



## Arizona Human Trafficking Statistics

### ARIZONA HUMAN TRAFFICKING FACTS AND RESOURCES

- ❖ Arizona law gives law enforcement critical investigative tools to pursue demand. Buyers of commercial sex acts are provided opportunities to claim mistake of age, shifting the burden to prosecutors to obtain meaningful penalties. Minors are not statutorily immune from prosecution for prostitution and may face barriers to treatment and victims' compensation to fund their recovery.
- ❖ In 2015: the state reported 116 cases; 355 calls were made to the NHTRC Hotline.
- ❖ Due to its location on the border, Arizona is called a trafficking focal point. It has the busiest illegal point of entry in the United States, and human smuggling often turns into human trafficking.
- ❖ Went from a C grade to a B grade in 2014.

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING NEWS FROM ARIZONA

Governor Ducey Signs Executive Order Renewing the Arizona Human Trafficking Council (Office of the AZ Governor Doug Ducey, December 22, 2015)  
"When it comes to combatting the horrendous crime of human trafficking, Arizona must hold the line," said Governor Ducey. "The Arizona Human Trafficking Council has made great strides in a short time, and our state continues to be on the cutting-edge of addressing this crucial issue. With the renewal of the Council, we will continue to see stronger federal, state and local collaboration, enhanced education and public awareness, improved services and care for victims, and a continued commitment to fighting human trafficking in Arizona."  
<http://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2015/12/governor-doug-ducey-signs-executive-order-renewing-arizona-human-trafficking>

FBI sex-slave sting in Phoenix sends 4 men to prison (AZCentral, September 25, 2015)

But after a two-year FBI sting, only the would-be slave owners wound up shackled and imprisoned. Over 2013 and 2014, federal agents advertised a fake sex-slave auction that attracted men from across the United States but culminated at a warehouse in Phoenix, where buyers believed their "lots" were being held. This month, Currence became the last of four defendants to be sentenced to federal prison.

<http://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/phoenix/2015/09/25/fbi-sex-slave-sting-phoenix-prison/72281246/>

DPS: Sex trafficking sweep nets arrests near Phoenix Truck Stops (AZ Central – The Arizona Republic, July 10, 2015)

Several people were arrested Wednesday, July 8<sup>th</sup> in a sweep targeting human trafficking near several commercial truck stops in Phoenix, officials said Thursday. The operation occurred off Interstate 10 between 51<sup>st</sup> and 67<sup>th</sup> avenues. The department of Public Safety reported two felony arrests, three misdemeanor arrests and the serving of three active warrants. More than 30 law-enforcement personnel conducted 28 traffic stops and checked more than 5,000 license plates. A stolen vehicle linked to an active armed-robbery investigation in Phoenix also was recovered. The DPS says one of those arrested was a woman who solicited officers and declined any help to get away from prostitution.

<http://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/phoenix/2015/07/09/human-trafficking-sweep-phoenix-abrk/29936153/>

#### State Grade **B**

\*Shared Hope Report Cards grade each state on 6 key principles which set a national standard of protection against domestic minor sex trafficking. Graded from A-F: 'A' being most protected, 'F' being least protected.

#### Flash Points **12 out of 15**

\*Trafficking is a complex issue influenced by several underlying factors, such as transportation, entertainment, or tourism. Each state is assessed based on the 15 major factors that contribute to trafficking. These determine the influences present in each state that increase residents' risk of being trafficked. 12 of the 15 flash points are found in Arizona.

#### Tier **2 of 4 (Yellow)**

\*Polaris Project rates all 50 states on a 4 tier scale based on 10 categories of laws which are critical to a basic legal framework that combats human trafficking, punishes traffickers and supports survivors. Tier 1 meets the most categories while tier 4 meets the least. Tier 3 indicates the state has made nominal laws to combat human trafficking and should take more steps to improve and implement its laws. Arizona meets 4 of the 10 categories of laws necessary to combat human trafficking.

[www.warinternational.org](http://www.warinternational.org) - [info@warinternational.org](mailto:info@warinternational.org) - 616-855-0796

Trafficking Tip Line: 1.877.END.SLAVERY

National Trafficking Hotline 1.888.373.7888

U.S. Dept. of Justice Trafficking and Workers' Exploitation Hotline 1.888.428.7581

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## HUMAN TRAFFICKING NEWS FROM ARIZONA

Tempe, AZ to form committee to combat sexual assault, domestic violence (East Valley Tribune, July 4, 2015)  
“Tempe suffers its share of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and human trafficking – with most of the crimes committed by repeat offenders,” Lauren Kuby, a member of the Tempe City Council said. “I learned that, in Arizona, a battered woman is murdered every three to four days and that less than 25 percent of such crimes are reported for reasons including a victim’s prior bad experience with courts, no knowledge of resources, and fear of reprisals.”  
[http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/local/article\\_94f21a6c-20f9-11e5-be4b-63ef5d4764d6.html](http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/local/article_94f21a6c-20f9-11e5-be4b-63ef5d4764d6.html)

Man Sentenced to 40 years for sex trafficking (Detroit Free Press, May 22, 2015)  
A Detroit man was sentence to 40 years in prison on Friday for sex trafficking three minor girls in Lansing and another in Phoenix, Arizona. The girls were all either 16 or 17. Christopher Bryant, 25 is facing 15 years to life in prison. He was convicted in December 2014 on multiple counts of sex trafficking.  
<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/05/22/sex-trafficking-detroit-lansing/27810155/>

Governor Jan Brewer creates Arizona Human Trafficking Council  
(The Glendale Star, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014)  
Gov. Jan Brewer has established by Executive Order the Arizona Human Trafficking Council, addressing one of the key priorities highlighted in the governor’s 2014 State of the State and policy agenda.

Human trafficking growing as Super Bowl in the Valley Nears  
(ABC 15, January 10th, 2014)  
PHOENIX - A nationwide prostitution bust with ties to Arizona may have only been the tip of iceberg. Since the Super Bowl is coming to the Valley in about a year, human trafficking is getting a lot more attention. And not just from police.  
<http://www.abc15.com/news/region-phoenix-metro/central-phoenix/human-trafficking-growing-as-superbowl-in-the-valley-nears>

Arizona works to fight human sex trafficking (ABC 15, May 16, 2013)  
PHOENIX – 100,000 children in the United States are forced to sell their bodies for sex every year, and some of those children are in Arizona. There is a group that rescues young teens from the streets. Streetlight USA was created in 2012. Since their creation, they’ve helped 49 girls back on their feet. Streetlight USA is part of the new human trafficking task force. They have until September to present their recommendation on how the state can improve the ways they protect children.  
[http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/region\\_phoenix\\_metro/central\\_phoenix/Arizona-works-to-fight-human-sex-trafficking](http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/region_phoenix_metro/central_phoenix/Arizona-works-to-fight-human-sex-trafficking)

Backpage.com: Doorway to Sex Trafficking? (MyFox10 Phoenix, June 4, 2012)  
You've heard of Craigslist and the controversy surrounding the adult services section. After pressure from law enforcement around the country, Craigslist cracked down on people using its site to traffic young girls. But now it seems like the pimps may have found a new destination to market their product, and it's a website based right here in the valley. It happens on the streets, in motels, at truck stops. One hot spot, according to police, is the I-17 and Thomas. Some of the women they see are very young. But investigators say they aren't just hitting the streets anymore. Some end up on a website called Backpage.com.  
<http://www.myfoxphoenix.com/story/18700552/adult-services-users-moving-to-backpagecom>