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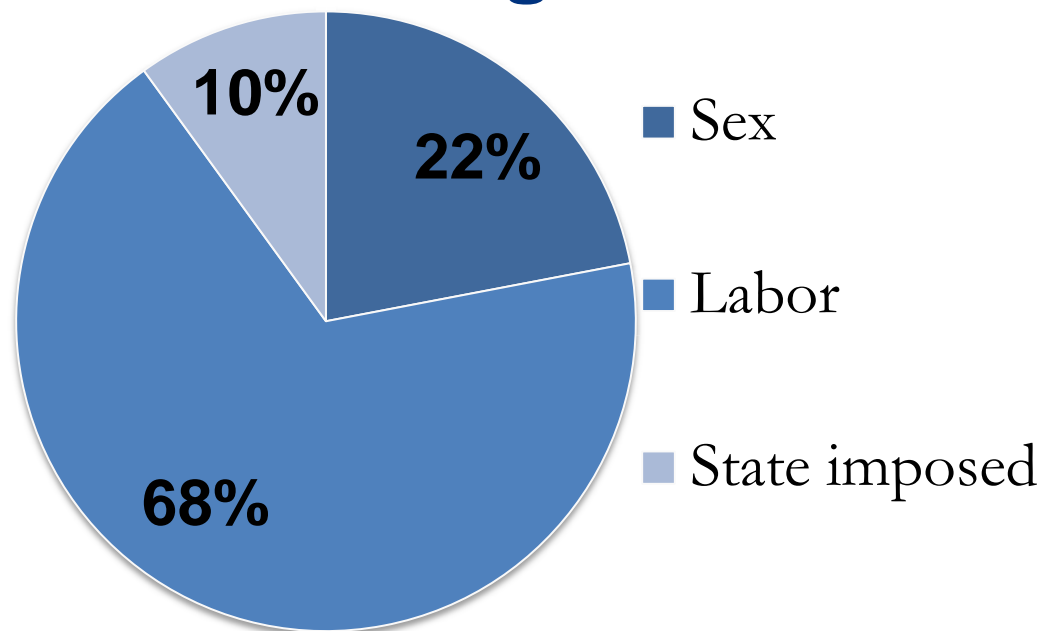
# Sex Trafficking of Women and Girls from Mexico & Latin America



# The Problem

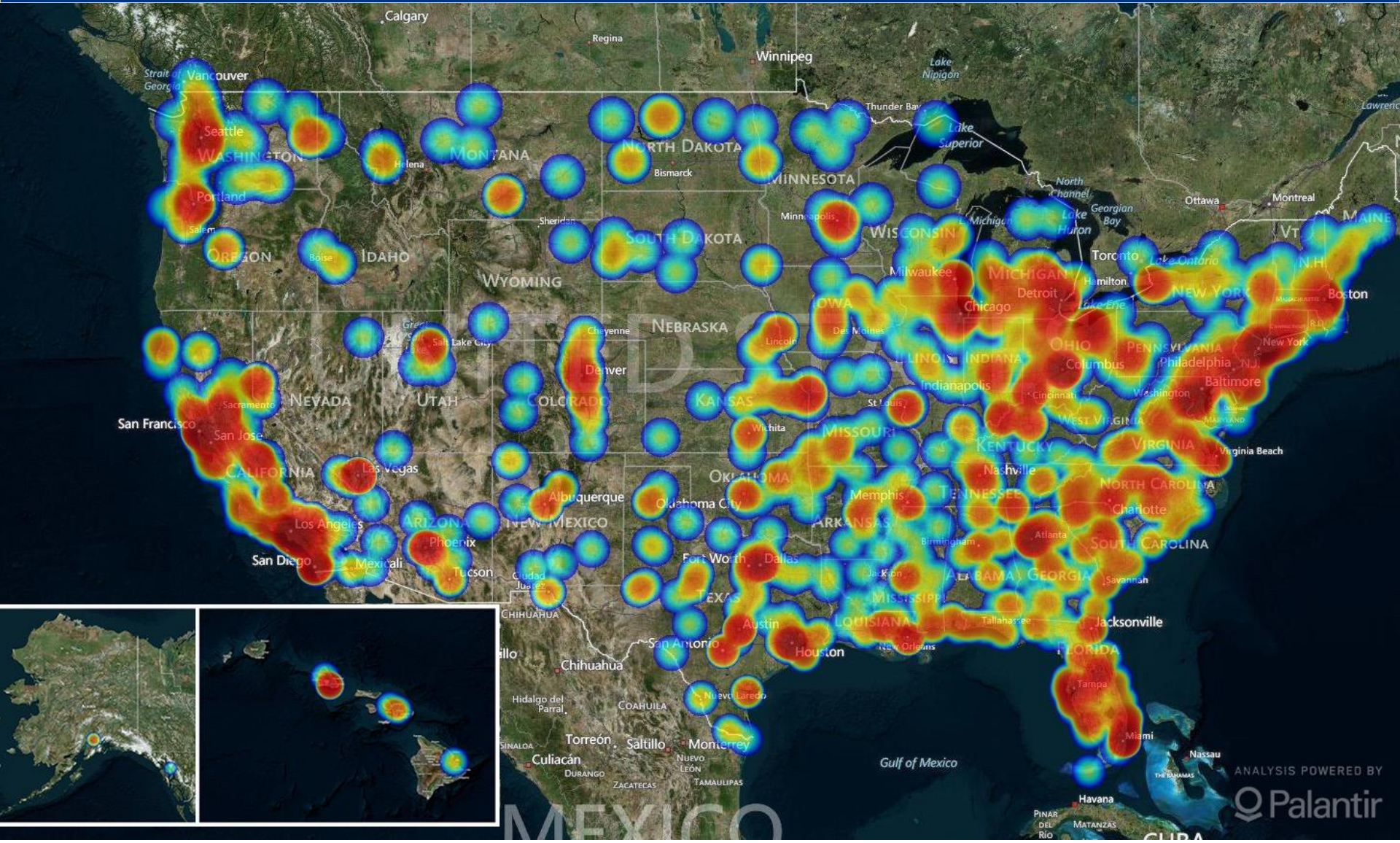
Worldwide, nearly **21 million people** are victims of forced labor [human trafficking] (ILO, 2012)

