

# 2010

**Dubai Foundation For Women  
and Children (DFWAC)**

Programs and Research



## **DFWAC MID-2010 REPORT ON VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

[Jan 01 – June 30, 2010]

## Table of Contents

Content .....	Page
About the Foundation.....	6
Confidentiality Disclosure.....	6
Services Provided.....	6
Definition.....	7
Number of Clients.....	7
Victims of Human Trafficking.....	9
• Percentages of Child Abuse Victim.....	9
• Age.....	10
• Gender.....	11
• Nationality.....	11
• Referral Sites.....	12
• Education.....	13
• Marital Status.....	14
• Money Earning Activity.....	14
• Income.....	14
• Visa Type & Validity.....	15
• Sheltering Status.....	16
Human Trafficking Process.....	16
• Place of Trafficking.....	17
• How they Got Trafficked.....	17
• Work/Activity the Victims thought they would Do.....	18
• When the Victims Knew.....	19
• How they Knew.....	19
• Transit Countries.....	20
• Types of Abuse.....	20

- Relationship to Perpetrator.....21
- Number of Left Cases in DFWAC.....22

Summary Statistics on DFWAC Clients.....23

Summary Statistics by Category of DFWAC Clients.....24

Appendix (Definitions).....25

Acknowledgments.....31

References.....32

## Table of Figures

Content .....	Page
Human Trafficking Victims (New Clients) .....	9
- <b>Fig 1.1: Human Trafficking Victims</b> (Jan 01- June 30, 2010).....	9
- <b>Fig 1.2: Children &amp; Adults Victims of Human Trafficking</b> .....	10
- <b>Fig 1.3: Referral Sites for Victims of Human Trafficking</b> .....	12
Human Trafficking Process .....	17
- <b>Fig 2.1: Place of Human Trafficking</b> .....	18
- <b>Fig 2.2: Types of Abuse Experienced by Victims of Trafficking</b> .....	21

## Table of Tables

Content .....	Page
Number of Clients.....	7
- <b>Table 1.1: Clients Receiving Services</b> (January 01-June 30, 2010).....	8
Victims of Human Trafficking.....	9
- <b>Table 2.1: Age</b> .....	10
- <b>Table 2.2: Nationality</b> .....	11
- <b>Table 2.3: Referral Sites</b> .....	12
- <b>Table 2.4: Education</b> .....	13
- <b>Table 2.5: Marital Status</b> .....	13
- <b>Table 2.6: Money Earning Activity</b> .....	14
- <b>Table 2.7: Income</b> .....	14
- <b>Table 2.8: Visa Type</b> .....	15
- <b>Table 2.9: Validity of Visa</b> .....	15
- <b>Table 2.10: Sheltering Status</b> .....	16
Human Trafficking Process.....	16
- <b>Table 3.1: Place of Trafficking</b> .....	17
- <b>Table 3.2: How they Got Trafficked</b> .....	18
- <b>Table 3.3: Work/Activity the Victims thought they would Do</b> .....	18
- <b>Table 3.4: When the Victims Knew</b> .....	19
- <b>Table 3.5: How they Knew</b> .....	19
- <b>Table 3.6: Types of Abuse</b> .....	20
- <b>Table 3.7: Relationship to Perpetrator</b> .....	22
- <b>Table 3.7: Number of Left Cases in DFWAC</b> .....	22
 <b>Table 4.1: Summary Statistics on DFWAC Clients for <u>Mid-2010 Report</u></b> .....	 23
<b>Table 4.2: Summary Statistics by Category of DFWAC Clients (Jan 1-June 30)</b> .....	24

# **DFWAC Mid-2010 Report**

**(Jan 01, 2010 - June 30, 2010)**

## **About the Foundation**

Dubai Foundation for Women and Children (DFWAC) was established in July 2007 as a humanitarian initiative and was the first licensed nonprofit shelter in the UAE for women and children victims of *domestic violence*, *child abuse*, and *human trafficking*. This report covers the reporting period of January 01– June 30, 2010, and is the 4<sup>th</sup> report issued by the Dubai Foundation by Women and Children.

## **Confidentiality Disclosure**

In order to protect the privacy, confidentiality, and safety of clients served at DFWAC, information that could result in the identification of a victim will not be included.

