



SOUTH ASIA



- Afghanistan -

The specific offence of trafficking in persons only criminalizes some aspects listed in the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol.

Investigations and suspects

The Afghan National Police reported 103 incidents of trafficking in persons between March 2013 and March 2014. During the same period, 167 persons were arrested for the same reasons.

Source: Afghan National Police.

Victims

The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) verified 25 incidents of underage recruitment of children by armed forces in 2013, involving 43 victims. 67 per cent of these children were recruited by anti-government forces, while the rest were recruited by governmental forces. In 2014, 47 incidents were recorded by UNAMA. This is almost double the figure of the previous year.

Source: Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflicts – UNAMA and UNHCHR.

For the period August 2014 to February 2015, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) reported five cases of forced marriage, and two cases of buying and/or selling women for the pretext of marriages. In addition, five cases of forced prostitution were recorded during the same period.

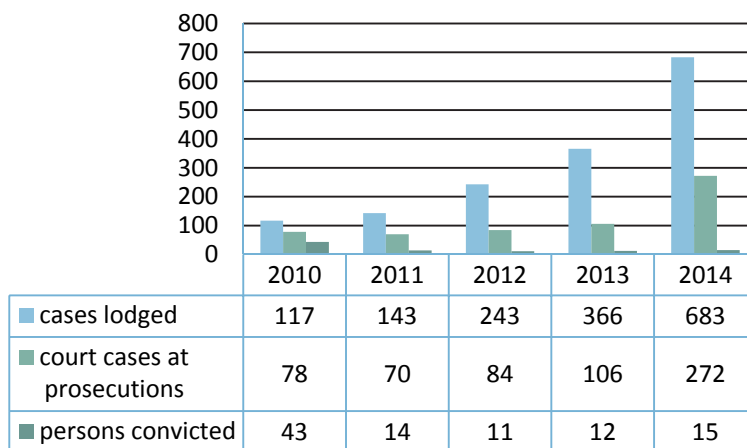
Source: Justice through eyes of Afghan women – UNAMA and UNHCHR.

- Bangladesh -

The new Anti-Human Trafficking Act was adopted in 2012 and covers all forms of trafficking indicated in the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol. Before 2012, the legislation covered only trafficking for sexual exploitation. The figures below refer to the old legislation.

Investigations and suspects

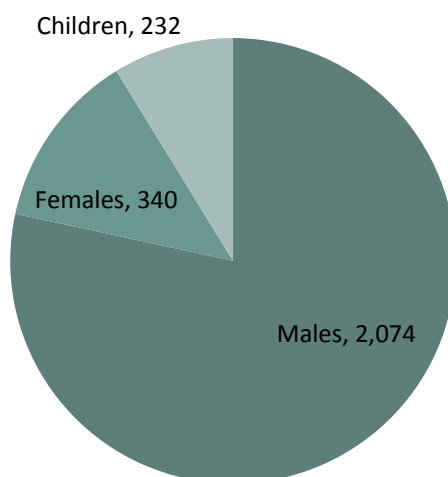
Number of cases lodged, prosecuted, and persons convicted of trafficking in persons, 2010-2014



Source: Ministry of Home Affairs.

Victims

Number of victims identified by the police, by age and gender, May 2014 – April 2015



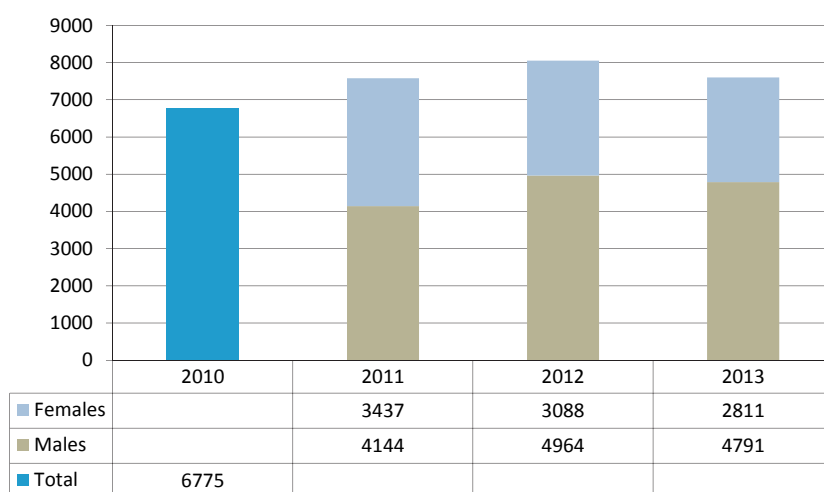
Source: Police.