## Types of Trafficking





# The Problem





# Our Model

**RESPOND** ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦

- Identify Victims
- Connect to Services
- End the Cycle of Abuse

**EQUIP** ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦

- Develop Tailored Solutions
- Share Knowledge & Tools
- Combat Trafficking at Scale

**DISRUPT** ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦ ✦

- Map Systems of Modern Slavery
- Target Intervention Campaigns
- Eliminate Trafficking Networks



# Our Priorities

**1**

## **U.S. MODEL RESPONSE**

Elevate the anti-trafficking response in communities across the U.S. creating slavery-proof environments.

**2**

## **NORTH AMERICA REGIONAL BUILD**

Advance a coordinated, multi-stakeholder response to disrupt human trafficking across the entire North America continent.

**3**

## **SEX TRAFFICKING FROM MEXICO**

Disrupt sex trafficking networks from Mexico, collaborate with service providers to create a robust victim response, and raise awareness to prevent future trafficking.

**4**

## **ILLICIT MASSAGE BUSINESSES**

Dismantle the trafficking networks that exploit women in fake massage businesses and build a strong safety net for survivors.



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# Our Data Analysis

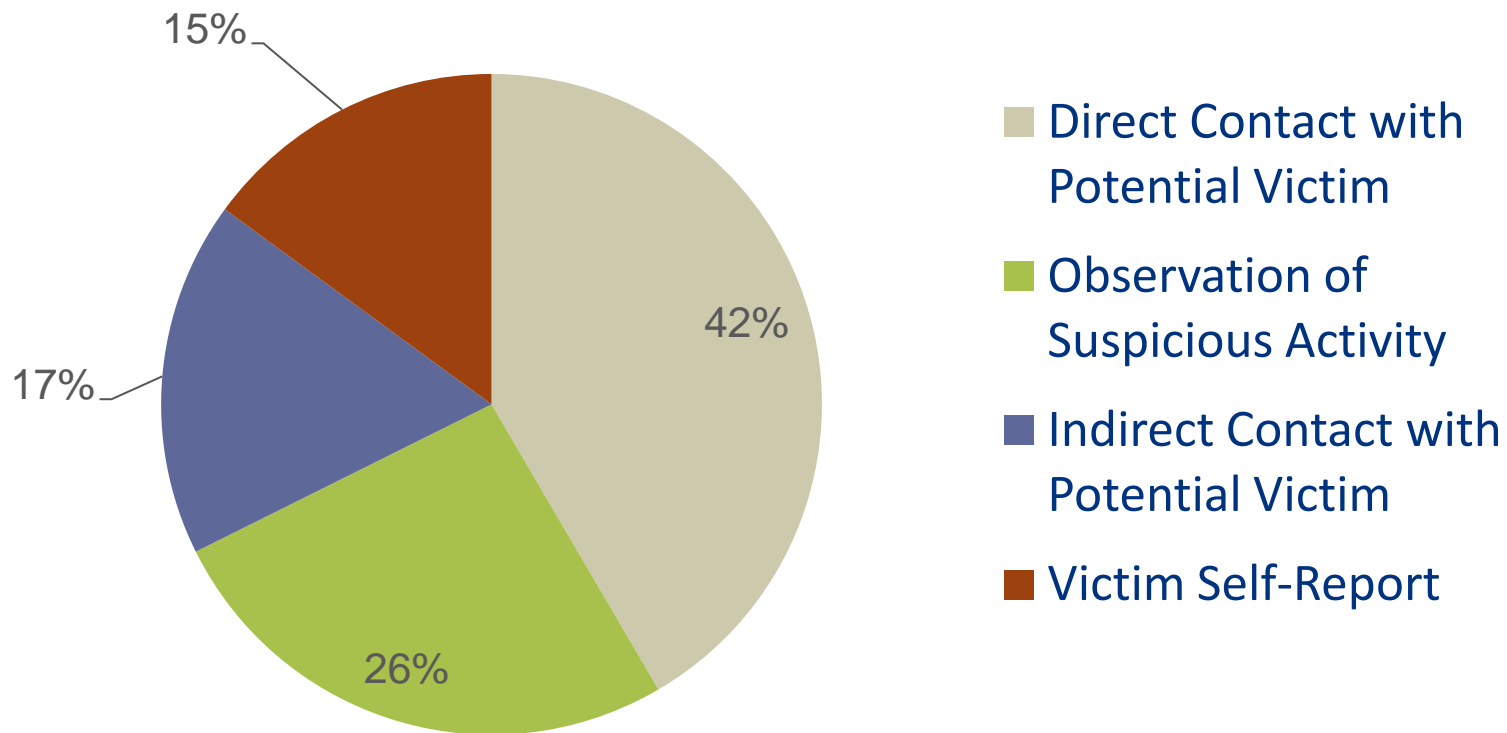


# Overview of National Hotline Data

- Over 1,500 cases for analysis
  - Dec 2007 through Jan 2016
- Over 5,000 potential victims described
- Cases reported in 44 U.S. states
- Cases reported in 17 of 20 Latin American countries
  - No cases reported in Uruguay, Paraguay or Chile

# ★ Quality of NHTRC Data for STFM Cases

## Caller Proximity to Victim





# ★ Hotline Cases Reported Dec 2007 – Jan 2016





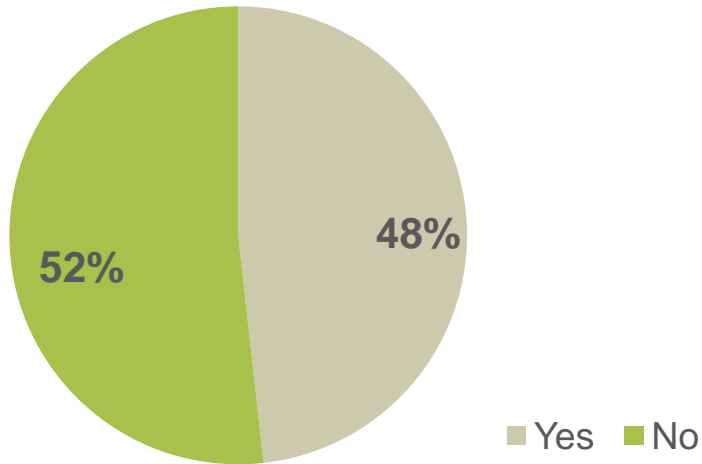
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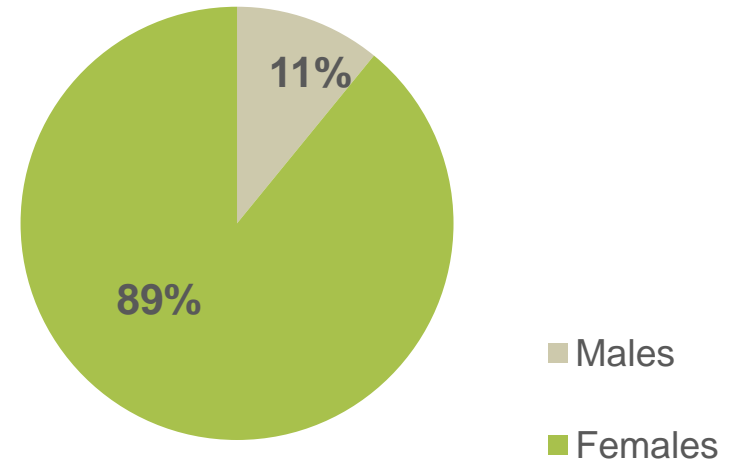
## Victim and Survivor Demographics

