



NCA

National Crime Agency

NCA Strategic Assessment

The Nature and Scale of Human Trafficking in 2014

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The purpose of this report is to provide an assessment of the nature and scale of human trafficking in the UK, during 2014.

Key points

- Romania was the most prevalent country of origin of potential victims reported, for the fourth consecutive year.
- For the first time labour exploitation surpassed sexual exploitation for potential victims originating from Romania.
- Potential victims originated from 97 different countries.
- 63% of potential victims originating from Albania were exploited overseas, with no claims of exploitation taking place in the UK.
- Where the nationality is known, 82% of potential victims exploited for labour were EEA nationals legally entitled to reside and work in the UK.
- 22% of potential victims reported were children at the time of exploitation.

This assessment is supplied for intelligence purposes only and must not be used as evidence in legal proceedings. For further information, contact the originating department.

NCA Strategic Assessment on the Nature and Scale of Human Trafficking in 2014

This assessment was produced to provide an indication of the nature and scale of human trafficking during 2014. The findings of this assessment were compared to those from the NCA Strategic Assessment on the Nature and Scale of Human Trafficking in 2013.

An intelligence requirement was disseminated by the NCA National Intelligence Hub to all UK police forces, via Regional Organised Crime Units, Police Scotland, Police Service of Northern Ireland, UK Border Force, Home Office, the Gangmasters Licensing Authority (GLA), and 32 Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) who work with victims of human trafficking.

Intelligence base

This assessment was produced using intelligence held by the NCA, information stored on the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) database, and responses to an intelligence requirement disseminated by the NCA. NRM information obtained for this assessment comprised all referrals of potential victims of trafficking in the calendar year of 2014. Any potential victims of trafficking encountered during this period who received a negative Reasonable Grounds or a negative Conclusive Decision¹ by 18/03/2015 were removed from the data set. Duplicates were removed to show a total number of unique potential victims of trafficking.

Information collected was dated from 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014 and is judged to be reliable. Please note that certain caveats, to be borne in mind when interpreting the data, are listed in Annex A.

Responses to the intelligence requirement were received from 31 UK police forces (of which 27 provided potential victim information and 4 provided a text summary), and six Non Governmental Organisations. The GLA, Home Office UK Visa and Immigration and Border Force regularly submit information to the NCA UKHTC regarding potential victims, and this has been captured within the intelligence held by NCA.

The findings of this assessment should be considered illustrative rather than representative.

The intelligence cut-off date for this report was 31/03/2015.

¹ If a person receives a negative Reasonable Grounds or negative Conclusive Decision, this means that they have been found not to be a victim of human trafficking for the purpose of the Council of Europe Convention Against Trafficking in Human Beings. The Convention enables victims of trafficking to access support including accommodation and healthcare.

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Introduction

1. The assessment explores the number of potential victims of trafficking identified, their country of origin and exploitation types, as well as enablers of human trafficking, including recruitment techniques, transport methods and documentation. It also includes regional summaries of the types of exploitation encountered, and country of origin of victims exploited within that region.
2. It aims to inform UK and international law enforcement, national and devolved governments, NGOs, the voluntary sector and, through publication on the NCA website, the wider public. It will also identify changes in prevalence of exploitation types and the methodologies used by human traffickers since 2013.
3. This report should be considered an indication of the nature and scale of human trafficking. This is because trafficking and slavery are hidden crimes, and statistics and analysis can only be provided on what is already known, and cannot be exhaustive. There is an assumption that the true figure for potential victims will be higher, however no estimation of this amount is made, and this report is solely based on the potential victims encountered.
4. Increases in figures for particular types of exploitation do not necessarily mean that there is more of it happening. Instead, it means that more cases are being brought to the fore by law enforcement agencies, and other organisations addressing that particular exploitation type.
5. This report, therefore, does not seek to make any recommendations around its findings, but expects the evidence provided to allow further questions, investigation and/or development.

Modern Slavery

6. In 2013, the term Modern Slavery was introduced in the UK to describe all offences previously described as human trafficking, slavery, forced labour and domestic servitude. Traffickers and exploiters use whatever means they have at their disposal to coerce, deceive and force individuals into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment. Modern Slavery is a global problem, and a hidden crime.
7. HM Government is committed to stamping out this crime and on 26 March 2015, Royal Assent was given to the Modern Slavery Act, which came into force on 31 July 2015.
8. To enable the pursuit and prosecution of perpetrators, the Act consolidates and simplifies existing legislation; toughens sentences (increasing the maximum sentence to life imprisonment); enables courts to issue Prevention and Risk orders to restrict an individual's activity where they may present a risk to others; and closes gaps in the law to enable a constable or enforcement officer² to act where it is suspected that human trafficking or forced labour is taking place on board vessels at sea.
9. For victims, the Act includes provisions to introduce a statutory defence for victims of modern slavery, so that those forced to commit an offence as a direct consequence of

² The Modern Slavery Act defines an enforcement officer as a designated customs official, a person who is a commissioned officer of any of Her Majesty's ships, or a person in command or charge of any aircraft or hovercraft of the Royal Navy, the Army or the Royal Air Force.

their slavery are not treated as criminals by the justice system; introduce a new reparation order to empower the courts to compensate victims where assets are confiscated from perpetrators; provides statutory guidance on how victims can be identified and supported; and creates an enabling power for child trafficking advocates.

10. The Act also created the role of an Anti-Slavery Commissioner, to improve and better coordinate the UK's response to modern slavery, with the aim of more traffickers being pursued, disrupted and brought to justice.

11. The Act came into effect from 31 July 2015 and therefore does not relate to the cases reported in this report.

What is human trafficking?

12. The UK is a signatory to, and has adopted the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime. This is more commonly referred to as the Palermo Protocol and Article Three contains the most widely used definition of human trafficking:

a. 'Trafficking in persons' shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, or abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments of benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purposes of exploitation.

Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.

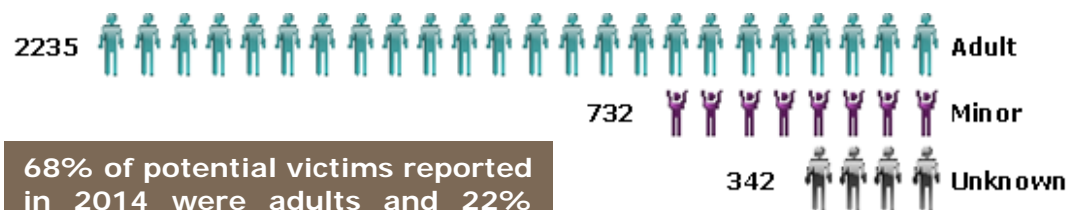
b. The consent of the victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation set forth in paragraph (a) of this article shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) have been used.

c. The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered 'trafficking in persons' even if this does not involve any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article.

d. 'Child' shall mean any person under eighteen years of age.'

Infographic 1 – Key Statistics from the 2014 Assessment

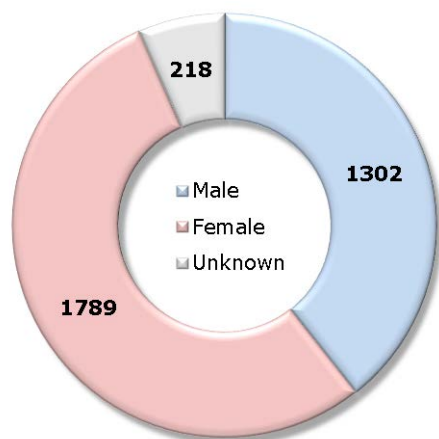
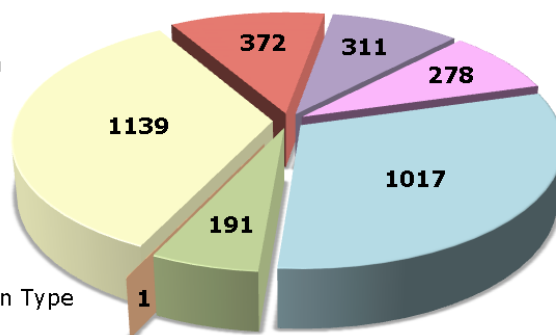
The number of potential victims of trafficking reported to the NCA for the Annual Assessment has increased year on year



68% of potential victims reported in 2014 were adults and 22% were children, the age of the remaining 10% is unknown

The most common exploitation types reported in 2014 were sexual (34%) and labour (32%)

- Criminal Exploitation
- Domestic Servitude
- Labour Exploitation
- Multiple Exploitation
- Organ Harvesting
- Sexual Exploitation
- Unknown Exploitation Type



54% of potential victims of trafficking reported in 2014 were female, 39% were male and the gender of 7% was not specified



64% of all potential victims reported in 2014 originated from the ten most common countries

All Potential Victims of Trafficking

13. In 2013, 1746 people were referred into the NRM and in 2014, 2340 people were referred. This represented an increase of 34% in the number of referrals. Any potential victims of trafficking encountered during 2014 who received a negative 'reasonable grounds' or a negative 'conclusive decision' were removed from the assessment, leaving a revised number of 1496 potential victims of trafficking, compared to a total number of 1095 in 2013 (an increase of 37%). Of the 1496 potential victims used in this assessment, 690 (46%) had already received a positive conclusive decision and were judged to have been trafficked at the time of the data cut off date of 18 March 2015. In 2013, 594 (54%) potential victims had received a positive conclusive decision.

14. In July 2014 the Home Office launched the "Slavery is closer than you think"³ marketing campaign in support of the Modern Slavery strategy to raise awareness that slavery exists in the UK. The campaign was aimed at businesses, partners, the public and victims to highlight the existence of different forms of slavery and to encourage reporting via the new helpline and website, run in partnership by the Home Office and the NSPCC. The campaign was deemed a success in raising public awareness⁴ however it is not known what impact this campaign had on victim referrals to the NRM. The increase in NRM referrals year on year may indicate improved victim identification and a greater awareness of human trafficking and modern slavery. It could also indicate greater confidence in potential victims to disclose their experiences and co-operate with law enforcement agencies.

15. 2574 potential victims were recorded on the NCA intelligence database and information relating to 1325 potential victims was received in direct response to an intelligence requirement disseminated by the NCA Intelligence Hub. Some potential victims of trafficking were recorded in more than one data set and, where identified, duplicates were removed. This resulted in a total number of 3309 unique potential victims of trafficking (and will be used as the total for the remainder of this report), an increase of 21% from 2013⁵.

Table 1: Breakdown of Potential Victim Source Data

SOURCE OF POTENTIAL VICTIM DATA	2013	2014	CHANGE FROM 2013
Referred to NRM ⁶	1095	1496	+37%
Response to Intelligence Requirement ⁷	838	1325	+58%
Information held on NCA systems ⁸	3832	2574	-33%
Number of Unique Potential Victims Identified ⁹	2744	3309	+21%

³ www.modernslavery.co.uk

⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/modern-slavery-marketing-campaign-evaluation-report>

⁵ NCA Strategic Assessment on the Nature and Scale of Human Trafficking in 2013, reference 0093-UKHTC

⁶ Potential victims referred to the NRM who had not received a negative decision as at 18/03/2015

⁷ Total number of potential victims included in the response to the intelligence requirement before duplicates were removed

⁸ Potential victim data held across NCA systems including those who have chosen not to be referred to the NRM and where potential victims are yet to be fully identified, before duplicates were removed. Changes to recording practices to eliminate duplicate records have impacted on this figure.

⁹ Total number of unique potential victims identified after duplicate records were identified and removed

16. Where potential victims are known to have been re-trafficked following recovery, they have been counted and not removed as duplicates. There are two such cases where potential victims experienced a secondary period of exploitation following positive identification as trafficking victims via the NRM process during 2014. Where sufficient details were available, the potential victims were checked against the NRM and a further 42 were found to have been previously referred to the NRM prior to 2014. Although, in many cases, it is not known whether the information supplied for this assessment relates to the same case or a new case of trafficking, in 11 cases the potential victim has been exploited again in 2014 and a new case refers.

17. It is not known how many of the 3309 potential victims were previously included in 2013.

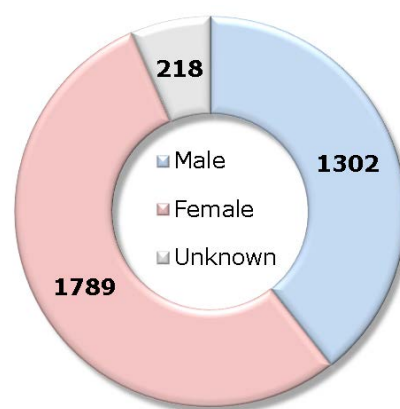
18. Some people who have been trafficked may not consider themselves to have been exploited. This may be as a consequence of cultural values, work ethics and levels of remuneration within their home country. Elements of coercion and the degree of control measures in place may render them unwilling or unable to disclose their experiences, co-operate with law enforcement investigations or consent to entering the National Referral Mechanism¹⁰. Some potential victims who are enslaved for many years do not see themselves as victims, and if they do, they may have been unable to inform police or authorities of their situation. Those that have previously been homeless may find the appalling conditions they are now in to be an improvement on their situation.

19. Despite improvements in victim identification, some people may not be identified as potential victims of trafficking by those who encounter them, such as those within the sex trade who may be considered to be voluntarily engaging in prostitution, or those who are criminally exploited (e.g. in cannabis factories or through theft) who may initially be identified as criminals rather than victims. Potential victims who have been provided with false, stolen or fraudulently obtained genuine identity documents may be considered to be immigration offenders, even if they have not used such documents of their own volition. Other potential victims who have escaped and returned to their country of origin, would not have been referred.

20. The reasons above contribute to the fact that 55% of the total number of potential victims of trafficking identified in 2014 have not been recorded in the National Referral Mechanism. As 1813 of the 3309 potential victims have not been through any part of the NRM process to receive a formal evaluation of their trafficking status, all persons in this report will be referred to as potential victims of trafficking. This total is not intended as an estimation or a definitive victim figure as it is likely the number will be much higher.

Figure 1: Breakdown of Potential Victims by Gender

21. Of the 3309 potential victims, 1789 (54%) were female, 1302 (39%) were male and the gender of 218 (7%) of potential victims was unknown. Four of the female potential victims are noted as transgender females. 2235 (68%) of all potential victims were adults, 732 (22%) were children and the age of 342 (10%) of potential victims was unknown at the time of exploitation. A further breakdown of child potential victim data and trends is consolidated further on in this report.



¹⁰ Adults must give their consent to be entered into the NRM process

Figure 2: Breakdown of Potential Victim by Age Category



22. At present, this assessment is the only national picture of human trafficking and modern slavery available in the UK. The accuracy of this report is dependant upon cooperation from law enforcement agencies and NGOs and can only be improved if agencies contribute to this assessment.

23. In 2014 analysis was conducted by the Home Office Chief Scientific Adviser, Professor Bernard Silverman, to establish a better understanding of the scale of modern slavery in the UK¹¹. The analysis built on the 2013 NCA Strategic Assessment. By analysing the overlaps between cases that come to attention through various sources, a multiple systems estimation approach was used to estimate the “dark figure” of cases that have not come to attention.

24. This approach gave an estimate of between 10,000 and 13,000 of potential victims in the UK in 2013. This included both the 2744 cases highlighted in the NCA Strategic Assessment as well as the “dark figure”.

¹¹ Modern Slavery: an application of Multiple Systems Estimation

Infographic 2 – Country of Origin of Potential Victims 2014



Country of Origin – All Potential Victims

25. Potential victims were from 97 different countries of origin. Where identified, the most frequently recorded countries of origin were Romania 453 (14%), Albania 316 (10%), United Kingdom 300 (9%), Slovakia 199 (6%), Poland 196 (6%), Nigeria 188 (6%), Lithuania 164 (5%), Vietnam 163 (5%), Czech Republic 82 (2%) and Hungary 71 (2%). The country of origin of 436 (13%) potential victims was not specified.

Table 2: The Ten Most Prevalent Countries of Origin 2013/2014

POSITION IN 2014	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	POSITION IN 2013	TOTAL 2014	CHANGE FROM 2013
1	Romania	1	453	+48%
2	Albania	4	316	+65%
3	United Kingdom	3	300	+55%
4	Slovakia	6	199	+39%
5	Poland	2	196	-18%
6	Nigeria	5	188	+19%
7	Lithuania	9	164	+58%
8	Vietnam	7	163	+18%
9	Czech Republic	11	82	+12%
10	Hungary	8	71	-48%

26. For the fourth consecutive year, Romania remained the most prevalent country of origin for potential victims of trafficking. Of these, the most common exploitation type reported was labour exploitation followed by sexual exploitation. This is the first time that labour exploitation has surpassed sexual exploitation for potential victims originating from Romania.

27. Along with Bulgaria, Romania joined the European Union (EU) in 2007. On joining the EU, restrictions were imposed on nationals of Romania and Bulgaria by some member states including the UK, regarding the rights to work and claim benefits for the first seven years. These restrictions were lifted on 1 January 2014, giving them the same rights to work and claim benefits in the UK as other EEA nationals. Although not one of the top ten listed above, Bulgaria also saw an increase in the number of potential victims exploited in the UK, with 54 in 2014, an increase of 260% on the 15 encountered the previous year. Of these 33 (61%) were potential victims of labour exploitation.

28. Potential victims of trafficking from Albania increased by 65% (124) from 2013 figures. Of the 316 potential victims 230 were trafficked for sexual exploitation.

29. The figure for Albanian victims includes 296 (94%) cases which were referred to the NRM, with only 20 (6%) potential victims reported from intelligence submissions. At the time the data cut was taken, 41 had received a positive conclusive decision. The remaining 255 were pending NRM cases some of which may subsequently receive a negative decision.

30. The United Kingdom was the third most prevalent country of origin of potential victims of trafficking for the second year running with a 55% increase from 2013. The most prominent exploitation type was sexual exploitation, accounting for 58%. 177 UK potential victims were adults and 116 were minors, the age of the remaining 7 potential victims at the time of exploitation was not known. Of the 175 exploited sexually, 99 (57%) were minors, 72 (41%) were adults and the age of the remaining 4 (2%) was not known.

