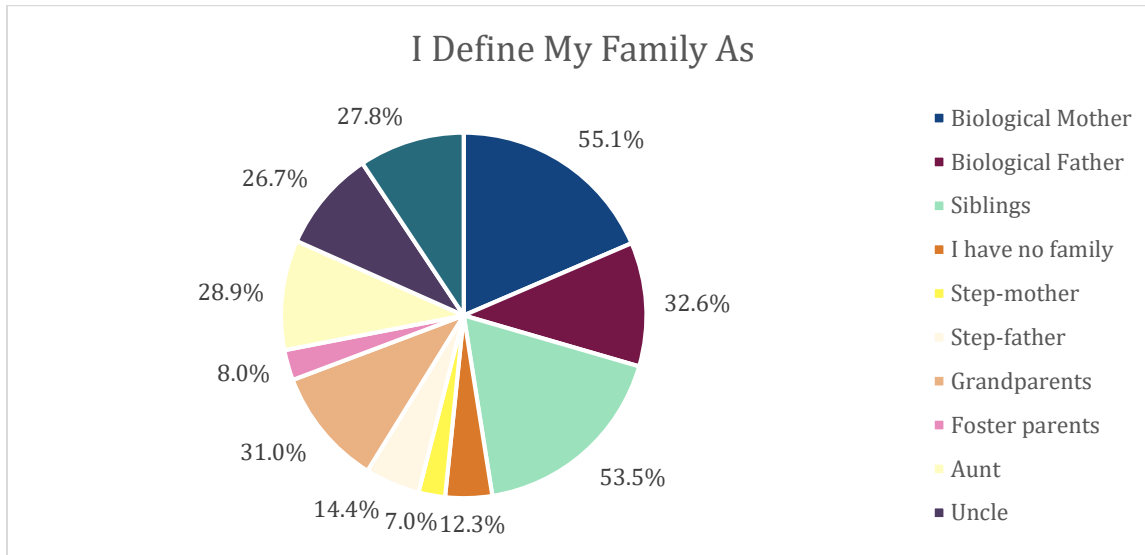
Medical Issues Reported	#	%
Asthma	46	24.6%
Poor vision	38	20.3%
Chronic Pain	25	13.4%
Open wounds	11	5.9%
Skin problems	10	5.3%
Broken bones	7	3.7%
Sexually transmitted infections	2	1.1%

Other self-reported medical conditions included emphysema, heart problems, HIV, and hypertension. The homeless young adult respondents reported less than a quarter (n = 46, 24.6%) were receiving medical treatment for their identified current medical problem.

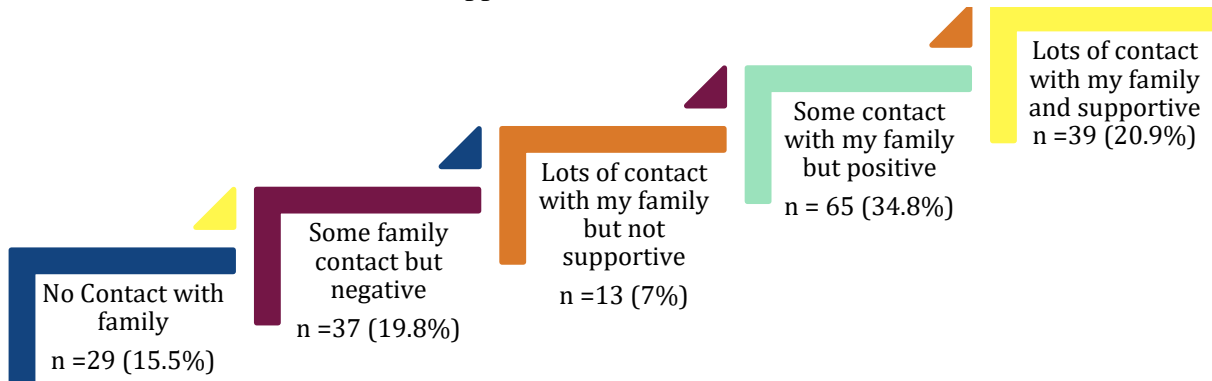
A current pregnancy was reported by 6 (3.2%) respondents. More than one-third (n = 71, 38%) of the respondents reported that they had children. The number of children ranged from 1 to 4 ( $M = 1.77$ ,  $SD = .85$ ). Respondents reported child custody or living arrangements as: Department of Child Safety (DCS) custody (n = 20, 10.7%), living in my care (n = 31, 16.6%), living in foster care (n = 10, 5.3%), and living with family (n = 17, 9.1%).

## Family Connection

The homeless young adult respondents reported that relationships with their families and their level of connectedness with their families varied. Respondents defined their family as:



Family contact was described as: no contact (n = 29, 15.5%). Some contact, but negative (n = 37, 19.8%), some contact, but positive (n = 65, 34.8%), lots of contact, but not supportive (n = 13, 7%), and lots of contact, and supportive (n = 39, 20.9%).



In response to a question about possible reasons for the respondents' level of contact with their families, 56 (29.9%) reported their family lives too far away, 27 (14.4%) reported that their home with their family was not a safe environment for them, and 68 (36.4%) reported that they were kicked out by their families.

Respondents reported being kicked out of their homes because the respondent was using substances (n = 28, 15%), the family did not approve of their sexual orientation (n = 21, 11.2%), their family did not approve of their gender identity (n = 14, 7.5%), their family could not provide for their needs (poverty) (n = 19, 10.2%), and family conflict/fighting with parents (n = 72, 38.5%).

Witnessing domestic violence in the home was reported by 62 (33.2%) respondents. Respondents reported witnessing their father hit their mother (n = 51, 27.3%), and their mother hit their father (n = 34, 18.2%). Respondents reported being abused in domestic violence relationship (n = 84, 44.9%), and being the abuser in a domestic violence relationship (n = 46, 24.6%).

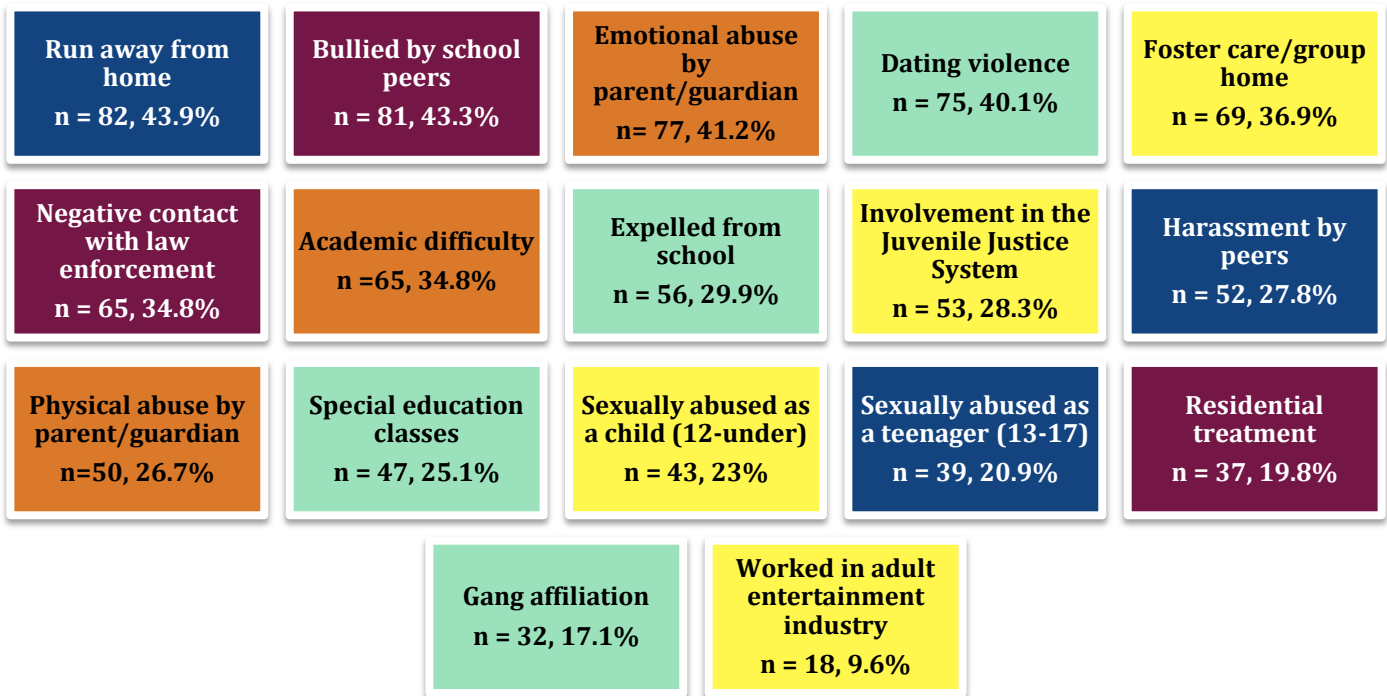
### **Economics of Homeless Young Adults**

The respondents identified a variety of ways they earned money which included: having a steady job, working day labor, selling drugs, selling stolen things, selling their own belongings, working side jobs for cash, door to door sales, panhandling, pick pocketing, and sex trading.

<b>How the Respondents make money to live</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Steady job	42	22.5%
Side jobs for cash	48	25.7%
Selling their own belongings	39	20.9%
Panhandling	35	18.7%
Day labor	16	8.6%
Selling drugs	20	10.7%
Sex trading	8	4.3%
Selling stolen things	13	7%
Door to door sales	5	2.7%
Pick pocketing	9	4.8%

## Life Experiences

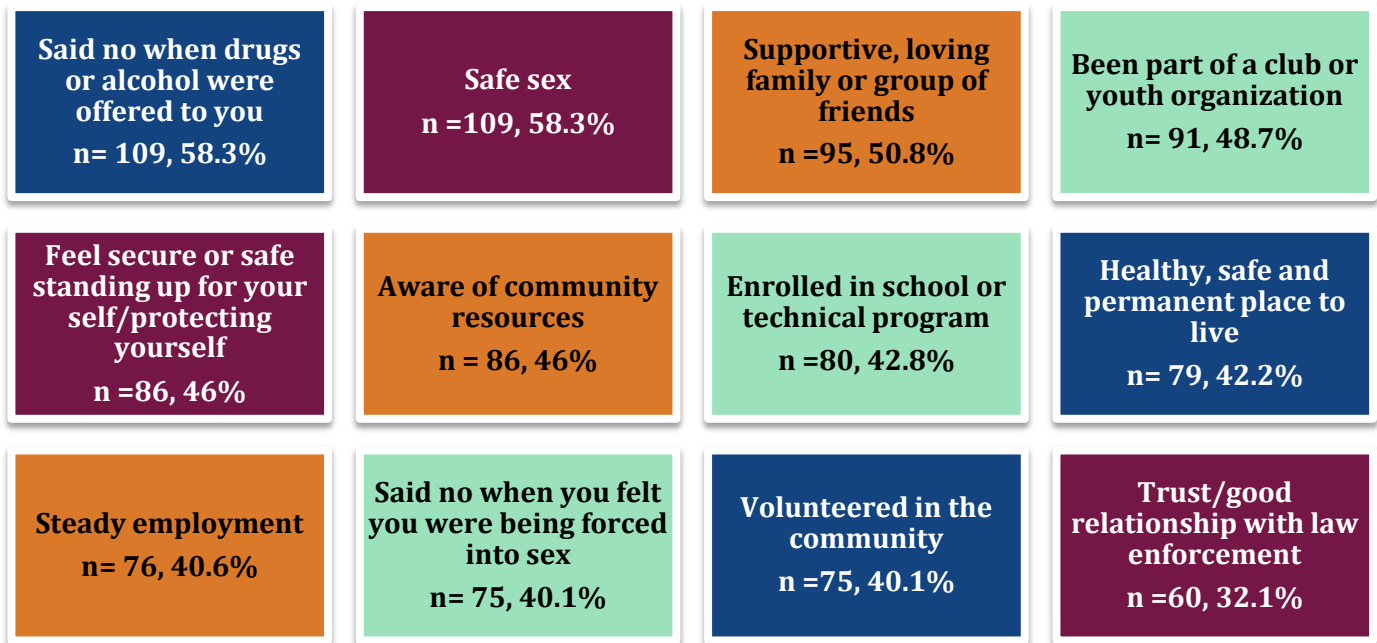
The homeless young adult respondents identified their life experiences as:



A total of 57 (30.5%) of the homeless young adult respondents reported that they had been sexually abused before the age of 18.

## Positive Life Experiences

Positive life experiences of the homeless young adult respondents varied with over half reporting that they had said no to drugs or alcohol when it was offered to them. Fifty-eight percent of the respondents reported that they practiced safe sex and 40.1% reported that they had said no when they felt they were being forced in to having sex. Having been in a club or youth organization was identified by 48.7% of the respondents. More than 40% reported that they felt secure or safe standing up for themselves or protecting themselves. Fifty percent reported that they had a supportive, loving family or group of friends. Being enrolled in school or a technical program was identified by 42.8% of the respondents. Having steady employment was identified by 40.6% of the respondents and having some experience volunteering in the community was reported by 40.1% of the respondents.



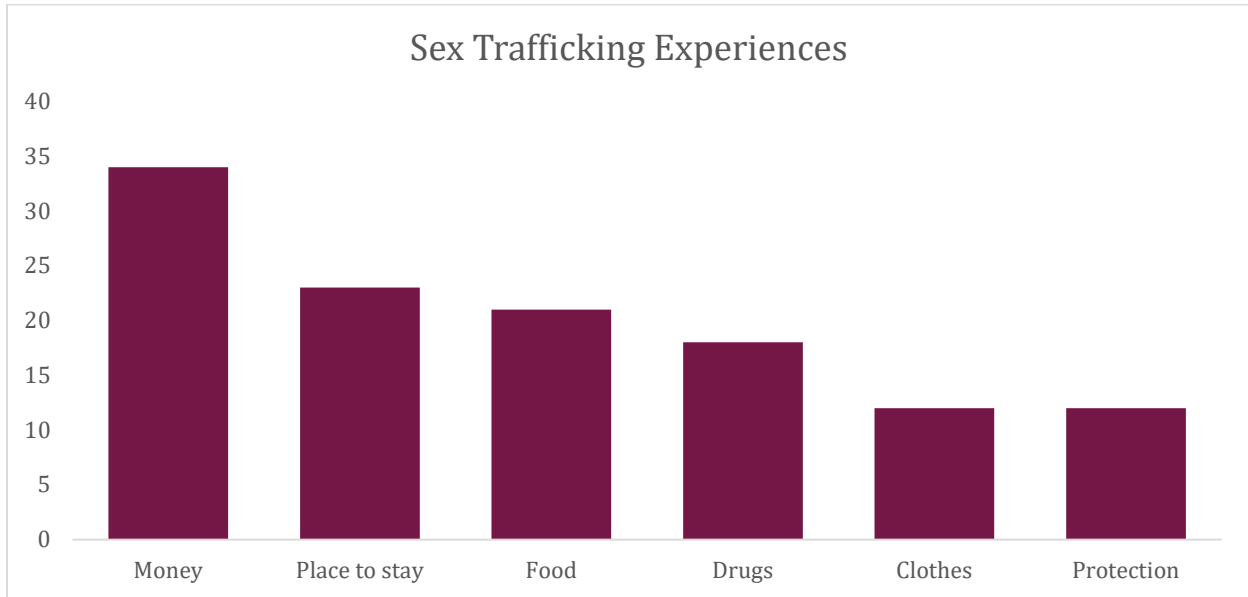
### Sex Trafficking Experiences of Homeless Young Adults

Fifty-eight (31%) of the homeless young adult respondents reported they had been sex trafficked by answering affirmatively to any of the following questions:

1. Have you ever been compelled, forced, or coerced to perform a sexual act, including sexual intercourse, oral or anal contact for: money, food, clothing, drugs, protection, or a place to stay?
2. Do you currently have a person who encourages/pressures/forces you to exchange sexual acts for money, drugs, food, a place to stay, clothing or protection?
3. In the past, has anyone encouraged/pressured/forced you to exchange sexual acts for money, drugs, food, place to stay, clothing or protection?

Twenty-nine female homeless young adults reported that they were a sex trafficking victim, which is 38.2% of the total number of female homeless young adult respondents. Of the 92 male respondents, 23 (25%) reported they were a sex trafficking victim. Finally, of the 18 individuals who identified as other gender (transgender, non-conforming), six (33.3%) reported that they were a sex trafficking victim. Regarding sexual orientation of the sex trafficked group (n = 58), 56 reported their sexual orientation. Twenty-two (39.3%) identified as heterosexual and 34 (60.7%) as LGBTQ. The age of first being sex trafficked was only reported by 38 (65.5%) of the 58 respondents who reported being sex trafficked. The age of first sex trafficking victimization reported ranged from 9 to 22 years ( $M = 16.6$ ,  $SD = 2.84$ ). Twenty-five (43.1%) reported that they were sex trafficked before they were age 18. The two most commonly reported reasons the respondents identified as how they were sex trafficked were: they were compelled, forced, or coerced to perform a sexual act that was for money (n = 34, 58.6%) followed by for a place to

stay (n = 23, 39.7%), for food (n = 21, 36.2%), for drugs (n = 18, 31%), for clothes (n = 12, 20.7%), and protection (n = 12, 20.7%).



Having a sex trafficker was reported by 48 (82.8%) of the respondents that identified as being a victim of sex trafficking. The 82.8% who reported having a sex trafficker answered affirmatively to the one of the following questions:

1. Do you currently have a person who encourages/pressures/ forces you to exchange sexual acts for money, drugs, a place to stay, clothing or protection?
2. In the past, has anyone encouraged/pressured/ forced you to exchange sexual acts for money, drugs, a place to stay, clothing or protection?

