

# 2019 Ohio Human Trafficking Data from State Sources


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

- 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)).
- 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 a summary of those cases from Ohio agencies and partners that have identified potential or confirmed victims of trafficking in persons in calendar year 2019.

**Table 1.** January 2019 to December 2019 Human Trafficking Case Data as Reported by State Sources<sup>†</sup>

<sup>†</sup>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
Target Population	Minors	Minors	Refugees	General public	Foreign national and domestic victims
No. Victims Identified	242	38	5	307	230
Age 30 and older	0		4	99	
Age 21-29	0		1	104	
Age 18 - 20	12			40	
Age 16-17	73	22		26	
Age 13-15	139	14		30	
Age 12 and younger	18	2			
Minor—Age Unspecified	0				26
Adult—Age Unspecified	0				198
Age Unknown	0	0	0	8	6
Female	215	37	2	280	210
Male	19	1	3	27	18
Transgender	5	0	0	0	2
Unknown	3	0	0	0	0
Sex Trafficking Cases	63	36		305	203
Labor Trafficking Cases	2	2		4 <sup>a</sup>	17
Both Sex and Labor Trafficking <sup>b</sup>	2				5
High Risk For Trafficking	159				
Unknown	0		5		5
<b>Total Victims Identified Since 2014</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1,249</b>	<b>638</b>

\*\* Shaded cells indicate that the information is not collected/reported by the agency or program.

<sup>a</sup> Individuals reported by the Attorney General's office were identified as either potential sex trafficking or labor trafficking victims, with a single individual being counted as both within each of the separate categories.

<sup>b</sup> Individuals included under this category were trafficked in both sex and labor, and are not included in the Sex Trafficking and Labor Trafficking rows.

## Description of State Data Sources in Table 1

### Ohio Network of Children’s Advocacy Centers

[The Ohio Network of Children’s 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. Through a grant partnership with the Ohio Children’s Trust Fund and Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, ONCAC has reported identified cases of human trafficking since July 2013. In 2019, ONCAC reported identification of **242** victims of human trafficking or youth at-risk of trafficking given a number of vulnerability factors.

### The Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System

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 2019, **38** indicated or substantiated cases were identified in SACWIS, 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)

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 2019, ODJFS Refugee Services served **five** individuals who were identified as victims of human trafficking.

### The Ohio Attorney General’s Office – Human Trafficking Initiative

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 2019, local law enforcement identified **307** (potential and confirmed) victims of human trafficking.

### U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Grant Partnerships

[The Combating Trafficking in Persons in Ohio](#) (CTIPOhio) grant program, funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), provided assistance to foreign national victims of human trafficking in Ohio. Although funding for CTIPOhio ended in June 2017, the Office of Criminal Justice Services along with grant partners (i.e. The Salvation Army of Central Ohio/Central Ohio Rescue and Restore Coalition, The Salvation Army of Greater Cincinnati/End Slavery Cincinnati, Lutheran Social Services/Lucas County Human Trafficking Coalition and Noah’s Hope: Child Advocacy Center of Tuscarawas County/Tuscarawas Against Trafficking) applied for and received similar HHS funding for an additional three years through the department’s [Look Beneath the Surface Regional Anti-Trafficking Program](#). Program efforts were expanded to include identification and assistance for domestic victims of human trafficking, in addition to foreign national victims. Through the efforts of grant partners and local outreach partners, the programs identified **230** victims of human trafficking in 2019.

### Additional Resources for Ohio Data on Trafficking in Persons

The available data are not meant to act as prevalence estimates within the systems that are reporting, but rather a lens to examine the number of victims identified and referred for services. In 2018, Anderson, Kulig and Sullivan from the University of Cincinnati released [Estimating the Prevalence of Human Trafficking in Ohio](#), which integrates data from these different sources into an estimate of the individuals identified as survivors of trafficking in persons within Ohio’s systems. For more information on human trafficking and Ohio’s response, visit [www.humantrafficking.ohio.gov](http://www.humantrafficking.ohio.gov).