



**CENTRAL AMERICA  
AND THE CARIBBEAN**



## – The Caribbean Islands –

This section covers the Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Haiti, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago. The current legislation on trafficking in persons in the Bahamas (adopted 2008), Barbados (in 2011), Haiti (2014), Jamaica (2007) and Trinidad and Tobago (2011) cover all forms of trafficking indicated in the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol. In Cuba, the legislation only addresses trafficking for sexual exploitation.

### *Investigations and suspects*

In the Bahamas, the first three prosecutions for trafficking in persons registered in the country were conducted in 2014. Two Jamaican women and one man from the Bahamas were suspected in two of the three cases.

Source: UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons.

In 2013, 10 cases of trafficking in persons were investigated in the Barbados. In the same year, three persons (one male and two females) were arrested and prosecuted. In 2015, six persons were arrested for trafficking; four males and two females. No convictions were recorded during the period here considered.

Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

The authorities in Cuba report that nine cases of trafficking in persons concluded with a

conviction in the year 2012. 14 persons have been convicted, 12 males and 2 females, all Cuban citizens. In the year 2013, 13 cases were concluded with convictions; 16 persons (13 males and 3 females) were convicted.

Source: Tribunal Supremo Popular/Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Cuba.

During the period March 2011-March 2012, the United Nations Mission for Stabilization in Haiti (MINUSTAH) reported 12 cases of child trafficking. During the period August 2013 – March 2014, MINUSTAH reported 5 cases of the use of children by armed gangs, 1 case of abduction, and 5 cases of child trafficking.

Source: Rapport du Secrétaire général sur la Mission des Nations Unies pour la stabilisation en Haïti.

In Jamaica, between 2012 and March 2013, three trafficking cases were suspected, seven trafficking investigations were launched, and four arrests were carried out. In one case of child trafficking, two individuals were arrested. Three additional suspected cases of trafficking have been identified since April 2013.

Source: Ministry of Justice - Jamaica.

In Trinidad and Tobago, between 2012 and July 2015, 21 cases of trafficking were investigated. During the same period, 14 persons were investigated and 13 persons (11 males and 2 females) were charged for trafficking in persons. No convictions were recorded until mid-2015.

Source: Ministry of National Security-Counter Trafficking Unit.

## *Victims*

In the Bahamas, in connection with the first cases prosecuted in the country, two Jamaican women were identified as victims of trafficking in 2014. A third woman of unknown citizenship was also identified as a victim in 2014.

Source: UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons.

In Barbados, in the year 2013, the national Police identified four women and one girl as victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation. The victims were all citizens of Guyana.

Source: Royal Barbados Police Forces.

In Cuba in 2012, 13 victims of trafficking were identified, 7 women and 6 girls. They were all Cuban citizens, and all were trafficked for sexual exploitation. In 2013, 14 victims were identified in connection with the cases that were concluded with a conviction. They were all females (7 women and 7 girls); Cuban citizens trafficked for sexual exploitation.

Source: Tribunal Supremo Popular – Cuba.

In Haiti, between 2012 and 2014, MINUSTAH reported cross-border trafficking with the Dominican Republic. MINUSTAH and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights widely reported on the phenomenon of *restavek*, Haitian children exploited as domestic servants in Haiti and abroad. Cases of illegal adoptions are also reported. From October to December 2012, MINUSTAH received reports that gangs had recruited 35 children in Cité Soleil (West Department) to carry guns, serve as lookouts, or deliver drugs.

Source: Rapports semestriel sur la situation des droits de l'homme en Haïti.

In Jamaica, between 2012 and 2013, 39 victims were rescued and assisted.

Source: National Task Force Against Trafficking in Persons - Jamaica.

In Trinidad and Tobago, between 2012 and July 2015, 23 victims of trafficking were detected. They were all adults; 20 women and three men. 16 victims were trafficked for sexual exploitation; all women. Six victims were trafficked for forced labour (3 men and 3 women) and one woman was trafficked for domestic servitude. These victims were mostly South Americans, and one from the Caribbean. The national authorities report that victims were women from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (7), Colombia (6), Guyana (6), and the Dominican Republic (4).

Source: Ministry of National Security-Counter Trafficking Unit.

