



TEXAS
Department of Family
and Protective Services

Children and Youth Missing from
DFPS Conservatorship
&
Human Trafficking
Data

Fiscal Year 2022 Report

May 2023

INTRODUCTION

Background

Pursuant to Texas Family Code § 264.017(b)(12) and (13) and Texas Family Code § 264.123, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) is required to report annually:

- The number of children who are missing from the children's substitute care provider while in the managing conservatorship of DFPS;
- The number of children who were victims of trafficking under Chapter 20A, Penal Code, while in the managing conservatorship DFPS;
- Whether a child who went missing was a victim of the offense under Chapter 20A, Penal Code Trafficking of Persons;
- Whether the managing conservatorship of DFPS is temporary or permanent;
- The type of substitute care in which the child is placed; and
- The child's county of residence, sex, age, race, and ethnicity.

In Fiscal Year 2016, DFPS began investigating allegations of sex and labor trafficking committed by a person responsible for a child's care, custody, or welfare. Prior to Fiscal Year 2016, these allegations were investigated as sexual abuse or neglectful supervision.

Report Outline

There are four distinct sections of this report which provide data for Fiscal Year 2022 and the preceding two fiscal years when available. Each section will respectively identify human trafficking victimization. Each section should be reviewed independently of one another to understand the trends, per area, where identification occurs.

1. [Introduction](#)

Provides legislative background and report outline.

2. [Children and Youth Missing While in DFPS Conservatorship and Recovery Information](#)

Provides data for Fiscal Year 2022 and two prior years for children and youth in DFPS Conservatorship with missing events.

3. [Reports and Investigations of Sex and Labor Trafficking](#)

Provides data for Fiscal Year 2022 and two prior years on reports received with sex and labor trafficking allegations and investigation data for these categories.

4. [Sex and Labor Trafficking Victimization Incidents](#)

Provides data for Fiscal Year 2022 and two prior years, where available, where human trafficking victimization is identified by DFPS for children and youth in any stage of service and treatment services for those in DFPS Conservatorship.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MISSING WHILE IN DFPS CONSERVATORSHIP AND RECOVERY INFORMATION

Overview

In Fiscal Year 2022, 38,294 children and youth were in DFPS Conservatorship. Of these, 1,220 unique children and youth had missing events that started during Fiscal Year 2022. There were 114 additional children and youth who were missing on the first day of the fiscal year.¹ Therefore, a total of 1,334 unique children and youth were missing at some point during Fiscal Year 2022.

Of the 1,334 children and youth who were missing at some point during Fiscal Year 2022:

- 1,111 (83%) had been located as of August 31, 2022.
- 130 (10%) were still missing and still in DFPS conservatorship on August 31, 2022. Of these, 54 (42%) had gone missing during the month of August 2022.
- 93 (7%) children and youth exited conservatorship while missing.² Of these:
 - 52 youth turned 18 while on missing status;
 - 37 had legal responsibility terminated by the court of jurisdiction while on missing status and before they turned 18; and
 - 4 passed away while missing.

From Fiscal Year 2021 to Fiscal Year 2022, there was a decrease in the percentage of children and youth in DFPS Conservatorship who had at least one or more missing event during the fiscal year (see **Table 1**).³

Table 1
Total Number of Children and Youth in DFPS Conservatorship who were Missing
FY 2020-2022

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Number of children and youth in conservatorship at some point during fiscal year.	47,913	45,870	38,294
Number of children and youth in conservatorship who were reported missing during fiscal year.	2,094	1,695	1,220
Percent of children and youth in conservatorship who were reported missing during fiscal year.	4.4%	3.7%	3.2%

Demographics of Children and Youth Missing from DFPS Conservatorship⁴

Of the children and youth who were newly reported as missing in Fiscal Year 2022, 69% were age 15-17 at the time of their first missing event in the fiscal year (see **Table 2**).

Table 2
Ages of Children and Youth at the Time of the First Missing Event
FY 2020-2022

Age	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
17	507	24%	401	24%	307	25%
16	494	23%	403	24%	280	23%
15	419	20%	325	19%	256	21%
14	236	11%	220	13%	150	12%
13	168	8%	118	7%	92	8%
12	58	3%	60	4%	33	3%
Less than 12 ⁵	215	10%	168	10%	102	8%
Total	2,094	100%	1,695	100%	1,220	100%

The gender breakdown of those missing from care has remained consistent, in Fiscal Year 2022 (see **Table 3**).