Four (6.9%) of the 58 respondents who reported a sex trafficking experience identified they were currently being sex trafficked by a person who encourages/pressures/forces them to exchange sexual acts for money, drugs, protection, a place to stay, clothing or protection. Eighteen (31%) respondents reported that they had felt afraid to leave or quit the sex trafficking situation due to fear of violence or other threats of harm to self and to family.. Twenty-two (37.9%) of the 58 respondents identified the type of relationship with the sex trafficker as: a boyfriend (n = 10, 17.2%), a friend/acquaintance (n = 10, 17.2%), and a stranger (n = 2, 3.4%).

The use of technology for the purpose of the sex trafficking was identified by 37 (63.8%) of the 58 homeless young adult respondents who reported having been sex trafficked. The respondents responded affirmatively to the following survey question:

1. Were any of the following technological devices or means used to recruit you to trade sex, to keep you in the sex trading situation, or used as a tool in the sex trading situation?



Types of technology used in the sex trafficking situations (n=58)	#	%
Smart phone	23	39.7%
Facebook	13	22.4%
Dating websites	13	22.4%
Backpage.com	12	20.7%
Craigslist.com	11	19%
Pornographic pictures	11	19%
Instagram	7	12.1%
Tinder	6	10.3%
Twitter	6	10.3%
Tumblr	5	8.6%
Paypal	5	8.6%
Bitcoin	5	8.6%

The names of the dating websites used to recruit, keep them in, or as a tool in the sex trafficking situation that were written in by the participants included Eros, Grindr, MeetMe, Tagged, and Seeking Arrangements.

Respondents reported that technology was used in their sex trafficking situation in a number of ways, including: To recruit into a sex trafficking situation (n = 16, 27.6%), as a tool in the sex trafficking situation (n = 16, 27.6%), to keep the respondent in the sex trafficking situation (n = 14, 24.1%), and to help the respondent get out of a sex trafficking situation (n = 9, 15.5%).

### **Comparing the Sex Trafficked Group with the Non-Sex Trafficked Group**

To compare the sex trafficked and the non-sex trafficked group, chi square and t-test analysis were used. There were no significant differences between the two groups regarding age at the time of the survey, age of first homelessness, or age of first drug use.

There were no significant differences between the two groups regarding the gender identity of the respondents. Respondents who indicated their sexual orientation was in the category of gay, lesbian, pansexual, asexual, bisexual or other, were significantly more likely to have reported they were a sex trafficking victim when compared to those who reported heterosexual as their sexual orientation ( $\chi^2(1, N = 153) = 3.95, p < .047$ ).

Participants who identified as having a drug addiction ( $\chi^2(1, N = 172) = 11.83, p < .001$ ) or an alcohol addiction ( $\chi^2(1, N = 173) = 4.98, p < .026$ ) were significantly more likely to report a sex trafficking experience. The sex trafficked group was significantly more likely to report the use of methamphetamines compared to the non-sex trafficked group ( $\chi^2(1, N = 174) = 9.40, p < .002$ ).

	Sex trafficked group (n =58)	Non sex trafficked group (n =119)
Sexual orientation*		
Heterosexual	22 (39.3%)	56 (47.1%)
LGBTQ	34 (60.7%)	41 (34.5%)
Methamphetamine use*	29 (50%)	33 (27.7%)
Drug addiction**	18 (31%)	13 (10.9%)
Alcohol addiction*	11 (19%)	9 (7.6%)

\*Significance at a  $p < .05$  level. \*\*Significance at a  $p < .01$  level.

### Self-Harm and Risk Taking Behaviors

Self-harming behaviors were significantly more likely to have been reported by the sex trafficked group when compared to the non-sex trafficked group ( $\chi^2(1, N = 173) = 27.39, p < .000$ ). The sex trafficked homeless young adults were more likely to report they were participating in cutting behaviors when compared to the non-sex trafficked group ( $\chi^2(1, N = 172) = 18.13, p < .000$ ). Drinking alcohol excessively was significantly more likely to be reported by the sex trafficked group of homeless young adult respondents than the non-sex trafficked group ( $\chi^2(1, N = 172) = 25.48, p < .000$ ).

Drug use as a high-risk behavior was significantly more likely to have been reported by the sex trafficked respondents when compared to the non-sex trafficked group ( $\chi^2(1, N = 172) = 25.56, p < .000$ ). Having sex with strangers as a risky behavior was significantly more likely to have been reported by the sex trafficked respondents than the non-sex trafficked group ( $\chi^2(1, N = 172) = 47.77, p < .000$ ). Risk taking behaviors ( $\chi^2(1, N = 172) = 29.95, p < .000$ ) was significantly more likely to have been reported by the sex trafficked respondents than the non-sex trafficked respondents. Vomiting ( $\chi^2(1, N = 171) = 16.89, p < .000$ ) and not eating for long periods of time ( $\chi^2(1, N = 172) = 34.71, p < .000$ ) were significantly more likely to have been reported by the sex trafficked respondents than the non-sex trafficked respondents.

Engaging in body modification behavior ( $\chi^2(1, N = 172) = 4.28, p < .039$ ) and scarification ( $\chi^2(1, N = 172) = 7.46, p < .006$ ) were more likely to be reported by the sex trafficked homeless young adult respondents when compared to the non-sex trafficked group.

<b>Self-Harming and Risk Taking Behaviors</b>	<b>Sex trafficked group (n =58)</b>	<b>Non-sex trafficked group (n =119)</b>
Self-harming behaviors**	50 (86.2%)	56 (47.1%)
Not eating for long periods**	36 (62.1%)	22 (18.5%)
Cutting**	36 (62.1%)	35 (29.4%)
Drug use**	32 (55.2%)	22 (18.5%)
Sex with strangers**	29 (50%)	7 (5.9%)
Risk taking behaviors**	29 (50%)	15 (12.6%)
Drinking alcohol excessively**	27 (46.6%)	15 (12.6%)
Vomiting**	14 (24.1%)	5 (4.2%)
Body modification*	11 (19%)	10 (8.4%)
Scarification**	11 (19%)	7 (5.9%)

\*Significance at a  $p < .05$  level. \*\*Significance at a  $p < .01$  level.

### **Mental Health Issues**

Suicide attempts were significantly more likely to have been reported by the sex trafficked homeless young adults when compared to the non-sex trafficked group ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 173) = 15.67, p < .000$ ). The sex trafficked respondents were more likely to have a current mental health issue/diagnosis than the non-sex trafficked group ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 172) = 14.87, p < .000$ ). The sex trafficked group was also significantly more likely to report having more than one mental health diagnosis compared to the non-sex trafficked group ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 171) = 18.19, p < .000$ ).

The sex trafficked group were more likely to report being diagnosed with bipolar disorder ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 172) = 14.67, p < .000$ ), depression ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 172) = 8.55, p < .003$ ), schizophrenia ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 172) = 4.65, p < .031$ ), posttraumatic stress disorder ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 172) = 8.95, p < .003$ ), borderline personality disorder ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 172) = 4.51, p < .034$ ), and anxiety ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 171) = 15.77, p < .000$ ). The sex trafficked group were more likely to report that they had received treatment for their mental health problem than the non-sex trafficked group ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 167) = 12.35, p < .000$ ).

<b>Mental Health Issues</b>	<b>Sex trafficked group (n =58)</b>	<b>Non-sex trafficked group (n =119)</b>
Mental health issue/diagnosis**	51 (87.9%)	73 (61.3%)
Suicide attempts**	45 (77.6%)	57 (47.9%)
More than one diagnosis reported**	45 (77.6%)	55 (46.2%)

Ever received mental health treatment**	44 (75.9%)	58 (48.7%)
Anxiety**	41 (70.7%)	47 (39.5%)
Depression**	36 (62.1%)	47 (39.5%)
Bipolar disorder**	34 (58.6%)	35 (29.4%)
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder**	20 (34.5%)	18 (15.1%)
Schizophrenia*	12 (20.7%)	11 (9.2%)
Borderline Personality Disorder*	9 (15.5%)	7 (5.9%)

\*Significance at a  $p < .05$  level. \*\*Significance at a  $p < .01$  level.

### Medical Problems and Services

The two groups were not significantly different regarding reporting a medical problem. The two groups did not differ regarding the number of children they have and were similar in the locations of their children.

Pregnancy and Children	Sex trafficked group (n =58)	Non-sex trafficked group (n =119)
Have children	25 (43.1%)	44 (37%)
Children with family	8 (13.8%)	8 (6.7%)
Currently pregnant	2 (3.4%)	4 (3.4%)
Children in the respondent's care	8 (13.8%)	22 (18.5%)
Children in foster care	5 (8.6%)	5 (4.2%)
DCS Involvement	8 (13.8%)	12 (10.1%)

\*Significance at a  $p < .05$  level. \*\*Significance at a  $p < .01$  level.

### Family Connection and Support

Although not significant, 46.6% of the sex trafficked homeless young adult respondents identified reported that they had been kicked out by their family compared to 32.8% of the non-sex trafficked group. The sex trafficked group was significantly more likely to report being kicked out of their homes due to substance use ( $\chi^2(1, N = 173) = 6.43, p < .011$ ) and the family not approving of the respondents' sexual orientation ( $\chi^2(1, N = 173) = 9.07, p < .003$ ).

Family Connection and Support	Sex trafficked group (n =58)	Non-sex trafficked group (n =119)
Some family contact, but positive	22 (37.9%)	40 (33.6%)
No contact	9 (15.5%)	19 (16%)

Some family contact, but negative	13 (22.4%)	24 (20.2%)
Lots of family contact, supportive	9 (15.5%)	30 (25.2%)
Lots of family contact, not supportive	4 (6.9%)	8 (6.7%)
<b>Reasons for disconnection and lack of support:</b>		
They kicked me out	27 (46.6%)	39 (32.8%)
They live too far away	23 (39.7%)	32 (26.9%)
The family was not a safe environment	12 (20.7%)	15 (12.6%)
<b>Reasons for being kicked out:</b>		
Family conflict	27 (46.6%)	43 (36.1%)
I was using substances (drugs and alcohol)*	15 (25.9%)	13 (10.9%)
Family did not approve of my sexual orientation**	13 (22.4%)	8 (6.7%)
Family poverty	8 (13.8%)	11 (9.2%)
Family did not approve of my gender identity	7 (12.1%)	7 (5.9%)

\*Significance at a  $p < .05$  level. \*\*Significance at a  $p < .01$  level.

The sex trafficked group was significantly more likely than the non-sex trafficked group to report witnessing domestic violence in the home ( $\chi^2(1, N = 171) = 5.15, p < .023$ ). The sex trafficked group was significantly more likely than the non-sex trafficked group to report being abused in a domestic violence relationship ( $\chi^2(1, N = 172) = 10.56, p < .001$ ), and being the abuser in a domestic violence relationship ( $\chi^2(1, N = 172) = 5.40, p < .020$ ).

<b>Experience of Domestic Violence</b>	<b>Sex trafficked group (n =58)</b>	<b>Non-sex trafficked group (n =119)</b>
Witnessing domestic violence in the home*	27 (46.6%)	35 (29.4%)
Abused in a domestic violence relationship**	37 (63.8%)	46 (38.7%)
Abuser in a domestic violence relationship*	21 (36.2%)	25 (21%)

\*Significance at a  $p < .05$  level. \*\*Significance at a  $p < .01$  level.

### How Respondents Earn Money

The sex trafficked homeless young adult respondents were significantly more likely than the non-sex trafficked group to report selling drugs ( $\chi^2(1, N = 169) = 7.39, p < .007$ ), selling their own belongings ( $\chi^2(1, N = 169) = 10.83, p < .001$ ), and panhandling ( $\chi^2(1, N = 169) = 7.54, p < .006$ ) as a way to earn money.

How Respondents Earn Money	Sex trafficked group (n =58)	Non-sex trafficked group (n =119)
Side jobs for cash	18 (31%)	30 (25.2%)
Steady job	13 (22.4%)	28 (13.5%)
Selling my own things**	21 (36.2%)	17 (14.3%)
Panhandling**	18 (31%)	16 (13.4%)
Day labor	7 (12.1%)	9 (7.6%)
Sell drugs**	12 (20.7%)	8 (6.7%)
Selling stolen things	9 (15.5%)	4 (3.4%)
Door-to-door sales	3 (5.2%)	1 (0.8%)
Pickpocketing	6 (10.3%)	2 (1.7%)

\*Significance at a  $p < .05$  level. \*\*Significance at a  $p < .01$  level.

### Negative Life Experiences

With regard to childhood abuse, the sex trafficked group were significantly more likely than the non-sex trafficked group to report a history of physical abuse by a parent/guardian ( $\chi^2(1, N = 162) = 7.77, p < .005$ ), emotional abuse by a parent/guardian ( $\chi^2(1, N = 162) = 14.64, p < .000$ ), sexual abuse (molested or raped) at age 12 or under ( $\chi^2(1, N = 162) = 20.41, p < .000$ ), and sexual abuse (molested or raped) as an adolescent, ages 13-17 ( $\chi^2(1, N = 162) = 35.43, p < .000$ ). Regarding housing placements and environments, the sex trafficked group was significantly more likely than the non-sex trafficked group to report running away from home ( $\chi^2(1, N = 162) = 13.23, p < .000$ ), living in foster care or a group home ( $\chi^2(1, N = 162) = 3.85, p < .050$ ), living in a residential treatment facility ( $\chi^2(1, N = 162) = 5.11, p < .024$ ), and involvement in the Juvenile Justice System ( $\chi^2(1, N = 162) = 6.41, p < .011$ ). The sex trafficked group were significantly more likely than the non-sex trafficked group to report harassment by peers ( $\chi^2(1, N = 162) = 18.97, p < .000$ ), academic difficulty ( $\chi^2(1, N = 162) = 6.36, p < .012$ ), and bullying by school peers ( $\chi^2(1, N = 162) = 12.3, p < .000$ ).

<b>Negative Life Experiences</b>	<b>Sex trafficked group (n =58)</b>	<b>Non-sex trafficked group (n =119)</b>
Physical abuse by parent/guardian**	23 (39.7%)	27 (22.7%)
Emotional abuse by parent/guardian**	35 (60.3%)	42 (35.3%)
Sexual abuse as a child (12-under)**	25 (43.1%)	18 (15.1%)
Sexual abuse as adolescent (13-17)**	27 (46.6%)	12 (10.1%)
Foster care/group home*	27 (46.6%)	42 (35.3%)
Residential treatment*	17 (29.3%)	20 (16.8%)
Juvenile Justice System*	23 (39.7%)	29 (24.4%)
Running away from home**	36 (62.1%)	46 (38.7%)
Harassment by peers**	28 (48.3%)	24 (20.2%)
Academic difficulty*	27 (46.6%)	37 (31.1%)
Bullied by school peers**	35 (60.3%)	45 (37.8%)

\*Significance at a  $p < .05$  level. \*\*Significance at a  $p < .01$  level.

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### **Labor Trafficking Experiences of Homeless Young Adults**

Sixty (32.1%) of the homeless young adult respondents reported they had been labor trafficked by answering affirmatively to any of the following questions:

1. Have you ever been compelled, forced or coerced to perform a non-sexual act or form of labor, for money, drugs, food, a place to stay, clothing, or protection?
2. Do you currently have a person who encourages/pressures/forces you to exchange a form of labor for money, drugs, food, place to stay, clothing or protection?
3. In the past, has anyone encouraged/pressured/forced you to exchange a form of labor for money, drugs, food, place to stay, clothing or protection?

Twenty-seven female homeless young adults reported that they were a labor trafficking victim, which is 35.5% of the total number of female homeless young adult respondents. Of the 92 male respondents, 25 (27.2%) reported they were a labor trafficking victim. Finally, of the 18 individuals who identified as other gender (transgender, non-conforming), eight (44.4%) reported that they were a labor trafficking victim. Regarding sexual orientation of the labor trafficked group (n = 60), 28 (50.9%) identified as heterosexual and 27 (49.1%) as LGBTQ. The age of first being labor trafficked was only reported by 44 (73.3%) of the 60 respondents who reported being labor trafficked. The age of first labor trafficking victimization reported ranged from 4 to 24 years ( $M = 16.5$ ,  $SD = 4.20$ ). Twenty-one (35%) reported that they were labor trafficked before they were age 18.

The two most commonly reported reasons the respondents identified as how they were labor trafficked were: they were compelled, forced, or coerced to perform a non-sexual labor act that was for money (n = 40, 66.7%) followed by for food (n = 35, 58.3%), for a place to stay (n = 33, 55%), for clothes (n = 26, 43.3%), for drugs (n = 18, 30%), and protection (n = 17, 28.3%).