## – 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*

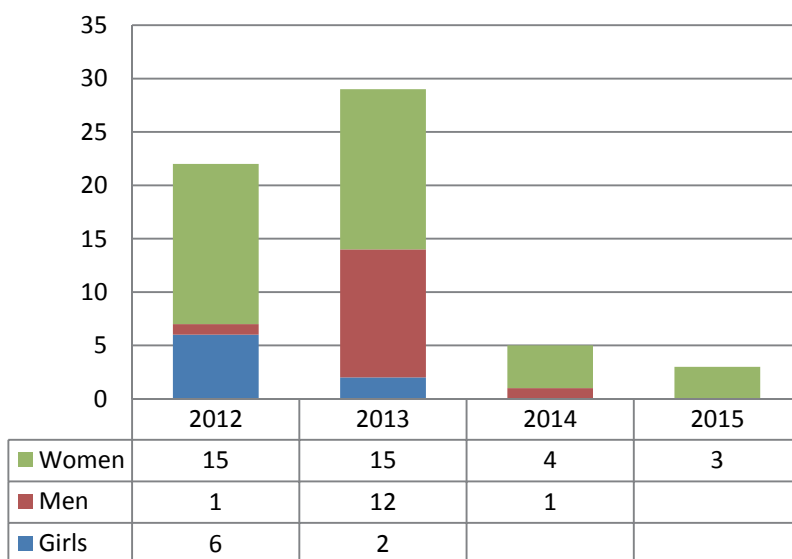
The authorities reported that 37 cases of trafficking in persons were investigated between 2012 and 2015. During years 2013-2015, 29 persons were investigated (20 males and 9 females). During the years 2014 and 2015, 24 persons were prosecuted. During the years 2013 and 2014, 15 persons (12 males and 3 females) were convicted.

The convicted offenders were citizens of Costa Rica, as well as from countries in the Caribbean, South America, and East Asia.

Source: Ministerio Público de Costa Rica.

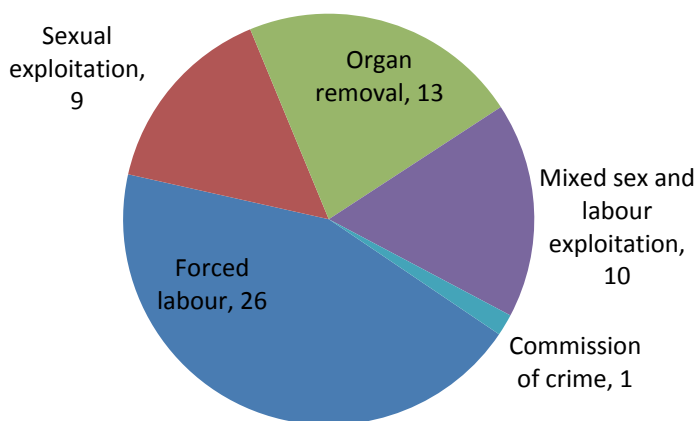
### *Victims*

#### **Detected victims of trafficking in persons, by age and gender, 2012-2015**



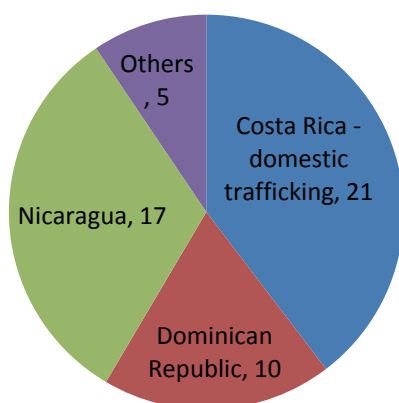
Source: Equipo de Respuesta Inmediata.

## Detected victims of trafficking in persons, by form of exploitation, 2012-2015



Source: Equipo de Respuesta Inmediata.

## Detected victims of trafficking in persons, by citizenship, 2012-2015



Source: Equipo de Respuesta Inmediata.

Among the victims detected, in 2014 two Costa Rican victims were repatriated from Western and Southern Europe, and North America.

Source: Equipo de Respuesta Inmediata.

## **– Dominican Republic –**

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

### *Investigations and suspects*

Between 2012 and September 2015, 80 cases of trafficking were recorded. During this period, 36 persons were convicted of trafficking in persons (29 Dominican citizens, 5 Haitians, and two from other countries). During the same period, 180 persons were prosecuted.

Source: Comision Interinstitutional contra la Trata de Personas y el Trafico ilicito de migrantes, CITIM – Dominican Republic.

### *Victims*

Between 2012 and September 2015, 872 victims of trafficking in persons were identified (587 children and 285 adults; 309 for sexual exploitation, 258 for begging, 31 for forced labour, 42 for illegal adoption and for the rest, the form of exploitation was not reported). About 210 victims were Dominican citizens domestically trafficked and 22 Dominicans repatriated from other countries. 61 of the victims detected were Haitians and five victims were trafficked from East Asia.

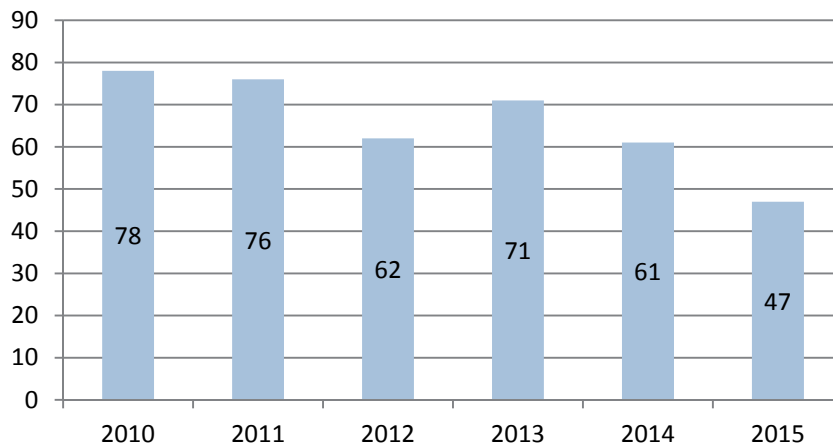
Source: Comision Interinstitutional contra la Trata de Personas y el Trafico ilicito de migrantes, CITIM – Dominican Republic.