Table 3: The Ten Most Prevalent Countries of Origin 2014 and Exploitation Types

POSITION IN 2014	NATIONALITY	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Organ Harvesting	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation Type	Total
1	Romania	33	7	212	22	0	157	22	453
2	Albania	31	0	10	4	1	230	40	316
3	United Kingdom	16	3	83	9	0	175	14	300
4	Slovakia	72	3	70	22	0	20	12	199
5	Poland	13	3	123	7	0	35	15	196
6	Nigeria	4	54	3	8	0	92	27	188
7	Lithuania	36	0	88	9	0	26	5	164
8	Vietnam	49	13	19	17	0	22	43	163
9	Czech Republic	3	0	30	31	0	12	6	82
10	Hungary	10	1	29	4	0	22	5	71

31. The fourth most common country of origin for potential victims reported in the UK was Slovakia, accounting for 199, an increase of 39% on those reported in 2013 (143). The most common exploitation types were for labour and criminal purposes. Of the 72 exploited for criminal purposes, 88% (63) related to benefit claims. Of those exploited for benefits, 49 (78%) were children. 110 potential victims from Slovakia were adults, 76 were minors and the age of the remaining 13 was unknown.

Figure 3: Exploitation Types for Potential Victims of Trafficking Identified in 2014

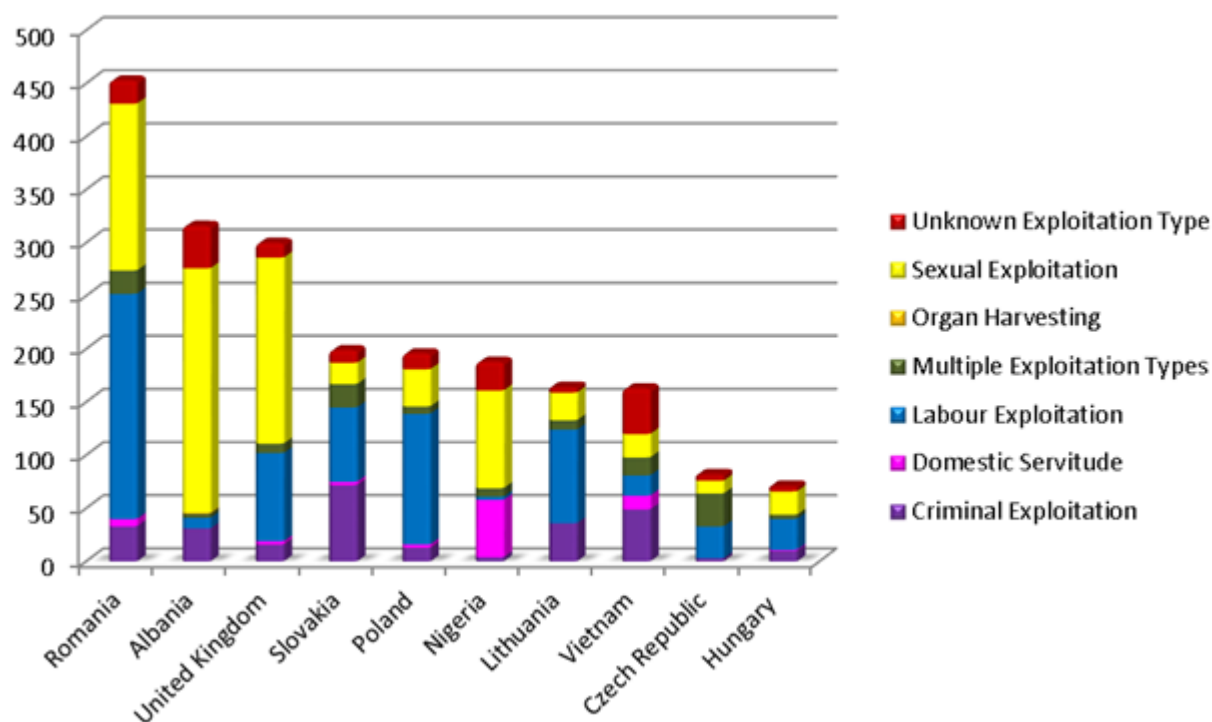


Figure 4: Ten Most Prevalent Countries of Origin and Exploitation Types for Adult Victims of Trafficking Identified in 2014

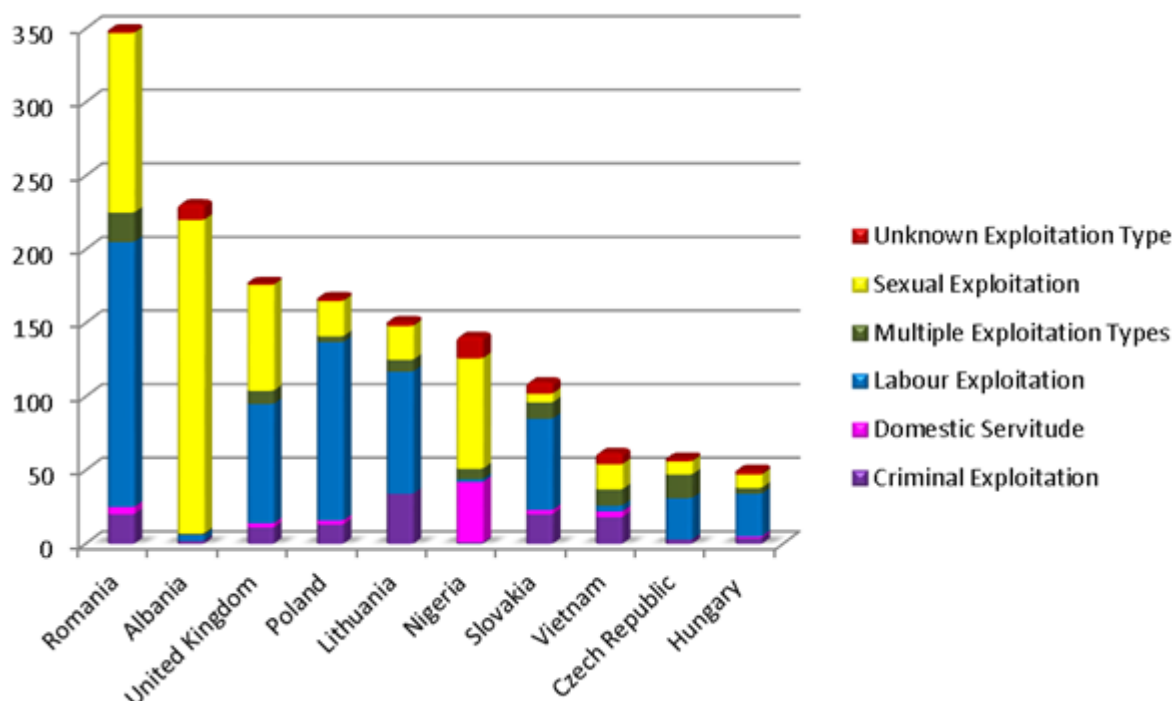
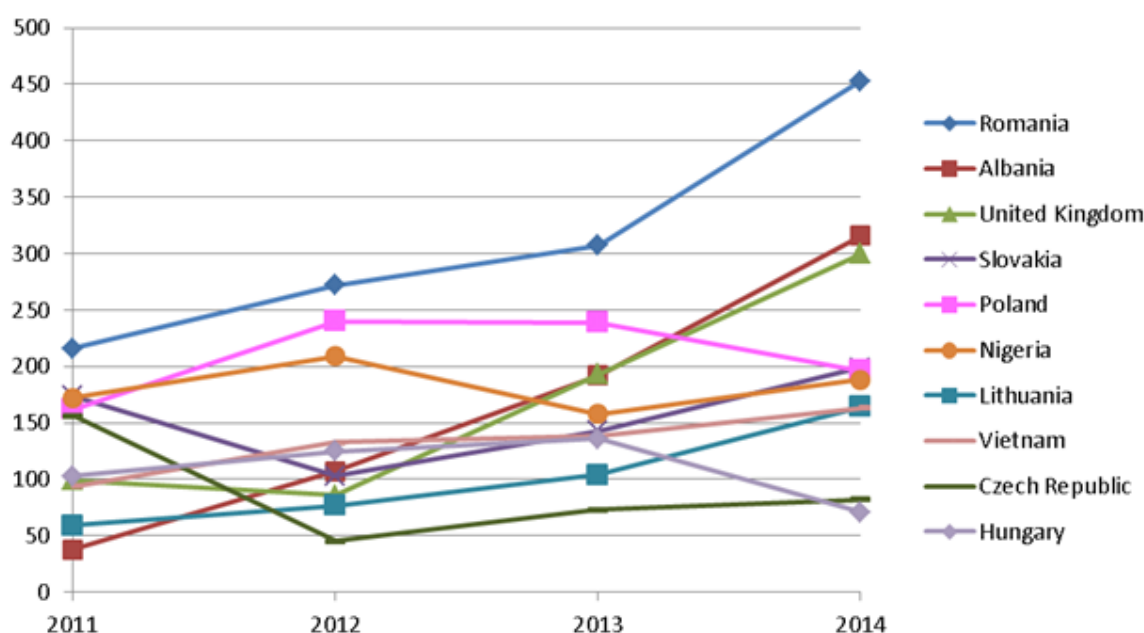


Figure 5: Fluctuations of Countries of Origin since 2011



32. Both Poland and Hungary have seen a decrease in the number of potential victims reported on the previous year. NGOs, including "The Passage" have been leading awareness campaigns to tackle the number of economic migrants from Central and Eastern Europe who find themselves homeless on the streets of the UK and at risk of exploitation. The "Before You Go" campaign was launched in December 2013 in partnership with other NGOs such as Thames Reach and Homeless UK Link and supported by the Department of Communities and Local Government and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office¹². It is not

¹² <http://passage.org.uk/go-awareness-campaign/>

known whether the decrease in potential victims from Poland is as a direct results of this or similar activity.

33. Although there is some increase on 2013 figures, the number of potential victims originating from Nigeria is proportionally lower than in 2012, where they represented the third most common nationality encountered in the UK and accounted for 9% of the total, compared to 7% in 2014. The reason for this decrease over the last two years is not known however, it may be attributable to improved victim identification and targeted activity in the UK and overseas.

34. The National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons (NAPTIP) in Nigeria has over the years signed numerous Memoranda of Understanding with European countries, including the UK. By the end of 2013, NAPTIP had secured 220 trafficking convictions since their inception in 2003, 46 of these in 2013 alone. The work of NAPTIP in Nigeria and notable sentences for Nigerian trafficking offenders in the UK¹³ may to some extent act as a deterrent.

35. A breakdown of child potential victim data and trends is consolidated further on in this report.

Location of Exploitation

36. Of the 3309 potential victims reported, 2315 were recorded as being exploited within the UK and 93 reported being exploited in the UK and overseas. 322 were reported as exploited overseas prior to their arrival in the UK.

37. 30 potential victims were encountered on entry to the UK and subsequent exploitation within the UK was suspected. 17 of these were refused entry to the UK due to these suspicions and returned to the country from where they had travelled. 13 were either safeguarded in the UK in emergency foster care, allowed to proceed or the outcome of the circumstances has not been provided.

38. Potential victims originating from West African nations were encountered that had transited the UK for onward travel to other European destinations where, upon arrival it was suspected they were vulnerable to exploitation, and were returned to the UK.

39. 12 potential victims were reported on suspicion that they were being trafficked out of the UK for exploitation at their destination country. In 75% of cases, this relates to concerns regarding minors. It is not known from the limited information provided whether these children actually left the UK.

40. For a further 627 potential victims reported for the purpose of this assessment, no location of exploitation has been specified.

¹³ See paragraph 70 under Sexual Exploitation

Exploitation Types

Figure 6: Exploitation Types Reported in 2014

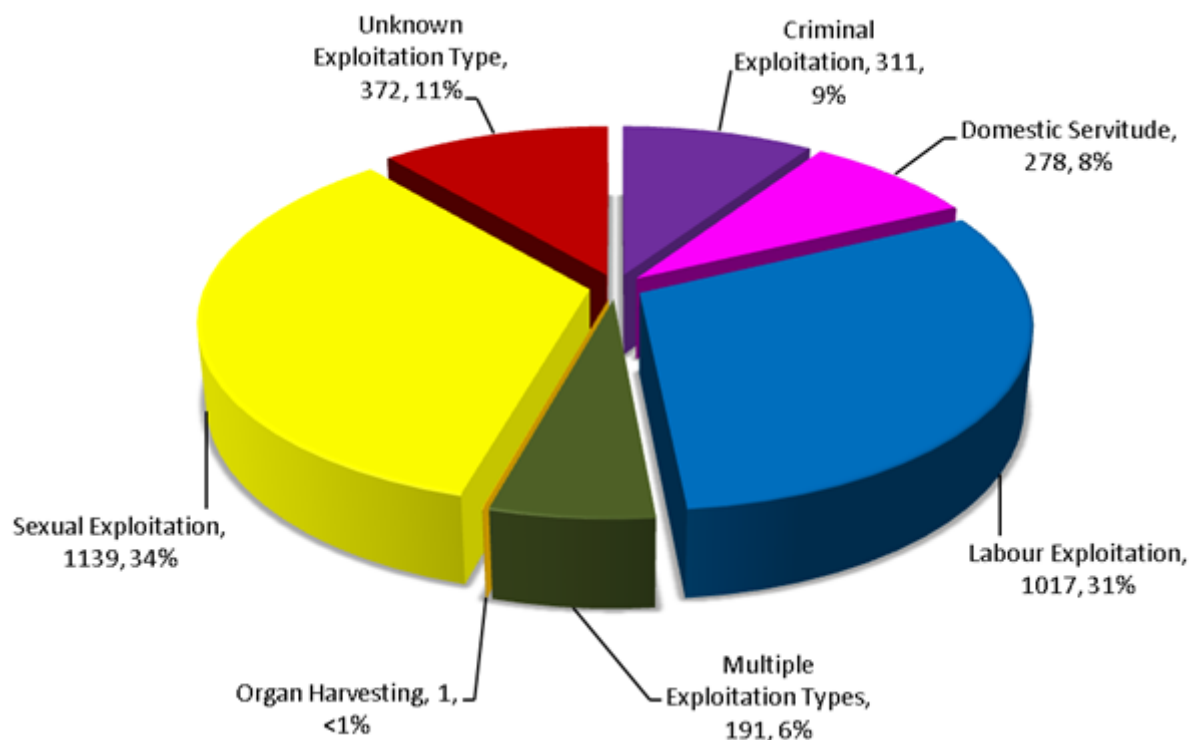
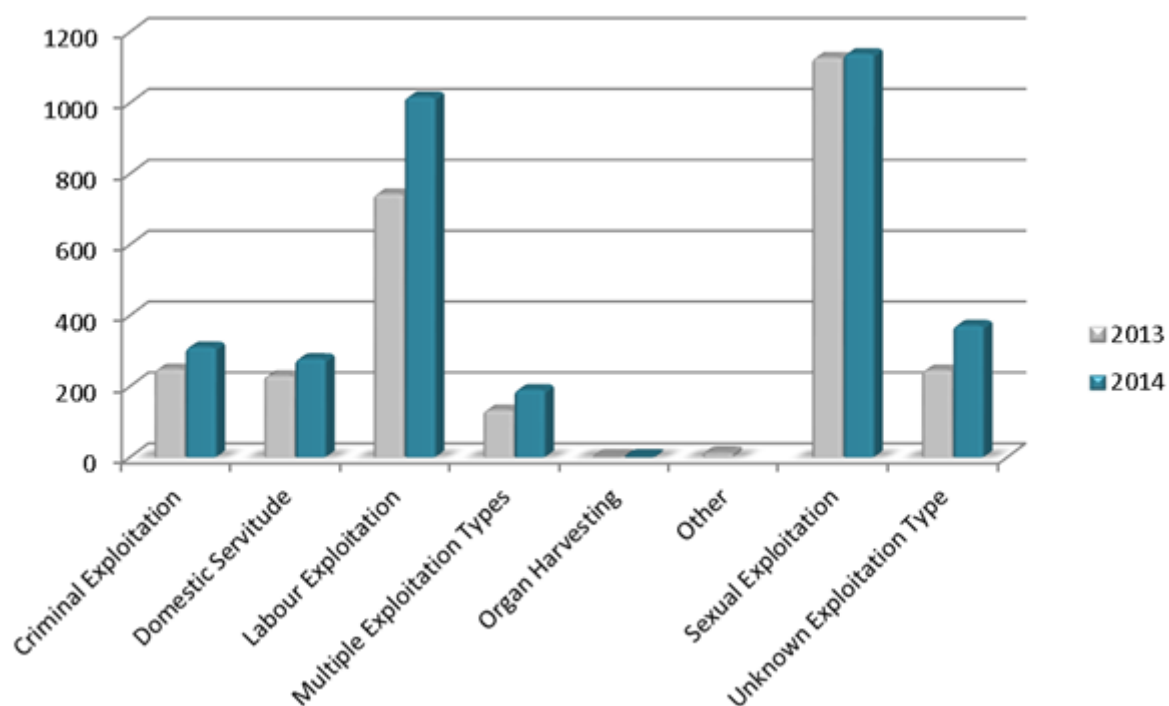


