September 2007

The Department of Labor’s 2006 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor

U.S. Department of Labor

Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB)

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The Department of Labor’s 2006 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Abstract
[Excerpt] In its sixth year, USDOL’s Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor provides new and updated information on the incidence and nature of child labor, relevant laws and enforcement, and programs and policies in place to address exploitive child labor in 141 countries and territories. In order to work towards the ILO’s global goal of eliminating the worst forms of child labor by 2016, the international community and trade beneficiary countries must push forward in addressing the key challenges that keep or make children vulnerable to exploitive work. Controlling and eliminating the spread of HIV/AIDS; increasing opportunities for youth employment; investing in rural development; and encouraging trade and economic growth will do much to stimulate an even more rapid decline in the incidence of working children. It is our hope that this report will serve as one more tool in the fight to address the worst forms of child labor and will encourage U.S. trading partners to redouble their efforts to combat child labor.

Keywords
Child labor, rural development, International Labor Organization (ILO)

Comments
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Report Required by the Trade and Development Act of 2000

U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of International Labor Affairs

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Acronyms

ADB  Asian Development Bank
AGOA  African Growth and Opportunity Act
ASEAN  Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ATPA  Andean Trade Preference Act
ATPDEA  Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act
AUSAID  Australian Agency for International Development
CAFTA-DR  Central America-Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement
CBTPA  Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act
CEACR  International Labor Organization Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations
ECOWAS  Economic Community of West African States
ECASS  Economic Community of Central African States
ECPAT  End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes
EU  European Union
GDP  Gross Domestic Product
GNP  Gross National Product
GSP  Generalized System of Preferences
OCFT  Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking
IDB  Inter-American Development Bank
ILO  International Labor Organization
ILO Convention 138  International Labor Organization, Convention No. 138: Minimum Age for Admission to Employment
ILO Convention 182  International Labor Organization, Convention No. 182: Worst Forms of Child Labor
ILO-IPEC  International Labor Organization, International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor
IMF  International Monetary Fund
IOM  International Organization for Migration
MERCOSUR  Common Market of the South (America); members include Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Venezuela
MOU  Memorandum of Understanding
NGO  Non-governmental Organization
OAS  Organization of American States
OSCE  Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
PRSP  Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
SIMPOC  Statistical Information and Monitoring Program on Child Labor
UN  United Nations
UNDP  United Nations Development Program
UNESCO  United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF  United Nations Children’s Fund
UNODC  United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
USAID  United States Agency for International Development
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<td>USDOL</td>
<td>United States Department of Labor</td>
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<td>Office of the United States Trade Representative</td>
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<td>WFP</td>
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Foreword

In 2006, the United Nations released two global reports issuing a worldwide call to action to eliminate the worst forms of child labor and end violence against children. The second global report on child labor, The End of Child Labour: Within Reach, by the International Labor Organization (ILO), a specialized UN agency, pointed to some encouraging trends regarding the elimination of child labor around the world. In comparison with statistics reported in 2002, the ILO found that the number of working children ages 5 to 14 around the world fell by approximately 10 percent, from 211 million to 191 million. The data also suggested a particularly rapid decline in child labor in the Latin American and Caribbean region. While these statistics highlight positive developments in the global movement to eradicate exploitive child labor, there are still millions of children who continue to experience exploitation. In August 2006, the United Nation’s Secretary-General released the first, comprehensive study on violence against children, which highlighted the fact that children experience violence in the workplace. Scores of children continue to work for abusive employers and suffer maltreatment such as verbal abuse, physical punishment, psychological torture, and sexual harassment. Together, these reports underscore the importance of increasing the commitment of national governments to dedicate resources directed at ending abusive child labor, and integrating the elimination of child labor into broader development frameworks such as the Millennium Development Goals, United Nation’s Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), UNESCO’s Education for All (EFA), and World Bank’s Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs). The G8 and UNESCO, for example, have recognized child labor as an obstacle to the achievement of EFA, a global effort to promote universal education by 2015.

Children deserve the opportunity to experience a childhood free from exploitation and the chance to receive an education. I am proud that the U.S. Government, through my office’s reports on child labor and technical cooperation initiatives and agreements, USAID’s basic education projects, and the Department of State’s anti-trafficking projects, helps draw awareness to and remove children around the world from exploitive situations.

In its sixth year, USDOL’s Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor provides new and updated information on the incidence and nature of child labor, relevant laws and enforcement, and programs and policies in place to address exploitive child labor in 141 countries and territories. In order to work towards the ILO’s global goal of eliminating the worst forms of child labor by 2016, the international community and trade beneficiary countries must push forward in addressing the key challenges that keep or make children vulnerable to exploitive work. Controlling and eliminating the spread of HIV/AIDS; increasing opportunities for youth employment; investing in rural development; and encouraging trade and economic growth will do much to stimulate an even more rapid decline in the incidence of working children. It is our
hope that this report will serve as one more tool in the fight to address the worst forms of child labor and will encourage U.S. trading partners to redouble their efforts to combat child labor.

Charlotte M. Ponticelli
Deputy Undersecretary
for International Affairs
U.S. Department of Labor
August 2007
Executive Summary

This publication is the Department of Labor’s sixth annual report prepared in accordance with Section 412(c) of the Trade and Development Act of 2000 (TDA). The TDA expands country eligibility criteria for preferential tariff treatment under the Generalized System of Preferences program (GSP) enacted by the Trade Act of 1974 to include the implementation of commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The TDA also applies this criterion to eligibility for trade benefits under the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), the U.S.-Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA), and the Andean Trade Preference Act/Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act (ATPA/ATPDEA). Section 412(c) of the TDA contains a mandate for the Secretary of Labor to report on each “beneficiary country’s implementation of its international commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor.”

The TDA definition of the “worst forms of child labor” is substantially similar to that contained in International Labor Organization (ILO) Convention 182. The TDA and Convention 182 consider a “child” to be a person under the age of 18. The definition includes as “worst forms of child labor” all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, the sale or trafficking of children, debt bondage or serfdom; the forcible recruitment of children for use in armed conflict; the commercial sexual exploitation of children; the involvement of children in drug trafficking; and work that is likely to harm children’s health, safety, or morals.

This report contains profiles of 122 independent countries and a summary report on 19 non-independent countries and territories designated as GSP beneficiaries and/or beneficiaries under the ATPA/ATPDEA, CBTPA, and AGOA. In addition, the report includes information on former GSP recipients that have negotiated free trade agreements with the United States, in view of Senate Report 108-345. Each profile contains a data table on key child labor and education statistics and three written sections: (1) incidence and nature of child labor; (2) child labor laws and enforcement; and (3) current government policies and programs to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. Information included covers the period March 2006 through February 2007.

The country profiles provide a comprehensive picture of child labor in a country and describe government efforts to combat the problem. This Executive Summary contains some of the highlights that emerge from each section of the country profiles, as well as other important developments in regard to child labor during the past year.

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2 Ibid., Section 2462(b)(2)(G) and (c)(7) and Section 2467(4).
3 Ibid., Section 2464. See also Conference Report, (2000), Section 412; available from http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=106_cong_reports&docid=f:hr606.106.pdf. See also Trade Act, Section 2703(b)(5)(b)(iv) and 3203(b)(6)(b)(iv).
Data Table: Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

Each country profile contains a data table that includes key indicators on child labor and education. The data table provides basic information about the rate of child work versus participation in school, basic policies in regard to child work and education, and international commitments to address exploitive child labor. Where available, the following information is included in the data table:

- Percent of children estimated as working in a given year
- Minimum age of work
- Age to which education is compulsory
- Whether the country’s laws provide for free education
- Gross and net primary enrollment rates
- Percent of children attending school
- Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5
- Whether the country has ratified ILO Conventions 138 and 182, and
- Whether the country is a participating member of ILO-IPEC.

The statistics on child work and school attendance are obtained through the Understanding Children’s Work (UCW) project. UCW is a collaborative effort by ILO-IPEC, UNICEF, and the World Bank to address the need for more and better statistics on child labor. While these three organizations and others independently gather information on child work, the UCW project, with support from USDOL, analyzes data gathered by these institutions using a single definition of child work and a set age group. Such analysis allows for better comparisons across countries. In this way, USDOL and UCW are contributing to a better understanding of child work.

Perhaps the most significant development in regard to child labor data over the reporting period is the release of new global estimates on child labor in the ILO’s second Global Report on child labor, *The End of Child Labour: Within Reach*, published in May 2006. This report showed a decline in the incidence of child labor around the world. According to the ILO, between 2000 and 2004, the global number of working children ages 5 to 14 fell by approximately 10 percent, from 211 million to 191 million. However, there are still an alarming number of children working under hazardous and exploitive conditions. According to the report, 74 million (approximately 39 percent) of working children 5 to 14 still perform hazardous work. While children’s economic activity decreased significantly in Latin America and the Caribbean, it only slightly declined in Africa. The study found that the majority of working children are found in agriculture (69 percent), followed by services (22 percent) and industry (9 percent).

**Incidence and Nature of Child Labor**

As revealing as statistics can be about exploitive child labor, more information is needed to provide a complete picture of the kinds of work in which children engage. This section of the report complements the data points on child work and education with a narrative section that describes the work that children perform. Although the focus of the section is on the worst forms

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of child labor, it is not always possible to separate the worst forms from other types of work performed by children. For that reason, information on child work in general is included. The country profiles reveal certain trends in regard to the work that children perform. Below the most frequently cited types of child labor in this report are described.

**Agriculture Sector**

In all geographic regions, and almost every country covered in this report, one of the most commonly cited sectors in which children work is agriculture. Children work in subsistence farming, small to medium-size family farms, and large-scale commercial enterprises. No matter the size of the farm, children working in agriculture face a myriad of health and safety hazards. Tasks such as harvesting crops, trimming and pruning, and transporting loads are physically demanding, performed under harsh environmental conditions, and sustained for long hours with little rest. Children’s bodies are often not sufficiently developed to perform the tasks to which they are assigned. Children also apply or are exposed to pesticides and herbicides and often lack appropriate protective gear. Many children working in agriculture, especially children of migrant workers, do not have access to education services. Several profiles report situations of forced or indentured child labor in the agriculture sector.

**Informal Commercial and Service Sector**

Other forms of child labor cited frequently in this report are services and commercial activities, usually in the informal sector. Most countries covered by this report, from the African nations of Chad, Ghana, Niger and Togo to Peru in Latin America and India in South Asia, have small or large informal sectors. Children involved in the informal sector in commercial activities commonly work on the streets and in marketplaces, performing tasks such as selling and bartering goods, carrying loads, shining shoes, and trash-picking. They work in bars and restaurants, small commerce, bicycle and car repair shops, and on buses. An activity that is reported to be on the rise in some countries is street begging, often under the orders of an adult and, in some cases, as part of organized begging rings. Children involved in street work are vulnerable to hazardous conditions, sexual exploitation, and involvement in illegal activities, such as drug-trafficking or crime.

**Child Domestic Labor**

Child domestic labor, or work performed by children outside of the immediate family home, may be one of the most widespread yet least recognized forms of child labor. Many children involved in this activity live in the home where they work. This practice is often looked upon as benign and even beneficial for a child, usually a girl, and her family. The child may be placed with wealthier relatives or acquaintances in larger cities in the hopes that he or she will have better access to services like education. Unfortunately, child domestic laborers are often subject to exploitive conditions, and are vulnerable to trafficking, finding themselves in slavery-like situations. They may be forced to work long and physically exhausting hours, and perform work that is dangerous and inappropriate for their age and size. They are at risk of sexual exploitation and verbal and physical abuse by household members. Their living conditions and nutrition are often poor and inadequate. In a large number of cases, child domestic laborers are not given the
opportunity to pursue their studies. Throughout the world, in countries such as the West African nations of Benin, Cote d’Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Nigeria, and Togo, as well as the Caribbean nation of Haiti, children work in third-party homes, often isolated from the outside world.

Child Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

Another form of child labor widely reported in this publication is child trafficking. Trafficking occurs in virtually all regions of the world, with flows generally moving from poorer supplying areas to more affluent cities and countries. For example, children from Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali, and Togo are trafficked into other African countries such as Cote d’Ivoire. Children from Moldova and Albania are trafficked into European Union countries.

Recruiters often lure children with false promises of legitimate employment. In some cases, parents unable to support their children may unknowingly offer them to traffickers. Children are trafficked for a variety of purposes, including commercial sexual exploitation, work in agriculture, and forced begging. Trafficking leaves children isolated from their communities and their families, with no access to or knowledge of legal protections.

Children in Armed Conflict

As is reported in a number of country profiles, children continue to be recruited or forced into armed conflict in Africa, South America, Asia, and the Middle East. The majority of children involved in armed conflict are in Central, Eastern, and Western Africa (including countries covered in this report, such as Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Cote d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia, and Uganda). The phenomenon also exists in countries such as Colombia, Iraq, Nepal, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka. Children serve as combatants, messengers, scouts, cooks, and porters. Male soldiers often sexually exploit girls who have been forced to join armed groups and are unable to escape from their situation.

Children may be kidnapped or forced into combat. In some cases, children may be involved voluntarily, unaware of the dangers and abuses they will face. They are more likely to join if they live in combat zones, are orphaned or separated from family, and/or lack access to education. Children may also seek to exact revenge for violence against their family and villages. Children involved in armed conflict not only risk bodily harm or death, but also endure psychological scars for the duration of their lives. In February 2007, at a conference “Free Children from War,” 58 countries signed the “Paris Commitment” to protect children from unlawful recruitment or use by armed forces or armed groups.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

As this year’s report shows, despite positive indications in terms of the worldwide incidence of child labor, many children throughout the world continue to be involved in dangerous and demeaning work that robs them of their childhood and often their future. Countries can take many steps to combat this problem, and one important avenue is through their legal frameworks and enforcement mechanisms. In this section of the country profiles, the report outlines countries’ laws related to child labor and the worst forms of child labor, such as laws on the
commercial sexual exploitation of children, and presents available evidence regarding implementation.

During the reporting period, some governments made substantial changes to their laws and regulations relating to child labor. In Mauritius, the government raised the minimum age for work from 15 to 16, in line with the age for completion of compulsory education. A new labor law in Bangladesh increased the minimum age for work in the garment sector from 14 to 15. In Madagascar, India, and Panama, labor laws were updated or modified. The Indian government expanded its official list of hazardous work prohibited for children to include domestic services and a number of service and commercial activities, such as work in roadside eateries, restaurants, hotels, and teashops. This is a significant step since the labor laws often do not regulate these informal-sector activities. In Oman, a royal decree increases the maximum prison term from one week to one month for employers who repeatedly use child labor.

During the reporting period, a number of countries enacted legislation or issued executive decrees prohibiting and/or strengthening provisions against worst forms of child labor. As is required under ILO Convention 182, the Governments of Guatemala and Panama designated the types of hazardous work to be considered worst forms of child labor. The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic adopted a children’s code that includes a section on the elimination of the worst forms of child labor. New laws against child trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation were enacted in Argentina, Benin, Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, East Timor, Kenya, Peru, and Sri Lanka. In Honduras, a Criminal Code reform relating to commercial sexual exploitation of children was approved. In Sri Lanka, where children continue to be involved in military conflict, the 2006 Penal Code criminalized engaging or recruiting a child for use in armed conflict.

The enforcement of child labor and trafficking laws continued to be weak in many of the countries included in this report. Enforcement efforts are chronically hindered by insufficient resources. In many countries, child labor inspectors do not receive adequate training and are vulnerable to corruption due to low salaries.

Nonetheless, some governments stepped up enforcement of child labor and/or undertook new initiatives, particularly in the area of trafficking. In Albania, a new labor law permits inspections of informal workplaces where child labor is prevalent. In Ecuador, the government created a Child Labor Inspection and Monitoring System to enforce child labor-related provisions of the Labor Code and the Labor Inspection System. The government also created a specialized 36-member police unit and an 8-member trafficking intelligence unit. Authorities arrested 41 alleged traffickers and reported 15 cases of trafficking that reached some stage of prosecution. In Malawi, the government convicted several traffickers, some of whom had trafficked children for work in agriculture.

Some enforcement-related initiatives involved regional cooperation or border controls. For example, the Government of Gabon bought ten patrol boats for its security forces and navy to combat maritime child trafficking, and Gabonese security forces conducted a series of anti-trafficking sweeps, rescuing children from Benin, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Nigeria, and Togo. In Honduras, the government worked with counterparts in the United States, Mexico, Guatemala,
and Belize to identify and repatriate children who were trafficked. The Government of Angola’s Immigration Services began enforcing a law requiring unaccompanied minors to present documentation for international travel. In October 2006, the Government of Brazil launched a national trafficking database designed to document and analyze trafficking-related statistics more effectively.

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

In addition to implementing strong labor laws and taking steps to enforce them, there are many other avenues governments can pursue to address exploitive child labor. This section of the report describes many new policies and programs that governments undertook during the reporting period. Although past editions of this report have included descriptions of government efforts to promote education and other child welfare initiatives, this year’s report focuses specifically on government efforts to address exploitive child labor. In this way, a clearer picture emerges in terms of government actions in regard to the problem.

**Government Policies and Plans of Action Addressing Child Labor**

National plans of action or programs to address child labor typically consist of a combination of strategies, including improving enforcement of child labor laws, raising awareness, enhancing capacity to address the problem, increasing coordination, and possibly enacting legislative reforms. They may also provide for pilot programs to withdraw children from exploitive work and offer children educational alternatives. In some countries, child labor issues are being mainstreamed into larger government policy frameworks or action plans, such as those addressing poverty or child protection. While such mainstreaming diffuses the focus on child labor, it seeks to address child labor’s root causes and may result in greater leveraging of resources and inter-institutional collaboration. During 2006, Argentina approved and enacted a National Plan to Combat Child Labor. The Government of Panama adopted its first 5-year National Plan against Child Labor, and the Government of Uganda passed a national child labor policy. The Government of Pakistan adopted a National Action Plan for Children that aims to harmonize child labor programs and work toward the elimination of child labor, and in Bolivia and the Dominican Republic, the governments finalized national plans prioritizing the worst forms of child labor.

Some countries develop national plans to eradicate child labor in specific hazardous sectors. The Governments of Afghanistan, Croatia, Ecuador, Gabon, Kazakhstan, and Macedonia adopted or approved action plans to combat child trafficking. In Nicaragua, a policy including special protections for children involved in trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, under the government’s Policy on Special Protection for Children and Adolescents, came into force. The Government of Colombia also developed a national plan of action to prevent and eradicate commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents. The Government of Ghana finalized its 5-year National Program to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor in the cocoa sector. In Kenya, the government and tourism industry are working together to eliminate child sex exploitation in the tourism industry. Many Kenyan hoteliers have signed a Code of Conduct against sex tourism, and the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife has made the implementation of this Code a prerequisite for receiving an annual license.
In India and Indonesia, the governments developed decentralized plans to eradicate child labor. The Indian States of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Maharashtra enacted and are implementing State Action Plans on the elimination of child labor. In Indonesia, several districts have developed action plans to combat the worst forms of child labor and trafficking.

Several countries mainstreamed the issue of child labor in broader policy initiatives and plans. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the government finalized a poverty reduction strategy paper that highlights the problem of child labor. In Jordan, the National Agenda for 2006-2018 includes the elimination of the worst forms of child labor as a major goal. The Governments of Guinea-Bissau, Yemen, and Zambia included the issue of child labor in their national development or poverty alleviation plans. In Sri Lanka and the Philippines, governmental 2006 Plans of Action for Decent Work include commitments to eliminate child labor.

Bilateral and Multilateral Cooperation

Some governments participated in multilateral and bilateral cooperation to eliminate child trafficking. In a July 2006 meeting of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), 24 out of 26 countries attending signed the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa. As part of this agreement, ECOWAS governments agreed to put into place a child trafficking monitoring system, developed by a USDOL-funded project. In addition, governments agreed to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest, and prosecution of trafficking offenders; protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and improve educational systems, vocational training, and apprenticeships. Governments in West Africa took steps to put such agreements into practice. For example, the Government of Guinea-Bissau cooperated with Senegalese authorities to provide children rescued from trafficking with services. Such collaboration was not limited to Africa, however, as the Government of Albania ratified an agreement with the Government of Greece to cooperate in the protection and assistance child survivors of trafficking.

Public Awareness

Government efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor often include public awareness-raising components. During this reporting period, governments in Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Jordan, Malawi, Panama, Paraguay, Venezuela, and Zambia implemented new public awareness campaigns against child labor. The majority of these campaigns focused on child trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. In Bolivia, the government, as part of its campaign, required international airports to air a television segment on trafficking. The campaign in Ecuador focused on commercial sexual exploitation in the tourism sector. In Panama, the National Commission for the Prevention of Sexual Crimes launched a campaign including activities to educate journalists on trafficking issues.
Direct Service Programs to Combat Exploitive Child Labor

Scholarships/Stipends

Some child labor elimination initiatives use financial incentives for parents to place their children in school. In Panama, the government’s independent Institute for Human Resources, Capacity Building, and Vocational Training provides scholarships and health and educational services to children who have been withdrawn or prevented from exploitive labor. The Government of Indonesia, with funding from the World Bank, began piloting a conditional cash transfer program to increase children’s education participation and reduce child labor for poor families in six provinces.

Shelters and Services for Children Rescued from the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Governments of Chile, Guatemala, and Malawi, for example, provide shelter and services for children who have been trafficked and/or sexually exploited. In Gabon, UNICEF, along with Caritas Gabon, constructed a shelter for children rescued from trafficking. Through these initiatives, child survivors of trafficking can access services such as counseling, medical and psychosocial care, and job training.

U.S. Department of Labor-funded International Child Labor Technical Assistance Programs

Many governmental, international, and non-governmental organizations provided funding and other resources to assist countries around the world protect vulnerable children and increase access to quality basic education. The country profiles contain information on such efforts. Here we focus on child labor technical cooperation projects funded in 2006 by USDOL. These projects aim to prevent or withdraw children from exploitive child labor and provide them with educational opportunities in countries where governments have shown a commitment to addressing worst forms of child labor. During the reporting period, USDOL provided approximately USD 51 million for child labor elimination efforts around the world. The activities funded include projects to eliminate exploitive child labor in 11 countries (Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Egypt, Mali, Nepal, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Tanzania, Thailand, and Zambia). USDOL also funded a regional project to combat the worst forms of child labor, particularly trafficking, in five South Eastern and Eastern European countries (Albania, Bulgaria, Moldova, Romania, and Ukraine) and the United Nations-administrated Province of Kosovo. In addition, USDOL funded an effort to oversee initiatives to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in the cocoa sectors of Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana. Finally, USDOL funded projects to increase national capacity to collect data on child labor, and develop a framework to assess the long-term impact of child labor elimination projects.

Conclusion

There are a multitude of efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor by international organizations, notably the ILO and UNICEF, donor agencies, non-governmental organizations, and national governments. Some of the most innovative programs are a result of collaboration.
among these different entities, such as the UCW project. The country profiles in this report highlight many other examples of collaborative efforts.

Based on the positive trend cited in its *Global Report*, the ILO challenges the international community to set as a goal the elimination of most worst forms of child labor by 2016. To achieve this ambitious goal, it will be important to continue legislative reform, develop policy frameworks, improve enforcement, and undertake programs to withdraw and prevent children from the worst forms of child labor. The profiles in this report illustrate models of effective action against child labor that the international community can look to and build upon in the struggle to address the worst forms of child labor.
Data Sources and Definitions

The majority of profiles in this report provide one or more of the following pieces of data: percentage of children estimated as working; gross and net primary enrollment ratios; percent of children attending school; and survival rate to grade five. This section describes the sources and provides definitions for the child labor and education data that appear in this report’s country profiles. This section also discusses some of the strengths and weaknesses of these data. While in a few cases more current sources of data may be available than those used here, the report uses the most reliable, standardized sources available to date to allow for cross-country comparisons. In the event that data did not exist from the sources described below and no other reliable and publicly available source of data exists for a country, the report concludes that the statistics are “unavailable.”

Working Children

Many of the profiles in this report present data on the percentage of children estimated as working in the country in question. The percent of children estimated as working is the share of all children within a given age group that reported working in market activities. Data presented in the current report may differ from data that were presented in previous reports because more updated data has become available.

Data are from the Understanding Children’s Work (UCW) project analysis of primarily four survey types: 1) ILO’s Statistical Information and Monitoring Program on Child Labor (SIMPOC) surveys; 2) UNICEF’s Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS); 3) World Bank (WB)-sponsored surveys, including Living Standards Measurement Surveys (LSMS), Priority Surveys, and others; and 4) other types of survey instruments including Labor Force Surveys (LFS) and Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS). The first three survey programs are commonly recognized as being the primary sources for data on children’s work and child labor and therefore generally received priority over all other available data sources.

Every effort was made to include the most recent, reliable and available data source among the four survey types. In countries where a SIMPOC, MICS, or World Bank-sponsored survey did not exist or the data were not available for analysis by the UCW project, other reliable and publicly-available sources of micro-data were analyzed and presented in the report.

In general, when research reports refer to children’s work they define work as “economic activity.” However, according to UCW researchers Guarcello et al., typical child labor surveys do not collect enough detailed information on children’s activities to accurately measure

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7 As part of broader efforts towards durable solutions to child labor, the ILO, UNICEF and World Bank initiated the inter-agency Understanding Children’s Work (UCW) project in December 2000. The project is guided by the Oslo Agenda for Action, which laid out the priorities for the international community in the fight against child labor. For further information see the project Web site at: www.ucw-project.org.

economic activity. Economic activity is defined by the ILO as “the production of economic goods and services as defined by the United Nations system of national accounts and balances during a specified time-reference period.” Economic activities can further be broken down into market and non-market activities. Market activities are those activities that lead to the production of goods and services that are primarily intended for sale or are sold on the market. Non-market activities are those activities that lead to the production of goods primarily for household final consumption. Non-market economic activities include, for example, bottling, dressmaking and tailoring, and the production of butter, cheese, or flour for the household’s own consumption. Non-market activities are typically excluded from current child labor surveys altogether or are not measured in enough detail to enable their full inclusion in an estimate of economic activity. For these reasons, the statistic on working children presented in this report generally represents children involved in market activities.

In analyzing the data from the above-mentioned surveys, UCW attempted to apply a standard definition of children’s work. Although UNICEF MICS and ILO SIMPOC reports, for example, each use a different definition of work (MICS survey reports include household chores in their definition of work while SIMPOC reports do not), to the extent possible UCW applied a common definition of work to the micro-data described. To date, this has resulted in the individual analysis of more than 75 data sets.

While every attempt was made to present a standardized child work statistic, there are differences across surveys that have the potential to affect the comparability of statistics across countries. Some of these differences are explained in greater detail here but in general include differing age groups, questionnaire content and wording, purpose of the survey, sample design, non-sampling errors, and year of data collection.

In general, data are presented for children 5 to 14, but some of the profiles present a work statistic for children 6 to 14, 7 to 14, or 10 to 14 depending on the age categories used in the original survey. The wording of work-related questions may also impact results. For example, the question on work in these surveys usually refers to work in the past 7 days; however, one survey (Argentina) refers to work activities in the past twelve months and is therefore likely to capture a higher proportion of working children than surveys with 7 day time frames. The purpose of the survey—which the survey is designed specifically to measure children’s work and child labor (SIMPOC surveys) or to measure the impact of poverty reduction programs (World Bank’s LSMS)—may affect estimates of children’s work. In addition, sample design may impact survey results. For example, children’s work is often geographically clustered and SIMPOC surveys are designed to capture children’s work in such geographic areas. As a result, estimates of working children based on SIMPOC data are typically higher when compared to estimates based on LSMS surveys, which do not use the same sample design. The ILO and UCW continue to investigate the effects of these survey differences on estimates of children’s work.

