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MISSISSIPPI

2021 Report Card on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking

TIER I

Issue	Grade	Score	Highlights
 1. Criminal Provisions	A	$\frac{16}{17.5}$	Policy goals accomplished in areas related to buyer and trafficker accountability under state CSEC laws, mistake of age defenses, decoy defenses, business entity liability under the trafficking law, and financial penalties. Gap remains related to buyer accountability under the trafficking law.
 2. Identification of and Response to Victims	F	$\frac{14}{27.5}$	Policy goals accomplished in areas related to third party control, non-criminalization for prostitution and sex trafficking offenses, and child abuse definitions. Gaps remain in areas related to foreign national victims, screening through child welfare and the juvenile justice system, expanded non-criminalization, juvenile court jurisdiction, and non-familial trafficking cases.
 3. Continuum of Care	F	$\frac{8.5}{15}$	Policy goals accomplished in areas related to services through a non-punitive system and MDT responses. Gaps remain in areas related to services through the juvenile justice system, extended foster care services, and appropriations.
 4. Access to Justice for Trafficking Survivors	F	$\frac{8.5}{15}$	Policy goal accomplished related to civil remedies. Gaps remain in areas related to civil orders of protection, crime victims' compensation, vacatur, restitution, and statutes of limitation.
 5. Tools for a Victim-Centered Criminal Justice Response	B	$\frac{8}{10}$	Policy goals accomplished in areas related to victim supports and privileged communications. Gaps remain in areas related to hearsay exceptions and alternatives to live, in-court testimony.
 6. Prevention and Training	F	$\frac{6}{15}$	Policy goals accomplished in areas related to training for child welfare and law enforcement. Gaps remain in areas related to training for juvenile justice agencies, prosecutors, and school personnel as well as prevention education in schools.
EXTRA CREDIT	 Youth	2	Protections related to civil remedies and privileged communications are extended to sex trafficked youth.
	 Child Labor Trafficking	5	Protections related to child abuse definitions, services through a non-punitive system, MDT responses, civil remedies, and privileged communications are extended to child labor trafficking victims.

OVERALL GRADE
TIER I

D 68

LEARN MORE

TOOLKIT: To see how Mississippi compares, visit reportcards.sharedhope.org/toolkit.

ISSUE BRIEFS: To better understand a policy goal, visit reportcards.sharedhope.org/issue-briefs.

MISSISSIPPI SPECIFIC RESOURCES

To better understand Mississippi's grade, access an in-depth analysis of its laws under the advanced legislative framework and review its historical progress by visiting reportcards.sharedhope.org/mississippi.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

For legislators and partner non-profits that assist elected officials in creating legislation, request a consultation with our Policy Team online at sharedhope.org/legislative-technical-assistance. We will set up a meeting to discuss your legislative goals and create a customized goal for ongoing technical assistance, bill drafting services, and legislative support.