NEW JERSEY

Total Score: 3 Points of 8 Total Available

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK FORCE:</th>
<th>.5 of 1.5 total points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PREVENTION EDUCATION:</td>
<td>1.5 of 4.5 total points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEFINITION OF ABUSE:</td>
<td>0 of 1 total points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAFF TRAINING:</td>
<td>1 of 1 total points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Why did my state receive this rating? New Jersey is in the bottom tier and should actively work to improve statutes to make prevention education viable and accessible for youth.

Who does exploitation and trafficking impact? Each year millions of children are victims of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, affecting communities small and large. This happens all over the world, including in your own community.

How does this happen? Children are most often exploited by an acquaintance (significant other, friend, family member, etc.). They are targeted, groomed, tricked, and manipulated.

NEW JERSEY BY NUMBERS

- 417 calls to the human trafficking hotline.
- 161 human trafficking cases reported.
- 89 cases concerned a minor.
- 138 cases involved females, 27 involved males, <3 involved gender minorities.

NEW JERSEY LAWS AND PROVISIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terms included in New Jersey's Definition of Abuse:</td>
<td>Neither exploitation nor trafficking included</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Topics: child abuse, dating violence (not including exploitation or trafficking)  
• Mandated for 1st-12 |
| Staff Training Requirements | Mandated |
**EXPLOITATION BY NUMBERS**

- Approximately 1.6 million children run away every year in the United States.\(^2\)
- Of the nearly 27,000 runaways reported to NCMEC in 2017, one in 7 were likely victims of child sex trafficking.\(^3\)
- There were 8,524 human trafficking cases reported in the United States in 2017 and 32% of those cases involved a minor.\(^4\)
- In 2017, 88% of trafficked children were in the care of social services at the time the exploitation began.\(^5\)

**WHAT CAN I DO?**

- Contact your child’s school administrator about adding prevention education at your child’s school.
- Contact your local representative to ask them to get involved in prevention education legislation.
- Be a mentor to youth in your community.

---

1 Polaris Project, Human Trafficking Hotline, 2017 State Statistics: [https://humantraffickinghotline.org/states](https://humantraffickinghotline.org/states). Note that not all demographics are captured by every report to the hotline.


4 National Human Trafficking Hotline Statistics: [https://humantraffickinghotline.org/states](https://humantraffickinghotline.org/states)