

OVER
**1 MILLION
CHILDREN**

**ARE VICTIMS OF SEXUAL
EXPLOITATION TODAY ¹**

**ALMOST 60%
OF THOSE TRAPPED**
IN FORCED COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION
ARE IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC ¹



**NEARLY 80%
OF THOSE TRAPPED**
IN FORCED COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION
ARE GIRLS OR WOMEN ¹



HUMAN TRAFFICKING:

- THIRD LARGEST CRIME INDUSTRY IN THE WORLD²
- GENERATES \$150 BILLION ANNUALLY²

OF THE
\$150 BILLION
THE COMMERCIAL
SEX TRADE
SECTOR
GENERATES
ABOUT

**\$99
BILLION³**



STATISTICS WE BELIEVE

BACKGROUND

Statistics can be helpful, but in the world of child sex trafficking, where there is a universal effort to hide in the dark, statistics vary wildly. In addition, studies show that the story of one young rescued girl can inspire more giving than the suffering of millions. With this in mind, we strongly encourage sharing only a few basic statistics representing conservative and credible estimates regarding human trafficking.

Human Trafficking Statistics

- Over a million children are victims of sexual exploitation today¹
*We say this because the International Labor Organization (ILO) estimates there are 1.7 million children trapped in commercial sexual exploitation as of 2021¹ **
- Nearly four out of every five of those trapped in forced commercial sexual exploitation are girls or women¹
- 6 out of 10 (59.07%) of those trapped in forced commercial sexual exploitation are in Asia and the Pacific¹
- Human trafficking is the third-largest crime industry in the world, generating an estimated \$150 billion annually, only after drug trafficking (estimated to generate \$320 billion annually) and counterfeiting (estimated to generate \$250 billion annually).²
- Of the \$150 billion human trafficking generates each year, the commercial sex trade sector generates about \$99 billion of that number³

¹ Source: 2021 Global Estimates of Modern Slavery published by the International Labor Organization

² Source: Transnational Crime and the Developing World published by Global Financial Integrity in 2017

³ Source: International Labor Organization, 2014

* We prefer to use the “over a million children” figure rather than the 1.7 million figure for the longevity of published pieces as the global estimate fluctuates from year to year.

Human Trafficking includes forced labor, other forms of trafficking and the trafficking of individuals in transit. **Sexual Exploitation** is the abuse of power, trust or someone’s position of vulnerability to obtain or monetize sex acts.