

The NAS Semi-Annual Statistics 1-6/2026

The National Assistance System for Victims of Human Trafficking (NAS) which has operated since 2006, is an expert authority in the work against human trafficking. Joutseno Reception Centre, which is part of the Finnish Immigration Service, is responsible for the system. The NAS has three offices (Lappeenranta, Helsinki and Tampere). The NAS celebrates its 20th anniversary in 2026.

The purpose of the NAS is to help trafficking victims, their underage children, and persons who assist in investigations of trafficking offences. It helps both Finnish and foreign victims of human trafficking equally. As required by their needs, the client may be entitled to advice and guidance, social and health care services, a reception allowance or social assistance, safe housing, and interpretation and translation services. If the client wishes to go back to their home country, they receive assistance for voluntary return. Clients may be provided with legal advice and aid. All assistance and services are based on individual assessment of needs.

The organisation of the assistance and the services provided for victims have been decentralised to different actors. The practical delivery of the assistance depends on the applicant's right of residence. Provision of services by the NAS ends when the client no longer needs assistance, leaves the country, or wishes to end their client relationship with the system.

The NAS maintains a 24/7 helpline at +358 -295 463 177 and the website ihmiskauppa.fi, giving information on human trafficking and anti-trafficking work.

The Semi-Annual Statistics 2026 presents essential key figures on the NAS operations. The number of referrals, made decisions, new clients by gender, nationality and forms of exploitation, and separately those victimized in Finland, and the number and nationalities of all clients.

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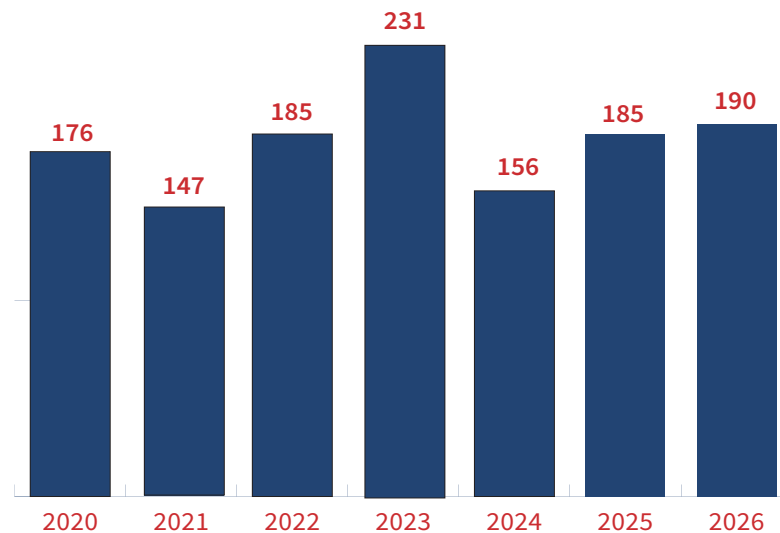


NATIONAL ASSISTANCE SYSTEM
FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Referrals and Decisions in 2026

In the first six months of 2026, 190 referrals were entered into the National Assistance System for Victims of Human Trafficking (NAS) and 117 of them were admitted as clients.