## **Services Provided**

DFWAC provides free services to women and children victims of violence, including a helpline, safe shelter, case management, medical care, psychological support, counseling, legal, consular and immigration assistance. In addition to those core services, DFWAC also provides secondary support services including children's education, recreational activities, physical fitness, empowerment, and skills training.

## Definition

Refer to Definitions Section in the Appendix for full explanation of terminology used in this report.

## Number of Clients

DFWAC served a total of **109** clients of human trafficking since it opened its doors in October 2007, inclusive of internal and external case.

The total number of human trafficking clients that received services during the reporting period of January 01- June 30, 2010 was **36**. Clients were divided into the following:

- 1) **New Internal Clients:** clients who first entered the Foundation for shelter and support services during January 01-June 30, 2010.
- 2) **Existing Internal Clients:** clients who entered the Foundation prior to January 01, 2010, but continued to receive shelter and support services during January 01-June 30, 2010.
- 3) **New External Clients:** clients who began receiving services outside the Foundation premises during January 01- June 30, 2010.

Refer to Table 1.1 for breakdown of human trafficking clients in the reporting period, 30 were new internal clients, 3 were existing internal clients and 3 were new external clients.

**Table 1.1: Clients of Human Trafficking Receiving Services**  
(January 01-June 30, 2010)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Internal Clients</i>	<i>External Clients</i>	<i>Total</i>
<b>New (Received in 2010)</b>	30	3	33
<b>Existing (Received Prior to 2010)</b>	3	-	3
<i>Total</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>36</i>

As in previous reports, the focus of this report will be on the 30 new internal cases of human trafficking that entered the Foundation from January 01- June 30, 2010. The 3 existing internal clients of human trafficking\* and new external clients will be discussed in the appropriate sections of this report.

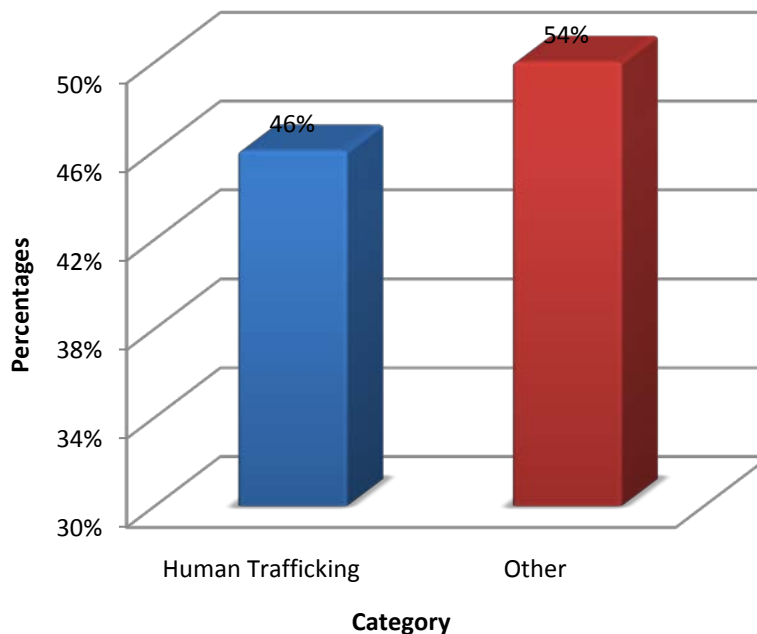
\*Detailed statistics on these 3 cases are documented in previous annual reports.

## Victims of Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is the recruiting, transporting, transferring, harboring or receiving persons by means of threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or of position, taking advantage of the vulnerability of the person or the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person for the purpose of exploitation (UAE Federal Law 51).

A total of **30** cases of human trafficking were received and sheltered at DFWAC from January 01- June 30, 2010. This category of victims made up the largest among all new internal clients received, comprising about half (46%) of all cases.