# ★ NHTRC Potential Victim Demographics by Case

Case References Potential Minor Victims



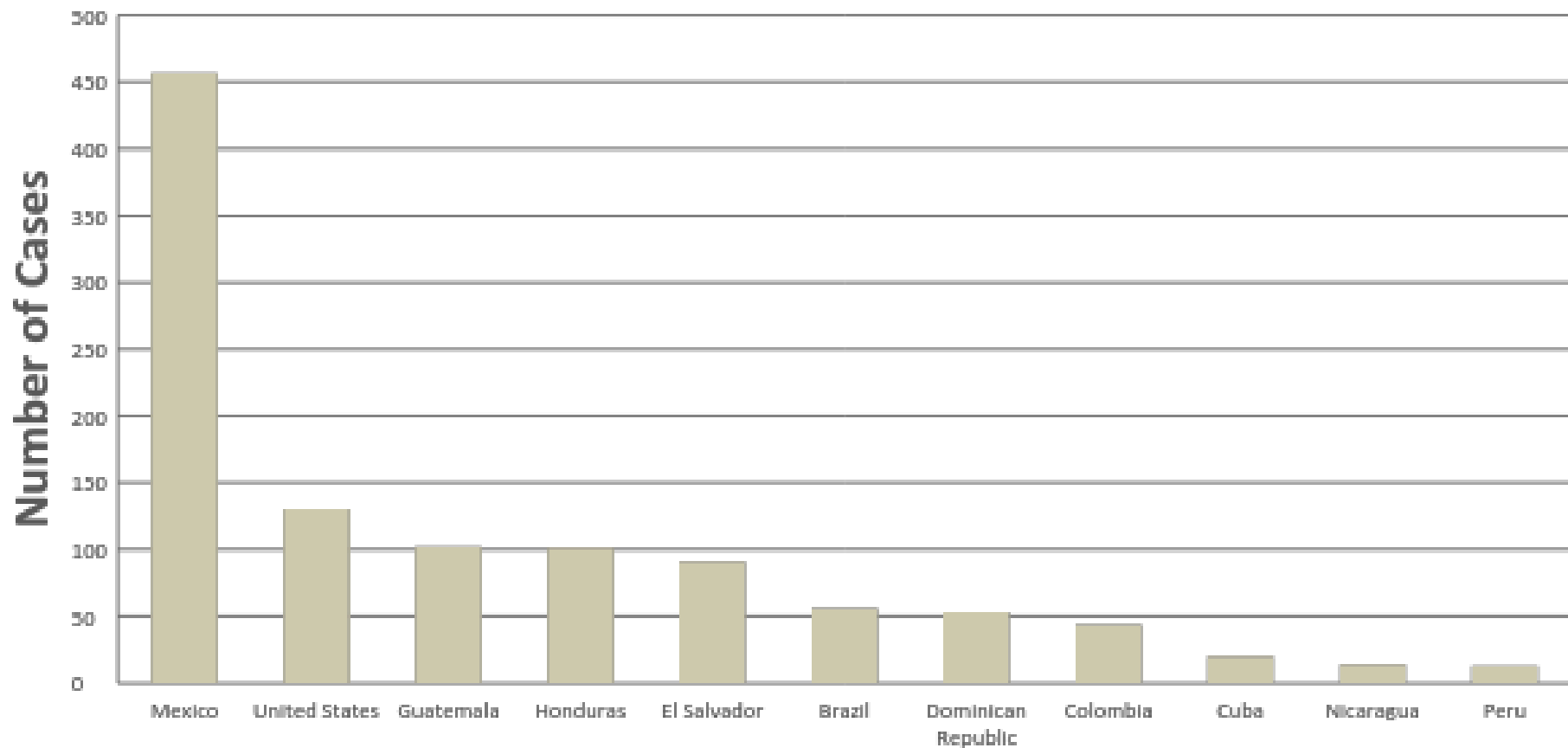
Potential Victim Gender (Non-cumulative)



