

B

FLORIDA

2023 Report Card

TIER I

GRADES ARE BASED SOLELY ON AN ANALYSIS OF STATE STATUTES. While we recognize the critical importance of non-legislative responses to propel progress, grading on statutory law provides a clear mechanism for evaluating policy goals across all states while ensuring that survivor-centered reforms are an enduring part of states' responses.

STATE HIGHLIGHTS:

- Between 2021-2023, raised score by 14.5 points.
- In 2021, ranked 1st nation for the inaugural Report Cards on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking (2021).
- Currently ranked 2nd in the nation; only state to earn a "B" grade in 2023.
- One of only 9 states to achieve full credit for its criminal provisions.
- Leads the nation for laws related to continuum of care and victim-witness protections.
- Over \$4,000,000 was appropriated from state funds to support the development and provision of community-based services to child and adult survivors of sex and labor trafficking.

SAFE HARBOR STATUS:

One of 30 states that statutorily prohibit the criminalization of minors for prostitution offenses.

Issue		Grade	Score	Summary
	1. Criminal Provisions	A	<u>17.5</u> 17.5	Policy goals accomplished in all areas, including buyer accountability under the trafficking law, buyer and trafficker accountability under state CSEC laws, mistake of age defenses, decoy defenses, business entity liability under the trafficking law, and financial penalties.
	2. Identification of and Response to Victims	D	<u>18.5</u> 27.5	Policy goals accomplished related to third party control, foreign national victims, screening through child welfare and the juvenile justice system, non-criminalization for prostitution offenses, child abuse definitions, and non-caregiver trafficking cases. Gaps remain related to expanded non-criminalization and juvenile court jurisdiction.
	3. Continuum of Care	B	<u>12</u> 15	Policy goals accomplished related to MDT responses, services through child welfare and the juvenile justice system, and appropriations. Gaps remain related to community-based services and extended foster care services.
	4. Access to Justice for Trafficking Survivors	B	<u>13</u> 15	Policy goals accomplished related to civil orders of protection and restitution. Gaps remain related to crime victims' compensation, vacatur, civil remedies, and statutes of limitation.
	5. Tools for a Victim-Centered Criminal Justice Response	A	<u>9.5</u> 10	Policy goals accomplished related to alternatives to live, in-court testimony, victim-witness supports, and privileged communications. Gap remains related to hearsay exceptions.
	6. Prevention and Training	B	<u>12</u> 15	Policy goals accomplished related to training for child welfare, juvenile justice agencies, and prosecutors as well as prevention education in schools. Gaps remain related to training for law enforcement and school personnel.
EXTRA CREDIT	 Youth		2	Protections related to appropriations and privileged communications are extended to sex trafficked youth.
	 Child Labor Trafficking		5	Protections related to financial penalties, appropriations, restitution, alternatives to live, in-court testimony, and privileged communications are extended to child labor trafficking victims.

OVERALL GRADE
TIER I

B 89.5