Having a labor trafficker was reported by 40 (66.7%) of the respondents that identified as being a victim of labor trafficking. The 66.7% who reported having a labor trafficker answered affirmatively to the one of the following questions:

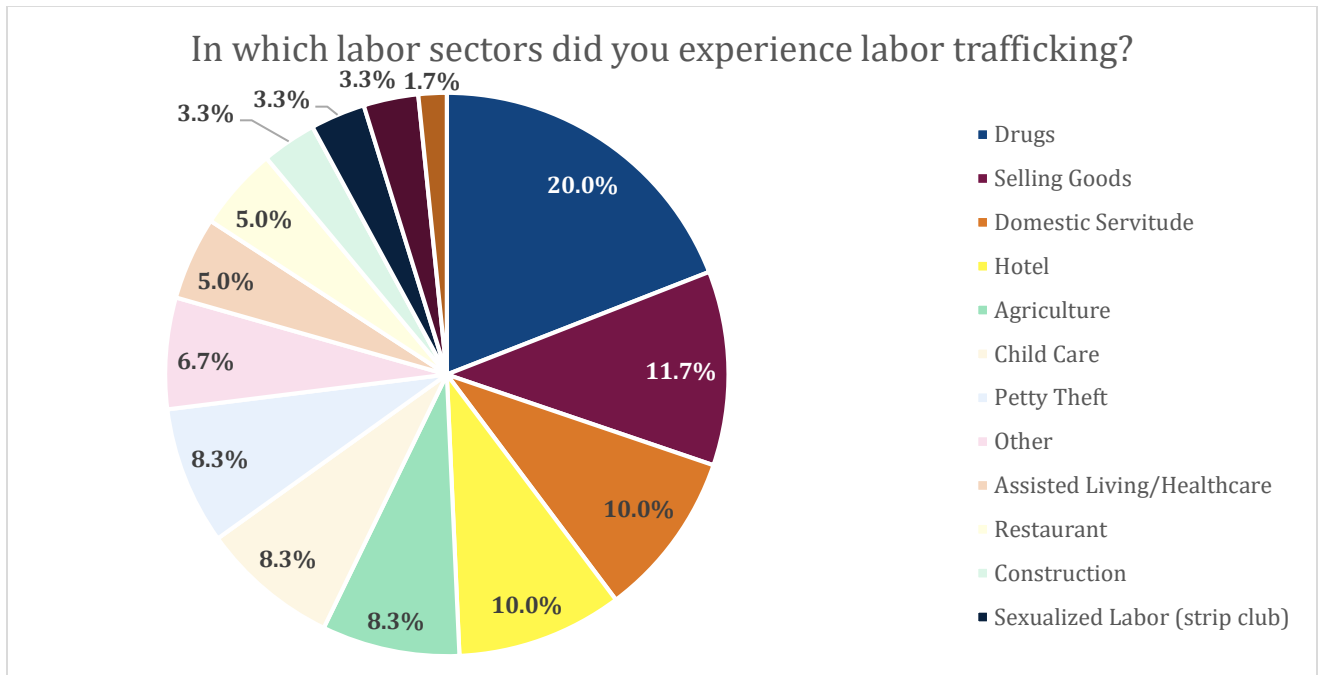
1. Do you currently have a person who encourages/pressures/forces you to exchange a form of labor for money, drugs, food, place to stay, clothing or protection?
2. In the past, has anyone encouraged/pressured/forced you to exchange a form of labor for money, drugs, food, place to stay, clothing or protection?

Eleven (18.3%) of the 60 respondents who reported a labor trafficking experience identified they were currently being labor trafficked by a person who encourages/pressures/forces them to exchange non-sexual labor acts for money, drugs, protection, a place to stay, clothing or protection. Thirteen (21.7%) respondents reported that they had felt afraid to leave or quit the labor trafficking situation due to fear of violence or other threats of harm to self and to family.

Twenty-one (35%) of the 60 respondents identified the type of relationship with the labor trafficker as: a boyfriend (n = 7, 11.7%), a friend/acquaintance (n = 7, 11.7%), a family member (n = 4, 6.7%), a stranger (n = 2, 3.3%), and a gang (n = 1, 1.7%).



Respondents who identified as having experienced a labor trafficking situation were asked to report in which labor sector the exploitation was experienced. Respondents reported exploitation in a number of sectors, including:



### Comparing the Labor Trafficked Group with the Non-Labor Trafficked Group

To compare the labor trafficked and the non-labor trafficked group, chi square and t-test analysis were used. There were no significant differences between the two groups regarding age at the time of the survey, age of first homelessness or age at first drug use. There were no significant differences between the two groups regarding gender identity or sexual orientation.

Participants who identified as having a drug addiction ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 176) = 10.74, p < .001$ ) were significantly more likely to report a labor trafficking experience. The labor trafficked group was significantly more likely to report the use of methamphetamines compared to the non-labor trafficked group ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 178) = 6.85, p < .009$ ).

	Labor trafficked group (n =60)	Non labor trafficked group (n =121)
Methamphetamine use**	28 (46.7%)	34 (28.1%)
Drug addiction**	18 (30%)	13 (10.7%)

\*Significance at a  $p < .05$  level. \*\*Significance at a  $p < .01$  level.

### Self-Harm and Risk Taking Behaviors

Self-harming behaviors were significantly more likely to have been reported by the labor trafficked group when compared to the non-labor trafficked group ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 176) = 20.29, p$

<.000). The labor trafficked respondents were significantly more likely than the non-labor trafficked respondents to report that they were participating in cutting behaviors ( $\chi^2(1, N = 175) = 11.95, p <.001$ ), drinking alcohol excessively ( $\chi^2(1, N = 175) = 10.28, p <.001$ ), using substances ( $\chi^2(1, N = 175) = 18.53, p <.000$ ), engaging in sex with strangers ( $\chi^2(1, N = 175) = 28.95, p <.000$ ), engaging in risk taking behavior ( $\chi^2(1, N = 175) = 26.09, p <.000$ ), not eating for long periods of time ( $\chi^2(1, N = 175) = 22.80, p <.000$ ), and bingeing/vomiting food ( $\chi^2(1, N = 174) = 13.14, p <.000$ ).

<b>Self-Harming and Risk Taking Behaviors</b>	<b>Labor trafficked group (n =60)</b>	<b>Non-labor trafficked group (n =121)</b>
Self-harming behaviors**	50 (83.3%)	56 (46.3%)
Cutting**	35 (58.3%)	36 (29.8%)
Not eating for long periods**	34 (56.7%)	24 (19.8%)
Drug use**	31 (51.7%)	23 (19%)
Risk taking behaviors**	29 (48.3%)	15 (12.4%)
Sex with strangers**	26 (43.3%)	10 (8.3%)
Drinking alcohol excessively**	23 (38.3%)	19 (15.7%)
Bingeing/vomiting**	14 (23.3%)	6 (4.9%)

\*Significance at a  $p < .05$  level. \*\*Significance at a  $p < .01$  level.

### **Mental Health Issues**

Suicide attempts were significantly more likely to have been reported by the labor trafficked group when compared to the non-labor trafficked group ( $\chi^2(1, N = 176) = 10.86, p <.001$ ). The labor trafficked respondents were more likely to report a current mental health issue/diagnosis than the non-labor trafficked group ( $\chi^2(1, N = 175) = 12.08, p <.001$ ). The labor trafficked group was also significantly more likely to report having more than one mental health diagnosis compared to the non-labor trafficked group ( $\chi^2(1, N = 174) = 17.13, p <.000$ ).

The labor trafficked group were significantly more likely than the non-labor trafficked group to report being diagnosed with bipolar disorder ( $\chi^2(1, N = 175) = 5.73, p <.017$ ), depression ( $\chi^2(1, N = 175) = 15.12, p <.000$ ), attention deficit disorder (ADD)/attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) ( $\chi^2(1, N = 175) = 4.57, p <.033$ ), schizophrenia ( $\chi^2(1, N = 175) = 11.25, p <.001$ ), posttraumatic stress disorder ( $\chi^2(1, N = 175) = 17.96, p <.000$ ), and anxiety ( $\chi^2(1, N = 174) = 10.82, p <.002$ ). The labor trafficked group were significantly more likely to report that they had received treatment for their mental health problem than the non-labor trafficked group ( $\chi^2(1, N = 170) = 11.43, p <.001$ ).

<b>Mental Health Issues</b>	<b>Labor trafficked group (n =60)</b>	<b>Non-labor trafficked group (n =121)</b>
Mental health issue/diagnosis**	53 (88.3%)	73 (60.3%)
More than one diagnosis reported**	47 (78.3%)	54 (44.6%)
Ever received mental health treatment**	46 (76.7%)	57 (47.1%)
Suicide attempts**	45 (75%)	57 (47.1%)
Anxiety**	41 (68.3%)	48 (39.7%)
Depression**	41 (68.3%)	43 (35.5%)
ADD/ADHD*	32 (53.3%)	42 (34.7%)
Bipolar disorder*	31 (51.7%)	38 (31.4%)
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder**	24 (40%)	14 (11.6%)
Schizophrenia**	15 (25%)	8 (6.6%)

\*Significance at a  $p < .05$  level. \*\*Significance at a  $p < .01$  level.

### **Medical Problems and Services**

The labor trafficked group was significantly more likely than the non-labor trafficked group to report experiencing a medical issue ( $\chi^2(1, N = 174) = 12.24, p < .000$ ). Poor vision was significantly more likely to be reported by the labor trafficked respondents than the non-labor trafficked respondents ( $\chi^2(1, N = 174) = 5.18, p < .023$ ).

<b>Medical Problems</b>	<b>Labor trafficked group (n =60)</b>	<b>Non-labor trafficked group (n =121)</b>
Current medical problem**	45 (75%)	54 (44.6%)
Poor vision*	19 (31.7%)	19 (15.7%)

\*Significance at a  $p < .05$  level. \*\*Significance at a  $p < .01$  level.

The two groups did not differ regarding the number of children they have and were similar in the locations of their children.

### **Family Connection and Support**

The labor trafficked group were significantly more likely than the non-labor trafficked group to report being kicked out of the home by family ( $\chi^2(1, N = 176) = 4.71, p < .030$ ). The labor trafficked group was significantly more likely than the non-labor trafficked group to report being kicked out because the respondent was using substances (drugs or alcohol) ( $\chi^2(1, N = 177) = 4.48, p < .034$ ), and because the family did not approve of the respondents sexual orientation ( $\chi^2(1, N = 177) = 9.18, p < .002$ ).

<b>Family Connection and Support</b>	Labor trafficked group (n =60)	Non-labor trafficked group (n =121)
They kicked me out*	29 (48.3%)	39 (32.2%)
I was using substances*	14 (23.3%)	14 (11.6%)
They did not approve of my sexual orientation**	13 (21.7%)	8 (6.6%)

\*Significance at a  $p < .05$  level. \*\*Significance at a  $p < .01$  level.

The labor trafficked group was significantly more likely than the non-labor trafficked group to report witnessing domestic violence in the home ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 175) = 3.83, p < .050$ ). The labor trafficked group was significantly more likely than the non-labor trafficked group to report being abused in a domestic violence relationship ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 176) = 30.92, p < .000$ ), and being the abuser in a domestic violence relationship ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 176) = 11.14, p < .001$ ).

<b>Experience of Domestic Violence</b>	Labor trafficked group (n =60)	Non-labor trafficked group (n =121)
Abused in a domestic violence relationship**	45 (%)	39 (%)
Abuser in a domestic violence relationship**	24 (%)	22 (%)
Witnessing domestic violence in the home*	23 (%)	36 (%)

\*Significance at a  $p < .05$  level. \*\*Significance at a  $p < .01$  level.

### How Respondents Earn Money

The labor trafficked group were significantly more likely than the non-labor trafficked group to report earning money by day labor ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 172) = 4.25, p < .039$ ), selling his/her own things ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 172) = 21.82, p < .000$ ), and panhandling ( $\chi^2 (1, N = 172) = 4.72, p < .030$ ).

<b>How Respondents Earn Money</b>	Labor trafficked group (n =60)	Non-labor trafficked group (n =121)
Selling my own things**	25 (41.7%)	14 (11.6%)
Panhandling*	17 (28.3%)	18 (14.9%)
Day labor*	9 (15%)	7 (5.8%)

\*Significance at a  $p < .05$  level. \*\*Significance at a  $p < .01$  level.

## Negative Life Experiences

With regard to childhood abuse, the labor trafficked group were significantly more likely than the non-labor trafficked group to report a history of physical abuse by a parent/guardian ( $\chi^2(1, N = 166) = 4.28, p < .039$ ), emotional abuse by a parent/guardian ( $\chi^2(1, N = 166) = 6.14, p < .013$ ), sexual abuse (molested or raped) at age 12 or under ( $\chi^2(1, N = 166) = 14.13, p < .000$ ), and sexual abuse (molested or raped) as an adolescent, ages 13-17 ( $\chi^2(1, N = 166) = 15.80, p < .000$ ). Regarding housing placements and environments, the labor trafficked group was significantly more likely than the non-labor trafficked group to report living in foster care or a group home ( $\chi^2(1, N = 166) = 3.92, p < .048$ ), and living in a residential treatment facility ( $\chi^2(1, N = 166) = 12.18, p < .000$ ). The labor trafficked group were significantly more likely than the non-labor trafficked group to report being enrolled in special education classes ( $\chi^2(1, N = 166) = 6.00, p < .014$ ), being bullied by school peers ( $\chi^2(1, N = 166) = 4.24, p < .040$ ), and experiencing harassment by peers ( $\chi^2(1, N = 166) = 19.02, p < .000$ ). The labor trafficked group were significantly more likely than the non-labor trafficked group to report experiencing dating violence ( $\chi^2(1, N = 170) = 17.68, p < .000$ ), having a gang affiliation ( $\chi^2(1, N = 166) = 4.86, p < .027$ ), and experience working in the adult entertainment industry ( $\chi^2(1, N = 166) = 8.76, p < .003$ ).

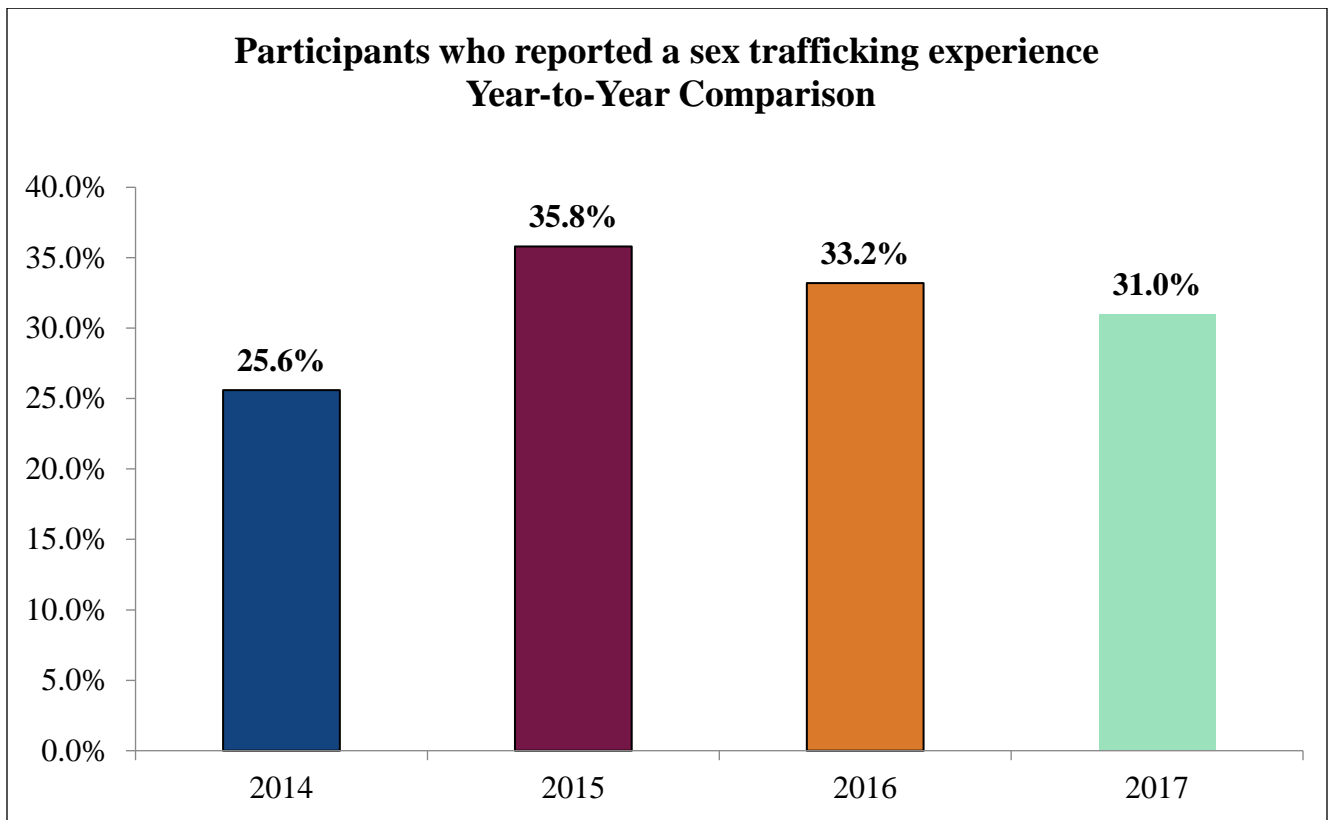
Negative Life Experiences	Labor trafficked group (n =60)	Non-labor trafficked group (n =121)
Dating violence**	37 (61.7%)	38 (31.4%)
Emotional abuse by parent/guardian*	31 (51.7%)	46 (38%)
Bullied by school peers*	31 (51.7%)	50 (41.3%)
Harassment by peers**	28 (46.7%)	24 (19.8%)
Foster care/group home*	27 (45%)	42 (34.7%)
Sexual abuse as a child (12-under)**	23 (38.3%)	20 (15.5%)
Sexual abuse as adolescent (13-17)**	22 (36.7%)	17 (14%)
Physical abuse by parent/guardian*	21 (35%)	29 (23.9%)
Special Education classes*	21 (35%)	26 (21.5%)
Residential treatment**	20 (33.3%)	17 (14%)
Gang affiliation*	15 (25%)	17 (14%)
Worked in the adult entertainment industry**	11 (18.3%)	7 (5.8%)

\*Significance at a  $p < .05$  level. \*\*Significance at a  $p < .01$  level.

