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An artistic painting of two women in profile, facing right. The woman in the foreground has dark hair and is wearing a bright yellow jacket. The woman behind her has dark hair and is wearing a red top. The painting style is expressive with visible brushstrokes.

GLOBAL REPORT ON
**TRAFFICKING
IN PERSONS**
2020

COUNTRY PROFILE

Central America
and the Caribbean

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– Bahamas –

The current legislation on trafficking in persons in Bahamas, the Trafficking in persons (Prevention and Suppression) Chapter 106, covers all forms of trafficking indicated in the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol.

Investigations and suspects

Between 2017 and 2018, one case of trafficking in persons was recorded in Bahamas. In 2017, four persons (three men and one woman) were brought into formal contact with the police and/or the criminal justice system because they were suspected of, arrested or cautioned for trafficking in persons. In the same year, one woman was prosecuted and one man, a citizen of Bahamas, was convicted of trafficking in persons for the purpose of sexual exploitation. In 2018, one woman originating from Jamaica was also convicted of trafficking in persons for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

Source: Royal Bahamas Police Force.

Victims

In 2017, one woman was identified as victim of trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation. The victim was a citizen of Jamaica.

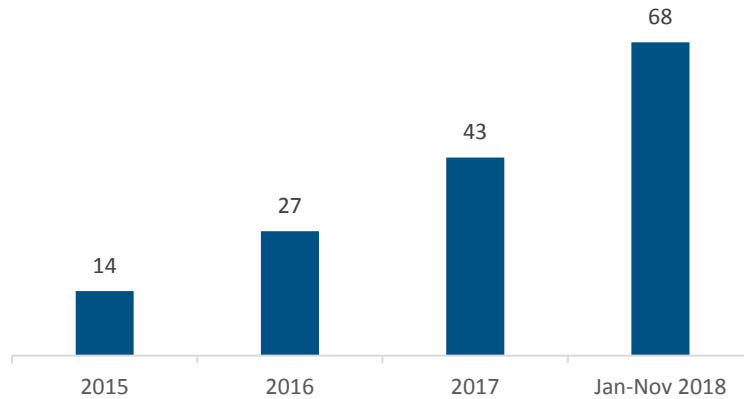
Source: Royal Bahamas Police Force.

– Costa Rica –

The current legislation on trafficking in persons in Costa Rica covers all forms of trafficking indicated in the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol.

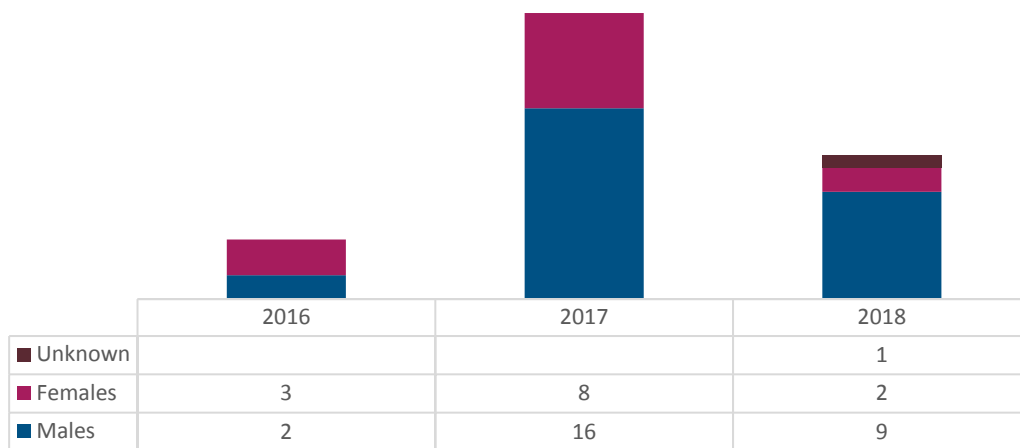
Investigations and suspects

Number of cases of trafficking in persons recorded, 2015 – November 2018



Source: Deputy Prosecutor's Office against Trafficking in Persons.

Number of persons brought into formal contact with the police and/or criminal justice system because they have been suspected of, arrested for or cautioned for trafficking in persons, by sex, 2016 – 2018**



Source: Deputy Prosecutor's Office against Trafficking in Persons.

***Formal contact with the police and/or criminal justice system may include persons suspected, arrested, or cautioned at the national level.*

In 2016, five persons were prosecuted for trafficking, nearly equally males and females, with one male being convicted. The next year, 24 persons were prosecuted, of these 16 were males, with 10 total convicted. In 2018, 60 persons were prosecuted and nine convicted. Of these, six were females. In 2017 and 2018, all persons convicted were either nationals of Costa Rica or citizens of other Central American countries.

Source: Deputy Prosecutor's Office against Trafficking in Persons.

Victims

In 2016, five adult female victims of trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation were detected. In 2017, a total of 60 victims were identified – 23 girls, 30 women, and seven men. Of those victims detected in 2017, 53 were trafficked for sexual exploitation, 14 for organ removal, seven for a mix of forced labour and sexual exploitation, and two for illegal adoption.

In 2018, 21 victims were identified – 13 children, including 11 girls, and eight adults, equally split between men and women. Of these, the majority were trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation with one victim trafficked for organ removal and five for a mix of forced labour and sexual exploitation. Most victims were nationals of Costa Rica or other Central or South American countries with one victim originating from East Asia. In 2018, ten nationals of Costa Rica were trafficked domestically.

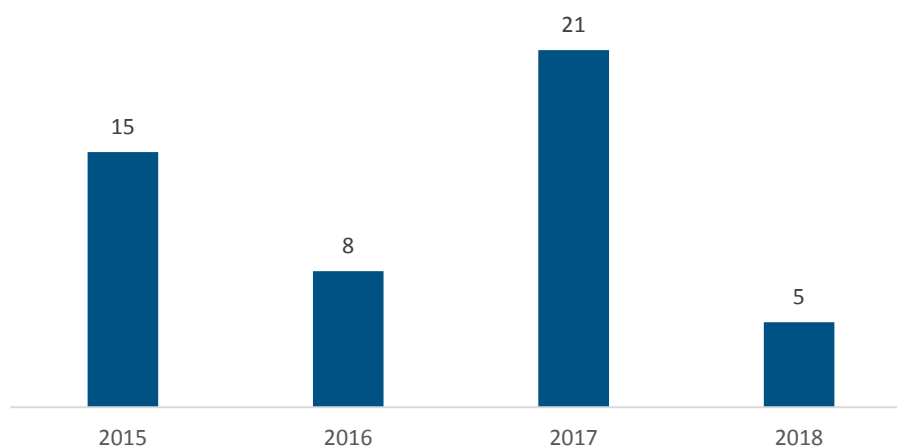
Source: Deputy Prosecutor's Office against Trafficking in Persons.

– Dominican Republic –

The current legislation on trafficking in persons in the Dominican Republic covers all forms of trafficking indicated in the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol.