Figure 7: Comparison of Exploitation Types between 2013/2014



Sexual Exploitation

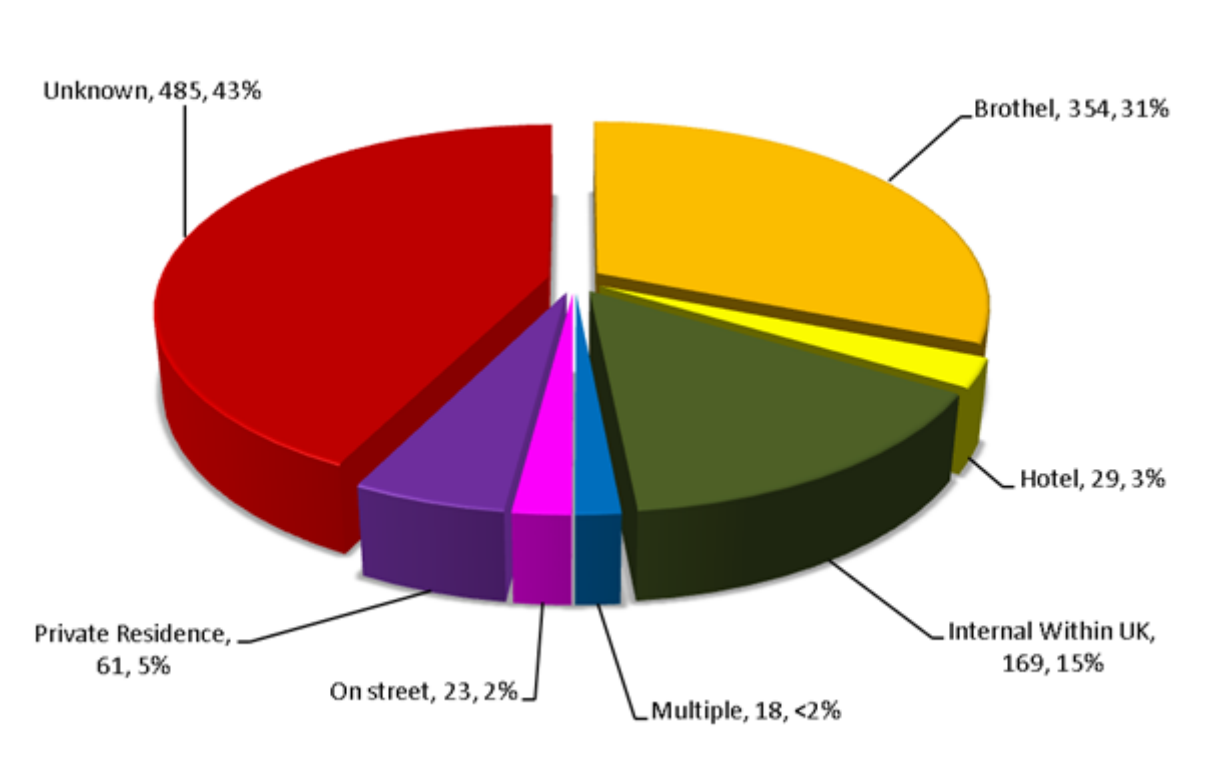
41. 1139 people were trafficked for sexual exploitation, representing 34% of all potential victims reported. This is only a 1% increase on the previous year, but is a lower proportion of the overall figure. 1079 (95%) of potential victims were female, four of which are recorded as transgender females, 37 (3%) of potential victims were male, and the gender of 2% (23 people) was not known. 779 (68%) of potential victims were adults, 237 (21%) of potential victims were minors and the age of 123 (11%) of potential victims was unspecified.

42. The most prevalent countries of origin for potential victims recorded having been sexually exploited were Albania (230, 20%), UK (175, 15%), Romania (157 14%), Nigeria (92, 8%) and Poland (35, 3%). The country of origin of the potential victim was not provided for 169 (15%).

43. For the fourth consecutive year, Romania, Nigeria and the UK remain within the five most common countries of origin of potential victims of sexual exploitation; Albania also features again for a third year running.

44. Of the 230 potential victims from Albania who had reported sexual exploitation, 160 (70%) have indicated that their exploitation took place outside of the UK and no exploitation within the UK has been claimed. The location of exploitation was unknown or unspecified in 44 (19%) cases.

Figure 8: Subtypes of Sexual Exploitation Reported in 2014

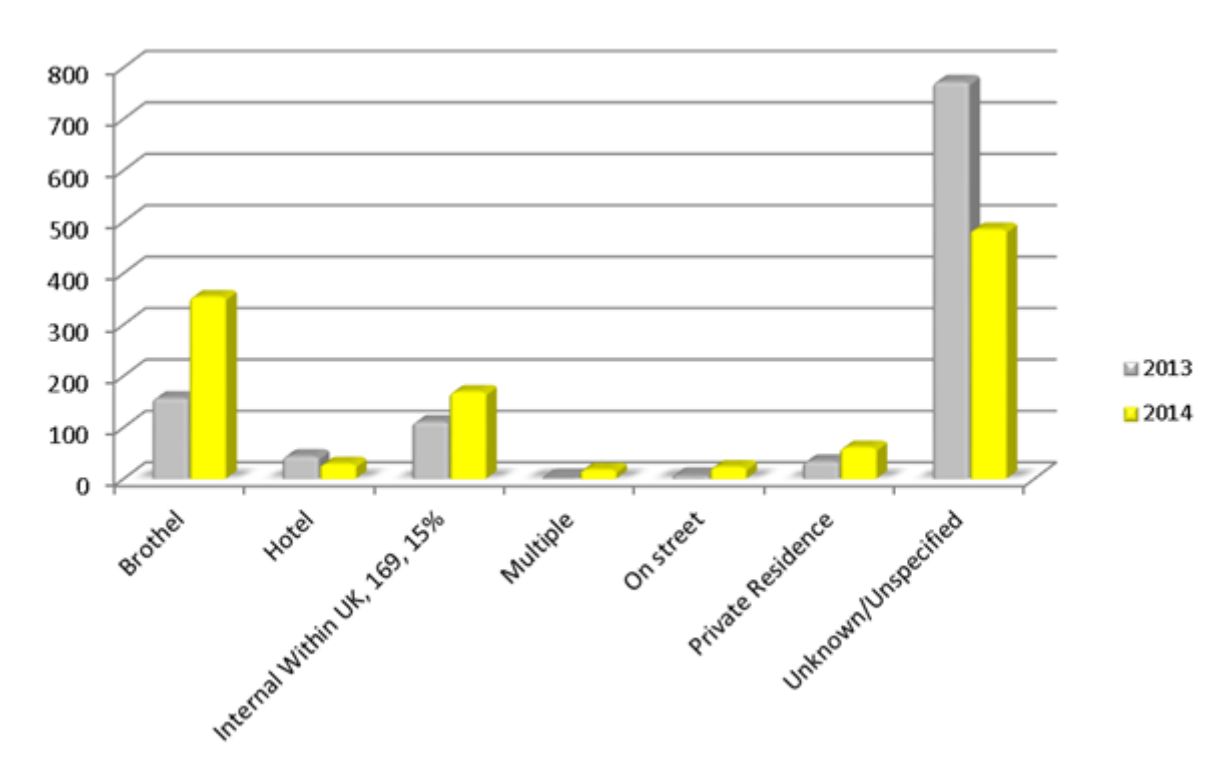


45. It is possible that these subtypes of exploitation do not accurately reflect the situation. Potential victims of trafficking exploited in brothels continue to be more likely to be encountered by law enforcement than those exploited in private residence. The category of internal trafficking is largely used with regard to grooming and child sexual exploitation, where the location of exploitation could be either a private residence or hotel.

Those exploited in hotels may also have been trafficked internally within the UK. The true scale of sexual exploitation in private residences may be higher than suggested.

46. The subtype of exploitation was not specified in 485 (43%) of potential victims reported as trafficked for sexual exploitation. This will include those that have claimed to have been trafficked for the purposes of prostitution in an unspecified location and those exploited in countries other than the UK and no further information is available. The 485 cases also include a handful of cases recorded as other sexual exploitation which do not fit the above categories, such as escorts and those exploited in nightclubs.

Figure 9: Comparison of Sexual Exploitation Subtypes between 2013/2014



47. Recording potential victims of sexual exploitation can be problematic. There is often a misconception that a foreign national involved in sex work in the UK is a victim of trafficking, when they may have chosen to travel to the UK for their chosen profession of their own accord.

Victim v. Offender

48. In UK legislation it is an offence under Section 2 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 to move, or facilitate the movement of another person, with the intention of committing an offence under the Protection of Children Act 1978 or the Sexual Offences Act 2003¹⁴. No actual offence needs to have taken place, evidence of the intention to commit the offence

¹⁴ Pre 31 July 2015 offences in England, Wales, S59A Sexual Offences Act 2003 cover anyone moving or arranging for the movement of a person with the intention that they, or another person commits any relevant offence under the Act (S.60). Northern Ireland, relevant offence is defined under Sexual Offences (Northern Ireland) Order 2008. Scotland, S22 – Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003 covers movement for the purpose of either exercising control over prostitution or to involve an individual in the making or production of obscene or indecent material (or the belief that another person will do so within or out with the UK). Post 31 July offences would be charges under the Modern Slavery Act 2015, Section 2 Human Trafficking for exploitation replaces section 59A Sexual Offences Act 2003.

is all that is required. There is also no requirement for any coercion, and under the new legislation it is irrelevant whether the victim consents to their involvement in the offence.

Example:

A suspect recruits females in Eastern Europe, arranging for them to travel to the UK to work as prostitutes. The females know that this is why they are travelling to the UK. Once in the UK, he places them in brothels and manages their prostitution. The suspect has potentially committed an offence of trafficking by moving them to cause, incite or control their prostitution. The recruiters, transporters and any one else involved have also committed an offence if it can be evidenced that they knew or ought to have known the intended purpose.

49. When assessing victims for the purposes of the NRM, all three of the following items must be present in order to meet the definition of trafficking, unless the person trafficked is under the age of 18, in which case the 'means' is irrelevant. In such cases, only the 'act' and 'purpose' need be present.

- The Act (What is done) - Recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons.
- The Means (How it is done) - Threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability, or giving payments or benefits to a person in control of the victim.
- The Purpose (Why it is done) - For the purpose of exploitation, which includes exploiting the prostitution of others, sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery or similar practices and the removal of organs or body tissue.

50. It is therefore possible to convict an offender of trafficking, where the victim would not be seen as a victim within the NRM process.

Recruitment

51. The recruitment methods reported in 2014 are varied between different nationalities, but remain similar to those seen in previous years. Potential victims from Albania, many of whom claim to have been exploited overseas before travelling to the UK, often report being trafficked and exploited by males with whom they are romantically involved and, who then forces them into prostitution. In the majority of cases, the traffickers are also Albanian.

52. Fewer Romanian females have reported being trafficked to the UK by males who they believed were their boyfriends than in previous years. In two thirds of cases there is no information available regarding the method by which they were recruited. Where information is available, Romanian females have come to the UK on the promise of work such as cleaning, car washes and fruit picking, and have then been forced into the sex industry. The promise of a better life in the UK is a common recruitment method particularly for potential victims originating from Nigeria with an emphasis on the provision of education.

53. Some UK nationals trafficked for sexual exploitation within the UK have been recruited via the internet through social media sites and smart phone messenger apps, but also use these methods for arranging to meet males for sex. Young vulnerable males and females are groomed by older males who supply them with alcohol or drugs, others are introduced to these males by friends who may have been groomed themselves. Some of these are minors who may be known to social services, be in residential care or they may also be frequently reported as missing.

Transport and Routing

54. Potential victims travelling to the UK from EEA countries either travel by air direct to the UK using budget airlines, or by road using international bus, coach and minibuses services. There is little information provided for this report regarding the travel routes, however these would be determined by the transport company. Private motor vehicles are also used to bring females from Europe to the UK for sexual exploitation, which is also the most common method of transport used (including licenced taxis) to traffic UK nationals internally within the UK.

55. Car sharing websites are popular in Europe as a means of cheap, environmentally friendly travel. The websites and smart phone apps, provide a car sharing service to its registered members. Drivers and passengers submit the details of their intended journey on the website and matches are identified. The website calculates the distance and suggests a fair price; drivers are not allowed to profit from the service. Members then make contact to arrange the itinerary. From a human trafficking perspective, the websites could be used to deceive unsuspecting drivers into moving potential trafficking victims into, out of and around the UK, as an alternative to using public transport or private vehicle.

56. Potential victims of trafficking from Albania who are reported for sexual exploitation have in the majority of cases experienced their exploitation outside of the UK. They travel to the UK, often claiming asylum, and claim to have crossed the border hidden in lorries.

57. Potential victims travelling by air from Nigeria, travel to the UK via numerous different routes. Intelligence indicates that routes into the UK include direct flights or indirect routes into Europe (particularly from Russia, United Arab Emirates and other Africa Nations) then onto the UK. The UK is also a transit point into Europe for Nigerian nationals and other West African nations. The use of false travel documentation, arranged by the traffickers is also common.

Finance

58. Some potential victims from West Africa and South East Asia are informed by their traffickers on arrival in the UK that they owe a considerable amount of money for their travel to the UK. Many are forced into prostitution to repay this debt, which can be anything up to GBP 45,000.

59. Those trafficked internally within the UK have reported that they believed they were sold between different groups. Those trafficked overseas prior to arriving in the UK, particularly from Albania, have reported being sold into prostitution by family members, husbands or boyfriends. There is little information available as to how much these victims were sold for.

Coercive Methods

60. In many cases of UK nationals trafficked internally for sexual exploitation, potential victims report being controlled by the use of drugs and alcohol, stating that they were so 'out of it' at times that they did not know what had happened to them. Another potential victim reported that those exploiting her had pictures of her that they threatened to 'show around'.

61. The use of violence, threats of violence towards the victim or their family and a general fear of their traffickers is also common amongst potential victims trafficked for sexual exploitation.

62. Potential victims of trafficking from Nigeria report being subjected to rituals and taking oaths, that have put them under the control of their traffickers, where they fear that they or their family will die if they speak to authorities or tell anyone about what has happened to them.

63. In 2014, two notable cases concerning this topic received media coverage. Giving evidence at Cardiff Crown Court, Dr Hermione Harris from the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London, said that "juju ceremonies" are a common feature of trafficking cases.¹⁵

64. The court heard how a 'medicine man' or 'witch doctor' can carry out rituals to instil an object with power that can be used for good or bad. The rituals may have some variations. In this case, one female was forced to eat a live snail and was cut with a machete, and another was forced to eat a live snake and was cut with razor blades. Dr Harris said: "The rituals that the young women are put through show that they will obey. It is a form of remote control." The victims believed that if they did not obey their traffickers orders, the juju would cause madness, infertility and death. Dr Harris also described Benin City, where the victims originated from, as "an epicentre for trafficking" and that Edo State was known for its "cult of the supernatural". Dr Harris explained how the rituals were beyond superstition and that "...in Nigeria, the world of the invisible - spirits and ancestors - is just as powerful as the visible world and the two interact".

65. In November 2014, as a result of this case, a Nigerian woman was sentenced to 8 years imprisonment and her partner to two years for trafficking offences relating to sexual exploitation and money laundering.¹⁶ Another case in July 2014 found two Nigerian males and a female guilty of trafficking human beings in and out of the UK. They were sentenced to six and a half years, four and a half years and two years for trafficking offences, two were also sentenced to serve three years each for identity fraud, to run concurrently with the trafficking offence sentence.¹⁷

66. The National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons (NAPTIP) in Nigeria and NGO's are involved numerous projects in country to educate and raise awareness in communities.

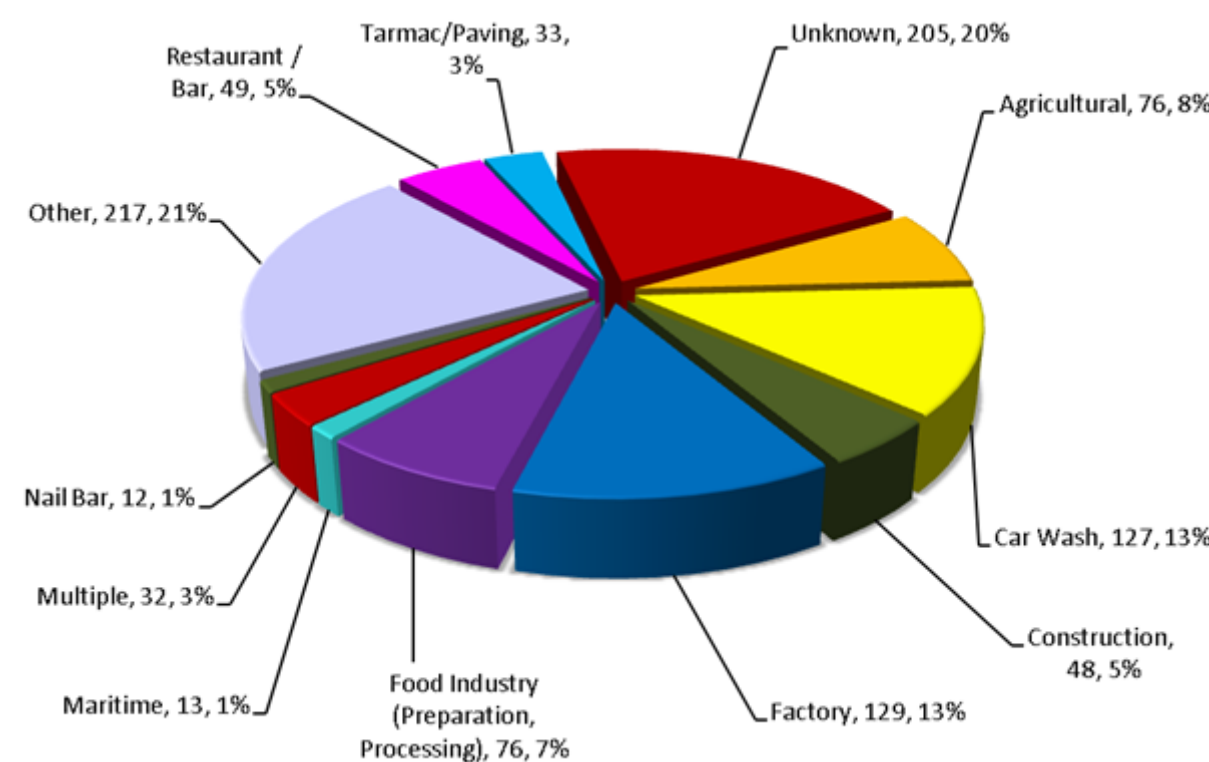
¹⁵ <http://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/black-magic-ceremonies-were-form-7866915>