Table 3
Gender of Missing Children and Youth
FY 2020-2022

Gender	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
Female	1122	54%	966	57%	710	58%
Male	972	46%	729	43%	510	42%
Total	2,094	100%	1,695	100%	1,220	100%

Race/Ethnicity for children and youth missing have remained consistent across fiscal years (see Table 4).

Table 4
Race/Ethnicity of Children and Youth with Missing Episodes
FY 2020-2022

Race/ Ethnicity	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 % of All Children in Care
African American	401	23%	414	24%	306	25%	21%
Anglo	466	27%	450	27%	297	24%	29%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	< 1%	8	< 1%	10	< 1%	< 1%
Hispanic	770	44%	737	43%	535	44%	43%
Native American	3	< 1%	5	< 1%	2	< 1%	< 1%
Other ⁶	105	6%	81	5%	70	6%	6%
Total	1,747	100%	1,695	100%	1,220	100%	100%

As in prior fiscal years, the living arrangement from which children and youth are missing from DFPS Conservatorship most frequently in Fiscal Year 2022 is Residential Treatment Centers, although the percentage of these children and youth is showing a downward trend. However, there is an increasing trend in the percentages of children and youth who go missing from DFPS Supervision. (see Table 5).

Table 5
Living Arrangements for Children and Youth at the Time of the Missing Event
FY 2020-2022

Living Arrangement	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
Residential Treatment	547	26%	347	20%	203	17%
Kinship Home	238	11%	213	13%	179	15%
DFPS Supervision	21	1%	161	9%	171	14%
Emergency Shelter	315	15%	229	14%	137	11%
Therapeutic Foster Care	272	13%	207	12%	137	11%
General Residential Operation	147	7%	143	8%	115	9%
Unauthorized Placement	79	4%	65	4%	73	6%
Missing at Time of Removal	154	7%	150	9%	70	6%
Own Home	64	3%	65	4%	50	4%
Other Foster Care	100	5%	38	2%	41	3%
Foster Care: Child Care Services	98	5%	49	3%	34	3%
Other ⁷	54	3%	26	2%	10	1%
Unknown	5	< 1%	2	< 1%	0	17%
Total	2,094	100%	1,695	100%	1,220	100%

Most children and youth who were missing continue to be under Temporary Managing Conservatorship (TMC), followed by Permanent Managing Conservatorship (PMC) with Termination of Parental Rights, then PMC without Termination of Parental Rights (see **Table 6**). Note: Most children and youth in DFPS conservatorship are under TMC.

Table 6
Legal Status of Missing Children and Youth
FY 2020-2022

Legal Status	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
Temporary Managing Conservatorship	1,002	48%	852	50%	494	40%
Permanent Managing Conservatorship with Termination	661	32%	526	31%	464	38%
Permanent Managing Conservatorship Without Termination	403	19%	307	18%	244	20%
Other Legal Basis ⁸	4	< 1%	8	< 1%	15	1%
Care, Custody, and Control	6	< 1%	1	< 1%	3	< 1%
Not Recorded	18	1%	1	< 1%	0	0%
Total	2,094	100%	1,695	100%	1,220	100%

Table 7 shows the six highest placement counties from which children and youth experienced the first missing event in Fiscal Year 2022.

Table 7
Highest Six Counties Placement Counties for Children and Youth at the First Missing Event⁹
FY 2020-2022

County	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
Harris	385	21%	359	21%	224	18%
Bexar	267	8%	178	11%	134	11%
Dallas	154	7%	129	8%	126	10%
Tarrant	89	3%	83	5%	85	7%
Fort Bend	111	4%	90	5%	54	4%
Travis	75	5%	75	4%	53	4%
All other counties	1105	53%	781	46%	544	45%
Total	2,094	100%	1,695	100%	1,220	100%

Table 8
Placement Counties of Children and Youth at the First FY 2022 Missing Event
(Highest to Lowest)

