



FACT SHEET



What is Human Trafficking?

Human Trafficking or Trafficking in Persons is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of people through force, fraud or deception, with the aim of exploiting them for profit. Men, women and children of all ages and from all backgrounds can become victims of human trafficking.

Child trafficking involves the recruitment, transportation, harbouring, and exploitation of children through force, fraud, or coercion for profit. Child trafficking is a devastating crime that steals the childhoods of boys and girls, forcing them into labour sexual exploitation and abuse. This brochure is designed to help children both in and out of school understand the realities of child trafficking, dispel myths surrounding it, and recognize their vital role in the fight against human trafficking. It also emphasizes the need for united efforts to combat this grave violation of children's rights.

Children represent 27% of all human trafficking victims globally, with two out of every three child victims being girls. According to UNODC, children as young as six are forced to work extensive hours in dangerous settings in quarries, mines and factories, while others toil in extreme weather and inhumane conditions on plantations and fishing boats or work, without pay, as domestic servants. Some are sexually abused in brothels, bars, private homes and online or forced into marriage while others are forced to fight in conflicts.

These trafficked and exploited children are held in slave-like conditions without enough food, shelter or clothing, and are often severely abused and cut off from all contact with their families. The most vulnerable children, particularly refugees and migrants, are often preyed upon and their hopes for an education, a better job or a better life in a new country.

Children are particularly vulnerable to human trafficking for several reasons, including poverty, lack of access to education, humanitarian crises, or the lack of support networks. Natural disasters, such as droughts and armed conflicts force children to flee their homes often unaccompanied by or, at times, separated from parents or guardians.

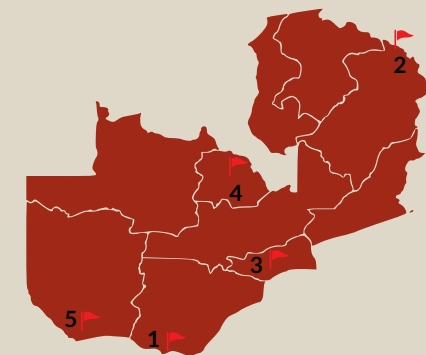
Common Human trafficking Hot Spots:

These are the key areas to be aware of:

1. Livingstone: This area is a major transit point for human trafficking. Victims from Uganda, Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya, and South Sudan are often promised jobs, only to find themselves trapped in forced labour or child labour situations.

2. Nakonde, Kasumbalesa and Chitipa: These border crossings are frequently used by traffickers to bring victims into Zambia. From here, victims may be taken to various locations, including Livingstone, and then potentially moved across the borders into Zimbabwe and Botswana.

3. Lusaka, Central and Eastern Provinces: These regions have seen cases of child labor exploitation, which is a form of trafficking. Regular inspections and interventions are conducted to address this issue.



4. Copperbelt Province: Known for its economic activity, this region is also a hotspot for trafficking due to the high movement of people and goods, making it easier for traffickers to operate.

5. Sesheke: This border area in Zambia has a high prevalence of trafficking. Additionally, trafficking has been detected at border crossings, making it difficult to distinguish from smuggling. This indicates that border areas are potential hotspots for trafficking activities.

Global facts about Human Trafficking:

- According to the International Labour Organisation (2021), **49.6 million** people are trapped in modern-day slavery worldwide. This is more than double the population of Zambia.

- This crime generates around **\$244 billion** annually in illicit profits according to Hope for Justice (2023).

- According to UNODC (2021), 30% of human trafficking victims worldwide are children while 71% of trafficking victims worldwide are women and girls. **1 in 4** victims of modern slavery are children.

- Similarly, UNODC also notes that **15.4 million** victims (62%) are exploited for labour, often in agriculture, construction, domestic work, and manufacturing; **4.8 million** victims (19%) are sexually exploited; **4.1 million** victims (17%) are subjected to state-imposed forced labour.

Forms of Exploitation in Zambia



All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, including debt bondage or forced marriage.



Forced Labour



Sexual exploitation



Servitude



The removal of body parts



Any labour or services obtained through threats or other forms of coercion or the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability.

Who is most vulnerable to Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking can happen to anyone, but the following are most vulnerable:

- Women and girls
- Youth (male and female)
- Students
- Children

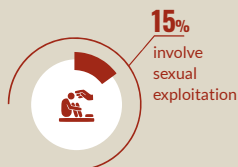
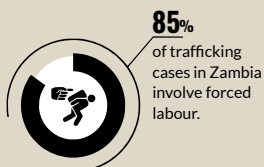


Facts about Human Trafficking in Zambia:



79

victims were identified in Zambia in 2023, but the exact number is likely much higher (U.S. Department of State Trafficking in Persons Report: Zambia).





Existing efforts by the Government of Zambia to combat Human Trafficking:

- Zambia enacted the Anti-Human Trafficking Act 2008 (amended in 2022).
- Set up the Anti-Human Trafficking Department – a designated unit at the Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security.
- Operationalised the National Coordination Committee that convenes every quarter.
- The Government of Zambia developed the National Referral Mechanism to, among others, direct victims of trafficking to available services.
- Zambia has a robust policy framework including the National Action Plan on Trafficking in Persons.
- Human trafficking focal points exist within the different law enforcement agencies including the Zambia National Police, the Drug Enforcement Commission, Immigration Department, the Anti-Corruption Commission, among others.

What can you do?

- ✦ **Learn more:** Educate yourself and others about human trafficking.
- ✦ **Report your suspicions:** If you see something strange, tell the police or a trusted adult.
- ✦ **Help those who fight it:** There are organizations working to help victims. You can volunteer or donate.



Where to Report

- Zambia Police hotline: 9010 on all networks
- Toll free lines: 116 and 933
- Young Women Christian Association Zambia: +260 760287259
- Undikumbukire Project Zambia: +260 974952012

Together, we can stop human trafficking and protect people!



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