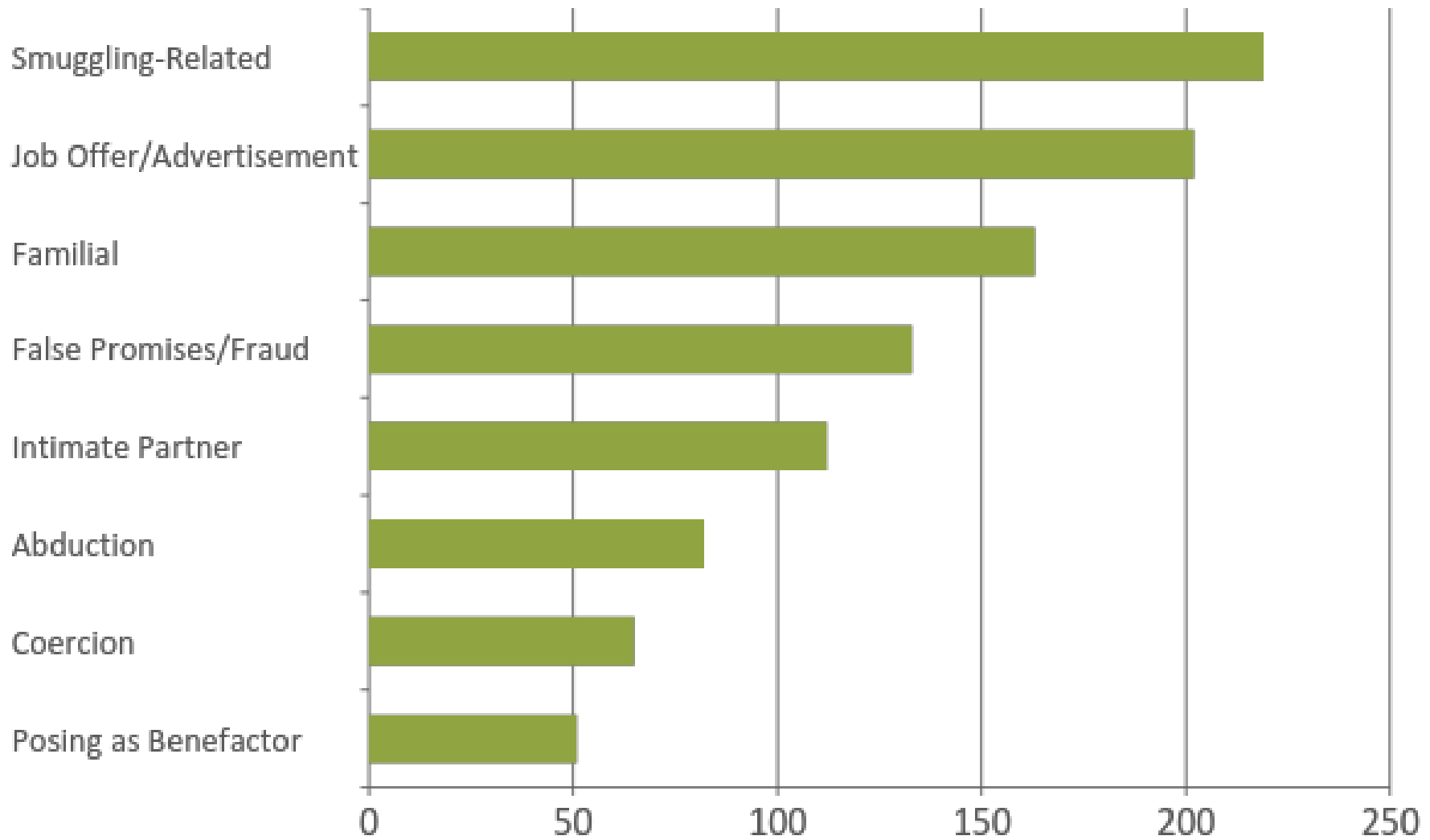


# Potential Victim Demographics

## Top Nationalities of Potential Victims

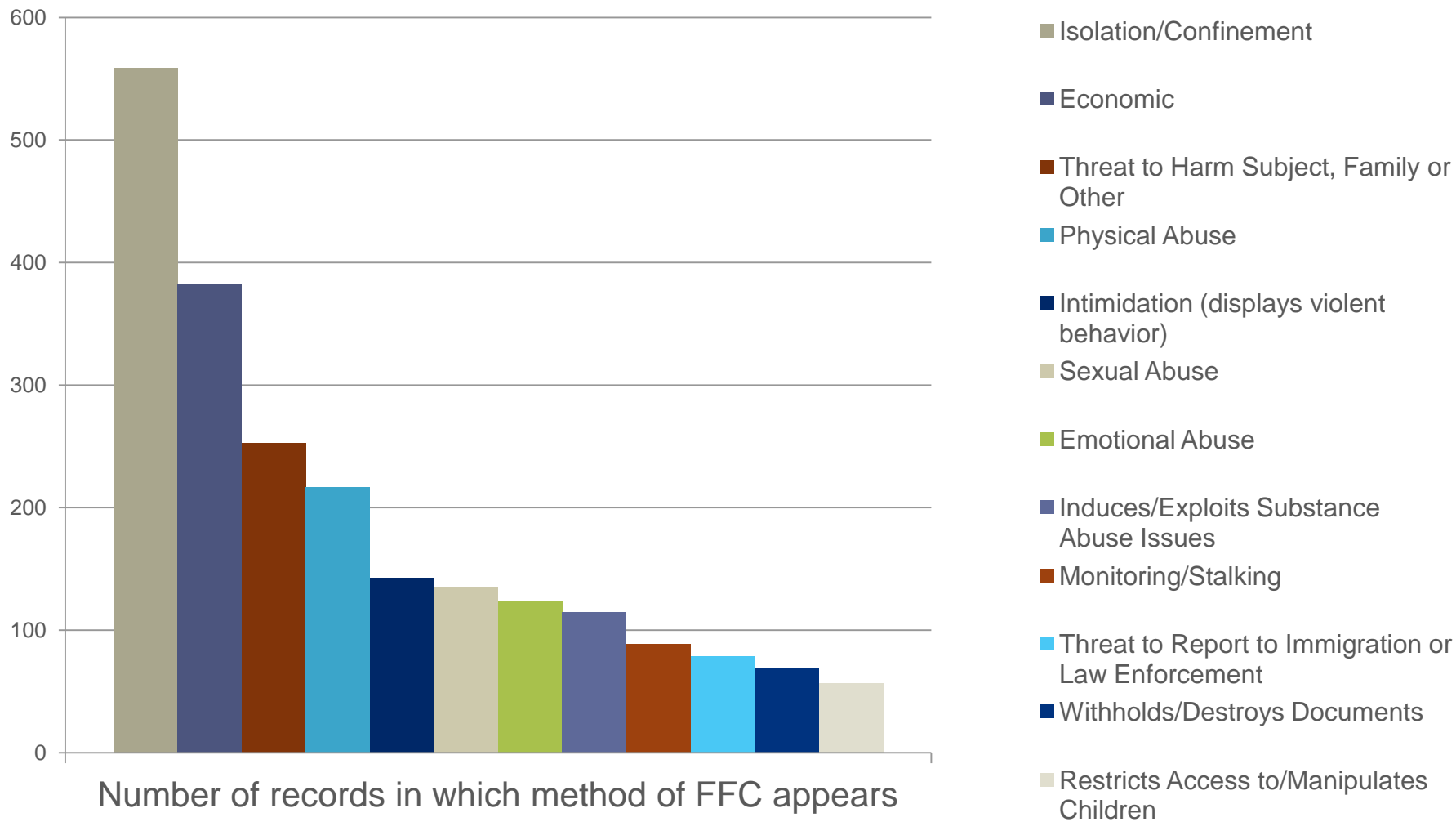


