



Ohio Human Trafficking Statistics

OHIO HUMAN TRAFFICKING FACTS AND RESOURCES

- ❖ The Safe Harbor Law assists victims in getting services to escape trafficking, provides increased support to law enforcement, and toughens penalties for traffickers.
- ❖ Ohio still lacks a lower burden of proof for sex trafficking of minors.
- ❖ Facilitation of trafficking is not a crime and convicted traffickers are not required to register as sex offenders.
- ❖ Ohio jumped up to the top tier of states for its anti-trafficking laws passed since 2011, and has been labeled as one of the 4 most improved states of 2012, though there is still great room for improvement.
- ❖ 1,000 youth ages 12-17 were sexually exploited in Ohio in 2009.
- ❖ In 2015: Ohio reported 289 human trafficking cases and 1,066 calls were made to the NHTRC Hotline

HUMAN TRAFFICKING NEWS FROM OHIO

Guatemalan national orchestrated large human-trafficking ring in Ohio (Cleveland.com, January 27, 2016) - MARION, Ohio — A traffic stop three years ago in this central Ohio city proved anything but routine when the driver of the van disclosed that he worked for his uncle, Aroldo Castillo-Serrano, a suspect in a human-trafficking investigation.

http://www.cleveland.com/court-justice/index.ssf/2016/01/guatemalan_national_orchestrat.html

January 2016 News (Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force, January 22, 2016) - On January 14th, the Governor's Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force and Ohio Children's Trust Fund awarded \$90,000 in mini-grants to nine local organizations to support anti-human trafficking prevention programs. January 14th marked the seventh annual Human Trafficking Awareness Day hosted by Rep. Teresa Fedor (D-OH) at the Ohio Statehouse. Attendees heard from elected officials and state leaders, law enforcement, victim service providers and survivors, among others.

<http://humantrafficking.ohio.gov/NewsandEvents/tabid/86/ArticleID/53/January-2016-News.aspx>

Experts: Ohio among worst for sex trafficking (Cincinnati.com, September 22, 2015) - This scourge is especially evident in Ohio. The Buckeye state ranks as one of the worst regions in the U.S. for sex trafficking. A recent report from the Ohio Attorney General's office indicates that 1,000 juveniles are forced into the sex trade each year in Ohio. Of these child and youth victims, many are only middle-school age.

<http://www.cincinnati.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/09/22/experts-ohio-among-worst-sex-trafficking/72613268/>

State Grade C

*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 Ohio.

Tier 1 of 4 (Green)

*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 1 indicates the state has made significant laws to combat human trafficking and should continue to improve and implement its laws. Ohio meets 9 parts of the 10 categories of laws necessary to combat human trafficking.

www.warinternational.org - 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

Last updated: March, 2016

HUMAN TRAFFICKING NEWS FROM OHIO

Ohio police training to include how to handle human trafficking (WKBN First News, July 27, 2015) - Newly required training hours for Ohio police officers will include the basics of how to recognize and handle human trafficking cases. After making remarks before Ohio's Human Trafficking Commission, General Mike DeWine told reporters that more people need the training in order to make state efforts against the crime the most effective. Ohio added \$15 million for several additional hours of annual advanced training for police in its latest state operating budget.

<http://wkbn.com/2015/07/27/ohio-police-training-to-include-how-to-handle-human-trafficking/>

Human trafficking survivor fights to stop hidden scourge (*The News-Herald*, July 14, 2013)

For two years she was a teenage sex slave, as she lived in a prosperous suburb and attended high school every day. She was forced to sexually service men between midnight and 4 a.m. many nights of the week, but neither her parents, her friends nor her teachers had any inkling. The nightmare began when she accepted a ride from an older boy she knew from school. She was just 15 and had a crush on him. Now in her 40s, Theresa Flores of Columbus will tell her story on Saturday at St. Bede the Venerable's Father Tulley Center, 9114 Lake Shore Blvd., Mentor.

<http://www.news-herald.com/articles/2013/07/14/news/nh7241977.txt>

Toledo Man Sentenced to 15 Years in Prison for Sex Trafficking of Minors (FBI Press Release, June 27, 2013)

A Toledo man was sentenced to 15 years in prison for sex trafficking of children, said Steven M. Dettelbach, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio. Calhoun was arrested in 2010 and accused of recruiting females, including minor children, to work as prostitutes between 2007 and 2010. He advertised a minor on craigslist.com on different occasions and drove the minor to Toledo-area hotels, according to court documents. Calhoun beat and assaulted the females who worked for him and threatened those who left or attempted to quit working as prostitutes, according to court documents.

<http://www.fbi.gov/cleveland/press-releases/2013/toledo-man-sentenced-to-15-years-in-prison-for-sex-trafficking-of-minors>

Three Ashland Residents Arrested for Human Trafficking (FBI Press Release, June 18, 2013)

Three Ashland residents held a cognitively disabled woman and her child against her will for more than two years and forced her perform manual labor for them, law enforcement officials said. The conspiracy included beating the disabled woman and her child, threatening the woman with a firearm, threatening to kill the woman and her child, threatening the woman and her child with large snakes, forcing them to sleep in a padlocked room with a large iguana, and other actions, according to charges filed in U.S. District Court.

<http://www.fbi.gov/cleveland/press-releases/2013/three-ashland-residents-arrested-for-human-trafficking>

Michigan State Police keep close eye on I-75 for human trafficking (ABC 13, March 15, 2013)

Toledo is the third largest "recruiting city" for human trafficking in the U.S. Authorities, including the Michigan State Police, are trying to keep a close eye on I-75 in the Toledo area for victims. 13abc rode along with a trooper to several areas along I-75 just north of Toledo where they've arrests in prostitution and human trafficking. Troopers look for signs of human trafficking on every shift. They frequent places they've made arrests before. "Through the sixteen years I've been here, where we've experienced and made arrests for people trafficking humans," said Trooper James Jarrett.

<http://www.13abc.com/story/21655676/michigan-state-police-keep-a-close-eye-on-i-75-for-human-trafficking>

Human Trafficking Report Released (*The News Record*, January 27, 2013)

Ohio lawmakers are increasing efforts to curb human trafficking. Following the Jan. 10 release of an annual Human Trafficking Report, which showed improvement in prevention of trafficking in Ohio, Attorney General Mike Dewine reconvened the state's Human Trafficking Commission. House Bill 262 passed in August 2011, changing how Ohio law treats human trafficking offenders and victims. The bill increased penalties for human trafficking to put them on par with federal penalties, said Melinda Sykes, facilitator of the Human Trafficking Commission. Ohio elevated human trafficking to a first-degree felony, which carries a minimum of 10 years in prison. A rise in awareness caused a shift in the perception of human trafficking victims. "Instead of criminals, our community has started to look at them as victims," Smouse said. "[It caused] a change of perception and definition of those caught in the trade."

http://www.newsrecord.org/news/article_dc16127c-68fa-11e2-96ec-001a4bcf6878.html