



LOUISIANA

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 10 points.
- Currently ranked 9th in the nation.
- One of 10 states to raise their letter grade this year.
- State funds were appropriated to support the development and provision of specialized services for child sex trafficking victims through the Louisiana Child & Youth Trafficking Collaborative.

SAFE HARBOR STATUS:

One of 21 states that fail to unequivocally protect minors from being criminalized for prostitution; however, child sex trafficking victims are afforded immunity protections from other offenses committed as a direct result of their victimization.

Issue		Grade	Score	Summary
	1. Criminal Provisions	A	$\frac{17.5}{17.5}$	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	F	$\frac{16}{27.5}$	Policy goals accomplished related to third party control, foreign national victims, expanded non-criminalization, and child abuse definitions. Gaps remain related to screening through child welfare and the juvenile justice system, non-criminalization for prostitution offenses, juvenile court jurisdiction, and non-caregiver trafficking cases.
	3. Continuum of Care	D	$\frac{10}{15}$	Policy goals accomplished related to services through child welfare and appropriations. Gaps remain related to community-based services, MDT responses, services through the juvenile justice system, and extended foster care services.
	4. Access to Justice for Trafficking Survivors	B	$\frac{12.5}{15}$	Policy goals accomplished related to civil orders of protection, restitution, and civil remedies. Gaps remain related to crime victims' compensation, vacatur, and statutes of limitation.
	5. Tools for a Victim-Centered Criminal Justice Response	D	$\frac{6.5}{10}$	Policy goal accomplished related to victim-witness supports. Gaps remain related to hearsay exceptions, alternatives to live, in-court testimony, and privileged communications.
	6. Prevention and Training	F	$\frac{3}{15}$	Gaps remain in all areas, including training for child welfare, juvenile justice agencies, law enforcement, prosecutors, and school personnel as well as prevention education in schools.
EXTRA CREDIT	 Youth		2	Protections related to third party control and civil remedies are extended to sex trafficked youth.
	 Child Labor Trafficking		3	Protections related to appropriations, restitution, and civil remedies are extended to child labor trafficking victims.

OVERALL GRADE
TIER I

C 70.5