## Comparing Findings from the YES 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017

In 2014, 246 homeless young adults participated in the Youth Experiences Survey (YES). The 2015 YES was completed by 215 homeless young adults, the 2016 YES was completed by

199 homeless young adults, and the 2017 YES was completed by 187 homeless young adults. Due to the transient nature of this population and the anonymity of the respondents, duplication from year to year was not considered or included in the interpretation of the findings. Additions to the 2015 Youth Experiences Survey included questions about respondent origins, such as hometown and how long the respondent has resided in Arizona, what types of medical services the respondent utilizes, and if the respondent has children or is currently pregnant. New questions addressing family history and connectedness, spirituality, how the respondent makes money, and how technology was used in a sex trafficking situation were also included in the 2015 Youth Experiences Survey. New questions added to the 2016 YES included requesting their hometown zip code, and reasons for being kicked out of their homes (if they were kicked out). The 2017 Youth Experiences Survey included questions about labor trafficking and exploitation.

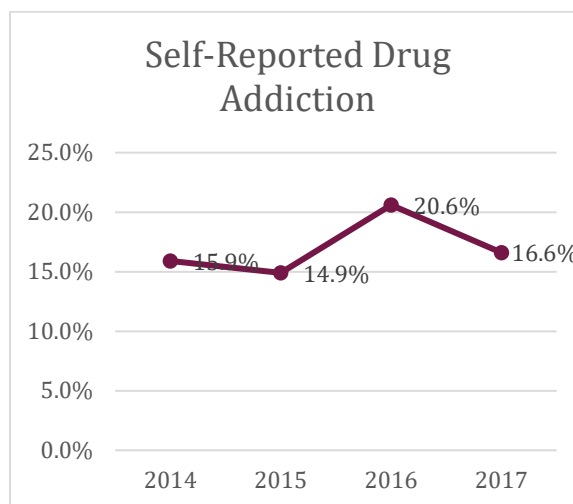
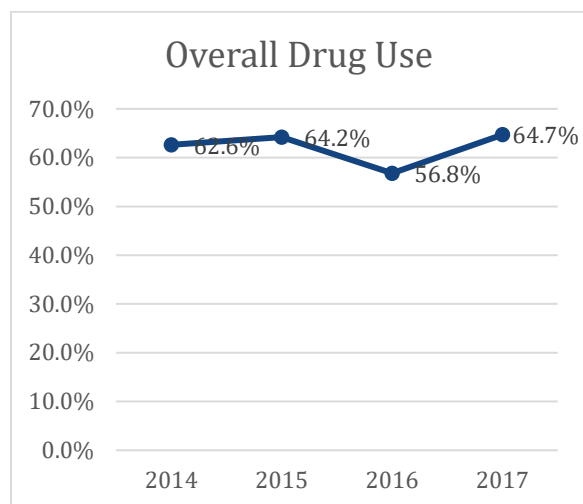


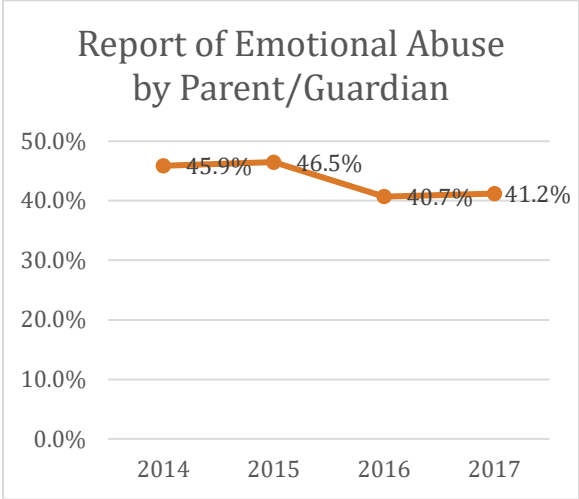
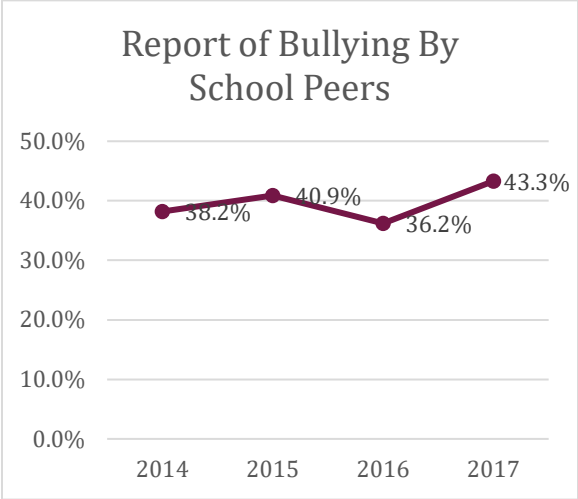
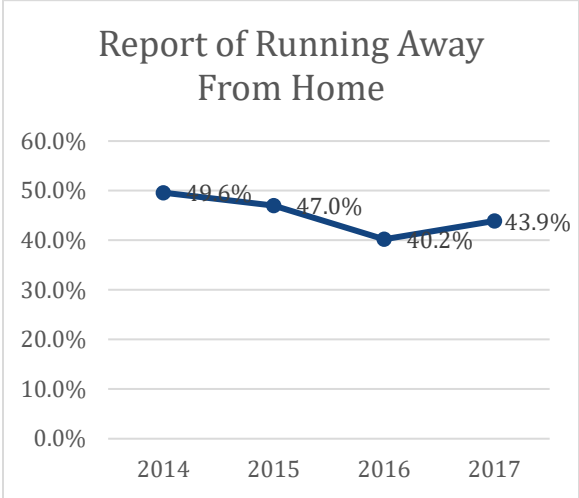
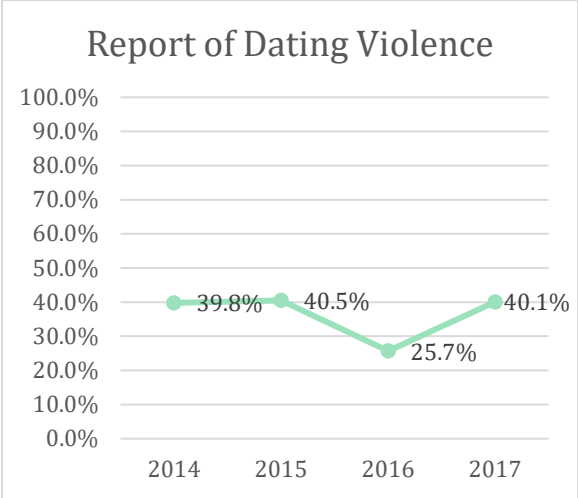
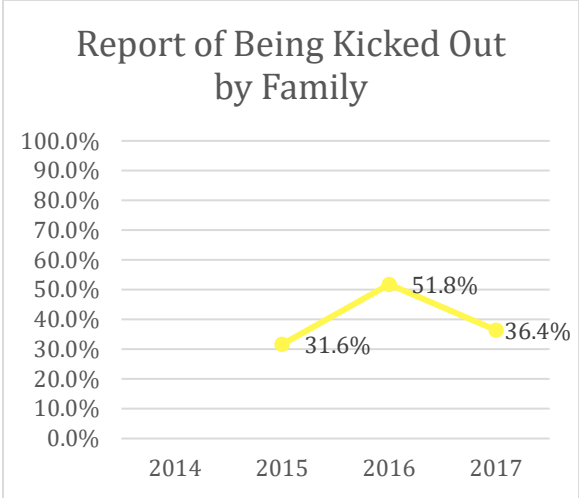
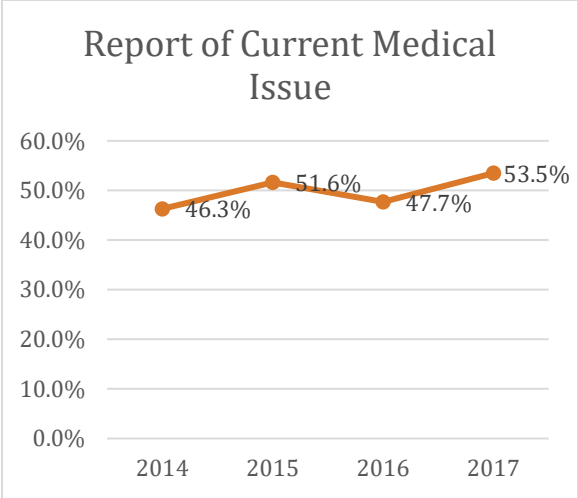
In 2014, one in four ( $n = 63$ , 25.6%) homeless young adult participants self-reported that they had experienced a sex trafficking situation. The 2015 respondents demonstrate an increase in the number of reported sex trafficking experiences by homeless young adults, with over one in three (77, 35.8%) respondents self-reporting a sex trafficking experience. The 2016 YES respondents reported that one in every three ( $n = 66$ , 33.2%) participants had experienced sex trafficking. The 2017 YES demonstrates a relatively consistent number of respondents identifying as having experienced sex trafficking exploitation.

### Changes over time Youth Experiences Survey 2014-2017

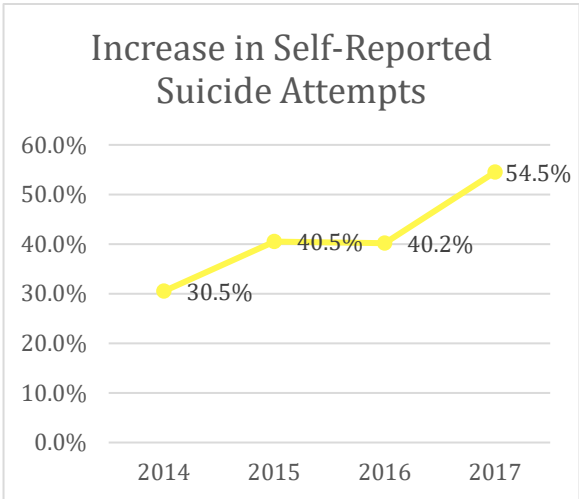
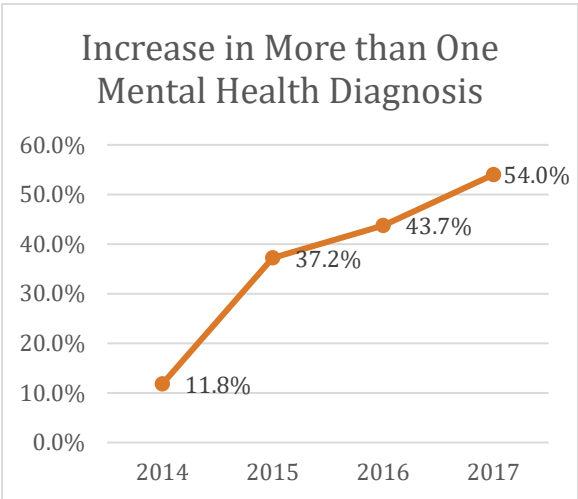
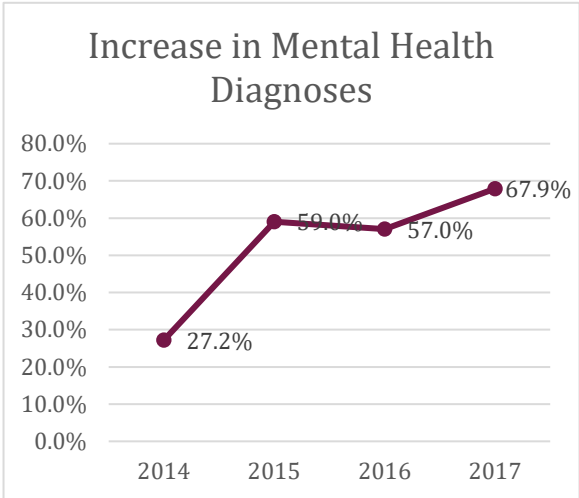
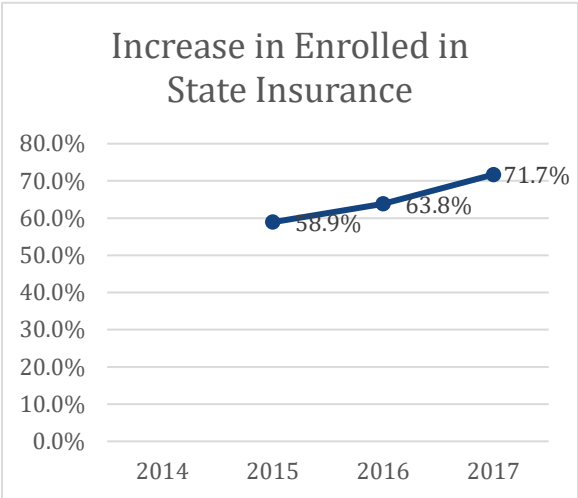
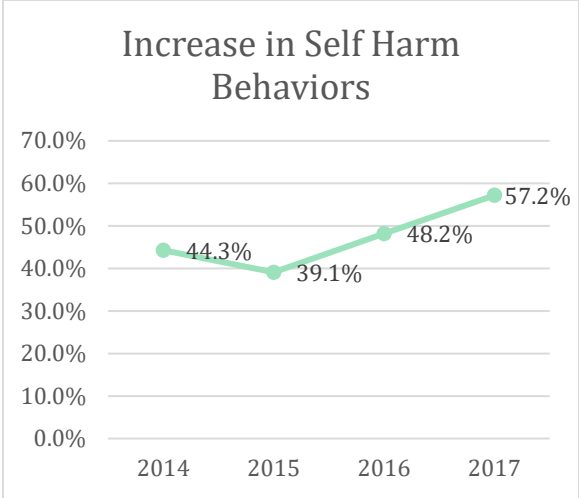
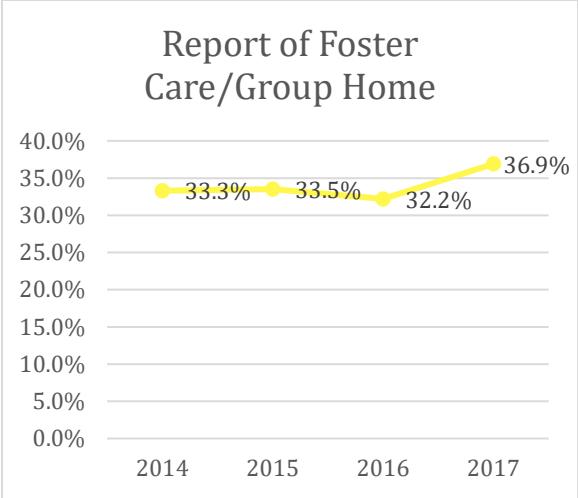
Over the four years of the YES study, many of the variables studied have remained relatively stable. Overall drug use has remained a significant factor in the lives of homeless young adults, with the percentage of respondents reporting drug use averaging at about 62.1% over the four years. Self-reported drug addiction has remained relatively stable over the four-year study period, peaking in 2016 at 20.6% and declining slightly in 2017 at 16.6%. Other factors that have remained stable over the four year study period include: reports of a current medical issue (averaging 49.8% over four years), reports of being kicked out by family (averaging 39.9% over three years), reports of dating violence (averaging 36.5% over four years), reports of running away from home (averaging 45.2% over four years), reports of bullying by school peers (averaging 39.7% over four year), reports of emotional abuse by a parent/guardian (averaging 43.6% over four years), and reports of living in a foster care/group home setting (averaging 33.9% over four years).

Other factors have increased steadily over the four-year study period for the overall sample of homeless young adults. A positive increase has been noted in the number of respondents who have gained access to state insurance over the four-year period. Significant mental health challenges have steadily increased over the four year period, including: self-harm behaviors (averaging 47.2% over four years), reports of a mental health diagnosis (averaging 52.8% over four years), reports of more than one mental health diagnosis (averaging 36.7% over four years), and reports of suicide attempts (averaging 41.4% over four years).