## - 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.

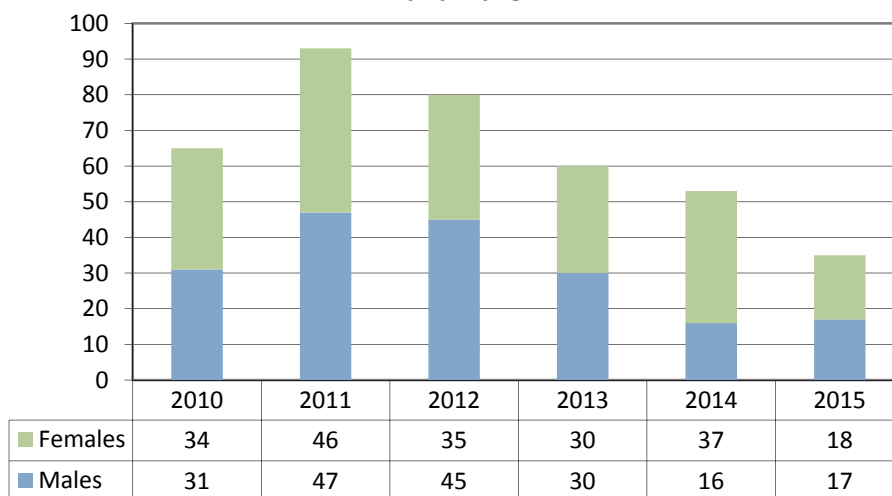
### *Investigations and suspects*

**Number of cases of trafficking in persons recorded, 2010-2015**



Source: Fiscalía General de la Republica.

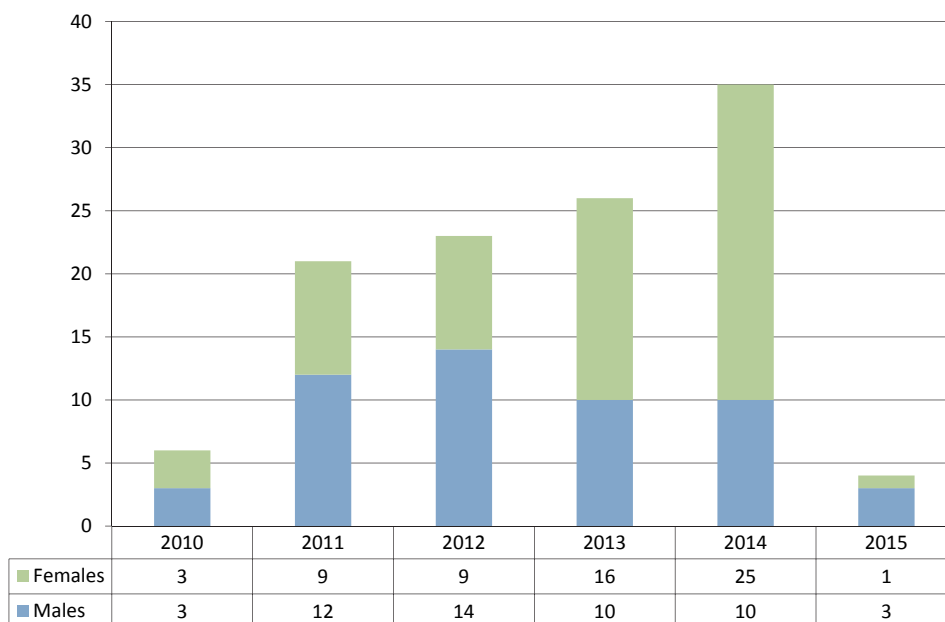
**Number of persons brought to the courts for trafficking in persons, by gender, 2010-2015**



Source: Fiscalía General de la Republica.