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When such information is available, the report also provides the percentage of boys and girls reported as working as well as the industry in which children reportedly work. For some surveys, industry of work was not reported by the entire sample of working children. Therefore, the distribution of children working by industry, i.e., agriculture, service, and manufacturing, represents children with non-missing data for industry of work.

**Gross Primary Enrollment Ratio**

The gross primary enrollment ratio is the enrollment of primary students, regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the total primary school-age population. The gross primary enrollment ratio describes the capacity of an education system to enroll students of primary school age. However, it does not mean that all children of official primary school age are actually enrolled. The gross primary enrollment ratio can be 100 percent or more due to the inclusion, in the numerator, of over-aged and under-aged pupils/students because of early or late entrants and grade repetition. In many countries, the official primary school-age group is 6 to 11 years. The differences in national systems of education and duration of schooling should be considered when comparing the ratios. Data are taken from UNESCO’s Institute for Statistics.\(^\text{12}\)

**Net Primary Enrollment Ratio**

The net primary enrollment ratio is the enrollment of primary students of the official primary school age expressed as a percentage of the primary school-age population. A high net primary enrollment ratio denotes a high degree of participation of the official school-age population. When compared with the gross primary enrollment ratio, the difference between the two ratios highlights the incidence of under-aged and over-aged enrollment. A net primary enrollment ratio below 100 percent provides a measure of the proportion of children not enrolled at the specified level of education. However, since some of these children could be enrolled at other levels of education, this difference should in no way be considered as an indication of the percentage of students not enrolled. Data are taken from UNESCO’s Institute for Statistics. The Institute collects this and other education data for more than 200 countries.\(^\text{13}\)

**Percent of Children Attending School**

The percent of children attending school is the share of all children within a specified age group that reported attending school. The UCW project data described in the Data Sources and Definitions Section under “Working Children” are used to develop country specific school attendance statistics. In general the age group for which attendance statistics are calculated is for children ages 5 to 14. In some cases, however, different age categories are used usually ranging from 6 to 14 or 7 to 14.


Survival Rate to Grade Five

The survival rate to grade five is the percentage of a cohort of pupils (or students) enrolled in the first grade of a given level or cycle of education in a given school-year who are expected to reach grade five. The survival rates are calculated on the basis of the reconstructed cohort method, which uses data on enrollment and repeaters for 2 consecutive years. The survival rate measures the ability of an education system to retain children in school and keep them from dropping out. The survival rate to grade five of primary school is of particular interest since this is commonly considered as a prerequisite to sustainable literacy. Data are taken from UNESCO’s Institute for Statistics.¹⁴

Glossary of Terms

Basic Education

Basic education comprises both formal schooling (primary and sometimes lower secondary) as well as a wide variety of non-formal and informal public and private educational activities offered to meet the defined basic learning needs of groups of people of all ages.


Bonded Labor

Bonded labor or debt bondage is “the status or condition arising from a pledge by a debtor of his personal services or those of a person under his control as security for a debt if the value of those services as reasonably assessed is not applied towards the liquidation of the debt or the length and nature of those services are not respectively limited and defined,” as defined in the UN Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery (1956).

Bonded labor typically occurs when a person who needs a loan and has no security to offer pledges his/her labor, or that of someone under his/her control, as a security for a loan. In some cases, the interest on the loan may be so high that it cannot be paid. In others, it may be deemed that the bonded individual’s work repays the interest on the loan but not the principal. Thus, the loan is inherited and perpetuated, and becomes an inter-generational debt.

Bonded labor is identified as one of the worst forms of child labor in ILO Convention 182.


Child

A person less than 18 years of age.


Child Domestic Servants

Child domestic servants, also referred to as child domestic workers or domestics, are children who work in other people’s households doing domestic chores, caring for children, and running errands, among other tasks. Child domestics sometimes have live-in arrangements, whereby
they live in their employer’s household and work full-time in exchange for room, board, care, and sometimes remuneration. Child domestic service is mainly done by young girls, who are often subjected to sexual, physical and verbal abuse.


Child Labor Education Initiative

From FY 2001 to FY 2006, the U.S. Congress appropriated USD 205 million to USDOL for a Child Labor Education Initiative (EI) to support international efforts to eliminate child labor through programs that will improve access to basic education in international areas with a high rate of abusive and exploitative child labor. In addition, the Education Initiative has four goals:

- Raise awareness of the importance of education for all children and mobilize a wide array of actors to improve and expand education infrastructures;
- Strengthen formal and transitional education systems that encourage working children and those at risk of working to attend school;
- Strengthen national institutions and policies on education and child labor; and
- Ensure the long-term sustainability of these efforts.


Commercial Farms

Commercial farms are large-scale agricultural holdings that produce for largely commercial purposes. For the purposes of this report, the term, commercial farms, encompasses both farms and plantations, which are defined as agricultural holdings that produce commodities exclusively for export. Commercial farms generally pay workers by either the weight or the quantity of the product collected. To ensure that this minimal amount is met, or to maximize earnings, children may work alongside their parents, as part of a family unit. Children may also be hired as full-time wage-laborers, although they usually perform the same work as adult workers, but are paid one-half to one-third what is paid to adults doing comparable work. Workdays can be extremely long, and safety and health risks include exposure to dangerous chemical fertilizers or pesticides, poisonous insects or reptiles, and unsafe hygienic conditions and drinking water.

ILO Convention 138 prohibits the use of child labor on “plantation and other agricultural undertakings mainly producing for commercial purposes, but excluding family and small-scale holdings producing for local consumption and not regularly employing hired workers.” The line between “commercial” agriculture and “production for local consumption,” however, is frequently blurred.

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

Commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) is the inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful sexual activity; the exploitive use of children in prostitution or other unlawful sexual practices; or the exploitive use of children in pornographic performances and materials.

The exact nature of the exploitation differs from one country to another. CSEC includes so-called “sex tourism” in which adults procure the services of children for prostitution or pornography; the exploitation of children by pimps or other criminal elements who offer “protection” to children (often children living on the streets) in return for their work in the sex trade; trafficking of children across borders to fuel prostitution or pedophilia rings; or the use of domestic servants, refugee children, or child soldiers for sexual purposes.

ILO Convention 182 prohibits the sale and trafficking of children, and the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography, or for pornographic performances.


Compulsory Education

Compulsory education refers to the number of years or the age-span during which children and youth are legally obliged to attend school.


Conditional Worst Forms of Child Labor

Conditional worst forms refer to activities that can only be determined to be “worst forms” by relevant national authorities. Article 3 section (d) of ILO Convention 182 provides a general description of these potentially hazardous forms of labor, and Article 4 makes clear that such work should be defined by national laws. Some of these hazardous forms could constitute acceptable forms of work, if certain conditions were changed. Examples include work with dangerous tools or chemicals or work for long hours or at night.


Education for All

In 1990, delegates from more than 155 countries convened in Jomtien, Thailand, to create strategies for addressing the issues of education, literacy, and poverty reduction. Using the
Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a basis for their work, participants established a set of goals to provide all children, especially girls, with the right to an education and to improve adult literacy around the world. The result was “The World Declaration on Education for All (EFA).” This declaration called for countries, by the end of the decade, to meet the basic learning needs of all children and adults; provide universal access to education for all; create equity in education for women and other underserved groups; focus on actual learning acquisition; broaden the types of educational opportunities available to people; and create better learning environments for students. To achieve these goals, participating countries were requested to create Action Plans that detail how they were going to meet the goals of the Jomtien declaration. By 2000, basic education in more than 180 countries had been evaluated as part of the EFA 2000 Assessment.

In April 2000, delegates gathered again for the World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal, where the results of the assessment were released. After reviewing the data gathered, it was clear that much more progress would be needed to achieve EFA. These delegates, from 164 countries, adopted the Dakar Framework for Action and renewed and strengthened their commitment to the achievement of quality basic education for all by the year 2015. The World Education Forum adopted six major goals for education to be achieved within 15 years, including the attainment of Universal Primary Education and gender equality; improving literacy and educational quality; and increasing life-skills and early childhood education programs. However, the gender goal was deemed to be particularly urgent, thus requiring the achievement of parity in enrollment for girls and boys at primary and secondary levels by 2005, and of full equality throughout education by 2015.


**Forced Labor**

Forced labor is defined in ILO Convention No. 29 as “all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself voluntarily.” In practice, it is the enslavement of workers through the threat or use of coercion, and it is primarily found among the most economically vulnerable members of society.

Forced or compulsory labor is identified as one of the worst forms of child labor in ILO Convention 182.

Formal Education

The system of formalized transmission of knowledge and values operating within a given society, usually provided through state-sponsored schools.


ILO Convention 138: Minimum Age for Admission to Employment

ILO Convention 138, adopted in 1973 and ratified by 148 nations, serves as the principal ILO standard on child labor. Under Article 2(3) of ILO Convention 138, Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, the minimum age of admission into employment or work in any occupation “shall not be less than the age of completion of compulsory schooling, and, in any case, shall not be less than fifteen.” Countries whose economy and educational facilities are insufficiently developed may initially specify a minimum legal working age of 14 when ratifying the convention. Additionally, under article 7(1), “National laws or regulations may permit the employment or work of persons 13 to 15 years of age on light work which is – (a) not likely to be harmful to their health or development; and (b) not such as to prejudice their attendance at school, their participation in vocational orientation or training programmes approved by the competent authority or their capacity to benefit from the instruction received.” Countries that specify a minimum legal working age of 14 may permit light work for persons 12 to 14 years.


ILO Convention 182: Worst Forms of Child Labor

ILO Convention 182 was adopted in 1999 and has been ratified by 163 nations. It commits ratifying nations to take immediate action to secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labor. Under Article 3 of the convention, the worst forms of child labor comprise:

(a) all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labor, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;
(b) the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic purposes;
(c) the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties;
(d) work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

(See definitions of “Unconditional Worst Forms” and “Conditional Worst Forms” in this glossary for further information on the above categories.) Among other actions, ILO Convention 182 requires ratifying nations to: remove children from abusive child labor and provide them with rehabilitation, social reintegration, access to free basic education and vocational training; consult with employer and worker organizations to create appropriate mechanisms to monitor
implementation of the Convention; take into account the special vulnerability of girls; and provide assistance and/or cooperate with efforts of other members to implement the Convention.


**ILO-IPEC: International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor**

In 1992, the ILO created IPEC to work towards the progressive elimination of child labor by strengthening national capacities to address child labor problems, and by creating a worldwide movement to combat it. Although IPEC aims to address all forms of child labor, its focus is on the elimination of the worst forms of child labor.

Countries participating in IPEC usually sign an MOU outlining the development and implementation of IPEC activities and the efforts to be undertaken by governments to progressively eradicate child labor. IPEC National Program Steering Committees are then established with the participation of governments, industry and labor representatives, and experienced NGOs. IPEC provides technical assistance to governments, but most of the direct action programs for children are carried out by local NGOs and workers’ and employers’ organizations. IPEC activities include awareness-raising about child labor problems; capacity building for government agencies and statistical organizations; advice and support for direct action projects to withdraw working children from the workplace; and assistance to governments in drawing up national policies and legislation.

From fiscal year 1995 to fiscal year 2006, the U.S. Congress appropriated approximately USD 330 million for ILO-IPEC projects.


**ILO-IPEC Associated Countries**

ILO-IPEC associated countries are those in which ILO-IPEC has initiated child labor projects with government permission, but which have not yet signed a formal Memorandum of Understanding (see also definitions for “ILO-IPEC Program Countries” and “ILO-IPEC”). As of 2006, there were 27 countries associated with ILO-IPEC.

ILO-IPEC Participating Countries

ILO-IPEC participating countries are countries that have signed an MOU with IPEC, thereby committing to cooperate with ILO-IPEC on the implementation of child labor projects in their countries. As of 2006, there were 61 ILO-IPEC participating countries.


Informal Sector

Definitions of the informal sector vary widely. In general, the informal sector refers to areas of economic activity that are largely unregulated and not subject to labor legislation. A more precise description of the informal sector by the ILO suggests “these units typically operate at a low level of organization, with little or no division between labor and capital as factors of production and on a small scale.” Furthermore, where labor relations exist, interactions are not based on contracts or formal arrangements; rather they are grounded on casual employment, kinship, and personal or social relations. Because employers in the informal sector are not accountable for complying with occupational safety measures, children who work in “hazardous” or “ultra-hazardous” settings likely run the risk of injury without any social protections. For this reason, households may be reluctant to indicate work by children in the informal sector, which can increase the probability of underreporting. In addition, because businesses in the informal sector are not usually included in official statistics, children working in informal sector enterprises do not show up in labor force activity rates.


Light Work

This report uses the definition of light work as established in ILO Convention 138, Minimum Age for Admission to Employment. Under article 7(1) of the convention, “National laws or regulations may permit the employment or work of persons 13 to 15 years of age on light work which is – (a) not likely to be harmful to their health or development; and (b) not such as to prejudice their attendance at school, their participation in vocational orientation or training programmes approved by the competent authority or their capacity to benefit from the instruction received.” Countries that have specified a minimum legal working age of 14 may permit the employment or work of persons 12 to 14 years of age on light work as defined in article 7(1).

**Minimum Age of Work**

The minimum age at which a child can enter into work. ILO Convention 138 states that the minimum age for admission to employment should not be less than the age of completion of compulsory schooling and should not be less than 15 (14 for developing countries).


**Non-formal Education**

Any organized educational activity outside the established formal school system – whether operating separately or as an important feature of some broader activity – that is intended to serve identifiable learning objectives. Non-formal or transitional education programs can enable former child workers to “catch up” or be “mainstreamed” with their peers who began their schooling at the appropriate age. However, there should always be a strong link between such rehabilitation programs and the formal education system, since the latter will ensure opportunities for further education and employment.


**Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper**

A Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper is a document written by the government of a developing country with the participation of civil society to serve as the basis for concessional lending from the World Bank and the IMF, as well as debt relief under the World Bank’s Highly Indebted Poor Countries Initiative. A PRSP should measure poverty in the country, identify goals for reducing poverty, and create a spending and policy program for reaching those goals. A PRSP should also ensure that a country's macroeconomic, structural, and social policies are consistent with the objectives of poverty reduction and social development. A new PRSP must be written every three years in order to continue receiving assistance from International Financial Institutions such as the World Bank.


**Primary Education**

Primary education, sometimes called elementary education, refers to school usually beginning at 5 or 7 years of age and covering about six years of full-time schooling. In countries with compulsory education laws, primary education generally constitutes the first (and sometimes only) cycle of compulsory education.

Ratification

Ratification is a serious undertaking by a State formally accepting the terms of an international agreement, thereby becoming legally bound to apply it. Other ways of becoming bound to an international agreement include acceptance, approval, accession, signature, or an exchange of notes.

In order to ratify an agreement, a country must, if necessary, adopt new laws and regulations or modify the existing legislation and practice to support the agreement, and formally deposit the instruments of ratification with the appropriate depositary. (In the case of ILO Conventions, ratifications must be registered with the Director-General of the ILO’s International Labor Office.)

For certain international agreements that require ratification, signing an agreement or enacting an agreement into domestic law by Congress, or a similar state organ, does not mean that the international agreement has been ratified. Signing an international agreement serves as a preliminary endorsement, albeit a formality, as signatories are not bound by the terms of the international agreement or in any way committed to proceed to the final step of ratification. However, a signatory is obliged to refrain from acts, which would defeat the object and purpose of the international agreement unless it makes its intention not to become a party to the international agreement clear. Similarly, appropriate state entities may signal approval of an international agreement, but that is only one of the requisite steps on the path toward official ratification. The final step requires that the instruments of ratification be deposited with the depositary.

In the case of ILO conventions, ILO procedures provide the option to ratify or not ratify a convention, but do not include the option to sign a convention as a preliminary endorsement. Generally, an ILO convention comes into force in a ratifying country 12 months after the government has deposited the requisite instrument of ratification. This grace period provides ILO members time to enact or modify legislation to comply with the convention before it comes into force.


Timebound Program

Timebound Programs are particular child labor interventions implemented by ILO-IPEC in collaboration with governments that aim to prevent and eliminate all incidences of the worst forms of child labor in a country within a defined period. The objective is to eradicate these forms of child labor within a period of 5-10 years, depending on the magnitude and complexity of child labor in each country. Since the start of this initiative in 2001, Timebound Programs have been initiated in 23 countries.
Trafficking of Children

The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children provides a commonly accepted definition of trafficking. It states: “(a) ‘trafficking in persons’ shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring, or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs…” It goes on to state: “(c) the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered ‘trafficking in persons’ even if this does not involve any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article....”

The trafficking of children is identified as a worst form of child labor in ILO Convention 182.


Unconditional Worst Forms of Child Labor

Unconditional worst forms of child labor refer to activities that constitute worst forms by definition. Unconditional worst forms of child labor are generally illegal and objectionable forms of work, even for adults. They include slavery, forced or compulsory labor, trafficking, debt bondage, the forced recruitment of children into armed conflict, commercial sexual exploitation, and involvement in illicit activities. These forms have been identified as worst forms of child labor by the international community though the ratification of ILO Convention 182.


Worst Forms of Child Labor

See “ILO Convention 182: Worst Forms of Child Labor.”
Children in Afghanistan work as street vendors, shopkeepers, workshop assistants, blacksmiths, tailors, and domestic laborers. They also work in agriculture. In the cities, some children collect paper and scrap metal, shine shoes, and beg. Children have been arrested for drug trafficking in Afghanistan. Years of conflict have left many families with child-headed households, thus forcing the children to work.

Afghanistan is a country of origin and transit for children trafficked to Iran, Pakistan, and the Gulf states for camel jockeying, forced begging, and commercial sexual exploitation. Reports indicate that children from the south of Afghanistan have been trafficked to Pakistan for factory work.22

work." Children, especially boys, have been the primary victims of external trafficking. The U.S. Department of State reports that there have been unconfirmed accounts of children under 18 providing false identification papers in order to join the Afghan National Army and police forces. A lack of access to conflict areas has made it difficult to confirm the continued use of child soldiers by armed groups; however, media reports indicate that the practice may still exist.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law prohibits employment of children under 15, although they may be employed at 14 and may be hired as trainees with parental approval at 13. Children 16 to 18 may only work 35 hours per week, and children under 16 are only permitted to work 30 hours per week. The law does not permit children to be engaged in underground work or in conditions that are physically arduous or harmful to their health. The Constitution prohibits forced labor, including that of children. There is no evidence of effective enforcement of child labor laws in Afghanistan. According to the U.S. Department of State, the government lacks the capacity to enforce child labor laws.

Until new laws are enacted, trafficking crimes may be prosecuted under laws dealing with kidnapping, rape, forced labor, transportation of minors, child endangerment, and hostage taking. Prison sentences for such offenses are longer for cases involving minors and girls. The government reported the arrest of 40 to 70 child traffickers in 2005, the most recent date for which such information is available. Fifteen persons were convicted and seven received death sentences. The minimum age for recruitment into the armed forces is 18.

25 Ibid.
30 Government of Afghanistan, Constitution of Afghanistan, Article 49.
Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Afghanistan is working to address child soldiering and child trafficking. In collaboration with UNICEF, the government developed a National Plan of Action to Combat Child Trafficking that sets goals and timelines for reducing the number of children vulnerable to trafficking. The government also established a National Counter-Trafficking Commission, which includes representatives of the Ministries of Labor and Social Affairs, Foreign Affairs, Justice, Interior, and Women’s Affairs, as well as representatives of UNICEF and other international and national NGOs. In 2005, the most recent year for which such information is available, 317 children who had been trafficked to Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Oman, United Arab Emirates, and Zambia were repatriated. The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, together with UNICEF, established a center to assist the children.

The Government of Afghanistan participates in a USDOL-supported USD 5.27 million 4-year project (2003-2007) in which UNICEF works to demobilize and reintegrate former child soldiers and war-affected youth. The project aims to demobilize and provide community-based rehabilitative, psychosocial, and non-formal education services to 7,750 former child soldiers and 7,000 war-affected children.

Albania

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 41.1 percent of boys and 31.8 percent of girls ages 7 to 14 were working in Albania. The Construction Workers’ Trade Union states that many children under 16 work in construction. It also states that children 16 and 17 are working in chromium mines in Bater, Bulqiza, Borje, and Klos. Children can be found laboring as farmers, shepherds, shoe cleaners, drug runners, car washers, and textile factory workers. Children, especially from the Roma community, are forced to work on the streets in cities as beggars and vendors. The majority of children working on the streets are boys.

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42 Ibid., Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Tirana, reporting, December 14, 2006.
45 Ibid.
46 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
48 Ibid.
50 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
54 PROTECT CEE, Country Profile Albania.
The trafficking of Albanian children as young as 6 years to Western Europe and within Albania for prostitution and other forms of labor remains a problem. There is evidence of new trafficking routes to Kosovo and Slovenia to further points in Europe. The U.S. Department of State reports that children are trafficked to Kosovo for sexual exploitation or begging. Children are also trafficked to Italy and Greece to participate in organized begging rings and other forms of forced labor, including work in agriculture and construction. The majority of children trafficked to Italy and Greece were boys between 11 and 16. Children who are returned to the Albanian border from Greece are often at high risk of being re-trafficked, although, according to a 2003 report, trafficking of Albanian children to Greece appears to be on a decline. Internal trafficking is reported to be rising, with increasing numbers of children in the capital of Tirana falling victim to prostitution and other forms of exploitation. Because of poverty and illiteracy, Roma children are especially vulnerable to exploitation. Some children, especially Roma children and children residing in orphanages, are kidnapped or sold by family members to traffickers.

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56 U.S. Embassy-Tirana, reporting, August 26, 2005.
59 PROTECT CEE, Country Profile Albania.
60 ILO-IPEC, ILO-IPEC Child Trafficking Project, project document, 2003, 8. See also Barbara Limanowska, Trafficking in Human Beings in South Eastern Europe: Update on Situation and Response to Trafficking in Human Beings in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Serbia and Montenegro, Including the UN Administered Province of Kosovo, Romania, November 2003, 39; available from http://www.osce.org/documents/odihr/2003/12/1645_en.pdf.
62 PROTECT CEE, Country Profile Albania. See also U.S. Embassy-Tirana, reporting, December 14, 2006.
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age of employment at 14 years.\(^{65}\) The law allows children 16 to 18 years to be employed only with permission of the Ministry of Labor. Children 14 to 16 also require permission to work during school holidays and vacations.\(^{66}\) Night work is prohibited by children younger than 18 years, and their work is limited to 6 hours per day.\(^{67}\) The law also permits fines for parents whose children fail to attend school during the compulsory education period of 9 years.\(^{68}\) The law forbids forced labor by any person, except in cases of execution of a judicial decision, military service, or for service during state emergency or war.\(^{69}\) The minimum age for voluntary military service is 18 years and 19 years for compulsory military service.\(^{70}\)

The law prohibits prostitution, and the penalty is more severe when a child is solicited.\(^{71}\) The law sets penalties for trafficking, including 15 to 20 years imprisonment for trafficking of minors.\(^{72}\) Albania has a witness protection law for trafficking victims and, during 2006, upgraded the witness protection unit to a Directorate for Witness Protection and Collaborators of Justice within the State Police.\(^{73}\)

The Labor Inspectorate within the Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws as they pertain to registered businesses in the formal sector.\(^{74}\) One hundred inspectors are employed, and workplaces are inspected once every 5 years on average. All inspectors have received child labor awareness training.\(^{75}\) In 2006, a new law was passed granting the labor inspectors legal authorization to carry out inspections at informal worksites.\(^{76}\) The Government of Albania has a full-time national coordinator for anti-trafficking efforts with a staff of five.\(^{77}\) The government has a specialized asset forfeiture unit that has received judgments of forfeiture in trafficking cases.\(^{78}\) According to the U.S. Department of State, there have been reports that law enforcement officials were involved in trafficking-related corruption.\(^{79}\)

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\(^{65}\) Ibid., Section 6d.
\(^{68}\) ILO-IPEC, Trafficking and other Worst Forms of Child Labour in Central and Eastern Europe, project document, Geneva, 2006, 32.
\(^{69}\) Albanian Constitution, Chapter II, Article 26, and Chapter IV, Article 54(3); available from http://www.ipls.org/services/constitution/const98/cp2.html.
\(^{71}\) The Criminal Code as cited by Interpol. See Interpol, Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences Against Children- Albania, [accessed October 22, 2006], Article 114; available from http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/esaAlbania.asp.
\(^{73}\) Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, ",Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Albania." See also U.S. Embassy- Tirana, email communication to USDOL official, August 14, 2006.
\(^{74}\) U.S. Embassy- Tirana, reporting, August 26, 2005.
\(^{75}\) U.S. Embassy- Tirana, reporting, December 14, 2006.
\(^{76}\) Ibid.
\(^{78}\) Ibid.
\(^{79}\) Ibid.
Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

A number of national strategies, including the Strategies on Education and Social Services, have integrated child labor concerns.\(^{80}\) The government has a National Strategy against Child Trafficking and the Protection of Child Victims of Trafficking.\(^{81}\) The Action Plan of the National Strategy to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings 2005-2007 includes a Child Trafficking Strategy.\(^{82}\) Issues concerning the trafficking of children have also been mainstreamed into the National Strategy for Social Services (2005-2010) as well as the UN Common Country Assessment and the Albania National Report towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals.\(^{83}\) On May 29, 2006, the Albanian parliament ratified an agreement with the Government of Greece for the protection and assistance of child trafficking victims.\(^{84}\) The Prime Minister issued Order no. 139 to establish regional committees against human trafficking in 12 prefectures on June 19, 2006. The committees coordinate anti-trafficking activities in the regions.\(^{85}\)

The government participated in a 3-year, USD 1.5 million USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC regional project to combat the trafficking of children for labor and sexual exploitation which ended January 2007.\(^{86}\) The project withdrew 69 children and prevented 250 children from exploitive labor in Albania.\(^{87}\) Project activities included distributing educational materials as well as training teachers and youth representatives on combating child labor in 12 regions. Youth clubs were established to assist children removed from exploitive situations to attend educational programs and vocational training.\(^{88}\) Under the guidance of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, a program on prevention and monitoring of child labor in three cities involved partnerships between teachers, social workers, police, and labor inspectors to identify working children and remove them from work, effectively shifting such responsibilities to local entities.\(^{89}\) The government is also supporting the USD 3.5 million USDOL-funded second phase of the


\(^{88}\) U.S. Embassy- Tirana, reporting, August 26, 2005.

\(^{89}\) Ibid.
ILO-IPEC project to combat child trafficking and other worst forms of child labor (2006-2009). The project operates in Albania, Bulgaria, the UN-administered Province of Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, and Ukraine. The project aims to withdraw 1,350 and prevent 3,150 children from exploitive labor throughout all of the participating countries. The Albanian Government is also assisting the USD 2.23 million German Government-funded ILO-IPEC project to combat child labor in the stability pact countries (2003-2007).

The government provided some support with staff and facilities to assist the NGO community in providing services to child victims of trafficking. The government participates in other projects funded by international organizations. USAID supports the Reduce Trafficking in Persons project with the aims of increasing the involvement of NGOs in anti-trafficking activities, improving the protection system for trafficked and at-risk children, and building a national trafficking database. It also supported a project to reduce internal child trafficking in Albania and external trafficking between Albania and Greece and Italy. To implement the national plan of action against human trafficking, UNICEF, in cooperation with the government, provided children, family members, and teachers with anti-trafficking educational materials and reintegrated at-risk, abused or exploited children into the formal education system. The Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) provided funding to the anti-trafficking program carried out by IOM Tirana for women and children. UNICEF, USAID, the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affaire, and SIDA provided funding to Terre des Hommes to implement anti-child trafficking projects.

The government worked with NGOs and international organizations on matters of border security and anti-trafficking training for law enforcement officials. The Government of Albania is a member of the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative, and has participated in regional anti-trafficking efforts through the initiative’s Regional Center for Combating Transborder Crime.