County	Number of Children Missing	County	Number of Children Missing	County	Number of Children Missing
Harris	224	Henderson	5	Hopkins	<5
Bexar	134	Johnson	5	Hunt	<5
Dallas	126	Kaufman	5	Hutchinson	<5
Tarrant	85	Kendall	5	Jim Wells	<5
Fort Bend	54	Andrews	<5	Jones	<5
Travis	53	Angelina	<5	Kleberg	<5
Taylor	38	Aransas	<5	Lamar	<5
Nueces	28	Bandera	<5	Lee	<5
El Paso	26	Bastrop	<5	Leon	<5
Montgomery	25	Bee	<5	Limestone	<5
McLennan	24	Brazos	<5	Madison	<5
Bell	23	Brown	<5	Matagorda	<5
Randall	23	Burleson	<5	Medina	<5
Comal	22	Burnet	<5	Mills	<5
Lubbock	18	Caldwell	<5	Navarro	<5
Cameron	14	Calhoun	<5	Nolan	<5
Brazoria	13	Chambers	<5	Orange	<5
Denton	13	Cherokee	<5	Panola	<5
Jefferson	12	Cooke	<5	Parker	<5
Collin	10	Crosby	<5	Polk	<5
Hidalgo	10	Dewitt	<5	Robertson	<5
Smith	10	Eastland	<5	Rockwall	<5
Midland	9	Ellis	<5	Runnels	<5
Washington	9	Falls	<5	San Patricio	<5
Potter	8	Fannin	<5	Terry	<5
Tom Green	8	Fayette	<5	Victoria	<5
Webb	8	Freestone	<5	Wharton	<5
Grayson	7	Galveston	<5	Wichita	<5
Williamson	7	Garza	<5	Willacy	<5
Ector	6	Gregg	<5	Wood	<5
Kerr	6	Grimes	<5	Young	<5
Liberty	6	Hale	<5		
Coryell	5	Hardin	<5		
Gray	5	Harrison	<5	Out of State	14
Hays	5	Hockley	<5	Total	1,220

Total Number of Missing Events

In Fiscal Year 2022, while there was a total of 1,220 unique children and youth who were reported missing, the total number of missing events was 2,832. (see **Table 9**).

Table 9
Number of Missing Events of Children and Youth
FY 2020-2022

	FY 2020 Number	FY 2021 Number	FY 2022 Number
Total Number of Missing Events	3,311	3,528	2,832

Children with Multiple Missing Events

In Fiscal Year 2022, of the 1,220 unique children and youth that were reported as missing, 60% had only one missing event, while 40% had more than one missing event. The median number of runs was 1.0, while the average number of runs was 2.3.

Table 10 below shows the number of children with each associated number of missing events during Fiscal Year 2022.

Table 10
Number of All Missing Events For Children and Youth In Conservatorship
FY 2021-2022

Number of Missing Incidents During Fiscal Year	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	Average Age of Children*	FY 2022 Number of Children	%	Average Age of Children*
1	992	59%	13.6	727	60%	13.9
2	317	19%	15.4	199	16%	15.3
3	153	9%	15.5	106	9%	15.5
4	86	5%	15.7	66	5%	15.5
5	42	2%	15.7	28	2%	15.9
6	30	2%	15.5	27	2%	15.8
7	24	1%	15.4	17	1%	15.3
8	21	1%	15.5	10	1%	16.0
9 or more	30	2%	15.8	40	3%	15.8
Total	1,695	100%	15.0	1,220	100%	15.2

*For children who had multiple missing episodes during the fiscal year, Average Age of Children takes into account their age at all missing episodes.

Recovery Information

Reasons Given for Missing Event

When children and youth are recovered, a recovery interview is conducted to determine reasons for a missing event, however not all children and youth recovered provided this information. A total of 2,783 recoveries were documented and for 1,692 of these recoveries, the children and youth reported why they were missing from care in Fiscal Year 2022.¹⁰ The top seven reasons children and youth gave include:

- Dislike of rules of placement (17%)
- Desire to be on one's own (15%)
- Anger at CPS or the system (15%)
- Other (12%)
- Frustration/anger with caregivers (9%)
- Desire to be with boyfriend/girlfriend (9%)
- Desire to see family/relatives (8%)

In Fiscal Year 2022, 131 children and youth were victimized while they were on missing status, with some experiencing multiple types of victimization (see **Table 11**).

Table 11
Children and Youth Victimized During Missing Event
FY 2020-2022

	FY 2020 Number of Children	FY 2021 Number of Children	FY 2022 Number of Children
Identified as being Sex Trafficked	68	43	56
Identified as being Labor Trafficked	0	3	0
Identified as being Sexually Abused	64	47	43
Identified as being Physically Abused	23	9	13
Identified as experiencing Other Form of Victimization	Not Available ¹¹	35	40
Total Identified as being Victimized*	136	119	131

*Numbers do not sum to total as youth may have experienced multiple types of victimization

Detailed information related to sex and labor trafficking victimization identified from a missing event can be found in under Children and Youth Trafficked while Missing in the SEX AND LABOR TRAFFICKING VICTIMIZATION INCIDENTS section.

REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS OF SEX AND LABOR TRAFFICKING

Child Protective Investigations (CPI) investigates reports with allegations of child sex trafficking and/or labor trafficking by an alleged perpetrator who is traditionally responsible for a child or youth’s care, custody, or welfare such as a family member, or an adult living in the home of an alleged minor victim. Reports of child trafficking not under DFPS investigative jurisdiction are sent to local law enforcement and children’s advocacy centers, as well as the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Sex Trafficking

Table 12 provides data on reports of Sex Trafficking received in Fiscal Years 2020-2022.

Table 12
Sex Trafficking Reports
FY 2020-2022

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Reports Received with Sex Trafficking as an Allegation	800	866	997
Alleged Victims of Sex Trafficking*	876	987	1,038
Reports with a Sex Trafficking Allegation Investigated by CPI	543	679	752
Reports with a Sex Trafficking Allegation sent to CPI Alternative Response	3	3	2

* Multiple victims may be identified in a single report, resulting in a higher victim count than reports received.

Table 13 provides the outcomes for sex trafficking allegations in which the Child Protective Investigation **closed** during Fiscal Year 2022. These allegations could be the result of the initial report or could have been added during an investigation with other abuse/neglect allegations.¹²

Table 13
Child Protective Investigations Sex Trafficking Investigations
FY 2020-2022

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Investigations with one or more Allegation of Sex Trafficking	547	665	659
Investigations with a Disposition of “Reason to Believe” for one or more Sex Trafficking Allegations	35	32	23
Unique Victims of Sex Trafficking Allegations with a “Reason to Believe” Disposition*	39	36	23

* Multiple victims may be identified in a single investigation, resulting in a higher victim count than investigations.

Tables 14-16 provide the demographics for confirmed victims of sex trafficking.

Table 14
Ages of Unique Victims of Sex Trafficking Allegations
with a “Reason to Believe” Disposition
FY 2020-2022

Age	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
17	3	8%	2	6%	1	4%
16	15	38%	10	28%	5	22%
15	4	10%	5	14%	6	26%
14	2	5%	6	17%	2	9%
13	5	13%	2	6%	2	9%
12	1	3%	1	3%	3	13%
Less than 12	9	23%	10	28%	4	17%
Total	39	100%	36	100%	23	100%

Table 15
Gender of Unique Victims of Sex Trafficking Allegations
with a “Reason to Believe” Disposition
FY 2020-2022

Gender	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
Female	34	87%	32	89%	21	91%
Male	5	13%	4	11%	2	9%
Total	39	100%	36	100%	23	100%

Table 16
Race/Ethnicity of Unique Victims of Sex Trafficking Allegations
with a “Reason to Believe” Disposition
FY 2020-2022

Race/ Ethnicity	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 % of All Children in Care
African American	8	21%	7	19%	4	17%	21%
Anglo	14	36%	9	25%	10	43%	29%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	< 1%
Hispanic	12	31%	19	53%	9	39%	43%
Native American	0	0%	1	3%	0	0%	< 1%
Other ⁶	5	13%	0	0%	0	0%	6%
Total	39	100%	36	100%	23	100%	100%

Labor Trafficking

Table 17 provides data on reports of Labor Trafficking received in Fiscal Years 2020-2022.

Table 17
Labor Trafficking Reports
FY 2020-2022

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Reports Received with Labor Trafficking as an Allegation	103	111	176
Alleged Victims of Labor Trafficking*	135	127	184
Reports with a Labor Trafficking Allegation Investigated by CPI	76	61	114
Reports with a Labor Trafficking Allegation sent to CPI Alternative Response	6	4	2

* Multiple victims may be identified in a single report, resulting in a higher victim count than reports received.

Table 18 provides the outcomes for labor trafficking allegations in which the Child Protective Investigations **closed** during Fiscal Year 2022. These allegations could be the result of the initial report or could have been added during an investigation of other abuse/neglect allegations.¹³

Table 18
CPI Labor Trafficking Investigations
FY 2020-2022

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Investigations with one or more Allegation of Labor Trafficking	75	64	108
Investigations with a Disposition of “Reason to Believe” for one or more Labor Trafficking Allegations	4	2	1
Unique Victims of Labor Trafficking Allegations with a “Reason to Believe” Disposition*	4	3	1

* Multiple victims may be identified in a single investigation resulting in a higher victim count than investigations.