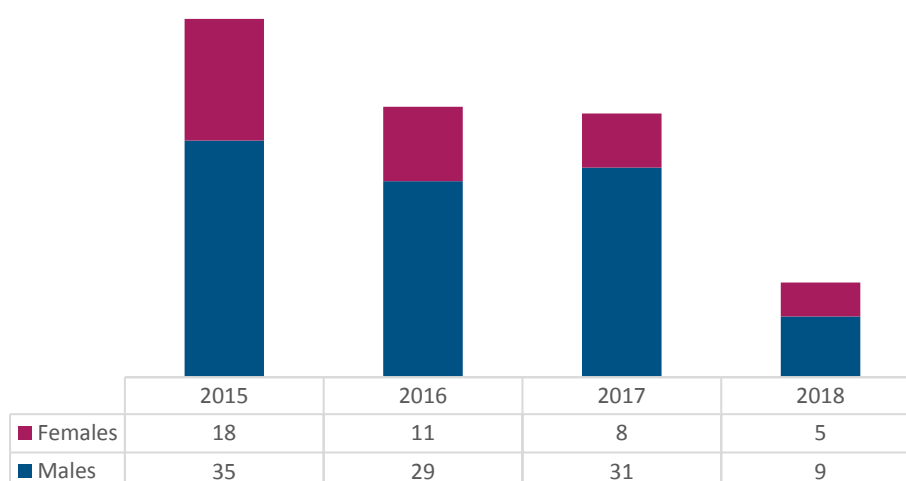
Investigations and suspects

Number of cases of trafficking in persons recorded, 2015 – 2018



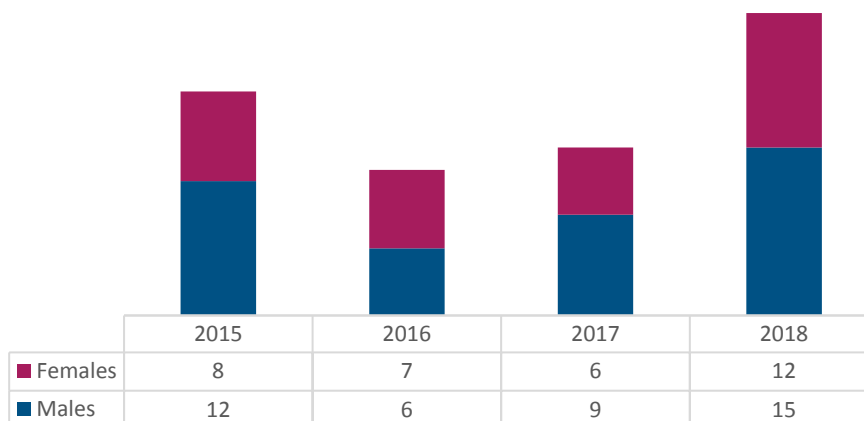
Source: Annual Report of the Special Prosecutor's Office against the Illicit Trafficking of Migrants and Trafficking in Persons, Report of the Government of the Dominican Republic, 2017 and 2018.

Number of persons prosecuted for trafficking in persons, by sex, 2015 – 2018



Source: Annual Report of the Special Prosecutor's Office against the Illicit Trafficking of Migrants and Trafficking in Persons, Report of the Government of the Dominican Republic, 2017 and 2018.

Number of persons convicted of trafficking in persons, by sex, 2015 – 2018



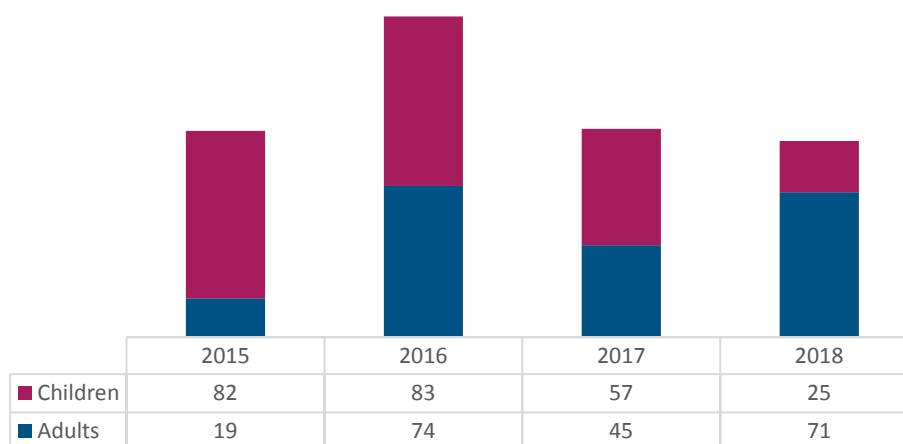
Source: Annual Report of the Special Prosecutor's Office against the Illicit Trafficking of Migrants and Trafficking in Persons, Report of the Government of the Dominican Republic, 2017 and 2018.

In 2017 and 2018, the majority of persons convicted of trafficking in persons were nationals of the Dominican Republic. In the same period, five were from North America and three were from Western Europe. The charge of child pornography was also sought or secured in conjunction with the crime of trafficking in persons.

Source: Report of the Government of the Dominican Republic, 2017 and 2018.

Victims

Number of victims of trafficking in persons detected, by age, 2015 – 2018

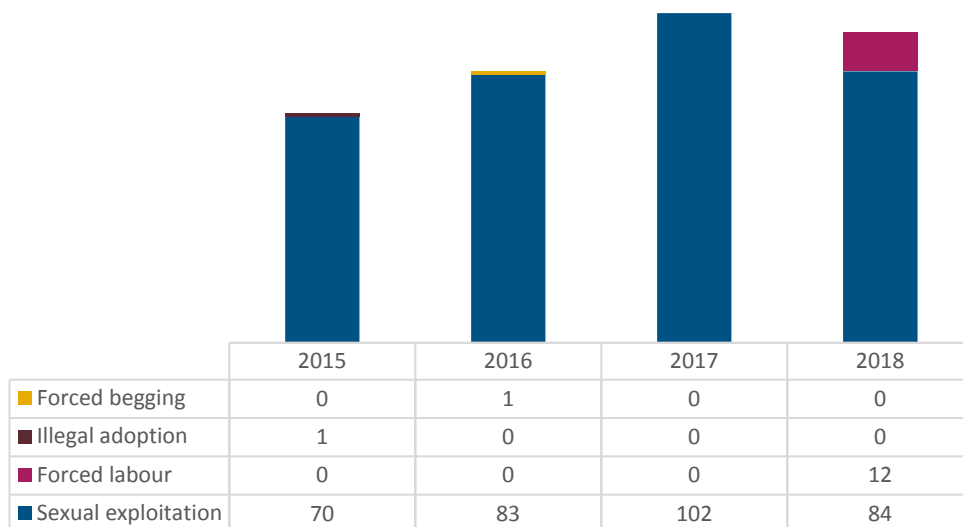


Source: Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs, Report of the Government of the Dominican Republic, 2017 and 2018.

The majority of victims detected by national authorities in the indicated period were females, both women and girls. More girls than women were identified in 2017 and in 2018, more women were identified. In 2017, 13 boys were identified as victims of trafficking in persons, though no man was identified in the period considered. In 2017 and 2018, the majority of victims were nationals of the Dominican Republic with a smaller number originating from South America and other unknown countries.

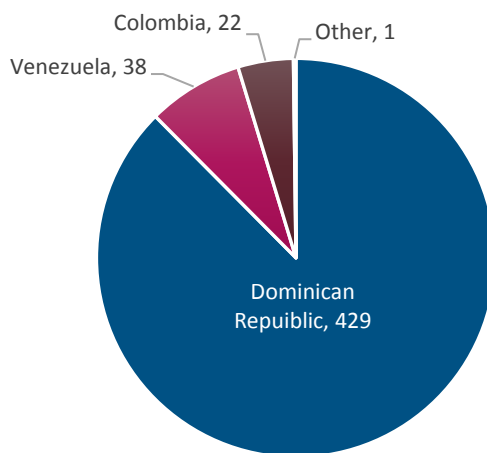
Source: Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs, Report of the Government of the Dominican Republic, 2017 and 2018.

Number of victims of trafficking in persons detected, by form of exploitation, 2015 – 2018



Source: Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs, Report of the Government of the Dominican Republic, 2017 and 2018.

Citizenships of persons identified as victims of trafficking in persons by state authorities, 2014 – September 2017



Source: Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs.

The majority of citizens of the Dominican Republic who were identified as victims of trafficking in persons in 2017 and 2018 were trafficked domestically, with a small number of persons reported as repatriated from countries in the Caribbean, Central America, West Africa, and the Middle East.