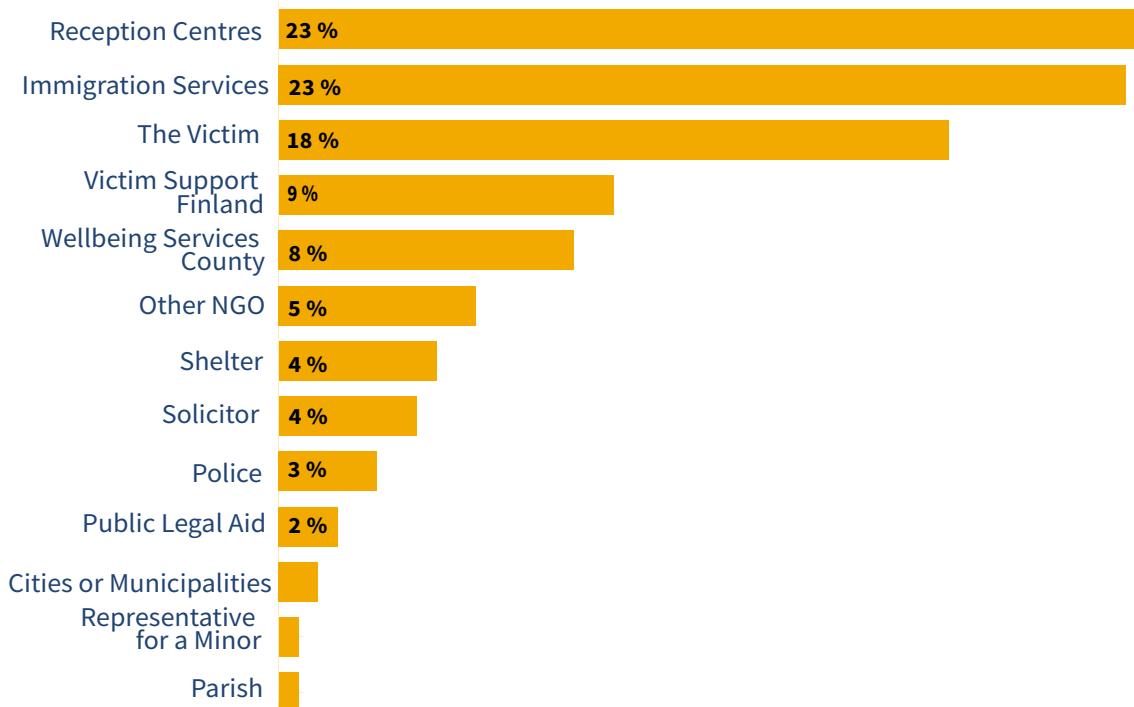
All Applications 1-6 / 2020-2026



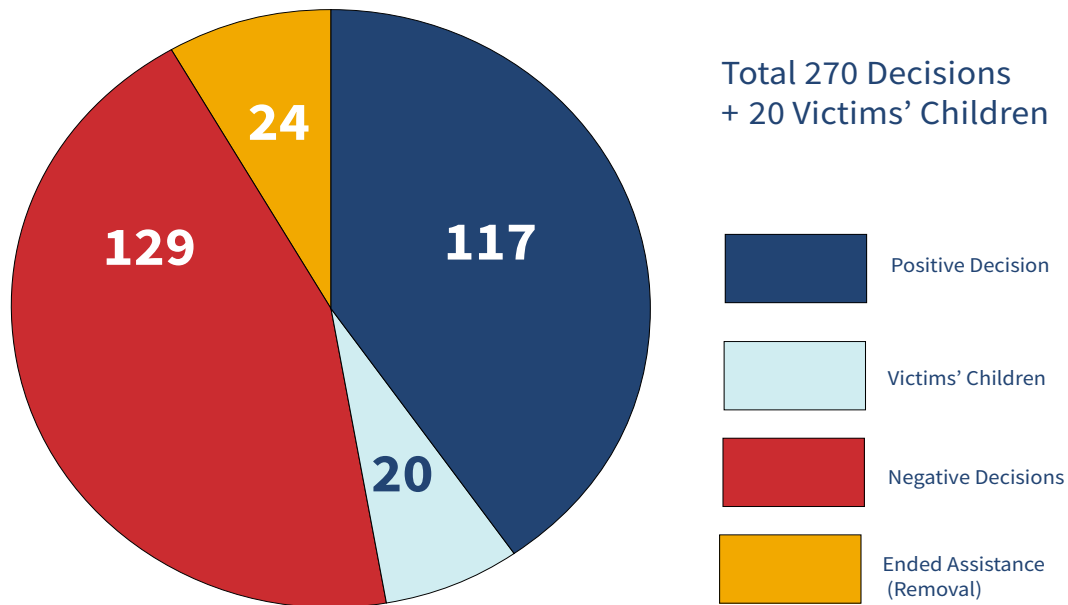
Nearly half of the referrals were made by reception centres and the Finnish Immigration Service. Almost one fifth came from the victims themselves. The number of referrals made by the Victim Support Finland were more than doubled from the previous year.