**Fig 1.1: Human Trafficking Victims**  
(Jan 01- June 30, 2010)



A total of 30 new internal Human Trafficking cases (Jan 01- June 30, 2010)

## Age

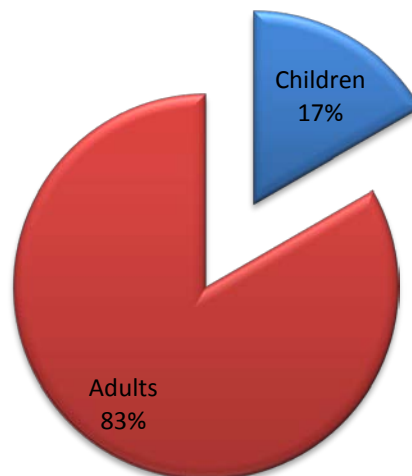
The average age of trafficking victims was 21 years old (SD  $\pm$  5.8). However, the ages of those victims ranged from as young as one year old to a maximum of 31 years old. Figure 5.2 illustrates the ratio of adult to child victims of trafficking, 83% adults and 17% children.

For the purpose of accurate reporting and categorizing, trafficking victims who have recently turned 18 years old but were  $<$  18 when they were trafficked and counted as child victims of trafficking. This is clearly identifying those who had been trafficked as children.

**Table 2.1**

<i>Mean (average) Age - in Years</i>	<b>21 y</b>
<i>Median</i>	20 y
<i>Mode</i>	20 y
<i>Minimum</i>	1 y
<i>Maximum</i>	31 y

**Fig 1.2: Children & Adults Victims of Human Trafficking**  
(January 01- June 30, 2010)



A total of 30 new internal Human Trafficking cases (Jan 01- June 30, 2010)

## *Gender*

The majority of victims of human trafficking were female (29 out of 30). One victim was a male child.

## *Nationality*

More than two thirds (63%) of the victims of human trafficking were Bengali ladies (from Bangladesh). Indonesian ladies made up the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest group among those victims (10%). German, Iraq, China, Pakistan and India were the other five countries from which victims came (See Table 2.2):

**Table 2.2**

<i>#</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i># of Cases</i>	<i>%</i>
1	Bangladesh	19	63.3%
2	Indonesia	3	10%
3	Germany	2	6.7%
4	Iraq	2	6.7%
5	China	1	3.3%
6	India	1	3.3%
7	Pakistan	1	3.3%
8	Unknown	1	3.3%
<i>Total</i>		<i>30</i>	<i>100%</i>

## Referral Sites

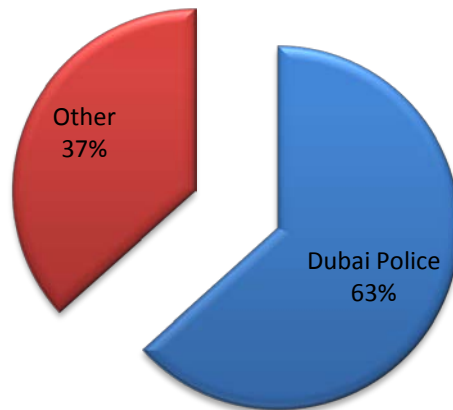
As shown below, two thirds of the trafficking victims (63%) were referred to DFWAC by the “Dubai Police” or its “CID” division. The other referral site in Dubai was “Dubai Prosecution” (7 cases). Four victims of trafficking were referred to DFWAC from outside the Emirate of Dubai.

**Table 2.3**

#	Referral Site	# of Cases	%
1	Dubai Police/CID	19	63.4
2	Police/Other Emirates	1	3.3%
3	Dubai Prosecution	7	23.3%
4	Other*	3	10%
<i>Total</i>		<i>30</i>	<i>100%</i>

\* Two of these three cases were referred by Um Al Quwain prosecution and the other one referred by Sharjah prosecution.

**Fig 1.3: Referral Sites for Victims of Human Trafficking**  
(January 01 -June 30, 2010)



A total of 30 new internal Human Trafficking cases (Jan 01- June 30, 2010)

## Socioeconomic Status of the Trafficked Victims

### *Education*

In assessing these clients for their educational levels, it was found that more than half had completed some primary and high school (43% each). Ten percent (10%) of the trafficking victims had never attended school or received any kind of vocational training, and none had attended any college or university.

**Table 2.4**

<i>Level Attended</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>(%)</i>
No Education	3	10
Primary School	13	43.3
Secondary/High School	13	43.3
Not Applicable	1	3.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>100%</i>

### *Marital Status*

With respect to Marital Status, single and married women had equal percentages, 30% each. Six of the women were divorced, accounting 20% of cases.