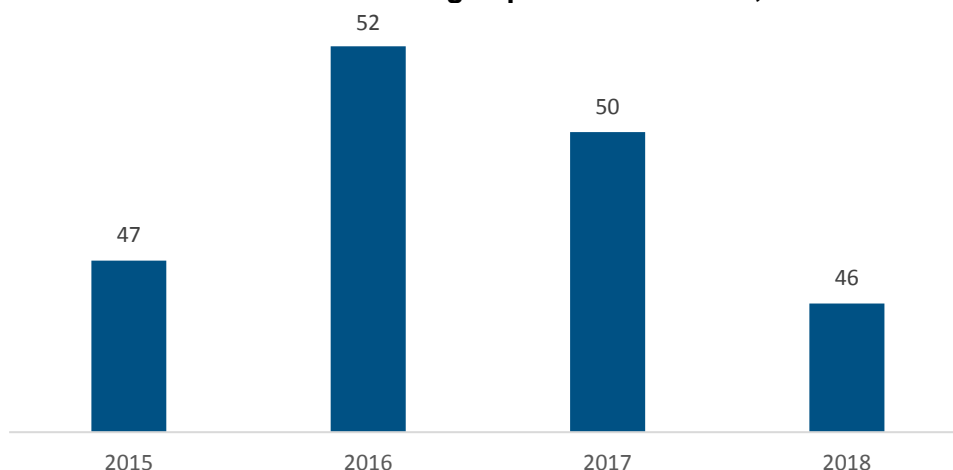
Source: Report of the Government of the Dominican Republic, 2017 and 2018.

– El Salvador –

The current legislation on trafficking in persons in El Salvador covers all forms of trafficking indicated in the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol.

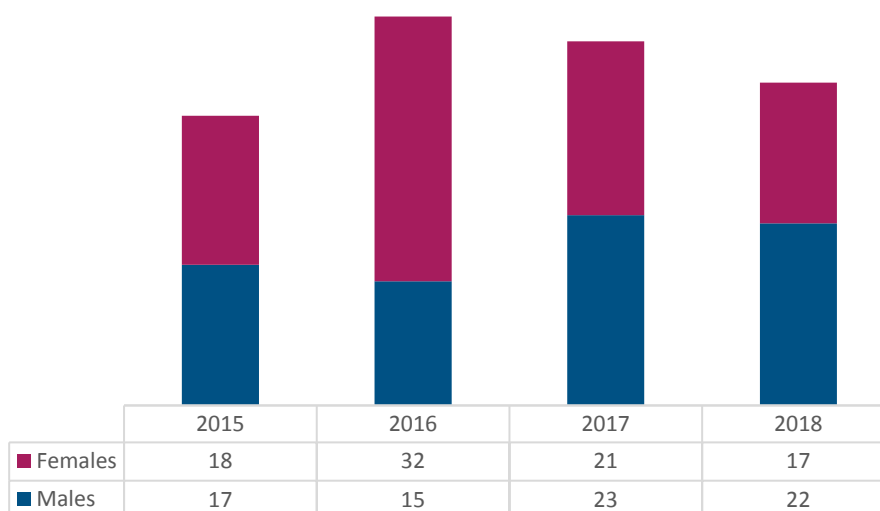
Investigations and suspects

Number of cases of trafficking in persons recorded, 2015 – 2018



Source: Unidad Fiscal Especializada Delitos Tráfico Ilegal y Trata de personas de la Fiscalía General de la República, Informe Único de Gestión Mensual CNJ - CSJ (Juzgados de Paz y Menores) y Base de Datos de la Unidad Especializada Contra la Trata de Personas y Delitos Conexos de la Policía Nacional Civil.

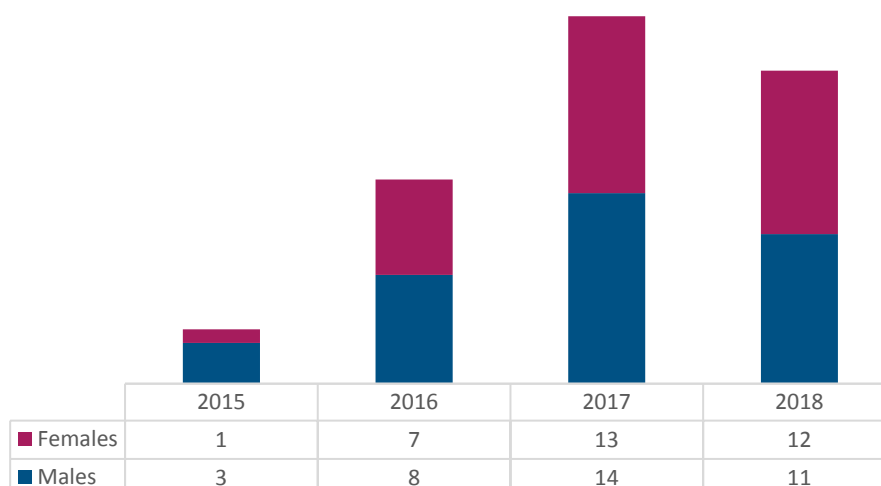
Number of persons brought into formal contact with the police and/or criminal justice system because they have been suspected of, arrested for or cautioned for trafficking in persons, by sex, 2015 – 2018**



Source: Unidad Fiscal Especializada Delitos Tráfico Ilegal y Trata de personas de la Fiscalía General de la República, Informe Único de Gestión Mensual CNJ - CSJ (Juzgados de Paz y Menores) y Base de Datos de la Unidad Especializada Contra la Trata de Personas y Delitos Conexos de la Policía Nacional Civil.

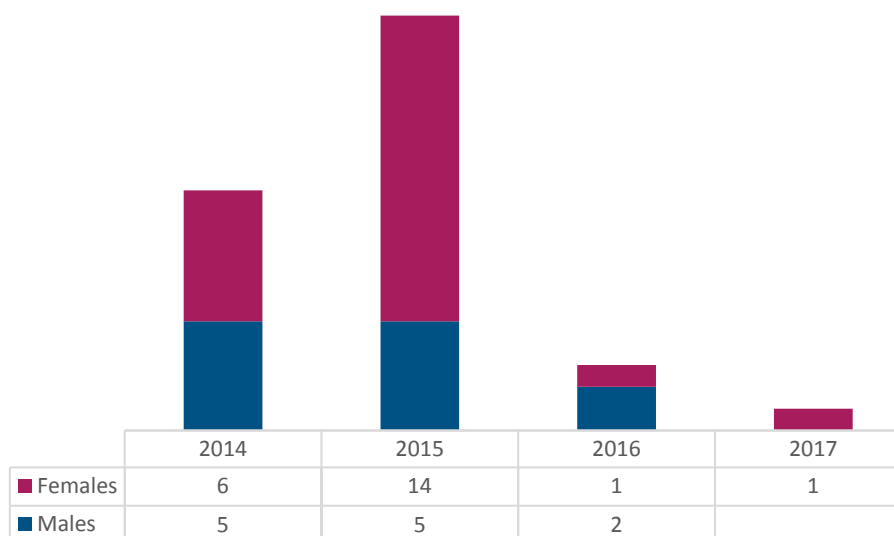
**Formal contact with the police and/or criminal justice system may include persons suspected, arrested, or cautioned at the national level.

Number of persons prosecuted for trafficking in persons, by sex, 2015 – 2018



Source: Unidad Fiscal Especializada Delitos Tráfico Ilegal y Trata de personas de la Fiscalía General de la República, Informe Único de Gestión Mensual CNJ-CSJ (Juzgados de Paz y Menores).

Number of persons convicted of trafficking in persons, by sex, 2014 – 2017



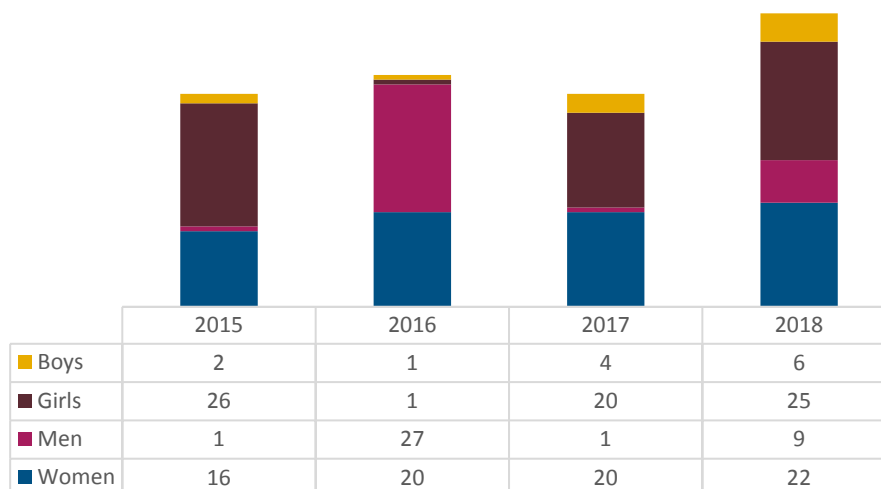
Source: Unidad Fiscal Especializada Delitos Tráfico Ilegal y Trata de personas de la Fiscalía General de la República.