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91 Ibid., 69.
92 ILO-IPEC official, Email communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.
95 Ibid.
98 Ibid.
Algeria

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Algeria work in small workshops, on family farms, in street vending, and especially in informal trades.\(^{110}\) Children also work as domestic servants.\(^{111}\) Algerian children may be trafficked for forced labor as domestic servants or street vendors.\(^{112}\) There have also been

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\(^{108}\) Ibid.


reports of children being used by armed groups, including paramilitary forces allied with the government.113

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The minimum age for employment in Algeria is 16, unless participating in an apprenticeship.114 The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare may also grant permission for children under age 16 to work in certain fixed-term temporary jobs.115 The law states that “minor workers” must have the permission of a legal guardian, and that they cannot participate in dangerous, unhealthy, or harmful work or in work that may jeopardize their morality.116 The government has not, however, clearly defined the term “minor worker.” In addition, the minimum age law applies only to employment based on a contract and therefore does not apply to children working on their own account.117 Night work is prohibited for youth under the age of 19.118 Violations of labor laws are punishable by fines and, for repeat offenses, imprisonment of between 15 days and 2 months.119

Algerian law prohibits forced or compulsory labor, including by children.120 The law provides for imprisonment of 5 to 10 years and fines for the corruption and debauchery of minors younger than age 19. The law also provides for 5 to 10 years of imprisonment and fines for involvement in the prostitution of minors.121 The law prohibits the creation or distribution of pornography and provides for 2 months to 2 years of imprisonment and fines for offenses.122 Although there is no law specifically prohibiting trafficking in persons, the law establishes penalties including imprisonment from 6 months to life for holding and transporting people against their will.123 The law also provides for 5 to 10 years imprisonment and fines for involvement in prostitution when victims “have been delivered or incited to deliver themselves to prostitution” outside Algeria and when victims “have been delivered or incited to deliver themselves to prostitution” shortly after their arrival in the country.124 If such crimes involve minors, the prison term may be increased.

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114 *Code du travail*, Article 15.


116 *Code du travail*, Article 15.


122 Ibid., Article 333bis.


124 *Code pénal*, Article 344.
to 15 years and fines doubled.\textsuperscript{125} In addition, the government has stated that laws against illegal immigration and forced labor are used to enforce anti-trafficking standards.\textsuperscript{126} The minimum age for recruitment into military service is 19.\textsuperscript{127}

The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing minimum age laws. The U.S. Department of State reports that the Ministry of Labor enforces minimum age laws through surprise inspections of public sector enterprises, but that it does not enforce the law consistently in the agricultural or private sectors.\textsuperscript{128} The Ministry of Interior, through the national and border police, and the Ministry of Defense, through the police-like \textit{gendarmerie} that operate in rural areas, have law enforcement responsibilities relating to trafficking.\textsuperscript{129} The government reported that in 2006, 1,062 persons were charged with activities related to the corruption of minors, which the government indicated were associated with trafficking.\textsuperscript{130}

\textbf{Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor}

The Government of Algeria has trained government officials to recognize trafficking and to deal with victims of trafficking.\textsuperscript{131}

\begin{thebibliography}{99}
\item UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, \textit{Periodic Reports of States Parties: Algeria}, para 94.
\item U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Algeria," Section 6d.
\item U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Algeria."
\end{thebibliography}
**Angola**

### Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 25.6 percent boys and 25.9 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Angola. Children often work on family farms in subsistence agriculture. Some children in rural areas also work in diamond mining.

The combination of poverty and years of war has led to an influx of orphaned and abandoned children working in urban areas. Children in urban areas often work as domestic servants and street vendors in the informal sector. Governmental and UNICEF estimates for the number of street children in Luanda vary between 1,500 and 10,000. Street children are also common in

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2001:</td>
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<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
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<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 1999:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 1998:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2001:</td>
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<td>Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
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<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
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<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>Yes, associated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.*

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135 Ibid.
137 Ibid.
138 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
139 Ibid.
140 Ibid.
142 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
144 Rafael Marques, "Beyond 'Conflict Diamonds': A New Report on Human Rights and Angolan Diamonds" (March 24, 2005).
the Benguela and Huambo provinces. Some of the street children were displaced or separated from their families and communities during the civil war, and live on the streets. However, the majority of the street children only work on the streets, returning to their family homes at night or on weekends. Children on the streets work by shining shoes, washing cars, carrying water, and begging. Many are exploited in prostitution and are at high risk of sexual and other forms of violence and trafficking. There have been reports of Angolan children crossing the border into Namibia to engage in prostitution with truck drivers.

Angola is a country of origin for children trafficked to Namibia and South Africa for domestic service and sexual exploitation, as well as for selling goods and illegal money changing. Internally, children are trafficked primarily for forced labor (commercial agriculture, portering and street vending) and sexual exploitation including forced prostitution. Economically vulnerable children are the most susceptible to trafficking. Children are also trafficked for use as couriers for cross-border trade between Namibia and Angola.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

By law, the minimum age for employment in Angola is 14 years, and the legal minimum age for apprenticeship is 14 years. Children between 14 and 18 are not permitted to work at night, under dangerous conditions, or in activities requiring great physical effort. Children under 16 years are restricted from working in factories.

Angolan laws prohibit forced or bonded child labor. The minimum age for voluntary recruitment of men for military service is 18 years and 20 years for women. Trafficking in

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persons is not specifically prohibited in Angola, but laws prohibit kidnapping, forced labor or bonded servitude, prostitution, illegal entry into the country, and pornography. Under Angolan law, sexual relations with a child under 12 years is defined as rape. Rape is illegal, and punishable by up to 8 years’ imprisonment. Sexual relations with a child between 12 and 15 years may be defined as sexual abuse, and can result in up to 8 years of imprisonment. Prostitution is illegal in Angola but the law is not consistently enforced. In 2006, Immigration Services began enforcing a law that requires unaccompanied minors to present documentation for international travel.

The National Institute for the Child (INAC) is responsible for the day-to-day management of children’s affairs. The Inspector General of the Ministry of Public Administration, Employment, and Social Security (MAPESS) has the ultimate authority to enforce labor laws, and the Ministry of Family and Women’s Affairs plays a major role in the investigation of child labor complaints. MAPESS maintains employment centers that screen out prospective employees who are under 14 years. In the first half of 2006, MAPESS conducted 2,038 workplace inspections and discovered 22 minors employed by formal sector companies. The Government of Angola does not have the capacity to regulate labor in the informal sector, where most children work. The U.S. Department of State reports that in practice, neither MAPESS nor the Ministry of Family and Women’s Affairs provide adequate protection for children.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government’s Special Task Force (comprised of representatives from the Ministry of Social Assistance and Reintegration, the National Institute for Children, and the Ministry of Women and Family) continues to implement a plan to address the needs of street children. The Ministry of Health provided funds to combat child prostitution through nurses aiding in raising children’s awareness about HIV/AIDS.

In July 2006, the Government of the Republic of Angola was one of 24 West and Central African countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons.

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165 Ibid.
especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place a child trafficking monitoring system; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.

Anti-trafficking programs supported by the government include training for border post directors, basic assistance and reintegration services for trafficking victims (including literacy and skills training for children), and research on the extent of and the government’s response to trafficking in the provinces of Kuando Kubongo, Luanda Norte, Luanda Sul, and Cabinda. The INAC has used newspaper ads, radio public service announcements and government interviews to raise awareness on the commercial sexual exploitation of children. The campaign has reached more than half of the country’s population.

A World Bank program that ended in December 2006 supported the Angola Emergency Demobilization and Reintegration Project, which aimed to meet the special needs of female, disabled and underage ex-combatants in establishing sustainable livelihoods. UNICEF’s 2006 humanitarian program in Angola includes the continuation of family reunification activities for war-affected children.

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Argentina

In 1997, approximately 25.4 percent of boys and 16 percent of girls ages 10 to 14 were working in Argentina. In rural areas, children work with pesticides in family and third-party farms in the production of flowers, tomatoes and strawberries. In urban areas, children are engaged in domestic service, food preparation, street sales, and trash recycling. They also work in small and medium businesses and workshops, and they perform odd jobs such as opening taxi doors,

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### Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
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<th></th>
<th>1997</th>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 10-14 estimated as working</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003:</td>
<td>112%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2003:</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 1997:</td>
<td>96.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>2/5/2001</td>
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<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>Yes, associated</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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192 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
washing car windshields, and shining shoes.  

Some children in Argentina are exploited in prostitution, sex tourism, and drug trafficking. According to a 2001 report from UNICEF, children are exploited in prostitution in a variety of situations, including in massage parlors, brothels, and on the street. Girls exploited in prostitution are sometimes denied contact with the outside world, threatened, or beaten.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years. The law allows children under 14 to work in family businesses in a limited number of job categories, as long as such work is not hazardous. Children ages 14 to 18 must present medical certificates that attest to their ability to work and must undergo periodical medical checkups. In addition, a government regulation specifically prohibits the employment of children under 14 in domestic service. Children who have not completed compulsory schooling may obtain permission to work in cases in which their income is necessary for family survival, as long as they continue their studies. Such children are prohibited from working more than six hours a day and 36 hours a week and between the hours of 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. In some cases, however, children ages 16 to 18 can work additional hours.

The law provides for six to 15 years of imprisonment for facilitating the prostitution of children under 13, and four to 10 years when it involves children 13 to 17. The publication and distribution of pornography that features minors carry penalties of six months to four years of imprisonment. Argentine law establishes penalties for the smuggling of minors that range from five to 20 years. Forced labor is also prohibited under Argentine law. In December 2006, the Senate approved an anti-trafficking law that criminalizes trafficking for prostitution and forced labor. Trafficking, or intending to traffic minors, is punishable by prison terms up to

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199 Ibid., Section 6d.
200 Ley de Contrato de Trabajo, Articles 187, 188, and 189.
202 Ley de Contrato de Trabajo, Article 189.
203 Ibid., Article 190.
205 Ibid., Article 128.
15 years. Argentine law sets the minimum age for volunteering for the Argentine armed forces at 18 years.

The government has trained 365 labor inspectors and other social actors in identifying child labor and in developing an interdisciplinary approach to the issue. According to the U.S. State Department, Argentina made some progress in its actions against trafficking, mostly in the prevention area. One conviction occurred in September 2006 of a former police officer who was sentenced to 14 years in prison for a trafficking-related prostitution case involving a minor.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The National Commission for the Eradication of Child Labor (CONAETI), headed by the Government of Argentina, completed the first national child labor survey conducted in the country. Argentina also participates in a USD 2.1 million regional ILO-IPEC child labor survey funded by Canada. During 2006, CONAETI’s National Plan to Combat Child Labor was approved and enacted by executive decree. The plan calls for the national consolidation of data, awareness raising, inter-institutional collaboration, stronger inspection mechanisms, mainstreaming of child laborers into the formal education system, research, coordination of child labor laws, and a national program for the prevention and eradication of child labor in rural and urban settings. CONAETI provides technical assistance to action programs implemented by NGOs addressing child labor in the tobacco and trash-picking sectors, including workshops with tobacco producers to encourage corporate social responsibility on child labor issues.

The Public Ministry established the Unit for the Crime Investigation Against Sexual Integrity and Human Trafficking to coordinate national efforts on trafficking issues. At the time of this report, this Unit’s work was focused principally in the Federal City of Buenos Aires.

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210 Ministerio de Trabajo Empleo y Seguridad Social, Programa de formación e información sistemática en materia de prevención y erradicación del trabajo infantil.
211 U.S. Department of State, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 3, 2007.
213 ILO-IPEC, IPEC Projects from All Donors Except USDOL, November 3, 2006.
216 CONAETI, Informe de gestión anual, 2005. See also CONAETI, Report on the basic fundamental norms on the worst forms of child labor and its eradication.
218 U.S. Department of State, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 3, 2007.
The Ministry of Education’s Integral Program for Educational Equality strengthens the provision of basic education in urban schools that serve vulnerable populations.²²⁰

Armenia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Armenia work in family-run, small business enterprises. Children can be observed selling flowers on the streets of Yerevan and working in local marketplaces, usually after school hours. There have been reports of increasing numbers of children begging on the streets and dropping out of school to work in the informal sector, especially in agriculture. Outside the urban areas children have been known to work in fishing.

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Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working</td>
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<td>Minimum age of work</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004</td>
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<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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223 Ibid.
227 Ibid.
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age of employment is 16 years, but the law allows children 14 to 16 to work with written permission from a parent or guardian. Children under 14 are prohibited from working.234 Children 14 to 16 may work up to 24 hours per week, and children 16 to 18 may work a maximum of 36 hours per week.234 Employers must require proof of a medical examination from any employee under 18.235 Children under 18 are prohibited from working overtime, at night, on holidays, or in hazardous conditions.236 Armenian law defines hazardous work to include the production and/or sale of alcohol and tobacco products, as well as activities that may compromise children’s health or physical or mental development, or interfere with their education.237

The Armenian Constitution prohibits forced and compulsory labor, including by children.238 The law proscribes trafficking in persons and considers child trafficking an aggravated circumstance, which is punishable with 3 to 15 years imprisonment.239 Sexual intercourse with a minor under 16 is punishable with up to 2 years imprisonment, and involving underage children in prostitution or pornography can result in 5 years imprisonment.240 The law gives responsibility to the government to protect children from criminal activities, prostitution, and begging.241 Armenian males are registered for military conscription at 16, but are not subject to compulsory military service or voluntary recruitment until 18.242

The Armenian State Labor Inspectorate is responsible for ensuring compliance with child labor laws.243 However, the inspectorate has not received or investigated complaints of child labor since its inception in 2005 and does not have any inspectors assigned to child labor.244 According to the U.S. Department of State, local community councils, unemployment offices, and courts have jurisdiction to enforce the laws on minimum working age, but their efforts are

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234 Ibid., Article 140.
235 Ibid., Article 249.
244 U.S. Embassy- Yerevan, reporting, December 12, 2006.
uneven. There have been no reports of child labor cases being prosecuted in Armenia. Although the Armenian government has heightened its attention to the issue of trafficking and is taking steps to more effectively prevent trafficking-related offenses, the U.S. Department of State reports that enforcement of anti-trafficking laws is generally weak, and there is evidence of collusion with traffickers by individual government officials. Several trafficking convictions have been overturned by courts or sentences were reduced by re-classifying charges to pimping, which carries lower penalties.

**Current Government Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

During the year, the government continued to implement the 2004-2006 National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking. The government is collaborating with international organizations and NGOs on a variety of counter-trafficking efforts, including mass-media public awareness campaigns and victim hotlines. IOM contributes to the Government of Armenia’s counter-trafficking efforts through a project that trains Armenian consular staff to recognize and assist trafficking victims in Armenia. The UNDP is working with the government to develop anti-trafficking legislation and strengthen victim assistance efforts.

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247 Ibid.
252 UNDP Armenia, Supporting formation of informed individuals able to protect their rights, August 30, 2006; available from http://www.undp.am/?page=LatestNews&id=309.
Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Small numbers of children in Bahrain perform non-hazardous work in the Manama Central Market, and although not common, some children work in family businesses.\(^\text{262}\)

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law forbids the employment of children younger than 14 years.\(^\text{263}\) Minors 14 to 16 years may work no more than 6 hours per day, with one hour of rest during daytime hours only; minors may not work overtime or be paid on a piece-rate basis.\(^\text{264}\) The law also establishes a list of 25 occupations in which no person younger than 16 years may work. These occupations include


\(^{260}\) Ibid.


\(^{264}\) Ibid., Articles 49, 51, 52, 53, and 54.
quarrying; oil refining; auto repair; butchering; construction; and any work that involves lifting heavy loads or contact with radiation, asbestos, furnaces, explosives, batteries, cranes, electricity, pressurized gas, or poisonous dust, vapors, or fumes. Working minors 14 to 16 years must obtain authorization to work from the Ministry of Labor (MOL); must undergo a medical examination prior to being employed; and must be granted annual leave of not less than a full month. However, these provisions do not apply to workers, including children, in the domestic service and agricultural sectors or in enterprises owned by their immediate family members.

The MOL is responsible for enforcing child labor laws and regulations. Violations of child labor laws are punishable by fines. In addition to levying punishment against employers and supervisors, the law holds responsible any person acting as a guardian who permits the employment of a child or minor in violation of the law’s provisions. The U.S. Department of State reports that MOL enforcement of child labor laws is adequate in the industrial sector, but not as effective outside that sector.

The Constitution outlaws compulsory labor, and employers found guilty of using forced labor can be liable to imprisonment of up to 10 years. Prostitution is illegal; forcing or enticing a child under 18 years into prostitution is punishable by 3 to 10 years of imprisonment. Child pornography is not explicitly outlawed, but it is illegal to print, possess, or display publications, pictures, and other media that violate public morals. There is no law prohibiting trafficking in persons, but trafficking-related crimes may be prosecuted under laws prohibiting forced labor, forced prostitution, the abduction or kidnapping of children, or exposure of children to danger. However, according to the U.S. Department of State, prosecutions for trafficking-related offenses are rare. While there is no compulsory military service in Bahrain, juveniles can be recruited into the Bahraini Defense Force from the age of 17 years.

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266 Government of Bahrain, Labour Law for the Private Sector, as amended, Articles 51 and 55.

267 Ibid., Articles 2 and 58.


269 Government of Bahrain, Labour Law for the Private Sector, as amended, Article 163.


273 Penal Code, Articles 324(1) and 325, as cited in ILO Committee of Experts, Direct Request: Bahrain. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, Bahrain, accessed October 10, 2006; available from http://www.ecpat.net/. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bahrain," Section 5.

274 ILO Committee of Experts, Direct Request: Bahrain.


276 US Embassy- Manama official, E-mail communication USDOL official, July 29, 2007.


The MOL grants permits to Bahraini companies to employ foreign workers, and immigration officials ensure that foreign workers entering Bahrain are 18 years of age or older.\textsuperscript{280} There have been isolated incidents of the use of false documents to gain entry into the country for workers under age 18.\textsuperscript{281}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The government has supported anti-trafficking training workshops for law enforcement officers, judges, prosecutors, lawyers, NGOs, and employers.\textsuperscript{282} In 2006, the government opened a shelter to provide medical care as well as psychosocial and legal services to female victims of trafficking.\textsuperscript{283}

\textsuperscript{280} U.S. Embassy- Manama official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 19, 2007.
\textsuperscript{281} U.S. Embassy- Manama, reporting, March 5, 2007.
\textsuperscript{282} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Bahrain."
Bangladesh

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2002, approximately 18.5 percent of boys and 7.9 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Bangladesh. Most working children live in rural areas, and many begin to work at a very early age. The majority of working children 5 to 14 years work in the agricultural sector (62.3 percent), followed by services (23.2 percent), manufacturing (12.6 percent), and other sectors (2 percent).

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Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2002</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work</td>
<td>Varies by industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2003</td>
<td>82.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182</td>
<td>3/12/2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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287 Ibid.
290 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
293 Ibid.
295 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
percent). Street children, mostly boys, can be found in urban areas begging, portering, shining shoes, collecting paper, and selling flowers and other items.

Children are found working in the following activities, sometimes under hazardous conditions: auto repair; battery recharging and recycling; road transport, such as rickshaw-pulling and fare-collecting; saw milling; welding; metalworking; carpentry; fish drying; fish and shrimp farming; leather tanning; brick-breaking; construction; and manufacturing matches and garments. A large number of children, mostly girls, work as domestic servants in private households, some in conditions resembling servitude. These child domestics are vulnerable to abuse, including sexual abuse. Boys and girls, often those living on the streets, are exploited in illicit activities including smuggling and trading arms and drugs. Large numbers of children are exploited in the commercial sex industry. Trafficking of children for prostitution, domestic service, and other purposes is a significant problem in Bangladesh; some children are sold or sent into trafficking situations by their parents. NGOs report that most trafficked boys

298 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
311 UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Concluding Observations: Bangladesh, para 73.
are under 10, while trafficked girls tend to be older.\textsuperscript{312} Bangladeshi children, especially boys, continue to be trafficked into debt bondage in Gulf countries.\textsuperscript{313}

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The minimum age for employment varies by industry.\textsuperscript{314} The law prohibits the employment of children younger than 12 years in shops and other commercial establishments, and in 10 processes including tanning; carpet-weaving; stone-cutting; and the manufacture of \textit{bidis} (hand-rolled cigarettes), cloth, wool, cement, shellac, soap, matches, explosives, and fireworks, unless they are working in a family workshop.\textsuperscript{315} The minimum age for work in ready-made garment factories is 15 years,\textsuperscript{316} while the minimum age for work in other factories is 14 years. Young persons 14 to 17 may work in factories for no more than 5 hours per day, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. However, young persons working in factories may not use certain dangerous machines without adequate training and supervision, and the law provides a list of 18 hazardous activities in factories from which children and young persons should be restricted. Employers who repeatedly violate these restrictions on factory work face prison terms of up to 6 months.\textsuperscript{317} Children under 15 may not work in mines, in tea gardens, in the railway transportation sector, or in ports, although young persons ages 15 and 16 may work in railways and ports, provided they receive adequate rest overnight.\textsuperscript{318} Employment of young people under 18 on roads and under 21 as drivers is prohibited,\textsuperscript{319} and employers in violation of these provisions can face prison terms of up to 1 year.\textsuperscript{320} The law requires children to attend school only to age 10, leaving a gap between the end of compulsory schooling and the minimum working age that may result in children entering work illegally.\textsuperscript{321}

\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{313} U.S. Embassy - Dhaka, \textit{reporting}, March 1, 2007.
\item \textsuperscript{314} Government of Bangladesh, \textit{Written communication}, 1.
\item \textsuperscript{316} U.S. Embassy- Dhaka official, \textit{E-mail communication to USDOL official}, January 23, 2007. See also U.S. Embassy- Dhaka, \textit{reporting}, December 21, 2006.
\item \textsuperscript{320} ILO, \textit{The Effective Abolition of Child Labour}, Geneva, 2001, 213; available from http://digitalcommons.ilr.cornell.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1003&context=child.
\item \textsuperscript{321} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bangladesh," Section 5. See also Right to Education "At What Age?" \textit{Bangladesh}, accessed October 12, 2006; available from http://www.right-to-education.org/content/age/.
\end{itemize}
The Office of the Chief Inspector of Factories under the Ministry of Labor and Employment is responsible for implementation and enforcement of labor laws, including child labor provisions. According to the U.S. Department of State, child labor enforcement is seriously inadequate relative to the scope of the problem. The ministry has approximately 100 inspectors to investigate more than 21,000 factories; less than 50 violations were recorded in 2006. Although the vast majority of child labor occurs in the informal sector, officials inspect only formal sector workplaces and focus primarily on the ready-made garment industry.

The law forbids forced labor and prohibits parents or guardians from pledging their children’s labor in exchange for a payment or benefit. It is illegal to sell, let to hire, procure, hire, encourage, abet, or otherwise obtain possession of any person under 18 for the purpose of prostitution or to maintain a brothel for these purposes. These offenses are punishable by imprisonment of up to 3 years. There are no laws against child pornography in Bangladesh. Child trafficking, which includes importing, exporting, buying, selling, or taking into possession any child for immoral or unlawful purposes, is illegal and punishable by life imprisonment or death. The law also provides for traffickers who have fled to other countries to be extradited to Bangladesh for trial. It is illegal to instigate any person, including a child, to produce or deal in narcotic drugs; this crime is punishable by 3 to 15 years of imprisonment. The minimum age for voluntary military service is 18 years, and there is no forced conscription in Bangladesh. However, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child has expressed concern

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327 ECPAT International CSEC Database, Bangladesh, accessed October 12, 2006; available from http://www.ecpat.net. See also Ali, Laws on CSEC in Bangladesh, 23.
that since many births are unregistered in Bangladesh, children’s ages are undocumented and many under age 18 are able to enlist in the armed forces.\textsuperscript{332}

The government has created anti-trafficking units within the police force in every district of the country, established an anti-trafficking court, and assigned a high-level official to coordinate anti-trafficking prosecutions. The government has also intensified its efforts to investigate and prosecute public officials complicit in trafficking crimes. Despite some successes, the U.S. Department of State reports that anti-trafficking efforts still lack adequate resources, and there is still evidence of corruption among anti-trafficking law enforcement officials.\textsuperscript{333}

\textbf{Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor}

The Third National Plan of Action for Children (2004-2009) commits the government to carry out a variety of tasks to eliminate the worst forms of child labor, with a particular focus on child domestic workers, migrants, refugees, and other vulnerable groups. The commitments include introducing regulations, ensuring working children’s access to education, and strengthening the labor inspectorate.\textsuperscript{334} The Ministry of Labor and Employment has a dedicated Child Labor Cell, and the government includes a child labor component in its compulsory training program for entry-level diplomatic personnel and border guards.\textsuperscript{335} The government is also engaged in broad awareness-raising campaigns to increase public understanding of child labor issues, which includes specific outreach to micro-credit borrowers and clergy.\textsuperscript{336} The Bangladesh Millennium Development Goals include a target of developing and implementing strategies for decent and productive work for youth.\textsuperscript{337} The government’s PRSP includes as a strategic goal taking immediate and effective measures to eliminate the worst forms of child labor, with a target of increasing the knowledge base about child labor and child rights, and a future priority of legal reform to bring all child labor legislation in line with international standards.\textsuperscript{338}


\textsuperscript{336} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Bangladesh."


The government has been actively engaged with ILO-IPEC since 1994 to implement programs to combat the worst forms of child labor. With funding from the governments of the United Kingdom, Norway and the Netherlands, ILO-IPEC partnered with UNICEF and the ADB through December 2006 on the preparatory phase of the Bangladesh National Timebound Program. This preparatory phase focused on building a base of knowledge on the nature and scope of child labor in Bangladesh, and building consensus and commitment among stakeholders to address the problem. Building on a prior ILO-IPEC project, the Office of the Chief Inspector of Factories provides training and participates with representatives of the ILO and the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association in a garment factory child labor inspection program.

The Ministry of Home Affairs is the lead agency on anti-trafficking issues; it chairs an inter-ministerial committee that oversees the country’s National Anti-Trafficking Strategic Plan for Action. The Ministry of Women and Children Affairs is currently implementing its National Plan of Action Against the Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children Including Trafficking. The plan calls for legal reforms; improved mechanisms for reporting child abuse; greater access to safe spaces and support services for victims and children at risk; and coordinated approaches to monitoring and law enforcement, among other efforts.

The government works closely with IOM and other NGOs on their efforts to combat child trafficking through prevention, awareness-raising, rescue, rehabilitation, law enforcement training, research, advocacy, and cross-border collaboration. USAID is also working with the government to conduct research on trafficking, strengthen government-NGO linkages, build NGO capacity, strengthen prosecution and protection efforts, and raise awareness of the problem nationwide. In collaboration with NGOs, the government operates a coordinated mechanism to monitor the repatriation, rehabilitation, and social reintegration of child camel jockeys who have been trafficked to the Middle East. UNICEF is collaborating closely with the government to implement the second

340 ILO Committee of Experts, Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999 (No. 182), Bangladesh (ratification: 2001), See also ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.
343 Government of Bangladesh, Written communication.
phase of the Basic Education for Hard-to-Reach Urban Working Children project, which will continue through June 2009. The project is setting up 8,000 education centers to provide non-formal education and livelihood skills to 200,000 working children and adolescents.\(^{349}\)

Barbados

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

The ILO Subregional Office for the Caribbean conducted a rapid assessment survey of child work in Barbados in 2002 and found that children were involved in work in the services industry, vending, trades, and family-related businesses. Boys were mostly involved in construction, electrical repairs/installations, fruit vending, horse grooming, and assisting at supermarkets. Girls worked as shop assistants and in hair styling. The working conditions for these children were characterized by long hours, irregular pay, and low remuneration.

