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MASSACHUSETTS

2022 Report Card on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking

TIER II

Issue	Grade	Score	Highlights
 1. Criminal Provisions	C	13.5 17.5	Policy goals accomplished in areas related to buyer and trafficker accountability under state CSEC laws, decoy defenses, business entity liability under the trafficking law, and financial penalties. Gaps remain in areas related to buyer accountability under the trafficking law and mistake of age defenses.
 2. Identification of and Response to Victims	F	8 27.5	Policy goals accomplished in areas related to third party control and child abuse definitions. Gaps remain in areas related to foreign national victims, screening through child welfare and the juvenile justice system, non-criminalization for prostitution offenses, expanded non-criminalization, juvenile court jurisdiction, and non-familial trafficking cases.
 3. Continuum of Care	D	10 15	Policy goals accomplished in areas related to MDT responses, services through child welfare and the juvenile justice system, and extended foster care services. Gaps remain in areas related to community-based services and appropriations.
 4. Access to Justice for Trafficking Survivors	C	11.5 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	D	6.5 10	Policy goal accomplished related to privileged communications. Gaps remain in areas related to hearsay exceptions, alternatives to live, in-court testimony, and victim supports.
 6. Prevention and Training	F	1 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 civil remedies and privileged communications are extended to sex trafficked youth.
	 Child Labor Trafficking	3	Protections related to MDT responses, civil remedies, and privileged communications are extended to child labor trafficking victims.

OVERALL GRADE
TIER II**F 55.5**

LEARN MORE

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

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

MASSACHUSETTS SPECIFIC RESOURCES

To better understand Massachusetts'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/massachusetts.

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.