Operators that Referred Clients to the NAS in 2026 (6 Months)

190 Referrals in Total



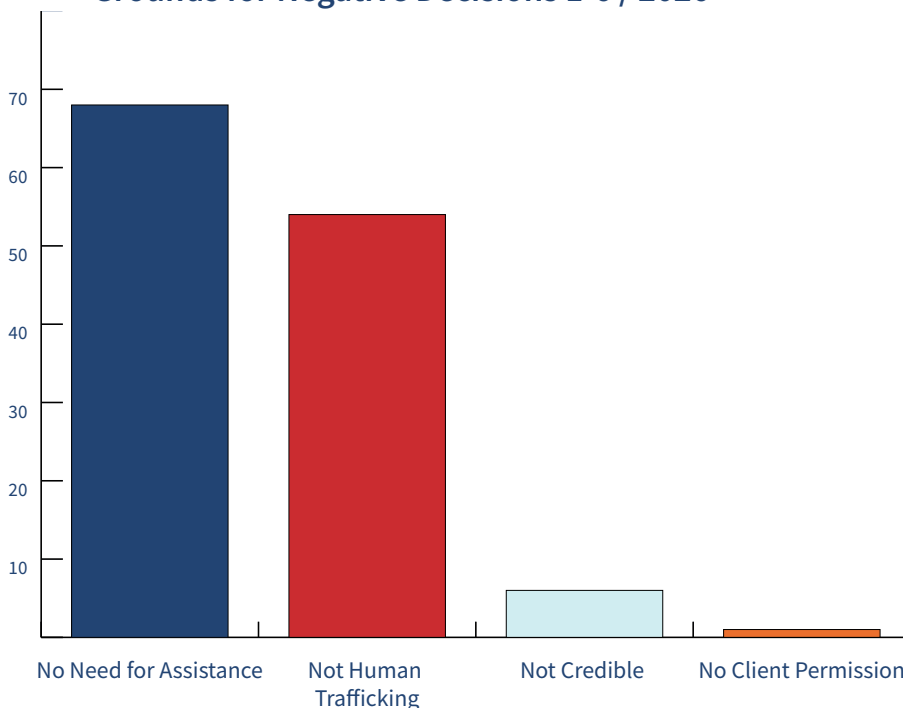
Decisions Made in 2026 (6 Months)



In 2026, a total of 117 positive client admittance decisions were made. A client relationship is not established without the victim's consent. In addition, the definition of human trafficking must be met and the victim must have a need for help provided through the NAS.

There were 129 negative admittance decisions. The most common reason for a negative decision was that the applicant did not need the help of the NAS (53%), or that the case was not a matter of human trafficking (42%).

Grounds for Negative Decisions 1-6 / 2026

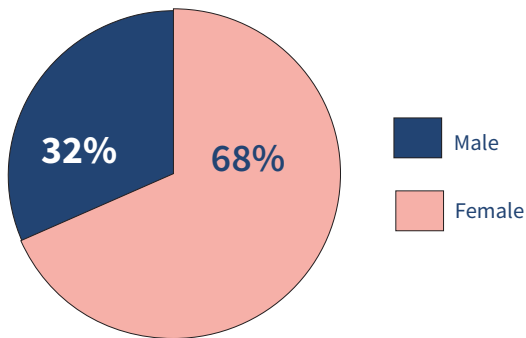


Assistance was ended for 24 clients. The most common reason was the lack of need for help (58%). 25% had left Finland, or were missing.

New Clients

New Clients in 2026 (6 Months)