Tables 19-21 provide the demographics for **confirmed** victims of labor trafficking.

Table 19
Ages of Unique Victims of Labor Trafficking Allegations
with a “Reason to Believe” Disposition
FY 2020-2022

Age	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
17	0	0%	1	33%	0	0%
16	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
15	2	50%	1	33%	0	0%
14	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
13	2	50%	0	0%	0	0%
12	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Less than 12	0	0%	1	33%	1	100%
Total	4	100%	3	100%	1	100%

Table 20
Gender of Unique Victims of Labor Trafficking Allegations
with a “Reason to Believe” Disposition
FY 2020-2022

Gender	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
Female	3	75%	1	33%	1	100%
Male	1	25%	2	67%	0	0%
Total	4	100%	3	100%	1	100%

Table 21
Race/Ethnicity of Unique Victims of Labor Trafficking Allegations
with a “Reason to Believe” Disposition
FY 2020-2022

Race/ Ethnicity	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 % of All Children in Care
African American	0	0%	1	33%	0	0%	21%
Anglo	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%	29%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	< 1%
Hispanic	4	100%	2	67%	0	0%	43%
Native American	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	< 1%
Other ⁶	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	6%
Total	4	100%	3	100%	1	100%	100%

SEX AND LABOR TRAFFICKING VICTIMIZATION INCIDENTS

In April 2019, the DFPS IMPACT system was enhanced with the ability to capture data known about sex and labor trafficking victimization incidents for any child or youth involved in any DFPS child welfare stage of service. In this section, the Fiscal Year refers to the year in which an incident was recorded in the data system.

Incidents are reported by Fiscal Year, but victimization may not have occurred at the time of victim identification. For children who have more than one trafficking incident in a fiscal year, the highest level of confirmation status (Confirmed over Suspected-Unconfirmed) is reported. A child can only be in one cohort per fiscal year.

Sex Trafficking Incidents

Table 22 provides data on reported incidents of Suspected-Unconfirmed and Confirmed sex trafficking for children and/or youth involved with DFPS that were identified in Fiscal Years 2020-2022.

Table 22
Sex Trafficking Incidents Identified for Children Involved with DFPS
FY 2020-2022

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Number of Suspected-Unconfirmed Incidents of Sex Trafficking	100	115	169
Number of Unique Suspected-Unconfirmed Sex Trafficking Victims*	86	82	87
Number of Confirmed Incidents of Sex Trafficking	177	188	226
Number of Unique Confirmed Sex Trafficking Victims*	158	142	143

* Number of Unique Victims may be different from number of incidents as a child or youth may have experienced multiple incidents.

Tables 23-26 provide data on reported incidents of confirmed sex trafficking for children and/or youth involved with DFPS who were identified in Fiscal Years 2020-2022.

Table 23
Period of Victimization for Confirmed Sex Trafficking Victims Identified
FY 2020-2022

Period of Victimization	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
Before Agency Involvement	89	56%	74	52%	53	37%
During INV or A-R or FBSS	18	11%	18	13%	10	7%
During CVS Agency Care	50	32%	49	35%	80	56%
During PAL Aftercare	1	< 1%	1	< 1%	0	0%
Total	158	100%	142	100%	143	100%

Table 24
Ages at Time of Incident for Confirmed Sex Trafficking Victims Identified
FY 2020-2022

Age	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
17	21	13%	14	10%	16	11%
16	40	25%	34	24%	46	32%
15	27	17%	38	27%	28	19%
14	15	9%	20	14%	17	12%
13	17	11%	10	7%	12	8%
12	7	4%	9	6%	6	4%
Less than 12	24	15%	17	12%	18	13%
Unknown ¹⁴	7	4%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	158	100%	142	100%	143	100%

Table 25
Gender of Confirmed Victims of Sex Trafficking of Children Involved with DFPS
FY 2020-2022

Gender	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
Female	145	92%	134	94%	133	93%
Male	13	8%	8	6%	10	7%
Total	158	100%	142	100%	143	100%

Table 26
Race/Ethnicity of Confirmed Victims of Sex Trafficking of Children Involved with DFPS
FY 2020-2022

Race/ Ethnicity	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 % of All Children in Care
African American	37	23%	28	20%	34	24%	21%
Anglo	52	33%	42	30%	45	31%	29
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	< 1%
Hispanic	52	33%	61	43%	52	36%	43%
Native American	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	< 1%
Other ⁶	17	11%	11	8%	12	8%	6%
Total	158	100%	142	100%	143	100%	100%

Labor Trafficking Incidents

Table 27 provides data on reported incidents of Suspected-Unconfirmed and Confirmed labor trafficking for children and youth involved with DFPS identified in Fiscal Years 2020-2022.