Additionally, there were reports of children involved in commercial sexual exploitation. There have been reports of boys and girls both being involved in sex tourism. In some

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

| Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working: | Unavailable |
| Minimum age for admission to work: | 16 |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | 16 |
| Free public education: | Yes |
| Gross primary enrollment rate: | 107% |
| Net primary enrollment rate: | 97% |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2001: | Unavailable |
| In 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | 97% |
| Ratified Convention 182: | 10/23/2000 |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | Yes, associated |

351 Ibid., Section 5.
352 Ibid., Section 5.
357 Ibid.
360 Ibid.
361 Ibid.
362 Ibid.
363 Ibid.
instances parents have compelled their children to become prostitutes in Bridgetown’s red light district.\(^{365}\)

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The minimum age for employment in Barbados is 16 years.\(^{366}\) Children under 16, however, are allowed to work under certain restrictions.\(^{367}\) Such children may not work between 6 p.m. and 7 a.m. as well as during school hours.\(^{368}\) The work of a young person between 16 and 18 is also subject to certain restrictions.\(^{369}\) Young persons may not work in industrial undertakings during the night – from 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. – or participate in work that is likely to cause injury to their health, safety, or morals.\(^{370}\) For the purposes of apprenticeship or vocational training, authorization may be granted to allow young persons to work during the night.\(^{371}\) Young persons participating in an apprenticeship or vocational training must first obtain a medical certificate them as fit to be employed.\(^{372}\)

The law prohibits forced or compulsory labor.\(^{373}\) There are no laws that specifically address trafficking in persons, although the Young Persons Protection Act of 1918 prohibits the removal of persons under 17 from the island for the purpose of forced labor in foreign countries.\(^{374}\) Prostitution is illegal,\(^{375}\) as is the exploitation of children to use them in indecent photographs.\(^{376}\)

The Child Care Board and the Labor Department are responsible for monitoring and investigating cases of child labor.\(^{377}\) The Labor Department has a small staff of labor inspectors who conduct spot investigations and verify records to ensure compliance with the law.\(^{378}\) These inspectors are authorized to take legal action against employers who are found to use underage workers.\(^{379}\)

\(^{368}\) Ibid.
\(^{369}\) Ibid.
\(^{370}\) Ibid.
\(^{371}\) Ibid.
\(^{373}\) U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Barbados." Section 6c.
\(^{378}\) Ibid., Section 6d.
\(^{379}\) Ibid., Section 6d.
Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In October 2001, the ILO Subregional Office for the Caribbean launched the Regional Child Labor Project.\textsuperscript{380} This project seeks the progressive elimination of child labor, beginning with the worst forms of child labor, in the English and Dutch-speaking Caribbean.\textsuperscript{381} The project receives USD1.3 million\textsuperscript{382} in funding from the Government of Canada, and promotes national policies to eradicate poverty and increase educational opportunities for children.\textsuperscript{383} The government has also created restrictions on the import of products produced by child labor.\textsuperscript{384}

\textsuperscript{381} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{382} ILO official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.
\textsuperscript{383} ILO, \textit{Combating Child Labour in the Caribbean}.
\textsuperscript{384} ILO, \textit{Child Labour in Barbados}. 
In 2001, approximately 8.1 percent of boys and 4.6 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 years were working in Belize. The majority of working children are found in the agricultural sector (55.3 percent), followed by services (38.8 percent), and manufacturing (3.6 percent). Most working

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### Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2001:</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
<td>12/14/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>124%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2001:</td>
<td>93.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2000, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>3/6/2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.*

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**Belize**

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**Incidence and Nature of Child Labor**

In 2001, approximately 8.1 percent of boys and 4.6 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 years were working in Belize. The majority of working children are found in the agricultural sector (55.3 percent), followed by services (38.8 percent), and manufacturing (3.6 percent).

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394 Ibid.


children are found in rural regions, where they work on family plots and in family businesses after school, on weekends, and during vacations. They also work in citrus, banana, and sugar fields. In urban areas, children shine shoes, sell food, crafts, and other small items; they also work in markets. The practice of minors engaging in prostitution with older men in exchange for clothing, jewelry, or school fees and books is reported to occur throughout the country.

Belize is a transit and destination country for children trafficked for labor exploitation. Girls in particular are trafficked within the country for sexual exploitation. There have been reports of instances where child sexual exploitation and trafficking are arranged by family members.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The Labor Act of Belize sets the minimum age for work as 12, 14, and 16 years in different sections of the text; thus, it has been criticized as being unclear. According to the Labor Act, children 12 to 14 years may participate only in light work after school hours and for a total of 2 hours on a school day or a Sunday, and only between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. The minimum age for employment near hazardous machinery is 17 years. The Labor Act sets penalties for non-compliance with minimum age standards that include fines and imprisonment up to 2 months, and up to 4 months in the case of a second or subsequent offense.

The law prohibits persons under 18 years from engaging in any forms of harmful employment. Forced and bonded labor are prohibited. Although there is no law establishing a minimum age

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400 Ibid.

401 Ibid., Section 5.


406 Labour Act (Revised)., Section 169.


408 Labour Act (Revised), Section 172(1).


for conscription into the military, the minimum age for voluntary enrollment is 18 years. The law punishes trafficking offenses with imprisonment of up to 5 years and fines. The law also prohibits sex with a female younger than 14 years and provides for a penalty of 12 years to life imprisonment. The sentence for the same act with a girl 14 to 16 years is 5 to 10 years.

Inspectors from the Departments of Labor and Education are responsible for enforcing child labor regulations. The Department of Human Services of the Ministry of Human Development and Housing is responsible for the protection of child labor victims. The Anti-Trafficking in Persons Committee has linked a number of government agencies to fight trafficking, including the police; public prosecutors; the Department of Immigration; the Ministries of Home Affairs, Foreign Affairs, and Human Development; the National Committee for Families and Children; and the Government’s Press Office. A tripartite team of police, immigration, and social workers from the Ministry of Human Development conducted raids in 2006, identifying seven trafficking victims.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The National Committee for Families and Children (NCFC) provides nationwide training programs for front line police and immigration officials on trafficking. With funds from the IDB and in collaboration with UNICEF, the Ministry of Human Development is engaging in a program to strengthen the government’s capacity to combat human trafficking.

The Government of Belize continues to participate in a USD 8.8 million regional project funded by USDOL and implemented by ILO-IPEC aimed at combating commercial sexual exploitation of children. The project aims to withdraw 713 children and prevent 657 children from commercial sexual exploitation in the region.

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416 Belize Labour Commissioner, Electronic communication to USDOL official, August 26, 2005.
421 Ibid.
Benin

In 2002-2003, approximately 11.5 percent of boys and 15.3 of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Benin. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (68.9 percent), followed by services (22.3 percent), manufacturing (5.2 percent), and other sectors (3.7 percent). In Benin, children work on family farms, in stone quarries, in small businesses, on

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2002-2003:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
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<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
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<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2003:</td>
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<tr>
<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC Participating Country:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Must pay for school supplies, related items, and in some cases, tuition.

In Benin, children work on family farms, in stone quarries, in small businesses, on

428 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
433 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
construction sites, and in markets. The government reported in 2005 that children were increasingly involved in begging. Beninese boys studying with Koranic teachers work in agriculture and as alms collectors, porters, and rickshaw operators in exchange for education. Child prostitution, mainly involving girls, is prevalent in urban areas.

Under the practice of Vidomégon, children, often girls, from poor families are sent to work for wealthier households as domestics or in markets in exchange for housing and food. Income generated from the children’s activities is divided between the children’s host and natural families. While the arrangement is initially a voluntary one between the families, the child frequently is subject to poor conditions such as long hours, insufficient food, and sexual exploitation. In some instances, the child is trafficked into a situation of forced labor.

Benin is a source, destination and transit country for the trafficking of children. In addition to trafficking for domestic service related to Vidomégon, Beninese children are trafficked domestically for market vending, work in handicrafts, construction, and forced begging. They are also trafficked into Nigeria, Gabon, Côte d’Ivoire, and Ghana for domestic service, farm labor, and prostitution. Children are trafficked to Togo for work on plantations and are also trafficked to Niger. Some children are trafficked to Nigeria for work in rock quarries. Further, children from Niger, Togo, and Burkina Faso are trafficked into Benin for forced labor, bonded labor and domestic servitude, sometimes for debt payment. Some families place children in the care of agents recruiting farm labor and domestic servants, believing that the wages from this labor will be sent home to the family; some agents escort these children to other countries for labor.

436 Ibid., para 697-698.
443 U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Benin." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Benin," Section 5. See also Catholic Relief Services- staff member, E-mail communication to CRS staff member.
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years, including for apprenticeships; however, children between 12 and 14 years may perform domestic work and temporary or seasonal light work, if it does not interfere with their compulsory schooling. The law requires children to attend school only to age 11-12, leaving a gap between the end of compulsory schooling and the minimum working age that may result in children entering work illegally. Beninese law also prohibits workers under 18 years from performing certain types of work, including transporting heavy loads, operating certain types of machinery, working with hazardous substances, and working in underground mines and quarries. Employers are required to maintain a register including the birth date of all employees under 18, and a labor inspector can require that workers between 14 and 21 be examined by a doctor to determine that they are not working beyond their abilities. Violators of the minimum age laws are subject to fines, and in the case of repeat violators, a heavier fine is imposed.

The law prohibits forced labor and stipulates a penalty of imprisonment for 2 months to 1 year and/or a fine. The minimum age for recruitment into the military is 21 years. In 2006, Benin passed and promulgated the Law on Conditions of Displacement of Minors and Repression of Child Trafficking in the Republic of Benin, which expressly forbids the trafficking of children. The law defines child trafficking as any means that alienate a child’s freedom, such as the recruitment, transport, placement, receiving, or harboring of a child with the intent of exploitation. Exploitation is defined to include practices such as forced or compulsory labor, prostitution, the use of children in armed conflict, the use of children for the purpose of illicit activities, and work that may harm the safety, health, and morals of children. The punishment for moving or attempting to move a child within the country without proper authorization is imprisonment of 1 to 3 years and fines. The punishment for moving a child out of Benin without proper authorization is 2 to 5 years of imprisonment and fines. Child traffickers face a punishment of 10 to 20 years in prison, with the penalty increasing to life in prison if the child is not returned or is found dead before a verdict is reached or if force, fraud, or violence are used or

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445 Government of Benin, Code du travail, Articles 66 and 166. See also ILO Committee of Experts, Direct Request: Benin, Convention 138.
446 Inter-Ministerial Order No. 132 of 2000 as noted in ILO Committee of Experts, Direct Request: Benin, Convention 138.
448 Ibid., Article 301.
449 Ibid., Articles 3 and 303.
452 Government of Benin, Loi portant conditions de déplacement des mineurs et répression de la traite d’enfants en République du Bénin, Articles 3-4.
453 Ibid., Article 17.
454 Ibid., Article 18.
other aggravating circumstances exist. Individuals who employ child trafficking victims in Benin face 6 months to 2 years of imprisonment and a fine, while the penalty for parents who send their children with traffickers is a prison sentence of 6 months to 5 years. The Ministry of Interior’s Brigade for the Protection of Minors has jurisdiction over all law enforcement matters related to children, including child labor and child trafficking; however, the U.S. Department of State reports that the Brigade is understaffed and lacks the necessary resources to carry out its mandate. Additionally, the Ministry of Labor is responsible for implementing the child labor provisions in the Labor Code; but, according to the U.S. Department of State, its enforcement is limited because of a lack of resources and does not include the informal sector. The government did, however, work with NGOs to improve border surveillance.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

During the reporting period, the Government of Benin participated in the regional USDOL-funded USD 9.5 million LUTRENA project implemented by ILO-IPEC to combat the trafficking of children for exploitive labor in West and Central Africa. The project aimed to withdraw and prevent 9,000 children from trafficking. The Government also participated in a 4-year USDOL-funded USD 2 million child labor Education Initiative implemented by Catholic Relief Services to combat child trafficking and prevent children from becoming victims of trafficking by improving access to basic education. The project sought to withdraw 1,500 children from trafficking and to prevent an additional 4,500 from falling victim to trafficking. UNICEF sponsored training for the Brigade for the Protection of Minors. The brigade seeks to improve the capacity of Government of Benin to investigate and prosecute trafficking cases and to protect trafficking victims. Denmark is also funding a regional USD 3.3 million ILO-IPEC project that includes Benin and will combat trafficking in children. France recently ended funding for a USD 3.6 million regional project implemented by ILO-IPEC to combat child labor in francophone Africa.

In July 2006, 24 of the 26 governments representing ECOWAS and ECASS participated in a Joint Ministerial Conference on Trafficking in Persons held in Nigeria to develop a common understanding of trafficking in West and Central Africa and to adopt a common set of strategies.

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455 Ibid., Article 21.
456 Ibid., Articles 16, 22, 23, and 24.
458 Ibid., Section 6d.
459 Ibid., section 5.
461 Catholic Relief Services, Education First: Combating Child Trafficking through Education in Benin, technical progress report, Baltimore, September 15, 2006.
464 ILO-IPEC Geneva official, IPEC projects from all donors except USDOL E-mail communication USDOL official, March 1, 2007.
against trafficking in persons, especially women and children. During the Ministerial Conference, Benin was 1 of 24 countries to sign the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions.\footnote{ILO-IPEC, \textit{LUTRENA technical progress report- September 2006}. See also Catholic Relief Services official, Email communication to USDOL official, October 2, 2006.} The agreement enters into force in each country upon signing. As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement and through the Joint Plan of Action, the governments agreed to institute the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project. The parties also agreed to take further steps, including to put in place appropriate mechanisms such as birth-registration, documentation to ensure that children are prevented from becoming victims of trafficking and to assist with investigation of traffickers and reintegration of victims in the event of victimization; to provide mutual assistance in the investigation, arrest, and prosecution of trafficking in persons’ offenders through the respective competent authorities of the Parties; to protect, rehabilitate and reintegrate victims of trafficking into their original environment where necessary; and to improve systems for education, vocational training, and apprenticeships.\footnote{ECOWAS and ECASS, \textit{Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa}, Abuja, July 7, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, \textit{LUTRENA technical progress report- September 2006}. See also Emmanuel Goujon, "African states sign up to fight human trafficking," \textit{Agence France-Presse}, July 7, 2006.}

On June 9, 2006, the Government of Benin signed an agreement with Nigeria to prevent, suppress, and punish trafficking in persons. Further, on July 20, 2006, the Government of Benin was also signatory to a regional accord with nine Central and West African countries to combat trafficking, under which an action plan was developed in 2006.\footnote{Max Amuchie, "Nigeria, Benin United Against Child Trafficking," \textit{This Day} (Lagos), June 19, 2005. See also UNICEF, \textit{Benin and Nigeria Pledge to Fight Child Trafficking}, press release, June 9, 2005; available from http://www.unicef.org/media/media_27309.html. See also U.S. Embassy- Cotonou, \textit{reporting}, May 28, 2006.} The objectives of the bilateral agreement include establishing joint surveillance patrols and awareness-raising campaigns along border areas, and rehabilitating and reintegrating trafficking victims. A joint committee has been set up to implement the agreement, and a joint plan of action against trafficking in persons was adopted. The cooperation resulting from the agreement has seen an increase in the return of trafficked Beninese children to the proper authorities in their home country.\footnote{Catholic Relief Services Benin, \textit{Education First: Combating Child Trafficking through Education in Benin}, technical progress report, Baltimore, March 26, 2004. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, Benin, accessed October 12, 2006; available from http://www.ecpat.net/.

The government is implementing a National Plan of Action, developed by the National Commission on Child Rights, which addresses child trafficking issues.\footnote{U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Benin," Section 5. See also Catholic Relief Services, \textit{Education First technical progress report- September 2006}.} The Ministry of Family, Women, and Children collaborates with donors and NGOs to provide child trafficking victims with basic services such as food and shelter and to place them in educational and vocational programs.\footnote{Catholic Relief Services Benin, \textit{Education First technical progress report- September 2006}.} The government continues to raise awareness of child labor and trafficking through media campaigns and regional workshops, and by collaborating with a
network of NGOs and journalists. The Brigade for the Protection of Minors operates a free hotline for children to report abuse or other problems, and it has been trained on how to identify and protect trafficking victims.

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472 ECPAT International CSEC Database, Benin. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report-2006: Benin."
Bhutan

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2003, approximately 16.1 percent of boys and 22.7 percent of girls ages 10 to 14 were working in Bhutan. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (92.2 percent), followed by services (1.9 percent), manufacturing (0.1 percent), and other sectors (5.9 percent). Children working in agriculture do so primarily on family farms. Migrant workers including child workers as young as 11 are found in road construction. Children also work as domasellers and as street vendors; according to UNICEF, they are also involved in commercial sexual exploitation.

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 10-14 estimated as working in 2003:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2003:</td>
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<tr>
<td>As of 2000, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
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<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
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</tbody>
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476 Ibid.
480 Ibid.
482 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
486 Ibid.
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Bhutanese law prohibits the employment of children and states that candidates seeking employment shall have attained the age of majority, 18 years, to be eligible for appointment to any post in a business establishment. The Ministry of Labor reportedly conducts 10 to 15 inspections per week, most of which are in the construction sector, where most foreign child workers are found. Forced labor is prohibited by Bhutanese law. Bhutanese law also criminalizes sex crimes and offenses against children. According to the law of Bhutan, child trafficking has a minimum penalty of 3 years. Prostitution is a felony with penalties varying according to the age of the child. Children are permitted to enlist in the armed forces at 15 years.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Bhutan to address exploitive child labor.

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491 Government of Bhutan, Penal Code of Bhutan, para 3(a).
492 Ibid., para. 380.
In 2002, approximately 23.9 percent of boys and 22.5 percent of girls ages 7 to 14 were working in Bolivia. The majority of working children in Bolivia were found in the agricultural sector (76.3 percent), followed by services (18.8 percent), manufacturing (4.2 percent), and other sectors (0.7 percent).505 Children work in the production of sugar cane and Brazilian nuts.506

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 7-14 estimated as working in 2002</td>
<td>23.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004</td>
<td>113%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 7-14 attending school in 2002</td>
<td>93.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182</td>
<td>6/6/2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2002, approximately 23.9 percent of boys and 22.5 percent of girls ages 7 to 14 were working in Bolivia. The majority of working children in Bolivia were found in the agricultural sector (76.3 percent), followed by services (18.8 percent), manufacturing (4.2 percent), and other sectors (0.7 percent).505 Children work in the production of sugar cane and Brazilian nuts.506

497 Government of Bolivia, *Constitución Política del Estado, Article 177*.
500 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
505 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
Children also engage in activities such as begging, street vending, shining shoes, and assisting transport operators. Additionally, children work in industry, construction, small business, personal services, hotels and restaurants, and small-scale mining. Children have been used to traffic drugs. Some children are brought or sent by their family members from rural to urban areas to work as domestic servants for higher-income families, often in situations that amount to indentured servitude.

The commercial sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, is a problem in Bolivia, particularly in the Chapare region and in urban areas. The internal trafficking of children for the purposes of prostitution, domestic service, forced mining, and agricultural labor, particularly on sugar cane and Brazilian nut plantations in Santa Cruz and Tarija, also occurs. Children from indigenous ethnic groups in the Altiplano region were at the greatest risk of being trafficked. A study sponsored by IOM and the OAS found that there were girls from Argentina, Paraguay, Brazil, Chile, and Colombia working as prostitutes in urban centers in Bolivia.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

Bolivian law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years, except in the case of apprenticeships. The ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations has noted that Bolivian law does not provide a minimum age for income families, often in situations that amount to forced mining, and agricultural labor, particularly on sugar cane and Brazilian nut plantations in Santa Cruz and Tarija, also occurs. Children from indigenous ethnic groups in the Altiplano region were at the greatest risk of being trafficked. A study sponsored by IOM and the OAS found that there were girls from Argentina, Paraguay, Brazil, Chile, and Colombia working as prostitutes in urban centers in Bolivia.

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514 Roth U. and Erik Fernandez R., *Evaluación del tráfico de mujeres*, 47.

apprenticeships.\textsuperscript{516} Children 14 to 18 years must have the permission of their parents or of government authorities in order to work.\textsuperscript{517} The law prohibits children 14 to 17 from taking part in hazardous activities such as carrying excessively heavy loads, working underground, working with pesticides and other chemicals, or working at night. The law also requires employers to grant time off to adolescent workers who have not completed their primary or secondary education so that they may attend school during normal school hours.\textsuperscript{518} The law prohibits forced or compulsory labor.\textsuperscript{519} The law also prohibits any kind of labor without consent and just compensation.\textsuperscript{520} Bolivian men who have reached 18 are required to perform military service for 1 year. The law allows children 15 and older to volunteer for certain military activities if they have completed 3 years of secondary education.\textsuperscript{521}

The law prohibits the prostitution of minors and imposes penalties of 4 to 9 years of imprisonment if the victim is under 18 years of age.\textsuperscript{522} The Bolivian Congress has criminalized all types of trafficking, setting penalties at 8 to 12 years of imprisonment.\textsuperscript{523}

The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor provisions. The ministry has 15 labor inspectors working throughout the country. Questions regarding child labor have been incorporated into the inspection checklists they use. Municipal Defender of Children and Adolescents offices, the Public Ministry, and the police also work to protect children’s rights.\textsuperscript{524} Childhood and Adolescence Courts are empowered to resolve issues involving children and apply sanctions for violations of the law.\textsuperscript{525} The U.S. Department of State reported, however, that during 2006 the government did not enforce child labor laws, including those related to health and safety conditions in the workplace, school completion requirements, the legal minimum age, and the maximum hours allowed for child workers.\textsuperscript{526}

The government has established special anti-trafficking police and prosecutor units in the major cities of Santa Cruz and Cochabamba.\textsuperscript{527} The Bolivian National Police command has issued the Technical Judicial Police Unit (PTJ) jurisdiction to investigate trafficking in persons, corruption

\textsuperscript{517} Government of Bolivia, \textit{Ley General de Trabajo}, Article 8.
\textsuperscript{518} Government of Bolivia, \textit{Ley del Código del Niño}, 134, 146, 147.
\textsuperscript{519} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bolivia," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{520} Government of Bolivia, \textit{Constitución Política del Estado}, Article 5.
\textsuperscript{523} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Bolivia."
\textsuperscript{524} U.S. Embassy- La Paz, \textit{reporting}, August 30, 2005, 1-2. See also Vice Minister of Labor, Interview with USDOL official, September 13, 2005. See also U.S. Embassy- La Paz official, "E-mail communication to, April 2, 2007.
\textsuperscript{526} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bolivia," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{527} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Bolivia."
of minors, torturous corruption, pimping, publications and public showings of obscenity, and slavery.\textsuperscript{528}

The U.S. Department of State noted progress in the government’s increased resolve to combat trafficking and a heightened awareness of the problem. However, it also noted the government’s failure to improve its capacity to prosecute traffickers and provide protection services to victims.\textsuperscript{529}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The Government of Bolivia’s policy framework to address child labor is the National Plan for the Progressive Eradication of Child Labor 2000-2010.\textsuperscript{530} A 3-year sub-plan (2006-2008) to combat child labor prioritizes the elimination of the worst forms of child labor, the development of national policy against child labor, the participation of child and adolescent workers, and inter-institutional and inter-ministerial coordination. The sub-plan will focus its efforts on children working in the mining, sugarcane, and urban sectors of the country.\textsuperscript{531} An independent evaluation conducted on the implementation of the first half of the National Plan found that financing has been lacking.\textsuperscript{532}

The government has engaged in a public information campaign against child prostitution and has promoted some educational efforts to combat trafficking, including the enactment of a decree that requires international airports to air a television segment on trafficking.\textsuperscript{533} The Vice Ministry of Youth, Childhood, and Senior Citizens implements a Plan for the Prevention of and Attention to Commercial Sexual Exploitation, with a focus on efforts in the country’s largest cities.\textsuperscript{534} The government has introduced systems to reduce corruption in the authorization of

\textsuperscript{528} U.S. Embassy- La Paz, reporting, February 23, 2006.

\textsuperscript{529} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Bolivia."

\textsuperscript{530} Inter-Institutional Commission for the Eradication of Child Labor, Plan de erradicación progresiva del trabajo infantil: 2000-2010, Ministry of Labor, La Paz, November 2000, 35, 55. See also U.S. Embassy- La Paz official, "E-mail communication to, April 2, 2007.


\textsuperscript{532} Aguirre Ledezma, Plan Nacional de erradicación progresiva del trabajo infantil: Evaluación externa, 36.


\textsuperscript{534} Aguirre Ledezma, Plan Nacional de erradicación progresiva del trabajo infantil: Evaluación externa, 22, 31.
travel abroad by unaccompanied by minors.\textsuperscript{535} The government also operates a telephone hotline to report trafficking in children.\textsuperscript{536}

The Government of Bolivia is working with NGOs and foreign governments to provide free birth registration and identity documentation to citizens in order to facilitate their access to social services, such as education, and reduce their vulnerability to trafficking.\textsuperscript{537} The IOM has identified child labor and teenage female sexual exploitation as a serious problem in Bolivia, and is working with the government to implement projects that address the trafficking of women and minors and to build the country’s capacity to prevent it.\textsuperscript{538}

The government participated in a USDOL-funded USD 1.5 million 4-year project, which ended in September, to improve the quality of and access to basic education for children engaged in mining in Bolivia. The project withdrew 101 children from exploitive labor in small-scale mining and prevented an additional 29 from becoming engaged in such activities.\textsuperscript{541}

In October 2006, the government announced a cash subsidy program for all primary school students conditioned on school attendance. The government intends to promote access to education and prevent children from entering work situations by providing their families with a stipend at the beginning of the school year and again at the end if the child completes the school term.\textsuperscript{542}


\textsuperscript{537} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Bolivia," section 5.

\textsuperscript{538} International Organization for Migration, \textit{Bolivia}, [online] [cited October 17, 2006]; available from http://www.iom.int/jahia/page447.html.


\textsuperscript{542} U.S. Embassy- La Paz official, "E-mail communication to, April 2, 2007."
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 19.3 percent of boys and 15.7 percent of girls 5 to 14 were working in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). Children occasionally assist their families with farm work and various jobs.

A significant number of children, especially ethnic Roma, live or work on the streets and are often forced to do harmful and exploitative work such as participating in begging rings. Roma children as young as 4 years have been known to beg on the streets, especially in larger cities. The majority of these children are under 14; most of the children do not attend school.

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Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000: 17.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work: 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory: 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education: Yes*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate: Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate: Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000: 76.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138: 6/2/1993</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182: 10/5/2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country: No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

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546 Ibid.
549 Ibid.
550 Ibid.
552 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
555 Ibid.
Children in Bosnia and Herzegovina have been trafficked for sexual exploitation and occasionally for labor; those who transited to the country generally continued on to Croatia.\textsuperscript{556} Roma children, in particular, have been known to be trafficked into and within the country for forced labor.\textsuperscript{557}

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The 1995 Dayton Accords (formally known as the General Framework Agreement for Peace [GFAP]) established two distinct entities within Bosnia and Herzegovina: the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH) and Republika Srpska (RS).\textsuperscript{558} BiH constitutional law supersedes entity laws where provisions are not uniform.\textsuperscript{559}

The minimum age for work in both FBiH and RS is 15 years.\textsuperscript{560} In both FBiH and RS, minors 15 to 18 must provide a valid health certificate in order to work.\textsuperscript{561} Both entities prohibit minors from performing overtime work.\textsuperscript{562} The law also prohibits minors from working jobs that could have harmful effects on their health, life, or psychophysical development.\textsuperscript{563} Night work by minors is banned, although temporary exemptions may be granted by the labor inspectorate in cases of machine breakdowns, force majeure, and threats to the country’s two political entities.\textsuperscript{564} In both FBiH and RS, employers found in violation of the above prohibitions must pay a fine.\textsuperscript{565}

The law prohibits forced or compulsory labor, including by children.\textsuperscript{566} The minimum age for compulsory military service in FBiH is 18; it is 16 years in times of war. In RS, the minimum age for compulsory military service is 18. For voluntary military service in both entities, 17 is the minimum age.\textsuperscript{567}

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\textsuperscript{556} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports - 2006: Bosnia and Herzegovina." Section 5 and 6c.

