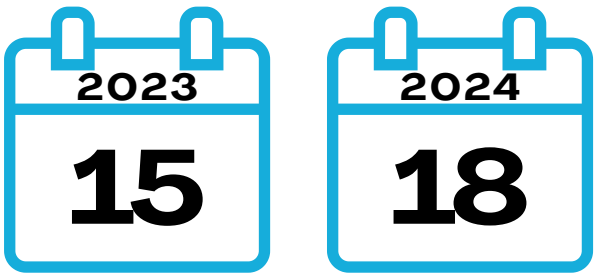
TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

2023 vs. 2024 Calendar Year

"Human trafficking is Organized Crime – End the Exploitation"



TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS CASES INITIATED

The Police's Anti Trafficking in Persons Unit initiated 18 cases on Trafficking in Persons during 2024.

This is an increase of 20% (3) in cases investigated for Trafficking in Persons.

** Anti-Trafficking in Persons Council is the body established by the Government of Belize to respond to all cases of human trafficking

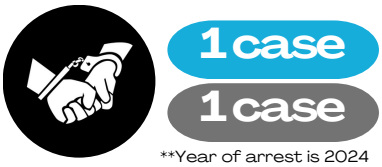
TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS CASES

In 2024, there was an increase in active cases. That is an increase of 300% (6 more active cases).

Active Cases



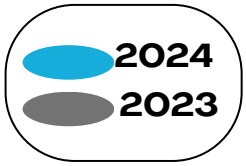
Cases resulting in arrest

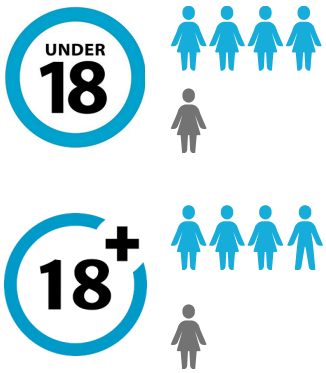


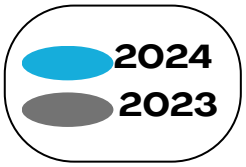
**Year of arrest is 2024

Other Cases









VICTIM PROFILES

Active Cases

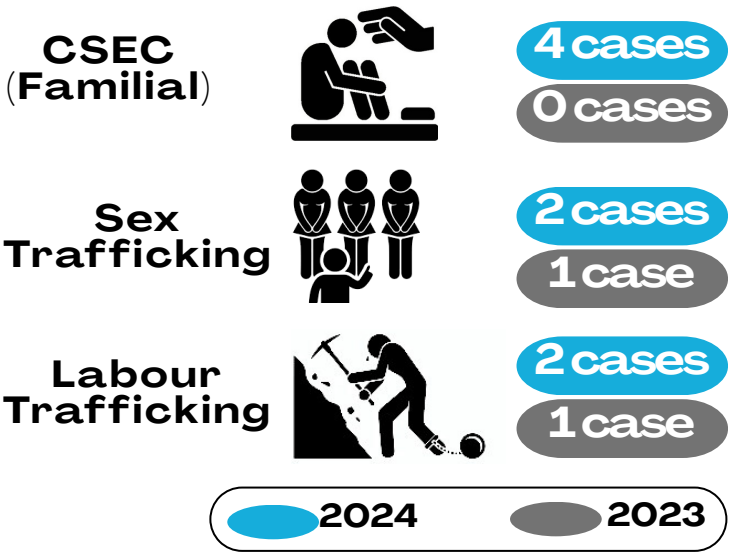
During 2024, 7 of the 8 active cases involved a female. 58% (4) of the females were minors.