# ★ Recruitment Methods – Hotline Data and Open Source





# NHTRC Force, Fraud, and Coercion





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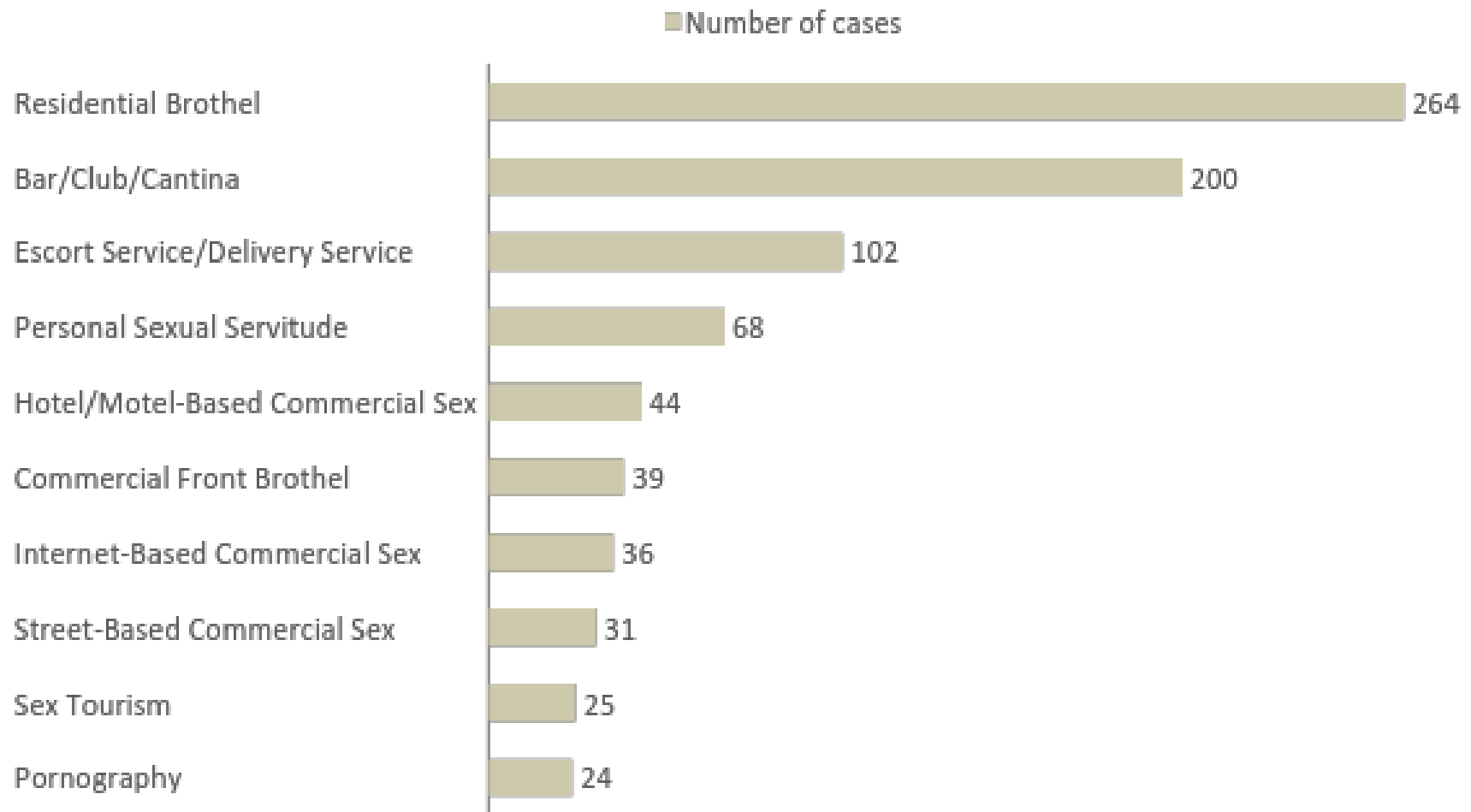


