

EXHIBIT T

[U.S.](#) [Ukraine Peace Plan](#) [Thanksgiving Travel](#) [World](#) [Politics](#) [HealthWatch](#) [MoneyWatch](#) [Entertainment](#) [Crime](#) [Sports](#)

New report details government's efforts to prosecute human trafficking
(06:30)

[U.S.](#)

Over half of online recruitment in active sex trafficking cases last year occurred on Facebook, report says

By Elizabeth Elkind

Updated on: June 10, 2021 / 10:57 AM EDT / CBS News

Add CBS News on Google

The majority of online recruitment in active sex trafficking cases in the U.S. last year took place on Facebook, according to the Human Trafficking Institute's [2020 Federal Human Trafficking Report](#).

"The internet has become the dominant tool that traffickers use to recruit victims, and they often recruit them on a number of very common social networking websites," Human Trafficking Institute CEO Victor Boutros said on CBSN Wednesday. "[Facebook](#) overwhelmingly is used by traffickers to recruit victims in active sex trafficking cases."



ADVERTISEMENT

Active cases include those in which defendants were charged in 2020, as well as those in which defendants were charged in previous years and charges were still pending in trial last year or the case was on appeal.

Data from the last two decades included in the human trafficking report showed that 30% of all victims identified in federal [sex trafficking](#) cases since 2000 were recruited online.

In 2020 in the U.S., 59% of online recruitment of identified victims in active cases took place on Facebook alone. The report also states that 65% of identified child sex trafficking victims recruited on social media were recruited through Facebook.

AD



Continue watching

Latest from White House as U.S., Ukraine iron out peace proposal
after the ad

The tech giant responded to the report's findings in a statement to CBS News: "Sex trafficking and child exploitation are abhorrent and we don't allow them on Facebook. We have policies and technology to prevent these types of abuses and take down any content that violates our rules."

"We also work with safety groups, anti-trafficking organizations and other technology companies to address this and we report all apparent instances of child sexual exploitation to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children," the statement said.

Instagram and Snapchat were the most frequently cited platforms after Facebook for recruiting child victims in 2020. For adult victims, the next-most cited were WeChat and Instagram.

The annual report uses data from every active federal criminal and civil human trafficking case over the last year, but 2020's featured an expanded scope.

"This report actually looks at the last 20 years of trends in the federal government," Boutros said.

The report revealed that children accounted for 53% of identified victims in active criminal human trafficking cases in 2020, and women made up a large majority. Forty-four percent of victims of sex trafficking were women, and half were girls.

While the internet has been the most common place of recruitment since 2013, including 41% of active cases in 2020, the street, stores and cults were also cited by the group as targets of human traffickers.

Researchers note that trends also reflect the DOJ's methods of tracking down cases.

"These data do not reflect the prevalence of online solicitation in sex trafficking schemes beyond those federally prosecuted. To be sure, the internet is implicated in many sex trafficking situations, but the high numbers of federal prosecutions involving internet solicitation are equally if not more reflective of the strategies law enforcement use to investigate these crimes," the report states.

The majority of victims in active sex trafficking cases in 2020 were targeted with a fraudulent job offer, the report notes, followed by feigned romance. The data is based on the 602 victims identified in active sex trafficking cases for whom details of their recruitment were known.

"Traffickers often prey on existing vulnerabilities of victims," Boutros said. "A lot of times we imagine that traffickers are these large group syndicates or networks, exploiting a huge number of victims. But actually most traffickers are not operating as an organized crime enterprise. It is mostly individual traffickers that are operating individually and often exploiting a small handful of victims at a time."

Editor's Note: This story has been updated to correct a statistic on child victims.

More from CBS News

📺 CBS POLITICS

Vance to celebrate early Thanksgiving with troops at Fort Campbell



📺 CBS CRIME

9 tigers seized monthly as trafficking crisis worsens, report says



📺 CBS BALTIMORE

9 men indicted after takedown of Maryland, Texas drug trafficking scheme



📺 CBS COLORADO

Colorado Springs Planned Parenthood shooting suspect dies in prison



In: [Sex Trafficking](#)

© 2021 CBS Interactive Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Why Gen X is the real loser generation

PAID THE ECONOMIST

Read Now

Your partnership is needed in Haiti.