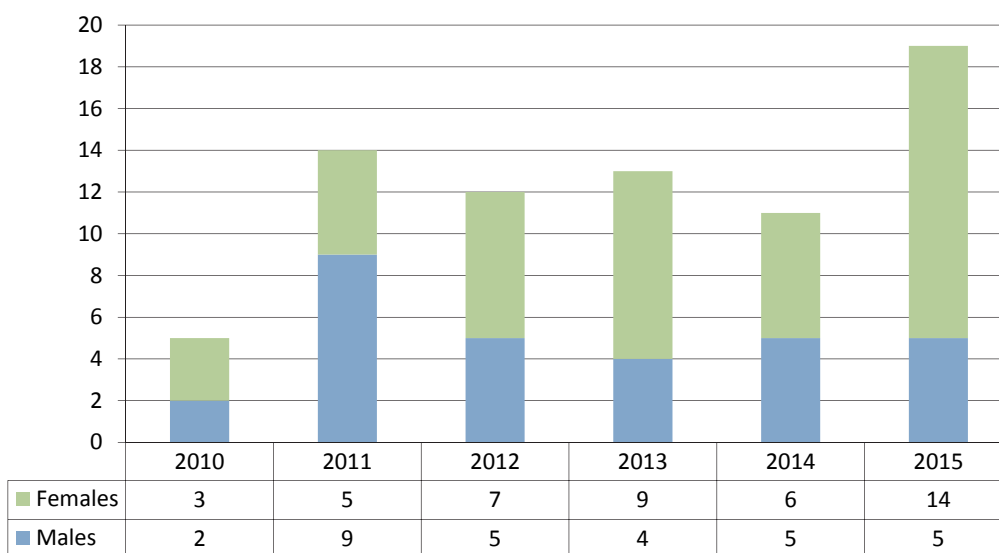


## Number of persons prosecuted for trafficking in persons, by gender, 2010-2015



Source: Fiscalía General de la Republica.

## Number of persons convicted of trafficking in persons, by gender, 2010-2015

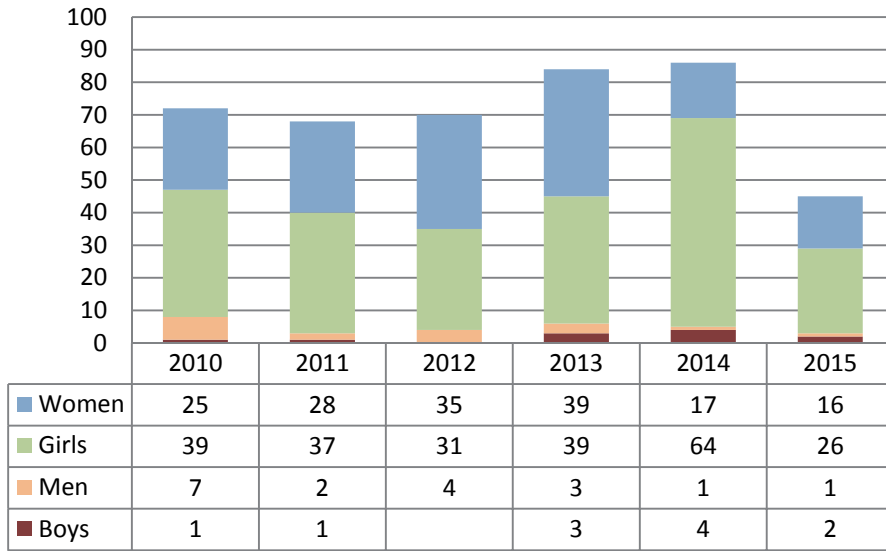


The persons convicted were all citizens of El Salvador, with the exception of three foreigners convicted between 2010 and 2015.

Source: Fiscalía General de la Republica.

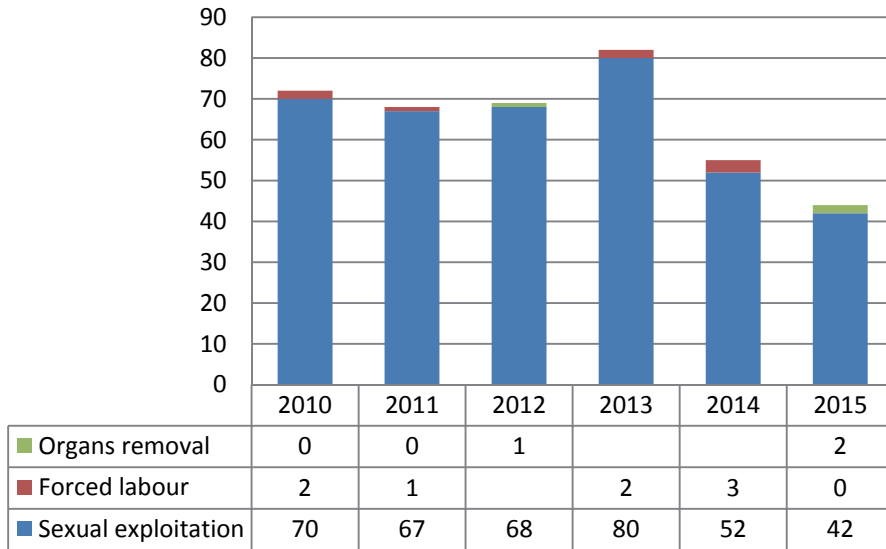
*Victims*

**Number of detected victims of trafficking, by age and gender, 2010-2015**



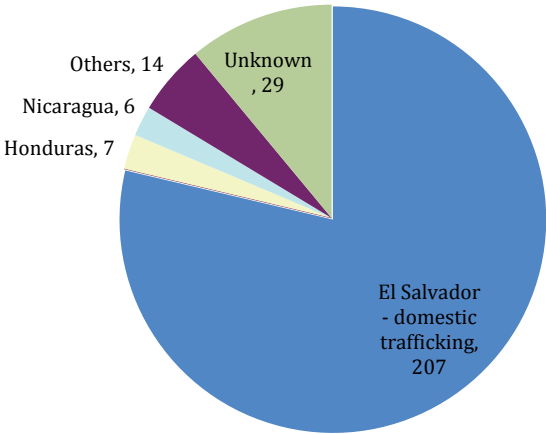
Source: Fiscalía General de la Republica.