¹⁶ <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-29956182>

¹⁷ <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/news-listings/409-sex-traffickers-used-black-magic-to-control-their-victim>

Labour Exploitation

Figure 10: Subtypes of Labour Exploitation Reported in 2014



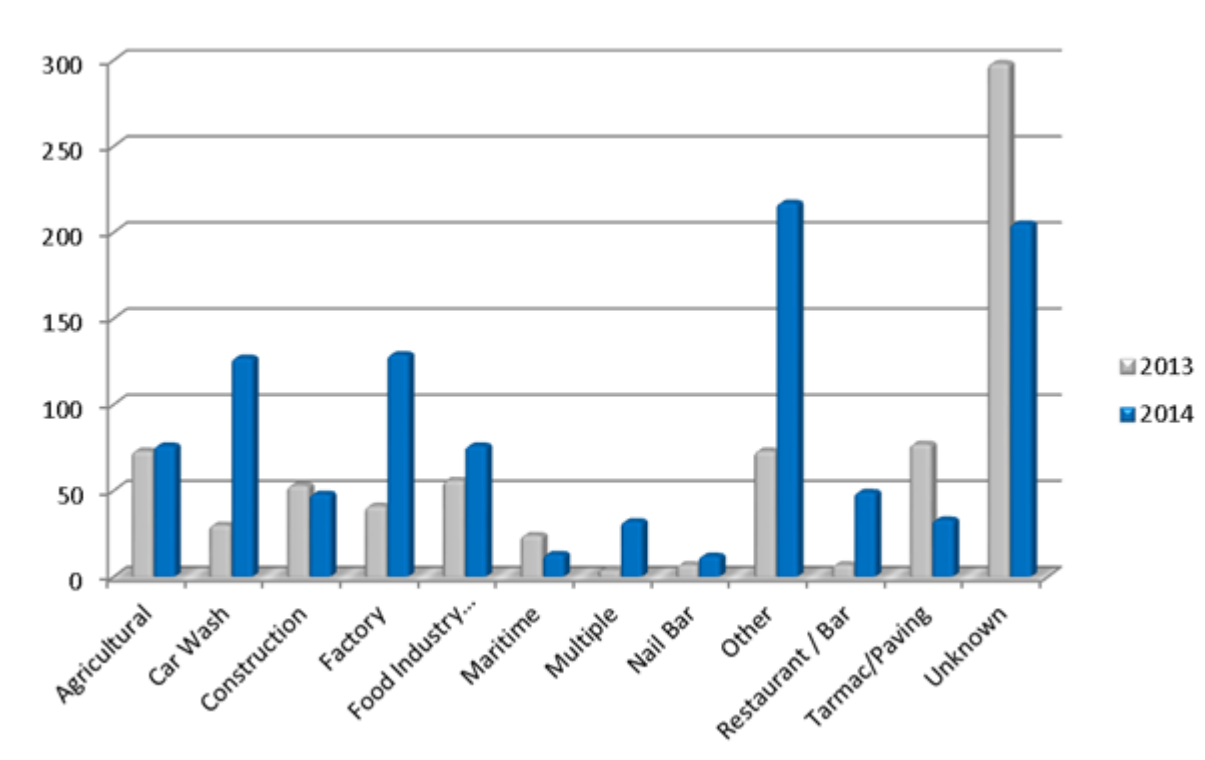
67. There were 1017 potential victims of trafficking for labour exploitation. 796 (78%) were male, 97 (10%) were females and the gender of 124 (12%) was unspecified. 858 (84%) were adults, 46 (5%) were minors and the age of 113 (11%) potential victims was unknown at the time of exploitation.

68. The most prevalent subtype of labour exploitation reported is difficult to ascertain, with 41% of potential victims reported within the 'other' (217) and 'unknown' (205) categories. Although the type of labour has not been specified in these cases, there were common characteristics with other labour subtypes such as the use of recruitment agencies and exploitation by the UK traveller community.

69. 15% (156) of potential victims were recorded as being exploited by the UK traveller community in some capacity. 33 of these were within the block paving and tarmacking industry, seven in the construction industry and a further 116 did not specify the types of labour involved, or had been used for general labouring around the traveller site. Of the 83 UK nationals subjected to labour exploitation, 68 (82%) were exploited by the UK traveller community.

70. Of those where the labour exploitation is recorded as unknown, 66 are reported as linked to a recruitment agency, but the specific type of work is not specified. The use of recruitment agencies has also been reported in connection with agriculture, factory work, and food preparation and processing industries, with 144 (14%) potential victims of labour exploitation being employed via a recruitment agency. Recruitment agencies are recognising the links to modern slavery and that traffickers could be abusing their business for exploitation purposes. Stricter enrolment procedures for workers and awareness raising for staff are some of the methods being adopted to help tackle this.

Figure 11: Comparison of Labour Exploitation Subtypes between 2013/2014



71. Exploitation in car washes saw an increase of 323% on those reported in 2013 with 127 in 2014 compared to 30 the previous year. The most common countries of origin for potential victims exploited in this way are Romania and Bulgaria, accounting for 81 (64%). The significant increase in this exploitation type could be contributed to the increased number of Romanians and Bulgarians seeking work in the UK, since restrictions were lifted on 1 January 2014, giving them the same rights to work and claim benefits in the UK as other EEA nationals¹⁸.

72. The most prevalent countries of origin of potential victims of trafficking for all types of labour exploitation were Romania (212, 21%) , Poland (123, 12%), Lithuania (88, 7%), the UK (83, 8%) and Slovakia (70, 7%). The country of origin of 166 (16%) potential victims was not specified.

73. EEA nationals (and also nationals of Switzerland) have a right to live and work in the UK without a permit or visa. Potential victims who are from EEA countries account for 699 (69%) of all potential victims exploited for labour, non EEA nationals account for 152 (15%), and the country of origin is not specified in 166 (16%) cases. Therefore, of the 851 potential victims where the nationality is known, 82% are EEA nationals who are legally in the UK and entitled to work.

¹⁸ The European Economic Area provides free movement of persons, goods, services and capital within the internal market of the European Union (EU), between its 28 Member States, as well as the three of the four Member States of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA): Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. Switzerland is neither an EU or EEA member but is part of the single market.

Table 4: Countries of Origin for Labour Exploitation Subtypes in 2014

Country of Origin	Agricultural	Car Wash	Construction	Factory	Food Industry	Maritime	Multiple	Nail Bar	Other	Restaurant / Bar	Tarmac / Paving	Unknown	Total
Romania	9	63	17	2	15	0	21	0	27	7	9	42	212
Poland	2	6	3	50	10	0	1	0	24	0	3	24	123
Lithuania	34	8	0	4	23	0	2	0	9	0	2	6	88
United Kingdom	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	58	0	11	10	83
Slovakia	1	1	5	24	10	0	1	0	4	1	0	23	70
Bulgaria	7	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	4	0	1	33
Czech Republic	0	2	2	3	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	18	30
Hungary	0	2	3	10	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	5	29
China	2	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	13	3	0	1	23
Latvia	0	2	0	0	6	0	0	0	2	0	1	9	20
Vietnam	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	12	2	2	0	2	19
India	0	0	3	0	2	3	1	0	0	2	0	3	14
Afghanistan	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	13
Pakistan	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	0	1	10
Ghana	1	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	0	10
Albania	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	10
Bangladesh	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	6	0	1	9
Sudan	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8
Eritrea	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	6
Portugal	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	5
UK/Kosovo	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Nigeria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	3
Zimbabwe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Ukraine	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Spain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Russia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Ireland	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Cameroon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Burma	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Bosnia & Herz.	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Syria	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sri Lanka	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Sierra Leone	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Serbia	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Nepal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Moldova	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Malaysia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Kuwait	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Kenya	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Italy	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Iraq	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Iran	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Guyana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Estonia	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Unknown	6	6	4	35	4	2	1	0	43	11	6	48	166
Total	76	127	48	129	76	13	32	12	217	49	33	205	1017

Recruitment

74. Potential victims exploited for labour originating from Eastern European countries such as the Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania and Slovakia report being offered accommodation in the UK as well as transportation to the UK as part of an employment package. Many find these employment opportunities through job advertisements on the internet, while others are told about jobs in the UK by friends and family who have already travelled to the UK for work, or are approached in their village or home town by acquaintances or friends of friends.

75. A recent Europol report¹⁹ highlights that it is not just the UK that is seeing the recruitment of victims increasingly taking place online. Traffickers across Europe lure victims with job advertisements placed on general advertising websites, or distributed through specialist agencies. It is a key enabler for human trafficking, not just for labour exploitation, impacting not only on the recruitment of victims, but also on transportation and exploitation of victims. In addition to adverts, traffickers have also approached victims directly via social media.

76. Undocumented migrant workers could be illegal immigrants, persons on a tourist or student visa or may be potential victims of human trafficking. Undocumented Vietnamese workers may also use specialist recruitment websites to seek work in the UK.

77. Of the potential victims recruited by the UK traveller community where nationality was known, 43% were reported as UK nationals, whereas a further 35% originated from Eastern Europe, predominantly Romania and Poland with others from Lithuania, Hungary, Slovakia and Latvia. In some cases those being exploited may have been targeted due to their vulnerability, either being homeless or having alcohol dependency and/or learning difficulties. Victims were reported being moved between different traveller sites around the UK.

Transport and Routing

78. There is little information available regarding specific travel routes of potential victims travelling to the UK for labour exploitation. Those travelling from EEA countries either travel by air direct to the UK, or more commonly by road using international bus, coach and minibus services, where the routes are determined by the transport company, or by private vehicle entering the UK via the channel tunnel or ferry port.

79. Those entering the country through clandestine methods in lorries or trailers, and subsequently exploited in the UK for labour are non EEA nationals from countries such as Afghanistan, Albania, China, Eritrea, Russia and Vietnam.

Finance

80. Potential victims exploited for employment reported having their wages paid in to bank accounts that they have either limited or no access to and are controlled by their exploiters. Some victims, may be charged a finder's fee for the job, which may not have been made clear prior to their arrival in the UK. There may also be further deductions for transport and accommodation, leaving them with little or no money to live on.

81. In addition to traffickers retaining a worker's wages, some also assist the victim to claim state benefits, which the trafficker will then keep. Potential victims have also reported

¹⁹ https://www.europol.europa.eu/sites/default/files/publications/intelligence_notification_thb_internet_15_2014_public.pdf

other financial arrangements being taken out in their name such as loans, purchase of high value items such as laptops and contracts for satellite television and mobile phones.

82. Some car wash workers have also reported being charged weekly fees for the rental of the car wash trollies that are required to carry out their job. Many report low rates of daily pay, equating to much less than the national minimum wage (NMW). However, some may be regarded as self employed by their exploiters, which negates the employer's obligation to pay tax or National Insurance contributions (NIC), holiday pay or NMW, in effect distancing the employer from the exploitation of their workers.

83. For tax and NIC purposes an individual is either employed or self employed. In employment law, there is also an additional category of 'worker', for those that provide services but are neither employees nor 'in business on their own account'. A 'worker' is regarded as self employed when it comes to paying their own tax and NIC, however they are entitled to NMW and holiday pay.²⁰ Establishing an individual's employment status may not always be straight forward and can depend upon the circumstances of the case and any contract that might be in place.²¹ Therefore, potential victims may not deem themselves as victims of exploitation if they are not aware of their rights.

84. Potential victims trafficked for employment in the fast food industry, such as pizza delivery, reported not being paid the wage they were promised, and there is information to suggest that some nationalities, such as Romanians, are paid less than others doing the same job in the same place of employment.

Coercive Methods

85. Imposed accommodation is a common factor for potential victims of labour exploitation. Often accommodation comes as part of a package with a job, and despite how overcrowded or poor the living conditions might be, leaving an exploitative situation would leave the victim homeless and jobless with no means to finance an alternative. As with other exploitation types, assault and threats of violence are also reported as methods of control, as well as threats to withhold pay.

86. Potential victims of labour exploitation also report having their passports or identification documents retained by their employers and their movements, social interaction and access to communications restricted. Some have also been refused access to medical treatment following accidents or injury at work and have even been prohibited from visiting their doctor for medication for specific conditions.

²⁰ www.taxadvisermagazine.com February 2012 – re. business consequences of Supreme Court decision *Autoclenz v Belcher* [2011]

²¹ *ibid*

Criminal Exploitation

Figure 12: Subtypes of Criminal Exploitation Reported in 2014

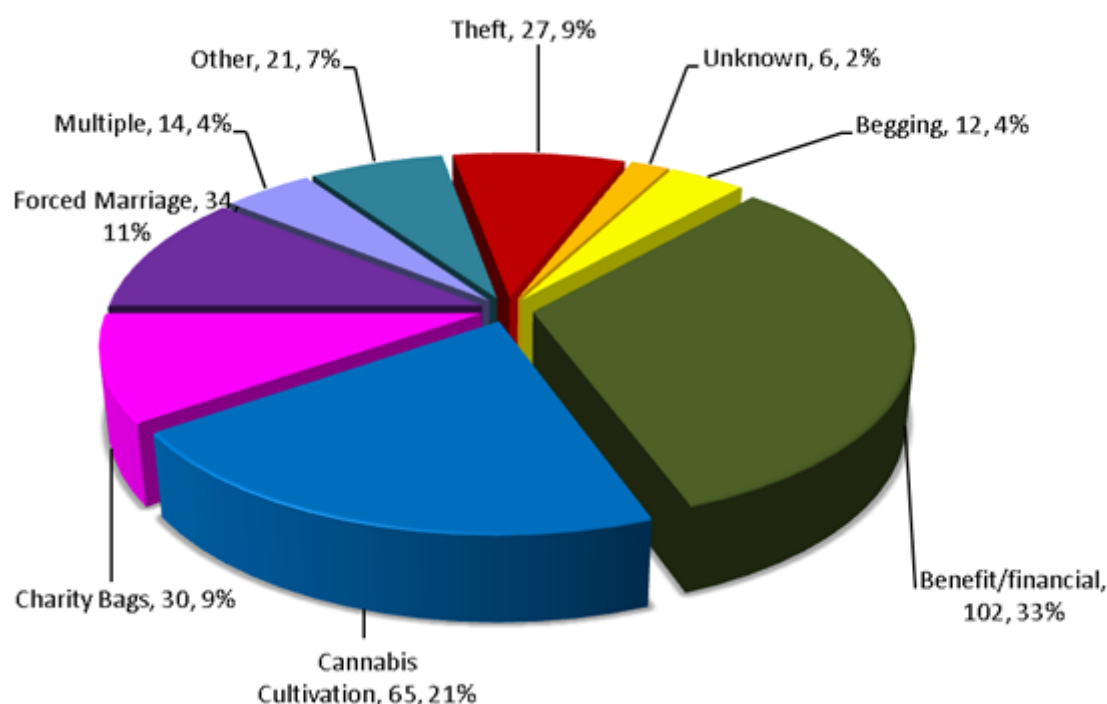
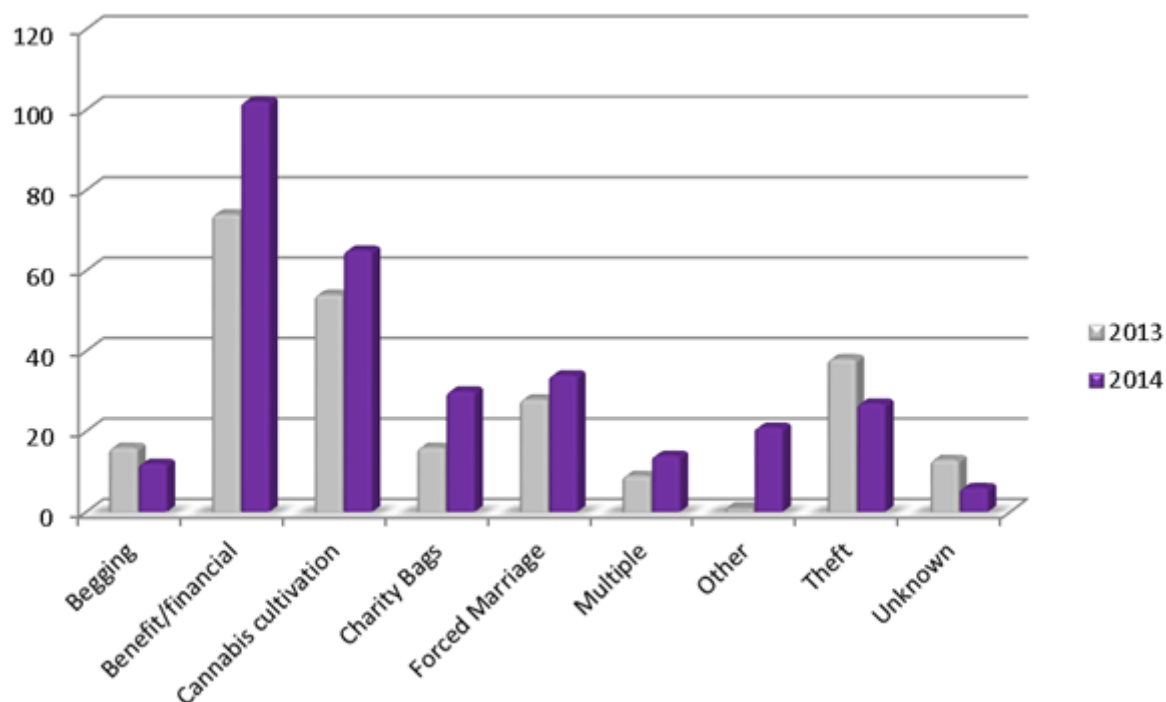


Figure 13: Comparison of Criminal Exploitation Subtypes between 2013/2014



87. 311 (9%) potential victims were reported as exploited for criminal purposes. This is a 25% increase on 2013 when 249 potential victims were recorded for criminal exploitation, however, the overall the percentage of victims remains the same at 9%. 185

(60%) were male, 103 (33%) were female and the gender of 23 (7%) was not specified. 144 (46%) potential victims were adults and 142 (46%) were minors, and the age at the time of exploitation was unknown in 25 (8%) cases. Of those minors exploited, 49 (35%) were minors from Slovakia exploited for benefits claims.