Table 27
Labor Trafficking Incidents for Children Involved with DFPS
FY 2020-2022

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Number of Suspected-Unconfirmed Incidents of Labor Trafficking	2	4	5
Number of alleged victims of a Suspected-Unconfirmed Labor Trafficking Incident*	2	2	5
Number of Confirmed Incidents of Labor Trafficking	2	8	5
Number of victims of a Confirmed Labor Trafficking Incident*	2	7	5

* Number of Unique Victims may be different from number of incidents as child or youth may have experienced multiple incidents.

Tables 28-31 provide data on reported incidents of confirmed labor trafficking for children and youth involved with DFPS identified in Fiscal Years 2020-2022.

Table 28
Period of Victimization for Confirmed Labor Trafficking Victims Identified
FY 2020-2022

Period of Victimization	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
Before Agency Involvement	2	100%	6	86%	3	60%
During INV or A-R or FBSS	0	0%	0	0%	1	20%
During CVS Agency Care	0	0%	1	14%	1	20%
During PAL Aftercare	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	2	100%	7	100%	5	100%

Table 29
Ages of Confirmed Victims of Labor Trafficking
at Time of Incident of Children Involved with DFPS
FY 2020-2022

Age	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
17	0	0%	0	0%	1	20%
16	0	0%	2	29%	2	40%
15	0	0%	2	29%	0	0%
14	0	0%	1	14%	0	0%
13	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
12	2	100%	0	0%	1	20%
Less than 12	0	0%	2	29%	1	20%
Total	2	100%	7	100%	5	100%

Table 30
Gender of Confirmed Victims of Labor Trafficking of Children Involved with DFPS
FY 2020-2022

Gender	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
Female	1	50%	3	43%	2	40%
Male	1	50%	4	57%	3	60%
Total	2	100%	7	100%	5	100%

Table 31
Race/Ethnicity of Confirmed Victims of Labor Trafficking of Children Involved with DFPS
FY 2020-2022

Race/ Ethnicity	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 % of All Children in Care
African American	1	50%	1	14%	0	0%	21%
Anglo	0	0%	1	14%	1	40%	29%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	< 1%
Hispanic	1	50%	5	71%	3	60%	43%
Native American	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	< 1%
Other ⁶	0	0%	0	0%	1	0%	6%
Total	2	100%	7	100%	5	100%	100%

Children and Youth who are Victims of Trafficking in DFPS Conservatorship

During Fiscal Year 2022, 38,294 children and youth were in DFPS Conservatorship at any point in the fiscal year. Of these, 382 (1%) unique children and youth were identified as either Suspected-Unconfirmed or Confirmed for human trafficking (sex or labor) trafficking victimization while in substitute care.

Of the 382 children and youth in DFPS Conservatorship at some point during Fiscal Year 2022 who were identified as either Suspected-Unconfirmed or Confirmed for human trafficking (sex or labor) trafficking victimization:

- 366 (96%) were identified as experiencing only sex trafficking victimization. Of these,
 - 253 (69%) were listed as Confirmed victimization, and
 - 113 (31%) were listed as Suspected-Unconfirmed victimization.
- 11 (3%) were identified as experiencing only labor trafficking victimization. Of these,
 - 9 (82%) were listed as Confirmed victimization, and
 - 2 (18%) were listed as Suspected-Unconfirmed victimization.
- 5 (1%) were identified as experiencing both sex trafficking and labor trafficking victimization. Of these,
 - 3 (60%) were listed as Confirmed victimization for sex trafficking, and
 - 2 (40%) were listed as Suspected-Unconfirmed victimization for sex trafficking.
 - 3 (60%) were listed as Confirmed victimization for labor trafficking, and
 - 2 (40%) were listed as Suspected-Unconfirmed victimization for labor trafficking.

Demographics for Children and Youth who are Victims of Trafficking in DFPS Conservatorship⁴

Of the children and youth in DFPS Conservatorship who were identified as experiencing human trafficking victimization, the majority were 15-17 years of age. (see **Table 32**).

