

Ashland County Sheriff's Office



# Human Trafficking

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## Human trafficking is:

the action of illegally transporting people from one country or area to another, typically for the purpose of forced labor or sexual exploitation.

- Labor Trafficking-a form of modern day slavery where individuals perform labor or services through the use of force, fraud, or coercion. This includes situations of debt bondage, forced labor, and involuntary child labor.
- Sex trafficking-any commercial sex act that is compelled by force, fraud, or coercion.

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## Who are the Traffickers:

Pimps

Parents/Guardians

Caregivers

Businesses

Domestic employers

Seasonal farm employers

Men and women

Gangs

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## How it works:

Traffickers lure their victims by offering jobs and education to separate them from their money and family. Most victims are lured, only a small number is abducted (because this draws too much attention).

Once separated, a trafficker may sell the individual to another or force them to work off "travel debt" such as transportation, food, and housing. This debt which accumulates daily, can never be paid off.

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## The victims are:

from all walks of life and all financial status.

Following are some factors that make a person more vulnerable to the false lies of a human trafficker:

- Female
- Juvenile
- Poverty
- Growing up in an abusive home
- Run away
- Little or no education
- Mostly in age range of 14-21
- Have come from schools, social media sites, shopping malls, clubs, from students who are used by traffickers to recruit other victims, etc.



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## What to look for with victims:

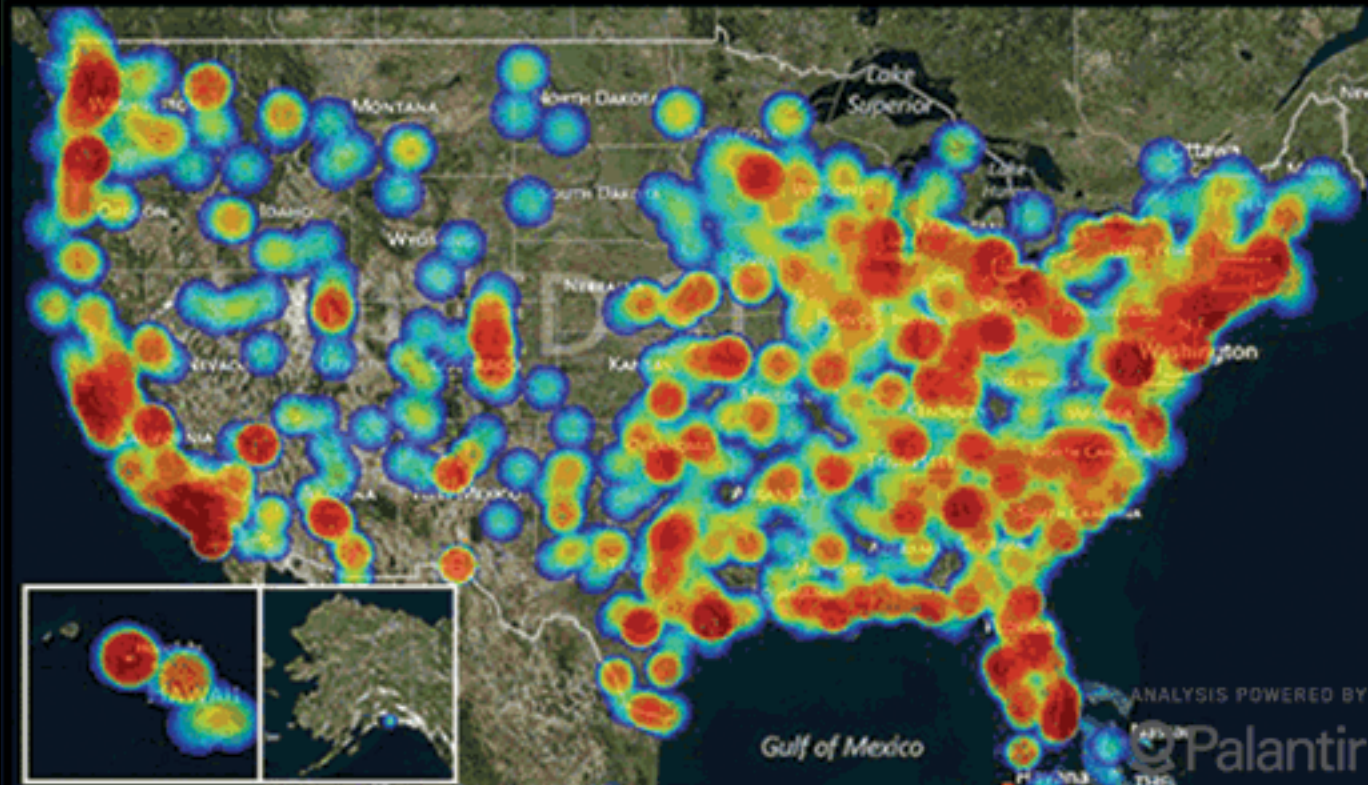
They will be hesitant to share information-afraid of being deported,  
having to go back home

'unusual' marks or marks that you've not seen there before

Less clothes (3 outfits)

Less furniture-their bedroom has a bed and a dresser and the rest of  
the house if furnished and decorated

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Location of potential human trafficking cases reported to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (2007 - 2012)



It exist all over the world today, including the United States.