88. The most prevalent countries of origin for potential victims exploited in this way are Slovakia (72, 23%), Vietnam (49, 16%), Lithuania (36, 12%), Romania (33, 11%) and Albania (31, 10%). The number of individuals from Slovakia who are exploited for crime rose considerably from 2012 to 2013 but has stabilised in 2014, increasing by only three. The majority (88%) have been exploited for fraudulent benefit claims, with others being forced into marriages²² or committing theft.

89. Exploitation for benefit claims increased 38% on 2013 figures, with 102 potential victims recorded. A further 39 were reported for multiple exploitation types, combining labour exploitation and fraudulent benefit claims.

90. The second most prevalent country of origin for potential victims exploited for crime is Vietnam. Of the 49 potential victims, 47 were exploited for cannabis cultivation. 25 (53%) were minors, 18 (38%) adults and the age of the remaining 4 at the time of exploitation was not known. There has not been a dramatic difference in reporting from 2013, with an increase of 20% from the previous year equating to 11 people. The proportion of those that are children is less than in 2013, where 61% were minors. Vietnamese victims represent 72% of those exploited for cannabis cultivation (65), with the second most common country of origin being Albania (six, 9%).

91. The number of potential victims reported for exploitation for charity bag collection in 2014 increased by 88%, from 16 in 2013 to 30 in 2014, the majority originating from Lithuania (25, 83%). The figures for those exploited for charity bag collection may be higher if some have been reported as labour exploitation, but for the purpose of this report it is classified as criminal exploitation, as in many cases it involves the theft of genuine collection bags or bogus collections. It has been reported widely by UK charities that millions of pounds are lost each year with the theft of genuine collection bags and an increase in bogus collections.

92. Reporting continues to suggest that European females are trafficked to the UK for the purpose of marriage with Asian males who are not legally entitled to stay in the UK. 34 potential victims were recorded as trafficked solely for marriage, with a further eight who were exploited for forced marriage purposes in addition to sexual exploitation.

93. Twenty one (7%) of the potential victims exploited for crime were recorded under the 'other' crime category. This category represents those involved in drug related offences, other than cannabis cultivation. The majority of these (14, 67%) are Albanian male minors. There are three cases of UK nationals who have been recorded in this category. These potential victims fit the profile of vulnerable persons used as drug runners in a 'county lines' enterprise, as reported in *NCA Intelligence Assessment County Lines, Gangs and Safeguarding*²³

²² Sham marriage is an immigration offence as it involves an EU national receiving payment or some other benefit to marry a non EU national. In contrast, forced marriage is when an individual is coerced, threatened or deceived into marrying someone against their will and receives no financial or material gain. Where there is also an element of human trafficking, the trafficker may receive payment for providing a marriage partner.

²³ <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/620-nca-intelligence-assessment-county-lines-gangs-and-safeguarding/file>

Recruitment

94. Eastern European females recruited by promises of work and a better life, find themselves forced to take part in illegal marriages in the UK. The traffickers often originate from their own country, some are people they know from their own village or even members of their family. Once in the UK they are sold on to Pakistani and Indian males for marriage.

Transport and Routing

95. Romanians, the most prominent nationality recorded for potential victims coerced in to committing theft, have been encountered committing offences across the UK. The addresses given at the time they are encountered are sometimes multi occupancy properties, or addresses provided to them by traffickers that they are instructed to use if arrested. Some of those encountered may be career criminals, others are potential victims who have been trafficked and forced to steal, using modified bags lined with foil that stop radio signals from being transmitted and prevents store alarms from being activated.

96. Intelligence suggests that charity bag collectors will also travel considerable distances, outside of their home county for their day to day activity.

Finance

97. European females 'sold' for the purpose of marriage have reported being sold for between GBP 300 and GBP 10,000.

98. Similar to other exploitation types, potential victims are brought to the UK and forced to steal to pay for accommodation and travel to the UK. Traffickers will assist potential victims to apply for benefits for themselves and their families, which is then paid into bank accounts. The trafficker will control and will retain most if not all of the funds.

Coercive Methods

99. The coercive methods used by traffickers as a means of controlling victims of criminal exploitation are much the same as other types of exploitation.

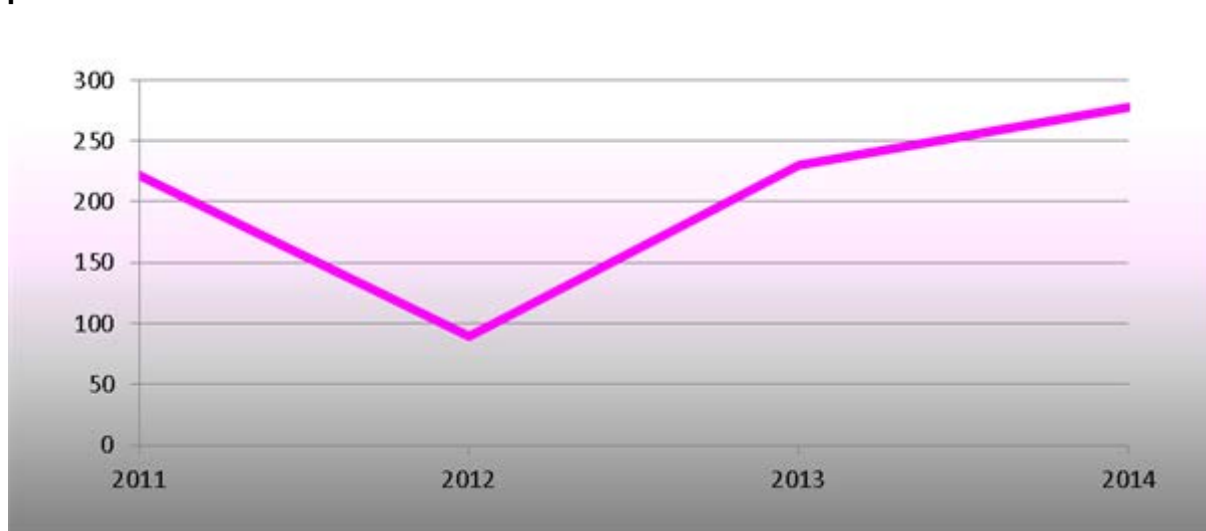
100. Almost half of the potential victims of criminal exploitation reported were minors under the age of 18, and therefore the coercion is irrelevant as 'means' is not required for them to be deemed as victims. In many of the 71 cases where children have been exploited for benefits, they most likely do not even know that they have been exploited.

Domestic Servitude

101. 278 potential victims were reported having been trafficked for domestic servitude purposes. This is an increase of 21% on the 2013 figure, but on a par with the overall increase in potential victims, and remains at 8% of the overall total number for 2013. This has remained stable over the last four years with the exception of 2012, which showed a dramatic decrease in the numbers reported.

102. This fluctuation could be explained by one of the key referring agencies, an NGO specialising in slave labour in the domestic work sector, unable to contribute to the figures in 2012.

Figure 14: Number of Potential Victims Exploited for Domestic Servitude 2011-2014



103. The most prevalent country of origin for potential victims of domestic servitude was Nigeria (54, 19%) for the fourth year in succession, followed by the Philippines (33, 12%) and Eritrea (20, 7%). Overall, 243 (87%) potential victims were recorded as non EEA nationals, 21 (8%) originated from EEA countries and the country of origin of 14 (5%) was unknown. This is in contrast to that seen for labour exploitation.

104. 212 (76%) were adults and 56 (20%) were minors. The age of 10 (4%) of the potential victims at the time of exploitation was not known at the time of exploitation. 223 (80%) were female, 52 (19%) were male, and the gender of three (1%) potential victims was not specified.

Table 5: Nationalities of Employers of Victims of Domestic Servitude

Potential Victim Country of Origin	Nationality of Employer/Exploiter																		
	Bahrain	Bangladesh	India	Kenya	Kuwait	Lebanon	Nigeria	Oman	Qatar	Romania	Saudi Arabia	Somalia	Sudan	United Arab Emirates	UK	USA	Vietnam	Not Recorded	Total
Nigeria	0	0	0	0	0	0	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	54
Philippines	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	22	33
Eritrea	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	1	0	12	20
Ethiopia	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	2	4	0	0	0	4	16
India	0	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	16
Vietnam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	4	13
Bangladesh	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	11
Sri Lanka	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	8
Indonesia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	5	8
Romania	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	7

105. Domestic servitude is more likely to be facilitated by individuals and less likely to be linked to organised criminality than other forms of exploitation.

106. Where information is available in relation to the exploiters, potential victims of domestic servitude originating from Nigeria were exploited by Nigerians, often within the UK. Few Nigerian potential victims report this exploitation to have taken place overseas prior to their arrival in the UK, although some report that they worked for their employers in Nigeria before being brought to the UK. Potential victims have reported being in servitude in the UK for many years prior to them being encountered by authorities, some up to 15 years.

107. Those originating from Philippines, Eritrea and Ethiopia are more likely to be exploited by employers originating from middle eastern countries such as Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Recruitment

108. Nigerian potential victims may be recruited by family or friends of the family, sometimes in the guise of an offer of help following a bereavement, loss of family ties, a promise of a better life or an opportunity to study, but find themselves forced into domestic service. Others know that they are being employed in a domestic capacity to cook, clean and look after children, but the conditions of their employment are not what was originally agreed and their treatment unacceptable.

109. Potential victims originating from the Eritrea, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Philippines and Sri Lanka will find domestic employment via an agent. The agents will often be in their home country offering work overseas particularly in the Middle East in countries such as Qatar, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Transport and Routing

110. There is limited information available regarding the routes and transportation of those trafficked for domestic servitude. Where information has been provided, potential victims have usually travelled by air from their country of origin to their location of exploitation. There is also a lack of information regarding the use of fraudulent travel documents and visas, which has been indicated in only a handful of cases.

111. Clandestine entry to the UK in the back of a lorry is a mode taken by some, however in many cases the exploitation took place overseas, and this entry to the UK was following escape from their exploitive situation.

Finance

112. Many potential victims have either not been paid, not paid what they were promised, or have been paid a nominal amount of 'pocket money' to buy personal items. Some reported that where the employer had paid for their travel and visa, wages were withheld to pay this back.

113. In general, the pay received is not commensurate with the long hours worked, varying from GBP 120 to GBP 500 per month per to look after several children. One potential victim calculated that they had been paid a total of GBP 135 over a four year period.

114. Some Nigerian potential victims who had been promised an education were actually able to study, however, they were charged for this. One had to give their employer their wages and another was told that she would have to pay back GBP 5,000 once she had completed her education and found work but this was later increased to over GBP 20,000.

Coercive Methods

115. Some potential victims of domestic servitude reported threats of violence and regular verbal and physical abuse, some also report being raped.

116. Often passports and identity documentation are retained by their employers, they may be confined to the property or not allowed to go out alone and social contact with family or friends is also restricted. If they complained or tried to leave, they would be threatened with being reported to the authorities and facing prison or deportation.

Organ Harvest

117. There is one recorded case of trafficking for the harvesting of organs in the figures for 2014 for this assessment. This relates to an Albanian male minor who claims the traffickers who brought him to the UK had done so with the intention of selling his organs. There is limited information available regarding the circumstances and the NRM case is pending.

118. Potential victims of trafficking for the purpose of organ transplant are rarely seen in the UK as NHS and Human Tissue Authority (HTA) controls are very strict. There is no under 18 living donation in the UK. The Human Tissue Act 2004 provides the legal framework for organ donation in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. In Scotland the Human Tissue (Scotland) Act 2006 refers. The HTA provide advice and guidance and make decisions on whether living organ donations in the UK can take place. In the UK, a living donor can only donate an organ if they volunteer to do so and will not receive any payment or reward. There is an independent assessment process to ensure that the donor has: the capacity to give consent; understands the risks; is volunteering and is not under any duress or coercion; and that there will be no reward.²⁴ This is in addition to medical tests for compatibility prior any procedure.

119. Prior to the case above, there have only ever been four other cases referred to the NRM where the potential victim has claimed to have been trafficked for their organs. There were two cases in 2011, one in 2012, and a further case referred in 2014. Only two of these cases received positive decisions on their trafficking status. Both potential victims were of African origin; one brought to the UK to assist a sick relative with an organ donation claimed that they were unaware that this was the intention of bringing them to the UK; the other was promised a better life in another country and had agreed to sell an organ in return. While transiting the UK for the destination country, the potential victim claimed asylum. No organ donation took place in either case.²⁵

Multiple Exploitation Types

120. 191 potential victims are reported to have been subjected to more than one exploitation type. The most common combinations are labour and criminal exploitation, accounting for 88 instances. Of these 39 were specifically for labour and benefits

²⁴ For further information on the living donor process see www.hta.gov.uk

²⁵ For reasons of confidentiality and to prevent identification of these victims, no further details can be provided

exploitation. Other combinations include sexual and criminal exploitation (37) which includes eight for forced marriage. Domestic servitude is most commonly combined with sexual exploitation, and accounts for 21 cases.

Child Trafficking

121. Of the 3309 potential victims of trafficking reported in 2014, 732 (22%) were children at the time of exploitation. This represents a 22% increase on the number of children reported in 2013, but is the same proportion of the overall figure for the year.

122. The most prevalent countries of origin of child potential victims of trafficking were the UK (116, 16%), Vietnam (97, 13%), Albania (83, 11%), Slovakia (76, 10%), Romania (51, 7%) and Nigeria (44, 6%).

Table 6: Countries of Origin for Child Potential Victims of Trafficking 2013/2014

POSITION IN 2014	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	POSITION IN 2013	TOTAL 2014	CHANGE FROM 2013
1	United Kingdom	1	116	-9%
2	Vietnam	2	97	+26%
3	Albania	6	83	+137%
4	Slovakia	3	76	+36%
5	Romania	4	51	+21%
6	Nigeria	5	44	+22%
7	Bangladesh	10	15	+67%
8	Eritrea	26	11	+267%
9	Hungary	22	11	+175%
10	China	8	10	-17%
10	Pakistan	9	10	-17%

123. Of the 732 child potential victims reported, 449 (61%) were female, 260 (36%) were male and the gender of 23 (3%) was not specified. The most common exploitation type for girls was sexual exploitation (222, 49%), where boys were predominantly exploited for criminal purposes (92, 35%). 12 males encountered are reported to have been exploited for sexual exploitation.

124. The most prevalent exploitation types for children believed to have been trafficked were sexual exploitation (237, 32%) and criminal exploitation (142, 19%). The exploitation type of 216 (30%) of children was recorded as unknown. This is largely due to cases in which a child is identified as at risk of trafficking and has been safeguarded prior to any exploitation occurring, for example, an unaccompanied child who is encountered on arrival in the UK.