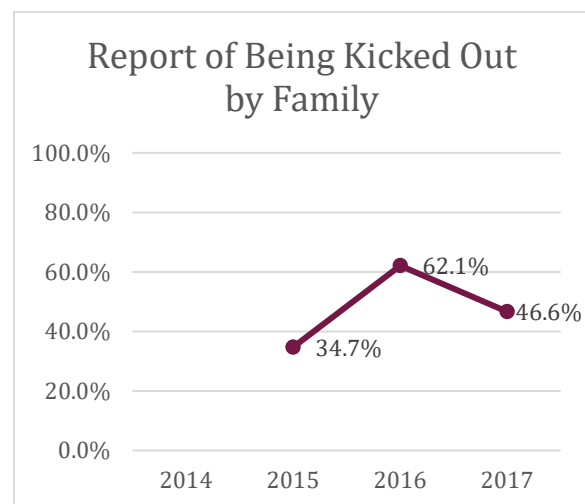
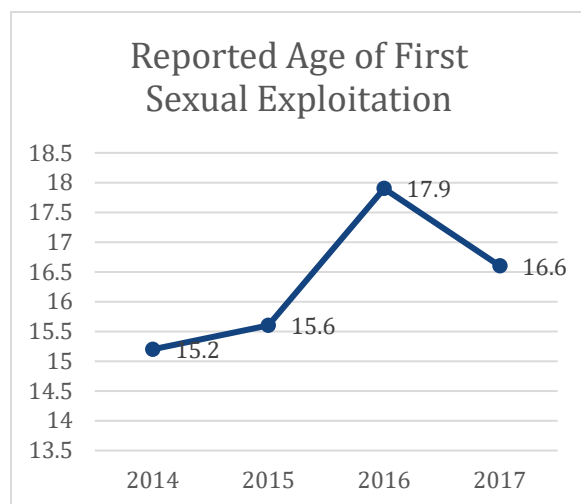


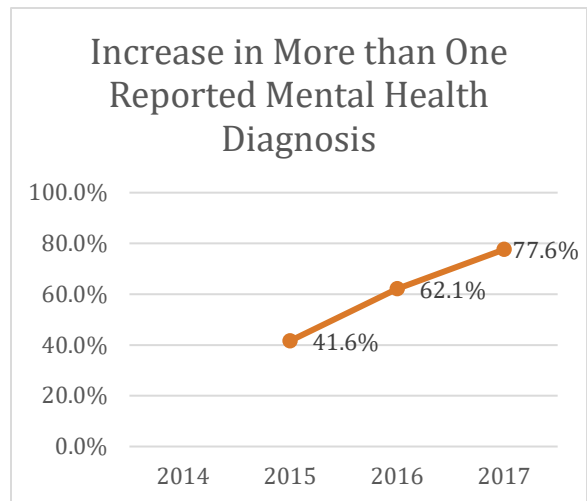
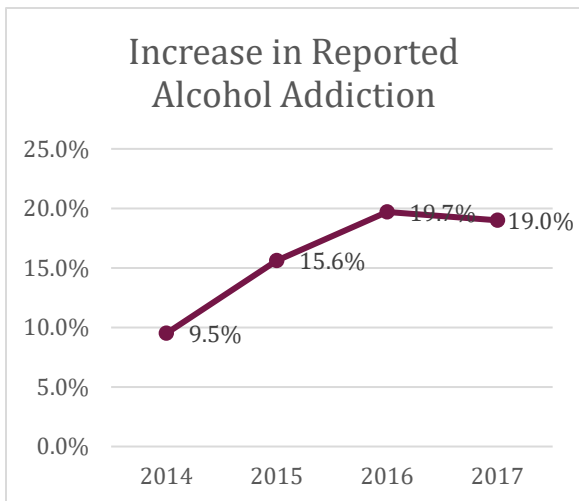
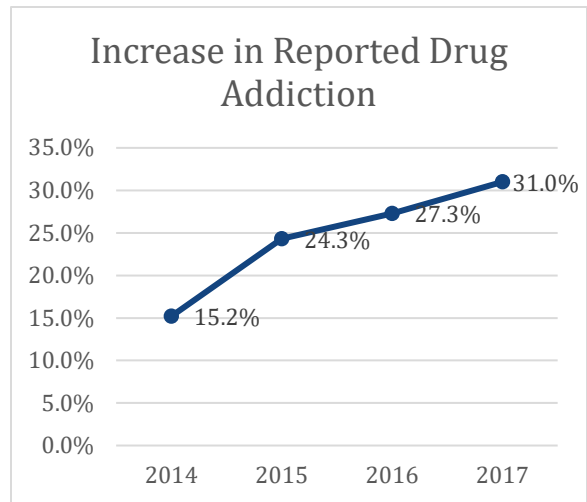
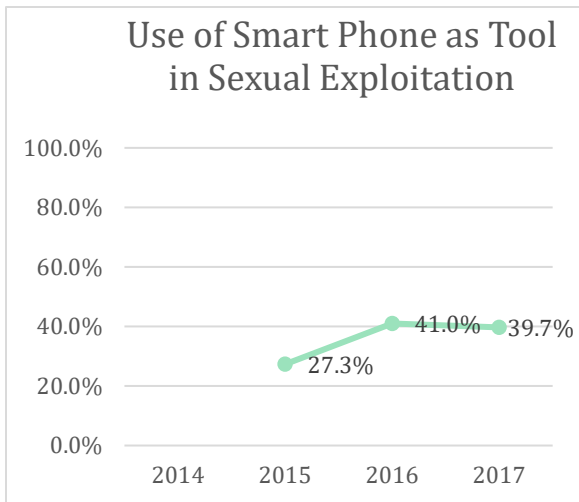
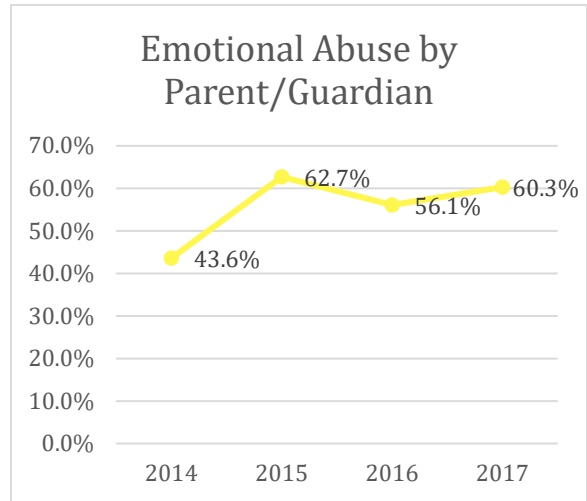
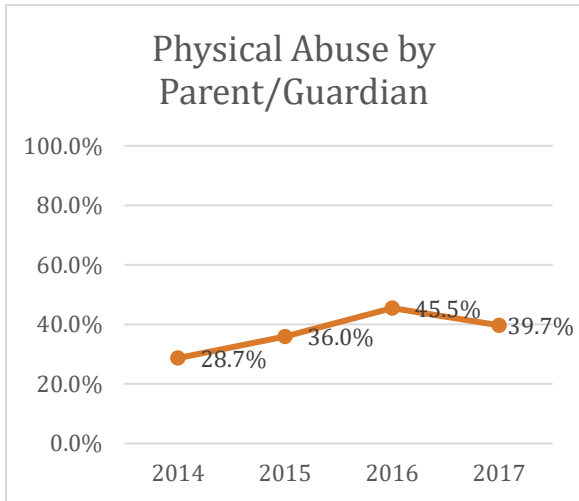


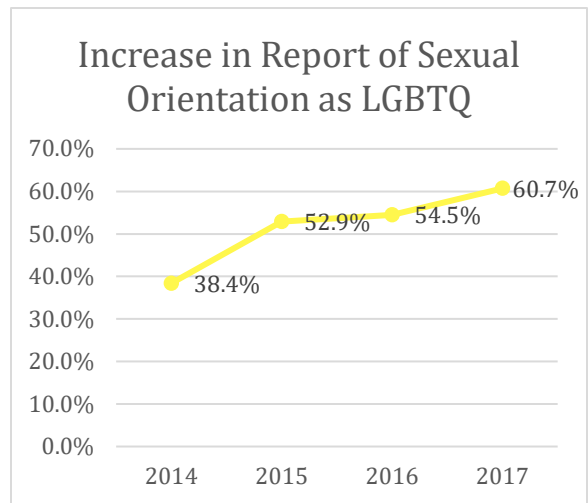
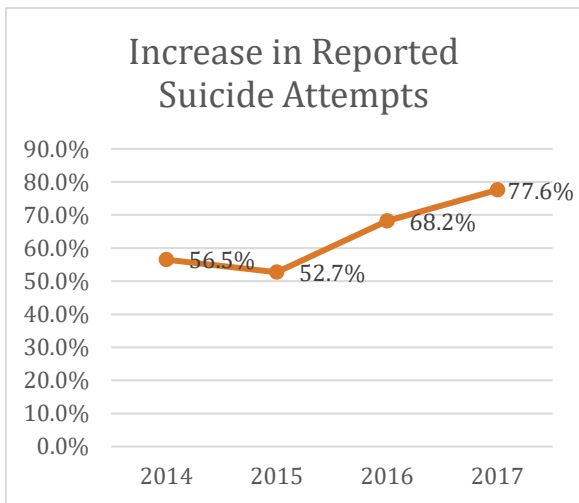
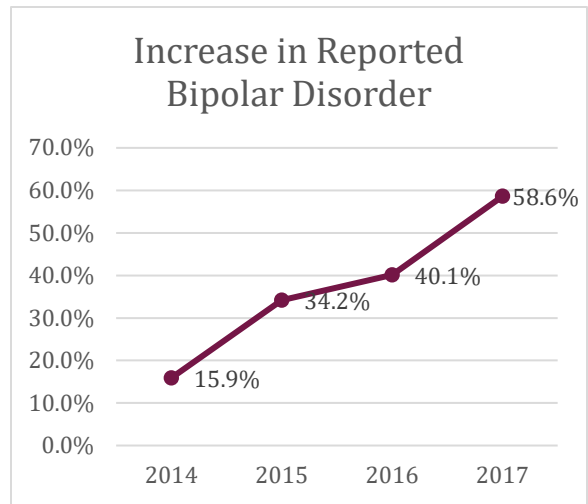
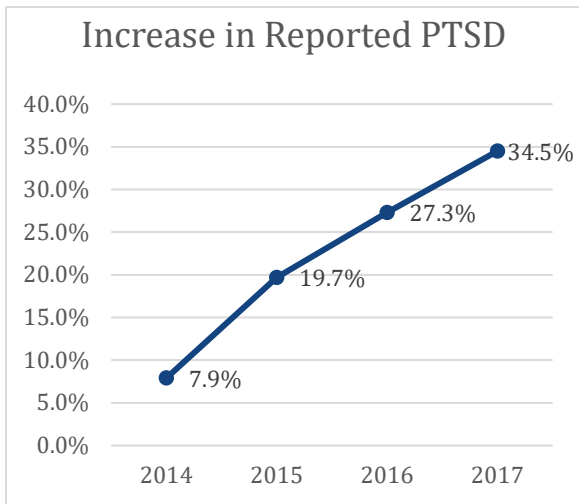
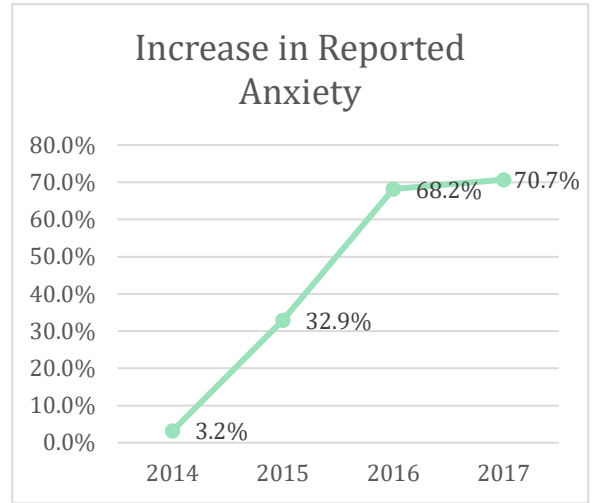
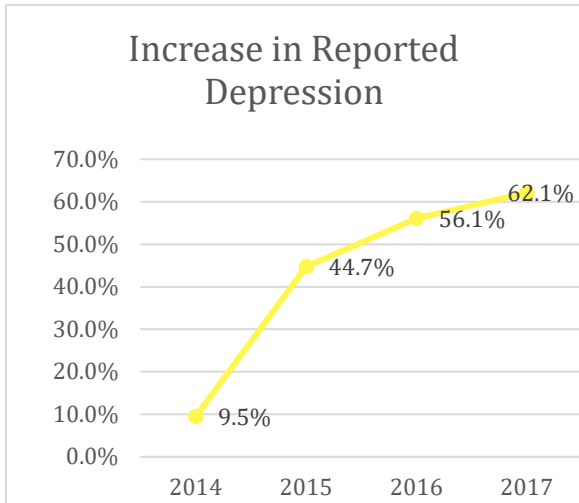
### Changes in Sex Trafficked Only Group Over Time, from 2014 to 2017

Specific to the sex trafficked group, several variables have remained relatively stable over the four-year study period. The reported age of first sex trafficking experience has remained steady, peaking in 2016 at 17.9 and declining again in 2017 to 16.6 years old. Other significant factors in the lives of the homeless young adult respondents that remained relatively stable include: Reports of being kicked out by family (averaging 47.8% over three years), physical abuse by a parent/guardian (averaging 37.5% over four years), emotional abuse by parent/guardian (averaging 55.7% over four years), and use of smart phone as a tool in the sexual exploitation (averaging 37% over three years).

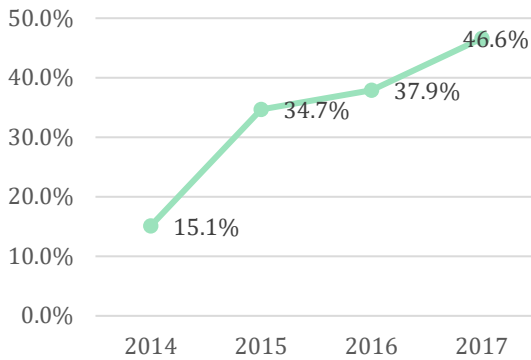
Other significant challenges in the lives of homeless young adults have steadily increased over the four-year study period. The percentage of participants who reported a sex trafficking experience and identify as LGBTQ increased over time, with an average of 50.7% over four years. The sex trafficked participants reported an increase in being diagnosed with more than one mental health diagnosis (averaging 60.4% over three years). The sex trafficked participants reported increasing rates of previous suicide attempts, from 56.5% in year one to 77.6% in year four. The sex trafficked group also reported increasing numbers of diagnoses of depression (averaging 43.1% over four years), anxiety (averaging 43.8% over four years), post-traumatic stress disorder (averaging 22.4% over four years), and bipolar disorder (averaging 37.2% over four years). The sex trafficked group reported an increased rate of sexual abuse by a parent or guardian and an increased rate of reported drug and alcohol addiction. The sex trafficked group also reported an increase in the use of technology in their sex trafficking experience, including use of smart phones and backpage.com.



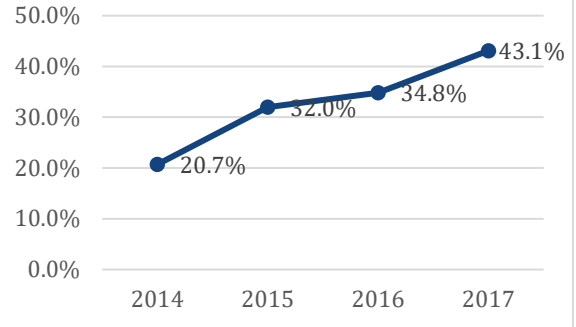




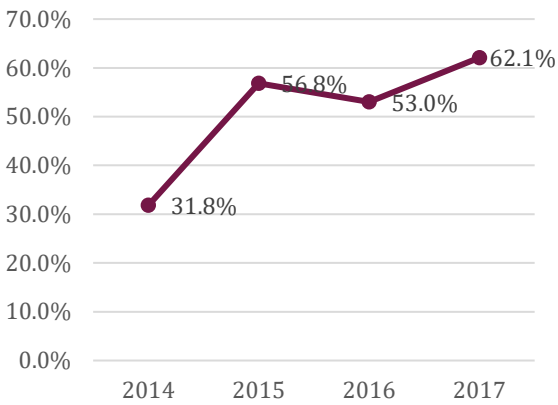
### Increase in Sexual Abuse by Parent/Guardian (13-17)



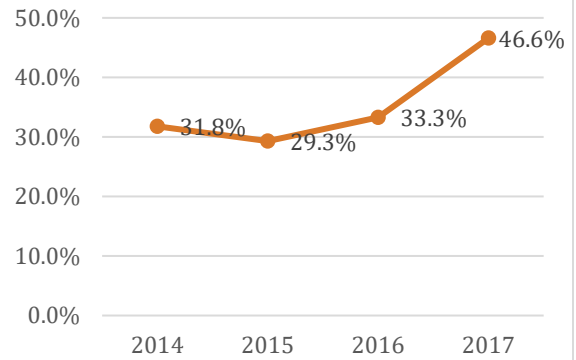
### Increase in Sexual Abuse by Parent/Guardian (12-under)



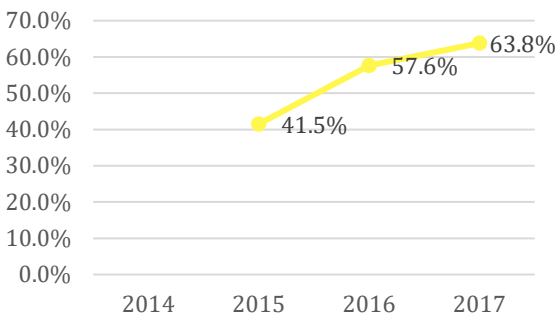
### Increase in Dating Violence



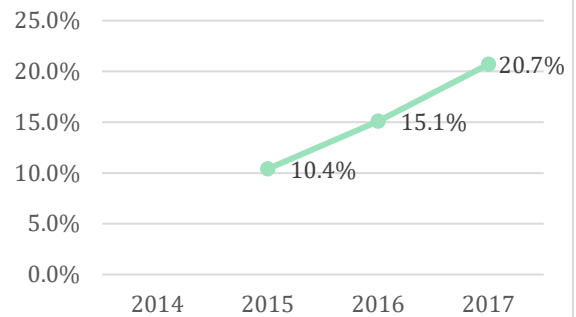
### Increase in Living in Foster Care/Group Home



### Increase in Use of Technology in Sexual Exploitation



### Increase in Use of Backpage.com as Tool in Sexual Exploitation



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## DISCUSSION

Over half (n = 98, 52.4%) of the homeless young adult respondents reported that they were raised in the state of Arizona. The average age of first homelessness experience was as a child, 16.9 years old. The findings of the 2017 YES study demonstrated that many respondents became homeless at a young age, some as early as infancy, and during their childhoods experienced significant negative events that created vulnerabilities for both homelessness and human trafficking victimization. Drug use and addiction was a significant issue identified within the homeless young adult in this study. Three out of four (n = 86, 76.1%) respondents reported first using a substance under the age of 18, with the youngest age reported being 6 years old. The three most frequently used drugs included marijuana (n = 75, 40.1%), methamphetamines, (n = 62, 33.2%), and heroin (n = 34, 18.2%). Almost half (n = 79, 42.2%) of the respondents reported having a negative connection or no connection to their family. More than one in three (n = 68, 36.4%) respondents reported being kicked out of the home by a parent or guardian. Reports of exposure to violence in the home and childhood victimization was extensive among the participants, with 33.2% (n = 62) witnessing domestic violence in the home, 41.2% (n = 77) experiencing emotional abuse, 30.5% (n = 57) experiencing sexual abuse, and 26.7% (n = 50) experiencing physical abuse in the home. Respondents also reported significant instability in living situation at a young age, with many respondents living in out-of-home care, such as living in a foster care/group home setting (n = 69, 36.9%) or residential treatment (n = 37, 19.8%), or having run away from home (n = 82, 43.9%).