**Number of detected victims of trafficking, by form of exploitation, 2010-2015**



Source: Fiscalía General de la Republica.

**Number of detected victims of trafficking, by country of citizenship, 2012-2015**



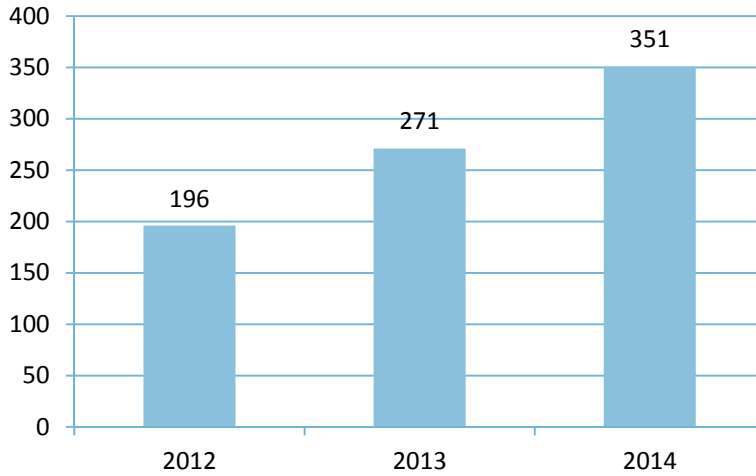
Source: Fiscalía General de la Republica.

## - Guatemala -

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

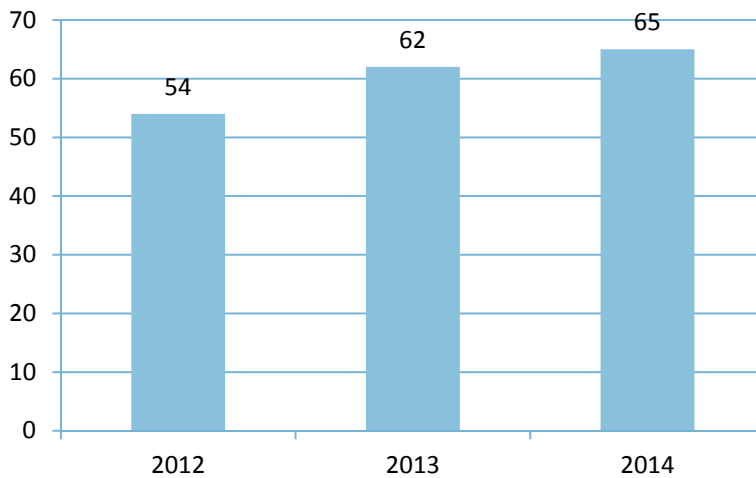
### *Investigations and suspects*

**Investigations for trafficking in persons, 2012-2014**



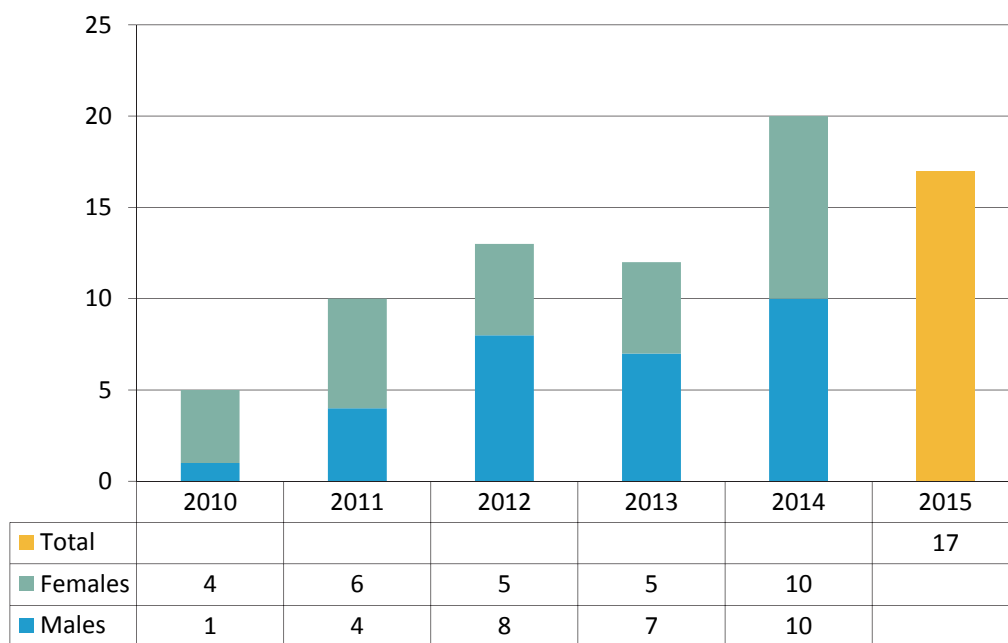
Source: Fiscalía de Sección contra la Trata de Personas, Ministerio Público y Sección contra la Trata de Personas de la Policía Nacional Civil.

