



Bundeskriminalamt

TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

2010 National Situation Report



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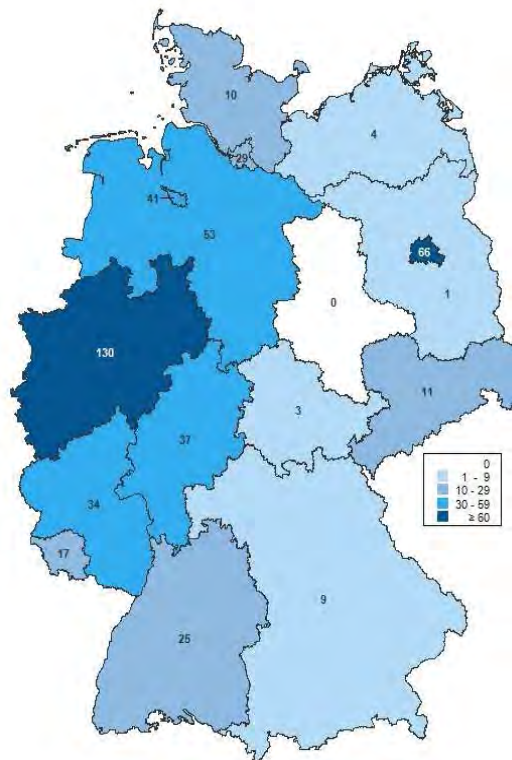
Bundeskriminalamt

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Investigations by federal states 2010



In the course of the investigations conducted into human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, the following attendant and logistic offences were identified by the police:

- Offences against sexual self-determination (143 investigations)
- Offences involving violence (86)
- Deprivation of liberty (40)
- Violation of the Narcotic Drugs Act (38)
- Offences involving facilitation of illegal immigration (37)
- Infringements of the Weapons Act (15)
- various counterfeiting/forgery offences (13)

The areas of crime and their dimension in terms of numbers are essentially in keeping with the conclusions from the previous year.

As a partial result of the research project named “Recognition of victims of human trafficking”, the **acquisition of data required for initiating investigations** is more precisely defined since 2009.

In 229 cases (49%), the **initial police information** on the investigations concluded in 2010 was provided by the police themselves. In 107 cases (23 %), the victim supplied information which led to the initiation

2.1.2 Suspects

In 2010, 730 suspects were recorded in the investigations concluded by the police. Compared to the previous year, this corresponds to a decline of six percent.

On average, less than two suspects per investigation were identified. This statistic shows that most of the investigations were not directed against larger criminal organisations and/or that offender structures possibly existing abroad have not been identified. German suspects made up the largest share (nearly 26 %), followed by Bulgarian suspects (20 %). Of the 187 German suspects, 34 persons had had a different nationality at birth, such as Russian (8), Kazakh (7), Serbian (4) and Turkish (4) nationality.

72 % of all suspects were men.²

Nationalities of the suspects

	2010		2009	
	Number	%	Number	%
EUROPE	608	83.3 %	690	88.8 %
Germany	187	25.6 %	279	35.9 %
(among them, suspects who were not born in Germany)	(34)	(4.7 %)	(39)	(5.0 %)
Bulgaria	149	20.4 %	125	16.1 %
Romania	96	13.2 %	82	10.5 %
Turkey	44	6.0 %	81	10.4 %
Hungary	43	5.9 %	12	1.7 %
Italy	9	1.2 %	4	0.5 %
Other	79	10.8 %	81	10.4 %
AFRICA	53	7.3 %	37	4.8 %
among them, Nigeria	37	5.1 %	29	3.7 %
AMERICA	1	0.1 %	3	0.4 %
ASIA	12	1.6 %	11	1.4 %
among them, Iran	3	0.4 %	3	0.4 %
Unknown/unresolved	56	7.7 %	36	4.6 %
Total	730	*100 %	777	*100 %

* The percentages were rounded.