- India -

In the year 2013, India passed the Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance introducing the section 370A defining Trafficking in Persons according to the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol definition. The Immoral Traffic Prevention Act (ITPA) was used before, and it is still widely used to prosecute some forms of trafficking for sexual exploitation. Other articles of the criminal code are also used to prosecute trafficking for sexual exploitation, including ‘buying girls for prostitution’, ‘selling of girls for prostitution’, ‘importation of girls’ and ‘procurement of minor girls’. Trafficking for forced labour is prosecuted under other offences, including the Child Labour Prohibition Act and the laws prohibiting bonded labour.

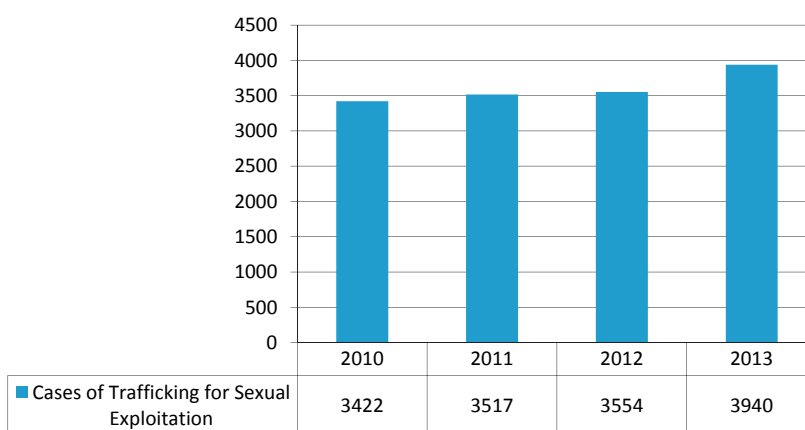
Investigations and suspects

Number of persons arrested under the ITPA, by gender, 2010-2013



Source: Ministry of Home Affairs.

Number of cases investigated for trafficking in persons offences, 2010-2013

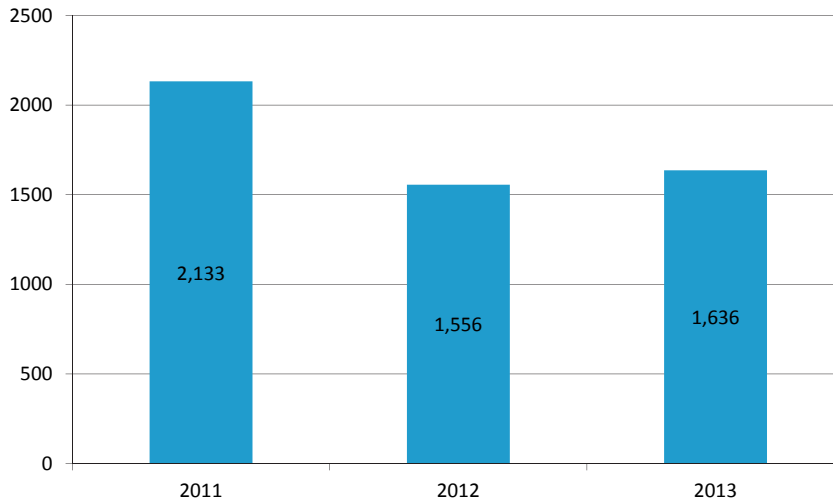


Source: Ministry of Home Affairs.

These numbers refer to different trafficking offences (ITPA, buying of girls for prostitution, selling girls for prostitution, procurement of minor girl, importation of girls).

