

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 21.5 points.
- Second most improved in 2023 (raised score by 18 points this year alone).
- Currently ranked 8th in the nation.
- One of 10 states to raise their letter grade this year.
- Second most improved in 2023 (raised score by 18
 Leads the nation for laws related to continuum of care.

SAFE HARBOR STATUS:

One of 21 states that fail to fully prohibit the criminalization of minors for prostitution offenses, thus allowing commercially sexually exploited minors to be held criminally accountable for their own victimization.

Issue			Grade	Score	Summary
0	1. Crim	1. Criminal Provisions		13 17.5	Policy goals accomplished related to buyer accountability under state CSEC laws, mistake of age defenses, decoy defenses, and business entity liability under the trafficking law. Gaps remain related to buyer accountability under the trafficking law, trafficker accountability under state CSEC laws, and financial penalties.
	2. Identification of and Response to Victims		F	13 27.5	Policy goals accomplished related to third party control, screening through child welfare and the juvenile justice system, and child abuse definitions. Gaps remain related to foreign national victims, non-criminalization for prostitution offenses, expanded non-criminalization, juvenile court jurisdiction, and non-caregiver trafficking cases.
(4)	3. Continuum of Care		В	12 15	Policy goal accomplished related to community-based services, services through child welfare and the juvenile justice system, and appropriations. Gaps remain related to MDT responses and extended foster care services.
1	4. Access to Justice for Trafficking Survivors		C	1 <u>1.</u> 5	Policy goal accomplished related to civil remedies. Gaps remain related to civil orders of protection, crime victims' compensation, vacatur, restitution, and statutes of limitation.
<i>"</i>	5. Tools for a Victim-Centered Criminal Justice Response		C	7 10	Policy goals accomplished related to alternatives to live, in-court testimony and privileged communications. Gaps remain related to hearsay exceptions and victim-witness supports.
	6. Prevention and Training		F	8.5 15	Policy goal accomplished related to training for law enforcement. Gaps remain related to training for child welfare, juvenile justice agencies, prosecutors, and school personnel as well as prevention education in schools.
EXTRA CREDIT	18+)	Youth		3	Protections related to appropriations, civil remedies, and privileged communications are extended to sex trafficked youth.
	CLT	CLT Child Labor Trafficking		3	Protections related to appropriations, civil remedies, and privileged communications are extended to child labor trafficking victims.

OVERALL GRADE



71