² No information was provided on the sex of three percent of all suspects.

Mainly because of their lack of willingness to co-operate with the police and the counselling services, interaction with alleged victims from Romania and Bulgaria is difficult. Initially obtained witness statements are often withdrawn, especially if the female victims/witnesses return to their home country at their own request during the investigations, so that it becomes very difficult or even impossible for the judicial authorities to process the human trafficking offences. The law enforcement authorities are constantly facing cases of prostitutes from these two countries who stay here legally. Their situation, viewed objectively, raises suspicions of human trafficking; however, due to a lack of personal evidence, these offences are difficult to prove.

86 of the 610 victims were staying in Germany illegally, including 41 victims of Nigerian nationality and 10 victims stemming from other African states.

Age structure of the victims of selected nationalities

	< 14 years		14-17 years		18-20 years		21-24 years		> 24 years		unknown		Total N
	N	% ⁴	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Total	8	1	79	13	254	42	127	21	134	22	8	1	610
Germany	2	2	25	21	70	58	14	12	9	7	1	1	121
Romania	-	-	8	7	76	64	18	15	16	14	-	-	118
Bulgaria	-	-	7	6	41	36	36	31	31	27	-	-	115
Hungary	-	-	7	13	17	32	17	32	12	23	-	-	53
Nigeria	-	-	9	20	7	15	11	24	19	41	-	-	46

With 341 victims (56 %), the focus was on persons under the age of 21. Most probably, the reason for the significant percentage of victims aged below 21 is the fact that, based on the penal provisions of section 232 I sentence 2 of the German Penal Code, it is much easier to identify this age group as victims of human trafficking than other age groups.

87 (about 14 %) of the 610 identified victims of human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation were minors and 27 of these minors were German. Eight persons who were recorded as victims (1 %) were aged below 14 at the time of the offence.

⁴ All percentages were rounded.

registered any activity. 61 of the persons concerned (10 %) were registered. In 103 cases (17 %) this circumstance is not known.

Of the total of 610 victims of human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, 214 (35 %) received support from special counselling services during the investigations, while this was not the case for 350 persons (57%). No information is available with regard to 46 victims (8 %).

2.2 Human Trafficking for the Purpose of the Exploitation of Workers

2.2.1 Investigations

In 2010, 24 investigations into human trafficking for the purpose of the exploitation of workers were completed, which corresponds to a significant increase of 140 % in comparison to the previous year (10). The increase in this area can be attributed to an investigative complex conducted by the state criminal police office of **Lower Saxony in cooperation with the** Federal Police Directorate in Hanover. In this context, a company based in Hanover/Isernhagen was under investigation for suspected human trafficking for the purpose of the exploitation of workers committed to the detriment of Chinese nationals.

The amount of assets provisionally confiscated within the framework of investigations amounted to approximately EUR 1,230,000 (2009: approx. EUR 19,000). This amount of money stems from the investigative complex handled in **Lower Saxony**. In none of the other investigations were any measures to secure assets taken. If this investigative complex is not taken into account, the number of investigations reported, i.e. seven, is more or less on the same level as the year before.

2.2.2 Suspects

In the course of investigations concluded by the police in 2010, 37 suspects were recorded, i.e. nearly 16% more than during the previous year (32 suspects).

As in the area of human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, less than two suspects per investigation were identified on average. In this context as well, most of the investigations were not directed against larger criminal organisations and/or suspects based abroad could not be identified. With nearly 46% of all suspects, German citizens predominated (17), of whom 16 had had a different nationality at birth, including Chinese (12), Vietnamese (2), Laotian (1) and Turkish (1) nationality. Most of the non-German suspects (20) were Chinese nationals (10), followed by Romanian (4) and Vietnamese (3) suspects. 68% of all suspects were men.

Most of the suspects as well can be attributed to the aforementioned investigative complex handled in Lower Saxony. If this investigative complex is not taken into account, the number of suspects only amounts to 14.



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