

## ***Continued Presence***

National data FFY2010: 299 Continued Presence Status issued<sup>1</sup>  
No state level data

Continued Presence (CP) is a “temporary immigration status granted by the Department of Homeland Security to individuals identified by law enforcement as victims of human trafficking”<sup>2</sup>. Once granted Continued Presence, victims of human trafficking may remain in the U.S. temporarily while the human trafficking crime is investigated. CP is generally granted for one year and may be renewed.

Federal law enforcement normally completes the application for status and sends the application to the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Bureau of International Affairs, Law Enforcement Parole Branch for approval. After approval, the application is sent to the Vermont Servicing Center which is a component of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), where an Employment Authorization Document (EAD) card will be issued.

## ***Certification***

National Data FFY2010: 793 Certifications Issued  
Florida Data CY 2010: 32 Certifications in Florida

Certification as a victim of human trafficking by the federal Department of Health and Human Services Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) allows foreign national trafficking victims access to benefits and services to the same extent as a refugee for non-citizen victims. Victims of trafficking who are U.S. citizens do not need to be certified to receive benefits as certification is established to override eligibility rules that limit benefits to American citizens and certain permanent residents.

To receive certification, victims of trafficking must:

- Be a victim of a severe form of trafficking as defined by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA)
- Be willing to assist with the investigation and prosecution of trafficking cases; and
- Have completed a bona fide application for a T visa; or

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<sup>1</sup> “*Trafficking in Persons Report 2010*”, U.S. Department of State.

<sup>2</sup> “Continued Presence”, Department of Homeland Security.  
[http://www.dhs.gov/files/programs/gc\\_1284411607501.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/files/programs/gc_1284411607501.shtm)

- Have received continued presence status from the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Bureau of International Affairs, Law Enforcement Parole Branch

Certified victims receive an official letter of certification from ORR that is used in place of immigration status documentation when applying for assistance. Child victims of trafficking (under the age of 18) are not required to assist in a prosecution to receive assistance. ORR will issue an Eligibility Letter stating that a child is a victim of a severe form of trafficking and is therefore eligible for benefits.

### *T visas*

National data FFY2010:                    313 T visas issued<sup>3</sup>  
 No state level data

A T visa allows victims of human trafficking and immediate family members to remain and work temporarily in the United States. Eligibility for a T visa requires that the applicant:

- Be a victim of trafficking, as defined by law
- Be present in the United States, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or at an American port of entry due to trafficking
- Comply with any reasonable request from a law enforcement agency for assistance in the investigation or prosecution of human trafficking (unless under the age of 18 or unable to cooperate due to physical or psychological trauma)
- Demonstrate extreme hardship involving unusual and severe harm if removed from the United States
- Be admissible to the United States. If not admissible, an individual may apply for a waiver on a Form I-192, Application for Advance Permission to enter as a Non- Immigrant

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) could not provide the number of T visas that were issued in the State of Florida in 2010 as their system does not allow for the separation of T visas issued per state in their database.

### ***ORR “Per Capita” Service Recipients***

National data on victims served FFY2010:                    380  
 Florida data on victims served FFY2010:                    55<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> “*Trafficking in Persons Report 2010*”, U.S. Department of State.

<sup>4</sup> United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement (HHS/ORR) provides services to survivors of human trafficking across the country under the Trafficking Per Capita Services Program through a contract with the United States Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). Funding for comprehensive case management services and client expenses are provided on a per capita basis through subcontract arrangements between USCCB and local service providers.<sup>5</sup> Pre-certified clients are eligible for costs for administration and services to \$1300 per month for a maximum of nine months and certified clients (who are also eligible for public benefits) are eligible for up to \$900 for no more than three months.