Most of the persons convicted between 2014 and 2017 was from El Salvador, with few remaining offenders originating from other countries in Central America.

Source: Unidad Fiscal Especializada Delitos Tráfico Ilegal y Trata de Personas de la Fiscalía General de la República.

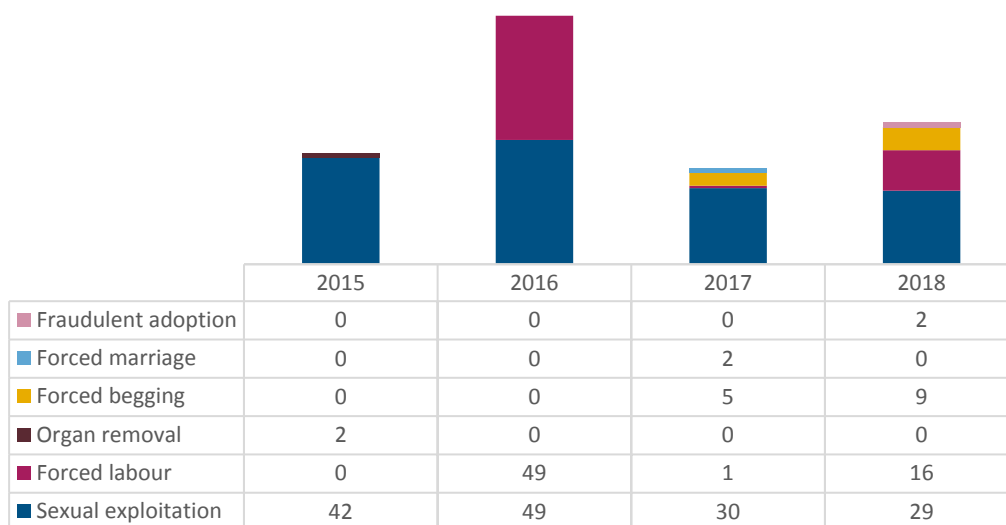
Victims

Number of victims of trafficking in persons detected, by age and sex, 2014 – 2017



Source: Unidad Fiscal Especializada Delitos Tráfico Ilegal y Trata de Personas de la Fiscalía General de la República, Informe Único de Gestión Mensual CNJ - CSJ (Juzgados de Paz y Menores) y Base de Datos de la Unidad Especializada Contra la Trata de Personas y Delitos Conexos de la Policía Nacional Civil.

Number of victims of trafficking in persons detected, by form of exploitation, 2015 – 2018



Source: Unidad Fiscal Especializada Delitos Tráfico Ilegal y Trata de Personas de la Fiscalía General de la República, Informe Único de Gestión Mensual CNJ - CSJ (Juzgados de Paz y Menores) y Base de Datos de la Unidad Especializada Contra la Trata de Personas y Delitos Conexos de la Policía Nacional Civil.

The majority of victims detected between 2015 and 2018 were nationals of El Salvador. In 2017 and 2018, six victims were nationals of other Central American countries, while the remaining originated from East Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. The majority of Salvadoran nationals were trafficked domestically. Those trafficked internationally were repatriated mostly from other Central American countries, with others repatriated from North America and Western Europe.

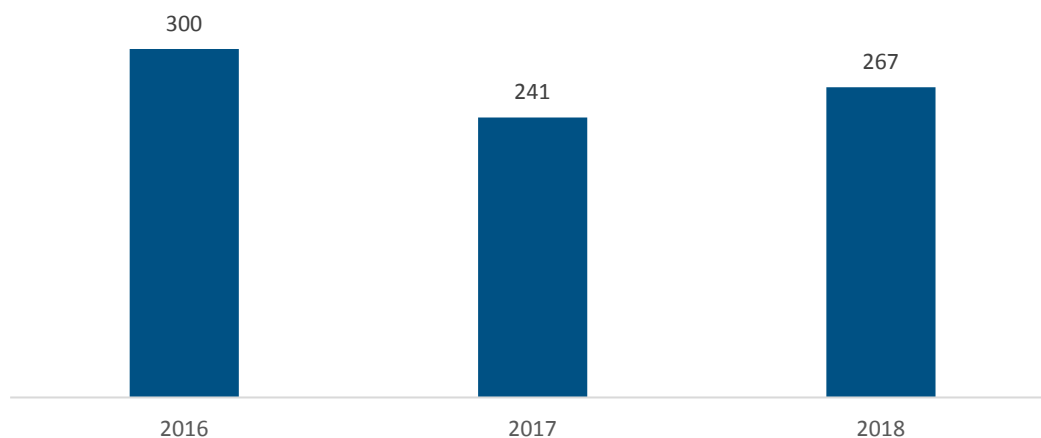
Source: Unidad Fiscal Especializada Delitos Tráfico Ilegal y Trata de Personas de la Fiscalía General de la República, Base de Datos de la Unidad Especializada Contra la Trata de Personas y Delitos Conexos de la Policía Nacional Civil.

– Guatemala –

The current legislation on trafficking in persons in Guatemala covers all forms of trafficking indicated in the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol. The Criminal Code criminalises trafficking in persons under Article 202 Ter.

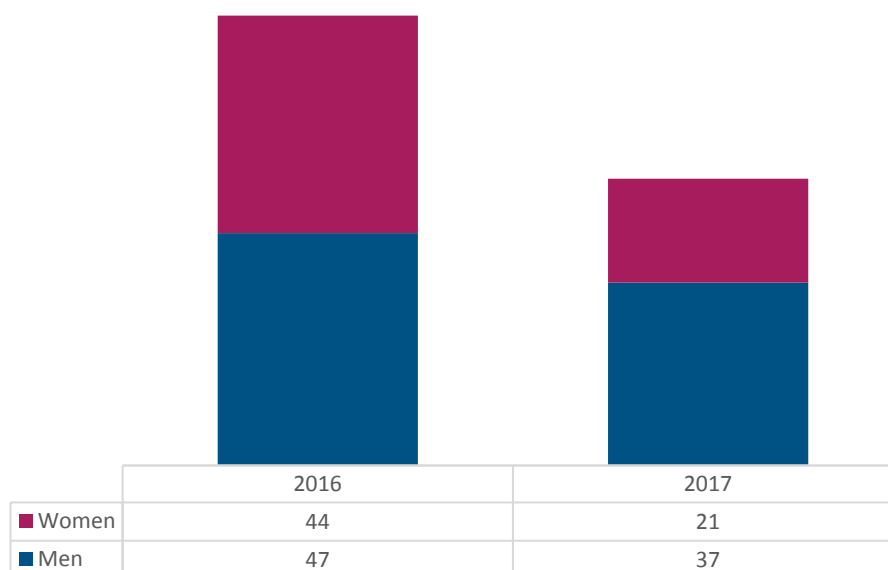
Investigations and suspects

Number of cases of trafficking in persons recorded, 2016 – 2018



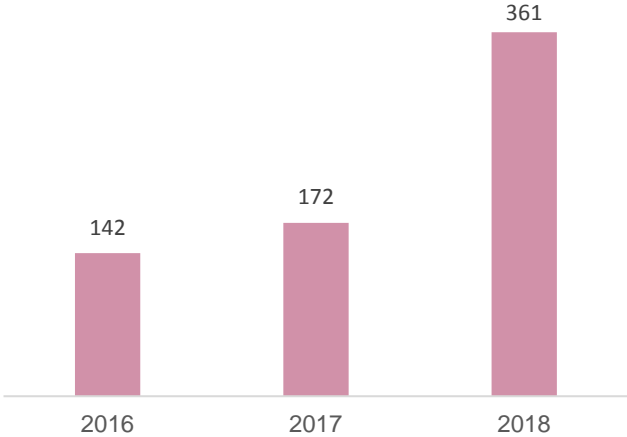
Source: Ministerio Público.

