



**FIGHT FOR FREEDOM**

# Labour Trafficking in Canada

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The Salvation Army

Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Response



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# Human Trafficking

Human trafficking involves the recruitment, transportation, harbouring and/ or exercising control, direction or influence over the movements of a person in order to exploit that person, typically through sexual exploitation or forced labour. It is often described as a modern form of slavery.

Government of Canada, Dept of Justice

<https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/cj-jp/tp/what-quoi.html>



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# Human Trafficking

Tricked

Transported

↓  
Trapped

↓  
Used



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## Trafficking versus Smuggling

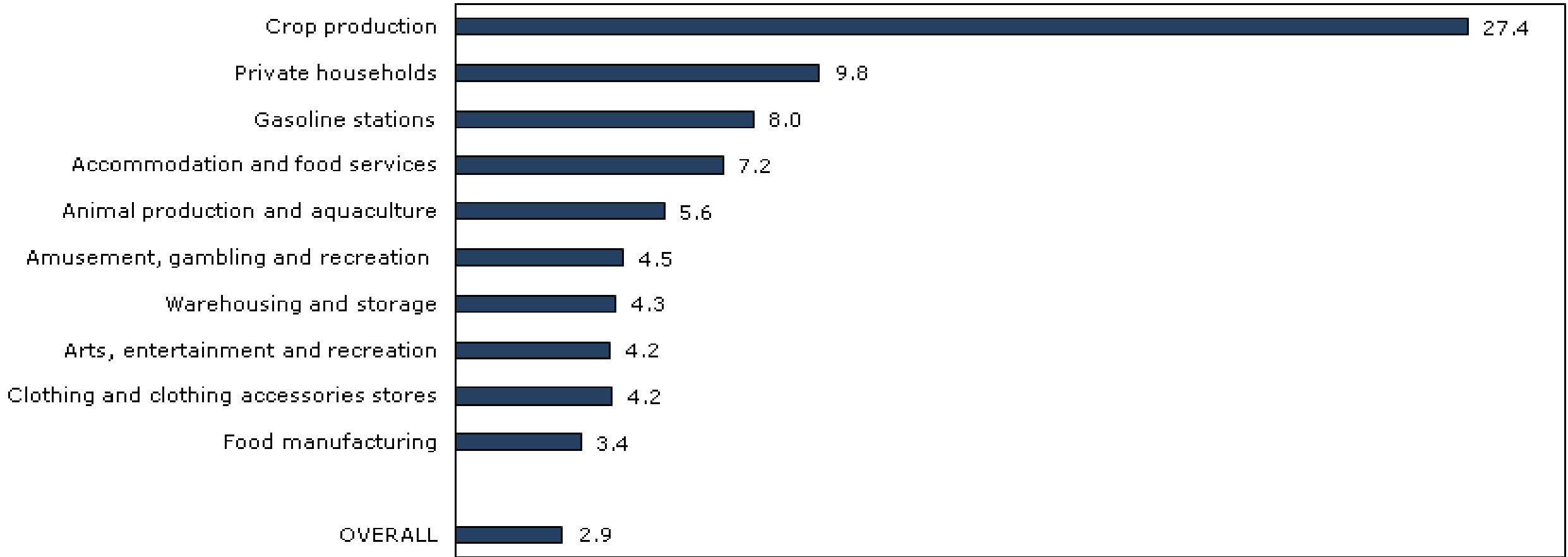
- Large sums of money involved
  - Deception
  - Exploitation continues in new country
- Large sums of money often paid for a service
  - Consent of individual to gain illegal entry into new country
  - Once individual enters new country, service is completed.





**Chart 1**  
Proportion of temporary foreign workers, selected industries

Subsector, NAICS code



percent

**Note:** NAICS = North American Industry Classification System.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Employer-Employee Dynamics Database.



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## Getting into Canada

### Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program

- 50,000 – 60,000 SAWP Workers in Canada from Jamaica, Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago, Eastern Caribbean countries
- Bilateral agreements between Canada and the sending country
- Involvement of Ministry of Labour in sending country
- How the process is supposed to work...
- **CORRUPTION DOES NOT EQUAL LABOUR TRAFFICKING**



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## Labour Trafficking: Case Study



Fransico Urbina Contreros



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Keung, Nicolas. April 5, 2019. *This is not what we came to this country for, to live and work like animals': Migrant workers say they endured modern-day slavery in Simcoe County.* [https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2019/04/05/migrant-workers-lured-to-canada-with-promise-of-good-jobs-instead-endured-modern-day-slavery.html?li\\_source=LI&li\\_medium=star\\_web\\_ymbii](https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2019/04/05/migrant-workers-lured-to-canada-with-promise-of-good-jobs-instead-endured-modern-day-slavery.html?li_source=LI&li_medium=star_web_ymbii)

Vanderlinde, Rick. February 11, 2019. *This is modern-day slavery': Police describe rescue of foreign workers in Simcoe County.* <https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2019/02/11/this-is-modern-day-slavery-police-describe-rescue-of-foreign-workers-in-simcoe-county.html?f>

# WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GROUP IN WASAGA/BARRIE?



A recruiter promised a lot of money, legal documents and better living and working conditions in Canada, primarily to poor people in isolated neighborhoods



They were made to pay 25-60,000 pesos, and their own flight tickets



Then made to pay \$400/month in rent, with 28 people living per house in terrible living conditions



Then made to pay a \$17/day fee to be put on a job waiting list



Women and men were fearful to leave because their employer and landlord controlled everything, and threatened to call the police and immigration authorities





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## Types of Exploitation

- Hourly wage / Piece work
- Long hours (or fewer hours than listed in contract)
- Working conditions
- Living Conditions
- Restrictions on movement
- Lack of access to healthcare
- Lack of access to supports (Worker's Compensation, lodging complaints )



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## Building Relationships



- For farm workers, don't go on their property uninvited.
- Try and speak privately if possible.
- Have a short intro in your head including name, organization, purpose for reaching out. You might only have 30 seconds.
- Download Whatsapp to your phone
- Give workers your name and whatsapp number on a card
- Don't come with empty hands
- If people don't respond, that's their right and their choice.



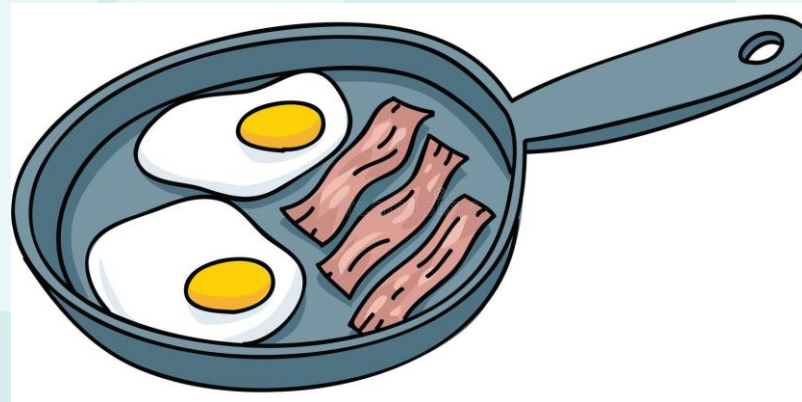
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## Important Considerations

- Their association with you could cost them everything.
- Never move faster or further than they are willing to move
- Relationships take time. Invest in relationship.



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