Figure 15: Exploitation Types for Child Potential Victims in 2014

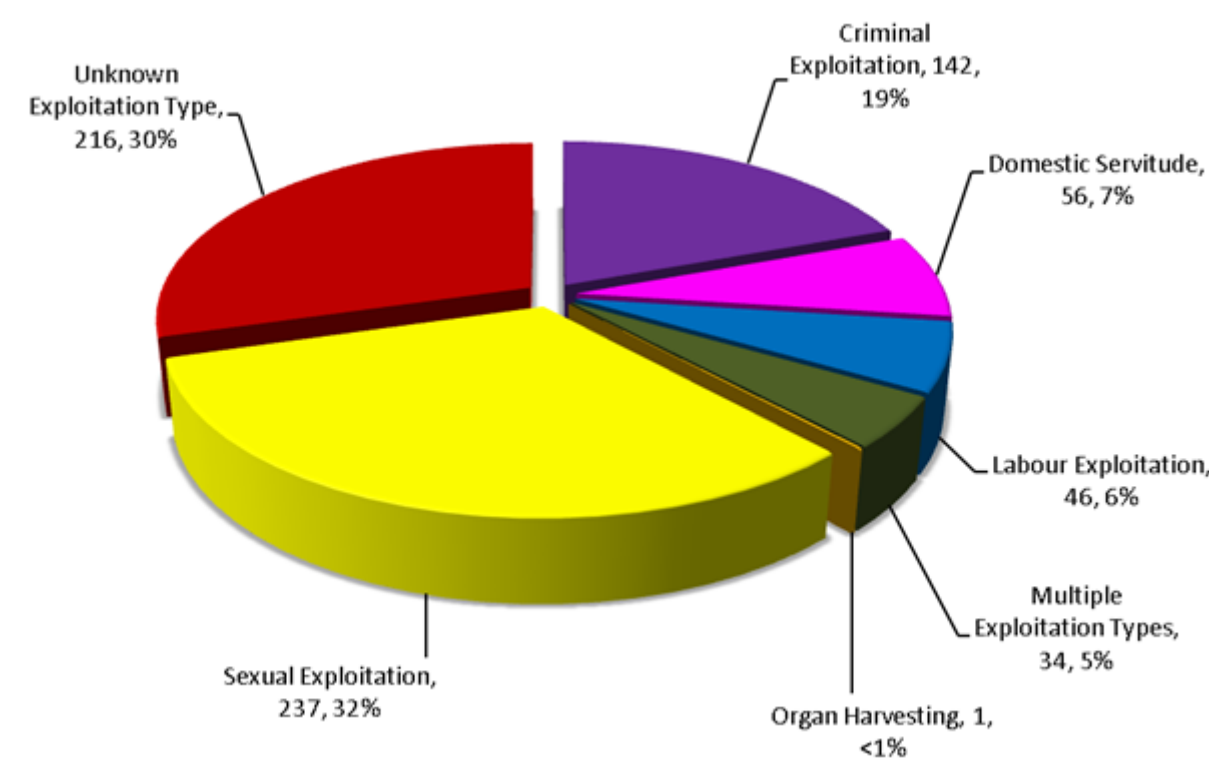


Figure 16: Countries of Origin and Exploitation Types in 2014

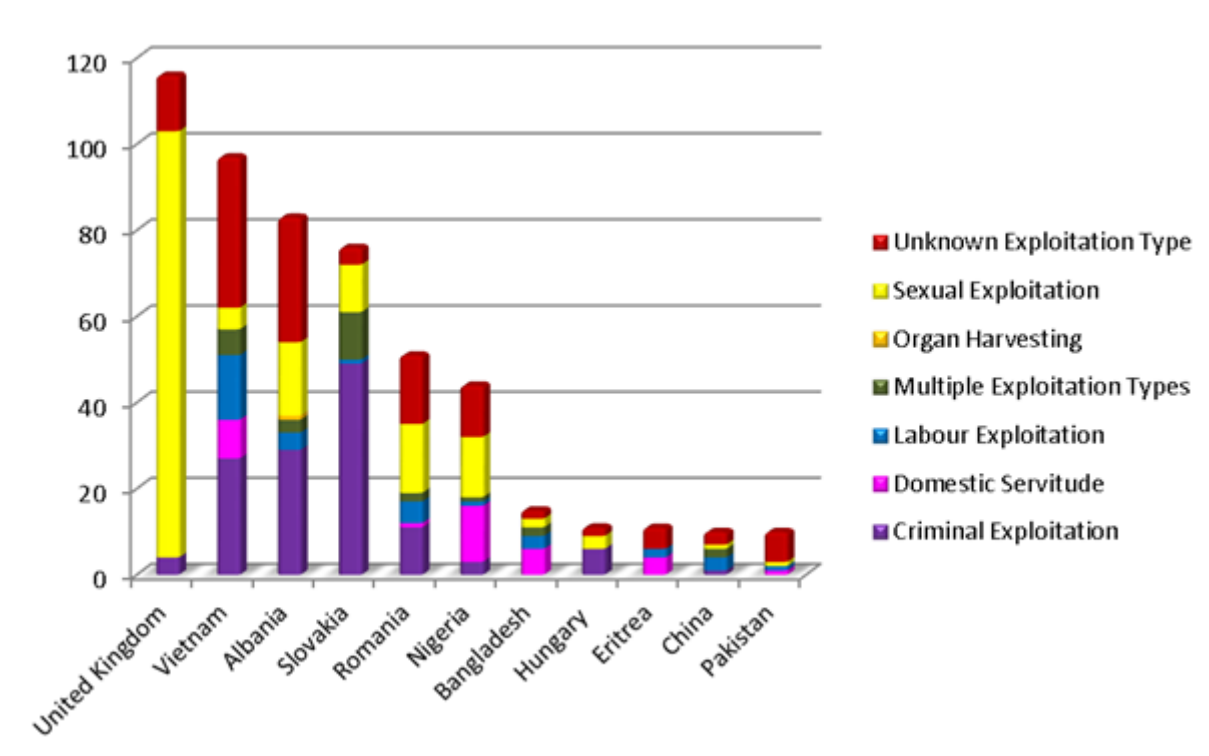


Table 7: Breakdown of Child Potential Victims by Gender and Exploitation Type

Gender	Exploitation Type	Total	Exploitation Type	Gender	Total
Female	Criminal Exploitation	44	Criminal Exploitation	Female	44
	Domestic Servitude	35		Male	92
	Labour Exploitation	9		Unknown	6
	Multiple Exploitation	24			142
	Sexual Exploitation	222	Domestic Servitude	Female	35
	Unknown Exploitation	115		Male	21
		449			56
Male	Criminal Exploitation	92	Labour Exploitation	Female	9
	Domestic Servitude	21		Male	34
	Labour Exploitation	34		Unknown	3
	Multiple Exploitation	8			46
	Organ Harvesting	1	Multiple Exploitation	Female	24
	Sexual Exploitation	12		Male	8
	Unknown Exploitation	92		Unknown	2
		260			34
Unknown	Criminal Exploitation	6	Organ Harvesting	Male	1
	Labour Exploitation	3			1
	Multiple Exploitation	2	Sexual Exploitation	Female	222
	Sexual Exploitation	3		Male	12
	Unknown Exploitation	9		Unknown	3
		23			237
Total		732	Unknown Exploitation	Female	115
				Male	92
				Unknown	9
					216
			Total		732

125. Of the 732 child potential victims of trafficking encountered during 2014, 88 (12%) were aged up to nine years old, 17 (2%) were aged between 10 and 11 years, 213 (29%) were aged 12 to 15 years and 274 (37%) were aged 16 to 17 years. 65 (9%) were children when their exploitation commenced but had since become adults. In a further 75 (10%) cases, the potential victim was recorded as a child but no further information relating to their age was provided.

126. For children up to the age of nine years old, the exploitation type was unknown in 37 (42%) cases. Where the exploitation type was specified, the most common type was criminal exploitation (37, 42%), of which 34 (92%) were exploited for benefit claims.

127. The exploitation type for 41% of 10 to 11 year olds was not known. Where the exploitation type was known, 24% (4) were exploited for criminal purposes, all of which were benefit claims.

128. Sexual exploitation was the most common type specified for children aged between 12 and 15, accounting for 69 (32%) cases, 63 (91%) being female. The exploitation type was unspecified for 70 (33%) potential victims.

129. Child potential victims aged 16-17 most commonly experienced sexual exploitation, with 99 (36%) cases reported. 21 (8%) are believed to have been exploited for cannabis cultivation, this age group accounting for 72% of all minors exploited in this manner. The exploitation type was unknown for 78 (28%) of children in this age group.

Table 8: Breakdown of Age Groups of Child Potential Victims of Trafficking

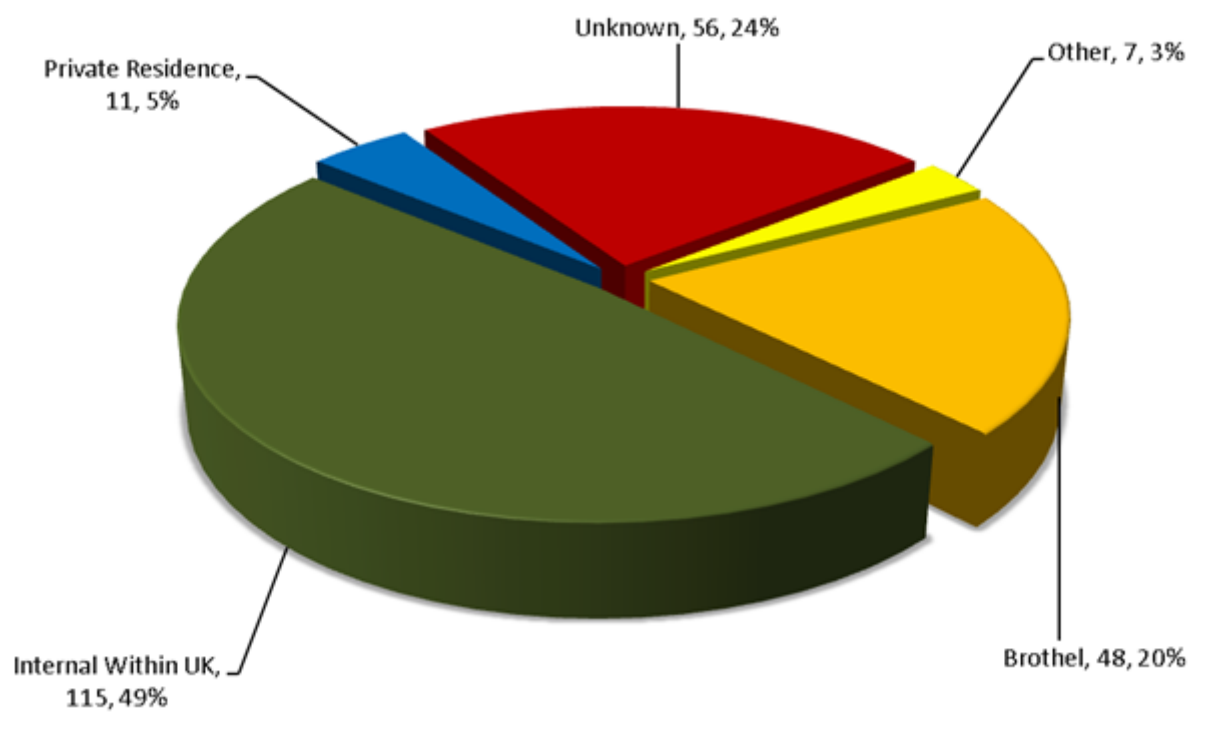
Age Group	Gender	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Organ Harvesting	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation	Total
0-9	Female	16	1	0	8	0	0	26	51
	Male	20	1	1	1	0	1	10	34
	Unknown	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	3
		37	2	1	10	0	1	37	88
10-11	Female	2	0	0	1	0	3	5	11
	Male	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	5
	Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
		4	2	0	1	0	3	7	17
12-15	Female	15	5	2	6	0	63	32	123
	Male	23	6	12	4	1	5	37	88
	Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
		38	11	14	10	1	69	70	213
16-17	Female	9	13	6	3	0	98	40	169
	Male	45	8	12	1	0	1	37	104
	Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
		54	21	18	4	0	99	78	274
Over 18	Female	0	15	0	4	0	22	1	42
	Male	2	4	6	2	0	5	4	23
		2	19	6	6	0	27	5	65
Unknown	Female	2	1	1	2	0	36	11	53
	Male	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	6
	Unknown	5	0	3	1	0	2	5	16
		7	1	7	3	0	38	19	75
Total		142	56	46	34	1	237	216	732

Child Trafficking - Sexual Exploitation

130. Of the 116 UK national child potential victims, 99 (85%) were reported to have been sexually exploited, a decrease of 12% on those reported in 2013. 169 potential victims of sexual exploitation were recorded as trafficked internally within the UK, 115 (68%) of these were identified as children at the time of exploitation, 92 of these children were UK nationals. The subtype was not specified for 56 (24%) minors reported for sexual exploitation.

131. Cases of child sexual exploitation continue to feature in the media, including high profile cases such as Operation STOVEWOOD, a National Crime Agency (NCA) investigation into non-familial child sexual exploitation and abuse (CSEA) of some 1400 minors in Rotherham between 1997 and 2013, that began in December 2014.

Figure 17: Subtypes of Sexual Exploitation in 2014



132. Some cases of child sexual exploitation may not involve or be easily identifiable as trafficking or modern slavery and so may not have been reported to the NCA and therefore the number could be much higher. Not all cases of child sexual exploitation will be reported to the NRM. The reason for this is not known, it could be that in adult cases, the NRM process can assist as a means to acquire victim accommodation, however with child cases, social services will already be involved and therefore referral to the NRM may not be deemed necessary.

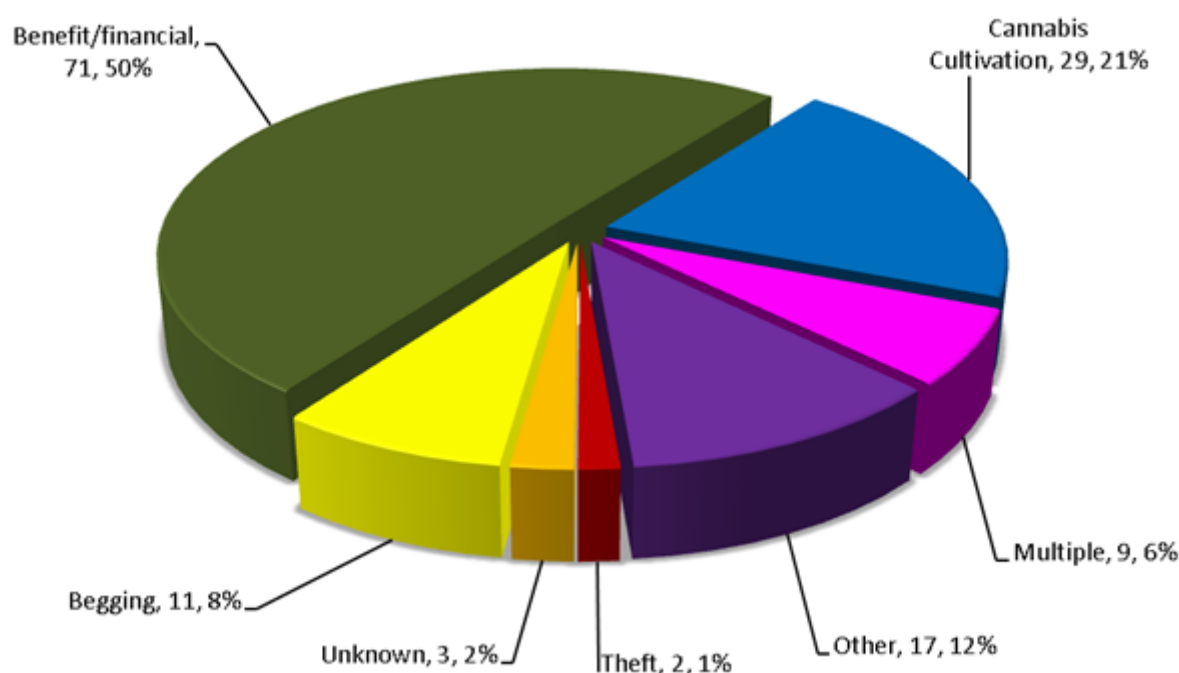
Child Trafficking - Criminal Exploitation

133. Of the 142 child potential victims reported for criminal exploitation, 71 (50%) were exploited specifically for benefits claims, 69% (49) of these children originated from Slovakia and had travelled to the UK with their parents who themselves had been exploited for state benefits or their labour.

134. 29 (21%) of child potential victims exploited for criminal purposes were trafficked for cannabis cultivation. 25 (86%) of these children were Vietnamese. A further four minors encountered for this type of exploitation originated from Albania.

135. The 'other' category for criminal exploitation accounts for one minor trafficked for a suspected forced marriage and 16 minors who were exploited for drugs related offences, other than cannabis cultivation. 14 (88%) were Albanian male minors. Two further cases are UK minors exploited as drug runners.

Figure 18: Subtypes of Criminal Exploitation in 2014



Child Trafficking - Domestic Servitude

136. Of the 278 potential victims reported as being trafficked for domestic servitude, 56 (20%) were children. The most common country of origin of children trafficked for domestic servitude is Nigeria (13,23%), followed by Vietnam (9,16%) and Bangladesh (6, 11%).

137. Children exploited in this way are often placed into this situation by family or family friends, sometimes brought to the UK for a better life, education or taken in by another family member or friend following the death of a parent. Because of the familial connection, where information is available in relation to the exploiter, in the majority of cases they are the same nationality. In 50% of cases (23) the child was exploited in the UK, 12 (21%) were exploited overseas and not in the UK and the location of exploitation is not recorded for the remaining 21.

The Child Trafficking Advocacy Service (CTA)²⁶

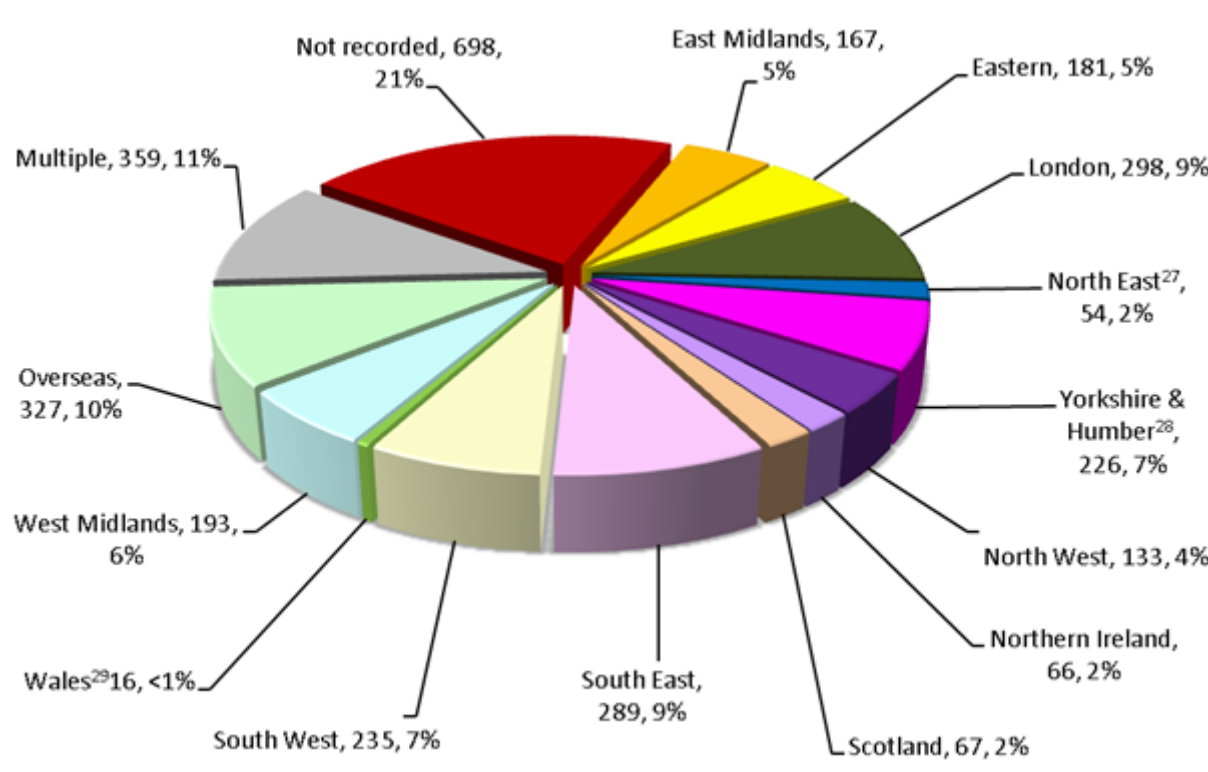
138. The Child Trafficking Advocacy Service was launched in September 2014. The CTA has been developed to work with young people who have been trafficked to or within the UK. The service supports, advises and guides children who have been trafficked or who are at risk of being trafficked and helps them to navigate and understand complex systems such as children's services, criminal justice and immigration. In total the service has six full time Advocates who each work with approximately 16 children and young people.