**Persons prosecuted for trafficking in persons, 2012-2014**



Source: Fiscalía de Sección contra la Trata de Personas, Ministerio Público y Sección contra la Trata de Personas de la Policía Nacional Civil.

## Persons convicted of trafficking in persons, by gender, 2010-2015



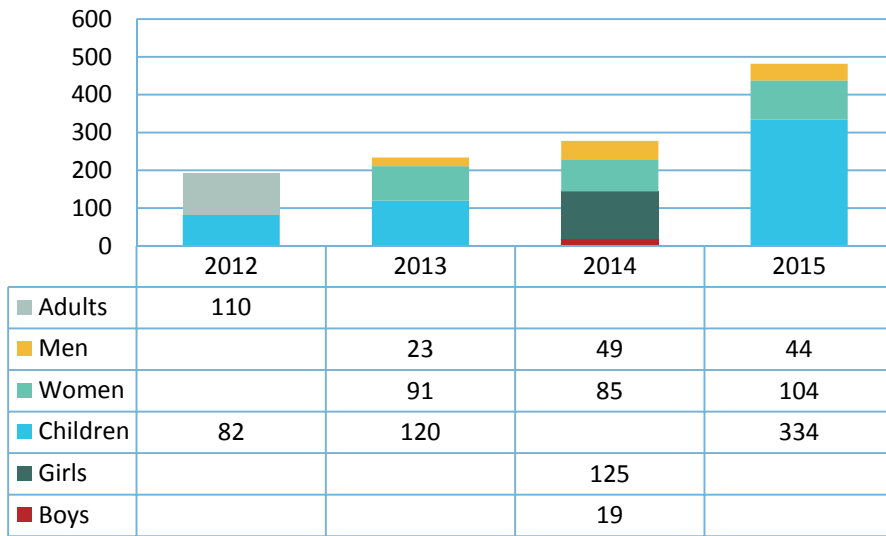
Source: Fiscalía de Sección contra la Trata de Personas, Ministerio Público y Sección contra la Trata de Personas de la Policía Nacional Civil

The traffickers convicted reported above were all Guatemalan citizens, with the exception of one foreigner.

Source: Fiscalía de Sección contra la Trata de Personas, Ministerio Público y Sección contra la Trata de Personas de la Policía Nacional Civil.

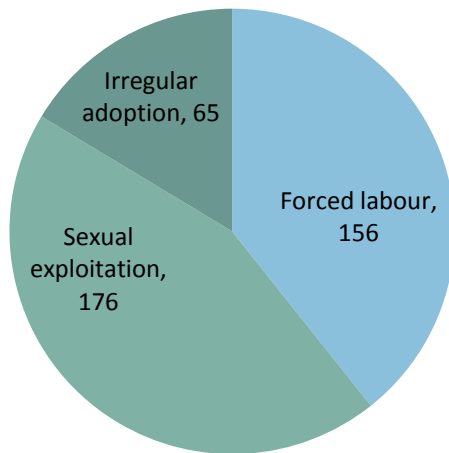
*Victims*

**Detected victims of trafficking, by age and gender, 2012- 2015**



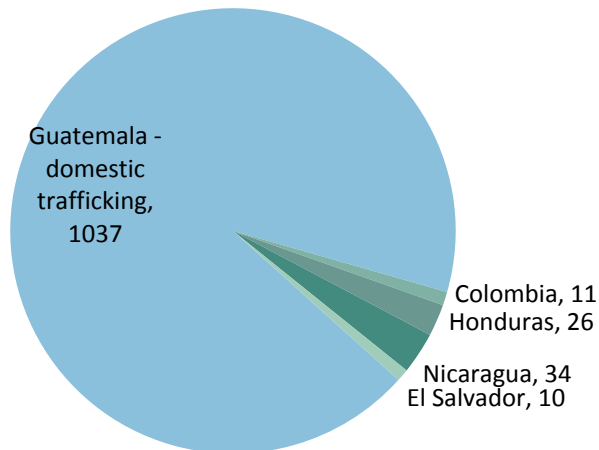
Source: Procuraduría General de la Nación, Secretaría de Bienestar Social de la Presidencia, Organismo Judicial, Policía Nacional Civil – Ministerio de la Gobernación.

