

The National Secretariat against Prostitution and Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) at the County Administrative Board of Stockholm

**Has a Governmental mandate to
coordinate actions against Prostitution
and all forms of THB between 2011–2015**



Governmental tasks and mandate

Extended mandate

- ◆ 2009: To nationally coordinate actions and measures carried out by Governmental Agencies against Prostitution and THB for sexual exploitation
- ◆ 2013: To Nationally coordinate actions and measures against all forms of THB and to promote increased cooperation between Governmental Agencies, NGOs and the Civil Society.
- ◆ 2013: To Nationally coordinate actions and measures against exploitation of children within the frames of the National Action Plan
- ◆ **A safe return and assistance**
- ◆ Coordinate and provide assistance for a safer return
- ◆ Develop programs of assistance to rehabilitate victims of THB



National Action Plan Skr. 2013/14:91

- ◆ Coordinate and disseminate methods in countering THB and child exploitation to municipalities, regions, County Boards and other agencies.
- ◆ Increased international cooperation for protection of children across borders.
- ◆ The task also involves trainings for Hotels, Taxi and the Restaurant business on how to identify victims of THB and how to act.
- ◆ The task should include an informative campaign targeting the public regarding sexual exploitation of children in in the context of travel and tourism abroad.
(Childhood and Ecpat)



THB as a criminal act is addressed in the penal code (4 kap.1 a §)

- ◆ Three stages need to be taken by the perpetrator in order for a case to be identified as trafficking: **the act** (transportation), **the means** (threats, violence) and **the purpose** (exploitation: prostitution, forced labour, forced begging/ criminality).
- ◆ When the victim is a child, only **the act** and **the purpose** need to be identified in order for a case to be recognized as trafficking.





National task force



A national resource with spearhead competence



Participants

- County-coordinators for THB-cases/ sexual exploitation
- National Police Board
- National Criminal Police
- Specialised Police Units in Stockholm, Gothenburg, Malmo
- Prosecutors office, International Chambers
- Prosecution Development Centre in Gothenburg
- The Swedish Migration Board in Stockholm and Gothenburg
- Social services in i Stockholm, Gothenburg and Malmo
- A flexible and adjustable composition depending on needs



Purpose

- A strategic and operational resource for target groups outside the bigger city regions where experience of THB is limited
- Production of national training modules on prostitution and THB
- Consensus - nationwide training of key actors/ Spetsteam in the counties.
- Revision of Operational Co-operation Plan, incl. strengthening of tools for identifying presumed victims of THB
- Web-based tool (www.nmtsverige.se)
- Target groups varies: authorities, municipalities, counties, regional co-operation groups, NGOs, individual case officers



Tasks

- Tasks and methods varies depending on need
- Participation in trainings where the team gives operational hands-on input
- Direct support in operational cases via phone, email, personal participation
- Refer operational inquiries to the appropriate authority
- Serve as a national reference group in developing methods and training material
- Developing national guidelines for cases of THB





Rapport 2012:27



LÄNSSTYRELSEN
I STOCKHOLMS LÄN

Barn utsatta för människohandel

– en nationell kartläggning



LÄNSSTYRELSEN
I STOCKHOLMS LÄN

Results from survey

- ◆ **75%** of the municipalities in Sweden participated in the survey
- ◆ **14** Governmental agencies and organizations participated
- ◆ 166 children in total (info on 137 children)
- ◆ **39 (of 290)** municipalities witnessed that they have been in contact with children they either know or suspect to be victims of THB or related crimes. In total, **102 children** have been identified. (period: 2009-2011)
- ◆ NGOs identified **35** children who are victims or suspected victims of THB. Swedish children – sexual exploitation

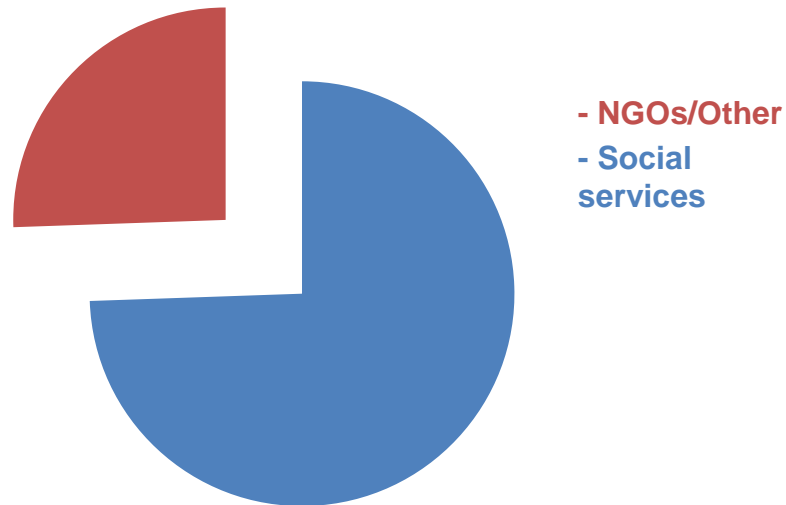


Social Services in contact with children subjected to THB or related crimes

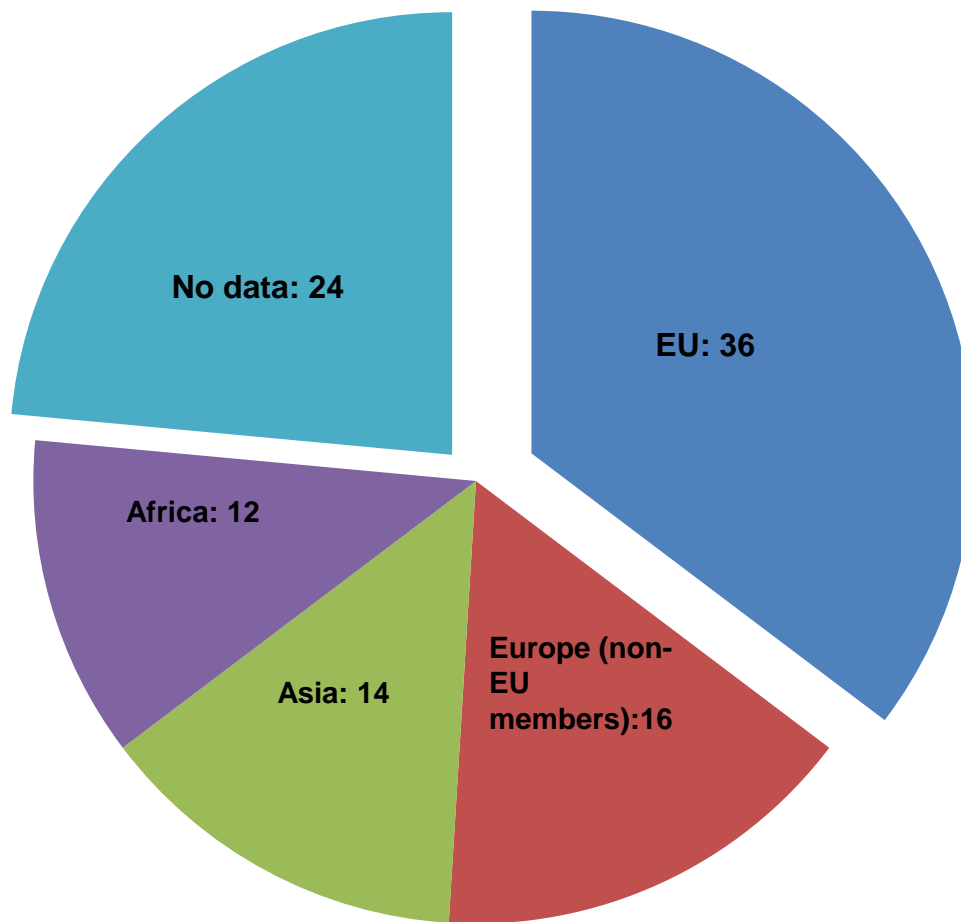


Result from survey

- ◆ **The survey** comprises 102 children identified by 36 **municipalities**, and 35 children identified by three **NGOs**
- ◆ **Total: 137 children**

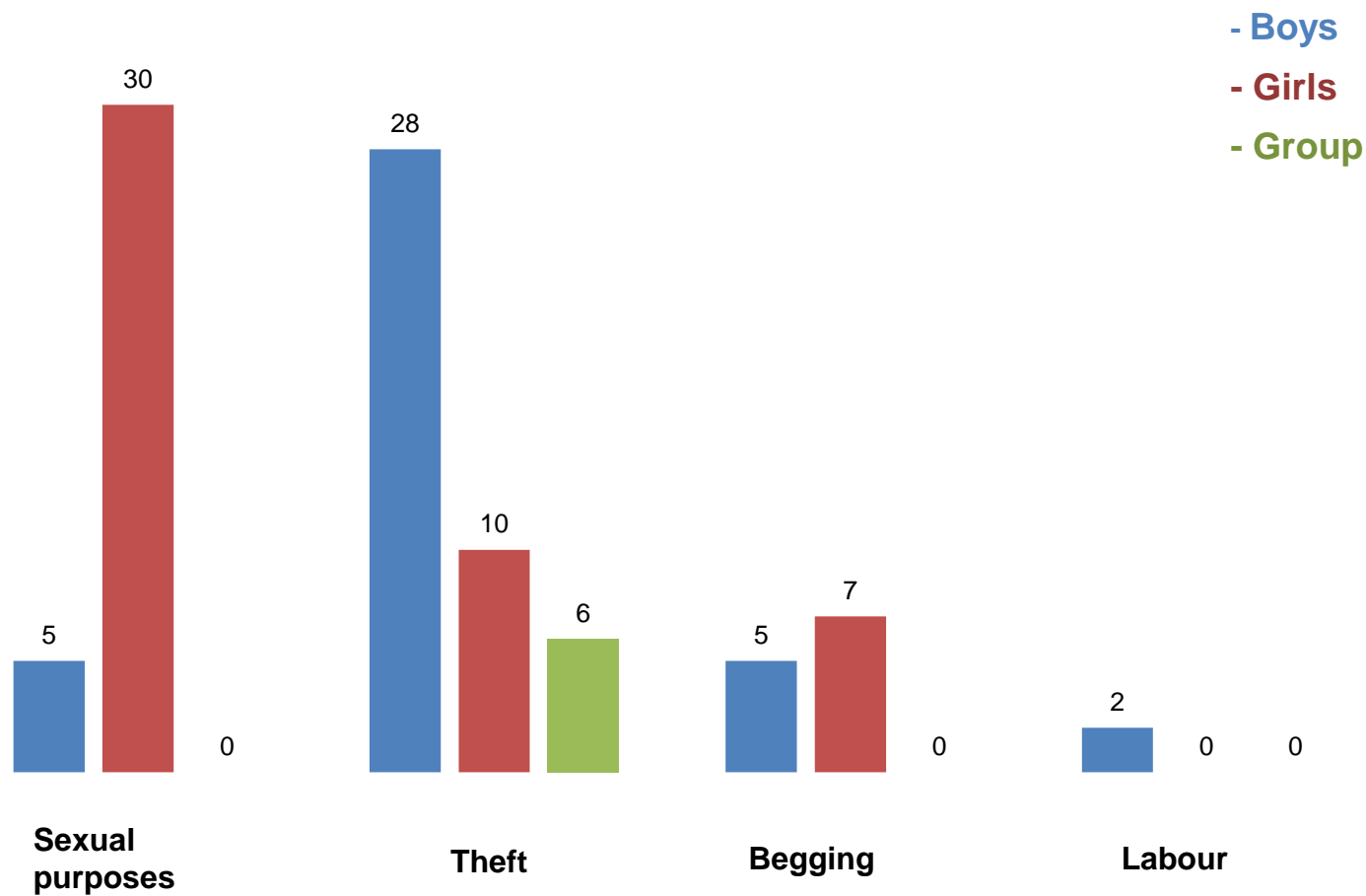


Nationality of children identified by social services

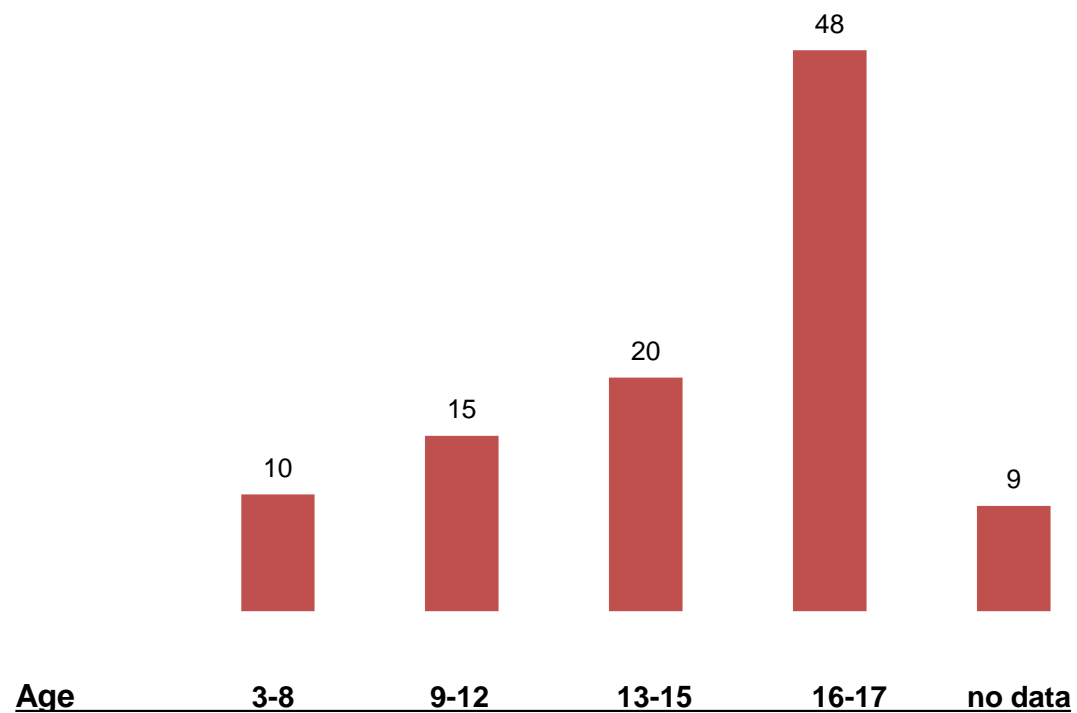


THB for sexual and other purposes

(In some cases, one child was exploited for more than one purpose)



Age

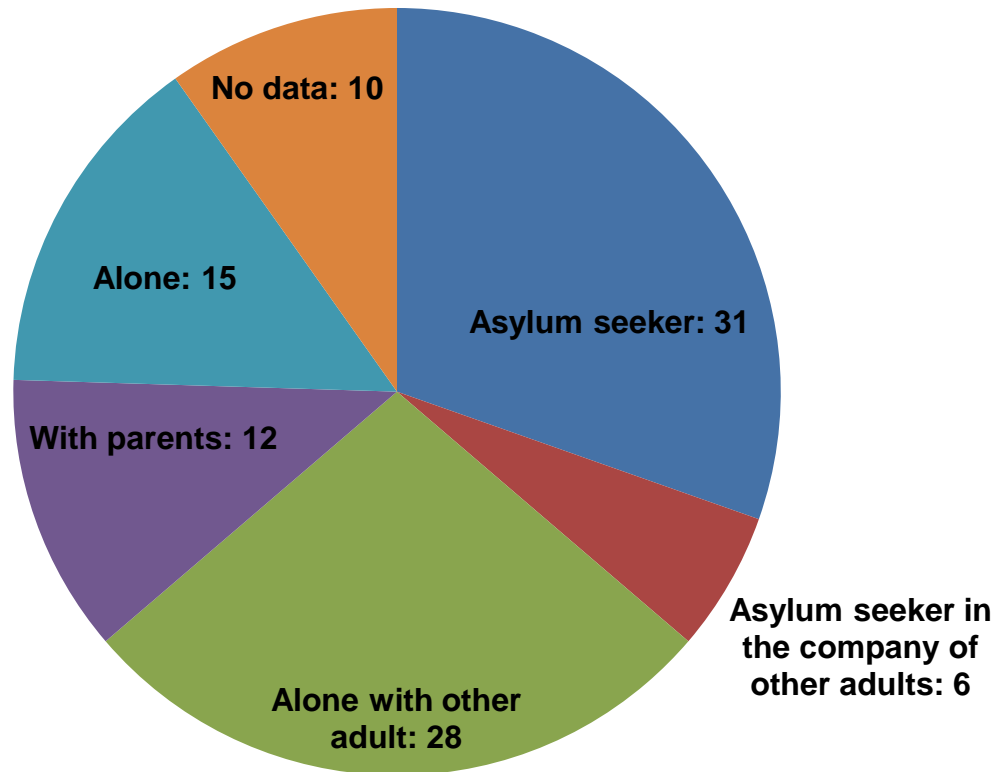


The majority of the children are in Sweden without a legal guardian

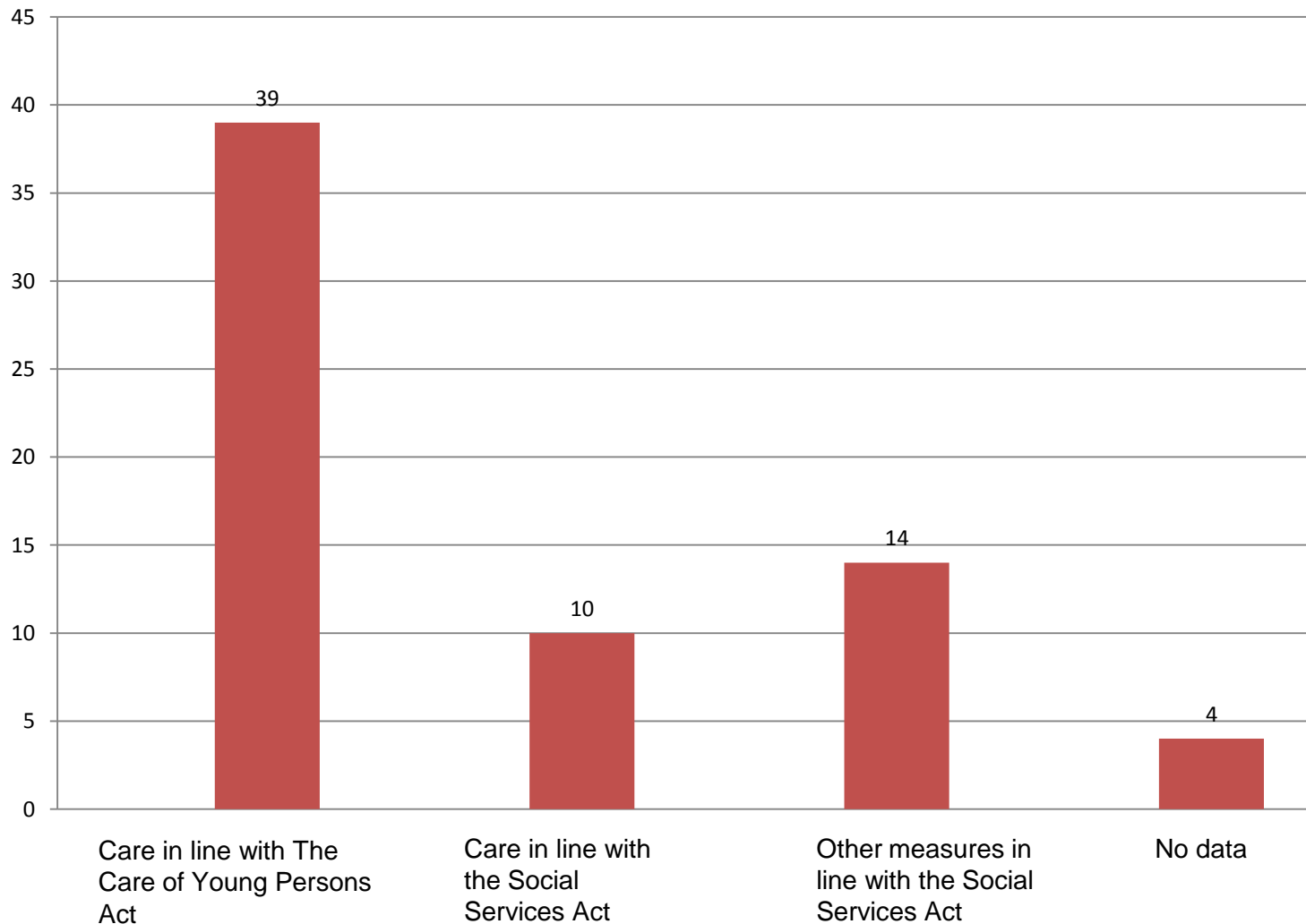
Of the 102 children identified by Social Services as victims or possible victims of THB, the majority (81 children) resided in Sweden without a legal guardian. Only a small share of the children were residing in Sweden with persons identified as their parents by authorities.



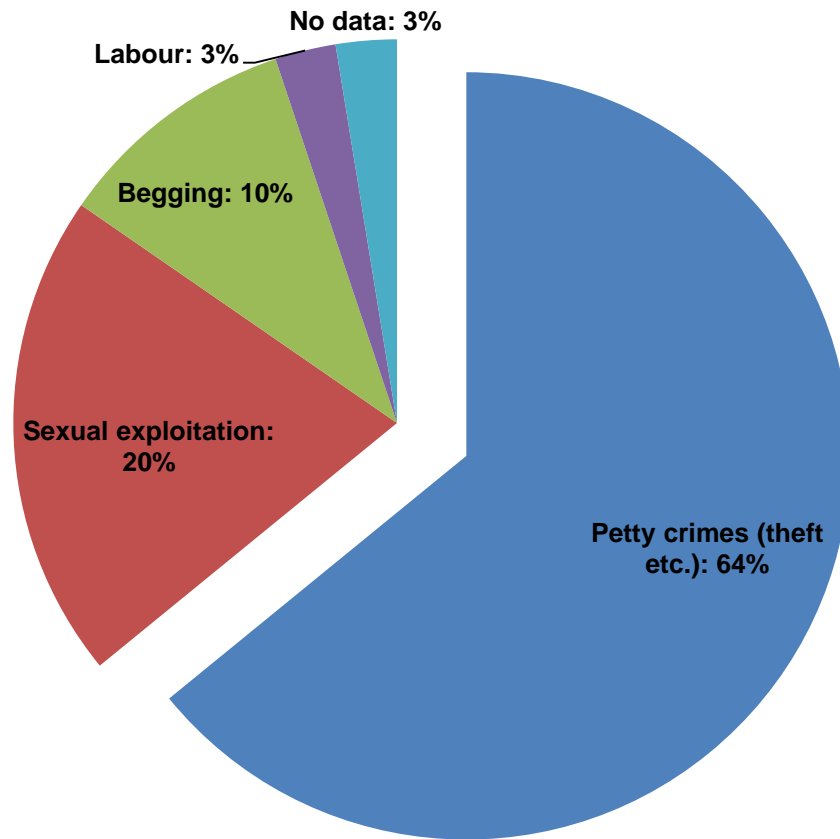
The situation of children when identified by Social Services



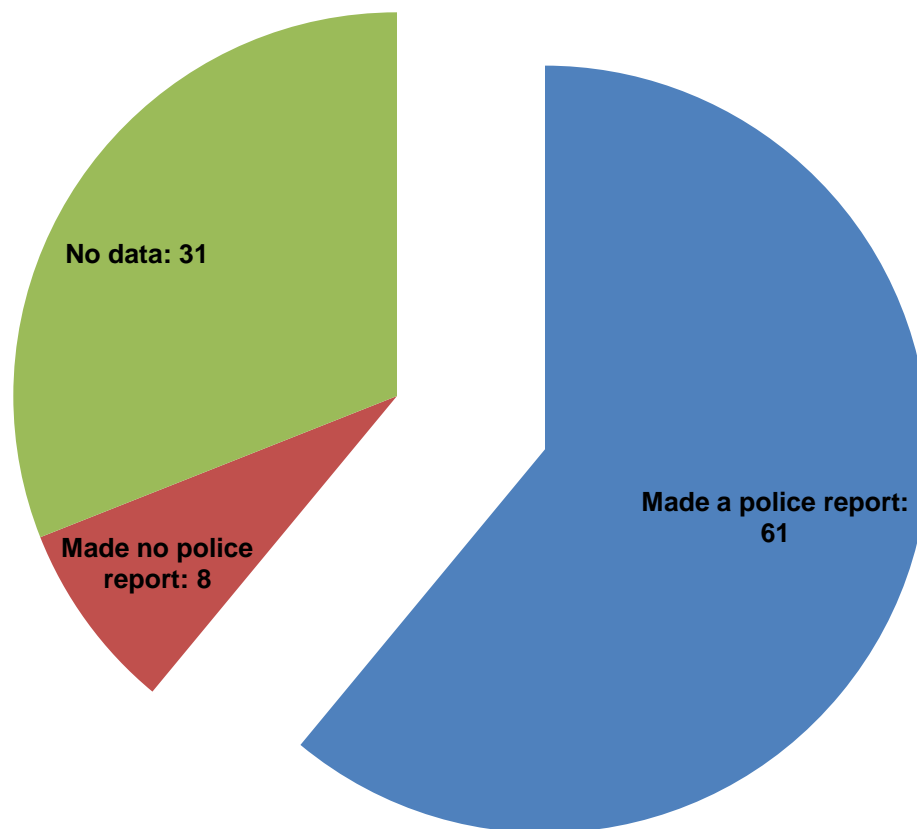
Type of actions taken by Social Services



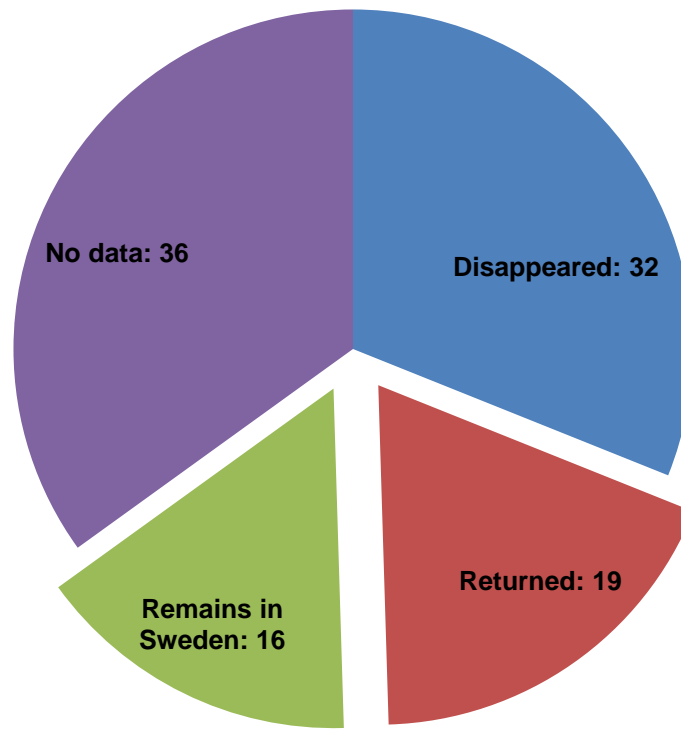
Type of THB when put under Care in line with The Care of Young Persons Act



Police reports 2009-2011



Remains in Sweden – returned - disappeared



Brussels II regulation (EC 2201/2003)

Example of Brussels II and potential victim of THB:

- ◆ A 14 year old girl is a potential victim of trafficking in Sweden. She commits crimes by stealing gold from elderly people in Sweden together with two adults who are not her legal guardians. There is an ongoing police investigation regarding THB where the adults are suspected perpetrators.
- ◆ When the 14-year old get caught by the police. The social welfare committee applies to administrative court for take a decision on care of young person's act. (art 20.1)
- ◆ Mål: nr 1467-11 (KamR-Sundsvall) B 1440-11 (TingsR-Luleå)



- ◆ **Care of Young Persons Act: Immediate care**
- ◆ 6 § the social welfare committee may decide that the person is under 20 years old must be taken into care immediately, if
- ◆ 1. it is probable that the child need to be provided with care under this Act , and
- ◆ 2nd Court's decision on care can not be awaited with regard to the risk of the young person's health or development, or that further investigation could seriously impeded or prevented further action .



- ◆ The Administrative court
- ◆ Administrative courts of appeal is applying art 8.1 in the regulation concluding that Swedish court do not have the jurisdiction to decide in this case regarding parental rights.
- ◆ The court argue that the interim decision of protection was correct, ref. article 20.1 and that decision can remain until art 20.2 is fulfilled
- ◆ The court mention there is an ongoing police-investigation stating that the child is a possible victim of trafficking in human beings. The police considers the child in need of special protection measures. Yet there no information transferred to central authority regarding the case.
- ◆ CABS have information that the parents shortly after the court decision took the child back to country of origin.
- ◆ Police-investigation was closed.



Brussel II/ Questions:

- ◆ How can Brussel II be applied when it comes to children suspected of being victims of THB to protect them cross-boarders?
- ◆ What is best practise regarding Brussels II in these cases?
- ◆ If a decision is taken according to art. 20.1 (urgent cases protective measures in respect of persons) i.e Care of young persons act:
- ◆ For approximately how long can the interim decision regarding a child remain until protection measures are put in place in home-country/ residence country?



- ◆ Should this decision remain until art. 20.2 is fulfilled?
regarding when the court of the member state has taken the
measures it considers appropriate?
- ◆ What is the role of central authority in these cases?
- ◆ How is the CRC and EU directive against trafficking in human
beings to protect victims of THB taken into consideration with
Brussels II –regulation?
- ◆ WHO is responsible for WHAT regarding the child in order to
fulfill the aim with Brussel II – protection of children in
international situations?



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