\textsuperscript{557} Ibid., Section 5.

\textsuperscript{558} U.S. Department of State, Background Note: Bosnia and Herzegovina, [online] September 2006 [cited November 2, 2006]; available from http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/2868.htm.

\textsuperscript{559} Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Article III, Section 3, para. b., (December 14, 1995); available from http://www.ohr.int/print/?content_id=372.

\textsuperscript{560} Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Decree on Promulgation of the Law on Amendments to the Labor Law, Article 12. See also Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, The Labor Law (RS), Article 14.

\textsuperscript{561} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{562} Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, The Labour Law (FBiH), Issue No. 43, (October 28, 1999), Articles 15, 32, and 51. See also Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, The Labor Law (RS), Articles 12, 41, and 69.

\textsuperscript{563} Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, The Labour Law (FBiH), Articles 15 and 51. See also Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, The Labor Law (RS), Article 69.

\textsuperscript{564} Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, The Labour Law (FBiH), Article 36. See also Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, The Labor Law (RS), Article 46.

\textsuperscript{565} Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Decree on Promulgation of the Law on Amendments to the Labor Law, Article 49. See also Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, The Labor Law (RS), Article 150.

\textsuperscript{566} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports - 2006: Bosnia and Herzegovina." Section 6c.

The BiH Criminal Code forbids any form of trafficking with the consequential punishments ranging from 1 to 10 years. Under the Criminal Codes of the two entities, procuring a juvenile or seeking opportunity for illicit sexual relations with a juvenile is specifically prohibited and is punishable with up to 5 years imprisonment. In FBiH, persons caught recruiting or luring juvenile females into prostitution face imprisonment of between 1 and 10 years. Under the RS Criminal Code, imprisonment of 1 to 12 years is authorized for individuals who, for profit, compel or lure persons under the age of 21 into offering sexual services, including by threat or use of force or by taking advantage of a persons’ stay in another country.

FBiH and RS entity governments are responsible for enforcing child labor laws; however, neither FBiH nor RS have dedicated child labor inspectors. Rather, violations of child labor laws are investigated as part of a general labor inspection. According to both entities’ labor inspectorates, no significant violations of child labor laws were found in the workplace in 2005, the most recent date that such information is available. However, investigation of children working on family farms was not conducted.

The State Prosecutor’s Office has sole jurisdiction over all trafficking cases and has the authority to decide which cases to prosecute at the state level and which ones to send to the entity level.

In 2006, the most recent date for which such information is available, of the 90 cases investigated and submitted to prosecutors, the courts handed down 32 verdicts, 21 of which resulted in convictions. Of the 21 convictions, 12 convicted traffickers received suspended sentences. The length of sentences imposed by the courts increased slightly from the previous year. One convicted trafficker was sentenced to 8 years' imprisonment for trafficking and 6 years for money laundering, the longest sentence ever imposed for trafficking offenses in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The judge also ordered seizure of the trafficker's apartment and payment of compensation to the victim. Police, prosecutors, and the anti-trafficking strike force coordinated their efforts in 2006, resulting in a successful raid of three well-known bars in central Bosnia. According to the U.S. Department of State, corruption among government officials has made it difficult to combat trafficking.


570 Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Criminal Code (FBiH), Articles 224 and 229.

571 Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Criminal Code (RS), Article 188.


573 Ibid., Section 5.

574 U.S. Embassy- Sarajevo, reporting, August 2, 2007.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The government is collaborating with the IOM to implement anti-trafficking assistance and prevention programs within the country. These efforts include raising media and public awareness of trafficking. IOM has also assisted the government in its management of counter-trafficking efforts such as developing a network of shelters for protecting victims and in the prosecution of traffickers. The government has increased its efforts against trafficking by: establishing a victim referral system, drafting bylaws regarding domestic trafficking victims, working with local NGOs to provide services to trafficking victims, incorporating trafficking awareness training into the public school curriculum, and providing training for police, prosecutors, judges, teachers, and social workers.

The State Border Service provided better training for its officers stationed at airports and border crossings on victim identification, interviewing techniques, and referral procedures. These officers have been given materials to consult to assist them in evaluating victims.

During the year, the Bosnian government, along with local NGOs, implemented a referral system that links trafficking victims with available shelter services and legal assistance.

UNICEF is working in FBiH to assess services available to trafficking victims to ensure that efforts to remove trafficked persons from exploitive situations does not result in further victimization. Specifically, UNICEF has worked to develop medical, legal, and counseling support services for children and minors.

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577 Ibid.
580 U.S. Embassy- Sarajevo, reporting, August 2005, Section 3.
582 Ibid.
Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Botswana are employed in agriculture, predominately subsistence farming, and family businesses. Anecdotal evidence suggests that some children are exploited in prostitution. In addition, there are unconfirmed reports that Botswana is a country of transit for children trafficked into South Africa.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for basic employment at 14 years, and for hazardous work, at 18 years. Under the law, children not attending school who have attained the age of 14 may be employed by family members, or as approved by the Commissioner of Labor, in light work that

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585 Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Gaborone, *reporting*, December 5, 2006, Para. 8.
590 Ibid.
594 Ibid., Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Gaborone official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, May 26, 2005.
is not harmful to their health and development and for no more than 6 hours per day and 30 hours per week.\textsuperscript{597} Children, defined as those under 15 years, and young persons, defined as those between 15 and 17 years, may not be employed in underground work, night work, or any work that is harmful to their health and development.\textsuperscript{598} Children may not work more than 3 consecutive hours, and young persons more than 4 hours, in industrial undertakings without a rest period of 30 minutes, absent the express permission of the Commissioner of Labor.\textsuperscript{599}

The law prohibits forced labor, although it does not specifically mention children.\textsuperscript{600} The law does not explicitly prohibit trafficking in persons, although separate statutes make kidnapping, slave trafficking, and procuring women and girls for prostitution illegal.\textsuperscript{601} Child prostitution and pornography are criminal offenses, and “defilement” of persons less than 16 years is punishable by a 10-year minimum prison sentence.\textsuperscript{602} The law specifically protects adopted children from being exploited for labor, and orphans from being coerced into prostitution.\textsuperscript{603} Military service is voluntary and the minimum age for enlisting in the armed forces is 18 years.\textsuperscript{604}

The Ministry of Labor and Home Affairs is tasked with enforcing child labor laws.\textsuperscript{605} Although its resources for oversight of remote areas in the country were limited, the Ministry was, in general, effective.\textsuperscript{606} The law authorizes the Commissioner of Labor to terminate the unlawful employment of children.\textsuperscript{607} The child welfare divisions of the district and municipal councils are also responsible for enforcing child labor laws.\textsuperscript{608} The maximum penalty for illegally employing a child is imprisonment for up to 12 months, a fine, or a combination of both.\textsuperscript{609}

\textbf{Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor}

The Government of Botswana is working with ILO-IPEC on a USDOL-funded regional child labor project in Southern Africa. Activities under this USD 5 million project in Botswana include research on the nature and incidence of exploitive child labor and efforts to build the

\begin{footnotes}
\footnote{600} Ibid., Part VI, Para. 71.
\footnote{603} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Botswana," Section 6d.
\footnote{606} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Botswana," Section 6d.
\footnote{608} U.S. Embassy- Gaborone, \textit{reporting}, \textit{December 5, 2006}, Para. 4.
\footnote{609} Ibid., para 4.
\end{footnotes}
capacity of the government to address child labor issues. The American Institutes for Research, with the support of the Government of Botswana, is implementing another regional USDOL-funded project. This USD 9 million project has been designed to combat the worst forms of child labor through the provision of quality, accessible education for children working or at-risk of working. This project aims to prevent 1,625 children from engaging in exploitive labor in Botswana.

The government included a module on children’s activities in its 2005/2006 national labor force survey. The preliminary results of the survey will help identify the extent and location of child labor in Botswana.

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612 Ibid., 20.
Brazil

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2004, approximately 7 percent of boys and 3.3 percent of girls 5 to 14 were working in Brazil. The majority of working children in Brazil were found in the agricultural sector (57.8 percent), followed by services (33.7 percent), manufacturing (7.2 percent) and other sectors (1.4 percent). Child labor is more prevalent in northeastern Brazil than in any other region, and it is equally common in rural and urban areas throughout the country. More minors of African descent are working than of any other race or ethnicity. Children work in approximately 116

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<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
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<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
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620 UNESCO Institute for Statistics, Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total, accessed December 18, 2006; available from http://stats.uis.unesco.org
624 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
625 Ministry of Labor and Employment, Mapa de Indicativos do Trabalho da Criança e do Adolescente, [online], 2005.
626 Ibid.
activities, including mining; fishing; raising livestock; producing charcoal and footwear; and harvesting corn, manioc, sugarcane, sisal and other crops in rural areas. In urban areas, common activities for working children include shining shoes, street peddling, begging, and working in restaurants, construction, and transportation. The Federal Labor Prosecutor’s Office estimates that 1.2 million minors are employed as domestic servants in Brazil, which it estimates to correspond to more than 20 percent of all working children. Other children and adolescents work as trash pickers, drug traffickers, and prostitutes, including in sex tourism and pornography.

Girls were trafficked domestically and overseas for commercial sexual exploitation to other South American countries, the United States, and Western Europe. Boys were trafficked internally as slave laborers.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The minimum age for general employment in Brazil is 16 years, and the minimum age for apprenticeships is 14 years. Minors who work as apprentices are required to attend school through the primary grades and to provide proof of parental permission to work. The law prohibits employees under 18 from working in unhealthy, dangerous, and arduous conditions; for long hours that impede school attendance; at night; or in settings where their physical, moral, or social well-being is adversely affected.

Adult prostitution is legal in Brazil, but inducing a child 14 to 18 years to participate in prostitution is punishable by imprisonment of 3 to 8 years and fines, and in cases of violence or fraud, 4 to 10 years and fines. Running a brothel is punishable by 2 to 5 years of imprisonment and fines. The law also provides for fines and prison terms of 4 to 10 years for anyone convicted of trafficking children 14 to 18 internally or across national borders for prostitution.

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634 Ibid.
637 Ibid.
with penalties of 5 to 12 years in cases of violence or fraud. The law does not address forced labor directly, but establishes imprisonment from 2 to 8 years and a fine for subjecting a person to slave-like conditions, with penalties increasing by one-half if the crime is committed against a child. Transporting workers by force from one locale to another within the national territory is punishable by imprisonment for 1 to 3 years and fines; penalties increase by one-sixth to one-third if the victim is under 18. The minimum age for conscription into the military service is 18 years, or 17 years on a voluntary basis.

The MLE is responsible for inspecting work sites for child labor violations. Inspections increasingly target informal employment, in part because of the declining number of children working in the formal sector. The MLE’s labor inspectors, stationed in 26 regional offices, continue to carry out unannounced child labor inspections throughout the year. Most inspections result from complaints to labor inspectors by workers, NGOs, teachers, the media, and other sources. Employers who violate Brazil’s child labor laws are subject to monetary fines, but inspectors typically negotiate agreements to have employers desist from labor law violations before levying fines. The Labor Inspection Secretariat reported that between January and August 2006, 8,326 children were removed from exploitive labor situations.

MLE labor inspectors often work closely with prosecutors from the Federal Labor Prosecutor’s Office (MPT). MPT prosecutors may investigate cases of child labor, bring charges against violators, and levy fines. In many municipalities, labor inspectors and prosecutors are aided by a network of legally-mandated Guardianship Councils that serve as reference centers for at-risk children and adolescents. By 2003, of the 5,578 municipalities, only 3,477 had established

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640 Ibid.
641 Decreto-Lei 2,848, (December 7,), Articles 149 and 207; available from https://www.presidencia.gov.br/ccivil_03/Decreto-Lei/De12848.htm.
647 Ibid.
such councils. The lack of greater compliance with the law has been blamed on lack of resources and political will at the local level.651

Government authorities involved in combating trafficking include the Ministry of Social Assistance (MDS), the Special Human Rights Secretariat (SEDH), the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MLE), the Ministry of Justice, and the Ministry of Tourism.652 The Federal Police continues to address trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation with their counterparts in Portugal, Spain, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, Mexico, and the United States.653 The U.S. Department of State has noted Brazil’s failure to pass anti-trafficking legislation and to assign effective criminal penalties against traffickers.654

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

Brazil’s National Commission to Eradicate Child Labor (CONAETI), composed of members from the federal government, worker and employer organizations, and civil society, is implementing the 2004-2007 National Plan to Eradicate Child Labor.656 A CONAETI sub-commission has revised the country’s list of the worst forms of child labor, as stipulated by ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labor. The Child-Friendly President Action Plan 2004-2007, which includes efforts to combat child labor and commercial sexual exploitation, continues to operate.657

The principal program to remove children from working in the most hazardous forms of child labor is the Program to Eradicate Child Labor (PETI), administered by the Ministry of Social Development and Combating Hunger (MDS) in conjunction with state and local authorities.658 Through PETI, families with children working in select hazardous activities receive stipends to remove their children from work and maintain them in school.659 In addition, PETI offers an after-school program to prevent children from working during non-school hours, which provides tutoring, nutritional snacks and sports, art, and cultural activities. Children between 7 and 15

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653 U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Brazil."
659 Ibid.
years are eligible to participate. The government is integrating PETI into the Family Stipend Program (see below). In addition, the MDS and the Ministry of Education are working to establish stronger standards and content for the PETI after-school program. At the end of 2006, the PETI program was offered in 3,296 municipalities and was providing stipends and services to approximately 1 million children and adolescents.

While PETI focuses on removing children from hazardous work, the Family Stipend (Bolsa Família) program aims to prevent child labor and promote education by supplementing family income and encouraging at-risk children and adolescents to attend school regularly. The program provides a monthly monetary stipend to impoverished families who agree to keep their children in school and meet other requirements related to health and nutrition.

The MDS’ Youth Agent of Social and Human Development (Projeto Agente Jovem de Desenvolvimento Social e Humano) program provides training in personal, social, community development and job skills for youth between 15 and 17 years and aims to reintegrate and retain them in school. The program targets adolescents who have “graduated” out of other social programs, including PETI. The program reached approximately 112,000 adolescents in 2006.

The Government of Brazil, in coordination with ILO-IPEC, is implementing a USDOL-funded USD 6.5 million Timebound Program to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in domestic service, prostitution, hazardous work in agriculture, and other informal sector activities. The project aims to withdraw 4,026 children from exploitive labor and prevent an additional 1,974 from becoming involved in such activities. Another USDOL-funded USD 5 million program implemented by Partners of the Americas in coordination with the Government of Brazil aims to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in illicit drug cultivation and the commercial sexual exploitation of children through the provision of quality basic education in areas of northern and northeastern Brazil. The project aims to withdraw 4,596 children from exploitive labor and prevent an additional 6,600 from becoming engaged in similar activities.

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660 Ibid.  
661 ILO-IPEC, Brazil Time-Bound Program, August 2006 Technical Progress Report, 3.  
666 ILO-IPEC, Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Brazil - Support for the Time-bound Program on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor, project document, September 30, 2003. See also USDOL, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary: Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Brazil-Support for the Time-bound Program on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor, project summary.  
667 Partners of the Americas, EDUCAR Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor through Education in Brazil, project document, Washington, DC, August 20, 2003. See also USDOL, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary: EDUCAR-Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor through Education in Brazil, project summary.
The Government of Brazil and the other governments of MERCOSUL (the Brazilian acronym for the “Common Market of the South”) developed the “Niño Sur” (“Southern Child”) initiative to defend the rights of children and adolescents in the region. The initiative has three main areas of priority: the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents (including trafficking); child labor; and youth criminal justice. Action strategies include the harmonization of legal frameworks, unified public campaigns and joint actions in border cities.668

The National Plan to Fight Sexual Violence against Children and Adolescents provides the policy framework for the government programs to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents.669 A number of government agencies, including the SEDH, are carrying out initiatives to assist victims and raise awareness.670 The primary program to assist child victims of commercial sexual exploitation is the Social Assistance Specialized Reference Centers Program (CREAS). By the end of 2006, CREAS centers were established in 1,126 municipalities.671

In January 2006, with support from the Ministry of Tourism and the SEDH, World Vision launched a 6-month campaign against child sexual tourism in hotels and airports of eight state capitals. The main focus of the campaign was to combat impunity of foreigners involved in the commercial sexual exploitation of minors.672 The SEDH also implements a telephone hotline in every state for reporting sexual violence against children and adolescents.673

In October 2006, the president established a national-level anti-trafficking policy and an inter-ministerial working group charged with drafting a National Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons.674 The policy provides a framework for the prevention of trafficking, the prosecution of violators, and the protection of trafficking victims.675 The Ministry of Justice heads the inter-ministerial working group, which includes representatives from many federal agencies including

673 ILO-IPEC, Brazil Time-bound Program, August 2006 technical progress report, 4. See also Agência de Notícias dos Direitos da Infância, "Disque-Denúncia amplia o horário de atendimento", [online], September 28, 2006; available from http://www.andi.org.br/.
674 U.S. Department of State, Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment: Brazil, online, January 19 2007, [accessed January 30, 2007]; available from http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/78948.htm. See also Government of Brazil, Decreto No. 5.948, de 26 de Outubro de 2006, Articles 2 and 3.
675 Government of Brazil, Decreto No. 5.948, de 26 de Outubro de 2006, Article 1 of Annex.
the SEDH, the Special Secretariat for Women’s Policy, The Special Secretariat for the Promotion of Racial Equality, the MDS, the Ministry of Health, the MLE, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Tourism. Also in October 2006, the government launched a national trafficking database designed to document and analyze trafficking-related statistics more effectively.

In November 2006, the Ministry of Justice initiated the second phase of a program managed by the UNODC that will design the National Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons, raise awareness on the issue, and expand the country’s database on trafficking victims and perpetrators. UNODC aims to expand project implementation to all Brazilian states, and it will locate centers in the principal national airports with personnel trained to receive possible trafficking victims.

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676 Ibid., Article 3.
677 U.S. Department of State, Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment: Brazil.
Burkina Faso

**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2003:</td>
<td>47.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2003:</td>
<td>27.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>76%</td>
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<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
<td>11/02/1999</td>
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<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>07/25/2001</td>
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<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC Participating Country:</td>
<td>Yes, associated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.*

**Burkina Faso**

**Incidence and Nature of Child Labor**

In 2003, approximately 46.4 percent of boys and 47.4 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Burkina Faso. The majority of working children in Burkina Faso were found in the agricultural sector (97.4 percent), followed by services (2.0 percent), manufacturing (0.4 percent), and other sectors (0.2 percent). Burkina Faso is a source, transit, and destination country for children trafficked for the purpose of forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Children are trafficked to work in domestic service, street vending, agriculture, prostitution, mining and the quarry sector.

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**Notes:**


686 Ibid.


688 Ibid.


690 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.


Burkina Faso is a destination country for children trafficked from Nigeria and Mali. Children from Burkina Faso are trafficked into Benin, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, and Togo.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years and prohibits children under 18 from working at night except in times of emergency. The law also defines and prohibits the worst forms of child labor for children following ILO Convention 182. A decree lists the types of businesses in which children under 18 years may not work. Under the law, children and adolescents under 20 years may not undertake work that could harm their reproductive abilities. Slavery and slavery-like practices, inhumane and cruel treatment, and physical or emotional abuse of children are forbidden by the Labor Code. The law also prohibits forced and compulsory labor. The minimum age for voluntary recruitment into the military is 20 years, and for compulsory recruitment is 18 years.

The law prohibits child trafficking for economic or sexual exploitation; illegal adoption; early or forced marriage; or any other purpose that is harmful to a child’s health, well-being, or physical or mental development. Anyone who engages in child trafficking, or who is aware of a child trafficking case and does not report it, is subject to 1 to 5 years of imprisonment. The penalty is increased to 5 to 10 years of imprisonment if the child is under 15 years or if the act was committed using fraud or violence. The perpetrator is subject to a life sentence if the victim dies or is permanently disabled or if the purpose of the trafficking was for the removal of organs. In 2005, the police intercepted 1,253 trafficked children and arrested 44 child traffickers. Six traffickers have been sentenced to prison and two are awaiting trial in detention. However, reports indicate most traffickers are released by police after only a short stay in custody.

The penal code forbids any involvement in the prostitution of persons and explicitly prohibits the prostitution of persons less than 18 years; such violations are punishable by 2 to 5 years of

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698 Ibid., Article 148.
699 Ibid., Articles 5 and 6.
imprisonment and fines.\textsuperscript{704} Contributing to the corruption or debauchery of a minor is also illegal and is subject to the same penalties.\textsuperscript{705} Penalties specified for these crimes apply regardless of the country in which the offenses are committed.\textsuperscript{706}

The Ministry of Labor and Social Security and that of Social Action and National Solidarity are responsible for enforcing child labor laws; but, according to the U.S. Department of State, they lack the means to do so adequately.\textsuperscript{707} A Presidential Decree promulgated on August 4, 2006 created a department in charge of child labor and its worst forms within the General Directorate in charge of occupational health and safety of the Ministry of Labor and Social Security.\textsuperscript{708}

Violations of minimum age and forced labor laws are subject to imprisonment of up to 10 years, and violations of laws prohibiting the worst forms of child labor are governed by the penalties set forth by the child trafficking legislation.\textsuperscript{709} The national police, gendarmes, customs service, and labor inspectors share responsibility for investigating child labor violations.\textsuperscript{710} Because of resource constraints, the government provides minimal support to Burkinabe trafficking victims; it helps repatriate foreign nationals as well as Burkinabe children.\textsuperscript{711}

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Burkina Faso participates in a USD 9.5 million regional USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC project to combat the trafficking of children for exploitive labor in West and Central Africa. The project targets 9,000 children for withdrawal and prevention from trafficking in 6 countries, including Burkina Faso.\textsuperscript{712} The government also takes part in a USD 3 million USDOL-funded child labor education project that targets 2,400 victims of child trafficking and children at risk of being trafficked for withdrawal and prevention through the promotion of education.\textsuperscript{713} Additionally, the government participates in a USD 3 million regional USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC project to combat child labor in small-scale gold mining. The project targets 1,500 children to be withdrawn and 2,500 children to be prevented from exploitive work in gold mining in Burkina Faso and Niger.\textsuperscript{714}

\begin{footnotes}
\item[706] Ibid., Articles 334 and 334-1.
\item[708] Save the Children-Canada, \textit{Training and Education Against Trafficking (TREAT)}, technical progress report, Toronto, September 25, 2006.
\item[710] U.S. Embassy- Ouagadougou, \textit{reporting. December 18, 2006}.
\item[711] U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Burkina Faso."
\item[713] Save the Children-Canada, \textit{TREAT, technical progress report}.
\end{footnotes}
In July 2006, Burkina Faso was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the U.S. Department of Labor-funded, ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.

The government worked with ILO-IPEC and other international donors to address child trafficking by training customs officers, and educating parents and children about the dangers of trafficking. With funding from UNICEF, the government produced a TV and radio series on child labor and child trafficking. There is one reintegration center in the capital for at-risk children, and the government operates 19 transit centers throughout the country for trafficked children. The government also cooperates with NGOs and international organizations to reintegrate child trafficking victims. Additionally, the government has provided micro-credit loans to some families of child trafficking victims as an income-generating alternative to trafficking their children for labor. The government supports Vigilance and Surveillance Committees throughout the country and has trained them on how to identify and assist trafficking victims. Burkina Faso was signatory to a nine-member multilateral cooperative agreement to combat child trafficking in West Africa.
**Burundi**

### Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 32.3 percent of boys and 30.1 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Burundi.\(^{732}\) Children in Burundi work in subsistence agriculture, family-based businesses, mining and brick-making industries, and the informal sector.\(^{733}\) In 2004, the Ministry for National Solidarity, Human Rights, and Gender estimated that there were approximately 5,000 children in Burundi work in subsistence agriculture, family-based businesses, mining and brick-making industries, and the informal sector.

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\(^{724}\) Ibid.


\(^{727}\) UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.


\(^{730}\) Ibid.


\(^{732}\) UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

\(^{733}\) U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Burundi," Section 6d.
street children in Burundi. Such children are involved in activities such as portering and hawking goods.

Until September 2006, when it signed a cease-fire agreement with the government, the rebel group, Party for the Liberation of the Hutu People/National Liberation Front (PALIPEHUTU-FNL), continued to recruit children and use them as combatants. UNICEF reported that government armed forces did not use children as combatants, but there were reports that the military used children as guides and informers. Reports also indicate that the government has illegally detained former child soldiers who served in rebel groups rather than provide them with services such as demobilization and reintegration. Since the signing of the cease-fire agreement, there have been conflicting reports regarding whether the PALIPEHUTU-FNL’s practice of child recruitment has continued.

Until the September cease-fire agreement, children in Burundi were trafficked for the purposes of child soldiering; the government and a prominent NGO report that such trafficking no longer occurs in the country. Children in Burundi may be trafficked within the country and to neighboring countries for forced labor.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment in Burundi is 16 years. Children 12 to 16 are permitted to engage in light work or apprenticeships that do not jeopardize their health, development, or

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737 U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Burundi," Section 1g. See also UN Secretary-General, Report of the Secretary-General, para 21.
739 U.S. Embassy- Bujumbura official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, January 30, 2007. See also ILO-IPEC, Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: An Inter-Regional Programme, technical progress report, Geneva, March 2007, 3.
ability to attend and benefit from school. Children under 16 years may work a maximum of 6 hours per day, are prohibited from working at night, and must have rest periods of at least 12 hours between work sessions. The law allows for medical examinations to determine if a child’s work causes undue physical stress. Employers found in violation of the provisions for the work of young persons are subject to fines and, for repeat offenses, closure of the place of employment.

The law prohibits forced labor, except in special circumstances such as military service, civic obligations in the public interest, or as a result of a judicial decision. Inciting, exploiting, or facilitating the prostitution of persons under 21 is subject to fines and imprisonment of up to 10 years. Offenses against the decency of a child are punishable by prison terms of 5 to 15 years. The law does not specifically prohibit trafficking; however, traffickers can be prosecuted under laws against assault, fraud, kidnapping, rape, prostitution, and slavery, and can face up to 20 years in prison. The minimum age of compulsory recruitment to armed forces is 16. The Ministry of Defense has issued instructions that soldiers found to be forcing children to perform menial work be disciplined, with punishments ranging from a reduction in pay to confinement.

The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws. According to the U.S. Department of State, it only enforces such laws when complaints are filed because, at least in part, of a lack of labor inspectors. The Ministry for National Solidarity, Human Rights, and Gender is responsible for combating trafficking. During 2006, there were arrests of alleged traffickers, but no prosecutions.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

During the year, the Government of Burundi and former rebel groups collaborated on a USD 3.5 million project implemented by UNICEF under the World Bank’s Multi-Country Demobilization and Reintegration Program to demobilize, reintegrate, and prevent re-recruitment of child

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744 ILO Committee of Experts, Individual Direct Request. See also Décret loi no. 1/037 du 7 juillet 1993 portant révision du Code du travail, Articles 119-120.
745 Décret loi no. 1/037 du 7 juillet 1993 portant révision du Code du travail, Article 128.
746 ILO Committee of Experts, Individual Direct Request.
748 Government of Burundi, Offenses Against Public Morals, Articles 372 and 382; available from http://209.190.246.239/protectionproject/statutesPDF/BurundiIP.pdf. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, Burundi.
soldiers. As of June 2006, when the project closed, more than 3,000 children had been
demobilized and provided with services, which included medical and psychosocial services,
educational and vocational training opportunities, loans, and other forms of support. Since June,
the government and UNICEF have continued to provide support for children receiving education
and vocational training. The government also participated in a global USD 7 million
USDOL-funded project implemented by ILO-IPEC to prevent the involvement of children in
armed conflict and support the rehabilitation of former child soldiers. The project targeted a total
of 5,264 children for withdrawal and 4,250 children for prevention from involvement with armed
groups in seven countries, including Burundi. Language on the demobilization of child
soldiers was included in the cease-fire agreement signed by the PALIPEHUTU-FNL, and with
the support of UNICEF and other partners, the government has provided services to 26 children
from the rebel group.

