**OHIO**

**Total Score: 3.5 Points of 8 Total Available**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Task Force</th>
<th>.5 of 1.5 total points</th>
<th>Prevention Education</th>
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<tr>
<td>Definition of Abuse</td>
<td>0 of 1 total points</td>
<td>Staff Training</td>
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**Why did my state receive this grade?** Ohio has elements that are friendly to prevention but should take further action to make prevention education viably accessible to youth.

**Who does this exploitation and trafficking impact?** Each year millions of children are victims of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, affecting communities small and large. This happens all over the world, including in your own community.

**How does this happen?** Children are most often exploited by an acquaintance (significant other, friend, family member, etc.). They are targeted, groomed, tricked, and manipulated.

**OHIO BY NUMBERS**

- 1133 calls to the human trafficking hotline.
- 365 human trafficking cases reported.
- 95 cases concerned a minor.
- 316 cases involved females, 36 involved males, 5 involved gender minorities.

**OHIO LAWS AND PROVISIONS**

- **Mandated Task Force?**
  - Human Trafficking Task Force
  - [http://humantrafficking.ohio.gov/](http://humantrafficking.ohio.gov/)

- **Terms included in Ohio’s Definition of Abuse:**
  - Neither exploitation nor trafficking included

- **Prevention Education Law, Scope, and Grade Levels**
  - Ohio Rev Code § 3313.60 (2017)
  - Topics: Dating abuse/violence (not including exploitation or trafficking)
  - Mandated for 7th-12

- **Staff Training Requirements**
  - Mandated
EXPLOITATION BY NUMBERS

- Approximately 1.6 million children run away every year in the United States.\(^2\)
- Of the nearly 27,000 runaways reported to NCMEC in 2017, one in 7 were likely victims of child sex trafficking.\(^3\)
- There were 8,524 human trafficking cases reported in the United States in 2017 and 32% of those cases involved a minor.\(^4\)
- In 2017, 88% of trafficked children were in the care of social services at the time the exploitation began.\(^5\)

RECOMMENDED STEPS AND LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

TASK FORCE

- Amend state task force to include a focus on the prevention of child exploitation and trafficking.
- Direct that a seat on the task force is filled by a child exploitation prevention expert.

STATE DEFINITION OF CHILD ABUSE

- Amend state statute defining child abuse to include trafficking and exploitation.

PREVENTION EDUCATION CURRICULUM

- Mandate child exploitation prevention curriculum in all state public schools for all grade levels.
- Identify within the curriculum the need to educate youth with age appropriate curriculum on child exploitation, child trafficking, and child abuse.

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1 Polaris Project, Human Trafficking Hotline, 2017 State Statistics: https://humantraffickinghotline.org/states. Note that not all demographics are captured by every report to the hotline.
3 National Center for Missing and Exploited Children: http://www.missingkids.com/theissues/cse/csstt
4 National Human Trafficking Hotline Statistics: https://humantraffickinghotline.org/states
5 National Center forMissing and Exploited Children: http://www.missingkids.com/theissues/cse/csstt

MISSION: We equip adults to empower youth to eradicate exploitation.
For more info visit: http://iempathize.org/educators/the-prevention-priority/