Source: Ministry of Home Affairs.

Number of persons convicted under ITPA, 2011-2013



Source: Ministry of Home Affairs.

The authorities report data on enforcement of the Child Labour (Prohibition) Act, 1986 - the act prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 in a list of occupations and processes. Between 2010 and the end of 2014, 6,238 convictions were finalized under this act.

Source: Ministry of Labour.

- Maldives -

In December 2013, the national authorities introduced the offence of trafficking in persons in Maldives. The anti-trafficking bill criminalizes sexual exploitation and forced labour. Before that, Maldives did not have anti-trafficking legislation in place. Article 25 (a) of the Constitution prohibits slavery, servitude and forced labour. Article 3(a) of the Employment Act (2008) prohibits forced labour.

Investigations and suspects

The Human Rights Commission of Maldives reports that since the introduction of the new legislation, a limited number of cases of trafficking have been investigated and are pending with the prosecutor's office. No convictions have been recorded under the new legislation.

Source: Human Rights Commission of Maldives.

Victims

There are reports documenting trafficking of migrants from neighbouring countries for labour and sexual exploitation in Maldives.

Source: UN Human Rights Committee, Concluding observations adopted by the Human Rights Committee at its 105th session, 9-27 July 2012.

The Human Rights Commission of Maldives reported that many migrant workers are faced with a number of limitations in their movement, which make them vulnerable to exploitation and human trafficking. The commission also flags the presence of young girls and adult women domestically trafficked for sexual exploitation and domestic servitude.

Source: Human Rights Commission of Maldives/UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

According to the national authorities, trafficking in persons is widespread across the country. Crime groups use Maldives as a transit point for illegal entry to Europe. According to the department of immigration, a significant amount of foreign nationals have been interdicted on their way to Europe, Canada, and Australia by using counterfeit passports. These individuals are from East Asia, South Asia, the Middle East, and Sub-Saharan Africa. The authorities also report that expatriate workers are often victims of trafficking who have paid exorbitant amounts to rogue agents in the range of US\$2,000 to travel to Maldives, have had their documents confiscated, and are made to live and work in inhumane conditions.

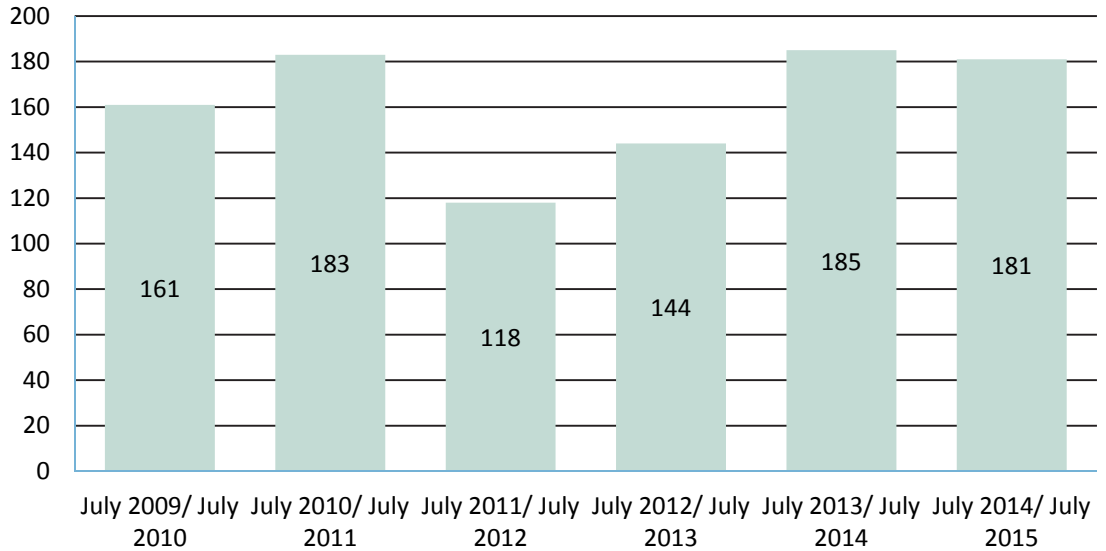
Source: Government of the Republic of Maldives, National Security Policy 2012.