The government has carried out public awareness campaigns against the use of child soldiers. Burundi is also participating in the implementation of a monitoring system on the use of children in armed conflict under UN Security Council Resolution 1612.

In July 2006, 24 of the 26 governments represented in the ECOWAS and the ECASS
participated in a Joint Ministerial Conference on Trafficking in Persons held in Nigeria to
develop a common understanding of trafficking in West and Central Africa and to adopt a
common set of strategies against trafficking in persons, especially women and children. During
the Ministerial Conference, Burundi was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative
Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and
Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women
and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral
Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking
monitoring system developed by the USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC West and Central Africa
LUTRENA trafficking project; ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot
easily be falsified or altered; provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and

754 World Bank, Burundi, [online] October 2006 [cited October 4, 2006]; available from
755 See ILO-IPEC, Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: An Inter-Regional
756 UN Secretary-General, Report of the Secretary-General, 8. See also Olalekan Ajia, UN Special Representative
Commends Demobilization of Child Soldiers in Burundi, [online] March 27, 2007 [cited April 1, 2007]; available
758 Brenda Kariuki, UNICEF Deputy Executive Director Sees Burundi's Progress in Education and Demobilization
of Child Soldiers, Bujumbura, February 7, 2006; available from
759 ECOWAS and ECASS, Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially
Women and Children, in West and Central Africa, Abuja, July 7, 2006. See also Catholic Relief Services official,
E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 2, 2006.
prosecution of trafficking offenders; protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.  

Cambodia

In 2001, approximately 45 percent of boys and 44.6 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Cambodia. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (76.5 percent), followed by services (17.7 percent), manufacturing (4.9 percent) and other sectors (0.9 percent). Children work in hazardous conditions on commercial rubber plantations, in salt production, in fish processing, in portering, in brick making, and as rubbish pickers, on

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764 Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy-Phnom Penh, reporting, December 28, 2006.
770 Ibid.
772 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
tobacco plantations, and in making handicrafts. Children also work processing sea products; breaking, quarrying or collecting stones; in gem and coal mining; and in restaurants. Children, primarily girls, also work as domestic servants. Most of these child domestics are girls 14 to 17 years old, though it is not uncommon to find them as young as 8 or 9. They typically work 12 to 16 hours a day, 7 days a week.774

Cambodia is reported to be a country of origin, transit, and destination for trafficking in children for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor, including begging. Cambodian children are trafficked to Thailand and Vietnam; and Vietnamese children are trafficked to Cambodia for commercial sexual exploitation or forced labor in begging, soliciting, street vending, and flower selling.777

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The Labor Law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years, although a later 1999 ministerial decree sets the minimum age at 14 years.779 The law allows children 12 to 15 years to perform light work that is not hazardous and does not affect regular school attendance or participation in other training programs.780 Cambodian law prohibits work that is hazardous to the mental and physical development of children under 18, including in agriculture and domestic work.781 Employers who hire children less than 18 years are liable to a fine of 31 to 60 days of the daily wage.782 The law also prohibits hiring people to work to pay debts.783 The law lists 38 types of hazardous work, such as tanning, logging, using chemicals in textile production, etc., in which children under 18 are not permitted to work. The law separately identifies domestic work as hazardous, states that children under 12 shall not carry out domestic work, and sets guidelines for children 12 to 14 undertaking domestic work. Night work is generally prohibited for children.784 The law also states that no one under 18 shall work in underground mines or quarries, or work from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. Lists of working children must be kept by employers and must be submitted to labor inspectors, and children who have parents or guardians must have their consent in order to work.785

776 U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 31, 2007.
779 U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh reporting, August 30, 2005.
784 Ibid., Articles 175-176.
The Constitution prohibits prostitution and the trafficking of human beings.\textsuperscript{786} Penalties for brothel owners, operators, and individuals who prostitute others include prison terms of between 10 to 20 years, depending on the age of the victim.\textsuperscript{787} The law also stipulates 10 to 15 years of imprisonment for traffickers and their accomplices. If the victim is under 15 years old, violators face penalties of 15 to 20 years of imprisonment. Acts of debauchery are outlawed, and although the legal definition of debauchery does not explicitly include pornography, the courts have prosecuted several cases of child pornography under the law.\textsuperscript{789}

The law prohibits all forced or compulsory labor.\textsuperscript{790} The minimum age for conscription into military service is 18 years.\textsuperscript{791}

The Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training (MOLVT) is responsible for enforcing the child-related provisions of the Cambodian Labor Law.\textsuperscript{792} However, the Labor Law only applies to formal employer-employee relationships and does not cover many areas of informal sector work such as family businesses and farms, begging, scavenging, hauling, day labor, the commercial sex industry, or participation in any illegal activities, where the most serious child labor problems exist.\textsuperscript{793} No employer has ever been prosecuted for violating child labor laws.\textsuperscript{794} Local police are responsible for enforcing laws against child trafficking and prostitution.\textsuperscript{795} According to the U.S. Department of State, although the government has increased arrests and prosecutions of traffickers and has increased the number of prevention and protection programs, anti-trafficking efforts continue to be hampered by reported corruption and a weak judicial system.\textsuperscript{797} During 2006, the police arrested 670 offenders including 65 arrests for cross border and domestic trafficking.\textsuperscript{798} Thirteen foreign nationals were arrested for debauchery between March 2006 and January 2007.\textsuperscript{799}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans, and Youth Rehabilitation (MOSAVY) Action Program 2004-2008 places strong emphasis on child welfare and protection. Specific goals include

\textsuperscript{787} *Law on the Suppression of Kidnapping*, Article 3.
\textsuperscript{789} U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, reporting, August 30, 2005.
\textsuperscript{792} U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, reporting, August 23, 2004.
\textsuperscript{793} U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, reporting, November 6, 2003. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Cambodia," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{794} U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, reporting, August 30, 2005.
\textsuperscript{797} Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, reporting, March 5, 2007.
\textsuperscript{798} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Cambodia," section 5.
\textsuperscript{799} U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, reporting, March 5, 2007.
The Government of Cambodia is participating in a USD 4.75 million USDOL-funded Timebound Program supported by ILO-IPEC to eliminate child labor in specified worst forms...
and to create a platform for eliminating all forms of child labor. The program targets children involved in brick-making, portering, rubber-making, domestic work, salt production, fish processing, and services. It targets 7,270 children to be withdrawn from work and 8,660 to be prevented from engaging in child labor. Cambodia is also part of a USDOL-funded global project that aims to substantially reduce the engagement of children in the worst forms of child labor. The government is also participating in a 4-year, USDOL-funded USD 3 million project that focuses on providing education opportunities to those children who have been or have the potential to be trafficked. The project, which was launched in 2003, targets 13,500 children at risk of commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking. The project works in the provinces of Banteay Meancheay, Kampong Cham, and Prey Veng, as well as Phnom Penh. USDOL also funds a USD 500,000 project to assist in the reintegration of trafficked women and children. The project provides a range of counseling, training and rehabilitation services to girls and women in the Phnom Penh area.

The U.S. Presidential Anti-Trafficking in Persons Initiative allocated USD 5.6 million to support programs to combat trafficking in Cambodia through 2006. In addition, in August 2006, USAID committed USD 4.5 million over three years to combat trafficking. Cambodia also participates in a project supported by ASEAN and AusAID on the elimination of trafficking in women and children in four Southeast Asian countries and China’s Yunnan Province.

Starting in 2006, AusAID is also providing funding for several activities in Cambodia. The “Mobilizing Communities for Child Protection” project and “A Child Safe Cambodia” project will work to protect the rights of children against commercial sexual exploitation and abuse. These projects total almost USD 3 million and will last through 2010. In addition, AusAID has committed to provide USD 15.8 million over the next 5 years to combat human trafficking in four countries including Cambodia.

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812 U.S. Department of Labor, Technical Cooperation Project Summary: Reintegration of Trafficked Women, Washington, DC.
814 HumanTrafficking.org, U.S. Promises Funding to Counter Human Trafficking in Cambodia, [online] [cited January 31, 2007]; available from http://www.humantrafficking.org/updates/442.
816 Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), Aid Activities in Cambodia, [online] [cited November 3, 2006]; available from http://www.ausaid.gov.au/country/cbrief.cfm?DCon=1061_5593_9716_8236_8498&Coun...
Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 14.5 percent of boys and 17.4 percent of girls ages 10 to 14 were working in Cameroon. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (88.2 percent), followed by services (7.1 percent), manufacturing (2.1 percent), and other sectors (2.6 percent). Some children work on cocoa farms as well as on banana and rubber plantations. Children also work as load bearers, traders, street vendors, car washers, and domestic servants. Children are also found working in fisheries, livestock raising, and

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**Cameroon**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 10-14 estimated as working in 2001:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 10-14 attending school in 2001:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>*Must pay for school supplies and related items.</sup>

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<sup>823</sup> UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.


<sup>826</sup> Ibid.


<sup>828</sup> UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.


According to the Ministry of Social Affairs, children from large rural families are “loaned” for labor in exchange for monetary compensation in urban areas where they serve as domestics and street vendors, and sometimes as prostitutes. 

Cameroon is a source, transit, and destination country for trafficking of children for the purposes of forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation. While most of the trafficking occurs domestically, Cameroonian children are trafficked to Nigeria, Gabon, and the Central African Republic. Children are also trafficked to Cameroon from Nigeria, Chad, Gabon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Central African Republic, Benin, and Niger. Cameroon also serves as a country of transit for children trafficked between other countries such as Nigeria, Benin, Niger, Chad, Togo, the Republic of the Congo, and the Central African Republic. Girls are trafficked from Anglophone areas in Cameroon to the Francophone cities of Yaoundé and Douala to work as domestic servants, street vendors, prostitutes, as well as in child care; the children’s unfamiliarity with the language makes it easier for employers to assert their control. 

The law also specifies that children cannot work in any job that exceeds their physical capacity, and the Labor Inspector can require child laborers to take a medical exam to determine if such a situation exists. The law also restricts the tasks that children may perform on ships and requires medical certificates in certain cases to verify their capacity for the type of work. 

Violations of child labor provisions are punishable by fines.

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831 UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Reports submitted by states parties under article 44 of the convention, para. 275.
835 U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Cameroon."
837 Government of Cameroon, Cameroon Labor Code, Article 86(1).
838 Ibid., Article 82(2).
840 Government of Cameroon, Cameroon Labor Code, Article 87(1).
841 Ibid., Article 86(2).
842 Ibid., Article 167.
The law prohibits slavery and servitude, and it guarantees the right to free choice of employment. The penalty for a person who subjects a child to debt bondage is 5 to 10 years in prison and a fine. Cameroon’s anti-trafficking law defines child trafficking as the act of moving or helping to move a child within or outside Cameroon to reap financial or material benefit. Under the law, individuals who traffic or enslave a child are subject to the punishment of a prison sentence of 10 to 20 years and a fine; if the child is under 15 years or if the offender is the victim’s parent, the punishment increases to 15 to 20 years of imprisonment. Cameroonian law also prohibits procuring prostitutes, including sharing the profits from another person’s prostitution, and sets the penalty as a fine and imprisonment for 6 months to 5 years, which doubles if the crime involves a person less than 21 years. Military conscription is not compulsory in Cameroon. The minimum age for voluntary recruitment is 18, although enlistment under 18 is permitted with parental consent.

The Ministries of Social Affairs, Labor, and Social Insurance enforce child labor laws through site inspections of registered businesses. The country has 58 labor inspectors who are responsible for investigating child labor cases. However, the U.S. Department of State reports that a lack of resources hindered the efforts to combat child labor. The Ministries of Labor, Social Insurance, and Social Affairs are also the lead government agencies responsible for anti-trafficking efforts. In November 2006, police arrested 9 traffickers carrying 16 Nigerian children; Cameroonian authorities planned to repatriate the victims to the proper Nigerian authorities.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Between 2002 and 2006, the Government of Cameroon participated in a USD 6 million ILO-IPEC regional project jointly funded by USDOL and the cocoa industry’s Global Issues Group to combat exploitive child labor in the cocoa sector. The project closed in April 2006, and withdrew 8,756 children and prevented an additional 2,844 from exploitive work in the cocoa and other sub-agricultural sectors. With the support of USDOL, the Government of Cameroon is also taking part in a USD 9 million project implemented by ILO-IPEC to combat trafficking in

845 Ibid., Article 2(b).
846 Ibid., Articles 4-5.
851 Ibid., Section 5. Also see U.S. Embassy- Yaounde, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 1, 2007.
854 Ibid.
children in West and Central Africa; the project aims at withdrawing and preventing 9,000 children from trafficking.\textsuperscript{855} USAID and the chocolate industry fund the Sustainable Tree Crops Program in Cameroon, a public-private partnership that promotes sustainable tree crop systems, including coffee, cocoa, and cashews, and contains a component to prevent and eliminate the worst forms of child labor on farms.\textsuperscript{856}

The Government of Cameroon works with local and international NGOs to assist trafficking victims, including placing them in temporary shelters.\textsuperscript{857} UNICEF is using a multifaceted approach in Cameroon to combat the exploitation and trafficking of children: raising public awareness, promoting education as a preventative strategy against child labor, and establishing a legal framework and penalties.\textsuperscript{858} Both the government-owned and independent media have also engaged in awareness-raising activities, which included coverage of anti-trafficking press conferences, meetings, and events such as information week on the trafficking of African girls for sexual exploitation.\textsuperscript{859} The U.S. Department of State funded a USD 500,000 project in Cameroon to combat trafficking in children for exploitive labor until December 2006.\textsuperscript{860} The Government of Cameroon, along with ILO-IPEC, continued other awareness-raising activities to eliminate child trafficking in airports by distributing anti-trafficking embarkation and disembarkation cards.\textsuperscript{861}


\textsuperscript{860} ILO-IPEC Geneva official, IPEC projects from all non-USDOL donors E-mail communication USDOL official, March 1, 2007.

\textsuperscript{861} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Cameroon," Section 5.
Cape Verde

**Incidence and Nature of Child Labor**

Children in Cape Verde work as street vendors and car washers in urban areas including Mindelo, Praia, and Sal.  

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law states that the minimum age for employment is 16 years, and the minimum age for apprentice contracts is 14 years. Employment contracts entered into by children under 18 can

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistics</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age of work:</td>
<td>16[^862]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>11[^863]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes[^864]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>111%[^865]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>92%[^866]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>91%[^867]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
<td>No[^868]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>10/23/2001[^869]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>No[^870]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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[^862]: U.S. Embassy-Praia, reporting, August 26, 2005.
[^872]: U.S. Embassy- Praia, reporting, August 26, 2005.
be invalidated at the request of the parents or legal representatives. In general, the normal working hours for those under age 18 may not exceed 38 hours a week and 7 hours a day. The law prohibits children under age 16 from working at night or in enterprises that produce toxic products. Those over age 16 are allowed to work at night only when it is essential to their vocational training. The legal remedies for violating child labor laws include civil compensation for the victims, as well as criminal penalties of up to 10 and a half years of imprisonment and seizure of the violator’s assets.

The law prohibits compulsory labor, including by children. The compulsory recruitment age for military service is 18 years, but 17-year-olds may volunteer with parental consent. Although prostitution is legal, the law prohibits the facilitation and procurement of children under 16 for the purpose of prostitution. Criminal penalties range from 9 to 19 years of imprisonment if the victim is under 14, and from 2 to 8 years if the victim is 14 to 16 years. These penalties are increased in cases where the perpetrator exploits a victim’s economic hardship, uses violence, or abuses a position of authority. Enhanced penalties are also imposed in cases of procurement that involve pregnancy, the transmission of disease, and suicide or death. The trafficking of those under 18 is illegal; sentences for trafficking in children have ranged from 2 to 16 years of imprisonment.

The Director-General for Labor and Inspector General for Labor implement and enforce labor laws, including child labor laws and regulations. The Ministries of Justice and Labor were responsible for enforcing child labor laws; however, such laws were seldom enforced.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Djibouti to address exploitive child labor.


874 Ibid.

875 Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Cape Verde," In, *Country Reports- 2006: Cape Verde*.

876 UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports: Cape Verde*.


882 The Protection Project, "Cape Verde."


Central African Republic

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistics</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:</td>
<td>38.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, in the Central African Republic, approximately 60.4 percent of all boys 5 to 14 were working compared to 61.7 percent of girls in the same age range. Children work in agriculture, domestic service, fishing, and mining. They also reportedly work alongside adult relatives in diamond fields. Some children work on farms at school.

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887 Loi No 61/221, Instituant le Code du Travail de la République Centrafricaine, (June 2, 1961), Article 125.
891 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
893 Ibid.
895 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
897 Ibid.
These children, many orphaned by HIV/AIDS, are engaged in various economic activities including hauling, street vending, washing dishes in small eateries, and begging. Some girls are also involved in commercial sexual exploitation. Children from some indigenous groups are forced into agricultural, domestic, and other forms of labor by other ethnic groups in the country. In addition, anecdotal evidence suggests that a number of boys have joined rebel forces fighting the government in the northwest region of the country.

The Central African Republic is both a source and a destination for children trafficked for forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Children are reportedly trafficked to and from Cameroon and Nigeria. In addition to commercial sexual exploitation, trafficked children work in domestic services and as forced labor in shops and commercial activities. Also, anecdotal evidence suggests that children may be trafficked to other nearby countries to work in agriculture. In addition, traveling merchants, herders, and other foreigners working in and transiting through the country sometimes brought boys and girls with them. Such children did not attend school and were not paid for their work.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years. However, children who are at least 12 years old may engage in light work, such as traditional agriculture or home services.

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905 Ibid.


Children under 18 years old are forbidden to perform certain kinds of work, including work in mines, work that involves carrying heavy loads, or work between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m.\textsuperscript{908} The law prohibits a company or parent from using children in mining. Violators are subject to imprisonment of 6 months to 3 years.\textsuperscript{909} Forced labor is prohibited under the law. Although they are not specifically mentioned, the prohibition against forced and compulsory labor applies to children.\textsuperscript{910} The minimum age for enlisting in the armed forces is 18 years.\textsuperscript{911}

The law prohibits the procurement of individuals for sexual purposes, including assisting in or profiting from prostitution, with penalties that include imprisonment of 1 month and 1 day to 1 year. Those found guilty of engaging in such acts with minors, which the law defines as persons less than 15 years of age, face penalties of imprisonment from 1 to 5 years. The law also establishes penalties including imprisonment from 2 to 5 years if a school official commits a sex offense involving a female student. The ILO’s Committee of Experts has raised questions about whether the country’s laws adequately protect children under 18 from prostitution.\textsuperscript{912}

The law does not specifically prohibit trafficking.\textsuperscript{913} However, traffickers can be prosecuted under anti-slavery laws, laws against sexual exploitation, mandatory school-age laws, the labor code, and laws against prostitution.\textsuperscript{914} In addition, the law establishes a penalty of imprisonment from 5 to 10 years for any person who abducts or causes the abduction of a child younger than 15 years old.\textsuperscript{915}

The Ministry of Civil Service, Labor and Social Security, specifically its Labor Inspection body, is tasked with implementing and enforcing child labor laws.\textsuperscript{916} However, the Ministry lacks sufficient resources for enforcement and has only 47 labor inspectors.\textsuperscript{917} The U.S. Department of State reports that enforcement of child labor laws occurs infrequently.\textsuperscript{918} Community brigades have been established to punish persons responsible for forcing children into prostitution.

\textsuperscript{910} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Central African Republic," Sections 6c and 6d.
\textsuperscript{914} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{915} \textit{Code Pénal de la République Centrafricaine}, (2000), Article 212.
\textsuperscript{918} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Central African Republic," Section 6d.
However, few cases have been prosecuted because of the reluctance of victims’ families to press charges. The government does not currently investigate trafficking cases.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of the Central African Republic to specifically address exploitive child labor.

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In 2004, approximately 56.1 percent of boys and 49.7 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Chad. Children work in agriculture and herding throughout the country, and as street vendors, manual laborers, helpers in small shops, and domestic servants in the capital.

There have been reports of children being contracted out by their parents to nomadic herders to tend their animals; some such children are subject to forced labor. There have also been reports of child soldiering. It was reported by U.N. officials that more than 4,700 men and boys

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2004: 53% [921]
Minimum age for admission to work: 14 [922]
Age to which education is compulsory: 12 [923]
Free public education: Yes [924]
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004: 82% [925]
Net primary enrollment rate in 2003: 57% [926]
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2004: 39.6% [927]
As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: 35% [928]
Ratified Convention 138: 3/21/2005 [929]
Ratified Convention 182: 11/6/2000 [930]
ILO-IPEC Participating Country: No [931]

* In certain instances, parents have been required to pay teachers’ salaries.

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928 Ibid.
930 Ibid.
932 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
933 U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Chad," Section 6d.
were forcibly taken away from their families in Chad by Sudanese fighters to work as porters and
gun cleaners for the Sudanese fighting forces. A 2003 study by ECPAT estimated that more
than 11,000 Chadian children live and work on the streets and often fall victim to violence,
including sexual exploitation.

Chad is a country of origin, transit, and destination for children trafficked for sexual exploitation
and forced labor. The majority of children are trafficked within Chad for work in domestic
service, begging, and herding. Children are trafficked from the Central African Republic and
Cameroon for commercial sexual exploitation to Chad’s oil-producing regions, and Chadian
children are trafficked to the Central African Republic, Nigeria, Cameroon, and possibly Saudi
Arabia. There are reports that mahadjir children, who attend Islamic schools, are forced by
their teachers to beg for food and money.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment in Chad at 14 years, except for apprenticeships
(13 years) or for certain tasks that require the permission of the legal representative of the child,
as well as permission from the Minister of Public Health and the Minister of Labor and Social
Security. Night work by children under age 18 is prohibited. Children under age 18 are
also prohibited from doing work likely to harm their health, safety, or morals.

The judicial system is loosely linked to child labor prosecutions because of the absence of child
labor provisions in the penal code. The labor code prohibits forced and bonded labor. Children
must be at least 18 to volunteer for the armed forces and 20 to be conscripted.

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935 U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Chad," Sections 1g, 5, and 6d. Human Rights Watch, Early
to War: Child Soldiers in the Chad Conflict, Vol. 19, No. 9 (A), New York, July, 2007; available from
http://hrw.org/reports/2007/chad0707/. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Some 80,000 Children
at Risk in Lawless East", IRInews.org, [online], May 17, 2006 [cited June 5, 2006]; available from


937 U.S. Department of State, "Chad (Tier 2)," in Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006, Washington, DC, June 5,

938 Ibid.

939 U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Chad."

940 Government of Chad, Code du travail tchadien, Article 18 and 52. See also, U.S. Department of State, "Chad," in

941 Government of Chad, Code du travail tchadien, Article 206.

942 U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Chad," Section 6d. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the
Child, Initial Reports of State Parties due in 1992: Chad, CRC/C/3/Add.50, prepared by Government of the
Republic of Chad, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, July 1997, para. 197;


944 Government of Chad, Code du travail tchadien, Article 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-
2006: Chad."

According to the U.S. State Department, child labor laws are not enforced for lack of resources.946

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

In July 2006, Chad was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.947 The government focused its efforts on preventing trafficking through raising awareness. The government also took measures to train police, customs, and other government officials on trafficking, and it continued to revise the legal code. The government sponsored educational media campaigns to inform parents and children about the dangers of trafficking.948

The Ministries of Labor and Justice conducted awareness campaigns and training seminars on the worst forms of child labor for religious leaders, traditional chiefs, and parliamentarians. Some children involved in exploitive child labor were rescued by military, police, and NGOs.949 In March 2006 the government supported workshops to establish a system of rescuing and reintegrating child herders. According to UNICEF, 360 child herders were identified, rescued, and reintegrated into their communities in 2006.950

The problem of child soldiers is being addressed by the government along with UNICEF, who are both supporting a comprehensive survey on child soldiers to be conducted in 2007.951

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946 U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Chad," Section 6d.
951 Ibid., para 9.
In 2003, approximately 4.4 percent of boys and 2.6 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Chile. The majority of working children were found in the services sector (66.6 percent), followed by agriculture (24.7 percent), manufacturing (6.6 percent), and other sectors (2 percent). The rate of child work is higher in rural than in urban areas, although the absolute number of working children is higher in urban areas. In urban areas children work in supermarkets, waiting tables in restaurants, selling goods on the street, caring for parked cars, and other activities.

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Chile 2003</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2003:</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>104%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2003:</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2003:</td>
<td>97.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>As of 2003, percentage of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>99%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
<td>2/1/1999</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>7/17/2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2003, approximately 4.4 percent of boys and 2.6 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Chile. The majority of working children were found in the services sector (66.6 percent), followed by agriculture (24.7 percent), manufacturing (6.6 percent), and other sectors (2 percent). The rate of child work is higher in rural than in urban areas, although the absolute number of working children is higher in urban areas. In urban areas children work in supermarkets, waiting tables in restaurants, selling goods on the street, caring for parked cars, and other activities.

953 Government of Chile, Código del Trabajo de Chile (vigencia desde el 14 de febrero de 2007), (1994), Section 5; available from http://www.dt.gob.cl/legislacion/1611/article-59096.html#h2_1.
958 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
962 ILO-IPEC, Ficha Pais: Chile.
automobiles, and assisting in construction activities. In rural areas, children are involved in harvesting, collecting and selling crops, and caring for farm animals.\textsuperscript{964} Children are victims of commercial sexual exploitation, in some cases as a result of internal trafficking from rural areas to cities such as Santiago, Iquique, and Valparaiso. Anecdotal reporting suggests that girls have been trafficked to other countries for prostitution after being misled by false newspaper ads recruiting models and product promoters.\textsuperscript{965}

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment without restrictions at 18 years. Children 16 to 18 must obtain permission from their parents or guardians to work. The law establishes that children age 15 may only perform light work that will not affect their health or school attendance, and only with parental permission.\textsuperscript{966} Children under 18 are also not permitted to work at night between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. (excluding work in a family business), or in nightclubs or similar establishments in which alcohol is consumed.\textsuperscript{967} All persons under the age of 21 are prohibited from working underground without undergoing a physical exam.\textsuperscript{968} Penalties include fines, which increase in cases of repeat offenders.\textsuperscript{969}

Chilean laws prohibit slavery and forced labor.\textsuperscript{970} The minimum age for compulsory military service in Chile is 18.\textsuperscript{971} The prostitution of children is punishable by prison sentences and fines.\textsuperscript{972} The law establishes punishments for the production, sale, importation, exportation, distribution, and exhibition of pornography using minors.\textsuperscript{973} Chilean law prohibits trafficking for prostitution and imposes prison terms of 5 to 20 years if the victim is under 18 years.\textsuperscript{974}

The Ministry of Interior coordinates national efforts to combat trafficking in persons. The Undersecretary of the Interior heads a new committee that includes the Public Prosecutor’s


\textsuperscript{966} Government of Chile, *Código del Trabajo*, Article 13.

\textsuperscript{967} Ibid., Article 13, 15 and 18.

\textsuperscript{968} Ibid., Article 14.

\textsuperscript{969} Ibid., Article 14 and 17.

\textsuperscript{970} Government of Chile, *Constitución Política de 1980 incluidas las Reformas hasta el 2005*, Articles 2 and 16; available from http://www.georgetown.edu/pdba/Constitutions/Chile/chile01.html.


