



# Understanding Human Trafficking

**Sex Trafficking:** In which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age.

**Labor Trafficking:** The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

Since 2007, the National Human Trafficking Hotline has received 32,297 reports of human trafficking resulting in an estimated 22,451 victims in Texas. Since human trafficking is underreported, it is difficult to measure the magnitude of the issue.



Of Labor Trafficking survivors were recruited by an employer nationwide



Of Sex Trafficking survivors were recruited by a family member nationwide



Of Sex Trafficking survivors were recruited via an intimate partner or a marriage proposition nationwide

**Human trafficking can happen to anyone regardless of gender, age, or socioeconomic status. Traffickers are looking for unmet needs and desires, using this as leverage to exploit individuals.**



## Top vulnerabilities

- Housing or food instability
- Substance use
- Juvenile Justice System or Foster Care System Involvement
- History of abuse or neglect
- Lack of social connections/support

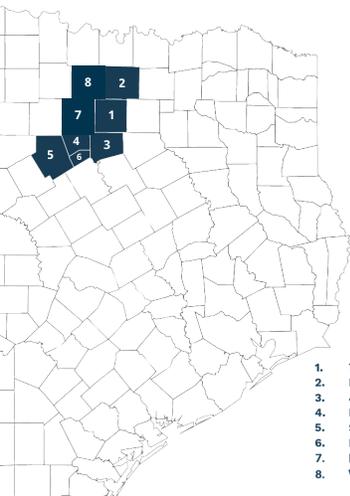
## Experiences of Human Trafficking

**Force:** Physical acts of violence or restraints

**Fraud:** False promises or misrepresentation of an opportunity.

**Coercion:** Manipulation, lies, intimidation, using psychological and physical vulnerabilities

Remember that, anytime a minor or an individual with disabilities engages in commercial sex acts, regardless of force, fraud, or coercion, that is considered sex trafficking.



1. Tarrant
2. Denton
3. Johnson
4. Hood
5. Somerville
6. Erath
7. Parker
8. Wise



Unbound Now in the North Texas region is available in the counties on the left. Whether you suspect someone you know is being trafficked or you think you may be a victim of human trafficking, please call our referral number. For reports of human trafficking, please contact local law enforcement

**Unbound Now North Texas 24/7 Crisis Response & Referral Line**  
817-668-6462

**Arlington Police Department: Human Exploitation and Trafficking (HEAT) Unit**  
(817) 575-3201



# Building Protective Factors for Child Sex Trafficking

Child sex trafficking refers to the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a minor for the purpose of a commercial sex act.

Scan QR to learn more about the CSE-IT



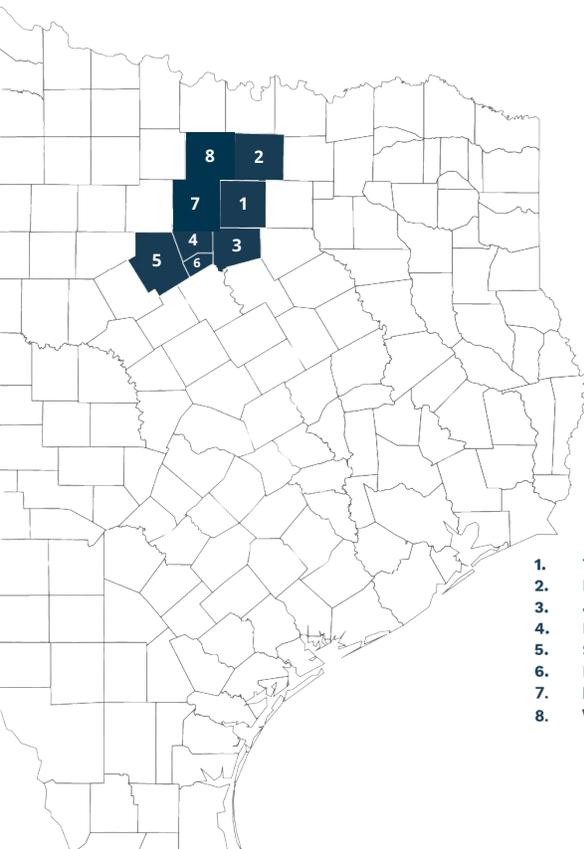
In Texas between 2016-2024, the Commercial Sexual Exploitation Identification Tool (CSE-IT) was used to conduct 174,243 screenings to assess trafficking risks among youth. Of those, **17,269 youth were identified as 'Clear Concern', which is the highest risk level for sex trafficking victimization.**



Traffickers look for unmet needs and desires therefore we can protect youth by strengthening protective factors that address and fulfill those needs and desires..