**Table 2.5**

<i>Marital Status</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>(%)</i>
Single	9	30
Married	9	30
Separated	1	3.3
Divorced	6	20
Widowed	4	13.3
Not Applicable	1	3.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>100%</i>

## *Money Earning Activity*

All trafficked victims had been exploited or were about to be exploited into the commercial sex industry. As shown in the table below, 28 out of the 30 victims were forced to work in the commercial sex industry, with one victim reporting being caught prior to starting the activity.

**Table 2.6**

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>(%)</i>
Worked in Commercial Sex	28	93
Prepared to Work in Commercial Sex	1	4
Unknown	1	3
<i>Total</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>100%</i>

## *Income*

In studying the cases of human trafficking for their income levels (the estimated amount of money they received on a monthly basis), a large percentage of victims (70%) had not been paid at all by the traffickers, and about one quarter (23%) were receiving less than 1000 UAE dirham (AED) per month. Only one victim reported receiving less than 3000 UAE dirham (AED) a month (see Table 2.7).

**Table 2.7**

<i>Monthly Income*</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>(%)</i>
Not Applicable	1	3.3
0	21	70
< 1000	7	23
1000 – <3000	1	3.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>100%</i>

\* The table shows the income categories reported by the clients.

## *Visa Type*

In studying the types of visas held by victims of human trafficking, more than half of them (53%) entered the country with work visas. “Visit and Residency” visas that were sponsored by a ‘claimed’ relative were held by 8 and 2 victims respectively. Three victims did not know the type of visa issued for them to get into the UAE.

**Table 2.8**

<i>Visa Kind</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>(%)</i>
Work Visa	16	53.3
Visit Visa	8	26.7
Dependent Residency Visa	2	6.7
GCC Passport	1	3.3
Unknown	3	10.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>100%</i>

## *Validity of the Visa*

When validity of the visas was assessed, nearly half of the cases (47%) had valid visas at the time they were received by DFWAC. Only one victim was aware that her visa had expired. Exactly half of the trafficking victims (50%) did not know if their visas were valid or not.

**Table 2.9**

<i>Validity of Visa</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>(%)</i>
Valid	14	46.7
Expired	1	3.3
Do not know	15	50
<i>Total</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>100%</i>

## *Sheltering Status*

As can be seen in the table below, more than two thirds of the trafficking victims (67%) did not have any children (Lady Alone). It should be noted that, seven of those victims were children less than 18 years of age. In addition, seven of the trafficked women were mothers of living children who did not accompany them (they were living in their home countries). Only two of the trafficking victims came to DFWAC with their children.

**Table 2.10**

<i>Sheltering Status</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>(%)</i>
Lady Alone*	20	66.7
Mother Alone **	7	23.3
Mother with Children***	2	6.7
Child Alone	1	3.3
<i>Total</i>	30	100%

\* Seven of them were children < 18 years old.

\*\* Reported numbers of children ranged from 1-3.

\*\*\* Reported numbers of children from 1-3 ranged from 1-2.

## *Human Trafficking Process*

### *Place of Trafficking*

The majority of trafficked cases (73%) were internally trafficked victims (i.e. they were trafficked inside the country). Most were convinced to leave their jobs for better ones or promised well paying jobs after being unemployed.

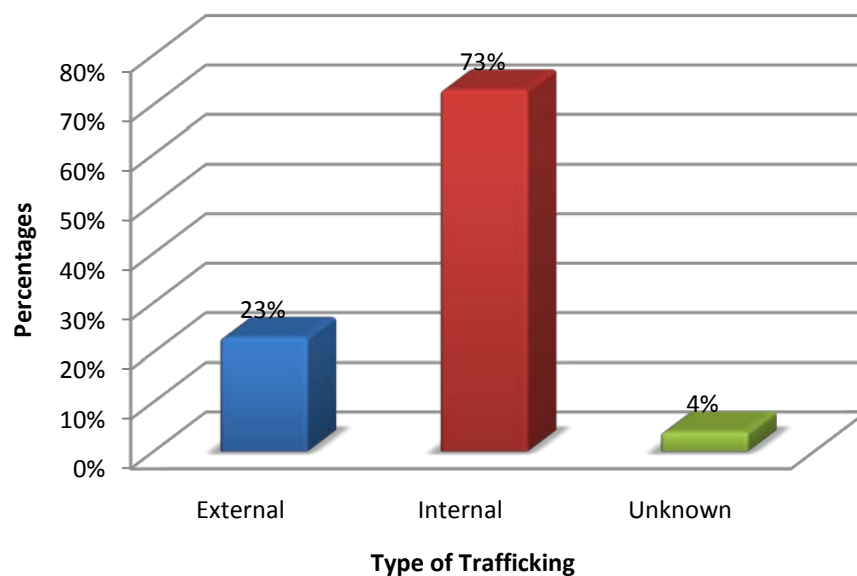
However, there were seven cases that were trafficked externally (i.e. outside the country), mostly in their homelands, and brought to Dubai for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

