National Human Trafficking Hotline Text 233733 or Call 888-373-7888 24/7 · Toll free Confidential · 200+ languages In an emergency call 911 or contact local authorities.

Indicators of Human Trafficking

Human traffickers recruit, transport, and exploit their victims via waterways in urban, rural, and tribal communities. Victims/traffickers can be of any age, race, ethnicity, sex, ability, nationality, citizenship, or socioeconomic background.



U.S. Department of Transportation



Maritime/Port Indicators

- Controlled movement, identification, money, documents, luggage, and speech
- Signs of physical/emotional distress, abuse, or branding
- Improper clothing for weather or travel route
- · May travel with few/no belongings
- Difficulty articulating reasonable, logical travel plans and responses sound scripted/inconsistent
- May not know person who purchased their ticket, their fellow traveler, or who is picking them up
- May use prepaid credit cards and gift cards
- Works excessively long hours and/or is provided few or no breaks
- Employer withholds pay, pays less than agreed to, or coerces contract extension

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