- Nepal -

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

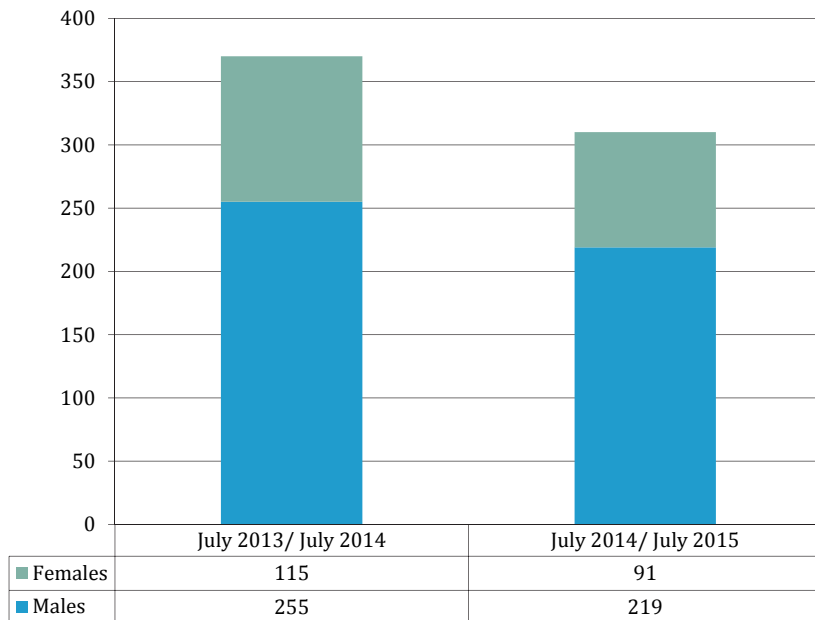
Investigations and suspects

Number of trafficking cases registered by the police, July 2009- July 2015



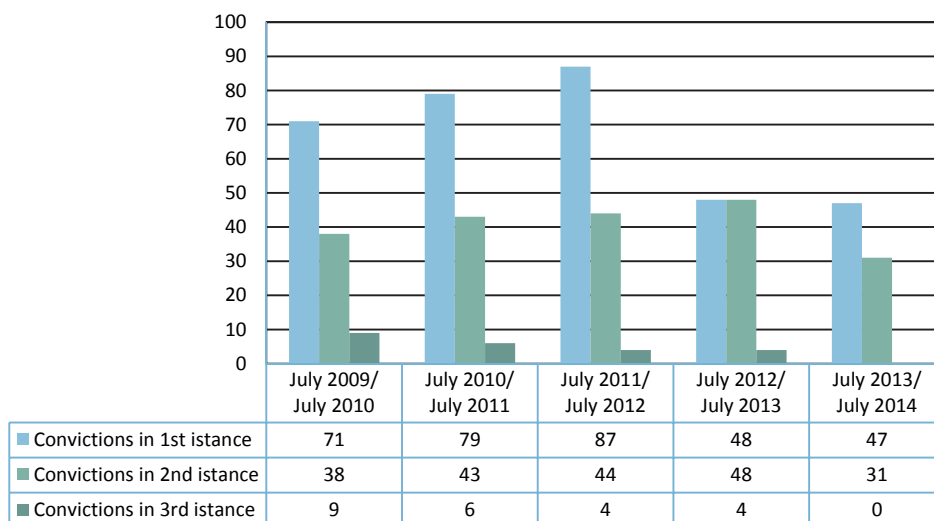
Source: Nepal police headquarters.

Persons accused on trafficking in persons, by gender, July 2013-July 2014



Source: Nepal police headquarters.