109 adults, 8 minors

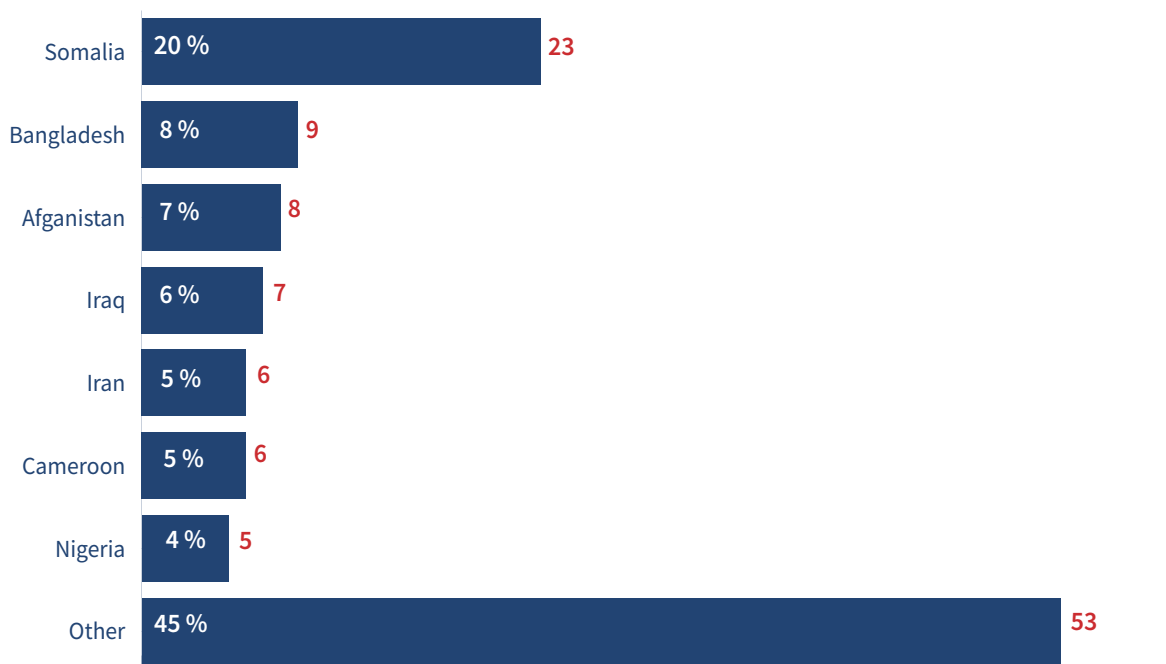


In early 2026, the NAS admitted a total of 117 victims of human trafficking and 20 of their children as new clients. Of the victims, 68% were women and girls.

About 7% of the new clients were minors, 39% were 18–29 years old, 32% were 30–39 years old, 17% were 40–49 years old and 3% were 50–59 years old. Two clients were older than this.

The new clients represented 32 nationalities. Somalia and Bangladesh were the most common nationalities. There were also Finns among those exploited. "Other" (45%) refers to all those nationalities representing less than 5 people.

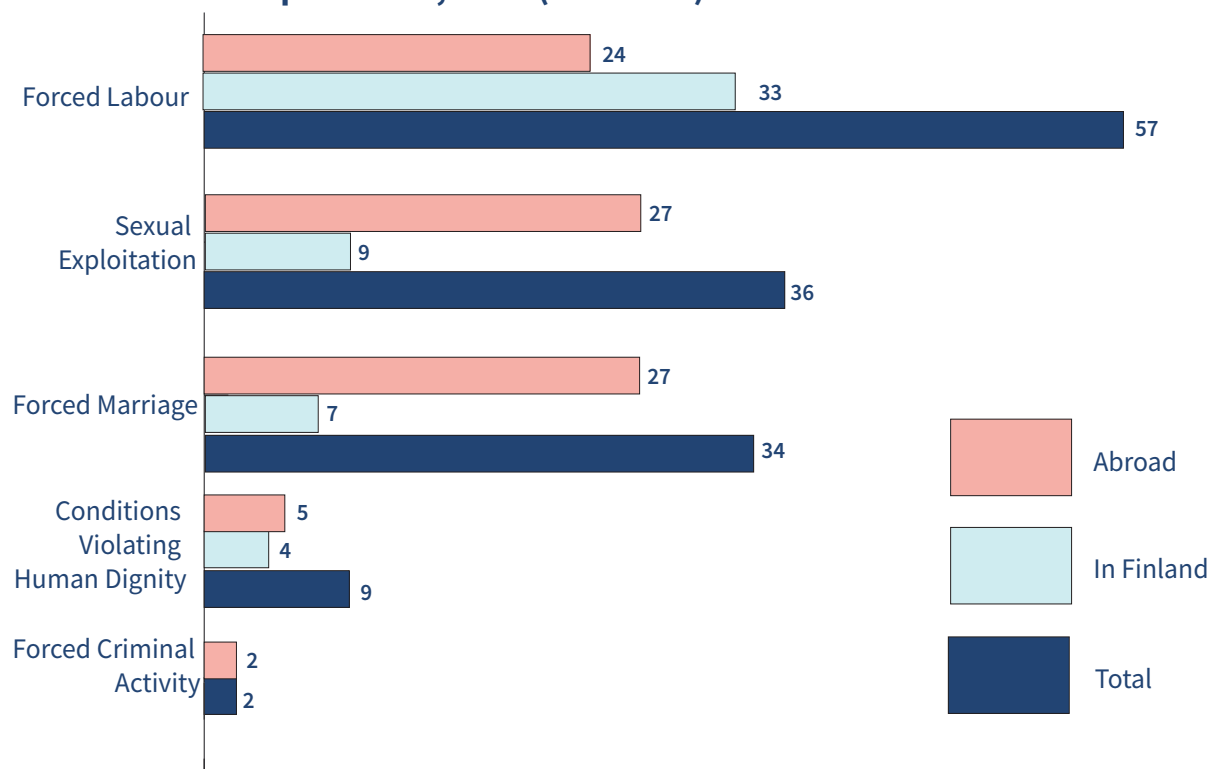
New Clients (Total 117) by Nationality in 2026 (6 Months)