Table 32
Ages of Children and Youth in DFPS Conservatorship
Identified as Experiencing Human Trafficking Victimization
FY 2022

Age	FY 2022 Number of Children and Youth	%
17	21	5%
16	96	25%
15	92	24%
14	51	13%
13	39	10%
12	21	5%
Less than 12	62	16%
Total	382	100%

The gender breakdown of those children and youth in DFPS Conservatorship who were identified as experiencing human trafficking victimization are as follows. (see **Table 33**).

Table 33
Gender of Children and Youth in DFPS Conservatorship
Identified as Experiencing Human Trafficking Victimization
FY 2022

Gender	FY 2022 Number of Children and Youth	%
Female	347	91%
Male	35	9%
Total	382	100%

The race breakdown of those children and youth in DFPS Conservatorship who were identified as experiencing human trafficking victimization are as follows. (see **Table 34**).

Table 34
Race of Children and Youth in DFPS Conservatorship
Identified as Experiencing Human Trafficking Victimization
FY 2022

Race/Ethnicity	FY 2022 Number of Children and Youth	%
African American	85	22%
Anglo	104	27%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	1%
Hispanic	172	45%
Native American	0	0%
Other ⁶	19	5%
Total	382	100%

Treatment Services for Children and Youth who are Victims of Trafficking in DFPS Conservatorship

For each child and youth in DFPS Conservatorship for FY 2022 identified as experiencing Suspected-Unconfirmed and Confirmed trafficking victimization, their respective case management Region was surveyed to collect information regarding treatment services received during FY 2022. In Fiscal Year 2022, of the 382 children and youth in DFPS Conservatorship identified as experiencing trafficking victimization:

- 12 (3%) received specialized trafficking residential treatment services.
- 107 (28%) received non-trafficking residential treatment services.
- 35 (9%) received psychiatric behavioral treatment services.
- 7 (2%) received both specialized trafficking residential treatment services and non-trafficking residential treatment services.
- 1 (0.3%) received specialized trafficking residential treatment services, non-trafficking residential treatment and psychiatric behavioral treatment services.

As not every child and youth identified as a suspected-unconfirmed or confirmed victim of trafficking requires specialized residential treatment services, additional information was gathered on services that can support an individualized restoration journey for those who experience such victimization. In Fiscal Year 2022, for children and youth in DFPS Conservatorship with identified trafficking victimization:

- 114 (30%) received Care Coordination via a Care Coordination Team
- 136 (36%) received Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth (CSEY) Advocacy
- 64 (17%) received Substance Abuse Treatment services
- 121 (32%) received counseling services specifically for their trafficking victimization
- 90 (23%) received STAR Health Intensive Case Management
- 75 (20%) had an assigned Wellbeing Specialist
- 23 (6%) had an assigned Development Disability Specialist
- 57 (15%) received Preparation for Adult Living Services

Children and Youth Trafficked while Missing

There were 1,219 unique children recovered from missing status in Fiscal Year 2022.¹⁵ Of the 1,219 children and youth who were recovered in Fiscal Year 2022, 131 (11%) were identified as being victimized while missing, 56 (5%) of whom were identified as a victim of sex trafficking and none of whom were identified as a victim of labor trafficking (see **Table 35**).

Table 35
Overview of Texas Children and Youth in DFPS Conservatorship

	FY 2021	FY 2022
Total number in DFPS Conservatorship at some point in fiscal year	45,870	38,294
Total number of unique children and youth missing from DFPS Conservatorship at some point in fiscal year	1,767	1,334
Total number of unique children recovered during fiscal year ^{Error! Bookmark not defined.}	1,632	1,219
Number of unique children who were identified as being victimized during missing episode	119	131
Number of unique victims identified as sex trafficking victims during missing episode	43	56
Number of unique victims identified as labor trafficking victims during missing episode	3	0

Tables 36-38 provide the age, gender, and race/ethnicity of the 56 children and youth who were identified as being sex trafficked during a missing event in Fiscal Year 2022, as well as the children and youth who were identified being sex trafficked during a missing event in previous Fiscal Years.