Further analysis showed that all externally trafficked cases knew they were traveling to UAE before arriving in the country.

**Table 3.1**

<i>Place of Trafficking</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>(%)</i>
External	7	23.3
Internal	22	73.3
Unknown	1	3.3
<i>Total</i>	30	100%

**Fig 2.1: Place of Human Trafficking**  
(January 01- June 30, 2010)



A total of 30 new internal Human Trafficking cases (Jan 01- June 30, 2010)

### *How they got Trafficked*

Almost all trafficked cases reported that they were promised a job or were assured some money earning activity. However, two child trafficked cases reported that they were sold to multiple individuals and then forced into commercial sex. In

addition, one victim reported that she was forced into commercial sex activities by her husband.

**Table 3.2**

<i>How got Trafficked?</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>(%)</i>
Promised to get a Job/Money Earning Activity	23	77
Forced by Father's Mistress	2	7
Forced by Parents	1	4
Forced by Husband	1	3
Kidnapped	1	3
Did not Know	1	3
Unknown	1	3
<i>Total</i>	30	100%

### *Work/Activity the Victims thought they would Do*

When victims were assessed for what they were told by their traffickers, it was found that more than half of the cases (57%) were informed they were going to work as house maids. Some were promised jobs in the private sector (4 in a salon, 1 a sales person, 1 in a company, 1 as a driver). 17% of case did not know.

**Table 3.3**

<i>Work/Activity thought they would Do</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>(%)</i>
Housemaid	17	57
Beautician	4	14
Commercial Sex	1	3
Sales Worker	1	3
To Work with a Company	1	3
Driver	1	3
Unknown	5	17
<i>Total</i>	30	100%

### *When the Victims Knew*

Studying these cases showed that most of the victims knew what was expected from them on either the day of arrival (47%) or few days later (20%) . One case reported she knew about it before arriving, and another reported that she knew what was needed from her only after more than a month.

**Table 3.4**

<i>When Knew about It</i> *	<i>Number</i>	<i>(%)</i>
Before Arrival	1	3
On day of Arrival	14	47
Few Days Later	6	20
After One Week	5	17
After More than a Month	3	10
Unknown	1	3
<i>Total</i>	30	100%

\* Counted from the day of arrival to the country (for externally trafficked victims), and from the day they went with traffickers (for internally trafficked victims).

### *How they Knew*

When the victims were assessed for how they knew about what was needed from them, it was found that most of them were told about it (70%), and (13%) were raped as well. As shown in the table below, two victims had been beaten when they first came to know about it.

**Table 3.5**

<i>How they Knew</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>(%)</i>
Told about It	21	70.0
Got Beaten*	2	6.7
Got Raped	4	13.3
Other	2	6.7
Unknown	1	3.3
<i>Total</i>	30	100%

\* One of the cases was beaten, but has reported she was locked in a room as well.

### *Transit Countries*

All seven cases that were trafficked externally did not pass through a transit country.