**Detected victims of trafficking, by form of exploitation when recorded, 2014- 2015**



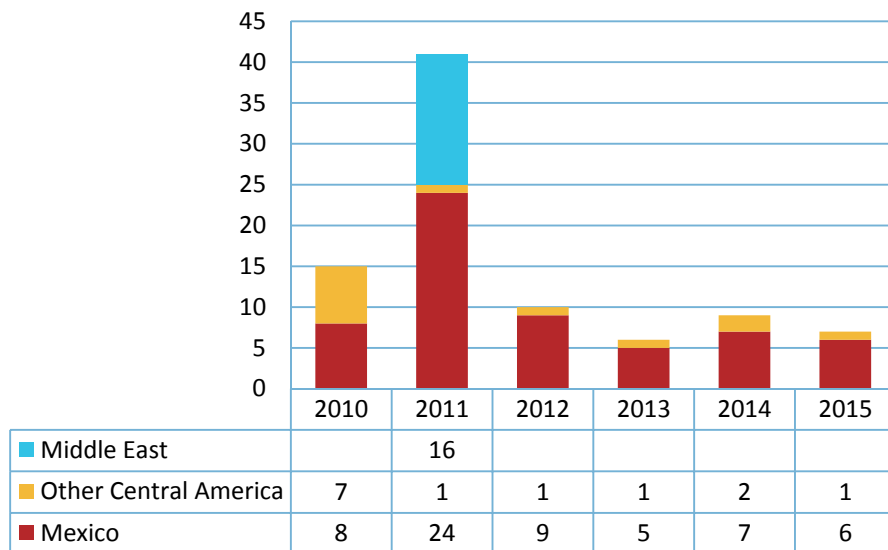
Source: Policía Nacional Civil – Ministerio de la Gobernación, Ministerio Público.

## Detected victims of trafficking, by citizenship, 2010-September 2015



Source: Policia Nacional Civil – Ministerio de la Gobernacion, Ministerio Publico.

## Guatemalan victims of trafficking detected abroad and repatriated, by country/area of repatriation, 2010-2015



Source: Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores.

## **- Honduras -**

New legislation on trafficking in persons covering all aspects listed in the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol was adopted in April 2012. The previous offence covered trafficking for sexual exploitation.

### *Investigations and suspects*

Local authorities report that eight cases of trafficking in persons have been investigated since the new law entered into force in 2012. During the period 2012-August 2015, 11 persons (four males and seven females, all local citizens) were convicted.

Source: Ministerio Publico.

### *Victims*

Local authorities report that about 180 victims of trafficking in persons have been detected between 2012 and August 2015. All victims were children, mostly girls, and all Hondurans. One child was trafficked from abroad.

Source: Ministerio Publico.



## **- Nicaragua -**

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

### *Investigations and suspects*

National police reported that 29 cases were investigated in the year 2012, and 28 in 2013. The Public Prosecutor reported that 23 suspects were prosecuted in 2014, and nine were convicted that year.

Source: Ministerio Público/Policía Nacional.

### *Victims*

National police reported that 41 victims (22 girls, nine adult women, and 10 adult men) were identified in connection with the cases investigated in 2013. Just one of these victims was a foreigner, the other were local citizens. The Public Prosecutor reported of 52 victims (18 minors) in connection with the cases prosecuted in 2014.

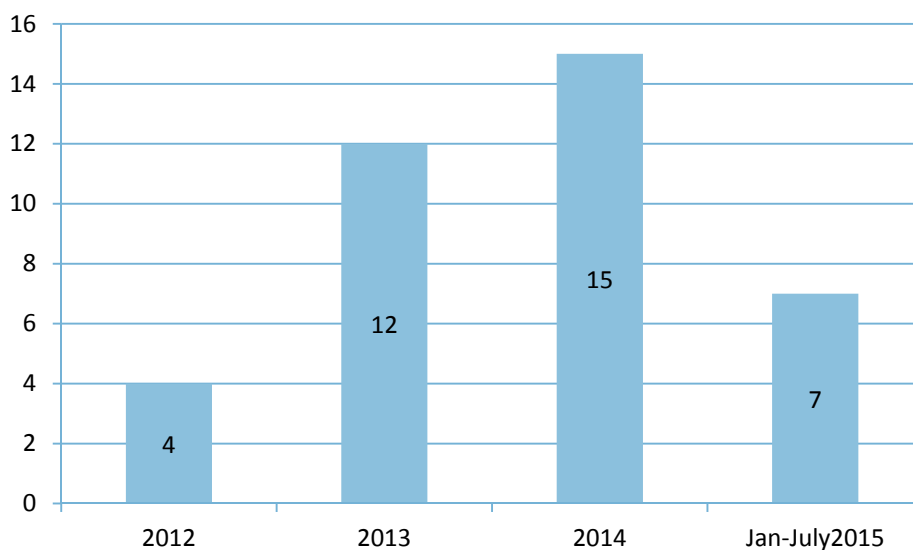
Source: Ministerio Público/Policía Nacional.

## - Panama -

The current legislation on trafficking in persons in Panama was adopted on 9 November 2011. The current law considers all aspects of trafficking indicated in the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol.