No one wants to be a slave, yet there are 27 million people enslaved.

Ohio ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in cases reported to National Hotline with 365. CA was 1<sup>st</sup> with 1,305.

From Dec. 2007-2016: Columbus was ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in the US with 1,466. Houston, TX was 1<sup>st</sup> at 3,634.

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Number of missing children in Ohio

19,902-2016

19,879-2018

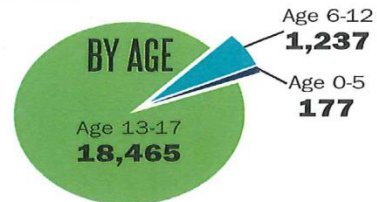
Females 10,643

Males 9,236

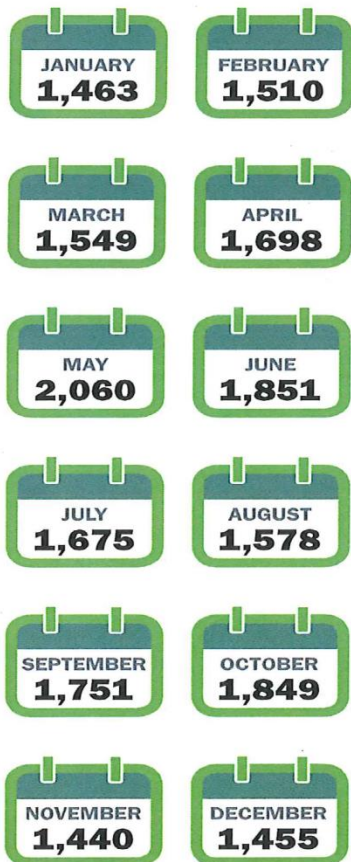


# 2018 BY THE NUMBERS

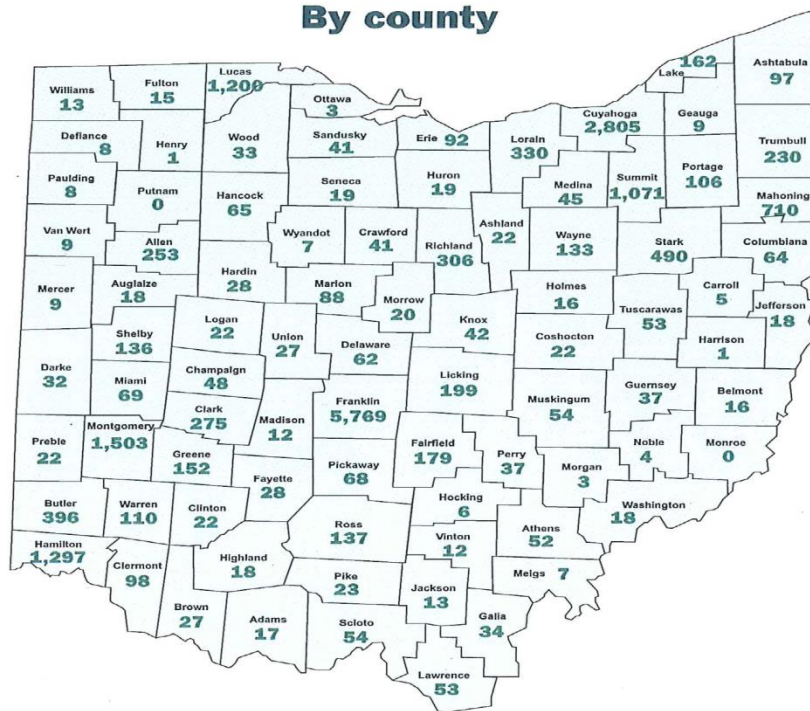
**19,879**  
MISSING CHILDREN REPORTS



## Per month



## By county



## Other numbers



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# Things to do to avoid becoming a human trafficking victim:

Be aware of how traffickers recruit people:

- False promises of a better life.

- Unrealistic pictures of what life could be with lots of money.

- Showering a person with gifts and displays of affection

Do not make decisions under the influence of substances and/or with people you do not know.

Do not post sad/mad statements on social media, which is what they look for.

Don't believe statements if it seems too good to be true. Say no, then watch their reaction.

Decide if the person is trying to isolate or turn you against family/friends.

Don't runaway from home. Runaways are at greater risk for being forced into prostitution.

Fight so you can't be transported elsewhere.

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A local female left a rehab facility in Toledo after being coerced by a friend. She woke up in a strange place/room and it took about 6 months to find her. Her friend was no where around-her friend was a recruiter, she received money for 'this girl'.

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