Support now to ensure Haitian heroes have the resources they need.

PAID PARTNERS IN HEALTH

Donate now

What Big Wireless isn't telling you about that "phone on us."

PAID CONSUMER CELLULAR

America's huge mortgage market is slowly dying

PAID THE ECONOMIST[Read Now](#)

Seniors Born 1939-1969 Receive 11 Benefits This Month If They Ask

PAID SUPER SAVINGS[Watch More](#)

How Much Does This Leaf-Free Gutter System Cost?

PAID HOMEBUDDY[Click Here](#)

Tirzepatide Wins For Weight Loss - Only \$119/Month

PAID FUTURHEALTH

If You're Collecting Under \$3,950 in SS a Month: You're Eligible For These 10 Discounts

PAID SUPER SAVINGS[Watch More](#)

Thousand Are Applying For This Loan-Free Debt Relief (See If You Qualify)

PAID FORBES[Learn More](#)

Side Sleepers Get Achy Shoulders, Few Know This "Side Sleeper" Trick

PAID SLEEP DIGEST PUBLICATION

The One Food Making Your Memory Worse, And You Eat It Daily

PAID MEMORY HEALTH[Learn More](#)

Wireless Secrets Exposed

PAID CONSUMER CELLULAR

Sponsored

The Sciatica Relief Breakthrough Everyone's Talking About in Washington

PAID SMOOTHSPINE

[Learn More](#)

Declining Memory Has Been Linked To a Common Habit. Do You Do It?

[PAID](#) HEALTHFRONTLINE.ORG

[Learn More](#)

Chuck Norris: This Food Is Like A Powerwash For Your Gut

[PAID](#) ROUNDHOUSE PROVISIONS

The Hidden Black Friday Trick Every Prime Me

[PAID](#) COUPON CODE FINDER

Here Are 29 of the Coolest Gifts for This 2025

1975 - 2025: Junie's Retiring and Her Bags are Up

If Your Dog Licks Its Paws, Stop Feeding Them 7

[PAID](#) ULTIMATE PET NUTRITION

God's people need you

Tara Reid hospitalized, claims she was drugged

CBS NEWS

Viola Ford Fletcher dies at age 111

CBS NEWS

Born from One Woman's Dream: Her Final Italian Leather Collection is Up To 50% Off

[PAID](#) JUNIE BOUTIQUE

[Learn More](#)

Men Can't Get Enough of This Cozy Polo Shirt

[PAID](#) WALKERGREY

[Shop Now](#)

If You Urinate a Lot at Night, Do This Before Bed - It Works for the Prostate!

[PAID](#) HEALTHNECTARLAB

[Learn More](#)

Trade with Powerful Tools

[PAID](#) TRADESTATION

[Learn More](#)

Washington Launches New Policy For "Senior Drivers"

[PAID](#) INSURE.COM

[Learn More](#)

If Your Dog Licks Its Paws, Stop Feeding Them This Immediately

PAID ULTIMATE PET NUTRITION

Featured

[Ukraine Peace Plan](#)

[Thanksgiving Travel](#)

[NFL Playoff Picture](#)

[Chelsea vs. Barcelona](#)

Follow Us On

[YouTube](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[X](#)

Privacy

[Privacy Policy](#)

[California Notice](#)

[Your Privacy Choices](#)

[Terms of Use](#)

More from CBS News

[Newsletters](#)

[Podcasts](#)

[Download Our App](#)

[Brand Studio](#)

[Sitemap](#)

Company

[About Paramount](#)

[Advertise With Paramount](#)

[Join Our Talent Community](#)

[Help](#)

[Feedback](#)

[Contact the Ombudsman](#)

Copyright ©2025 CBS Interactive Inc. All rights reserved.