

# A SILENT INDUSTRY : SEX TRAFFICKING IN GUATEMALA

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**POPULATION:** 15,189,958



**HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX:** 0.627  
**RANK:** 128/188 (MEDIUM)



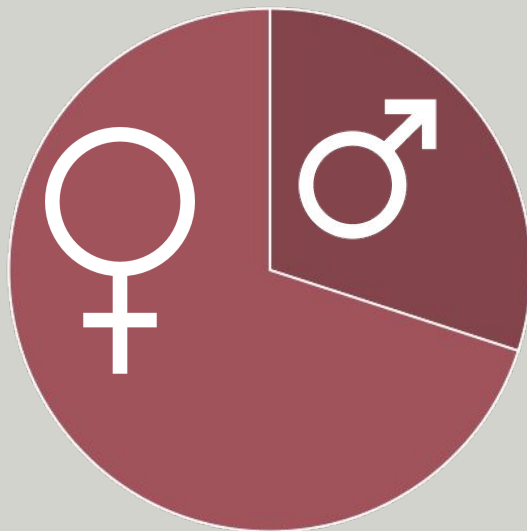
**AVERAGE YEARS OF SCHOOLING:** 5.6 YEARS



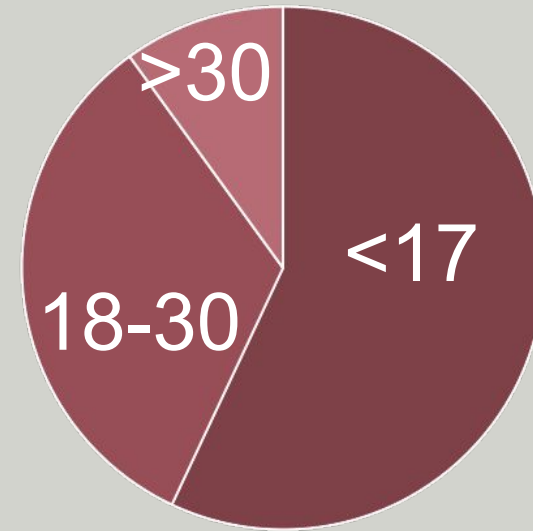
**92.4% OF PEOPLE LIVE ON LESS THAN \$4 A DAY**



**3<sup>RD</sup> HIGHEST RATE OF FEMICIDE GLOBALLY:** 9.1/100,000 WOMEN



SEX



AGE



## TRANSIT ORIGIN DESTINATION

### GOVERNMENT ACTION

In 2014, a 10 year anti-trafficking policy was established. The policy increased funds, staff, coordination, training, and established two government-run shelters for victims.

### LOW ACCOUNTABILITY

Of 294 documented cases, only 10 were convicted between 2009 to 2012, despite policy efforts. Corruption calls for an increase in accountability of law enforcement and legal systems - especially in training of judges.

### PREVENTION + ENFORCEMENT

Increase number of traffickers prosecuted and charged. Increase funds and coordination. Decrease impunity for crimes against women. Increase educational and economic opportunities. Partner with tourism industry to increase awareness.

### RECENT PROGRESS:

A bill was passed in 2016 requiring authorities to begin an immediate search for women reported missing. Previously, the police dismissed these reports. By doing an immediate search, women are less likely to disappear into trafficking networks.