# Sex Trafficking of Women and Girls from Mexico and Latin America

## Venues and business models

# ★ Most Common Venues – Hotline Data

Top Ten Venues or Industries of Trafficking

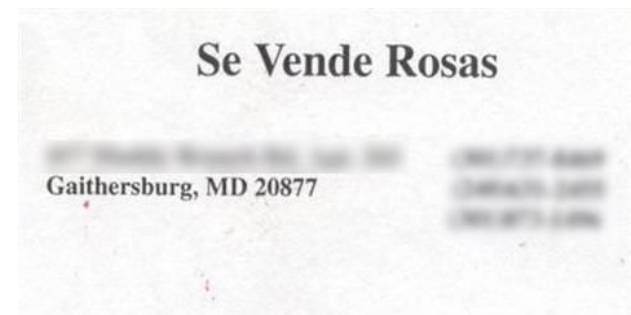




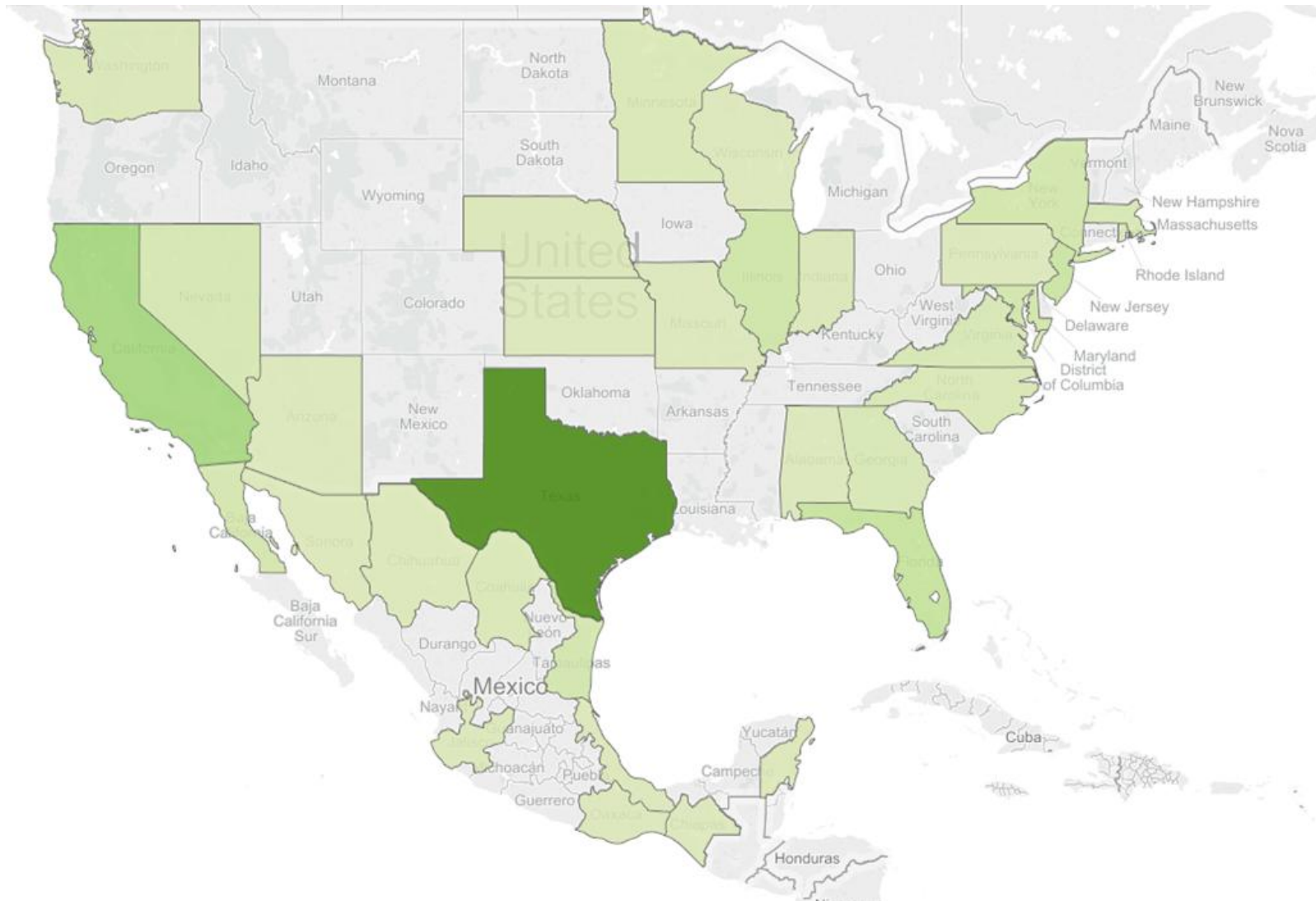


# ★ Residential Brothels – Operational Model

- **Traffickers:**
  - Often Mexican traffickers; notably associated with Tlaxcala-based trafficking groups
- **Victims:**
  - Mexican and Central American; aged 16-35 typically, but some minors as young as 15, women as old as early 50s
- **Recruitment:**
  - Romance method; other potential victims; job offers
- **Marketing:**
  - Cater to Latino clientele almost exclusively
  - Advertise using tarjetas or Spanish-language newspapers; some word of mouth
- **Typical network structure:**
  - Recruiters and smugglers in Mexico
  - House managers in U.S. locations
  - Drivers



# ★ Cantinas – Prevalence in the U.S. and Mexico





# Cantinas – Operational Model

- **Traffickers:**
  - Mexican, Salvadoran, and Honduran rings most commonly seen.
- **Victims:**
  - Latina victims, usually 16-late 20s
- **Recruitment:**
  - Fake job offer; smuggling-related; sometimes romance method
- **Marketing:**
  - Cater to Latino clientele (usually exclusively)
  - Advertise by word of mouth
- **Typical network structures:**
  - Trafficking business similar to residential brothels.
  - “Legitimate” business where women are apparently independent of the establishment and directly controlled by pimps.



# Escort/Delivery Services

- Significant overlap with residential brothels
- Locations:
  - Residences
  - Hotels/motels
  - Mobile brothels
  - Agricultural worksites
- Houston-model cantinas also may run escort services instead of having commercial sex occur on the premises
  - Lower visibility to law enforcement
  - May rent out apartments for this purpose, bring PVs to hotels, or (rarely) send PVs home with customer



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# Sex Trafficking of Women and Girls from Mexico and Latin America

## Our Strategic Initiative



# The Objective

Disrupt Latino sex trafficking networks by collaborating across service providers and law enforcement to create a robust victim response and by driving an environment of awareness that prevents future trafficking.



# Respond

## **Respond to Survivors**

- Increasing access to hotlines across borders.
