**KENTUCKY**

**Total Score: 1 Points of 8 Total Available**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK FORCE:</th>
<th>.5 of 1.5 total points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DEFINITION OF ABUSE:</td>
<td>.5 of 1 total points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PREVENTION EDUCATION:</td>
<td>0 of 4.5 total points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAFF TRAINING:</td>
<td>0 of 1 total points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Why did my state receive this rating?** Kentucky is in the bottom tier and should actively work to improve statutes to make prevention education viable and accessible for youth.

**Who does 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.

**KENTUCKY BY NUMBERS**

- **343** calls to the human trafficking hotline.
- **81** human trafficking cases reported.
- **21** cases concerned a minor.
- **56** cases involved females, **26** involved males.

**KENTUCKY LAWS AND PROVISIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task Force?</th>
<th>Office of Child Abuse &amp; Human Trafficking <a href="https://ag.ky.gov/about/branches/OCAHTPP/Pages/default.aspx">https://ag.ky.gov/about/branches/OCAHTPP/Pages/default.aspx</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terms included in Kentucky’s Definition of Abuse:</td>
<td>Exploitation only (Trafficking not included)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention Education Law, Scope, and Grade Levels</td>
<td>None identified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Training Requirements</td>
<td>Neither mandated nor recommended</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**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.\(^5\)

**WHAT CAN I DO?**

- Contact your child’s school administrator about adding prevention education at your child’s school.
- Contact your local representative to ask them to get involved in prevention education legislation.
- Be a mentor to youth in your community.
- Sponsor prevention education for schools and other youth-serving organizations. Visit donate.iempathize.org.

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\(^1\) Polaris Project, Human Trafficking Hotline, 2017 State Statistics: [https://humantraffickinghotline.org/states](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/cstt](http://www.missingkids.com/theissues/cse/cstt)

\(^4\) National Human Trafficking Hotline Statistics: [https://humantraffickinghotline.org/states](https://humantraffickinghotline.org/states)


**MISSION:** We equip adults to empower youth to eradicate exploitation.

For more info visit: [http://iempathize.org/educators/the-prevention-priority/](http://iempathize.org/educators/the-prevention-priority/)