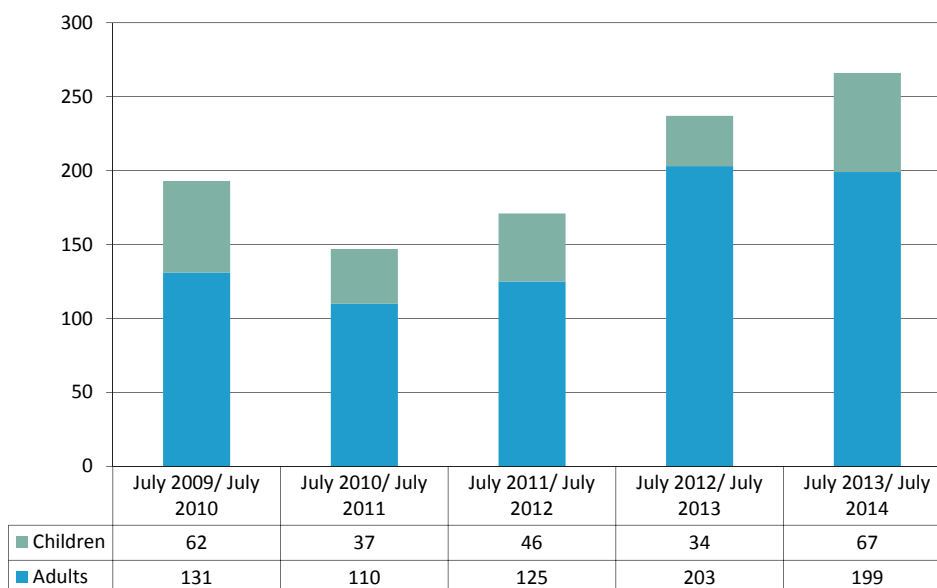
Number of convictions for trafficking in persons, July 2009-July 2014



Source: Nepal police headquarters.

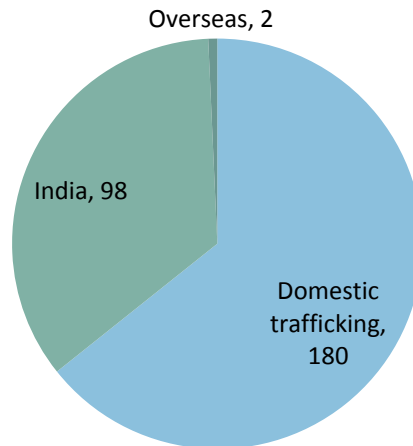
Victims

Detected victims of trafficking in persons, by age, July 2009-July 2014



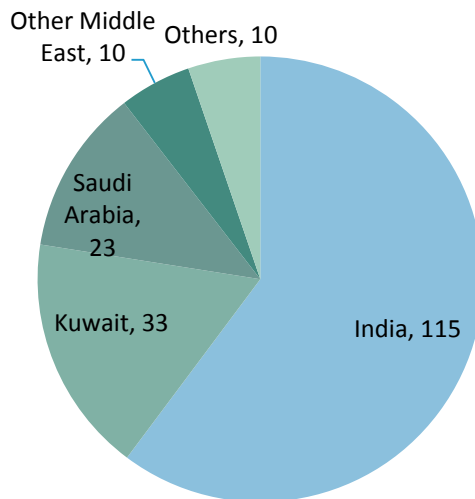
Source: Annual Report of the Office of the Attorney General.

Victims of trafficking in persons detected by police, by trafficking flow, FY 2014/2015



Source: Nepal police Headquarters

Nepali female victims of trafficking in persons, detected abroad and assisted by the NGO Maiti, by region of destination, 2011-2013



Source: Maiti.

