2016 Ohio Human Trafficking Data from State Sources

As defined in the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, the legal definition of "trafficking in persons" is:

a) Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age, (22 USC §7102 (9)(A)).

b) The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery, (22 USC §7102 (9)(B)).

In 2012, Ohio legislators passed legislation (ORC 2905.32) guiding the identification of victims of trafficking in persons. Additional legislation guiding the prosecution of traffickers and purchasers of commercial sex from minors has since been implemented (e.g. ORC 2905.32 (A)(2)). Table 1 provides summary data from 2016 on those cases from Ohio's agencies and partners that have identified potential or confirmed victims of trafficking in persons.

Table 1. January 2016 to December 2016 Human Trafficking Case Data as Reported by State Sources[+]

[+]*The numbers reported in Table 1 should not be aggregated across different sources as there are likely instances in which a single individual is being served by multiple agencies.*

	Ohio Network of Children's Advocacy Centers	SACWIS	JFS Refugee Services	Ohio Attorney General	Health and Human Services Grant Partnership (CTIPOhio)
Target Population	Minors	Minors	Refugees	General public	Foreign national victims
No. Victims Identified	70	37	0	151	18
Victim Age					
Age 30 and older	0	0	0	24	-[c]
Age 21-29	0	0	0	51	-[c]
Age 18 - 20	12[a]	0	0	28	-[c]
Age 16-17	25	15	0	21	-[c]
Age 13-15	26	22[b]	0	14	-[c]
Age 12 and younger	7	0	0	1	-[c]
Minor—Age Unspecified	0	0	0	0	0
Adult—Age Unspecified	0	0	0	6	18
Victim Sex					
Female	65	34	0	117	14
Male	5	3	0	17	4
Unspecified	0	0	0	17	0
Trafficking Type					
Sex Trafficking Cases	68	35	0	127	3
Labor Trafficking Cases	2	1	0	24	6
Both Sex and Labor Trafficking[d]	0	1	0	0	7
Unknown	0	0	0	0	2
Total Victims Identified Since 2014	233	149	8	535	122

[a]*The reported data include individuals age 18 years of age and older.* [b] *Reported data include individuals 11 to 15 years of age.* [c]*Data unavailable in reporting.* [d]*Individuals included under this category were trafficked in both sex and labor trafficking instances, and are not included in the Sex Trafficking and Labor Trafficking rows.*

Description of State Data Sources in Table 1

The Ohio Network of Child Advocacy Centers (ONCAC) provides support, education, and networking opportunities to enhance Ohio's response to child abuse, including minors who are victims of human trafficking. Within a children's advocacy center, agencies and professionals work together to reduce the trauma young victims experience and to enhance the system's ability to respond to child maltreatment. Through a grant partnership with the Governor's Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, ONCAC began reporting identified cases of human trafficking in July 2013. The data are reported quarterly to meet state and federal grant requirements. Since the grant partnership began in July of 2013, **262** victims of human trafficking have been identified by Ohio's children advocacy centers. In 2016, ONCAC reported identification of **70** victims of human trafficking.

The Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS) is the case management system utilized by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, along with 88 county public children services agencies, to assist staff in managing workloads and provide current data. Human trafficking reporting was integrated into the system in November 2013. In 2016, **37** records of human trafficking were identified, as reported by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services – Refugee Services Section (ODJFS Refugee Services) operates as part of a national and international effort to assist people displaced from their countries. The Refugee Services Section also serves victims of human trafficking certified by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, with reporting beginning in 2008. In 2016, ODJFS Refugee Services did not serve any victims of human trafficking.

The Ohio Attorney General's Office collects data from local law enforcement related to human trafficking investigations, arrests, prosecutions, and convictions of traffickers. As required by Ohio's "Safe Harbor" Law enacted in 2012, law enforcement must report the number of human trafficking cases identified annually to the Ohio Attorney General's office (ORC 109.66). In 2016, local law enforcement identified **151** (potential and confirmed) victims of human trafficking.

The Combating Trafficking in Persons in Ohio (CTIPOhio) grant program, funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, provides assistance to foreign national victims of human trafficking in Ohio. Through a grant partnership with the Office of Criminal Justice Services, The Salvation Army of Central Ohio/Central Oho Rescue and Restore Coalition, The Salvation Army of Greater Cincinnati/End Slavery Cincinnati, and Lutheran Social Services/Lucas County Human Trafficking Coalition, and additional outreach partners, the program identified **18** victims in 2016.

Data Limitations

Ohio has made notable progress in data collection efforts since HB 262 passed in 2012. However, given the relative newness of state laws (and awareness of the federal law) and well-documented complexities resulting in underreporting and identification of trafficking victims, there is much work to be done in reliably determining the prevalence of the crime both in Ohio and the United States. The data compiled in Table 1 is the *first step* in creating a statewide overview of the number of victims identified and referred for services in local communities. It is critical to note that the numbers reported in Table 1 should not be aggregated across different sources as there are likely instances in which a single individual is being served by multiple agencies.

Please contact Kristina Nicholson at kcnicholson@dps.ohio.gov with any questions. For additional information on Ohio's human trafficking response, visit http://humantrafficking.ohio.gov.