### *Types of Abuse*

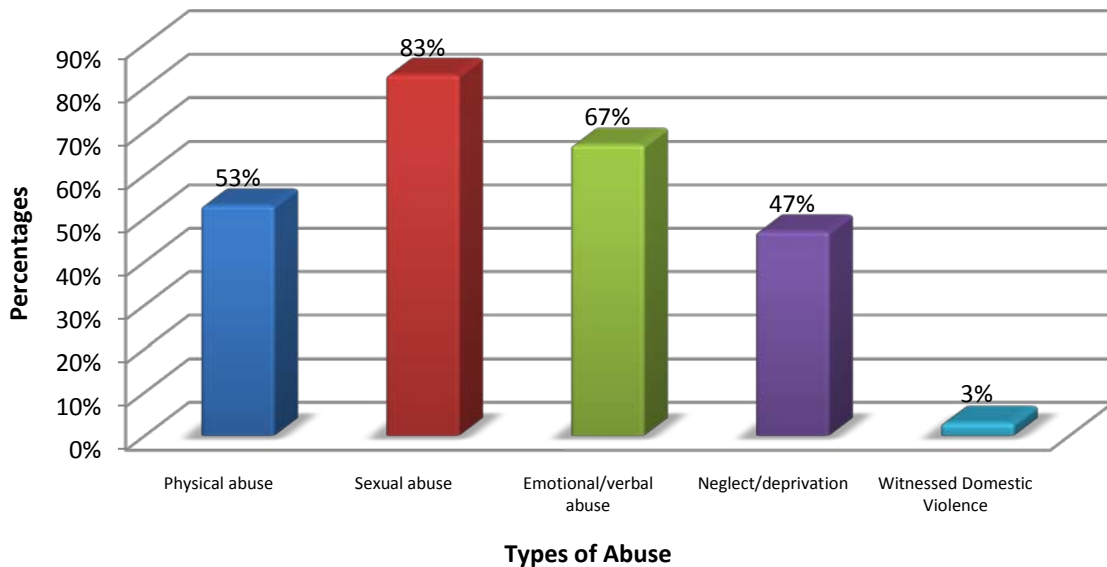
As can be seen below, the majority of cases (83%) were exposed to sexual abuse, and 53% reported being physically abused as well.

**Table 3.6**

<i>Type of abuse</i>	<i>Number*</i>	<i>(%)*</i>
<b>Physical Abuse</b>	16	53%
<b>Sexual Abuse</b>	25	83%
<b>Emotional/Verbal Abuse</b>	20	67%
<b>Neglect/Deprivation</b>	14	47%
<b>Witnessed Domestic Violence</b>	1	3%

\* The numbers and percentages were calculated out of all the 30 cases of human trafficking, with each case was assessed for each kind of abuse.

**Fig 2.2: Types of Abuse Experienced by Victims of Trafficking (Jan 01- Jun 30, 2010)**



A total of 30 new internal Human Trafficking cases (Jan 01- June 30, 2010)

### *Relationship to Perpetrator*

As seen in the following table, a large percentage of victims (40%) did not know who was behind their being trafficked. Nine of the cases claimed that a friend (a family friend or other friend) was responsible for it. Five of the cases considered their employers as the traffickers. In one case the victim's father was responsible for her being trafficked.

**Table 3.7**

<i>Perpetrator</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>(%)</i>
Employer	5	16.7
Family Friend	3	10.0
Other Friend	6	20.0
Relative	2	6.7
Unknown	12	40.0
Father	1	3.3
Other	1	3.3
<i>Total</i>	30	100%

### *Number of Left Cases in DFWAC*

It should be noted that of the victims of human trafficking that were admitted to DFWAC in the first half of 2010, 8 cases were discharged from the Foundation. Two of those cases were discharged from the Foundation in less than one month, and one case was discharged after 134 days. A total of 22 victims were still sheltered in the Foundation at the end of the reporting period.

**Table 3.8**

<i>Trafficked Cases</i> *	<i>Number</i>	<i>(%)</i>
Discharged Cases from DFWAC	8	27
Cases still sheltered at DFWAC**	22	73
<i>Total</i>	30	100%

\* Refers to victims of human trafficking who were admitted to DFWAC during 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2010.

\*\* Cases still in DFWAC by June 30, 2010.