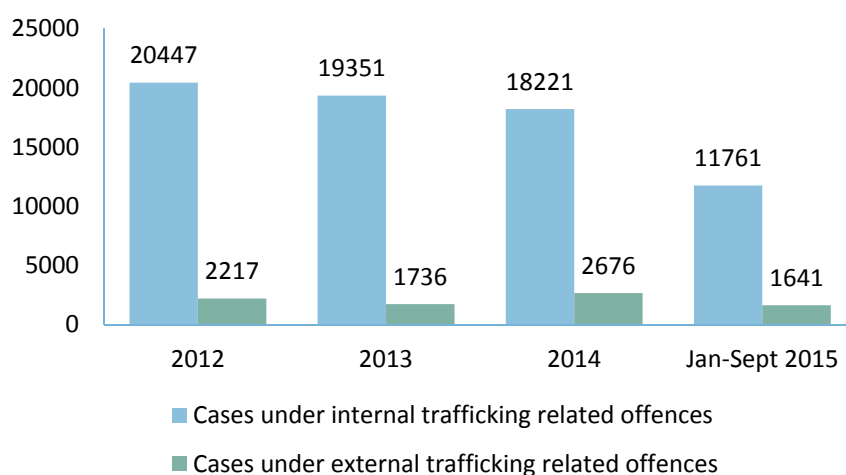
- Pakistan -

The Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking Ordinance (PACHTO) is used to prosecute some forms of transnational trafficking. In addition, the authorities make use of the Emigration Ordinance and the Foreign Act to prosecute some trafficking cases.

Offences on compulsory labour, bonded labour, brick kiln labour, disposing a person as a slave, dealing with slaves, vagrancy act, kidnapping, forced marriages, rape, sexual exploitation, importation of girls, removal of organs, and others, are used to prosecute some forms of domestic trafficking.

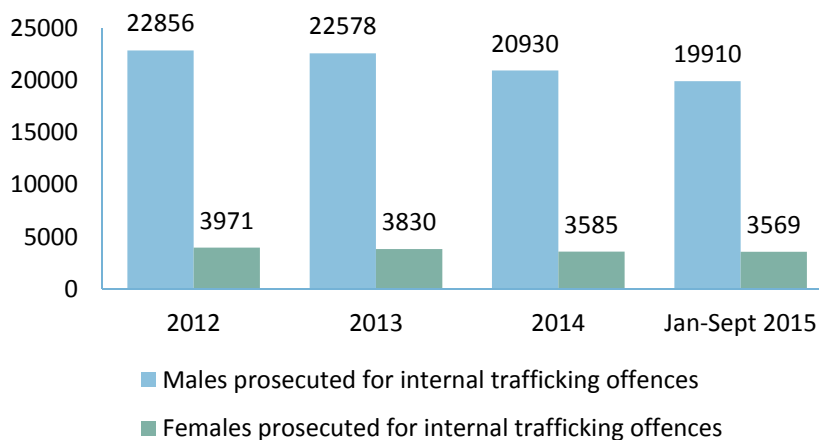
Investigations and suspects

Cases of trafficking and related offences under different articles of the criminal code, 2012- September 2015



Source: Provincial and Capital Police/Federal Investigation Agency.

Persons prosecuted for internal trafficking and related offences under different articles of the criminal code, by gender, 2012- September 2015



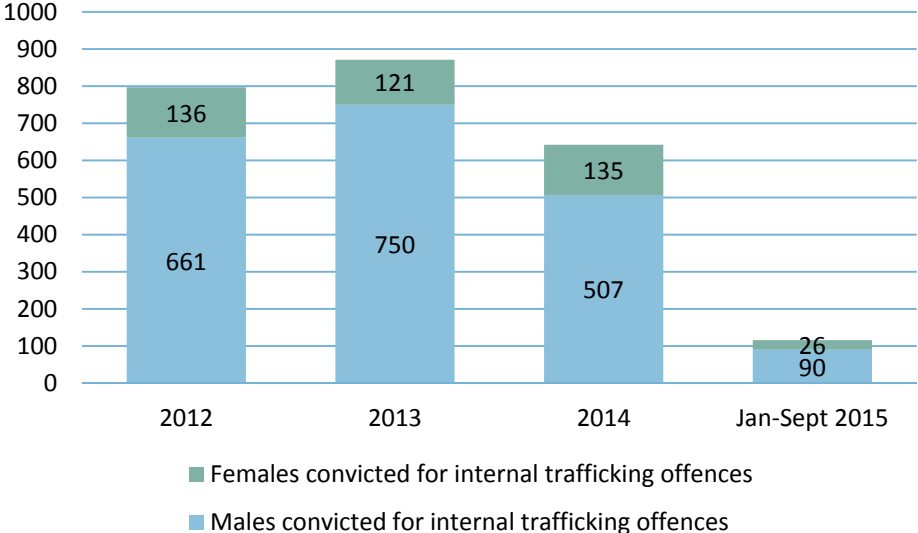
Source: Provincial and Capital Police/Federal Investigation Agency.