- Training and connecting Service Providers in the U.S. and Mexico to effectively deliver critical services.
- Supporting survivors through the criminal justice process.





# Equip

## **Drive Awareness, Anti-Demand, and Prevention Efforts**

- Launching multi-channel anti-demand campaign in the U.S. aimed at Latino men.
- Conducting outreach to Latino/Hispanic community organizations in the U.S. to deepen understanding of the issue.
- Developing effective messaging to drive prevention efforts in high risk areas.



# Disrupt

## Analyze the Network for Eradication

- Mapping network infrastructure to identify points of recruitment, entry points, methods of control and abuse, and financial flows.
- Determining connection points to organized crime, gang and cartel activity.



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# Sex Trafficking of Women and Girls from Mexico and Latin America

## Other Solutions

# ★ Strengths-Based Survivor Centered Approach

## Survivor Centered Approach

- Ensure safety, confidentiality, and well-being
- Treat with respect and dignity
- Provide as much information as possible
- Empower to choose next steps

All collaborating entities work to address survivor's needs.



# ★ Interacting with Victims and Survivors

- Responding to Survivors
- Rapid Assessment for Latina Women
- Other Considerations When Working with Latina Survivors

# ★ Immigration Remedies for Foreign National Victims

Practitioners should be aware of the following immigration remedies for foreign national victims of human trafficking:

- Continued Presence
- T Visa
- U Visa
- VAWA Self-Petition
- Asylum
- Special Immigrant Juvenile Status





# How to Get Involved

## **Opportunities for Engagement:**

- Potential in your agency being listed as a supporting service provider contributing to this project or sit on an ongoing informal advisory board.
- If funding were available participating with your agency in crisis response within your region.
- Participate in a network of providers sharing helpful resources via an electronic platform.
- Sign up to receive Cantinas Report coming out later this summer.



# Reach Out To Us

Find out more at  
[Traffickingresourcecenter.org](https://traffickingresourcecenter.org)

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**[Polarisproject.org](https://polarisproject.org)**