\textsuperscript{973} Government of Chile, *Modifica el Código Penal*, Articles 1 and 8.

office, the Ministry of Justice, the Investigative Police, the Carabineros (uniformed police), the Department of Immigration, the National Institute for Minors (SENAME) and the Ministry of Women’s Issues (SERNAM). The Public Prosecutor’s office is in charge of all prosecutions, while the Ministry of Justice takes the lead on legal issues related to trafficking in persons. Not all forms of trafficking in persons are criminalized in Chile; public prosecutors do not investigate forms of trafficking they will be unable to prosecute. Police are often understaffed and lack basic resources to address trafficking cases.

The Ministry of Labor enforces labor laws. The U.S. Department of State reports that Chile is devoting adequate resources and oversight to child labor policies. During 2006, 1,123 violations were reported in which children and adolescents were engaged in the worst forms of child labor.

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

As part of its 2001-2010 National Policy on Childhood, the Government of Chile has adopted a national child labor action plan that focuses on raising awareness, collecting data, promoting legislative reform in compliance with ILO conventions, developing targeted intervention programs, and conducting ongoing monitoring and evaluation.

The Government of Chile collaborates with ILO-IPEC on projects to address the worst forms of child labor. A USD 5.5 million USDOL-funded regional IPEC project works towards the prevention and elimination of child domestic labor and the commercial sexual exploitation of children. The Chile component of this project aims to withdraw 316 and prevent 400 children from commercial sexual exploitation. Government agencies including SENAME, the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, and the police have developed a list of the worst forms of child labor. Based on this list, SENAME developed and maintains a register of documented worst forms of child labor cases with input from the Chilean police forces and the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare. SENAME works with international organizations and local NGOs...
to ensure that children rescued from trafficking are not returned to high-risk and abusive situations.\footnote{U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Chile,” Section 6d.}

The government is funding 16 NGOs that provide counseling, psychological and health care, and educational services to minors that are victims of trafficking.\footnote{U.S. Department of State, "Chile (Tier 2 Watch List)," in \textit{Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006}, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm.} SENAME’s strategy for combating commercial sexual exploitation of minors includes awareness raising, prevention, and victim’s assistance.\footnote{SENAME, \textit{Explotación Sexual Infantil: Acción del SENAME}, [online] [cited January 29 2007]; available from http://www.sename.cl/interior/explotacion/f_subportada.html.} SENAME oversees 10 projects to benefit children and adolescents who live in the streets, providing them with services including school reinsertion and skills training.\footnote{National Minors Service, \textit{Niños de la Calle, Proyectos}, [online] [cited September 28, 2006]; available from http://www.sename.cl/interior/ninos/f_subportada.html.} SENAME is expanding its provision of services to children and adolescents engaged in commercial sexual exploitation to four new regions, and is incorporating two new projects in Santiago.\footnote{SENAME, \textit{Explotación Sexual Infantil: ¿Que hace el Sename?}, [online] [cited October 17 2006]; available from http://www.sename.cl/interior/explotacion/explotacion_04.asp.}
Colombia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 14.1 percent of boys and 6.6 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Colombia. The majority of working children were found in the services sector (49.9 percent), followed by agriculture (35.6 percent), manufacturing (12.6 percent) and other sectors (1.9 percent). The Colombian Family Welfare Institute (ICBF) estimates that about 80 percent of working children work in the informal sector. In urban areas, children work primarily in

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2001:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

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990 Government of Colombia, Código del Menor, Decree No. 2737, (November 27, 1989); available from http://www.icbf.gov.co/espanol/normatividad2.asp.
995 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
1000 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
1001 U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Colombia."
such sectors as commerce, industry, and services. Many children work primarily in agriculture and commerce. Many children work as domestic servants or in family businesses, often without pay. Children mine emeralds, gold, clay, and coal under dangerous conditions. According to the Colombia Department of National Statistics and the Colombian National Mining Company (MINERCOL), estimates of children working in illegal mines range from 10,000 to 200,000. Children are also used in the cultivation of coca and opium for illegal purposes and in the processing of illicit drugs using harsh chemicals.

Many children are victims of commercial sexual exploitation, including pornography, prostitution, and sexual tourism. An estimated 25,000 minors work in commercial sex trade in Colombia, according to a report by the Inspector General’s Office, and Colombia is a major source of girls trafficked for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation. Children are trafficked internally from rural to urban areas for sexual exploitation and forced labor.

Children in Colombia are recruited, sometimes forcibly, by insurgent and paramilitary groups to serve as combatants in the country’s ongoing conflict. In fact, the average age for deserters from these armed groups has gone down, which suggests that younger children are being recruited. Some children have been required to perform forced labor by guerrillas and paramilitaries. Many are forced to participate in and are victims of human rights violations such as torture and

1003 Ibid.
1004 Ibid., page 125.
Many girl combatants are subject to sexual exploitation by other group members. Reportedly, children have been used by government armed forces as informants.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum employment age in Colombia was 14 years in 2006; however, ICBF may make exceptions for 12 and 13 year-olds under special circumstances. Authorization from a labor inspector or other designated authority is required for minors to work. The law limits children’s working hours. Children between 12 and 14 may only work 4 hours per day; those between 14 and 16 may work 6 hours per day; and those between 16 and 18 may work 8 hours per day. While night work is prohibited, 16- and 17-year-olds can work until 8 p.m. if authorized. The law also prohibits minors from work that may harm their morality as well as work that is exploitive or hazardous. A new law regulating conditions under which children can work was being developed as this report was being developed.

The 2005 Ministry of Social Protection (MSP) Resolution #4448 identifies the worst forms of child labor that are prohibited for all minors under 18. Minors are not permitted to perform most work related to: agricultural work destined for market, such as coffee, flowers, sugarcane, cereals, vegetables, fruits, tobacco, and livestock; fisheries; lumber; mining or work underground; industrial manufacturing and bakeries; utilities; construction, painting, and heavy equipment; transportation or warehousing; healthcare; defense and private security; and unskilled labor such as shoe-shining, domestic service, trash collection, messenger service, doormen, gardening, work in clubs and bars, and street sales. Minors must also not work in conditions where there are loud noises, strong vibrations, rigorous environments, dangerous substances, poor lighting or ventilation, activities underground or underwater, biological or chemical materials, safety risks, or problems due to posture or excessive physical activity. Also, minors may not work under conditions that may harm their psychosocial development, such as work without pay; work that interferes with schooling; work that keeps them separated from their families; work under despotic or abusive conditions; in illegal or immoral situations; or between

1014 United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, Concluding Observations: Colombia, para. 80. See also Human Rights Watch, You’ll Learn Not to Cry, 53-59.
1017 Ibid., Articles 238-239.
1018 Ibid., Article 242.
1019 Ibid.
1020 Ibid., Articles 245 and 246.
8 p.m. and 6 a.m., except for minors over age 16 (this exception is contrary to provisions in other laws). Individuals must report child labor law violations to MSP. Penalties for violating child labor laws can include fines and the temporary or permanent closure of violating establishments. The ILO CEACR has requested clarification on exceptions in Resolution #4448 that allow adolescents ages 16 and 17 to work at night.

The Constitution prohibits slavery and servitude. Human trafficking is prohibited, and trafficking of children under 18 is punishable by fines and 17 to 35 years incarceration. Trafficking of children under 12 years is punishable by 20 to 35 years imprisonment. Inducing prostitution is punishable by 2.7 to 6 years incarceration and fines. Penalties for forced prostitution range from 6.7 to 13.5 years incarceration and fines. Penalties increase by one-third to one-half for both induced and forced prostitution if the victim is under 14 or if the crime involved international trafficking. Crimes involving child pornography or the operation of an establishment in which minors practice sexual acts are punishable by 8 to 12 years incarceration and fines. The use of the mail or the Internet to obtain or offer sexual contact with a minor is punishable by 6.7 to 15 years incarceration and a fine, with increased penalties if the victim is under 12. Posting child pornography on the Internet is punishable by fines and the cancellation or suspension of the Web site. Tourist agencies can be penalized for involvement in child sex tourism by fines and the suspension or cancellation of their registration. Forced prostitution and sexual slavery related to the country’s ongoing conflict are punishable by imprisonment from 13.3 to 27 years and fines.

Minors may not serve in the government armed forces or perform defense-related or intelligence activities. The recruitment of minors by armed groups in relation to the ongoing conflict is punishable by 8 to 15 years in prison and fines. The law regards minors that participate in the country’s hostilities as victims. The commission of terrorist acts involving the participation

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1023 Ibid.
1024 Código del Menor, Article 247.
1025 Ibid., Articles 262-263.
1027 Government of Colombia, Constitución Política de Colombia, Article 17.
1028 Ibid. See also Government of Colombia, Código Penal, with modifications, (July 24, 2000), Articles 188-A and 188-B; available from http://www.secretariasenado.gov.co/compendio_legislativo.HTM.
1029 Government of Colombia, Código Penal, with modifications, Art. 213, 214, and 216.
1030 Ibid., Articles 218.
1031 Ibid., Article 219-A.
1034 Government of Colombia, Código Penal, with modifications, Article 141.
1035 Government of Colombia, Resolución 004448, Article 1 and 9.1. See also Government of Colombia, Decreto 128 sobre política de reincorporación a la vida civil, (2003); available from http://www.presidencia.gov.co/prensa_new/decretoslinea/.
1036 Government of Colombia, Código Penal, with modifications, Article 162.
of a minor is punishable by 16 to 30 years incarceration and fines.\textsuperscript{1038} Armed groups must place all minor recruits with ICBF in order to participate in the government’s demobilization process.\textsuperscript{1039} Punishments for crimes involving illegal drugs, such as drug cultivation, manufacturing, and trafficking are increased if the crimes involve a minor.\textsuperscript{1040}

The MSP is responsible for conducting formal sector child labor inspections, with 276 inspectors.\textsuperscript{1041} However, according to the U.S. Department of State, the MSP does not have sufficient resources to enforce labor laws effectively.\textsuperscript{1042} ICBF, the Children and Adolescent Police, the Prosecutor General, and Family Commissioners are responsible for enforcing child labor laws.\textsuperscript{1043} The National Police and Prosecutor General investigate and prosecute child trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.\textsuperscript{1044} The District Attorney’s Office has a unit dedicated to trafficking, sexual violence and victims who are minors.\textsuperscript{1045}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The Colombian Government’s National Development Plan 2002-2006 establishes the eradication of exploitive child labor as a priority.\textsuperscript{1046} The Plan for Childhood (2004-2015) contains provisions relating to child labor, and to specific worst forms including trafficking, recruitment into armed groups, and commercial sexual exploitation.\textsuperscript{1047} The objectives of the Third Plan for the Elimination of Child Labor and the Protection of Working Youth 2003-2006 are to increase knowledge and awareness; change cultural norms that promote child labor; improve legislation and public policy; and implement strategies that address these problems.\textsuperscript{1048} The Inter-institutional Committee for the Eradication of Child Labor has conducted trainings; it also maintains a child labor information system.\textsuperscript{1049} The MSP and the National University of

\textsuperscript{1038} Government of Colombia, *Código Penal, with modifications*, Articles 343 and 344.
\textsuperscript{1040} Government of Colombia, *Código Penal, with modifications*, Articles 375 and 384.
\textsuperscript{1041} *Código del Menor*, Article 261. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Colombia," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{1042} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Colombia," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{1045} *Dimensiones de la trata de personas en Colombia*, 28.
\textsuperscript{1049} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Colombia," Section 6d.
Colombia have worked to eradicate exploitive child labor through a media campaign, community and school education, and inter-institutional coordination.1050

The Government of Colombia also participates in projects to combat child labor with the assistance of foreign governments and international organizations. The government participates in a USD 3.5 million, 4-year USDOL-funded project implemented by World Vision to combat exploitive child labor by improving basic education. This project seeks to withdraw 2,081 children from hazardous agricultural labor and prevent a further 2,419 children from entering that work.1051 The Colombian Institute of Geology and Mining implements a project with UNDP to eradicate child labor in mining.1052 With support from ILO-IPEC and Canada, the government executed a child labor survey and contributed to the consolidation of the National Policy for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labor.1053

ICBF administers programs that provide services to former children soldiers and seek to prevent further recruitment of children by armed groups.1054 These programs receive assistance from the United States and from several foreign governments and international organizations.1055 The Ministries of Defense and Interior assist through the demobilization of child soldiers, who are turned over to the ICBF.1056 The Colombian Government participated in a 3-year, USD 7 million, inter-regional ILO-IPEC project funded by USDOL to combat the involvement of children with armed groups. This project, which ended in 2007, sought to withdraw 5,264 children from child soldiering and prevent an additional 4,250 children from becoming child soldiers in seven countries, including Colombia.1057

The Government of Colombia has developed a National Plan of Action for the Prevention and Eradication of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Boys, Girls, and Adolescents Less than 18

1050 Center for Social Studies National University of Colombia, Informe sobre las acciones realizadas en el desarrollo del convenio interadministrativo 047 de 2005, Bogota, June 9, 2006, 3-4.
1053 ILO-IPEC official, Email communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.
Years of Age (2006-2011). This plan establishes such objectives as generating information, developing and applying legislation, prevention, provision of services to children, institutional capacity building, and participation of children in the plan.\textsuperscript{1058} The National Police’s program, “Colombia without Prostitution,” uses family and community education to prevent the commercial sexual exploitation of children.\textsuperscript{1059} The government participates in a USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC regional project costing USD 5.5 million to combat child domestic labor and commercial sexual exploitation. The goal of this project is to withdraw 2,185 children from exploitative child labor and prevent 2,920 children from entering such work.\textsuperscript{1060}

The Inter-institutional Committee against Trafficking in Persons and various ministries have implemented various anti-trafficking awareness-raising activities within Colombia, including enclosing flyers about trafficking in newly issued passports; installing information kiosks at major airports; producing short television ads and a daytime soap opera about trafficking; making presentations for at-risk school children; and assisting with the development of departmental and municipal anti-trafficking plans.\textsuperscript{1061} The Committee also maintains a database of trafficking cases and promotes collaboration between agencies.\textsuperscript{1062} Colombian foreign missions and the National Police provide assistance to trafficking victims that includes referrals to IOM repatriation services and information on legal protections.\textsuperscript{1063}

The Ministry of Education’s (MEN) Policy Guide for Vulnerable Populations includes strategies to address child labor.\textsuperscript{1064} The military distributes educational kits to schools in areas where children are at risk for recruitment into armed groups, and awareness-raising materials for children to prevent involvement in armed groups.\textsuperscript{1065}

\textsuperscript{1058} ICBF-UNICEF-ILO-IPEC Fundación Renacer, Plan de acción para la prevención y erradicación de la explotación sexual comercial de niños, niñas y adolescentes menores de 18 años 2006-20011, Bogota, 2006, 43.

\textsuperscript{1059} ECPAT International CSEC Database, Colombia, accessed June 8, 2007; available from http://www.ecpat.net.

\textsuperscript{1060} ILO-IPEC, Prevention and Elimination of Child Domestic Labour (CDL) and of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) in Chile, Colombia, Paraguay and Peru, project document, Geneva, September 8, 2004, 27.


\textsuperscript{1062} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Colombia."

\textsuperscript{1063} Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Colombia."


\textsuperscript{1065} Ministry of Defense, Reclutamiento de Menores. See also United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, Concluding Observations: Colombia, para 80.
Comoros

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 35 percent of boys and 36.2 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Comoros. Work performed by children includes subsistence farming and fishing. Some children as young as 7 work as domestic servants in exchange for food, shelter, or educational assistance; these children are often subject to abuse. Children also work on the streets, and some children are not paid for work that they perform.

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Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:</td>
<td>35.6%</td>
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<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2000:</td>
<td>55%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:</td>
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<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
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<td>3/17/2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>3/17/2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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1072 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
1075 Ibid.
1077 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
1079 Ibid., Sections 5 and 6d. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Summary Record of the 666th Meeting: Comoros, CDC/C/SR.666, Geneva, June 2001, Para. 3. See also ILO Committee of Experts, Direct
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15. Hazardous work, such as that involving explosives or dangerous building sites, is prohibited to children. Inspectors must notify a judge of child labor law violations.

Unmarried children under 18 are considered minors; the law protects them from sexual exploitation. Child prostitution and pornography are illegal. Punishments for involvement with the prostitution of a minor range from 2 to 5 years of imprisonment and fines; penalties are doubled in cases of reoccurrence within 10 years. These penalties also apply if the crime was committed in a different country. A juvenile court can impose protective measures for persons under 21 years who engage in prostitution. The law prohibits forced and bonded labor except in instances of obligatory military service, work that is considered a civic duty to the community, and work that is required in times of accidents, fires, and calamities. The law does not contain penalties specific to forced labor by children. According to the U.S. Department of State, the government does not actively enforce child labor laws or consistently enforce minimum age requirements for employment.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Comoros to address exploitive child labor.
Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children work in the informal sector and in subsistence agriculture, which constitute the largest parts of the economy. Some parents make their children hunt, fish, engage in prostitution, or beg in the streets to support their families instead of attending school. Children have been used as forced laborers in the mining of natural resources such as gold, coltan, and copper. In

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
<td>39.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>Not compulsory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 10-14 attending school:</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
<td>06/20/2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>06/20/2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>Yes; associated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related materials.

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1093 Ibid., Section 5.
1095 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
1097 Ibid.
1100 Ibid.
the Katanga province, according to Global Witness, children dig holes, wash, sift, and transport to pay school fees and support their families.\footnote{Global Witness, Digging in Corruption, p 32-33.}

Children continue to be involved with armed groups outside of the government’s control in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. Children associated with these groups are forced to work as combatants, laborers, and sex slaves. Girls in particular are compelled to provide sexual services and domestic labor for extended periods of time.\footnote{U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: DRC," Section 5. See also Human Rights Watch, Democratic Republic of Congo: Briefing to the 60th Session of the UN Commission on Human Rights, [online] 2004 [cited October 20, 2006]; available from http://hrw.org/english/docs/2004/01/29/congo7128.htm. See also Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict, Struggling to Survive, p 6.}


\textbf{Child Labor Laws and Enforcement}

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years.\footnote{Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Public Comments based on response to Federal Register Notice, Kinshasa, January 7, 2005.} Children between 15 and 18 may be employed with the permission of a parent or guardian. Children under 16, however, may work no more than 4 hours per day.\footnote{Code du Travail, Article 133.} The law defines and prohibits the worst forms of child labor under penalty of imprisonment for a maximum of 6 months and a fine.\footnote{U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: DRC," section 6d.} The law bans forced or bonded labor,\footnote{Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, public comments based on response Federal Register Notice, Kinshasa, January 7, 2005. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, Child Soldiers Global Report 2004, November 17, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=801.} the recruitment of anyone under 18 into the armed forces, and the use of children in hostilities.\footnote{Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Public Comments, January 7, 2005, Section 3a-3d.} The law also makes illegal the use of children as a means for trafficking drugs or engaging in other illicit activities such as prostitution or the production of pornographic materials.\footnote{U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: DRC," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Kinshasa, reporting, December 15, 2006, Paras 3 and 4.} According to the U.S. Department of State, the enforcement of child labor laws, particularly in the mining sector, is inadequate.\footnote{According to the U.S. Department of State, the enforcement of child labor laws, particularly in the mining sector, is inadequate.}
Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The government is implementing a national plan for Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) of combatants, including children, supported by the World Bank. World Bank programs include projects directed specifically at child soldiers. These projects are: the Support for the Reunification and Reintegration of Former Child Soldiers in the DRC, implemented by Save the Children; and Situation Assessment and Pilot Projects for Demobilization and Reintegration of Child Soldiers in Orientale, Northern Katanga and Maniema Provinces, implemented by the International Rescue Committee the International Foundation for Education and Self-Help (IFESH), and CARE International. The government continues to participate in a global USD 7 million project implemented by ILO-IPEC to prevent the involvement of children in armed conflict and support the rehabilitation of former child soldiers. This project targets a total of 5,264 children for withdrawal and 4,250 children for prevention from involvement with armed groups in seven countries, including the DRC.

In 2006, the government created a national committee to combat the worst forms of child labor and finalized a paper on poverty reduction strategy that highlights the problem of child labor.

In partnership with an international organization, the Ministry of Women’s and Family Affairs and Labor began to implement an action plan against sexual exploitation, and the government attended regional meetings on human trafficking and sought to coordinate with neighboring governments to address the problem of human trafficking in the region.

Congo,
Republic of

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children work with their families on farms or in informal business activities. In Brazzaville and other urban centers, there are significant numbers of street children, primarily from the neighboring Democratic Republic of the Congo, who engage in street vending and begging. There were isolated cases of children involved in commercial sexual exploitation. There are unconfirmed accounts of trafficking into the Republic of Congo of “minor relatives” of immigrants from West Africa. Children from West Africa reportedly work as domestic servants, fishermen, shop workers, and street sellers.

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
<td>11/26/1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>8/23/2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>Yes, associated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

1121 Ibid.
1125 Ibid.
Although reports of violence in the Pool region have continued since the country’s civil conflict formally ended in 2003, it is unclear whether children have continued to be involved as child soldiers in the region.\textsuperscript{1131}

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment, including apprenticeships, at 16 years. Exceptions may be permitted by the Ministry of Education after an inspection of the place of employment.\textsuperscript{1132} The law prohibits forced or compulsory labor; however, there are exceptions for military service and other civic duties.\textsuperscript{1133} The minimum age of enlistment for service in the armed forces in the Republic of Congo is 18 years.\textsuperscript{1134}

The law criminalizes procuring a person for the purpose of prostitution. Furthermore, it establishes a penalty of 10 years of imprisonment if such an act is committed with respect to a minor, defined as a person less than 15 years of age.\textsuperscript{1135} While the law does not specifically prohibit trafficking in persons, traffickers can be prosecuted for child abuse, forced labor, illegal immigration, prostitution, rape, extortion, and slavery under existing laws.\textsuperscript{1136} There were no reports that the government prosecuted any traffickers under these laws.\textsuperscript{1137}

The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws and monitors businesses in the formal sector; however, because of resource constraints, in total only two inspection trips were made during the year.\textsuperscript{1138} According to the U.S. Department of State, child labor continues to occur in the informal sector and in rural areas that lack effective government oversight.\textsuperscript{1139}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

In response to the recruitment of child soldiers during the civil conflict that formally ended in 2003, the Government of the Republic of Congo participated in a global USD 7 million USDOL-funded project implemented by ILO-IPEC to prevent the involvement of children in armed conflict and support the rehabilitation of former child soldiers.\textsuperscript{1140} The project targets a total of

\begin{footnotesize}


\textsuperscript{1133} Ibid., Article 4.


\textsuperscript{1137} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Congo," Section 6d.

\textsuperscript{1138} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{1139} Ibid., Section 6d.

\textsuperscript{1140} ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: An Inter-Regional Programme*, project document, Geneva, September 17, 2003, 1.
\end{footnotesize}
5,264 children for withdrawal and 4,250 children for prevention from involvement with armed groups in seven countries, including the Republic of Congo.\textsuperscript{1141} The Government’s National Program for Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (PNDDR) became effective in August 2006.\textsuperscript{1142} The program includes a component to offer financial support and technical training to former child soldiers.\textsuperscript{1143}

\begin{footnotesize}
\begin{itemize}
  \item \textsuperscript{1141} Ibid., 6.
  \item \textsuperscript{1142} ILO-IPEC, \textit{Children Involved in Armed Conflict: September 2006, technical progress report}, 2.
  \item \textsuperscript{1143} World Bank, \textit{Technical Annex for a Program of USD 17 Million from the MDRP Multi-Donor Trust Fund to the Republic of Congo for an Emergency Reintegration Program}, World Bank, December 14, 2005, 7, 18-9; available from http://www.mdrp.org/PDFs/Country_PDFs/ROC-MDRP-TechAnnex_0506.pdf. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Congo: Interview with Madeleine Yila Bompoto, coordinator of efforts to reintegrate ex-child soldiers".
\end{itemize}
\end{footnotesize}
Costa Rica

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2002 in Costa Rica, the majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (57.0 percent), followed by services (30.9 percent), manufacturing (7.3 percent), and other sectors (4.8 percent). The rate of child work is higher in rural than in urban areas. In rural areas, children work principally in agriculture, forestry, hunting, and trade and repair activities. In urban areas, children work mainly in trade and repair activities, construction and manufacturing.

According to the National Institute for Children (PANI), commercial sexual exploitation of children is a problem in Costa Rica, with an unknown but significant number of children involved. Children in San José, Limón, and Puntarenas are at high risk. From January to

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistics</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2002:</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>112%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2002:</td>
<td>90.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>92%</td>
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<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>9/10/2001</td>
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<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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1147 Ibid.
1149 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
1154 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
1156 Ibid., 32.
June 2006, minors in 163 sexual exploitation cases were assisted.\textsuperscript{1158} Child sex tourism is a
serious problem, with children trafficked within the country for sexual exploitation and forced
labor.\textsuperscript{1159} Girls are trafficked into Costa Rica from other countries for commercial sexual
exploitation.\textsuperscript{1160}

\textbf{Child Labor Laws and Enforcement}

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years and prohibits minors under 18 years
from working at night; in mines, bars, and businesses that sell alcohol; in unsafe and unhealthy
places; in activities where they are responsible for their own safety or the safety of other minors;
and where they are required to work with dangerous equipment, contaminated substances, or
excessive noise.\textsuperscript{1161} However, adolescents under 18 years are prohibited from working for more
than 6 hours a day or 36 hours a week.\textsuperscript{1162} Children from 12 to 15 may work up to 5 hours per
day or 30 hours per week. Children 12 to 18 years old may work longer hours in agriculture and
ranching, within the limitations established for the general workday schedules.\textsuperscript{1163} Violations of
minimum age and child labor standards are punishable by fines.\textsuperscript{1164}

Forced labor is prohibited under the law.\textsuperscript{1165} Costa Rica does not have armed forces, and the
minimum age for recruitment to the police force is 18 years.\textsuperscript{1166} The penalty for paid sexual
relations with a minor under age 12 is 4 to 10 years in prison; 3 to 8 years if the victim is 12 to
15 years; and 2 to 6 years if the victim is 15 to 18 years.\textsuperscript{1167} The penalty for procuring a minor
under 18 for prostitution or for keeping the minor in prostitution or in sexual slavery is 4 to 10
years in prison. The penalty for pimping a minor under age 12 is 4 to 10 years in prison; and 3 to
9 years if the victim is between 12 and 18.\textsuperscript{1168} The penalty for promoting, facilitating or aiding
the trafficking of minors for commercial sexual exploitation or slave labor is 4 to 10 years in
prison.\textsuperscript{1169}

The Inspections Directorate of the Ministry of Labor is responsible for investigating child labor
violations and enforcing child labor laws.\textsuperscript{1170} According to the U.S. Department of State,

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textsuperscript{1158} Ibid.
  \item \textsuperscript{1159} U.S. Department of State, "Costa Rica (Tier 2 Watch List)," in \textit{Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006},
  \item \textsuperscript{1160} Ibid.
  \item \textsuperscript{1161} Government of Costa Rica, \textit{Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia, 1998}, Articles 2, 92, and 94. See also,
    Government of Costa Rica, \textit{Código de Trabajo, Articles 88 and 89.}
  \item \textsuperscript{1162} Government of Costa Rica, \textit{Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia, 1998}, Article 95.
  \item \textsuperscript{1163} Government of Costa Rica, \textit{Código de Trabajo, Article 89.}
  \item \textsuperscript{1164} Government of Costa Rica, \textit{Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia, 1998}, Article 101.
  \item \textsuperscript{1165} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Costa Rica," Section 6c.
  \item \textsuperscript{1167} UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, \textit{Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties},
    CRC/C/OPSC/CRI/1, prepared by Government of Costa Rica, pursuant to Article 12 (1) of the Optional Protocol to
    Rica, December 12, 2005.
  \item \textsuperscript{1168} Ibid.
  \item \textsuperscript{1169} Ibid.
  \item \textsuperscript{1170} Ministerio de Trabajo y Seguridad Social, \textit{Poder Ejecutivo Directriz: Manual de Procedimientos de la
    Dirección Nacional de Inspección}, San José, 2-3; available from
\end{itemize}
Inspections Directorate officials acknowledge that their effectiveness at enforcing child labor laws is severely limited by lack of resources.\textsuperscript{1171}

PANI and the Ministry of Labor carry out investigations and provide protection to child victims of sexual exploitation.\textsuperscript{1172} In particular, the Office of the Special Prosecutor for Domestic Violence and Sexual Crimes for the San Jose Area enforces prohibitions against the sexual exploitation of children.\textsuperscript{1173} As many as seven government agencies are responsible for combating trafficking and commercial exploitation of children, with many investigations started by the various agencies.\textsuperscript{1174} However, according to the U.S. Department of State, witness intimidation, lack of resources and poor coordination among the agencies inhibit enforcement efforts.\textsuperscript{1175} An Inter-Ministerial Group on Trafficking carries out efforts to raise awareness and promote law enforcement.\textsuperscript{1176}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The National Agenda for Children and Adolescents, 2000-2010, includes strategies to prevent and eliminate the worst forms of child labor.\textsuperscript{1177} In May 2006, the government began economic subsidies for poor adolescents in the formal and non-formal education system to reduce child labor.\textsuperscript{1178} In addition, the Government of Costa Rica has launched the Second National Action Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor and Special Protection of Adolescent Workers 2005-2010.\textsuperscript{1179} The government also had a Master Plan on Children and Adolescents, which included a plan to combat commercial sexual exploitation of children.\textsuperscript{1180}

The Government of Costa Rica continues to participate in a USD 8.8 million regional project funded by USDOL and implemented by ILO-IPEC aimed at combating commercial sexual exploitation of children.\textsuperscript{1181} The project aims to withdraw 713 children and prevent 657 children

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\textsuperscript{1171} U.S. Embassy- San Jose, \textit{reporting}, September 6, 2005.
\textsuperscript{1172} U.S. Embassy- San Jose, \textit{reporting}, September 6, 2005.
from commercial sexual exploitation in the region. The Government of Costa Rica is also participating in a USD 5.5 million USDOL-funded regional Child Labor Education Initiative Program implemented by CARE, which seeks to strengthen government and civil society’s capacity to combat child labor through education. This project seeks to withdraw or prevent 190 children from entering exploitive labor. A USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC-implemented USD 3 million regional project to combat child labor in commercial agriculture ended in 2006. The project withdrew 2,309 children and prevented 2,693 children from the region from exploitive labor.