It is clear that the homeless young adults (age 18-25) who participated in this study faced significant childhood challenges that may have created unique vulnerabilities to their current experiences of homelessness and human trafficking victimization. These experiences seem to have resulted in significant challenges in the respondents' current lives. For instance, almost half of respondents (n = 84, 44.9%) reported experiencing a domestic violence relationship. Of the 62 respondents who reported witnessing domestic violence in the home, 59.7% (n = 37) also reported ever being hit, kicked or physically assaulted by a partner in a romantic relationship and 32.3% (n = 20) reported having ever hit, kicked, or physically assaulted their partner in a romantic relationship. The respondents reported high rates of current mental health challenges, with 67.9% (n = 127) living with a current mental health diagnosis, and 54% (n = 101) reporting more than one mental health diagnosis. The most frequently reported diagnoses included anxiety (n = 89, 47.6%) and depression (n = 84, 44.9%). Over half of respondents (n = 102, 54.5%) reported a history of suicide attempts. Over half of respondents (n = 100, 53.5%) also reported experiencing a current medical challenge, with less than a quarter (n = 46, 24.6%) having received treatment for this medical challenge.

Sex trafficking victimization was reported by 31% (n = 58) of the homeless young adult respondents. Labor trafficking victimization was reported by 32.1% (n = 60), with 20.3% (n = 38) reporting experiencing both forms of exploitation, and almost half (n = 80, 42.8%) of the total sample experiencing at least one form of human trafficking exploitation.

One out of three (n = 6, 33.3%) respondents who identified as other gender (i.e., transgender, non-conforming) reported a sex trafficking experience. Over half (n = 34, 60.7%) of the respondents who identified as having experienced sex trafficking victimization identified as LGBTQ. The findings from this study have demonstrated a consistent increase in LGBTQ identification over the past four years, with the research demonstrating LGBTQ individuals to be two times more likely than heterosexual individuals to report experiencing sex trafficking victimization. There was a slight decrease in the average age of entry from YES 2016 to YES 2017, with the average age of entry being 16.6 years old. Almost half (n = 25, 43.1%) of identified sex trafficking victims reported being first exploited under the age of 18. The majority of respondents (n = 82.8%) who identified as having experienced sex trafficking also reported that they had a trafficker who was encouraging, pressuring, or forcing them to exchange sex for something of value. Respondents who identified as having experienced sex trafficking were also found to be nine times more likely to participate in self-harm activities, six times more likely to report a mental health diagnosis, six times more likely to report a history of sexual abuse, four times more likely to report an addiction to drugs, four times more likely to have attempted suicide, four times more likely to have run away from home, four times more likely to have an anxiety diagnosis, and four times more likely to report being kicked out of the home due to sexual orientation.

One out of three (n = 27, 35.5%) female respondents reported experiencing labor trafficking, one out of every four (n = 25, 27.2%) male respondents reported experiencing labor trafficking, and almost half (n = 8, 44.4%) of the respondents who identified as other gender (i.e., transgender, non-conforming) reported experiencing labor trafficking. Identifying as LGBTQ was not found to be significantly related to experiencing labor trafficking exploitation. The average age of entry into a labor trafficking situation was 16.5 years of age, which similar to the age of entry into sex trafficking. Over one in three (n = 21, 35%) reported being labor trafficked under the age of 18. Two out of every three (n = 40, 66.7%) respondent who reported experiencing labor trafficking also reported the presence of a trafficker who was encouraging, pressuring, or forcing them to perform non-sexual acts of labor for something of value.

Respondents who identified as having experienced labor trafficking were also found to be seven times more likely to have been abused in a domestic violence relationship, six time more likely to have a history of sexual abuse, five times more likely to participate in self-harming activities, five times more likely to report a PTSD diagnosis, four times more likely to have an addiction to drugs, and four times more likely to have a depression diagnosis.

## **Limitations**

There are a number of limitations to consider when interpreting the findings from this study. The data was drawn from the two largest cities in Arizona, Phoenix and Tucson, utilizing four service providers but data was not collected from rural areas or smaller cities. In the rural and smaller cities, sex trafficking prevalence along with the other issues presented in this study among homeless young adults may vary from the urban sample used in this study. Another limitation of this study consists of the sample being limited to those in contact with a homeless young adult service provider whether through street outreach, at a resource/drop-in center, or in transitional housing. The \$5 gift card given to survey completers may have influenced their decision to complete the survey, but no surveys were turned in that were incomplete or appeared to be marked in a pattern. Finally, during the four years of the YES study (2014-2017) significant efforts were made to train the staff at all of the participating agencies, and new sex trafficking victim targeted services were developed and implemented at the two largest agencies, Tumbleweed a Service of UMOM and Our Family Services. This may have influenced who the surveys were given to within each agency.

## ***Implications***

This YES study, along with the prior years of the YES, highlights the challenges homeless youth face in Arizona while attempting to achieve self-sufficiency. Homeless young adults are struggling to overcome substance use, mental health and traumatic life experience while attempting to secure permanent housing. These young adults have a limited family connection, lack acceptance in relation to their sexuality and gender identity and have ongoing medical issues without consistent medical care. The rate of sex trafficking reported over the last four years of the YES study is 31.4%. This is the first year to explore the experience of labor trafficking in the YES study, more young adults reported a history of labor trafficking at 32.1% while those reporting a sex trafficking experience (31%). The results of this study provide significance implications to the services providers in Arizona, not just the homeless youth providers but those cross system in the medical, behavioral health and child welfare.

In a climate where funding for transitional housing and youth focused programming is being decreased the results of this study only continue to support a community wide approach of providers to meet the critical needs of homeless young adults. While runaway and homeless youth (RHY) providers can implement screening and comprehensive services for victims of trafficking, the many systems where a young adult seeks care should also address screening and identification of victims. Homeless youth are often transient and inconsistent with care however with multiple systems trained and connected to the victim service providers, the greater chance that a homeless youth may be connected to the appropriate services. The increase of suicide attempts in trafficked youth highlights the need for hospitals and psychiatric units to screen for trafficking and create protocols that support connection. Providers can access national toolkits



and resources on how to implement screening and victim services into traditional RHY, domestic violence, and homeless programs.

While conversation around sex trafficking can also use the term “survival sex”, the authors of this study disagree with the use and dismissal of a human trafficking victimization that places the focus of the blame or act on the victim, particularly a vulnerable child or young adult. While “survival sex” has been used to outline a homeless young adults experience of trading sex for housing, food and basic needs, the need to assess for exploitation and victimization should always be the main focus. The use of “survival sex” dismisses the reality that in many cases youth are being sexually exploited by a third party involving the use of force, fraud and/or coercion during the exchange. Failing to identify the full experience of exploitation missed the impact of trauma, violence and a host of other complexities outlined in the YES study.

During the last four years of the YES Survey, sadly the implications remain the same for homeless young adults impacted by trafficking. Regardless of the type of trafficking, young adults require an array of specialized services to create safety and stability. The resources to serve victims shift with the funding cycles and the turnover with staff, often creating a dynamic where inconsistency can affect the services accessible to those most in need. Long-term community commitments that are not limited to type of trafficking, age and/or gender is required to provide the best care to the victims in Arizona’s communities. Arizona should continue to identify the greatest gaps in services, such as housing for young males, LBGTQ specific shelter services, treating trauma symptoms and experiences, and the identification of labor trafficking in the community.

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# ARIZONA

## Counter Terrorism Information Center

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### STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

#### (U//FOUO) Inadequate Focus on Risk Factors Feeds Increase in Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking

**(U//FOUO) Focus statement:** Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST), also known as domestic child sex trafficking, is a growing problem in the United States. Runaway juveniles may be the largest single factor contributing to DMST due to their unique vulnerabilities. Lack of a victim-centered approach to juveniles with sex trafficking risk factors has likely contributed to the problem.

**(U//FOUO) Key Judgments:**

(U//FOUO) DMST appears to be increasing, but a general lack of standardized reporting prevents overall confirmation or definite quantification.

(U//FOUO) Increases in homeless youth are likely contributing to an increase in DMST.

(U//FOUO) Law enforcement and the justice system's lack of a victim-centered approach to juvenile sex trafficking has possibly resulted in missed opportunities for intervention, likely contributing to the rise of DMST.

**(U//FOUO) Substantiation:**

**(U//FOUO) DMST appears to be increasing, but a general lack of standardized reporting prevents overall confirmation or definite quantification.** Inconsistent data collection and reporting has led to widely varying numerical estimates of trafficked victims and an incomplete picture of the scope of the DMST problem, but various sources report the overall rise of human trafficking and DMST in the United States since 2000.<sup>1</sup> Human trafficking, which includes DMST, is estimated to be a multi-billion-dollar industry worldwide, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation states that sex trafficking is the fastest-growing business of organized crime.<sup>2</sup> A 2014 hearing before the United States House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary referred to DMST as a “growing crisis” in the United States.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, an Arizona State University study of DMST factors released in April 2017 noted a significant increase in DMST cases in the United States from 2010 to 2015.<sup>4</sup>

**(U//FOUO) Increases in homeless youth is likely contributing to an increase in DMST.** Statistics from the National Center for Homeless Education and the National Runaway Safeline indicate that youth homelessness rose significantly from 2007-2013.<sup>5</sup> Homelessness, which includes runaway/throwaway juveniles, is one of the major risk factors for sex trafficking among minors.<sup>6</sup> The surveyed youth in a Covenant House study (which included older youth) cited the need for shelter or a place to sleep as the most frequent reason for engaging in commercialized sexual activity.<sup>7</sup> The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) estimates that one in six of the runaways reported to the center are sex-trafficking victims.<sup>8</sup> Younger adolescent runaways are especially at risk since they lack the accesses to means of self-support that might be available to an older teen such as the ability to obtain legitimate employment. Juveniles with a history of running away often have other unaddressed issues at home that contribute to their vulnerability, such as neglect, physical or sexual abuse, or issues in a social services placement.<sup>9</sup> NCMEC estimates that 86% of suspected sex-trafficked runaways were missing from social services care or placements, and traffickers target foster and group homes to find victims.<sup>10</sup> NCMEC describes the process used by traffickers to entice vulnerable juveniles as “targeted,” “tricked,” and “traumatized.”<sup>11</sup> Traffickers find potential victims online via social media and chat apps while remaining relatively undetected by adult oversight, and exploit physical and emotional voids caused by abuse or neglect by promising friendship, romance, money, or protection.<sup>12</sup> A juvenile who leaves home in response to these methods is further separated from legitimate support systems and becomes more readily dependent on the trafficker for basic needs such as food and shelter.

Questions, comments or information regarding this bulletin can be directed to the AZ DPS  
at [stophumantrafficking@azdps.gov](mailto:stophumantrafficking@azdps.gov), (602) 644-5732 or (602) 644-5805.

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**(U//FOUO) Law enforcement and the justice system's lack of a victim-centered approach to juvenile sex trafficking has possibly resulted in missed opportunities for intervention, likely contributing to the rise of DMST.** Many states still regard sex-trafficked minors as criminal prostitutes rather than victims, which results in the juveniles not receiving protective services ordinarily available to underage victims of sexual abuse.<sup>13</sup> Also, National Crime Information Center (NCIC) entries for runaways have no standard indication that the juvenile has sex trafficking risk factors. Unless a state has enacted a high risk runaway notification in its state computer system, law enforcement may not receive any indication when contacting a runaway that sex trafficking may be a factor. This could influence investigation decisions and affect the actions taken to connect the victims with appropriate services. Many sex-trafficked juveniles will not voluntarily self-disclose exploitation due to multiple factors, including trauma-bonding with their traffickers and trafficker-enforced distrust of law enforcement and service organizations.<sup>14</sup> Juvenile offenders may be advised by their attorneys not to disclose their involvement in prostitution to avoid additional charges, which can divert them from specialized services often available through the juvenile justice system.<sup>15</sup> Sex-trafficked juveniles are often diverted to services such as addiction treatment, pregnancy or medical treatment, and domestic violence programs, all of which are inadequate to address their specific trauma issues.<sup>16</sup> Without specialized services, the unique trauma-bonding and criminal labeling will often lead the victim to return to the trafficker upon release from detention, and many will run away from non-secure facilities.<sup>17</sup>

**(U//FOUO) Implications:**

(U//FOUO) Sex trafficking is profitable and likely to continue to increase without fundamental changes in the way law enforcement, the courts, and social services handle victims of DMST. Without services targeting known youth risk factors, particularly the vulnerabilities contributing to juvenile runaway issues, social services intervention may be inadequate to address the specific issues that cause juvenile sex trafficking victims to return to their traffickers. State legislation may also be required to bring attention to sex-trafficking risk factors in a victim-focused manner that could affect initial law enforcement response as well as decisions made in the juvenile justice systems.

**(U) Source Summary:**

(U) The information for this assessment is drawn from open sources.

- (U) Shared Hope International; <https://sharedhope.org/>
- (U) Hearing Before the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations of the Committee on the Judiciary House of Representatives; Report 113-80; <https://judiciary.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/113-80-87330.pdf>
- (U) Federal Bureau of Investigation website; <https://leb.fbi.gov/>
- (U) Arizona State University Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research; <https://socialwork.asu.edu/stir>
- (U) The Washington Post website; <https://www.washingtonpost.com>
- (U) The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, Medicine Institute of Medicine and National Research Council; <https://www.nap.edu/>
- (U) National Center for Missing and Exploited Children; <http://www.missingkids.com/home>
- National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges; <https://www.ncjfcj.org/DCST-TAB>
- (U) The Polaris Project; <https://polarisproject.org>
- (U) National Human Trafficking Hotline; <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/>
- (U) Arizona State Law Journal; <http://arizonastatelawjournal.org/>

**(U) Any suspicious activity or incidents regarding suspected juvenile sex trafficking should be reported to the ACTIC via one of the following means:**

- Email [actic@azdps.gov](mailto:actic@azdps.gov)
- [www.azactic.gov](http://www.azactic.gov)
- Telephone - (602) 644-5805 or 877-2-SAVEAZ (877-272-8329)
- Text Message - Text "ACT" plus your message to 274637 (CRIMES)\*\*
- Smart phone or Tablet - Download the free application iWatch Mobile at <http://www.azactic.gov/Tips/>

**(U) ACTIC Survey**

**Please take a moment to complete this survey and help evaluate the quality, value, and relevance of our intelligence product. Your response will help us serve you more effectively and efficiently in the future. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance. Copy and paste the link below into your browser to take the survey:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PJDGKGX>

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<sup>1</sup> Shared Hope International Publication; Linda Smith, Samantha Healy Vardaman, Melissa Snow; *The National Report of Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking: America's Prostituted Children*; May 2009; pg 75. [http://sharedhope.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/SHI\\_National\\_Report\\_on\\_DMST\\_2009.pdf](http://sharedhope.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/SHI_National_Report_on_DMST_2009.pdf); 16 August 2017.

<sup>2</sup> Hearing Before the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations of the Committee on the Judiciary House of Representatives; Report 113-80; *Innocence for Sale: Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking*; 26 March 2014; pg 1; <https://judiciary.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/113-80-87330.pdf>; 16 August 2017; Internet site. Amanda Walker-Rodriguez, Rodney Hill. Federal Bureau of Investigation. *Human Sex Trafficking*. 2011. <https://leb.fbi.gov/2011/march/human-sex-trafficking>. 16 August 2017.

<sup>3</sup> Hearing Before the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations of the Committee on the Judiciary House of Representatives; Report 113-80; *Innocence for Sale: Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking*; 26 March 2014; pg 1; <https://judiciary.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/113-80-87330.pdf>; 16 August 2017.

<sup>4</sup> Study; Arizona State University Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research; *A Six-Year Analysis of Sex Traffickers of Minors; Exploring Characteristic and Sex Trafficking Patterns*; April 2017; pg 5; [https://socialwork.asu.edu/sites/default/files/asu\\_sex\\_traffickers\\_of\\_minors\\_2010\\_to\\_2015\\_research\\_full\\_report\\_april\\_2017.pdf](https://socialwork.asu.edu/sites/default/files/asu_sex_traffickers_of_minors_2010_to_2015_research_full_report_april_2017.pdf); 16 August 2017.

<sup>5</sup> Article; Bernardine Watson; The Washington Post; *The number of homeless youth is growing, but funding to help them is not*; 20 December 2013; [https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/she-the-people/wp/2013/12/20/the-number-of-homeless-youth-is-growing-but-funding-to-help-them-is-not/?utm\\_term=.a8417b5dbf5c](https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/she-the-people/wp/2013/12/20/the-number-of-homeless-youth-is-growing-but-funding-to-help-them-is-not/?utm_term=.a8417b5dbf5c); 15 August 2017.

<sup>6</sup> Study. Institute of Medicine and National Research Council; *Confronting Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Sex Trafficking of Minors in the United States*; 2013; pg 85; <https://www.nap.edu/read/18358/chapter/6?term=homelessness#85>; 16 August 2017.

<sup>7</sup> Study; Covenant House of New York; *Homelessness, Survival Sex and Human Trafficking: As Experienced by the Youth of Covenant House New York*; May 2013; pg 14; <https://traffickingresourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/Homelessness%20Survival%20Sex%20and%20Human%20Trafficking%20-%20Covenant%20House%20NY.pdf>; 15 August 2017.

