



HUMAN TRAFFICKING & TEMPORARY GUESTWORKER VISAS

Data from the National Human Trafficking Hotline reveal trends in labor trafficking among temporary guest-worker visa holders. A study of hotline data from 2015-2017 identified 800 victims who held temporary visas during their exploitation. Further study of the US temporary guest worker program reveals patterns of abuse that can lead to labor trafficking.

This resource is designed as an introduction to the different temporary visas, the trends in exploitation among visa holders, and the potential signs of a human trafficking victim. While many temporary visa holders are never exploited, the risk of labor trafficking and exploitation demands our attention.

The following chart describes the visas that Polaris identified nationally as potentially at-risk for exploitation, after having worked with nearly 800 trafficking victims holding such visas at the time of their exploitation.

Visa	Description	Number of Visas issued FY 2020	Top Countries of Origin
A-3	Personal employees, attendants, or domestic workers for diplomats and government officials	857	Philippines, India, Egypt
B-1	Business visitors	37,841	Philippines, Mexico, Brazil
F-1	Students, including colleges and universities	364,204	China, India, South Korea
G-5	International organization / NATO officials and employees	404	Philippines, Peru, Colombia
H-1B	Workers in specialty occupations requiring a higher education degree	188,123	India, China, Mexico
H-2A	Temporary / seasonal agricultural workers	204,801	Mexico, Jamaica, Guatemala
H-2B	Temporary / seasonal non-agricultural workers	97,623	Mexico, Jamaica, South Africa
J-1	Participants in work, cultural, and study-based exchange programs	353,279	China, Great Britain / Northern Ireland, Germany

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Do not intervene
In case of emergency, call 911

To report a tip or seek help, call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888 or text "INFO" to 233733