139. Barnardo's is delivering a 12 month trial which will be independently evaluated by the University of Bedfordshire. The service is based across four hubs in Greater Manchester, London, South East and the Midlands. Highly trained and accredited practitioners are working with every local authority trial area to ensure close partnership working and to ensure the best response for children and young people.

²⁶ For more information visit <http://www.barnardos.org.uk/cta.htm>

Geographical and Regional Breakdowns

Figure 19: Recorded location of exploitation of potential victims



140. Of the 3309 potential victims, the location of alleged exploitation was reported in 2611 (79%) cases. The location of exploitation was either not known or unspecified in the other 698 (21%) cases.

141. 327 (10%) potential victims encountered in the UK reported being exploited overseas before arriving in the UK and have not reported any exploitation in the UK. 201 (61%) of those reporting exploitation overseas only and not in the UK were from Albania. The other most common nationalities where exploitation was claimed overseas and not in the UK were Eritrea (19), Nigeria (17) and Vietnam (12).

142. 359 (11%) of potential victims have been reported as exploited in multiple locations throughout the UK. 165 of these potential victims were subject to sexual exploitation and 88 for labour exploitation. Potential victims from the UK are the most prevalent to have been exploited in various regions. 36 are reported as potential victims of sexual exploitation, including 22 children. A further 18 are reported for labour or criminal exploitation linked to the UK traveller community.

²⁷ North East refers to the North East policing region of Cleveland, Durham and Northumbria

²⁸ Yorkshire and Humber refers to the policing region of Humberside, North Yorkshire, South Yorkshire and West Yorkshire

²⁹ Wales refers to the policing region of Dyfed-Powys, Gwent and South Wales police. North Wales Police area is included within the North West region

Table 9: The Number of Potential Victims by Exploitation Type and Location of Exploitation

National Policing Region	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation Types	Organ Harvesting	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation Type	Total
East Midlands	15	4	123	4	0	12	9	167
Eastern	8	8	122	8	0	26	9	181
London	29	51	29	23	0	140	26	298
North East ³⁰	7	1	1	1	0	42	2	54
Yorkshire & Humber ³¹	65	4	93	26	0	26	12	226
North West	20	2	49	11	0	40	11	133
Northern Ireland	5	0	52	1	0	7	1	66
Overseas	32	30	29	9	0	202	25	327
Scotland	10	1	16	2	0	24	14	67
South East	24	16	128	16	0	78	27	289
South West	19	2	117	26	0	59	12	235
Unknown	40	110	90	26	1	226	205	698
Wales ³²	1	4	7	3	0	1	0	16
West Midlands	8	8	73	5	0	91	8	193
Multiple	28	37	88	30	0	165	11	359
Total	311	278	1017	191	1	1139	372	3309

³⁰ North East policing region of Cleveland, Durham and Northumbria

³¹ Yorkshire & Humber policing region of Humberside North Yorkshire, South Yorkshire and West Yorkshire

³² Wales policing area of Dyfed-Powys, Gwent and South Wales. North Wales Police is included in North West region

Table 10: Countries of Origin and Location of Exploitation

National Region	Policing Region	Romania	Albania	United Kingdom	Slovakia	Poland	Nigeria	Lithuania	Vietnam	Czech Republic	Hungary
East Midlands		18	2	32	9	20	2	8	8	0	2
Eastern		31	2	8	25	6	3	53	2	3	1
London		60	11	14	3	12	64	8	14	3	5
North East		2	0	34	4	1	1	0	0	3	0
Yorkshire & Humber		10	0	5	86	49	0	2	1	21	31
North West		26	1	7	10	10	6	3	1	3	20
Northern Ireland		53	0	1	3	0	0	1	1	0	0
Overseas		2	201	2	0	1	17	1	12	0	0
Scotland		7	0	4	2	13	1	0	5	0	0
South East		38	2	51	9	13	8	2	12	5	2
South West		35	5	30	0	10	1	47	1	28	1
Unknown		44	78	27	19	14	75	6	72	8	4
Wales		2	0	7	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
West Midlands		69	1	18	15	21	0	0	6	0	1
Multiple		56	13	60	14	25	10	33	27	7	4
Total		453	316	300	199	196	188	164	163	82	71

143. The map at figure 18 illustrates that labour is the most common exploitation type reported in the south of the UK, while sexual exploitation is most common throughout the rest of the UK regions including London. The map also shows how these most prominent exploitation types have changed since 2013, which may be attributable to specific law enforcement activity.

144. Figure 19 and the geographical summaries to follow show the most prominent country of origin of potential victims by region of exploitation. Potential victims that have been exploited in multiple locations will be included in more than one region. It should be noted that these figures relate to potential victims as reported for this assessment and are not comparable to published NRM statistics.

Figure 20: Most Prominent Exploitation Type Including Exploitation in Multiple Regions

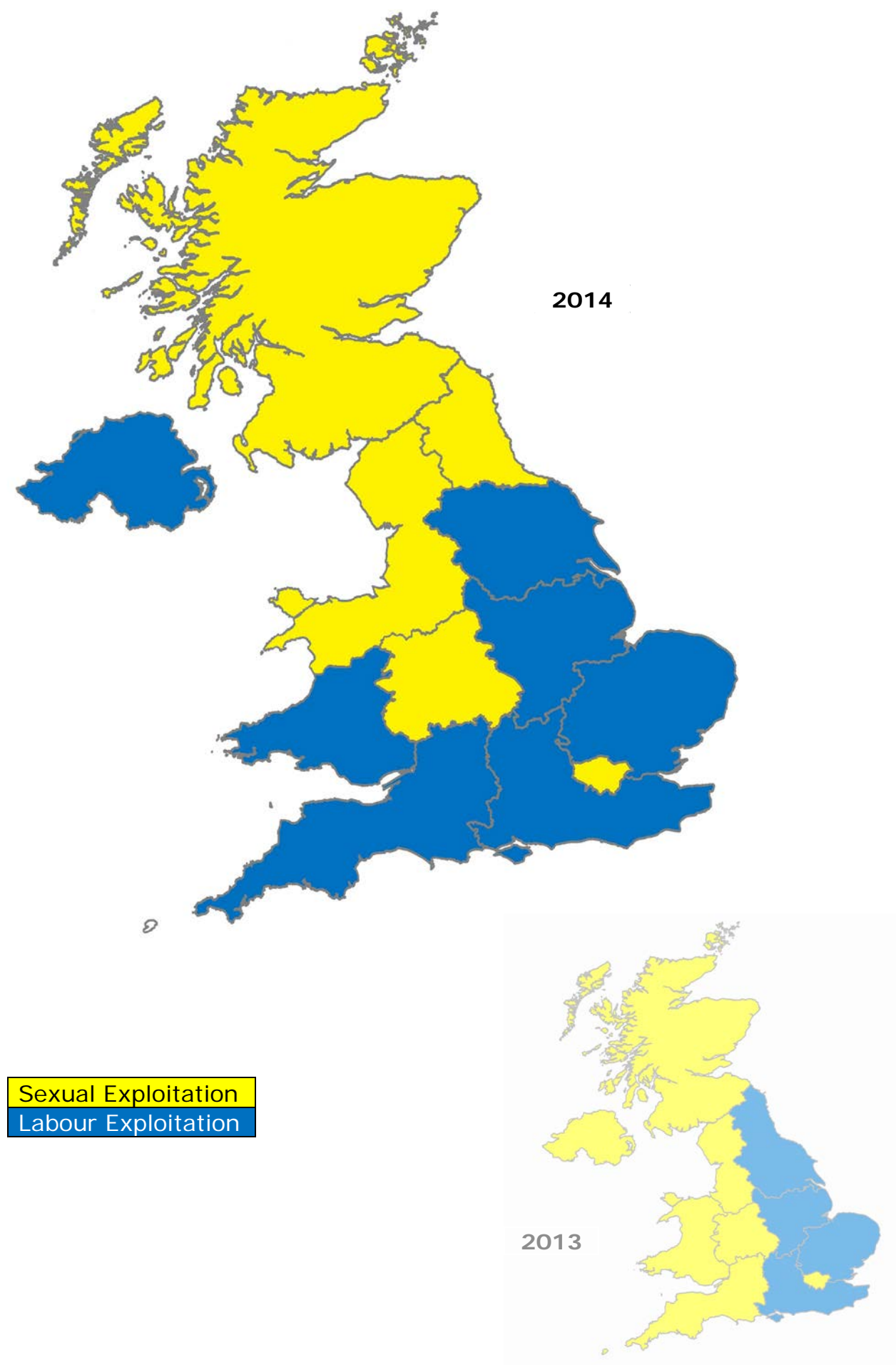
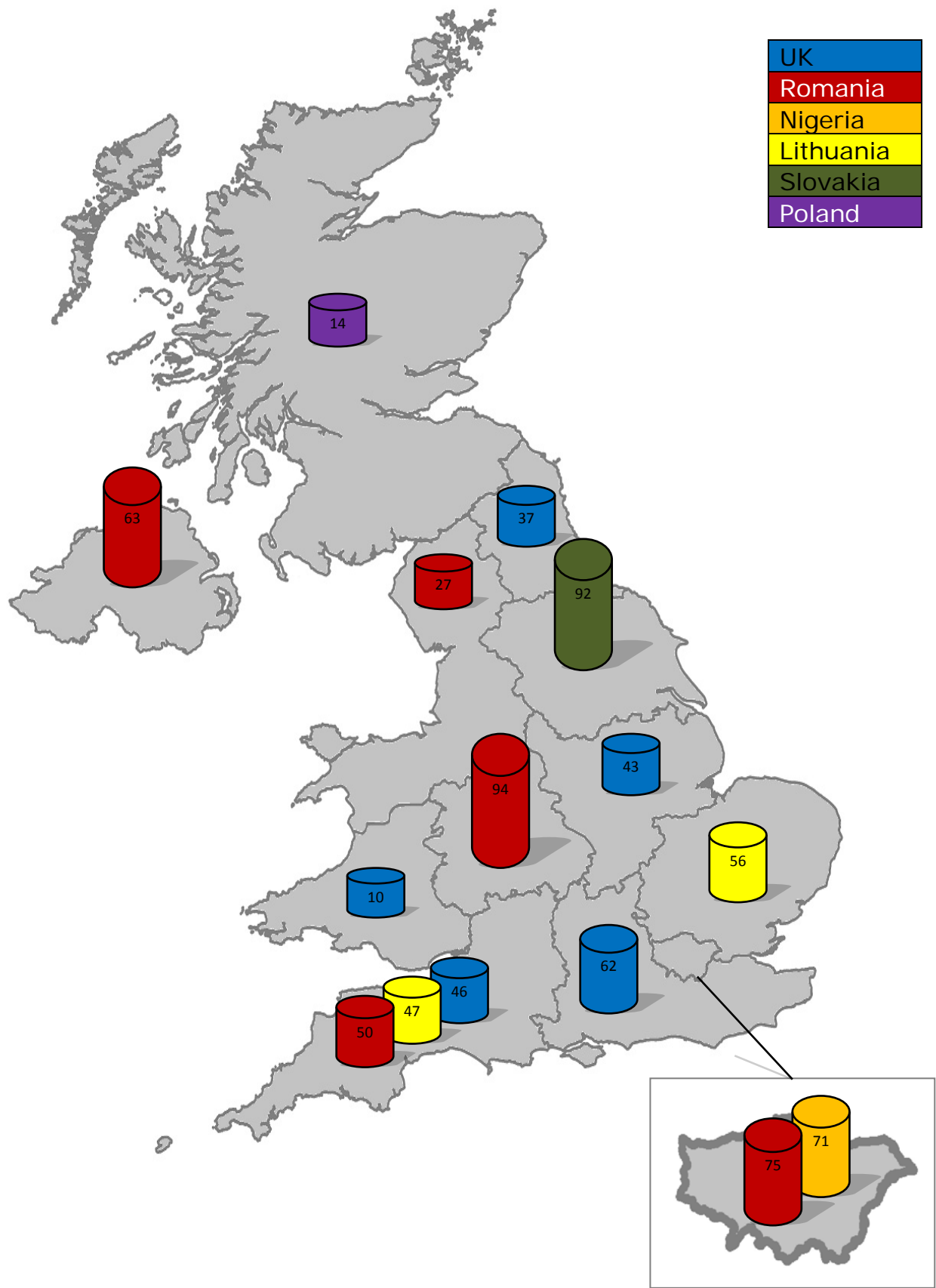


Figure 21: Most Prominent Country of Origin by Region of Exploitation, Including Exploitation in Multiple Regions



Geographical Summaries for National Policing Regions of England and Wales

East Midlands

145. 200 potential victims are reported to have been subject to some exploitation within the East Midlands region.

146. Of these, 138 (69%) potential victims experienced labour exploitation, which was the most prominent exploitation type reported in the region in 2014.

147. The most prevalent country of origin of potential victims who encountered exploitation in the East Midlands region, where known, was the UK, which accounted for 43 (22%).

Table 11: Exploitation Within the East Midlands Region by Country of Origin and Type

	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation	Total
United Kingdom	4	0	29	1	9	0	43
Not Specified	1	0	22	0	1	4	28
Poland	1	0	23	1	0	0	25
Latvia	0	0	19	0	0	1	20
Romania	4	1	11	0	4	0	20
Slovakia	0	0	10	0	1	0	11
Vietnam	7	0	0	0	1	2	10
Lithuania	0	0	9	0	0	0	9
Bulgaria	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
China	0	0	2	0	1	0	3
Pakistan	0	2	1	0	0	0	3
Albania	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Cameroon	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Congo	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Hungary	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Iran	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Nigeria	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
German	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
India	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Iraq	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Italy	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Jamaica	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Kenya	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Malawi	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Portugal	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Serbia	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Sierra Leone	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Vietnam/UK	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Zimbabwe	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	21	6	138	5	20	10	200

Eastern

148. 233 potential victims are reported to have been subject to some exploitation within the Eastern region.

149. Of these, 154 (66%) potential victims experienced labour exploitation, the most prominent exploitation type reported in the region.

150. The most prevalent country of origin of potential victims who encountered exploitation in the Eastern region, where known, was Lithuania, which accounted for 56 (24%).

Table 12: Exploitation Within the Eastern Region by Country of Origin and Type

	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation	Total
Lithuania	5	0	41	7	0	3	56
Romania	1	3	31	1	12	0	48
Not Specified	1	0	32	4	1	4	42
Slovakia	0	2	22	1	1	0	26
United Kingdom	1	0	8	0	4	2	15
Poland	2	1	5	0	2	0	10
Bulgaria	0	0	8	0	1	0	9
Thailand	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Czech Republic	0	0	2	0	0	1	3
Nigeria	0	2	0	0	1	0	3
Vietnam	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
India	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Albania	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Cameroon	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Spain	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Moldova	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Hungary	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Sri Lanka	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Zimbabwe	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Ireland	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Brazil	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Latvia	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Mauritius	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	10	9	154	14	34	12	233

London

151. 427 potential victims are reported to have been subject to some exploitation within the London region.

152. Of these, 214 (50%) potential victims experienced sexual exploitation, the most prominent exploitation type reported in the region.

153. The most prevalent country of origin of potential victims who encountered exploitation in the London region, where known, was Romania, which accounted for 75 (18%), closely followed by Nigeria, accounting for 71 (17%).

Table 13: Exploitation Within the London Region by Country of Origin and Type

	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation	Total
Romania	10	0	9	16	38	2	75
Nigeria	1	22	1	3	34	10	71
Lithuania	5	0	3	1	25	0	34
United Kingdom	3	0	2	0	24	1	30
Poland	5	0	3	0	17	0	25
Vietnam	9	3	6	3	2	1	24
Not Specified	0	3	1	1	11	1	17
Albania	2	0	0	0	11	1	14
Thailand	0	0	0	0	10	0	10
Ghana	0	2	0	1	5	2	10
Philippines	0	8	0	1	0	1	10
Bangladesh	0	5	4	0	0	0	9
India	0	5	3	0	0	0	8
China	0	1	1	1	4	0	7
Hungary	1	0	2	0	3	1	7
Uganda	0	3	0	1	2	0	6
Slovakia	1	0	1	0	2	2	6
Ethiopia	0	3	0	0	1	1	5
Brazil	0	1	0	0	4	0	5
Sierra Leone	0	0	0	2	2	0	4
Pakistan	0	1	0	0	2	0	3
Gambia	0	2	0	0	1	0	3
Cameroon	0	0	0	1	2	0	3
Czech Republic	0	0	1	0	1	1	3
Sri Lanka	0	2	0	0	0	1	3
Kenya	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Somalia	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Russia	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
Eritrea	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Burma	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Senegal	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Democratic Republic of the Congo	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Zimbabwe	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
Portugal	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Morocco	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Iran	0	0	0	0	1	1	2

Table 13 cont.

	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation	Total
Bulgaria	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
Italy	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Zambia	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Turkey	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
South Africa	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Bolivia	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Jamaica	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Egypt	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Indonesia	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Iraq	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Liberia	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total	39	72	40	33	214	29	427

North East

154. 57 potential victims are reported to have been subject to some exploitation within the North East region.

155. Of these, 45 (79%) potential victims experienced sexual exploitation, the most prominent exploitation type reported in the region.

156. The most prevalent country of origin of potential victims who encountered exploitation in the North East region, where known, was the United Kingdom, which accounted for 37 (65%).

Table 14: Exploitation Within the North East Region by Country of Origin and Type

	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation	Total
United Kingdom	0	0	0	0	37	0	37
Not Specified	4	0	0	0	3	0	7
Slovakia	3	0	0	0	1	0	4
Czech Republic	0	0	1	1	1	0	3
Romania	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Nigeria	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Sri Lanka	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Russia	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Poland	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total	7	1	1	1	45	2	57

Yorkshire and Humber

157. 315 potential victims are reported to have been subject to some exploitation within the Yorkshire & Humber region.

158. Of these, 113 (36%) potential victims experienced labour exploitation, the most prominent exploitation type reported in the region.

