

Report Cards on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking

State Action. National Change.

ARKANSAS

The Report Cards on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking Advanced Legislative Framework builds on the original Protected Innocence Challenge Framework, preserving the most fundamental components while including new policy priorities that reflect feedback and research from the field—particularly in the area of victim protections. The advanced framework will be used to grade the states next fall when we release the inaugural Report Cards on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking. As such, the 2021 legislative session is a critical time for your state to strengthen its laws before report cards and corresponding grades are issued.

So what is **ARKANSAS’S** current score and what changes are needed? As of August 1, 2019, **ARKANSAS HAD RAISED ITS GRADE FROM F TO B:**

ARKANSAS

2019	SCORE	GRADE	10	22	15	10	18	14.5
	89.5	B	10/10	25/25	15/15	10/10	27.5/27.5	15/15
								
2011	SCORE	GRADE						
	54.5	F	3.5/10	15/25	10.5/15	6/10	9.5/27.5	10/15

Under Arkansas law, all commercially sexually exploited children should be identified as trafficking victims regardless of whether a trafficker is involved or

identified. Although state law prohibits the criminalization of trafficking victims for prostitution, commercially sexually exploited youth may still face a criminal justice response until that finding of victimization is made. Further, state law does not provide for a specialized service response.

To support implementation of the Report Cards on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking Advanced Legislative Framework, our Policy Team will remain available to provide rapid, technical assistance to support legislators, advocates, and state agencies; technical assistance requests can be submitted [here](#).



To learn more about the Report Cards on Child & Youth Sex trafficking, visit our page: sharedhope.org/reportcards

Contact your legislators today about the Report Cards and important issues related to child and youth sex trafficking in your state by visiting our action center: act.sharedhope.org/reportcards



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