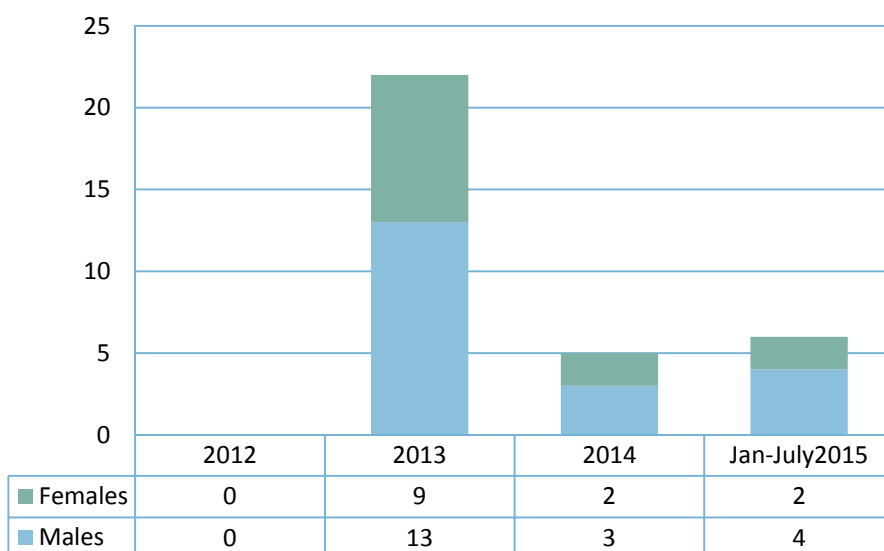
### *Investigations and suspects*

#### **Offences of trafficking in persons recorded, 2012-July 2015**



Source: Fiscalía Especializada Contra la Delincuencia Organizada.

#### **Persons prosecuted for trafficking in persons, by gender, 2012-July 2015**



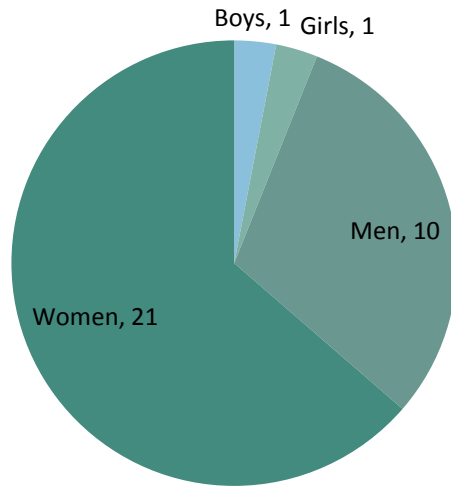
Source: Fiscalía Especializada Contra la Delincuencia Organizada.

The authorities reported that eight persons (two men and six women) have been convicted of trafficking in persons since the law was adopted; all in the year 2014.

Source: Fiscalía Especializada Contra la Delincuencia Organizada.

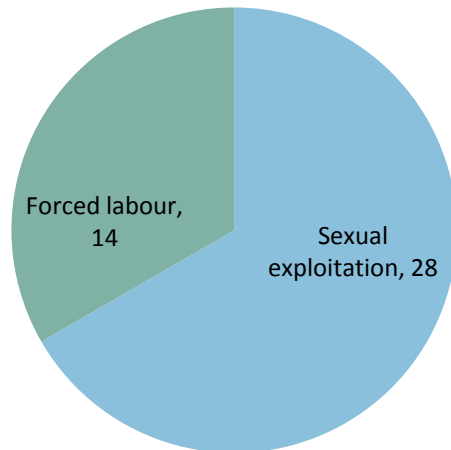
*Victims*

**Detected victims of trafficking in persons, by age and gender, 2012-July 2015**



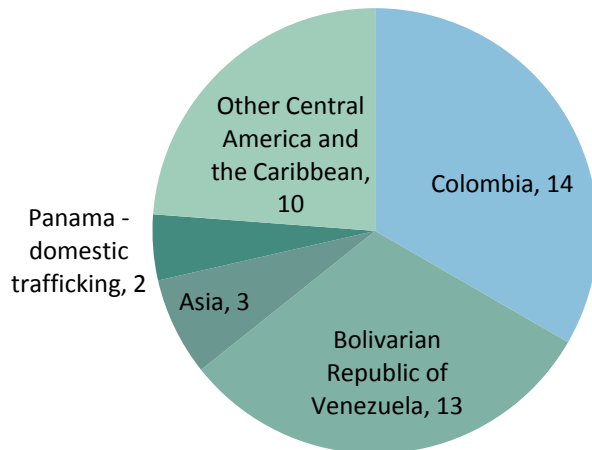
Source: Fiscalía Especializada Contra la Delincuencia Organizada.

**Detected victims of trafficking in persons, by form of exploitation, 2012-July 2015**



Source: Fiscalía Especializada Contra la Delincuencia Organizada.

## Detected victims of trafficking in persons, by area of citizenship, 2012-July 2015



Source: Fiscalía Especializada Contra la Delincuencia Organizada.