### GOALS:

- ★ IMPROVE ACCESS TO SHELTERS AND SPECIALIZED SERVICES FOR ALL VICTIMS
- ★ INCREASE SURVEILLANCE
- ★ PARTNER WITH NGOS

### IMPACT

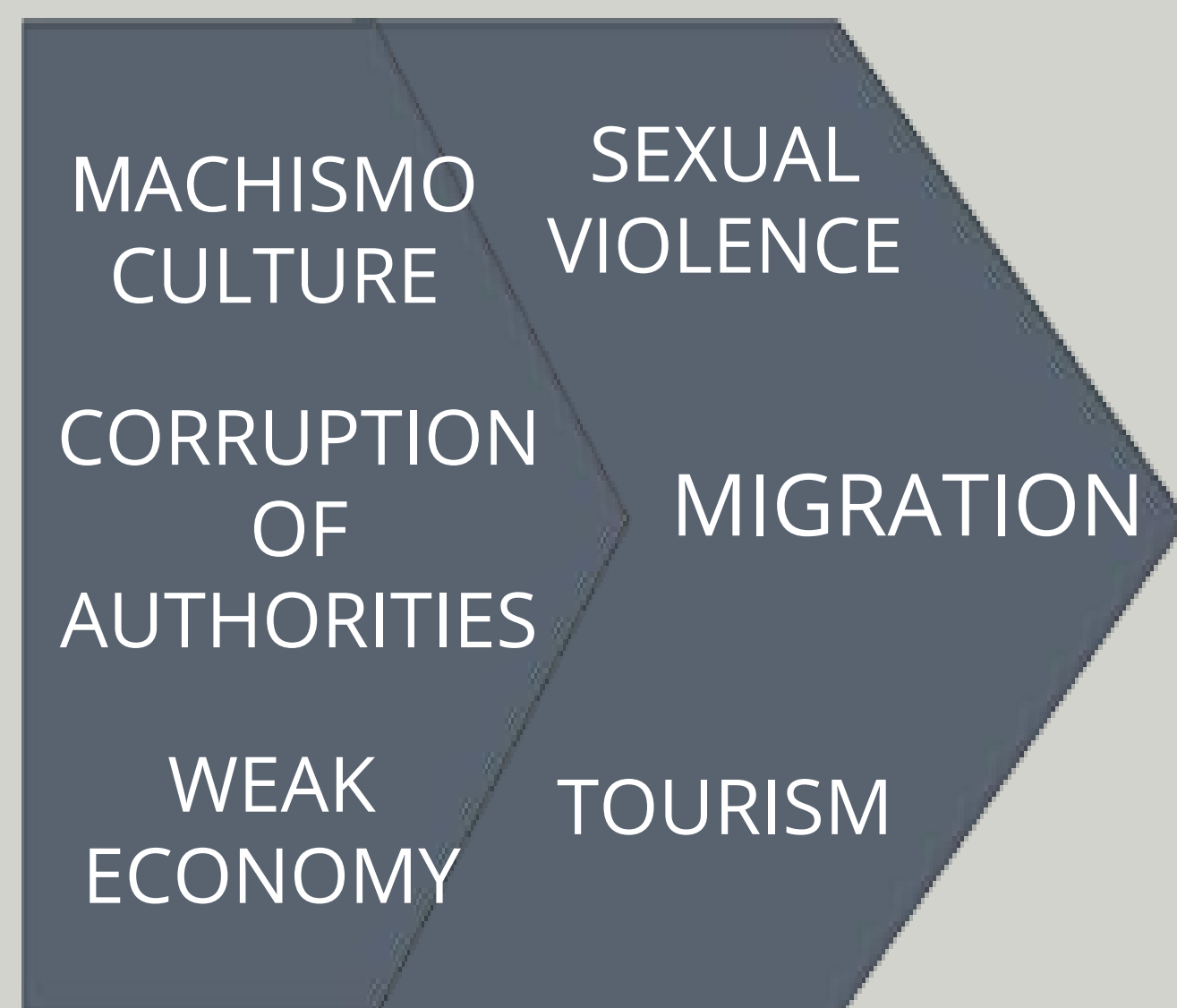
Malnutrition  
Sexually Transmitted Infections  
Drug Addiction  
Undesired Pregnancy  
Abortion  
Death

Psychological Trauma  
Social Isolation  
Bullying  
Cycle of Poverty  
Financial Debt and Bondage up to \$56,000  
Suicide

**CURRENT ESTIMATE: 48,500 victims**

**VULNERABLE POPULATIONS:** working children, returning migrants, individuals in the sex trade, children involved in gangs, and indigenous peoples.

### FACTORS



THE INDUSTRY GENERATES OVER **\$1.6** BILLION DOLLARS IN GUATEMALA PER YEAR - \$55,100-\$255,000 PER VICTIM



FOR EVERY 1 PERSON RESCUED 30 GO UNDETECTED

SOURCES: CICIG and UNICEF (2016). *Human Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation Purposes in Guatemala*. Retrieved from [http://www.cicig.org/uploads/documents/2016/Trata\\_Ing\\_978\\_9929\\_40\\_829\\_6.pdf](http://www.cicig.org/uploads/documents/2016/Trata_Ing_978_9929_40_829_6.pdf); Nikolau, L (2016, June 14). *Human Rights: In Guatemala 60 Percent of Victims are Children*. Retrieved from <http://www.humanosphere.org/human-rights/2016/06/guatemala-60-percent-sex-trafficking-victims-children/>; U.S. Department of State (2015). *2015 Trafficking in Persons Report: Guatemala*. Retrieved from <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/countries/2015/243446.htm>; ; Central Intelligence Agency (2016, November 10). *The World Factbook: Guatemala*. Retrieved from <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/gt.html>