Forms of Exploitation

There were 117 new clients but 138 exploitation cases in total, as some clients had experienced more than one form of exploitation. Both primary and secondary forms of exploitation are shown in the graph.

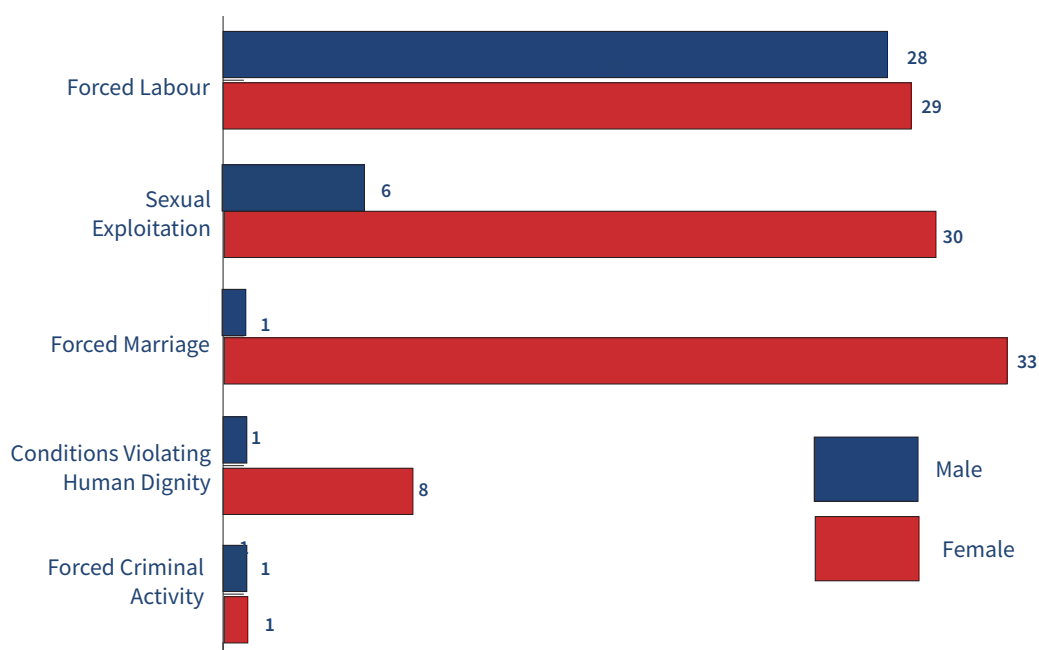
Forms of Exploitation, 2026 (6 Months)



Forced marriage and sexual exploitation are most commonly targeted at women. Men were at greater risk of falling victim to forced labour.