Data Source: Ministry of Human Development through the Anti Trafficking in Persons Council (ATIPS)

If you would like to get more information contact us at:

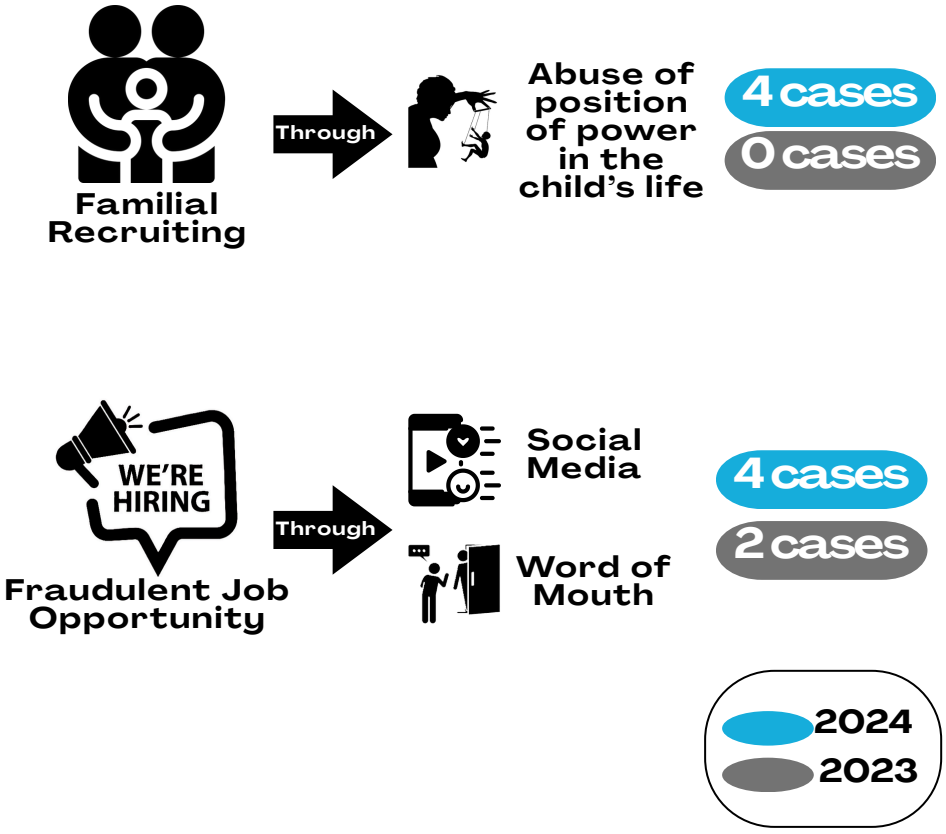
PURPOSE OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

During 2024, 50% (4) of the Trafficking in Persons cases were for Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC). Sex Trafficking and Labour Trafficking accounted for 25% (2) of the active cases, each.



MEANS OF RECRUITMENT

During 2024, 50% (4) of the victims of trafficking in persons were recruited by a fraudulent job opportunity (preying on vulnerability due to the need of a job). 50% (4) were through familial recruiting where a family member facilitated the exploitation of a minor by abusing their position of power in the life of the child.



Data Source: Ministry of Human Development through the Anti Trafficking in Persons Council (ATIPS)

If you would like to get more information contact us at:



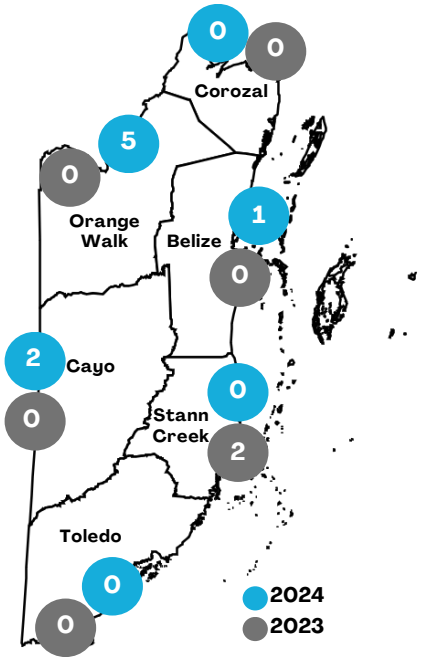
VICTIM NATIONALITY

Both 2023 and 2024 Trafficking in Persons active cases involved nationals of Central American countries.