159. The most prevalent country of origin of potential victims who encountered exploitation in the Yorkshire & Humber region, where known, was Slovakia, which accounted for 92 (29%).

Table 15: Exploitation Within the Yorkshire and Humber Region by Country of Origin and Type

	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation	Total
Slovakia	54	1	7	20	5	5	92
Poland	0	0	48	1	0	2	51
Hungary	9	1	20	1	0	2	33
Lithuania	2	0	4	1	22	0	29
United Kingdom	1	0	4	0	19	2	26
Not Specified	3	0	5	1	16	0	25
Czech Republic	1	0	19	4	0	0	24
Romania	1	1	5	0	9	2	18
Vietnam	0	2	0	1	0	2	5
Malawi	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
Bangladesh	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Ireland	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Zimbabwe	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Ghana	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Uganda	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Pakistan	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Albania	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
China	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Nigeria	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Iran	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	72	8	113	32	75	15	315

North West

160. 172 potential victims are reported to have been subject to some exploitation within the North West region.

161. Of these, 67 (39%) potential victims experienced sexual exploitation, the most prominent exploitation type reported in the region.

162. The most prevalent country of origin of potential victims who encountered exploitation in the North West region, where known, was Romania, which accounted for 27 (16%).

Table 16: Exploitation Within the North West Region by Country of Origin and Type

	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation	Total
Romania	13	0	10	0	3	1	27
Not Specified	3	0	7	5	8	3	26
Poland	0	0	3	0	15	2	20
Hungary	0	0	3	1	16	0	20
United Kingdom	0	0	2	0	13	1	16
Slovakia	3	0	7	0	0	0	10
Pakistan	0	0	6	0	1	3	10
Nigeria	0	0	0	1	5	0	6
Lithuania	4	0	1	1	0	0	6
Bangladesh	0	0	4	0	0	0	4
Czech Republic	0	0	2	0	1	0	3
USA	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Iran	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
Ghana	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Vietnam	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Croatia	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Morocco	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Latvia	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
Cameroon	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Sudan	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
China	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Italy	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Uganda	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Portugal	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Guinea Bissau	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Afghanistan	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Angola	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Albania	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total	24	2	50	17	67	12	172

South East

163. 327 potential victims are reported to have been subject to some exploitation within the South East region.

164. Of these, 144 (44%) potential victims experienced labour exploitation, the most prominent exploitation type reported in the region.

165. The most prevalent country of origin of potential victims who encountered exploitation in the South East region, where known, was the United Kingdom, which accounted for 62 (19%).

Table 17: Exploitation Within the South East Region by Country of Origin and Type

	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation	Total
Not Specified	5	2	42	9	24	16	98
United Kingdom	10	0	26	5	21	0	62
Romania	0	1	37	1	5	0	44
Poland	3	0	11	0	2	0	16
Vietnam	5	1	3	1	2	3	15
Slovakia	1	0	5	0	6	0	12
Bulgaria	2	0	1	0	8	0	11
Nigeria	0	5	0	2	2	0	9
Afghanistan	0	0	8	0	0	0	8
Czech Republic	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
Sri Lanka	0	1	0	0	0	2	3
Ghana	0	1	2	0	0	0	3
Latvia	1	0	1	1	0	0	3
Thailand	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Zimbabwe	0	2	1	0	0	0	3
Bangladesh	0	0	1	0	2	0	3
Lithuania	2	0	0	0	1	0	3
Hungary	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Ireland	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Syria	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
China	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Nepal	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Albania	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Sudan	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
German	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Eritrea	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Portugal	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
India	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Kenya	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Bhutan	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Cameroon	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Ukraine	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Namibia	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Somalia	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Brazil	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Russia	0	0	1	0	0	0	1

Table 17 cont.							
	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation	Total
Malaysia	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total	31	18	144	19	87	28	327

South West

166. 319 potential victims are reported to have been subject to some exploitation within the South West region.

167. Of these, 150 (47%) potential victims experienced labour exploitation, the most prominent exploitation type reported in the region.

168. The most prevalent country of origin of potential victims who encountered exploitation in the South West region, where known, was Romania, which accounted for 50 (16%).

Table 18: Exploitation Within the South West Region by Country of Origin and Type

	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation	Total
Not Specified	2	1	22	1	21	4	51
Romania	0	0	35	1	14	0	50
Lithuania	17	0	29	0	0	1	47
United Kingdom	1	0	13	1	30	1	46
Czech Republic	2	0	2	26	2	0	32
Bulgaria	0	0	23	0	2	0	25
Poland	0	0	7	1	17	0	25
China	0	0	5	0	1	0	6
Albania	0	0	3	0	0	2	5
Thailand	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Spain	0	0	2	0	1	0	3
Vietnam	1	0	1	1	0	0	3
Nigeria	0	2	0	0	1	0	3
India	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Ivory Coast	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Slovakia	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Hungary	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Ireland	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Burma	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Jamaica	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
South Africa	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Zambia	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Kenya	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Korea (not specified)	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Bangladesh	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Latvia	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Pakistan	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Zimbabwe	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Mali	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Nepal	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total	23	5	150	31	97	13	319

West Midlands

169. 283 potential victims are reported to have been subject to some exploitation within the West Midlands region.

170. Of these, 137 (48%) potential victims experienced sexual exploitation, the most prominent exploitation type reported in the region.

171. The most prevalent country of origin of potential victims who encountered exploitation in the West Midlands region, where known, was Romania, which accounted for 94 (33%).

Table 19: Exploitation Within the West Midlands Region by Country of Origin and Type

	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation	Total
Romania	5	2	30	2	51	4	94
Not Specified	0	1	17	0	27	4	49
Poland	0	0	24	1	10	0	35
United Kingdom	0	0	1	1	30	0	32
Slovakia	2	0	10	1	6	2	21
Vietnam	6	2	0	4	0	0	12
China	0	2	1	0	1	0	4
Lithuania	0	0	2	1	1	0	4
Czech Republic	2	0	0	1	0	0	3
Hungary	0	0	1	0	2	0	3
Bulgaria	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Jamaica	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Portugal	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Nigeria	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Uganda	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
Cameroon	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
Pakistan	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
Thailand	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Zimbabwe	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Gambia	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Kenya	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Estonia	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Latvia	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
India	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Albania	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
German	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Italy	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Russia	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Philippines	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	15	12	93	14	137	12	283

Wales Region³³

172. 26 potential victims are reported to have been subject to some exploitation within the Wales region.

173. Of these, 9 (35%) potential victims experienced labour exploitation, the most prominent exploitation type reported in the region.

174. The most prevalent country of origin of potential victims who encountered exploitation in the Wales region, where known, was the United Kingdom, which accounted for 10 (38%).

Table 20: Exploitation Within the Wales Region by Country of Origin and Type

	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Sexual Exploitation	Total
United Kingdom	0	2	5	1	2	10
Vietnam	1	0	0	2	0	3
Not Specified	0	1	1	1	0	3
Romania	0	0	2	0	1	3
Cameroon	0	1	0	0	1	2
Poland	0	1	0	0	0	1
Czech Republic	0	0	1	0	0	1
Latvia	1	0	0	0	0	1
Albania	1	0	0	0	0	1
Mauritius	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total	3	5	9	5	4	26

³³ Wales policing area of Dyfed-Powys, Gwent and South Wales. North Wales Police is included in North West region. A summary of Wales as a devolved region, including North Wales, can be found on page 57

Geographical Summaries for Countries of the UK

Scotland

175. 86 potential victims are reported to have been subject to some exploitation in Scotland.

176. Of these, 32 (37%) potential victims experienced sexual exploitation, the most prominent exploitation type reported in the country.

177. The most prevalent country of origin of potential victims who encountered exploitation in Scotland, where known, was Poland, which accounted for 14 (16%).

Table 21: Exploitation Within Scotland by Country of Origin and Type

	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation	Total
Poland	2	0	2	0	1	9	14
Not Specified	0	0	0	0	10	0	10
Bulgaria	0	0	7	0	1	0	8
Romania	0	0	4	0	3	0	7
Vietnam	2	0	4	0	0	0	6
Cameroon	3	0	0	1	1	0	5
United Kingdom	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
Slovakia	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
China	0	0	0	0	2	1	3
Ghana	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
India	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
Afghanistan	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Kenya	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
German	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Nigeria	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Thailand	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Gambia	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Ireland	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Latvia	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sri Lanka	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Sierra Leone	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Trinidad and Tobago	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Albania	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Pakistan	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Somalia	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Spain	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total	11	1	26	2	32	14	86

Northern Ireland

178. 78 potential victims are reported to have been subject to some exploitation within Northern Ireland.

179. Of these, 52 (67%) potential victims experienced labour exploitation, the most prominent exploitation type reported in the country.

180. The most prevalent country of origin of potential victims who encountered exploitation in Northern Ireland, where known, was Romania, which accounted for 63 (81%).

Table 22: Exploitation Within Northern Ireland by Country of Origin and Type

	Criminal Exploitation	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation	Total
Romania	0	51	0	12	0	63
China	1	0	1	1	0	3
Slovakia	3	0	0	0	0	3
Portugal	0	0	0	0	1	1
Western Sahara	1	0	0	0	0	1
Brazil	0	0	0	1	0	1
United Kingdom	0	0	0	1	0	1
Colombia	0	0	0	1	0	1
Vietnam	1	0	0	0	0	1
Lithuania	0	0	0	1	0	1
Albania	0	0	0	1	0	1
Not Specified	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total	6	52	1	18	1	78

Wales³⁴

181. 29 potential victims are reported to have been subject to some exploitation within Wales.

182. Of these, 10 (34%) potential victims experienced labour exploitation, the most prominent exploitation type reported in the country.

183. The most prevalent country of origin of potential victims who encountered exploitation in Wales, where known, was the United Kingdom, which accounted for 10 (34%).

Table 23: Exploitation Within Wales by Country of Origin and Type

	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Sexual Exploitation	Total
United Kingdom	0	2	5	1	2	10
Not Specified	0	1	1	1	0	3
Romania	0	0	2	0	1	3
Vietnam	1	0	0	2	0	3
Cameroon	0	1	0	0	1	2
Poland	0	1	0	0	0	1
Latvia	1	0	0	0	0	1
Portugal	0	0	1	0	0	1
Italy	0	0	0	0	1	1
Albania	1	0	0	0	0	1
Czech Republic	0	0	1	0	0	1
Mauritius	0	0	0	1	0	1
Morocco	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total	3	5	10	5	6	29

³⁴ Wales as a devolved region, including North Wales. A summary of Wales policing area of Dyfed-Powys, Gwent and South Wales can be found on page 54

England

184. 2078 potential victims are reported to have been subject to some exploitation within England.

185. Of these, 820 (39%) potential victims experienced labour exploitation, the most prominent exploitation type reported in the country.

186. The most prevalent country of origin of potential victims who encountered exploitation in England, where known, was Romania, which accounted for 335 (16%).

Table 24: Exploitation Within England by Country of Origin and Type

	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation	Total
Romania	30	7	145	19	124	10	335
Not Specified	17	7	146	18	97	34	319
United Kingdom	14	0	76	7	156	5	258
Slovakia	63	3	60	22	20	7	175
Poland	11	1	114	4	33	4	167
Lithuania	32	0	87	8	25	4	156
Nigeria	1	30	1	5	44	12	93
Czech Republic	3	0	27	31	10	2	73
Hungary	10	1	29	3	20	4	67
Vietnam	26	5	8	6	6	7	58
Bulgaria	2	0	31	0	10	0	43
Albania	4	0	5	0	14	5	28
Latvia	2	0	20	2	1	2	27
Pakistan	0	4	8	0	4	3	19
China	0	3	8	2	5	1	19
Thailand	0	0	0	0	18	0	18
Bangladesh	0	5	9	0	3	0	17
Ghana	0	5	3	1	5	2	16
India	0	6	7	0	2	0	15
Philippines	0	9	0	1	0	1	11
Uganda	0	4	0	1	5	0	10
Cameroon	0	1	1	2	4	1	9
Afghanistan	0	0	9	0	0	0	9
Sri Lanka	0	4	1	0	0	3	8
Zimbabwe	0	3	2	1	1	0	7
Brazil	0	1	0	0	6	0	7
Kenya	0	0	0	1	6	0	7
Portugal	1	1	4	0	0	0	6
Iran	2	0	1	0	2	1	6
Russia	0	0	2	0	3	0	5
Sierra Leone	0	0	0	2	3	0	5
Ethiopia	0	3	0	0	1	1	5
Ireland	0	2	2	0	0	0	4
Jamaica	0	0	0	1	3	0	4
Spain	0	0	2	0	2	0	4
German	1	0	0	0	1	1	3
Italy	0	0	1	0	1	1	3
Nepal	0	2	1	0	0	0	3

Table 24 cont.	Criminal Exploitation	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Multiple Exploitation	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation	Total
Malawi	0	1	0	1	1	0	3
Somalia	0	2	0	0	0	1	3
Burma	0	1	2	0	0	0	3
Eritrea	0	2	0	0	0	1	3
Morocco	1	0	0	0	1	1	3
Gambia	0	2	0	0	1	0	3
Iraq	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Syria	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Sudan	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
South Africa	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
Ivory Coast	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Senegal	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Congo	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
USA	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Democratic Republic of the Congo	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Croatia	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Moldova	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Malaysia	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Egypt	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Korea (not specified)	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Mali	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Estonia	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Zambia	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Namibia	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Turkey	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Bhutan	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Ukraine	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Indonesia	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Mauritius	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Guinea Bissau	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Vietnam/UK	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Bolivia	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Serbia	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Angola	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Liberia	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total	221	123	820	144	645	125	2078

Annex A Caveats / Limitations

- In some cases, information pertaining to a potential victim of trafficking was received from more than one source, for example the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) and a police force. Occasionally, some personal details differed across the two sources, for example, different nationalities were recorded.
- If a potential victim is exploited in more than one way this will not necessarily be reflected in the information provided. Only one exploitation type may be recorded and across different data sources be recorded as different exploitation types for the same individual.
- Some intelligence logs received by NCA UKHTC in 2014 reported potential victims of trafficking but personal details regarding these were either not known or not provided. In these cases it was not possible to reduce the risk of duplication of data therefore each potential victim was allocated a unique reference number and counted as a separate individual. Whilst all practicable efforts were made to limit these duplications, this may potentially have led to a higher potential victim total being recorded.
- In some data sources exploitation types were not recorded consistently. For example, across different data providers an individual may have been recorded as a potential victim of labour exploitation but no information relating to the location or type of their exploitation was provided. Due to this, a person could be recorded as a potential victim of labour exploitation whether they had been exploited in a factory, through begging or through criminal exploitation such as theft or the cultivation of cannabis.
- Exploitation types recorded on the NRM database are categorised differently to those used in this assessment. For example, those exploited through cannabis cultivation are recorded as having been exploited for their labour on NRM publications. More detailed exploitation subtypes were used in this assessment in order to enhance knowledge of exploitation reported by potential victims of trafficking.
- Victims who have been trafficked may not consider themselves to have been exploited. Due to this, they may be unwilling to disclose their experience, co-operate with law enforcement investigations or consent to entering into the NRM.
- Individuals may not be identified as potential victims of trafficking by those who encounter them. Some may be considered to be voluntarily working in prostitution and those who are criminally exploited (for example in cannabis factories or through theft) may be identified as criminals. Potential victims who have been provided with false, stolen or fraudulently obtained genuine identity documents may be considered immigration offenders.
- Different criteria may be used to identify potential victims of trafficking. It can therefore be problematic to ascertain the true number of potential victims of trafficking without them being referred to the NRM.
- Victims of trafficking have their movement and interaction with the outside world restricted by those controlling them. Identification is then difficult and opportunities for them to disclose their exploitation would be limited. It is therefore likely that the true number of victims of trafficking is higher than that stated in this assessment.

Annex B National Referral Mechanism (NRM)

From 1 April 2009 a National Referral Mechanism (NRM) was introduced to provide a framework within which public bodies such as the criminal justice agencies, UK Border Agency (now UK Visas and Immigration, part of the Home Office), local authorities and third sector partners could work together to identify individuals who may be victims of trafficking and provide appropriate protection and support.

The Council of Europe Convention on trafficking has a two stage process for identifying victims of trafficking in which the *reasonable grounds* test acts as an initial filter to a fuller more conclusive decision.

Frontline professionals in named *first responder* organisations can refer individuals who they think may be evidencing signs of being a victim of human trafficking to designated *Competent Authorities (CA)* who work with partners to make an assessment. Adults must have given their consent before being referred through the NRM.

First responders are:

- Designated Non Governmental Organisations
- UK Police Forces
- National Crime Agency
- Home Office
- UK Border Force
- Local Authority Children's Services
- The Gangmasters Licensing Authority

Competent Authorities (CA) are:

- A central multi-agency CA based in the National Crime Agency UK Human Trafficking Centre (NCA UKHTC) and
- Linked but separate CA in the Home Office UK Visas and Immigration to assess cases where trafficking is raised as part of an asylum claim, or in the context of another immigration process.

Process and timescales

The Competent Authority has a target of five working days from the date of receipt of the referral within which to make a decision on whether the individual has reasonable grounds for being considered as a victim of trafficking. During this period, the CA may contact the first responder and other relevant organisations for further information. Once a positive *reasonable grounds* decision is made by the CA, the individual is granted a 45 day reflection/recovery period.

The temporary status of the 'reasonable grounds' decision provides the conditions for the fuller evaluation to be made, and allows the individual to escape the influence and control of the traffickers. The officer will have the discretion to extend the validity of the temporary admission beyond 45 days where circumstances warrant. Similarly the decision maker can curtail the reflection period and immigration status where the trafficking claim is found to be fraudulent. Following any decision, the officer will contact the victim in writing to update them on their case.

A notification letter will also be sent to the first responder informing them of the outcome.

This is an outline of the NRM process in 2014. A Home Office review was undertaken in 2014 and changes to this process are being piloted in 2015.