Human trafficking is a deeply harmful experience that can severely impact victims’ physical, psychological, and emotional wellbeing. It is also one of the most profitable criminal enterprises for traffickers. A January 2018 National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month special report from the Department of Defense indicated that globally:

- $99 billion per year was made from sex trafficking
- 4.5 million individuals are victims of forced sexual exploitation
- $51 billion per year was made from use of forced labor
- 21 million individuals are victims of forced labor

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) have jointly funded and operated an Enhanced Collaborative Model (ECM) Task Force to Combat Human Trafficking program since 2015. The program’s purpose is to:

- Develop effective and sustainable multidisciplinary task forces
- Address the individualized needs of victims through services
- Investigate and prosecute sex and labor trafficking cases (as well as the purchasers of commercial sex)

The information below reflects data from fiscal year 2018 from BJA law enforcement ECM task force members.**

Each task force comprises several partners, including law enforcement and a victim services agency. BJA manages the law enforcement portion of the grant and OVC manages the victim services portion of each grant award.

ECM grantees are further supported by the International Association of the Chiefs of Police (IACP), a Training and Technical Assistance provider. You can find more information about IACP’s anti-human trafficking resources by visiting the following:


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29 active Bureau of Justice Assistance–funded human trafficking task force grantees

2,538 human trafficking investigations

1,020 minors confirmed as victims of human trafficking

1,319 individuals arrested for human trafficking–related incident(s)

905 individuals were charged with human trafficking–related offense(s)

329 traffickers were found or pled guilty to human trafficking charge(s)

*https://dod.defense.gov/News/Special-Reports/0118_National-Slavery-Human-Trafficking-Prevention-Month/

**The data are self-reported by grantees using the Performance Measurement Tool (PMT), which is an online data collection system. PMT data are only as accurate as what is entered by grantees. This report covers data entered by grantees from October 1, 2017–September 30, 2018.