Number of persons brought into formal contact with the police and/or criminal justice system because they have been suspected of, arrested for or cautioned for trafficking in persons, by age and sex, 2016 – 2017



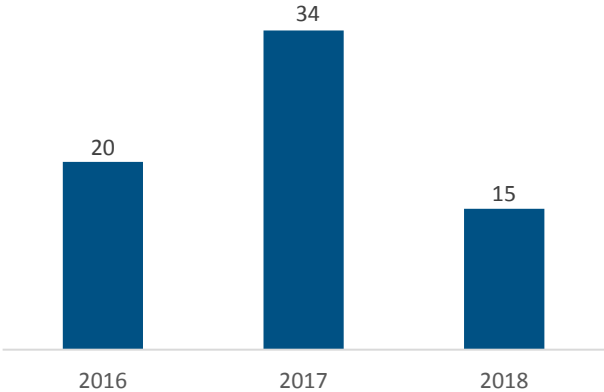
Source: Sección contra la Trata de Personas de la PNC y Ministerio Público.

Number of persons prosecuted for trafficking in persons, 2016 – 2018



Source: Ministerio Público.

Number of persons convicted of trafficking in persons, 2016 – 2018



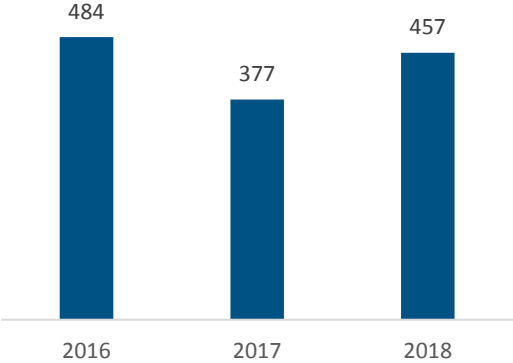
Source: Organismo Judicial y Ministerio Público.

In 2017, all offenders were convicted of trafficking in persons for the purpose of sexual exploitation. In 2018, four persons were convicted of trafficking in persons for the purpose of sexual exploitation and two for the purpose of forced labour. All persons convicted of trafficking in persons between 2017 and 2018 were nationals of Guatemala.

Source: Organismo Judicial y Ministerio Público.

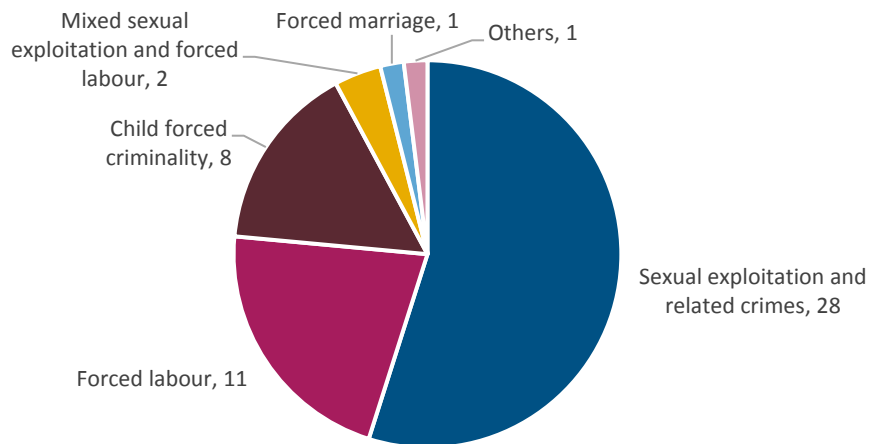
Victims

Number of victims of trafficking in persons detected, 2016 – 2018



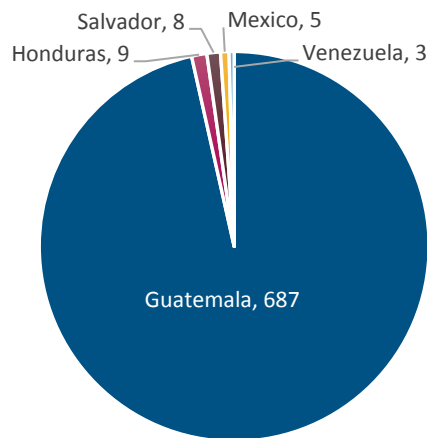
Source: Ministerio Público.

Number of victims of trafficking in persons detected, by form of exploitation, 2018



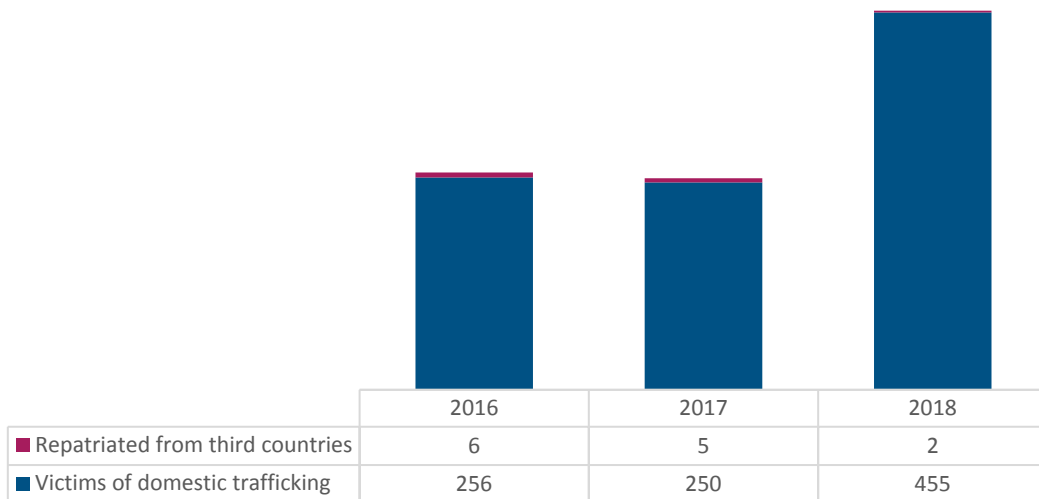
Source: Ministerio Público.

Citizenships of persons identified as victims of trafficking in persons by state authorities, 2016 – 2017



Source: Ministerio Público.

Number of nationals of Guatemala identified as victims of trafficking, by type, 2016 – 2018



– Honduras –

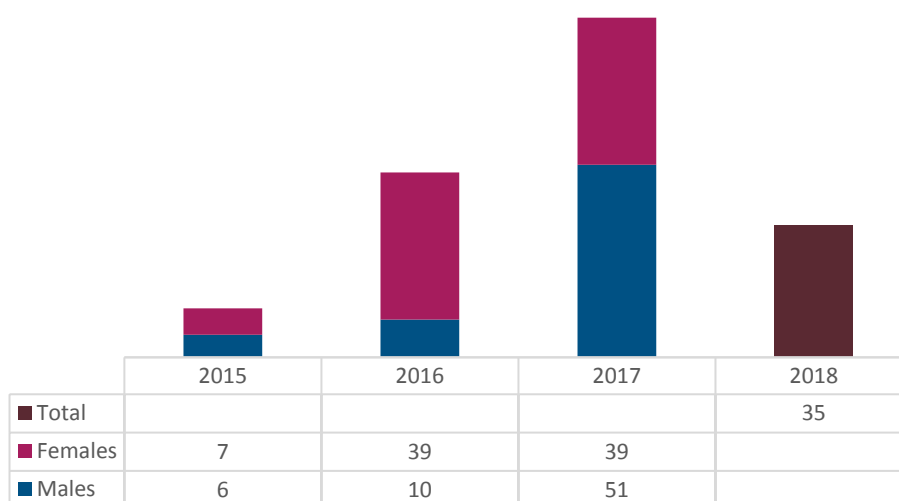
The current legislation on trafficking in persons in Honduras covers all forms of trafficking indicated in the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol.