Of the 55 human trafficking victims served in Florida in 2010:

- 33 were male/ 22 were female
- 52 were adults/3 were children
- 50 were labor trafficking victims
- 5 were sex trafficking victims

### ***National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC)***

National calls/tips on trafficking (calendar year 2010): 11,974 calls<sup>6</sup>  
Florida calls/tips (calendar year 2010): 620 calls, 88 tips

The National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) is a program of Polaris Project, a non-profit, non-governmental organization working exclusively on the issue of human trafficking. The NHTRC manages the tip line (**1-888-373-7888**) which is featured on the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) "Look Beneath the Surface" campaign material ([www.polarisproject.org](http://www.polarisproject.org)). Since the tip line opened, Florida has been the third-ranking state for calls to the tip line, with 7.73% of all calls originating from the state, behind only California and Texas. The hotline received 620 calls from Florida in 2010 including 88 tips in 2010, of which:

- 26 were regarding labor trafficking
- 54 were regarding sex trafficking
- 2 were regarding both labor and sex trafficking
- 6 were classified as "other"

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<sup>5</sup> USCCB website, <http://www.usccb.org/mrs/trafficking/usccbresponse.shtml>

<sup>6</sup> "Polaris Project: For a World Without Slavery" <http://www.polarisproject.org/resources/hotline-statistics>

## ***Prosecutions***

Federal prosecutions FFY2009<sup>7</sup>: 114 Individuals charged  
47 convictions in 43 trafficking prosecutions  
(21 labor trafficking, 22 sex trafficking)

State prosecution data not available

According to the United States Department of Justice (DOJ), no statistics are kept for the number of Human Trafficking cases prosecuted for each individual state. They are also unable to provide the number of individuals indicted in each state or how many victims were involved in each case.

Efforts are underway at the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to add Human Trafficking as a data element in the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program's National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). Once the national program has established the capability to accept such data, participating agencies would then have to develop their capability to capture and report it to the national program. The tentative date for adding these capabilities is early 2013.

The Human Trafficking Data Collection and Reporting System (HTDCRS) is maintained by Northeastern University. The HTDCRS tracks information about human trafficking investigations, offenders and victims who have been identified by law enforcement agencies but have not been systematically recorded in the past. However, they only maintain that statistical information from the federally funded DOJ task forces. If a case is developed outside of a DOJ task force, this system would not accept their statistical information.<sup>8</sup>

## ***Certified Victims Receiving Health Screenings***

National data not available

Florida screenings performed FFY2010: 34

The Florida Department of Health (DOH) performs health screenings on individuals eligible for refugee assistance, generally within 90 days of entering the U.S. or obtaining an eligible status. Certified trafficking victims can receive this service through county health departments. According to the Florida Department of Health in FFY2010:

- 34 letters of Certification/Eligibility were presented at a county health department
- 32 were for adults
- 2 were for children

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<sup>7</sup> "Trafficking in Persons Report 2010", U.S. Department of State.

<sup>8</sup> Northeastern University, Human Trafficking Data Collection and Reporting Project.  
<http://www.humantrafficking.neu.edu/>

### ***Public Assistance for Trafficking Victims***

Certified victims of trafficking are potentially eligible for public assistance including food assistance (SNAP) and up to 8 months of Refugee Cash Assistance and Refugee Medical Assistance (Medicaid for refugees). The trafficking designation only identifies non-citizen certified victims, as certification is established to override eligibility rules that limit benefits to American citizens and certain permanent residents. The ACCESS Program served 60 certified trafficking victims in 2010:

- Women 33/Men 27
- Haiti (25)
- Mexico (8)
- Philippines (7)
- Guatemala (6)
- Cuba (4)
- Honduras (3)
- India (2)
- El Salvador (2)
- Jamaica (1)
- Colombia (1)
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### ***Florida Abuse Hotline Trafficking Reports***

Florida data CY2010:        271 Trafficking Allegations

The Florida Abuse Hotline is the first state abuse hotline to accept reports and identify calls specifically alleging child trafficking. The Florida Abuse Hotline reported during 2010:

- 406,249 calls were received by the Hotline
- 271 calls were made alleging Human Trafficking

### ***Department of Children and Families Runaway Population Tracking***

The Florida Department of Children and Families, along with their Community Based Care partners have developed one of the nation's most aggressive systems for tracking children who have run away from foster care. Contained within this population of runaways (2062 runaways in 2010) is a subset of potential Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST) victims. In 2010, ninety-six foster care runaways were identified as being potential victims of Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST). This number should not be viewed as a definitive statement as to the overall scope of the DMST issue in Florida but instead offers an overview as to the number of potential DMST that can be identified when attention and resources are focused on identifying potential DMST victims.