Table 36
Ages of Children and Youth Sex Trafficked During a Missing Event
FY 2020-2022

Age	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
17	19	28%	11	26%	10	23%
16	24	35%	15	35%	22	39%
15	19	28%	12	28%	17	32%
14	3	4%	4	9%	2	4%
13	1	1%	1	2%	4	7%
12	1	1%	0	0%	1	2%
11	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	68	100%	43	100%	56	100%

Table 37
Gender of Children and Youth Sex Trafficked During a Missing Event
FY 2020-2022

Gender	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
Female	67	99%	40	93%	54	96%
Male	1	1%	3	7%	2	4%
Total	68	100%	43	100%	56	100%

Table 38

Race/Ethnicity of Children and Youth Sex Trafficked During a Missing Event FY 2020-2022 Race/ Ethnicity	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 % of All Children and Youth in Care
African American	32	47%	12	28%	19	34%	21%
Anglo	13	19%	15	35%	12	21%	29%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	< 1%
Hispanic	16	24%	13	30%	20	36%	43%
Native American	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	< 1%
Other ⁶	6	3%	3	2%	4	7%	6%
Total	68	100%	43	100%	56	100%	100%

Tables 39-41 provide the age, gender, and race/ethnicity of the children and youth who were identified as being labor trafficked during a missing event in Fiscal Years 2020 to 2022. No children were identified being labor trafficked during a missing event in Fiscal Year 2020 or Fiscal Year 2022.

Table 39
Ages of Children and Youth Labor Trafficked During a Missing Event
FY 2020-2022

Age	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
17	0	0%	2	67%	0	0%
16	0	0%	1	33%	0	0%
15	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
14	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
13	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
12	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Less than 12	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	0	0%	3	100%	0	0%

Table 40
Gender of Children and Youth Labor Trafficked During a Missing Event
FY 2020-2022

Gender	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%
Female	0	0%	1	33%	0	0%
Male	0	0%	2	67%	0	0%
Total	0	0%	3	100%	0	0%

Table 41
Race/Ethnicity of Children and Youth Labor Trafficked During a Missing Event
FY 2020-2022

Race/ Ethnicity	FY 2020 Number of Children	%	FY 2021 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 Number of Children	%	FY 2022 % of All Children and Youth in Care
African American	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	21%
Anglo	0	0%	1	33%	0	0%	29%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	< 1%
Hispanic	0	0%	2	67%	0	0%	43%
Native American	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	< 1%
Other ⁶	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	6%
Unknown	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	< 1%
Total	0	0%	3	100%	0	0%	100%

¹ To avoid duplicative counting, demographic data for youth already missing at the start of Fiscal Year 2022 is not included in the demographic data of this report, unless the youth had a new missing event within Fiscal Year 2022.

² DFPS continues to search for any youth missing from DFPS Conservatorship until DFPS no longer has legal authority.

³ Reasons for the decrease may include a reduction in the overall number of children in DFPS Conservatorship and practice improvements in responding to youth who have gone missing from care.

⁴ Demographic information is based on the child's first missing event or trafficking incident of the fiscal year.

⁵ The majority of these children were either missing because parent(s) absconded with the children before DFPS could take possession or abducted after DFPS took possession.

⁶ The majority of these children were either missing because parent(s) absconded with the children before DFPS could take possession or abducted after DFPS took possession.

⁷ This category includes Primary Medical Needs, Independent Living, and Private Adoptive homes, in addition, to cases in which the child or youth was recovered but was missing again before placement could occur in the same day.

⁸ This category includes children and youth who were missing prior to obtaining conservatorship.

⁹ For children and youth who were missing at the time of removal, or whose first Fiscal Year 2022 missing event was preceded by a different missing event, the county of legal jurisdiction was used as the placement county from which the child/youth went missing.

¹⁰ The number of recoveries is greater than the number of unique children and youth who were missing, as well as the number of unique children and youth who were recovered, because youth may have multiple missing events and recovery events within the fiscal year.

¹¹ Fiscal Year 2021 is the first time this data is available for reporting; therefore, Fiscal Year 2020 data is not available.

¹² In Table 12, "Reports with a Sex Trafficking Allegation Investigated by CPI" are cases that were opened but may not have closed in Fiscal Year 2022. Table 13 reflects investigation cases that were initiated and closed in Fiscal Year 2022, in addition to those cases that were initiated in Fiscal Year 2021 but closed in Fiscal Year 2022.

¹³ In Table 17, "Reports with a Labor Trafficking Allegation Investigated by CPI" are cases that were opened but may not have closed in Fiscal Year 2022. Table 18 reflects investigation cases that were initiated and closed in Fiscal Year 2021, in addition to those cases that were initiated in Fiscal 2021 but closed in Fiscal Year 2022.

¹⁴ Age at time of incident is unknown in Fiscal Year 2020, as this data element was not required until December 2019.

¹⁵ In Fiscal Year 2022, there were a total of 1,219 recoveries throughout the fiscal year. This number differs from the 1,111 recoveries (page 3) which is reporting the number of children or youth whose status on August 31, 2022 was recovered.