Investigations and suspects

In 2015 and 2016, eight cases of trafficking in persons were recorded, respectively. In 2017, 17 cases were recorded and in 2018, 31 cases were recorded.

Source: Public Ministry, Inter-institutional Commission Against Commercial Exploitation and Trafficking in Persons (CICESCT).

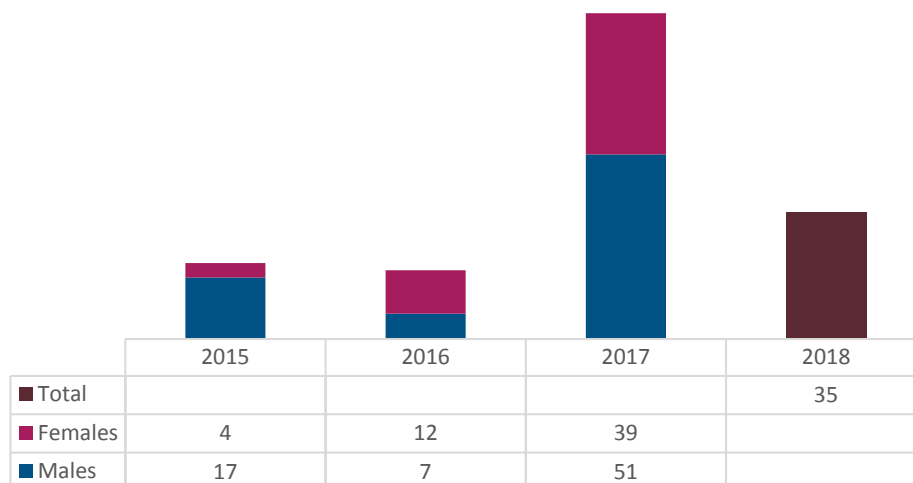
Number of persons brought into formal contact with the police and/or criminal justice system because they have been suspected of, arrested for or cautioned for trafficking in persons, by sex, 2015 – 2018**



Source: Public Ministry.

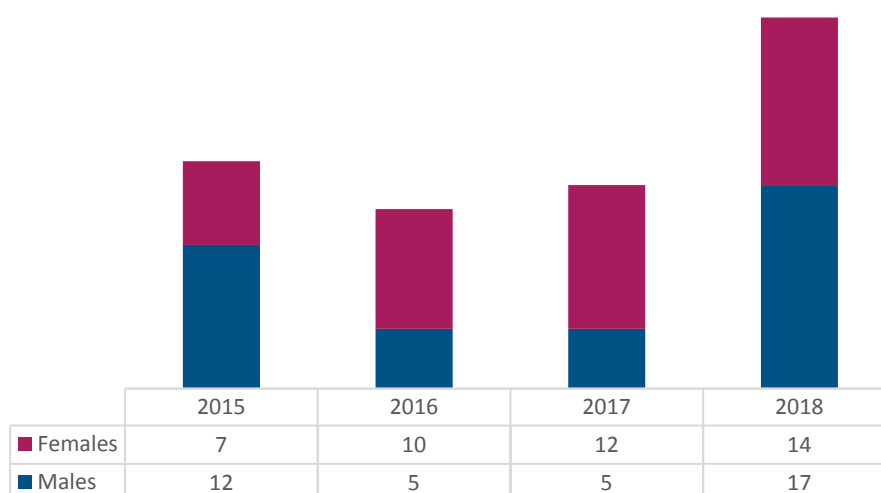
***Formal contact with the police and/or criminal justice system may include persons suspected, arrested, or cautioned at the national level.*

Number of persons prosecuted for trafficking in persons, by sex, 2015 – 2018



Source: Public Ministry.

Number of persons convicted of trafficking in persons, by sex, 2015 – 2018



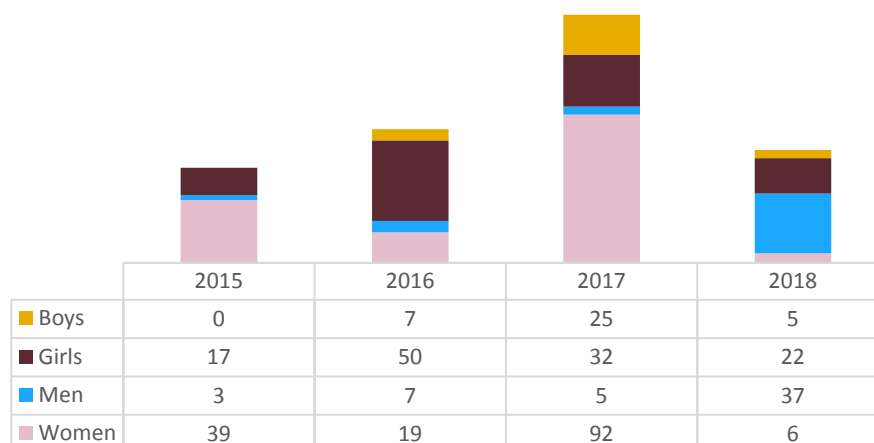
Source: Public Ministry.

In the period considered, the majority of persons convicted of trafficking in persons in the indicated period were Honduran nationals. A small number were citizens of other Central American countries.

Source: Public Ministry.

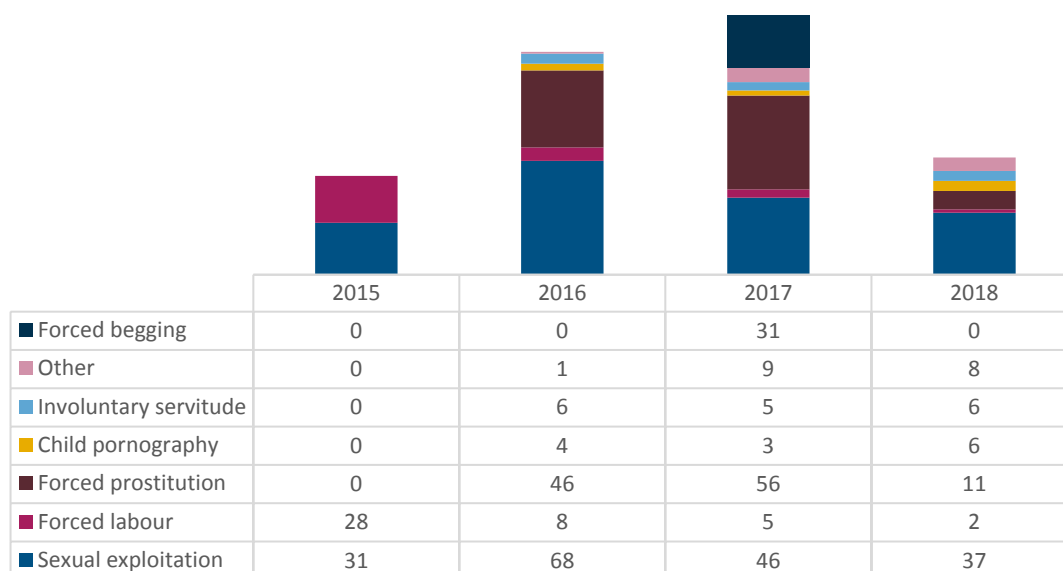
Victims

Number of victims of trafficking in persons detected, by age and sex, 2015 – 2018



Source: Public Ministry, Inter-institutional Commission Against Commercial Exploitation and Trafficking in Persons (CICESCT).

Number of victims of trafficking in persons detected, by form of exploitation, 2015 – 2018



Source: Public Ministry, Inter-institutional Commission Against Commercial Exploitation and Trafficking in Persons (CICESCT).