<sup>8</sup> Infographic; National Center for Missing and Exploited Children; *Child Sex Trafficking*; [http://www.missingkids.org/en\\_US/documents/CST\\_1in6\\_infographic.pdf](http://www.missingkids.org/en_US/documents/CST_1in6_infographic.pdf); 16 August 2017.

<sup>9</sup> Study. Institute of Medicine and National Research Council; *Confronting Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Sex Trafficking of Minors in the United States*; 2013; pg 80; <https://www.nap.edu/read/18358/chapter/6?term=homelessness#85>; 16 August 2017.

<sup>10</sup> Infographic; National Center for Missing and Exploited Children; *Child Sex Trafficking*; [http://www.missingkids.org/en\\_US/documents/CST\\_1in6\\_infographic.pdf](http://www.missingkids.org/en_US/documents/CST_1in6_infographic.pdf); 16 August 2017; Technical assistance brief; National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and National Center for Missing And Exploited Children; *Missing Children, State Care, and Child Sex Trafficking*; 10 June 2015; pg 2-3; <https://www.ncjfcj.org/DCST-TAB>; 16 August 2017.

<sup>11</sup> Fact Sheet; National Center for Missing and Exploited Children; *Child Sex Trafficking in America: A Guide for Parents and Guardians*; 19 January 2017; [http://www.missingkids.org/en\\_US/documents/Fact\\_Sheet\\_Parents\\_Guardians2017.pdf](http://www.missingkids.org/en_US/documents/Fact_Sheet_Parents_Guardians2017.pdf); 16 August 2017.

<sup>12</sup> Report; Polaris Project; *Sex Trafficking in the U.S.: A Closer Look at U.S. Citizen Victims*; May 2015; pg 4; <https://polarisproject.org/sites/default/files/us-citizen-sex-trafficking.pdf>; 16 August 2017; Shared Hope International Publication; Linda Smith, Samantha Healy Vardaman, Melissa Snow; *The National Report of Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking: America's Prostituted Children*; May 2009; pg 38. [http://sharedhope.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/SHI\\_National\\_Report\\_on\\_DMST\\_2009.pdf](http://sharedhope.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/SHI_National_Report_on_DMST_2009.pdf); 16 August 2017.

<sup>13</sup> Publication; Krystle M. Fernandez; Arizona State Law Journal; *Victims or Criminals? The Intricacies of Dealing with Juvenile Victims of Sex Trafficking and Why the Distinction Matters*; 2013; pg 862-863; <http://arizonastatelawjournal.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/45-Ariz.-St.-L.J.-859-2013.pdf>; 16 August 2017.

<sup>14</sup> Information sheet; Polaris Project; National Human Trafficking Hotline; *In Their Shoes: Understanding Victims' Mindsets and Common Barriers to Victim Identification*; 2009; <https://www.traffickingresourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/Understanding%20Victim%20Mindsets.pdf>; 16 August 2017.

<sup>15</sup> Publication; Krystle M. Fernandez; Arizona State Law Journal; *Victims or Criminals? The Intricacies of Dealing with Juvenile Victims of Sex Trafficking and Why the Distinction Matters*; 2013; pg 864; <http://arizonastatelawjournal.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/45-Ariz.-St.-L.J.-859-2013.pdf>; 16 August 2017.

<sup>16</sup> Internet Site; Shared Hope International; *What is Sex Trafficking?*; 2017; <https://sharedhope.org/the-problem/what-is-sex-trafficking>; 16 August 2017.

<sup>17</sup> Shared Hope International Publication; Linda Smith, Samantha Healy Vardaman, Melissa Snow; *The National Report of Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking: America's Prostituted Children*; May 2009; pg v-vi. [http://sharedhope.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/SHI\\_National\\_Report\\_on\\_DMST\\_2009.pdf](http://sharedhope.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/SHI_National_Report_on_DMST_2009.pdf); 16 August 2017.

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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
**INTELLIGENCE  
ASSESSMENT**

# **(U) Human Traffickers Almost Certainly Force Victims To Conduct Criminal Activity in Addition to the Primary Acts, Increasing Opportunities To Identify and Prosecute Human Trafficking Actors**

9 August 2019

**Prepared by:**

**FBI New Orleans  
Field Office**

**(U) Executive Summary**

(U//FOUO) The FBI judges some human traffickers almost certainly<sup>a</sup> force victims to commit illegal acts in addition to the primary acts (sex or forced labor) they were trafficked to perform, increasing opportunities to identify and prosecute human traffickers. This assessment is made with high confidence,<sup>b</sup> based on victim, witness, and human source reporting with direct access and varying degrees of corroboration.

(U//FOUO) In instances in which law enforcement recognizes human trafficking victims are also forced to commit crimes, law enforcement officials can provide victim services and fully prosecute the human trafficking actors for the victimization of others.

(U//FOUO) The FBI assesses without law enforcement action, human trafficking actors likely will increase use of victims for additional crimes. Further, there is a roughly even chance additional human trafficking actors will recognize the opportunity to benefit from using their victims this way and begin similar activity. The extent of this issue is difficult to quantify, as the information herein is based on known or suspected trafficking victims, with a significant gap in reporting regarding individuals charged with non-trafficking crimes who are trafficking victims.

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<sup>a</sup> (U) See Appendix A: Expressions of Likelihood.

<sup>b</sup> (U) See Appendix B: Confidence in Assessments and Judgments Based on a Body of Information

**(U) Scope Note**

(U//FOUO) This assessment focuses specifically on forced crimes by sex and labor trafficking victims with the exception of prostitution by sex trafficking victims. The basis of this exception is all victims of sex trafficking are forced to commit the crime of prostitution. This exception does not apply to victims of forced legal sex work, such as stripping, who are victims of labor trafficking, which typically involves forced labor of a victim in an otherwise legal industry.

(U//FOUO) The primary assumption of this assessment is victims are not solely seeking to avoid prosecution when they claim to have been forced to commit the other crimes.

(U//FOUO) Examples in this assessment are only a small sample of the overall number of human trafficking investigations and victims. Additional reporting and analysis regarding human trafficking victims committing other crimes would be necessary to revise this assessment.

(U//FOUO) This is the first intelligence product focusing specifically on human trafficking actors' using victims in support of other crimes, which pertains to the following Key Intelligence Question: "How do human traffickers recruit and exploit their victims?" The information in this assessment does not further evaluate if human trafficking actors are expanding trafficking into other threats or if other threat actors are attempting to build a work force through trafficking.

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**(U) Source Summary Statement**

(U) Reporting in this intelligence assessment was derived primarily from FBI interviews and secondarily from three human sources with varying degrees of access and corroboration, none of whom are available for re-contact. Regardless of their status as victim, witness, or human source, each provided an example of trafficking victims forced to commit crimes in addition to the activity they were trafficked to perform. Investigation corroborated firsthand accounts of their experiences provided by victims and witnesses in FBI interviews. Human sources from FBI Albany and FBI Denver had direct and historical access respectively, with uncorroborated information. FBI Las Vegas' human source had direct access and corroborated information. This collection occurred between 2 April 2014 and 6 July 2018, and was current as of 26 December 2018.



**(U) Human Trafficking Actors Almost Certainly Force Victims To Conduct Criminal Activities in Addition to Primary Acts They were Trafficked To Perform, Increasing Opportunities To Identify and Prosecute Human Traffickers**

(U//FOUO) The FBI judges some human traffickers almost certainly force victims to commit illegal acts in addition to the primary acts (sex or forced labor) they were trafficked to perform, increasing opportunities to identify and prosecute human traffickers. This assessment is based on reporting of human trafficking victims who were forced to engage in the sale or transport drugs, theft, or fraud schemes.<sup>c</sup>

- (U) According to FBI investigations, two victims in Boston, Massachusetts, reported pimps forcing them and other prostitutes to transport drugs in 2014 and 2016, respectively.<sup>1, 2</sup> In 2017, a victim in Cincinnati, Ohio, reported she was forced to transport cocaine for her pimp, according to another FBI investigation.<sup>3</sup> FBI reporting of 2017 and 2018 documented two incidents involving victims' selling drugs in Lafayette and New Orleans, Louisiana, respectively.<sup>4, 5</sup> Finally, in 2017, a human source with direct access, whose information was uncorroborated, reported a potential victim in Albany was forced to sell drugs for her pimp.<sup>6</sup>
- (U//FOUO) According to an FBI investigation, in 2017, a female was arrested and accused of luring men in several states<sup>d</sup> through online prostitution advertisements with the intent of drugging and robbing them, resulting in at least one fatality. Further investigation revealed her pimp, also arrested, forced the female into these actions as well as prostitution.<sup>7</sup> In 2018, the FBI reported a pimp in Las Vegas, Nevada, forced several victims to engage in shoplifting.<sup>8</sup> In addition, a human source with direct access, much of whose reporting was corroborated, reported another pimp in Las Vegas forced victims to rob "johns."<sup>9</sup> In 2018, a pimp in Los Angeles, California, after robbing residences, forced a victim to act as a get-away driver, according a victim reporting.<sup>10</sup> Similar examples were identified going back to 2016 when the FBI reported victims in Knoxville, Tennessee, and San Diego, California, were forced, respectively, to engage in armed robberies of "johns" and to steal drugs from "johns."<sup>11, 12</sup>
- (U) In 2017, a victim in Denver, Colorado, reported being forced to engage in activities involving counterfeit money and fraud schemes, including forged documents and instruments, and to make purchases on fraudulent credit cards.<sup>13</sup> In 2016, a victim in Knoxville reported being forced to engage in insurance fraud.<sup>14</sup>

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**(U) Prostitution versus Sex Trafficking**

(U) All prostitution is not sex trafficking, but sex traffickers prostitute their trafficked victims, making prostitution a vital component of sex trafficking. Further, while sex traffickers are pimps, not all pimps are necessarily sex traffickers. The terms "pimp" or "prostitute" in this section are used as reported by witnesses and trafficking victims with the assumption that reporting by a pimp's victim will indicate potential trafficking activity.

<sup>c</sup> (U) *Analyst Note*: "Fraud schemes" means any kind of fraudulent activity, including, but not limited to, financial, identity, and document frauds.

<sup>d</sup> (U) *Analyst Note*: See Situational Intelligence Report (SIR), dated 2 February 2018, "(U) Suspects Utilizing Escort Advertisements to Commit Robbery in CA, LA, and GA," and SIR, dated 27 April 2018, "(U) UPDATE: Suspects Utilizing Escort Advertisements to Commit Robbery in CA, LA, and GA."

- (U//FOUO) According to FBI investigations in 2017, victims of labor trafficking were forced to engage in illegal acts involving fraud and drugs for threat actors. One investigation found victims were forced to work on a traveling sales crew, selling magazines, which one victim stated was a scam as customers never received what was purchased.<sup>15</sup> In addition, an FBI human source with historical access, whose information was uncorroborated, reported the source was forced to use fake documentation to obtain employment stripping and the source's associate was forced to participate in aspects of the drug trade in order to pay off the debt for smuggling the source and the associate into the United States.<sup>16</sup> Finally, an FBI labor trafficking investigation victim in Miami, Florida, reported she was forced to sell drugs in 2017.<sup>17</sup>

### (U) Perspective

(U) Instances in which human trafficking victims are also forced to engage in criminal activity, when recognized, present opportunities to provide victim services and to prosecute fully the human trafficking actors for the victimization of others. For example, further investigation revealed the pimp of the female arrested in 2017 for luring men in several states through online prostitution ads with the intent of drugging and robbing them forced the female into these actions as well as prostitution.<sup>18</sup> In another example reported in September 2017, the source forced to use fake documentation to obtain employment as a stripper to pay off the smuggling debt was reportedly turned away from multiple interviews due to the use of fake identification.<sup>19</sup>

(U//FOUO) When interviewing perpetrators or witnesses, potential human trafficking victims engaged in forced criminal activity can be identified by looking for trafficking indicators, the most common of which are identified below:

- (U) Instances in which potential victims appear to lack autonomy—such as lacking identification or immigration-related papers, or employers holding such paperwork; lacking control of finances, such as paychecks; lacking personal items; or having little or no contact with family or friends, or in which such contact is monitored;
- (U) Instances in which potential victims appear confused—such as the inability to communicate effectively, including coached statements or answers; a lack of awareness of their surroundings; the inability to provide details about previous days; or the inability to provide reasonable explanations or simple answers;
- (U) Instances in which potential victims appear in poor physical condition—such as injury, malnourishment, or fatigue; unwashed or dirty body or clothing; untreated injuries; or efforts to conceal injuries; and
- (U) Instances in which potential victims appear intimidated—such as avoiding eye contact; acting afraid or hesitant to answer questions; acting submissive, particularly in reference to a crew member; depending on a crew member for direction; or in which a crew member answers questions for them.

(U//FOUO) For a more thorough list of trafficking indicators by specific trafficking type, please see Appendix C: Indicators of Human Trafficking.

### **(U) Analysis of Alternatives**

(U//FOUO) The FBI considered the alternative hypothesis in which victims' claims of being forced to commit crimes were offered to avoid prosecution for the crimes. The FBI deemed this alternative unlikely because human trafficking involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to compel an individual into an act, often against self-interest. Given the control a trafficker has, a victim compelled into one act would be unable to refuse to engage in another. Further, based upon previous threats or use of force, fraud, or coercion, a victim may be compelled to act, absent a direct command, in fear for his or her safety. A victim's intent to avoid prosecution would not necessarily negate the force, fraud, or coercion compelling compliance. Because victims are often resistant to the status of victim, sometimes even defending their trafficker, claims of trafficking by suspects of other crimes to avoid prosecution would be lacking other trafficking indicators.<sup>e</sup> Investigation would determine the presence of forced criminal activity, or lack thereof, by identifying the presence of force, fraud, or coercion.

### **(U) Outlook**

(U//FOUO) The extent of this exploitation is difficult to quantify for a baseline due to a significant gap in reporting regarding individuals charged with non-trafficking crimes who are trafficking victims. The FBI assesses, however, without observable law enforcement actions, the use of trafficking victims to commit additional crimes likely will increase in the long term, as additional human trafficking actors recognize the benefits of using their victims this way. Additional reporting or prosecutions by state and local law enforcement partners indicating more instances of this forced criminal activity by human trafficking victims would support the assessment. The lack of such reporting, however, does not necessarily indicate a lack of activity, simply the lack of reporting. Law enforcement efforts to identify potential victims during investigations for other crimes, such as theft, fraud, or drug violations, would help fill this gap.

### **(U) Intelligence Requirements**

(U) FBI National Standing Collection Requirements

- (U) USA-CR-HT-CSFA-CID-SR-0802-19.IV.A.2
- (U) WW-CRIM-CID-SR-0767-19

(U) This intelligence assessment was prepared by the New Orleans Field Office of the FBI. Comments and queries may be addressed to the FBI New Orleans Field Intelligence Group at 1-504-816-3000.

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<sup>e</sup> (U) See Appendix C: Indicators of Human Trafficking.

**(U) Appendix A: Expressions of Likelihood**

(U) Phrases such as “the FBI judges” and “the FBI assesses,” and terms such as “likely” and “probably” convey analytical judgments and assessments. The chart below approximates how expressions of likelihood and probability correlate with percentages of chance. Only terms of likelihood should appear in FBI products; the chart includes terms of probability strictly for comparison, as they sometimes appear in reporting of other government agencies. Furthermore, the FBI does not arrive at judgments through statistical analysis; and will not use terms of probability to convey uncertainty in external FBI intelligence products.

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<i>Terms of Likelihood</i>	<b>Almost No Chance</b>	<b>Very Unlikely</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>	<b>Roughly Even Chance</b>	<b>Likely</b>	<b>Very Likely</b>	<b>Almost Certain(ly)</b>
<i>Terms of Probability</i>	<b>Remote</b>	<b>Highly Improbable</b>	<b>Improbable (Improbably)</b>	<b>Roughly Even Odds</b>	<b>Probable (Probably)</b>	<b>Highly Probable</b>	<b>Nearly Certain</b>
	<b>1-5%</b>	<b>5-20%</b>	<b>20-45%</b>	<b>45-55%</b>	<b>55-80%</b>	<b>80-95%</b>	<b>95-99%</b>

**(U) Appendix B: Confidence in Assessments and Judgments Based on a Body of Information**

(U) Confidence levels reflect the quality and quantity of the source information supporting a judgment. Consequently, the FBI ascribes high, medium, or low levels of confidence to assessments, as follows:

(U) **High confidence** generally indicates the FBI's judgments are based on high quality information from multiple sources. High confidence in a judgment does not imply the assessment is a fact or a certainty; such judgments might be wrong. While additional reporting and information sources may change analytical judgments, such changes are most likely to be refinements and not substantial in nature.

(U) **Medium confidence** generally means the information is credibly sourced and plausible but not of sufficient quality or corroborated sufficiently to warrant a higher level of confidence. Additional reporting or information sources have the potential to increase the FBI's confidence levels or substantively change analytical judgments.

(U) **Low confidence** generally means the information's credibility or plausibility is uncertain, the information is too fragmented or poorly corroborated to make solid analytic inferences, or the reliability of the sources is questionable. Absent additional reporting or information sources, analytical judgments should be considered preliminary in nature.