Forms of Exploitation by Gender in 2026 (6 Months)

(Both primary and secondary forms of exploitation, 138 cases, 117 persons)



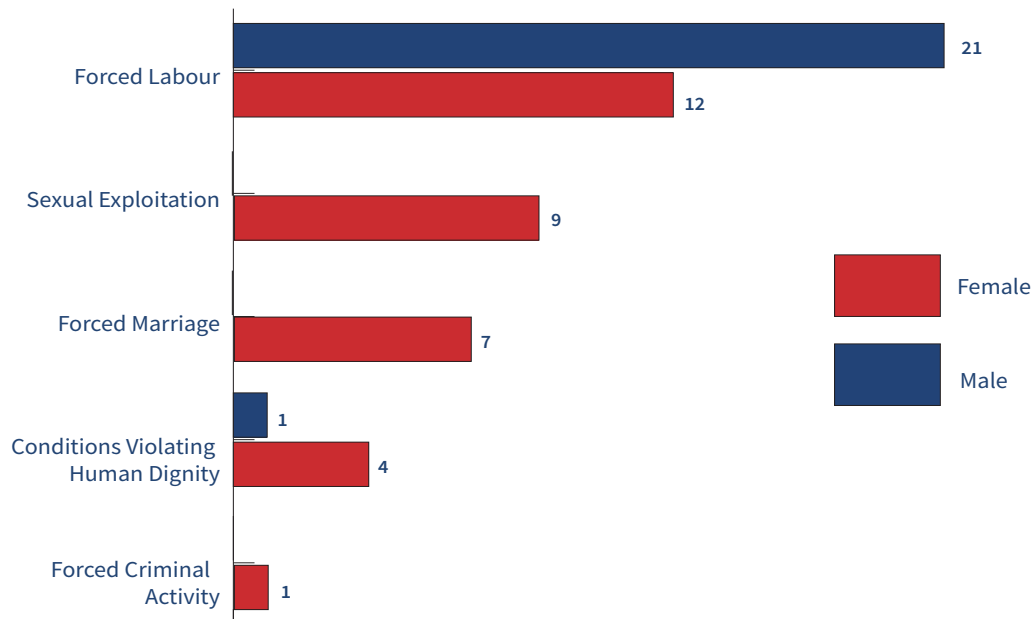
Exploitation in Finland

During the first six months in 2026, a total of 53 cases of exploitation came to light in Finland. Of these, 22 were targeted at men and 31 at women. There were nine persons from Bangladesh (17 %) and five from Afganistan. (9 %). The persons represented 21 nationalities. They had experienced 57 cases of human trafficking in total. There were 4 people, three of them female, who had experienced more than one form of exploitation. The graph representing forms of exploitation (p. 5) shows both primary and secondary forms of exploitation.

In Finland, the majority (33 cases, 62%) had fallen victim to forced labour. The sectors included restaurant & catering, construction domestic work and beauty and wellness industries.

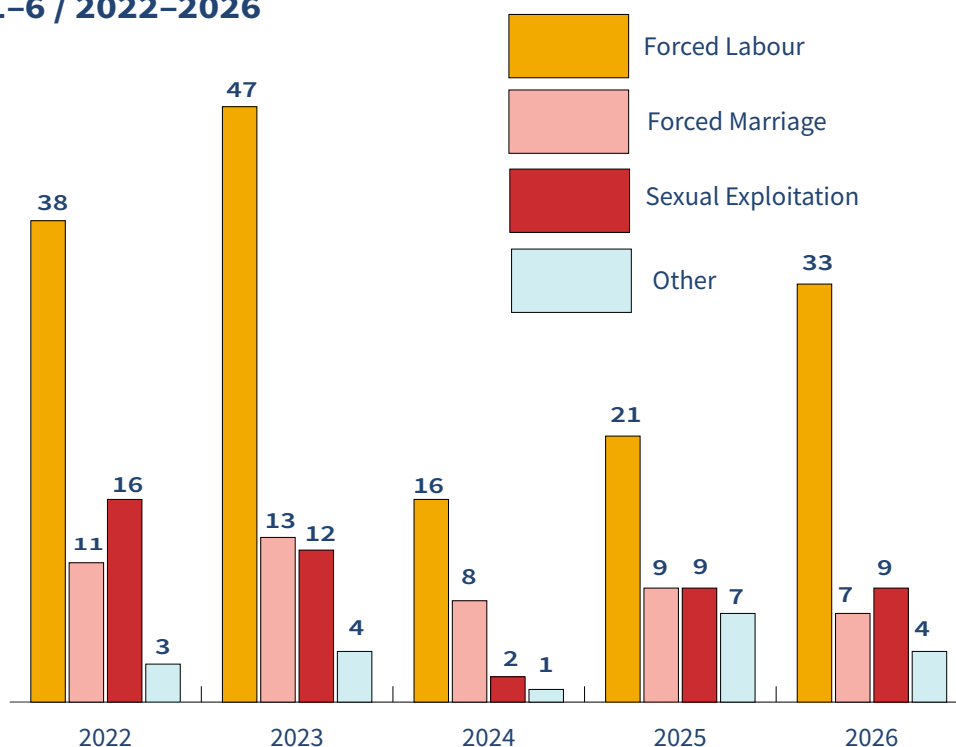
Forms of Exploitation by Gender, Victimized in Finland in 2026 (6 Months)