**Table 4.1: Summary Statistics on DFWAC Clients for  
Mid-2010 Report**

(Based on a total of 65 admitted clients between Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> - June 30, 2010)

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Number of Cases</b>	<b>%*</b>
<b>Category of Violence</b>		
- <i>Domestic Violence</i>	11	17%
- <i>Child Abuse</i>	12	19%
- <i>Trafficking Cases</i>	30	46%
- <i>Other</i>	09	14%
<b>Nationality</b>		
- <i>Nationals</i>	15	23%
- <i>Expatriates</i>	49	75%
- <i>Unknown</i>	1	2%
<b>Age Category</b>		
- <i>Children (&lt;18 years)</i>	26	40%
- <i>Adults</i>	39	60%
<i>Average age 18 y (SD ± 12)</i>		
<b>Sex</b>		
- <i>Females</i>	61	94%
- <i>Males</i>	4	6%
<b>Duration of Staying at DFWAC **</b>		
- ≤ 60 Days	33	89%
- 61 – 120 Days	1	3%
- 91 – 180 Days	3	8%
<i>Average duration 37 days (SD ± 34.4)</i>		
<b>Period of Entry to DFWAC</b>		
- <i>Oct - Dec 2007</i>	71	23%
- <i>Jan-Dec. 2008</i>	81	27%
- <i>Jan – Dec 2009</i>	89	29%
- <i>Jan – Jun 2010</i>	65	21%

\* The percentages shown on the table have been rounded to the nearest digit for easy approximation.

\*\* Duration was calculated based on a total of 38 discharged cases.

**Table 4.2 : Summary Statistics by Category of DFWAC Clients**

(Jan 1-June 30)\*

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Domestic Violence</b> <i>Total=11</i> <i>n (%)</i>	<b>Child Abuse</b> <i>Total=12</i> <i>n (%)</i>	<b>Trafficking</b> <i>Total=30</i> <i>n (%)</i>
<b>Nationality</b>			
- National	5 (45%)	8 (67%)	0 (0.00%)
- Expatriate	6(55%)	4 (33%)	29 (97%)
- Unknown	----	----	1 (3%)
<b>Age</b> <i>(The average)</i>	31 years old (SD ± 8.7)	8 years old (SD ± 5.5)	21 years old (SD ± 5.8)
<b>Sex</b>			
- Female	11 (100%)	10 (83%)	29 (97%)
- Male	0 (0.00%)	2 (17%)	1 (3%)
<b>Duration of staying**</b> <i>(The average)</i>	(7 cases left) 39 days (SD ±46)	(9 cases left) 25 days (SD± 42)	(12 cases left) 54 days (SD± 30.6)
<b>Type of Abuse</b>			
- Physical	10 (91%)	2 (17%)	16 (53%)
- Sexual	4 (6%)	2 (17%)	25 (83%)
- Verbal/Emotional	11 (100%)	7 (58%)	20 (67%)
- Neglect/deprivation	7 (64%)	10(83%)	14 (47%)

\* Clients categorized as "Other" and who equal to 12 cases in total are not shown here.

\*\* The average duration was calculated for those who left the foundation.

## Appendix

### *Operational Definitions*

**New Internal Clients:** clients who entered and received in-house shelter and support services at the Foundation during specified reporting (January 01- June 30, 2010).

**Existing Internal Clients:** clients who entered the Foundation prior to the specified reporting but continue to receive shelter and support services during the reporting period (January 01- June 30, 2010).

**New External Clients:** clients who received services outside of the Foundation premises during the specified reporting period (January 01- June 30, 2010).

**Reporting Period:** the time period the information in the report is covering.

### **Human Trafficking**

Based on the definition of trafficking by law: "Trafficking is the recruiting, transporting, transferring, harboring or receiving persons by means of threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or of position, taking advantage of the vulnerability of the person or the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person for the purpose of exploitation (UAE Federal Law 51)". A case will be categorized as a victim of trafficking in the following circumstances:

- If *deception* was used in the process of recruitment (i.e. they were not told the truth about the nature of work she would when she was first contacted by the recruiters).

- If there was *no deception*, but the victim had no choice as the recruiters had full control over her (i.e. even if she knew about the nature of work, and showed no resistance).
- If a child was exploited by recruiters for commercial sex (prostitution, or any other forms of body exploitation) on financial or labor exploitation.
- If the victim experiences any kind of exploitation without being able to refuse, for the sake of gaining money or other benefits for the recruiters.

Note: *Categorizing or not categorizing* a case as a victim of "Trafficking" by DFWAC is not necessary to be in line with the categorization of cases by the judicial system (police, CID, or courts).