The majority of identified victims of trafficking in persons in the indicated period were citizens of Honduras. Others were from other Central American countries.

Source: Public Ministry, Inter-institutional Commission Against Commercial Exploitation and Trafficking in Persons (CICESCT).

Between 2016 and 2018, the majority of Honduran nationals were trafficked domestically. However, in 2015, slightly more Honduran nationals were trafficked internationally. Of those trafficked internationally, the majority were repatriated from Mexico. A smaller number were repatriated from other Central and South American countries, with others repatriated from Western Europe.

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Inter-institutional Commission Against Commercial Exploitation and Trafficking in Persons (CICESCT), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (SRECI).

– Nicaragua –

The current legislation on trafficking in persons in Nicaragua, the Law against Trafficking in Persons of 2015, criminalizes sex trafficking and forced labour.

Investigations and suspects

Between January 2014 and December 2017, 30 cases of trafficking in persons were recorded, investigated, and prosecuted. In 2018, 19 persons were investigated for trafficking in persons, mostly Nicaraguan nationals.

Source: International Organization for Migration.

Victims

Between January 2014 and December 2017, 73 victims of trafficking in persons were identified in Nicaragua. Most detected victims were children or women. Of those identified, 26 were trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation, one for forced labour, two for forced begging, and one for forced criminality. The majority of Nicaraguan victims were trafficked domestically. Those victims trafficked internationally were repatriated from other Central or North American countries. In 2018, 32 victims were identified, mostly adult females. The majority of victims were Nicaraguan nationals, and two originated from East Asia. Of these, 27 were trafficked for forced labour and five for sexual exploitation.

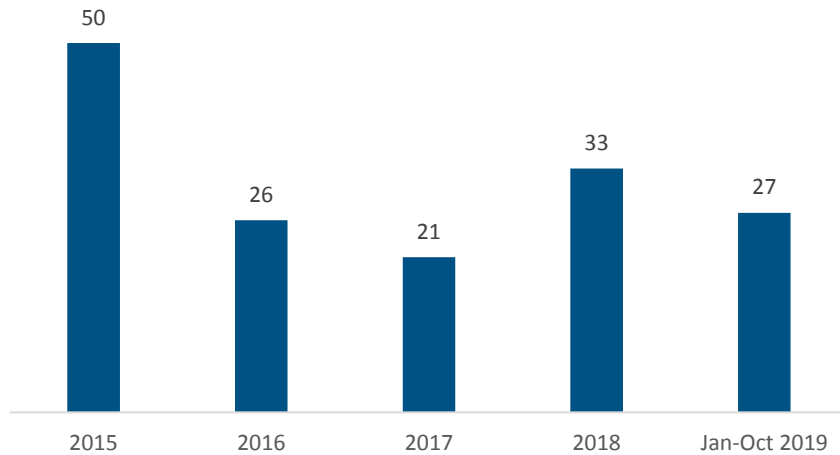
Source: International Organization for Migration.

– Panama –

The current legislation on trafficking in persons in Panama covers all forms of trafficking indicated in the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol.

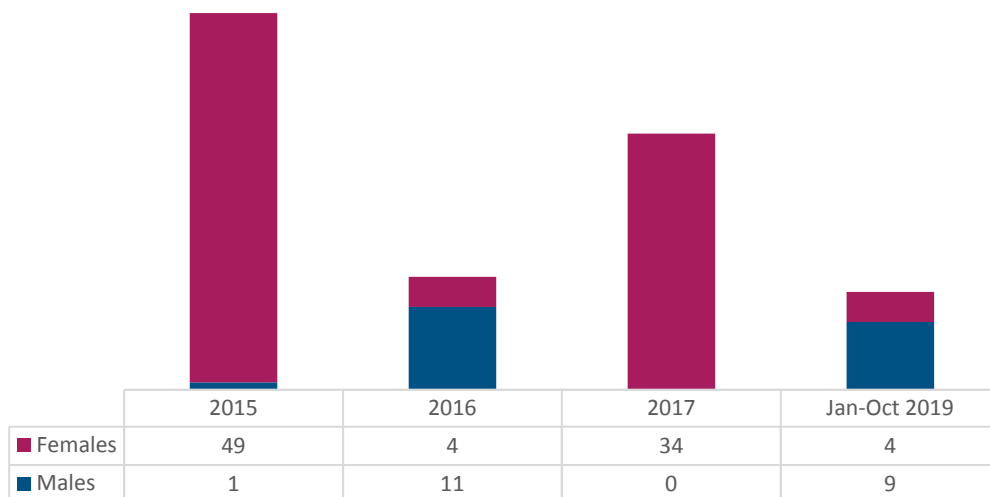
Investigations and suspects

Number of cases of trafficking in persons recorded, 2015 – October 2019



Source: First Specialized Attorney's Office Against Organised Crime, Family Prosecutor's Office, Public Ministry, Police Information Directorate – Foreign Affairs and Immigration Section, and National Police of Panama.

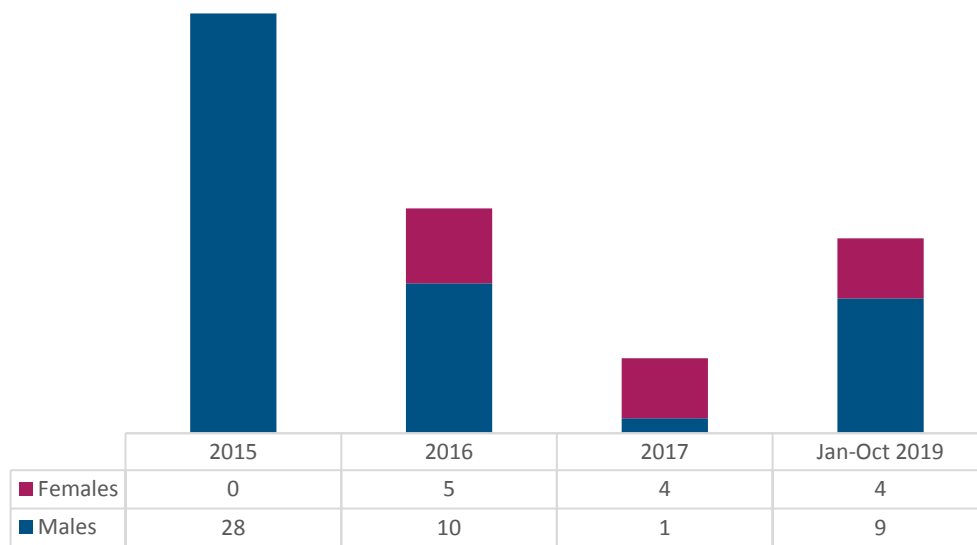
Number of persons brought into formal contact with the police and/or criminal justice system because they have been suspected of, arrested for or cautioned for trafficking in persons, by sex, 2015 – October 2019**



Source: First Specialized Attorney's Office Against Organised Crime, Family Prosecutor's Office, Public Ministry, Police Information Directorate – Foreign Affairs and Immigration Section, and National Police of Panama.

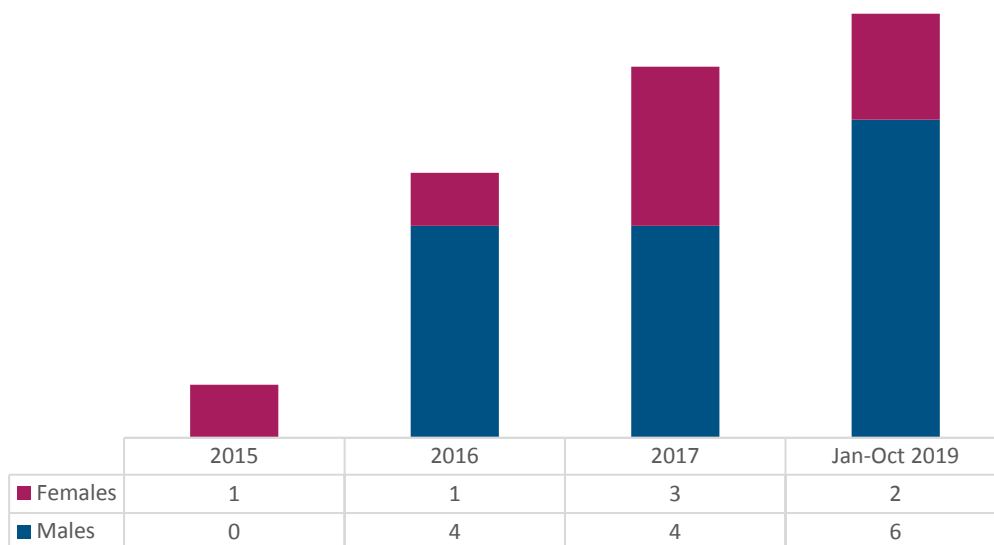
**Formal contact with the police and/or criminal justice system may include persons suspected, arrested, or cautioned at the national level.