(Both primary and secondary forms, 56 cases, 53 persons)



A victim of trafficking in human beings residing in Finland without a right of residence can be granted a reflection period of 1–6 months. The reflection period is a temporary right of residence during which residence in Finland is legal. In early 2026, the NAS granted 10 reflection periods for victims of human trafficking.

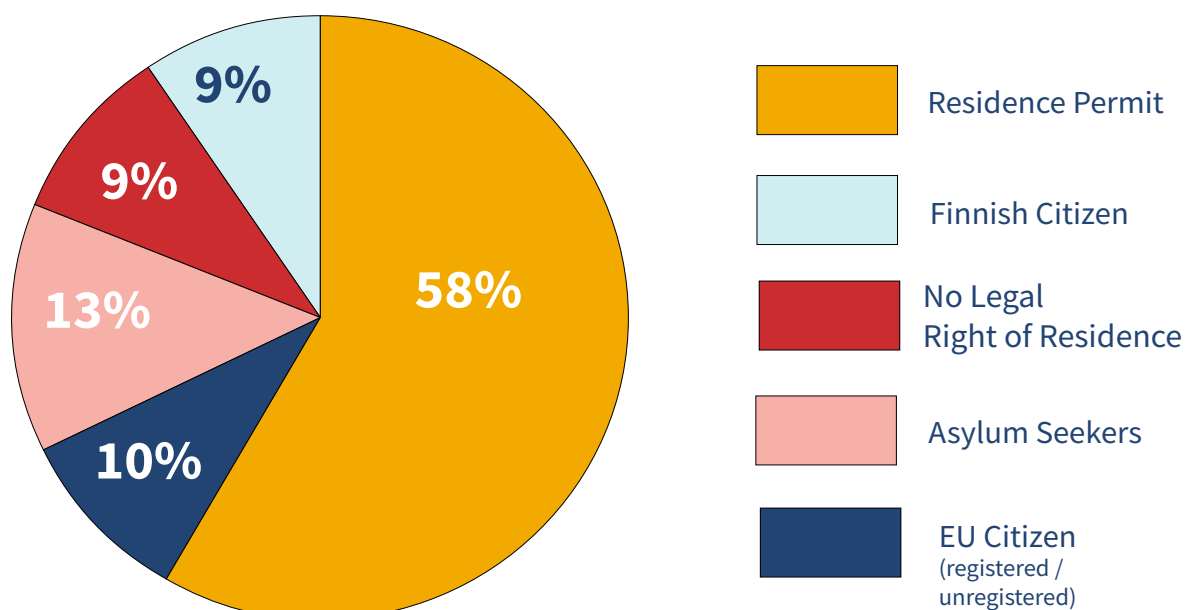
Forms of Exploitation of Cases in Finland 1-6 / 2022-2026



The majority of those exploited had a residence permit in Finland (58%). Most of them had a work permit (15) or a residence permit on the basis of family ties (7 persons).

Of all victims exploited in Finland there were seven asylum seekers (13%). Five people were without a legal right of residence in Finland.