### **Sexual Assault**

“Sexual assault takes many forms including attacks such as rape or attempted rape, as well as any unwanted sexual contact or threats. Usually a sexual assault occurs when someone touches any part of another person's body in a sexual way, even through clothes, without that person's consent. Some types of sexual acts which fall under the category of sexual assault include forced sexual intercourse (rape), sodomy (oral or anal sexual acts), child molestation, incest, fondling and attempted rape” The National Center for Victims of Crime (2008). Children exposed to sexual assault will be categorized as “Child Abuse” victims. Victims of trafficking who experience sexual assault will be categorized as “Trafficking Victims”.

In addition for the purpose of accuracy, any victim who received abuse < 18 years old will be considered as child victims of trafficking may have reached the biological age of 18; however the trafficking occurred while the child was still a minor victim whose abuse < 18.

## Age

This refers to age category of the victim.

- Children: (<) than 18 years old.
- Adult: (>) 18 years old and older.

**Nationality:** This refers to victims' nationality, National or expatriate.

**National:** belonging to or maintained by UAE federal government.

**Expatriate:** a person who holds nationality (passport) other than the UAE and is currently residing in the UAE.

**Country:** refers to the country from which the victim holds nationality (passport).

**Education:** This refers to the educational level of the victim before entering the DFWAC.

- None: no education at all
- KG (Kindergarten): a school or class for children usually from four to six years old
- Primary School: a school usually including the first six grades of elementary school.
- High School: a school usually including grades (7–12) (ALA Secondary School).
- Technical Training/Institute: Having special skills training or practical knowledge especially in a mechanical or scientific field.
- Uncompleted College: still studying in a college/university.
- Bachelor degree: is awarded to students, by colleges and universities, who have successfully completed a 3 to 4 year course of studies.
- Not applicable: children who are not of school age, usually under 5 years.

**Occupation:** a person's usual work or business, especially. as a means of earning a living; vocation.

- No Work/Money Earning Activity: unemployed
- Trafficked to Sex Industry: sex workers who are paid to engage in sexually explicit behavior that involve varying degrees of physical contact with clients (prostitutes, escorts, professional dominants).
- Not Applicable: children who are younger than 5 years old.

**Marital Status:** This refers to the legal standing of a person in regard to his/her marriage state.

- Single: is someone who has never been married.
- Married: the legal union of a man and woman as husband and wife.
- Divorced: to end marriage with (one's spouse) by way of legal divorce.
- Separated: not living together as man and wife.
- Widowed: a woman whose spouse has died and who has not remarried.
- Not applicable: girls who are 9 years old and younger.

**Visa Type and Validity:** This refers to types of visa and length of visit.

- Valid: legal, effective visa status.
- Cancelled: legal visa (residency) status has been terminated usually by the perpetrator.
- Expired: visa has run out, past the date (no longer a legal resident of UAE).

**Client Types:** This refers to victims' condition in DFWAC.

- Main Victim: the main person admitted for services.
- Secondary Victim: an injured person such as the child of a main victim who has also been violated by the same abuser.
- Dependant: Children who were indirectly abused by witnessing the act of violence, or were not aware of the violence because of being so young (e.g. infants).
- Attendant: attendant or assistant with the main victim.

**Sheltering Status:** This refers to with whom victims' protection is.

- Mother alone: the mother is sheltered alone at DFWAC, i.e. without having her children or any other attendant accompanying her.
- Mother with Child/Children: the mother is sheltered with her children at DFWAC.
- Child Alone: the child is sheltered alone at DFWAC, i.e. with no mothers or guardian accompanying him/her.
- Lady Alone: female victim who is sheltered alone at DFWAC, i.e. without being accompanied by either children or any attendant.

**Referral Sites:** refers to the source that referred or transferred victims to DFWAC.

- CID: Criminal Investigation Department.

**Relationship to Perpetrator:** refers to the relationship to the person responsible for what happened to the victim and includes the following categories:

- Spouse
- Partner
- Father
- Mother
- Brother
- Sister
- Family Friend
- Other Fried
- Employer
- Not Specified
- Unknown
- Other

**Duration of Stay:** This refers to the length of stay at DFWAC and is counted in a 24 hour period of time.

**NOTE: It should be noted that, operational definitions can be modified based on a consensus.**

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