## Risk Factors

- Housing or food instability
- Substance use
- Juvenile Justice System or Foster Care System Involvement
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## Protective Factors for Service Providers

- Strengthening supportive adult relationships
- Educating on healthy relationships
- Referring to help meet basic needs
- Building strong coordination of resources for youth
- Promoting online safety



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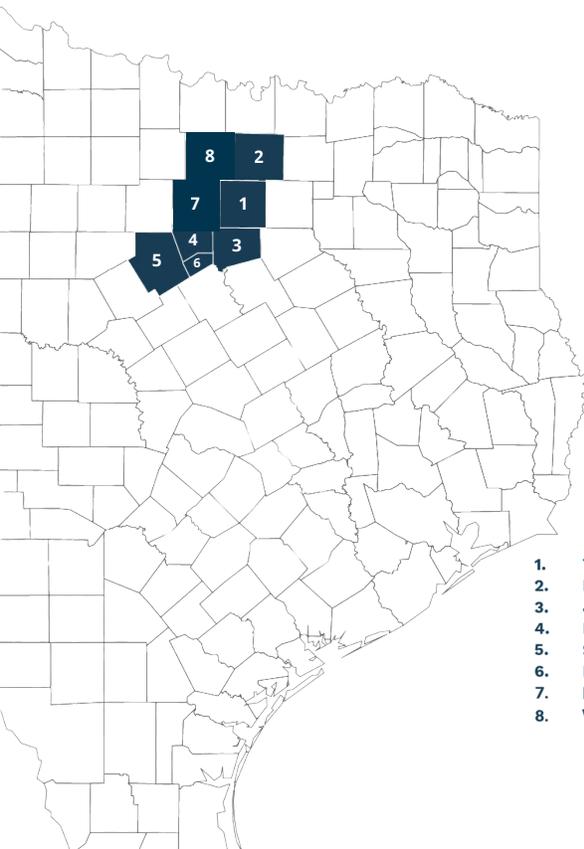
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## Protective Factors for Churches

- Provide mentorship or spiritual support
- Launch a food drive
- Offer rental and bill assistance
- Create safe spaces for children to connect
- Educate about online safety, safe relationships, and human trafficking



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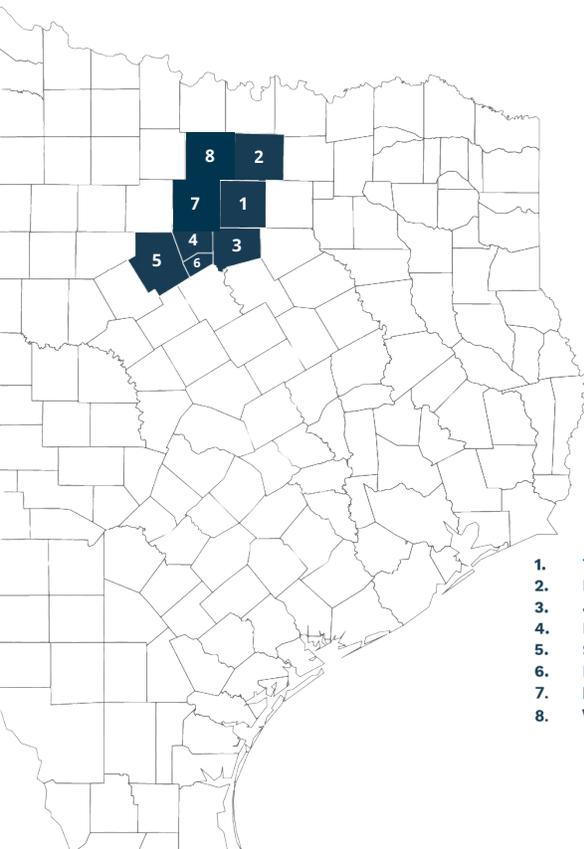
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## Protective Factors for Schools

- Connections to safe relationships
- Early identification of risk factors
- Consider using Unbound Now's Sentinels in the classroom
- Connecting families and children to resources in the community that address their needs



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