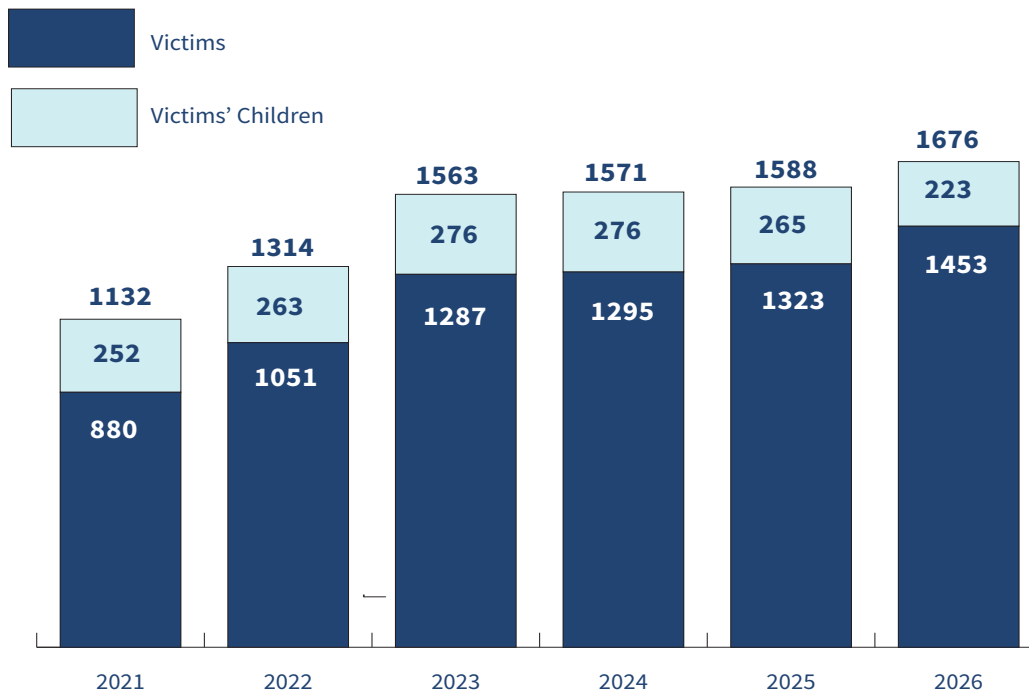
Persons Exploited in Finland by Right of Residence, 2026 (6 Months)



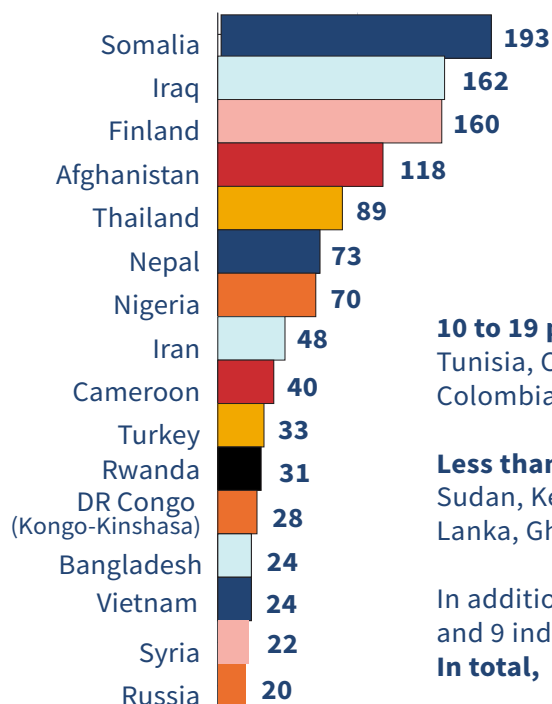
All Clients 30 June 2026

On 30 June 2026, the NAS had 1,676 clients, of whom 1,453 were identified victims and 223 were their underaged children. There were 25 children among the victims, and 95 clients had been admitted to the system while minors. Women accounted for approximately 62% of the trafficking victims.

All Clients, 30th June 2026



All Clients' Nationalities on 30th June 2026



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10 to 19 persons per nationality:

Tunisia, China, the Philippines, Gambia, Morocco, Uganda, Eritrea, Colombia, Pakistan, Ukraine

Less than 10 persons per nationality:

Sudan, Kenya, Angola, Bulgaria, Egypt, Etiopia, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Ghana, Yemen, Senegal, Venezuela

In addition, 46 nationalities represented by fewer than five persons, and 9 individuals of unknown or no nationality.

In total, 84 different nationalities