**(U) Appendix C: Indicators of Human Trafficking**

*(U) Sex Trafficking Indicators*

(U) Identify and describe potential victims of sex trafficking, including ethnicity, method of entry to the United States, and roles or responsibilities. Indicators include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (U) Instances in which potential victims show signs of injury, fatigue, or malnourishment; have unkempt or dirty clothing; do not possess identification; or wear clothing or accessories to cover potential injuries;
- (U) Instances in which potential victims avoid eye contact; act afraid or intimidated by associates, male or female; or are hesitant to answer questions;
- (U) Instances in which potential victims are unsure of their location, cannot provide details about previous days, or are unable to provide reasonable explanations or simple answers to questions;
- (U) Instances in which potential victims have tattoos or markings they cannot provide details about, or which seem incongruent with the individual; and.
- (U) Instances in which potential victims refer to associates as a “friend” or “girl/boyfriend” but cannot provide details about the associates, do not know the full names or backgrounds of the associates, or have different stories from associates about where they have been or future plans.

(U) Identify and describe potential perpetrators of sex trafficking. Indicators include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (U) Instances in which potential perpetrators have large amounts of money or multiple mobile phones without a reasonable explanation;
- (U) Instances in which potential perpetrators do not know the names or backgrounds of associates (potential victims), provide information that conflicts with information provided by associates (potential victims), or speak on behalf of associates (potential victims);
- (U) Instances in which potential perpetrators have tattoos referring to money or pimping, or take offense to the term pimp or related terminology; and
- (U) Instances in which potential perpetrators refer to associates as “girl/boyfriends” or are referred to by associates as “mack,” “daddy,” or “boy/girlfriend.”

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*(U) Labor Trafficking Indicators*

(U) Identify and describe potential victims of labor trafficking, including ethnicity, method of entry to the United States, and job role. Indicators include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (U) Instances in which potential victims avoid eye contact; appear malnourished, exhausted, unwashed; have untreated injuries or wounds; lack transportation independent from employment; wear the same or unwashed clothing; cannot communicate effectively; or appear unaware of their surroundings;
- (U) Instances in which potential victims work long hours without apparent time off; appear submissive or fearful, particularly of an employer or supervisor; or lack personal items; and
- (U) Instances in which potential victims appear dependent on an employer for direction or an employer answers questions on the potential victim's behalf.

(U) Identify and describe potential perpetrators of labor trafficking, including business name and location; managers and supervisors; and industry. Indicators include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (U) Instances in which employees are living at the site of employment, transported to work by the employer, or vehicles for transporting employees are consistently at the site of employment;
- (U) Instances in which work sites lack a time clock, or hours are maintained at the employer's discretion; lack signs or posters advertising Fair Labor Standards, minimum wage, or worker's rights; lack a posted schedule; or lack paychecks or evidence of payments;
- (U) Instances in which employees are of the same ethnicity or appear subservient; and
- (U) Instances in which employers bully employees, are abusive or controlling toward employees, or surveillance cameras are located in uncommon places.

*(U) Domestic Servitude Indicators*

(U) Identify and describe potential instances of Domestic Servitude, including names, locations, ethnicity, method of entry to the United States, and job role. Indicators include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (U) Instances in which potential victims appear malnourished, exhausted, or unwashed; have untreated injuries or wounds, or wear clothing to hide potential injuries; wear the same or unwashed clothing; cannot communicate effectively; or appear unaware of their surroundings;

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- (U) Instances in which potential victims work long hours without apparent time off; appear submissive or fearful, particularly of an employer or supervisor; or lack personal items, particularly identification;
- (U) Instances in which the potential victim does not have control over or possession of his or her own finances or financial records;
- (U) Instances in which potential victims avoid eye contact, act afraid or intimidated by associates, are hesitant to answer questions, appear coached in their answers to questions, appear dependent upon an employer for direction, or in which an employer answers questions on the potential victim's behalf;
- (U) Instances in which potential victims are unsure of their location, cannot provide details about previous days, or are unable to provide reasonable explanations or simple answers to questions;
- (U) Instances in which potential victims do not have freedom of movement, are dependent on their employer for transportation, or do not socialize outside the scope of work permitted by the employer;
- (U) Instances in which potential victims have little or no contact with family or friends, or in which such contact is monitored; and
- (U) Instances in which employers bully employees, appear abusive, are controlling towards employees, or surveillance cameras are located in uncommon places.

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### (U) Endnotes

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<sup>1</sup> (U) FBI; Case Information; 14 April 2014; 2 April 2014; “(U) HSI ROI - Proffer of [Name withheld]”; UNCLASSIFIED; UNCLASSIFIED; [Name withheld] was interviewed pursuant to a previously executed HSI proffer regarding HSI investigation PM15HS14PM0002 to provide information regarding a drug trafficking organization operating in Portland, Maine.

<sup>2</sup> (U) FBI; Case Information; 4 April 2016; 17 March 2016; “(U) Transcript of Interview”; UNCLASSIFIED; UNCLASSIFIED; Victim [Name withheld] was interviewed based on her interactions with the subject of investigation.

<sup>3</sup> (U) FBI; Case Information; 15 February 2017; 25 January 2017; “(U) Interview of [Name withheld]”; UNCLASSIFIED; UNCLASSIFIED; Victim [Name withheld] was interviewed based on her interactions with the subject of investigation

<sup>4</sup> (U) FBI; Case Information; 13 April 2017; 12 December 2016; “(U) Case [00196092] - National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) – City: Lafayette”; UNCLASSIFIED; UNCLASSIFIED; The National Human Trafficking hotline reported information pursuant to the use of a sex trafficking victim for other criminal activity.

<sup>5</sup> (U) FBI; Case Information; 15 June 2018; 30 May 2018; “(U) Interview of [Name withheld] on 5/30/2018”; UNCLASSIFIED; UNCLASSIFIED; Possible human trafficking victim [Name withheld] was identified during her visit to a hospital for injuries sustained from a threat actor. She reported being forced into prostitution and drug trafficking. When not being prostituted she was forced to sell drugs.

<sup>6</sup> (U) FBI; Case Information; 4 December 2017; 27 November 2017; “[TITLE REDACTED]”; UNCLASSIFIED; UNCLASSIFIED; A confidential human source (CHS) with direct access, whose reporting was uncorroborated. The CHS is not available for re-contact.

<sup>7</sup> (U) FBI; Case Information; 19 April 2018; 13 September 2017; “(U) Open Case File”; UNCLASSIFIED; UNCLASSIFIED; Upon her September 2017 arrest, victim [Name withheld] had physical signs of assault and claimed the subject had tied her up, beaten, and choked her.

<sup>8</sup> (U//FOUO) FBI; Case Information; 6 March 2018; 2 March 2018; “(U//FOUO) Requested Background Checks on Human Trafficking Subjects in Las Vegas, Nevada”; UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY; UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY; An FBI Las Vegas Intelligence Analyst summarized information provided by the Ventura County Sheriff’s Office.

<sup>9</sup> (U) FBI; Case Information; 5 April 2018; 28 March 2018; “[TITLE REDACTED]”; UNCLASSIFIED; UNCLASSIFIED; A CHS with direct access to the subject of investigation. Much of the CHS’s reporting has been corroborated; however, the CHS is not available for re-contact.

<sup>10</sup> (U//FOUO) FBI; Case Information; 17 July 2018; 6 July 2018; “(U//FOUO) [Name withheld] interview on July 6, 2018”; UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY; UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY; [Name withheld] was interviewed due to her experiences as a human trafficking victim.

<sup>11</sup> (U) FBI; Case Information; 14 November 2016; 7 November 2018; “(U) Interview of [Name withheld]”; UNCLASSIFIED; UNCLASSIFIED; [Name withheld], an associate of victim [Name withheld], was interviewed based on his knowledge of the victim. Claimed the victim was forced into the armed robbery of prostitution clients.

<sup>12</sup> (U) FBI; Case Information; 30 June 2017; 15 June 2017; “(U) Interview of [Name withheld] on 06/15/2017”; UNCLASSIFIED; UNCLASSIFIED; Victim [Name withheld] was interviewed based on her experiences with the subject of investigation. She claimed the subject forced her to steal drugs from the prostitution clients.

<sup>13</sup> (U) FBI; Case Information; 15 February 2017; 30 January 2017; “(U) Opening EC”; UNCLASSIFIED; UNCLASSIFIED; Victim [Name withheld] was interviewed based on her experiences with the subject of investigation.

<sup>14</sup> (U) FBI; Case Information; 14 November 2016; 7 November 2018; “(U) Interview of [Name withheld]”; UNCLASSIFIED; UNCLASSIFIED; [Name withheld], an associate of victim [Name withheld], was interviewed based on his knowledge of the victim.

<sup>15</sup> (U//FOUO) FBI; Case Information; 9 June 2017; 4 May 2017; “(U//FOUO) Interview [Name withheld]”; UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY; UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY; [Name withheld] is a labor trafficking victim specifically trafficked as part of a traveling sales crew.

<sup>16</sup> (U) FBI; Case Information; 29 September 2017; 26 September 2018; “[TITLE REDACTED]”; UNCLASSIFIED; UNCLASSIFIED; A CHS with historical access, whose reporting was uncorroborated. The CHS is not available for re-contact.

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<sup>17</sup> (U) FBI; Case Information; 12 April 2017; 4 April 2017; “(U) To open labor and sex trafficking investigation of [Name withheld]; UNCLASSIFIED; UNCLASSIFIED; Interview of a juvenile sex trafficking victim by Palm Beach Sheriff’s Office detective [Name withheld] regarding trafficking activity.

<sup>18</sup> (U) FBI; Case Information; 19 April 2018; 13 September 2017; “(U) Open Case File”; UNCLASSIFIED; UNCLASSIFIED; Upon her September 2017 arrest, victim [Name withheld] had physical signs of assault and claimed the subject had tied her up, beaten, and choked her.

<sup>19</sup> (U) FBI; Case Information; 29 September 2017; 26 September 2018; “[TITLE REDACTED]”; UNCLASSIFIED; UNCLASSIFIED; A CHS with historical access, whose reporting was uncorroborated. The CHS is not available for re-contact.

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# Federal Bureau of Investigation

## Intelligence Products Customer Service Satisfaction Survey

Product Title:

**1. (U//FOUO) Please select customer type: \_\_\_\_\_ and function: \_\_\_\_\_**

**2. (U//FOUO) Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following:**

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	N/A
Product's overall usefulness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Product's relevance to your mission	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Product's timeliness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Product's responsiveness to your intelligence needs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**3. (U//FOUO) How do you plan to use this product in support of your mission? (Check all that apply.)**

- Integrate into one of my own organization's finished information or intelligence products
- Share contents with partners outside my organization
- Share within my organization
- Improve situational awareness

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- Incorporate into planning and preparedness efforts
- Do not plan to use
- Other:

**4. (U//FOUO) How does this product add value to your mission? (Please portion mark comments.)**

**5. (U//FOUO) How could this product be improved? (Please portion mark comments.)**

**6. (U//FOUO) What is the primary intelligence source you rely on to perform your mission?**

To help us understand more about your organization so we can better tailor future products, please provide:

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Organization: <input type="text"/>	State: <input type="text"/>
Contact Number: <input type="text"/>	E-mail: <input type="text"/>



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# COOK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Thomas J. Dart, Sheriff

**- PRESS RELEASE - PRESS RELEASE - PRESS RELEASE - PRESS RELEASE -**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Feb. 6, 2019

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
312-603-4242

## **National Sex Buyer Sting Nets More Than 390 Arrests**

COOK COUNTY, IL – More than 390 individuals were arrested by two dozen police agencies across the country as part of an operation to deter johns and interrupt the online havens of sex trafficking, Cook County Sheriff Thomas J. Dart announced today.

The 17th National Johns Suppression Initiative (NJSI) spanned 14 states and included law enforcement posting decoy ads on more than a dozen trafficking-related websites. Those ads led to artificial intelligence (AI) bots to deter johns and, in many cases, to police officers who made an arrest.

NJSI ran from Jan. 13 through Feb. 3 and at least 372\* sex buyers were arrested, including 21 charged with soliciting a minor, and 23 individuals face charges related to trafficking. Thirty-five individuals, including eight minors, were recovered and offered services. More than two-thirds of the arrests were related to internet ads. Law enforcement agencies in Cook County recorded 38 sex buyer arrests.

Remarkably, the polar vortex that impacted large swaths of the U.S. last week did not deter sex buyers. The operation saw 42 arrests between Tuesday and Thursday in states that were experiencing temperatures well below their seasonal average.

The AI bot, created by childsafe.ai, interacts with johns seeking sex and eventually sends a deterrence message warning of the legal and social dangers of buying sex. Seven agencies utilized the bot, cumulatively engaging 1,477 potential sex buyers with a total of nearly 8,500 total messages sent. Sheriff's Police continue to monitor websites containing sex solicitation ads and buyers are on notice that any of those ads could lead buyers to arrest.

One individual was arrested by Sheriff's Police after he was determined to be a high-frequency sex buyer. The individual sent more than 350 text messages and placed nine phone calls to bot phone numbers.

Sheriff Dart started NJSI in 2011 to draw national attention to the role sex buyers play in fueling sex trafficking. Since then, Sheriff's Police and more than 130 participating agencies have arrested more than 9,000 johns.

Agencies that participated in the 17<sup>th</sup> NJSI\* include:

\*Number subject to change based on additional law enforcement agencies reporting

- Alabama
  - West Alabama Human Trafficking Taskforce – 26 johns arrested, 1 charged with attempting to arrange sex with a minor, 1 pimp/sex trafficker arrested
- Arizona
  - Phoenix Police Department – 3 johns arrested
  - Mesa Police Department – 15 charged with attempting to arrange sex with a minor, 53 bot contacts
- California
  - Los Angeles Sheriff's Department – 47 johns arrested, 1 pimp/sex trafficker arrested, 1 juvenile victim recovered
  - Oakland Police Department – 3 johns arrested
- Illinois
  - Cook County Sheriff's Office – 38 johns arrested; 1 indecent solicitation of a minor. Buyer arrests include joint operations with the Lansing Police Department (7 johns arrested), Matteson Police Department (8 johns arrested) and Orland Hills Police Department (7 johns arrested)
    - 159 bot contacts
  - Lake County Sheriff's Office – 14 johns arrested
  - Rockford Police Department – 3 johns arrested
- Maryland
  - Howard County Police Department – 8 johns arrested
- Massachusetts
  - Boston Police Department – 3 johns arrested, 2 charged with keeping a house of prostitution, 6 adults recovered and referred to services
- Nebraska
  - Lincoln Police Department – 1 john arrested, 3 pimp/sex traffickers arrested, 5 adult victims recovered
- New York
  - New York Police Department – 17 johns arrested, 575 bot contacts
- Nevada
  - Las Vegas Metro Police Department – 13 johns arrested
- Oregon
  - Portland Police Department – 136 bot contacts
- Pennsylvania
  - Pittsburgh Police Department – 31 johns arrested
  - Upper Merion Township – 4 charged with attempting to arrange sex with a minor
- Texas
  - Harris County Sheriff's Office – 80 johns arrested
  - Houston Police Department – 20 johns arrested, 16 pimp/traffickers arrested, 6 adult victims recovered, 6 juvenile victims recovered
  - Tarrant County Sheriff's Office – 12 johns arrested, 247 bot contacts
- Washington
  - Seattle Police Department – 25 johns arrested, 24 bot contacts, 10 adult victims recovered, 1 juvenile victim recovered
- Wisconsin
  - Brown County Sheriff's Office – 7 johns arrested, 283 bot contacts

*Special thank you to Demand Abolition for their continued support of this national initiative.*

###

To: Mayor, City Council Members, and the Human Trafficking Workgroup

From: Tempe Family Justice Commission

Date: January 7, 2020 **CORRECT DATE**

Subject: Human Trafficking Prevention and Awareness Month

January is designated as Human Trafficking Prevention and Awareness Month. To recognize the prevalence and severity of trafficking, and in support of City Council's workgroup on Human Trafficking, the Tempe Family Justice Commission presents the following information and recommendations:

### **Context**

Human trafficking is a form of modern slavery that includes myriad forms of forced labor, domestic servitude and sex work. Human trafficking does not discriminate by race, religion, gender, nationality or socioeconomic status, and preys on the most vulnerable members of society including children and youth. In 2018, 231 cases of human trafficking were reported to the National Hotline in Arizona.

Best Practices for fighting human trafficking include:

- Public awareness campaigns including posters and indicator cards (Free materials available on the DHS Blue Campaign Website)
- Provide education in schools to children and youth about human trafficking and ensure there are social and emotional supports available to assist with reporting
- Publicize how to report suspected human trafficking such as:
  - Tempe Police non-emergency phone number (480) 350-8311
  - DHS tip line at 866-347-2423
  - National Human Trafficking Hotline, at 1-888-373-7888 text
  - Text HELP or INFO to BeFree (233733)
  - 9-1-1

### **Recommendations**

Every January, the city should actively participate in the *Blue Campaign*, a national awareness campaign, that educates the community and professionals about the indicators of human trafficking, and how to appropriately respond to potential cases.

Tempe City Council should support ongoing efforts of law enforcement and CARE 7 to address and respond to victims of human trafficking and populations vulnerable to trafficking, specifically school age children.

**Last but not least**, Tempe needs a designated Family Advocacy Center where individuals have a safe place to access trauma-sensitive services by professionals trained to be responsive to all the needs of victims of crime. Tempe is one of few municipalities in Arizona lacking this critical resource.

For further research and resources, please visit the following websites:

- DHS Blue Campaign to end human trafficking: <https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/what-human-trafficking>; <https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/about-blue-campaign>
- Department of Justice: <https://www.justice.gov/humantrafficking>;  
<https://www.justice.gov/humantrafficking/whole-government-approach>
- US DHHS: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/resource/fshumantrafficking>
- United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/what-is-human-trafficking.html>
- National Human Trafficking Hotline: Arizona Data  
<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/state/arizona>