



**Thomson Reuters Institute**

# Human Trafficking Awareness

# Why is it important to learn about it now?

**Natural disasters can make people more vulnerable to human trafficking. There is research that shows that after natural disasters, both sex and labor trafficking are on the rise.**

## **What is human trafficking?**

Trafficking is the use of force, fraud, or coercion (FFC) to compel a commercial sex or labor act. FFC not required if the person is 17 and under for a commercial sex act.

## **Who is more vulnerable?**

People seeking work are more vulnerable to labor trafficking after a natural disaster, particularly in the construction industry.

## **How to stay safe from trafficking**

Traffickers may first try and meet their victim's basic needs, form a relationship, and then make them sell sex. Try and take jobs from trusted referrals and beware of leery job offers, also try and make sure you get the government assistance you need so you are not vulnerable to traffickers.

**Call the National Trafficking Tip Hotline at 888-373-7888 with a tip or with questions. Please note that trafficking is different from smuggling.**