

2024 UTAH HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRENDS AND DATA



HUMAN TRAFFICKING DOES EXIST IN UTAH AND IS MORE PREVALENT THAN EVER



[Deseret News](#)

[Human trafficking isn't just a problem elsewhere. It's happening in urban, rural Utah, new report says](#)

[KSL NewsRadio](#)

[Millcreek couple charged with human trafficking for labor](#)

[Las Vegas man wanted in Utah for human trafficking in city jail on DUI charge](#)



UTAH
Herriman man in violent
relationship accused of human
trafficking

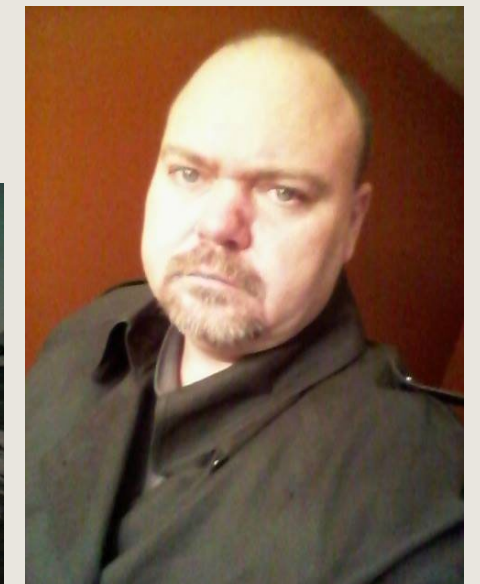
LOCAL NEWS

Three arrested, more arrests expected in human trafficking case

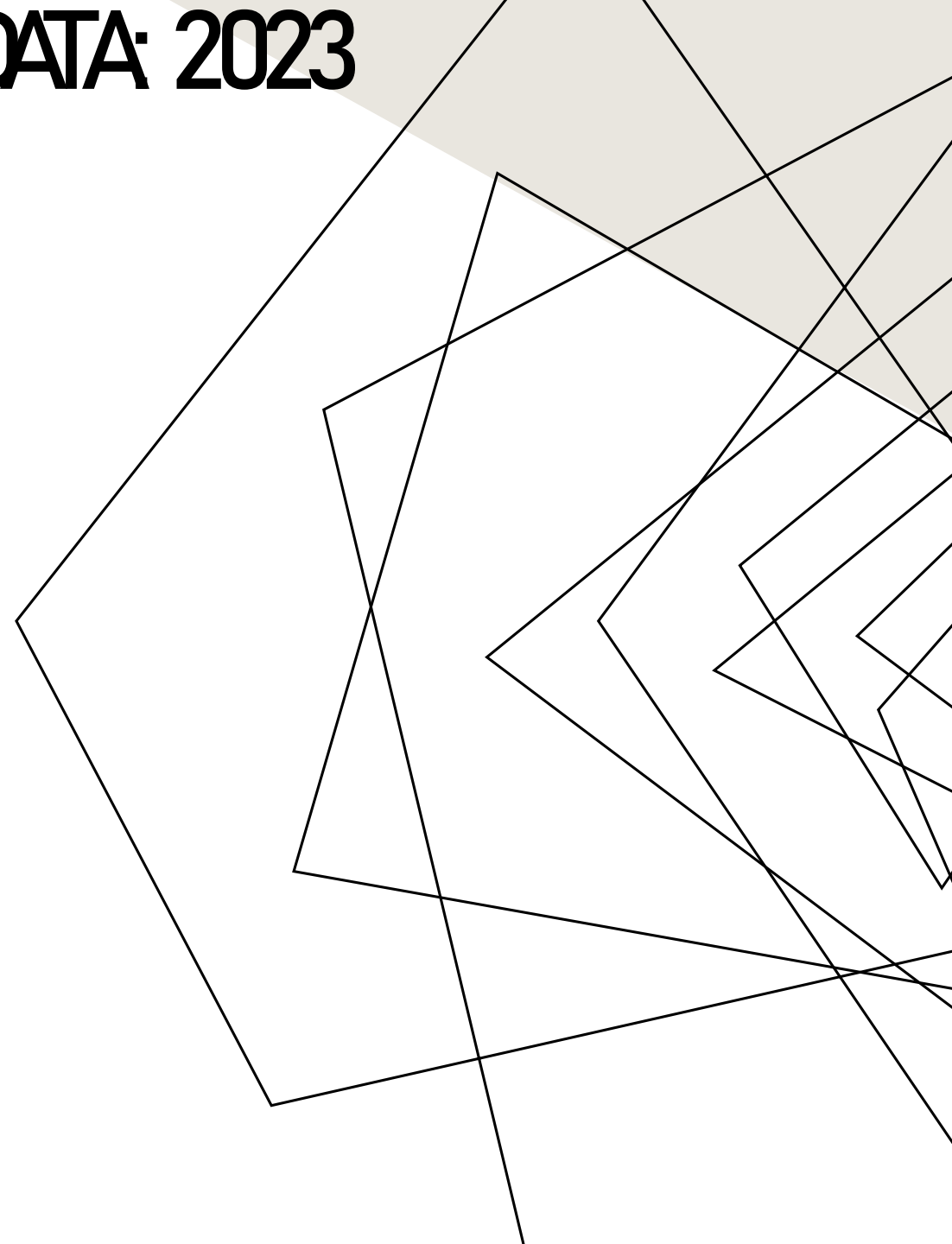


The "typical" human trafficker

- Transcends all economic and social classes
- Ages vary from teen to elderly adults
- All races, cultures and genders



HUMAN TRAFFICKING DATA: 2023





UTAH ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE 2023

- **Special Agents with the SECURE Strike Force opened 69 sex and Human Trafficking related investigations**
- **24 Human Trafficking related prosecutions including 12 that involved child victims**
- **3 Labor Trafficking prosecutions**
- **SECURE Agents currently have over a dozen active investigations or cases that are in the judicial process**



During FY 23 Human Trafficking related prosecutions included multiple other charges including:

- Rape
- Forcible Sodomy and Sodomy on a Child
- Forcible Sexual Abuse
- Sexual Exploitation of a Minor
- Exploitation of Prostitution of a Child
- Aggravated Sexual Extortion
- Aggravated Human Trafficking
- Human Trafficking of a Vulnerable Adult
- Human Trafficking For Labor Exploitation
- Aggravated Kidnapping
- Communications Fraud
- Narcotics Distribution / Drug Crimes
- Pattern of Unlawful Activity
- Money Laundering
- Assault/Aggravated Assault and Domestic Violence
- Exploitation of Prostitution
- Obstruction of Justice
- Tampering with a Witness
- Computer Crimes
- Conspiracy

OBSTACLES TO INVESTIGATIONS

VICTIM RESOURCES:

- HT victims often have multiple unmet basic needs
- Medical care
- Mental and emotional care
- On-going / long term healthcare needs
- Housing
- Safety and support system
- Lack of funding and staffing to address victim needs
- Employment / job training
- Childcare

Investation Challenges:

- Addressing victim needs and questions throughout the investigative and judicial process
- Maintaining victim contact and relationship with law enforcement
- Uncooperative victim & witnesses
- Explicit sexual content
- Long, irregular work hours
- Staffing shortages
- Complex, lengthy, investigations
- Long drawn-out judicial process
- Resource and money limitations