Persons prosecuted for external trafficking and related offences under different articles of the criminal code, by gender, 2012- September 2015



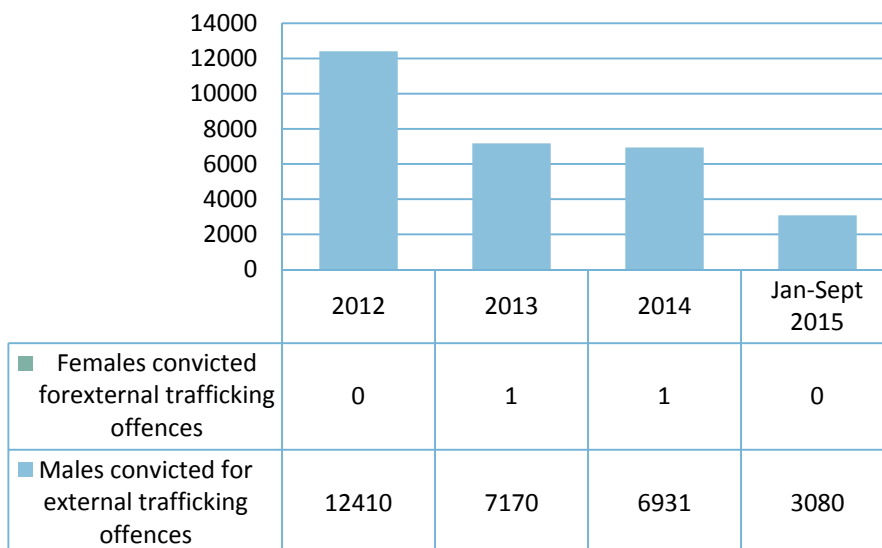
Source: Provincial and Capital Police/Federal Investigation Agency.

Persons convicted of internal trafficking and related offences under different articles of the criminal code, by gender, 2012- September 2015



Source: Provincial and Capital Police/Federal Investigation Agency.

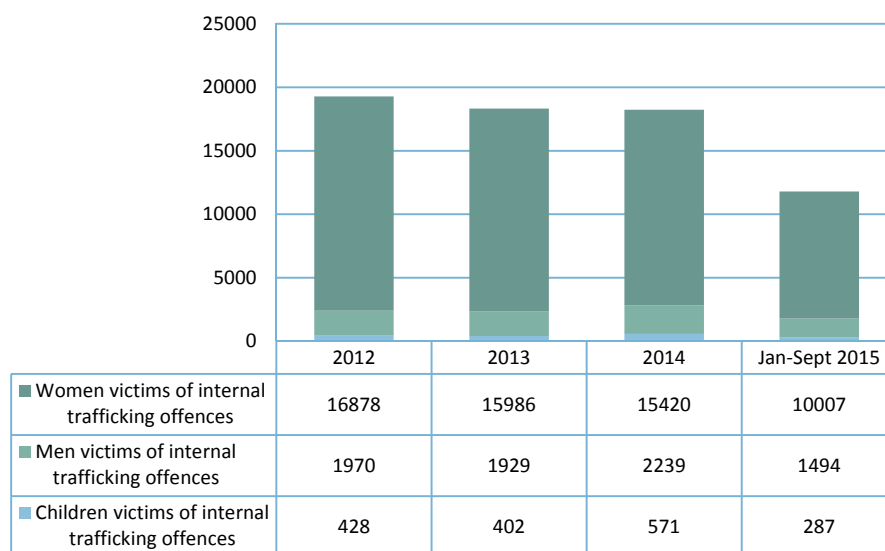
Persons convicted of external trafficking and related offences under different articles of the criminal code, by gender, 2012- September 2015



Source: Provincial and Capital Police/Federal Investigation Agency.

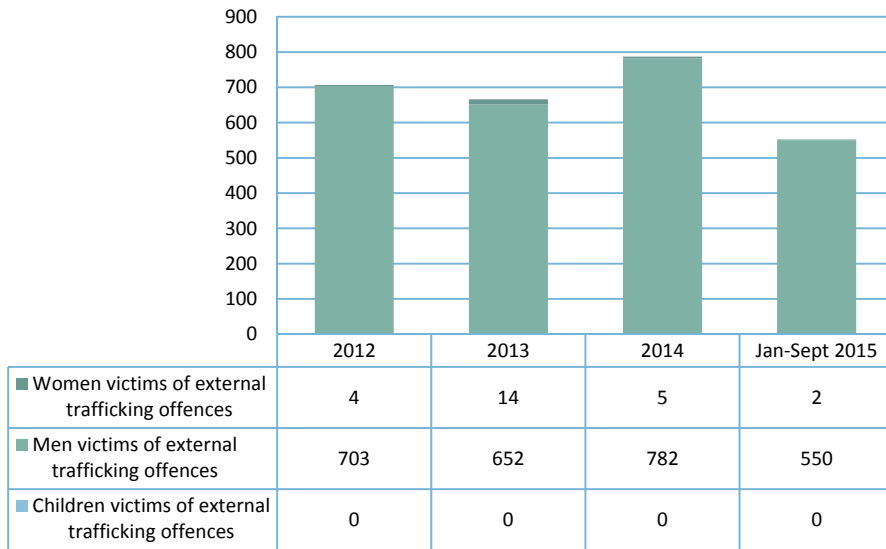
Victims

Victims of internal trafficking and related offences under different articles of the criminal code, by age and gender, 2012- September 2015



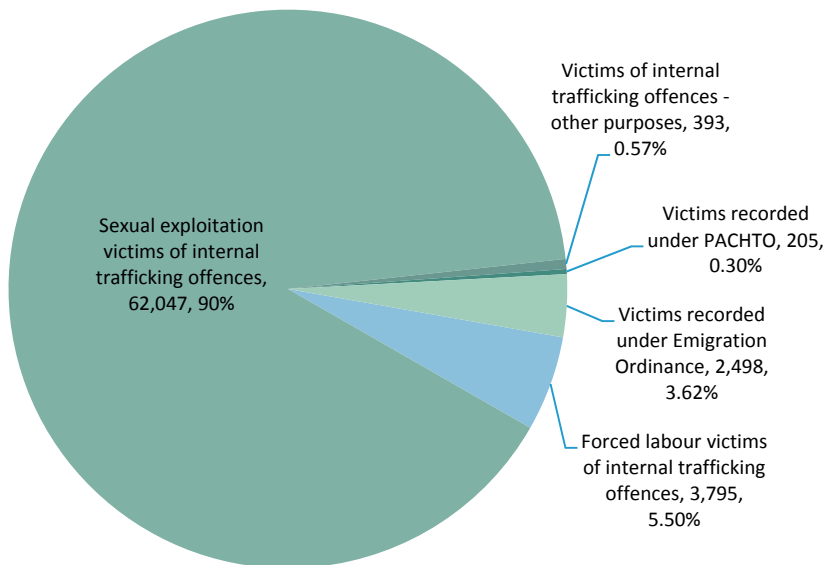
Source: Provincial and Capital Police/Federal Investigation Agency.

Victims of external trafficking and related offences under different articles of the criminal code, by age and gender, 2012- September 2015



Source: Provincial and Capital Police/Federal Investigation Agency.

Shares of victims of trafficking and related offences under different articles of the criminal code, 2012- September 2015



Source: Provincial and Capital Police/Federal Investigation Agency.

- Sri Lanka -

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

Investigations and suspects

In 2012, three cases of trafficking in persons and related offences were investigated by the police. In 2013, nine cases were investigated.

Source: Police Statistics.

One conviction was recorded in 2010, and one in 2011. No convictions were recorded in 2012 and 2013.

Source: Police Statistics.