During 2024, 50% (4) of the active cases of Trafficking in Persons involved Belizeans, 25% (2) involved Hondurans, and 25% (2) involved Nicaraguans.

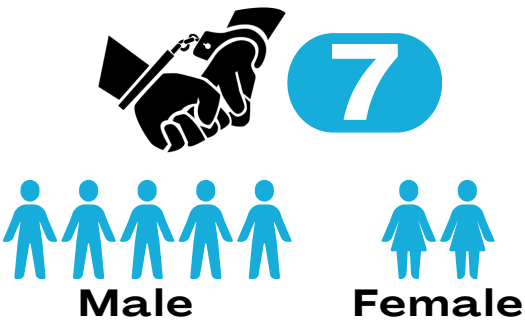
LOCATION OF REPORT

During 2024, the Orange Walk District accounted for 63% (5) of the active cases of Trafficking in Persons. The Cayo District accounted for 25% (2) of the active cases, while, the Belize District accounted for 13% (1) of the active cases.



ARRESTS
2024

During 2024, 7 persons were arrested for charges of Trafficking in Persons. These arrests were made in connection to three separate victims. 5 persons were arrested in connection to 1 victim.



Data Source: Ministry of Human Development through the Anti Trafficking in Persons Council (ATIPS)

If you would like to get more information contact us at:

NATIONALITY OF ARRESTED 2024

Of the persons arrested 5 were Belizeans by birth, 2 were Naturalized Belizeans.

Belizean

5 — **Belizean by Birth**

Honduran

1 — **Naturalized Belizean**

Indian

1 — **Naturalized Belizean**

CHARGES 2024

Child Prostitution	3
Procuring a Child for Sex Exploitation	2
Labour Trafficking	1
Making Child Pornography	1

During 2024, 43% (3) of the persons arrested were charged with Child Prostitution, 29% (2) were charged with Procuring a child for Sex Exploitation.

1 person was charged with Labour Trafficking, and one person was charged with Making Child Pornography.

CONVICTIONS 2024

2

** These convictions are from cases in 2017 and 2021.

Conviction #1
2 Counts of Trafficking in Persons (Section 11 TIPS Prohibition ACT).

Sentence
6 years per count to be spent on remand.

Conviction #2
Trafficking in Persons (Sections 11 TIPS Prohibition Act).

Sentence
Fined $31,698.26 (Includes payment of unpaid labour, government expenses and emotional distress). No Confinement.

Data Source: Ministry of Human Development through the Anti Trafficking in Persons Council (ATIPS)

If you would like to get more information contact us at:

"Human trafficking is Organized Crime – End the Exploitation"

From the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Be aware

Educate yourself about the realities of human trafficking and its root causes.

Stay up to date with facts and resources from credible sources like the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons.

Be alert

Know the signs of trafficking. Victims may be found in everyday settings—at work, online, in schools, during travel, or in personal networks.

If you suspect trafficking, contact local authorities or an anti-trafficking helpline. If you are unsure, please err on the side of caution and inform responsible parties rather than ignore a potential victim.

Be responsible

Make ethical consumer choices. Avoid goods and services that may be linked directly or indirectly to sexual exploitation, forced labour or other forms of exploitative practices.

Get involved

Find out what anti-trafficking efforts are underway in your community.

Encourage friends, family, coworkers and business partners to get informed and involved in the fight against human trafficking.

TO REPORT SUSPECTED CASES ANONYMOUSLY CONTACT?

Department of Human Services:

+501-227-7451

OR USE THE P3 TIPS APP

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store

REMINDER:

If you see anything suspicious please report it to the police by calling 911, 990 or to our local Crimestoppers by calling 922.

Data Source: Ministry of Human Development through the Anti Trafficking in Persons Council (ATIPS)

If you would like to get more information contact us at: