

CHAPTER 2

Quantitative Description of Sex Work among Transwomen in New York City

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SUMMARY

This chapter provides quantitative analysis of sex work among transwomen in New York City. Levels of sex work were shown to range from low (fewer than 5 partners a month) to moderate (5–49 partners a month) to high (50–400 partners a month); different demographic and lifestyle factors were associated with these different levels. This analysis, following Hwahng, highlights nonwhite ethnicity and its association with an early entry into the sex trade as strong predictors of moderate and high levels of sex work. Early entry into the sex trade, in turn, reduces the odds of completing high school and of being employed during early adulthood, which further increase the odds of later life involvement in sex work.

KEY TERMS

adolescent sex work; ethnicity; sexual orientation; transgender women; unemployment

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