Number of persons prosecuted for trafficking in persons, by sex, 2015 – October 2019



Source: First Specialized Attorney's Office Against Organised Crime.

Number of persons convicted of trafficking in persons, by sex, 2015 – October 2019



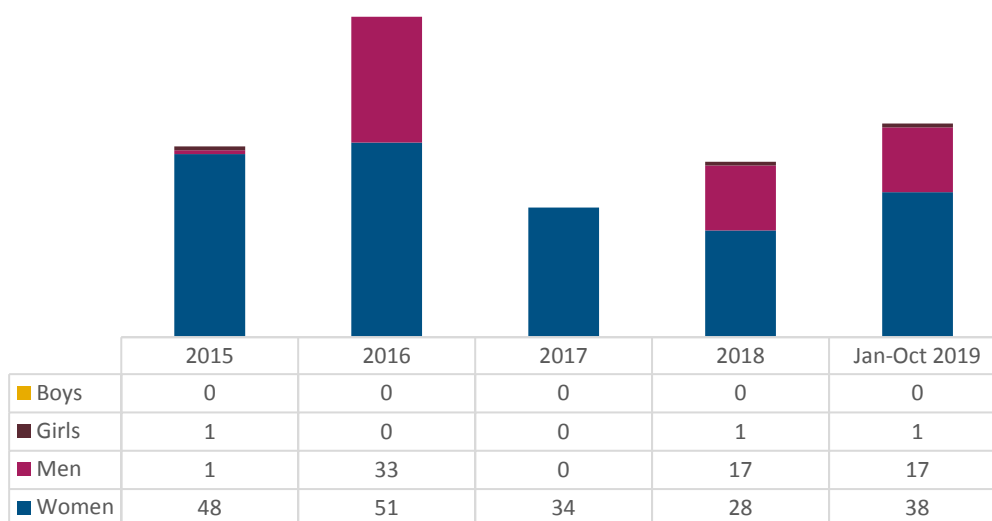
Source: First Specialized Attorney's Office Against Organised Crime.

The persons convicted of trafficking in persons between January 2014 and July 2017 were citizens of Panama, other Central American and Caribbean countries, and South American countries.

Source: Specialized Prosecutor's Office against Organised Crime.

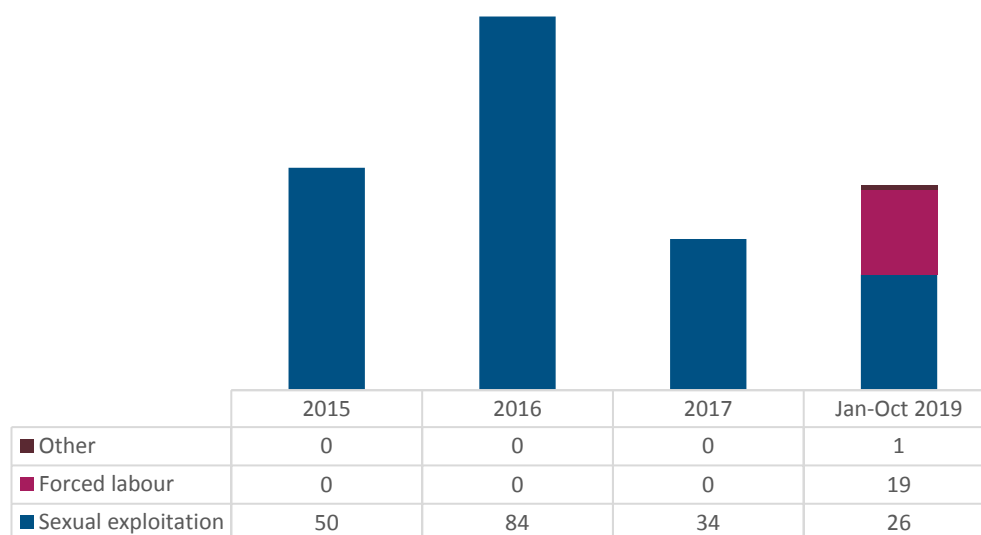
Victims

Number of victims of trafficking in persons detected, by age and sex, 2015 – October 2019



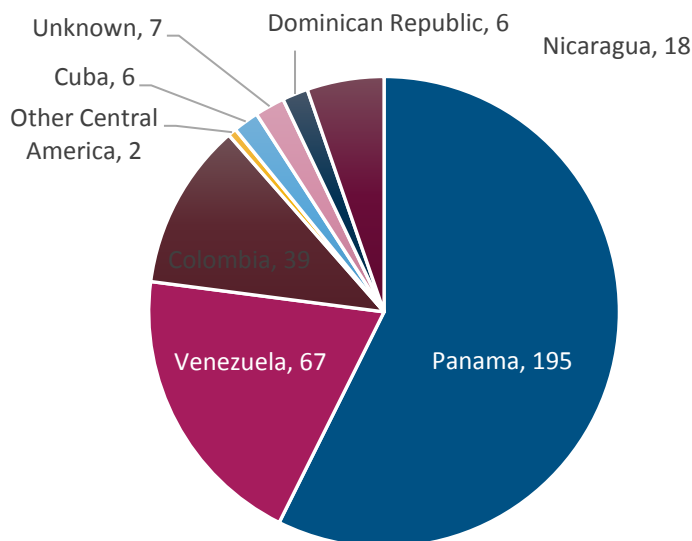
Source: First Specialized Attorney's Office Against Organised Crime, Family Prosecutor's Office, Public Ministry, Police Information Directorate – Foreign Affairs and Immigration Section, and National Police of Panama.

Number of victims of trafficking in persons detected, by form of exploitation, 2015 – October 2019



Source: First Specialized Attorney's Office Against Organised Crime, Family Prosecutor's Office, Public Ministry, Police Information Directorate – Foreign Affairs and Immigration Section, and National Police of Panama.

Citizenships of persons identified as victims of trafficking in persons by state authorities, 2014 – July 2017



Source: First Specialized Attorney's Office Against Organised Crime, Family Prosecutor's Office, Public Ministry, Police Information Directorate – Foreign Affairs and Immigration Section, and National Police of Panama.

Between January and October 2019, 28 identified victims were citizens of Colombia and 13 were from Venezuela. A smaller number were nationals of Panama, other Central American countries, the Caribbean, and East Asia.

Source: First Specialized Attorney's Office Against Organised Crime.

Between 2014 and 2017, the majority of identified victims of trafficking in persons who were citizens of Panama were trafficked domestically.

Source: Family Prosecutor's Office, Public Ministry, Police Information Directorate – Foreign Affairs and Immigration Section, and National Police of Panama.

– The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago –

The current legislation on trafficking in persons in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago covers all forms of trafficking indicated in the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol.

Investigations and victims

In the period of April 2017 to March 2018, there were 42 ongoing investigations of Trafficking in Persons. There were seven charges of which three were with reference to the Trafficking in Persons Act, and four were in relation to other sexual offences. In the period, 16 victims of trafficking in persons were identified of which 13 Venezuelans, one Bolivian, and two Trinidad and Tobago nationals.

Source: Permanent Mission of the republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the Office of the United Nations, Vienna.