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1182 Ibid.
1183 CARE USA, APRENDO Project. Combating Exploitive Child Labor Through Education in Central America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua) and the Dominican Republic, project document, 2004.
Côte d’Ivoire

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2002, approximately 14.4 percent of boys and 15.7 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Côte d’Ivoire. In Côte d’Ivoire, many children work in agriculture on family farms. Children also work in the informal sector, including as street vendors, shoeshiners, errand runners, car washers and watchers, and as food sellers in street restaurants. They also work in small workshops and in family-operated gold and diamond mines. Ivorian girls as young as 9 years old work as domestic servants, and some are subject to mistreatment including sexual abuse.

Children work in the cocoa sector in Côte d’Ivoire. According to a study carried out by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) in 2002, a majority of children work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2002: 15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age of work: 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory: Not compulsory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education: Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003: 72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2002: 56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2002: 55.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2000, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: 88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138: 2/7/2003</td>
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<td>Ratified Convention 182: 2/7/2003</td>
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<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country: Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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1190 Ibid.
1191 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
1192 Ibid.
1193 Ibid.
1194 Ibid.
1196 Ibid.
1198 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
Some of the working children come from outside the country’s cocoa zone, either from other regions of Côte d’Ivoire or from neighboring countries such as Burkina Faso. There are also credible reports of trafficked children from Burkina Faso, Mali, and Togo working on Ivorian cocoa and coffee farms. According to the IITA study, approximately one-third of children who live in cocoa-producing households do not attend school. Children working on cocoa farms are at risk of being involved in hazardous tasks, such as carrying heavy loads, spraying pesticides without protection, using machetes to clear undergrowth, and burning vegetation. According to a 2005 Government of Côte d’Ivoire survey conducted in the district of Oumé, some 92 percent of children working on cocoa farms carry heavy loads, including children as young as 5 years.

Pro-government militia and rebel groups recruit children for use in armed conflict, sometimes on a forced basis. Côte d’Ivoire is a source and destination country for trafficked children. Children are trafficked into the country from Mali, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Togo, Benin, and Mauritania to work as domestic servants, farm laborers, fishermen, and for sexual exploitation. In particular, trafficked boys from Ghana, Mali, and Burkina Faso work on cocoa, coffee, pineapple, and rubber plantations. Guinean boys are trafficked to work in the mining sector, while boys trafficked from Togo work in construction and those from Benin in carpentry.

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1209 U.S. Embassy- Abidjan.
Ivorian girls are trafficked to Gabon to work as domestic servants; girls from Ghana, Togo, and Benin are trafficked to Côte d’Ivoire to work as domestic servants and street vendors and from Nigeria, China, Ukraine, and the Philippines to work as waitresses and prostitutes in street-side restaurants. Girls are trafficked domestically to work as domestic servants, waitresses, and in prostitution.\textsuperscript{1210} Refugee and displaced children in the refugee zone in western Côte d’Ivoire are trafficked to work as domestic servants, in mines, and on palm oil plantations.\textsuperscript{1211}

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years, including for apprenticeships.\textsuperscript{1212} Ivorian law requires parents or legal guardians to sign employment contracts on behalf of children under 16 years and to serve as witnesses to contracts signed by children between 16 and 18.\textsuperscript{1213} Night work by children under 18 is prohibited, and all children are required to have at least 12 consecutive hours of rest between work shifts.\textsuperscript{1214} The Labor Inspectorate can require children to take a medical exam to ensure that the work for which they are hired does not exceed their physical capacity.\textsuperscript{1215}

Ivorian law prohibits forced or compulsory labor.\textsuperscript{1216} In 2005, the government adopted a decree defining hazardous work that is forbidden for children under 18 years. The decree outlines prohibited work in the categories of agriculture, forestry, mining, commerce and the urban informal sector, handicrafts, and transport.\textsuperscript{1217} The minimum age for both voluntary and compulsory recruitment into the military is 18 years.\textsuperscript{1218} Persons convicted of procuring a prostitute under 21 may be imprisoned for 2 to 10 years and charged a fine.\textsuperscript{1219}

The constitution and law do not specifically prohibit trafficking in persons.\textsuperscript{1220} However, traffickers may be prosecuted for kidnapping, mistreating, or torturing children with a punishment of 1 to 5 years of imprisonment and a fine. Alienation of a person’s freedom is punishable with 5 to 10 years of imprisonment, with the maximum penalty enforced if the victim is under 15.\textsuperscript{1221} Individuals who receive or leave a person as financial security face a fine and a penalty of 6 months to 3 years in prison, which automatically increases to 5 years when the

\textsuperscript{1210} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{1211} Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Côte d’Ivoire ".
\textsuperscript{1214} Government of Côte d'Ivoire, *Code du travail, 1995*, Articles 22.2 and 22.3.
\textsuperscript{1215} Ibid., Article 23.9.
\textsuperscript{1216} Ibid., Article 3.
\textsuperscript{1217} Government of Côte d'Ivoire, *Arrêté n° 2250 portant détermination de la liste des travaux dangereux interdits aux enfants de moins de dix huit (18) ans*, (March 14, 2005).
\textsuperscript{1219} U.S. Embassy- Abidjan.
\textsuperscript{1220} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Côte d'Ivoire," Section 5.
\textsuperscript{1221} U.S. Embassy- Abidjan.
victim is under 15 years. If labor is imposed on a person, the penalty is 1 to 5 years in prison and a fine.  

The Ministry of Civil Service, Employment and Administrative Reform is the government agency responsible for enforcement of child labor laws. Enforcement of child labor prohibitions is hindered by a lack of resources, weak institutions, and the lack of a regulatory and judicial framework. In 2006, the Ministry of Security created a department of child trafficking and juvenile delinquency within the criminal police division to centralize all police activities related to children in the government-controlled areas of the country. The government rarely investigates trafficking cases and only prosecuted five cases in 2006.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In 2006, USDOL awarded a 3-year USD 4.3 million contract to Tulane University to oversee the efforts of the international cocoa industry and the Governments of Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in the cocoa sector. The project will assess progress being made toward implementation of a cocoa certification system free of child labor, covering at least 50 percent of the cocoa-growing areas in the two countries, and the establishment of child labor monitoring and verification systems in the cocoa sector. Between 2002 and 2006, Côte d’Ivoire participated in a USD 6 million, ILO-IPEC regional project funded by USDOL and the Cocoa Global Issues Group to combat hazardous and exploitive child labor in the cocoa sector. The project helped withdraw 6,154 children and prevent another 1,324 children from exploitive labor in Côte d’Ivoire through the provision of education or training opportunities. The Government of Côte d’Ivoire also is actively involved in a 6-year, USD 9.25 million regional USDOL-funded project implemented by ILO-IPEC to combat the trafficking of children for exploitive labor in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA). The project aims to withdraw and prevent 9,000 children from trafficking situations in the region. In 2006, the U.S. Department of State provided additional funding for Côte d’Ivoire under the LUTRENA project to strengthen the National Committee for Combating Trafficking and Child Exploitation. USAID and the international cocoa industry fund the Sustainable Tree Crops Program in Côte d’Ivoire, a public-private partnership that promotes sustainable tree crop systems, including coffee, cocoa, and cashews, and contains a component to prevent and eliminate the worst forms of child labor on

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1222 Ibid.
1224 U.S. Embassy- Abidjan.
1225 Ibid.
1227 U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. Labor Department Funds Project to Evaluate Effectiveness of Anti-Child-Labor
1230 ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.
farms. UNICEF has demobilized and reintegrated 1,000 former child soldiers into society.

In 2006, the government reinstated its Child Labor Task Force. The government is implementing a National Action Plan to Combat Child Labor and Trafficking, which contains strategies for providing education, shelter, and repatriation services to trafficking and child labor victims. The National Committee for the Combating Trafficking and Child Exploitation (NCFTCE), a joint Ministerial committee chaired by the Ministry of Family and Social Affairs, coordinates the government’s anti-trafficking efforts and is implementing a child trafficking monitoring system. Nine government ministries are involved in anti-trafficking efforts in Côte d’Ivoire, and, in 2006, many of these ministries created specific anti-trafficking units.

The Ministry of Family and Social Affairs has conducted awareness-raising campaigns targeting children at risk of being trafficked and industries that employ child labor. The ministry has also provided school supplies to at-risk children to allow them to attend primary school. The government also provides a local NGO with a building, utilities, and staff for a shelter for trafficking victims; it also has given funding for reintegration services to trafficking victims.

In July 2006, Côte d’Ivoire was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure

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1236 U.S. Embassy- Abidjan.

1237 Ibid.

1238 Ibid.

1239 U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Côte d’Ivoire ".

1240 ILO-IPEC, Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA), technical progress report, Geneva, September 1, 2006. See also Catholic Relief Services official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 2, 2006.
that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.\textsuperscript{1241} Côte d’Ivoire is a signatory to a nine-member multilateral cooperative agreement to combat child trafficking in West Africa in 2005, and while the government cooperated with international investigations of trafficking in 2006, the government did not prosecute any traffickers during the year.\textsuperscript{1242} On a bilateral level, the government cooperates with Malian authorities to combat child trafficking and to repatriate Malian children found in Côte d’Ivoire.\textsuperscript{1243}

The Ministry of National Education has opened primary mobile schools and community education centers in cocoa-growing communities to protect children from hazardous work.\textsuperscript{1244} Through funding by the World Cocoa Foundation, the Government of Côte d’Ivoire is partnering with Winrock International to provide educational alternatives to child labor in cocoa-growing areas of Côte d’Ivoire.\textsuperscript{1245}

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\textsuperscript{1243} Government of Côte d’Ivoire, Les efforts de la Côte d’Ivoire en matière de lutte contre les pires formes de travail des enfants. See also U.S. Embassy- Abidjan.

\textsuperscript{1244} U.S. Embassy- Abidjan. See also Government of Côte d’Ivoire, Les efforts de la Côte d’Ivoire en matière de lutte contre les pires formes de travail des enfants.

\textsuperscript{1245} Government of Côte d’Ivoire, Les efforts de la Côte d’Ivoire en matière de lutte contre les pires formes de travail des enfants. See also World Cocoa Foundation, Africa- West Africa Winrock CLASSE Program, [online] [cited February 3, 2007]; available from http://www.worldcocoafoundation.org/difference/africa-classe.asp.
\end{flushleft}
Croatia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Croatia work in the entertainment, hospitality, tourism, retail, industrial, construction, and media sectors. Trafficking is a problem.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Children younger than 15 years may participate in artistic endeavors for remuneration with the labor inspector’s approval and if the assignment does not threaten their morals or interfere with school. Children 15 to 18 may only work with written permission from a legal guardian and labor inspector, assuming that the work is not harmful to the child’s health, morality, education, or development. Children under 18 are prohibited from working overtime, at night, and under dangerous labor conditions. Specifically, this provision applies to work in bars.

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

| Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working: | Unavailable |
| Minimum age of work: | 15 |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | 14 |
| Free public education: | Yes |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003: | 94% |
| Net primary enrollment rate in 2003: | 87% |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school: | Unavailable |
| Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | Unavailable |
| Ratified Convention 138: | 10/08/1991 |
| Ratified Convention 182: | 7/17/2001 |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | No |

1252 Ibid.
1255 U.S. Embassy Official-Zagreb, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 1 2007.
1257 Ibid., Articles 22(1), 22(5), and 23(1).
nightclubs, and gambling establishments.\textsuperscript{1260} Under Croatian law, anyone forcing minors to beg or perform work inappropriate for their age can be penalized with 3 months to 3 years of imprisonment.\textsuperscript{1261}

The law prohibits international prostitution and solicitation of a minor for sexual purposes, calling for between 1 and 10 years of imprisonment for violations.\textsuperscript{1262} The law also stipulates 1 to 5 years of imprisonment for using children for pornographic purposes.\textsuperscript{1263} Trafficking in persons is a separate criminal act for which the law stipulates a minimum prison sentence of 5 years when a child or a minor is involved.\textsuperscript{1264} Forced and compulsory labor are prohibited.\textsuperscript{1265} The minimum age for conscription into the military is 18.\textsuperscript{1266}

The Ministry of Economy, Labor, and Entrepreneurship collaborates with the ombudsman for children and the State Labor Inspectorate to enforce minimum age laws.\textsuperscript{1267} The Inspectorate has 102 inspectors who are responsible for detecting child labor.\textsuperscript{1268} The ombudsman for children coordinates government efforts to promote and protect the interests of children, and is obligated to report any findings of exploitation to the State’s Attorney’s Office.\textsuperscript{1269} A working group including government officials and NGOs has met regularly to exchange information on trafficking cases and programs.\textsuperscript{1270}

\textsuperscript{1260} Ibid., Articles 41(5), 62(3), and 23(1). See also Safety and Health Protection at the Workplace Act, 1996, (June 28, 1996), Section 40; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/45063/65037/E96HRV01.htm. See also Government of Croatia, Regulations Concerning Jobs at which a Minor May not Be Employed and Jobs at which a Minor May Be Employed after the prior Determination of the Minor’s Health Capacity (Official Gazette No. 59/02), as cited in ILO Committee of Experts, Direct Request on the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Croatia (ratification: 2001), [online] 2004 [cited October 19, 2006]; available from http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/index.cfm?lang=EN.

\textsuperscript{1261} Penal Code, Section 213(2), as cited in ILO Committee of Experts, Direct Request (No. 182): Croatia.

\textsuperscript{1262} Government of Croatia, Criminal Code, Article 6, as cited in Interpol, Legislation of Interpol member states on sexual offenses against children, [online] [cited October 19, 2006]; available from http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaCroatia.asp.

\textsuperscript{1263} Government of Croatia, Criminal Code, Article 196, as cited in Ibid.

\textsuperscript{1264} U.S. Embassy- Zagreb, reporting, August 27, 2004.

\textsuperscript{1265} Government of Croatia, Constitution of the Republic of Croatia, Article 23.


\textsuperscript{1267} U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Croatia,” Section 6d.

\textsuperscript{1268} U.S. Embassy- Zagreb, reporting, December 19, 2006.

\textsuperscript{1269} ILO Committee of Experts, Direct Request (No. 182): Croatia.


Current Government Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Croatia is implementing its National Program for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons 2005-2008, and a 2005-2007 National Plan for the Suppression of Trafficking in Children, and a 2006 action plan for trafficking through a national committee and civil society organizations. The government also launched the 2006-2012 National Program for the Protection of the Best Interests of Children to prevent and protect children from sexual abuse, including commercial sexual exploitation. A national-level coordinator has monitored ongoing anti-trafficking efforts in the country. The government has provided funds and support for anti-trafficking public awareness campaigns, a national referral system, victim identification, shelters, and legal, medical, and psychological services for victims. Croatian police forces have included anti-trafficking as part of its academy’s curriculum. The government also works with international organizations to assist trafficking victims and cooperates with other governments in the region.

Through 2007, Croatia is participating in a Government of Germany-funded regional program implemented by ILO-IPEC to combat the worst forms of child labor in the Stability Pact Countries.

1277 U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report: Croatia."
1278 Ibid.
1279 Ibid.
1281 ILO- IPEC official, email communication, November 15, 2006.
Djibouti

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In urban areas of Djibouti, children work in a variety of activities in the informal sector. Children work day and night in family-owned businesses such as restaurants and small shops. Children perform jobs such as shining shoes, guarding and washing cars, cleaning storefronts, sorting merchandise, selling various items, and changing money. Some children work as domestic servants and others are involved in begging. Children are also involved in the sale of drugs. Many working children are displaced from neighboring countries such as Ethiopia.
and some live on the streets.\footnote{1298} In rural areas, children work in agriculture and with livestock.\footnote{1299}

Child prostitution occurs in Djibouti.\footnote{1300} Many victims are from Ethiopia; HIV/AIDS orphans are especially vulnerable.\footnote{1301} Djiboutian girls who engage in prostitution may be victims of trafficking.\footnote{1302} Some children involved in prostitution in Djibouti are reported to be trafficked from neighboring countries, including Ethiopia.\footnote{1303}

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The minimum age for employment and apprenticeships in Djibouti is 16 years.\footnote{1304} Young persons 16 to 18 may not be employed as domestic servants or in hotels and bars.\footnote{1305} The law calls for the Ministry of Labor and Ministry of Health to develop additional categories of work that are prohibited to young persons, but these have not yet been established.\footnote{1306} Young persons must receive the same payment as adults for similar work. The Labor Inspector can require a medical exam to verify if the work is beyond the capabilities of the young person.\footnote{1307} Penalties for non-compliance with the provisions regarding equal pay and medical exams are punishable by fines.\footnote{1308} The law also prohibits night work for young persons, with penalties for non-compliance that include fines and, on the second infraction, 15 days of imprisonment.\footnote{1309}

The law prohibits forced and bonded labor.\footnote{1310} The law also prohibits the procurement of prostitution, with punishments including a fine and up to 10 years of imprisonment when a minor is involved. Increased penalties also apply if coercion is used or in cases involving the trafficking of persons outside or into the country.\footnote{1311} The law also provides for penalties against the use of children in pornography and trafficking of drugs.\footnote{1312} Djibouti does not have compulsory military service. The Government of Djibouti stated in a 1998 report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child that “as is the case for all civilian and military jobs, young

\footnotesize
\begin{enumerate}
\item Ministry of Employment and National Solidarity official, interview, July 11, 2006.
\item U.S. Embassy - Djibouti, \textit{reporting}, August 17, 2005.
\item ECPAT International CSEC Database, \textit{Djibouti}, accessed October 12, 2006; available from http://www.ecpat.net. See also Delegate Ministry to the Prime Minister Charged with the Promotion of the Woman, Family Well-Being, and Social Affairs, \textit{Analyse de la situation des orphelins et enfants vulnérables (OEV) à Djibouti}, Djibouti, February 2006, 5.
\item Government of Djibouti, \textit{Loi n°133/AN/05/Sème L portant Code du Travail}, (January 28, 2006), Articles 5 and 71.
\item Ibid., Articles 110-111.
\item U.S. Embassy - Djibouti official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, January 23, 2007.
\item Djibouti, \textit{Loi n°133/AN/05/Sème L}, Articles 109, 112.
\item Ibid., Article 288.
\item Ibid., Articles 94, 289.
\item Ibid., Article 2.
\end{enumerate}
people under 18 may not be accepted into the army.” The government has a voluntary national services program for persons ages 16 to 25 that includes 3 months of military training. The authority to enforce child labor laws and regulations rests with the Police Vice Squad (Brigade des Moeurs) and the local police department (Gendarmerie). The Brigade des Moeurs has reportedly closed bars where child prostitution may be occurring. As of April 2006, the labor inspection office had one inspector and six controllers. According to the U.S. Department of State, this shortage of inspectors limits the government’s ability to enforce labor laws.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Djibouti to address exploitive child labor.

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Dominica

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<th>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</th>
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<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
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<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
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Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding the incidence and nature of child labor in Dominica.*

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

In 2006, ILO CEACR reissued a previous statement to Dominica urging the government to increase the statutory minimum age for work to at least 15 years to be in accordance with ILO Convention No.138. 1321

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Dominica to address exploitive child labor.

*For more information, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor’s 2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor.

In 2003, approximately 5.6 percent of boys and 0.7 percent of girls ages 10 to 14 were working in the Dominican Republic.1333 A Secretariat of Labor (SET) study estimated that 41 percent of working children 5 to 17 worked in services, 21 percent in commerce, 19 percent in agriculture,

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<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
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<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
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<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2003:</td>
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<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
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<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
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<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
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<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
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*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

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1328 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
1333 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*. 

165
and 11 percent in manufacturing industries during 2000.\textsuperscript{1334} Most work performed by children is in the informal sector.\textsuperscript{1335} In urban areas, children work in the streets, markets, garbage dumps, and repair shops. They perform activities such as washing cars, shining shoes, street sales, and carrying heavy loads.\textsuperscript{1336} Many urban child workers are migrants from other regions.\textsuperscript{1337} Children also work as domestic servants.\textsuperscript{1338} In rural areas, children work mostly in agriculture and services.\textsuperscript{1339} Most child agricultural workers are boys.\textsuperscript{1340} Past reports indicate that Haitian children planted and cut sugarcane.\textsuperscript{1341} There have been conflicting reports as to whether the transport of undocumented Haitians for work in the sugarcane plantations has stopped.\textsuperscript{1342} Many Haitian families have traditionally lived in sugarcane worker villages referred to as “bateyes,” which lack adequate housing, medical, sanitation, and education services. Human rights organizations describe these conditions as modern day slavery.\textsuperscript{1343}

The Dominican Republic is a source and destination country for the trafficking of children for commercial sexual exploitation.\textsuperscript{1344} Children are also trafficked internally from rural to tourist areas.\textsuperscript{1345} International organizations estimate that up to 3,000 Haitian children are trafficked to the Dominican Republic each year to work in the streets, in agriculture, and for commercial sexual exploitation.\textsuperscript{1346} Children, particularly Haitian children, are sometimes “adopted” by families who register them as their own and provide some form of payment to the birthparents. Such children are often exploited as domestic workers or as workers in family businesses.\textsuperscript{1347}

\textsuperscript{1337} ILO-IPEC, Evaluación rápida sobre niños, niñas, y adolescentes trabajadores/as en urbanos/as en República Dominicana, Santo Domingo, December 2002, 34-35.
\textsuperscript{1339} ILO-IPEC, Report on the Results of the National Child Labour Survey, 33.
\textsuperscript{1341} U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, reporting, March 2, 2006.
\textsuperscript{1342} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Dominican Republic."
\textsuperscript{1343} Ibid., Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, reporting, March 2, 2006.
\textsuperscript{1345} The Protection Project, 2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children.
The commercial sexual exploitation of children is a problem, especially in tourist locations such as Boca Chica, Puerto Plata, Sosúa, and Las Terrenas. In February 2006, one group of Colombian and Dominican Republic traffickers was found guilty of trafficking Colombian girls to the Dominican Republic for prostitution purposes.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The legal minimum age for employment is 14 years. Work must not interfere with a minor’s education. Children under 16 may not work for more than 6 hours a day and must have a medical certification. Special authorization is needed for itinerant sales work. Females 14 to 16 are prohibited from working as messengers and delivering merchandise.

Minors under 18 are prohibited from dangerous work such as that involving hazardous substances, heavy or dangerous machinery, and heavy loads. Children are also prohibited from night work, work on the street, work in gaming establishments, handling cadavers, various tasks involved in the production of sugarcane, and certain work at hotels. Some exceptions are made for apprenticeships and job training for those older than 16. Employers are required to pay minors at least the minimum legal wage. Fines are established for violations of legal provisions involving child labor.

The Law Against Trafficking in Persons and Alien Smuggling establishes penalties of 15 to 20 years of imprisonment as well as fines for trafficking minors. The Code for the Protection of Children and Adolescents establishes punishments of 20 to 30 years of incarceration and fines for the transfer of a child to someone else for the purposes of forced labor, commercial sexual exploitation, including prostitution and pornography, or other degrading activities, in exchange for compensation. Perpetrators can also receive a prison sentence of up to 10 years and fines.

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1352. Ibid., Article 249.

1353. Ibid., Article 252.


1356. Ibid., Articles 720-721. See also Government of the Dominican Republic, Trabajos Peligrosos e Insalubres, Article 6. See also Government of the Dominican Republic, Código para la protección de los derechos de los Niños, Niñas, y Adolescentes, Article 44.


for involvement in the commercial sexual exploitation of children; the sexual abuse of children under circumstances involving trafficking; or giving a son, daughter, or student to another person in exchange for compensation.\footnote{1360} Fines are established for transporting minors unaccompanied by their parents without authorization.\footnote{1361} Promoting or assisting the trafficking of a minor outside of the country is punishable by 4 to 6 years of imprisonment and fines.\footnote{1362} Making, distributing, or publishing pornographic photographs of children is punishable by 2 to 4 years of incarceration and fines.\footnote{1363} Crimes involving drug trafficking carry increased penalties if minors were used to carry out the offense.\footnote{1364} Forced labor is prohibited by law.\footnote{1365} The minimum voluntary and compulsory recruitment age for military service is 16. Recruits must have completed their education.\footnote{1366}

The Secretary of Labor (SET), in coordination with The National Council for Children and Adolescents (CONANI), is responsible for protecting minors against labor exploitation.\footnote{1367} The legal requirement that CONANI receive a minimum of 2 percent of the national budget is not being met.\footnote{1368} According to the U.S. Department of State, the government has been working to increase its efforts to protect children from exploitative child labor. The government effectively enforced child labor laws in the formal sector; however it was unable to do so in the informal sector.\footnote{1369} Labor inspectors from the SET made monthly trips to visit sugarcane worker villages.\footnote{1370} The anti-trafficking unit of the Office of the Attorney General investigates and prosecutes trafficking crimes.\footnote{1371} The government has shut down several businesses involved with the commercial sexual exploitation of children, rescued child victims, and obtained related convictions.\footnote{1372} Also according to the U.S. Department of State, the Dominican Republic lacks effective trafficking law enforcement and victim protection programs because of lack of resources. Monitoring the border with Haiti has improved; but is still not effective; some government officials are reported to be involved in trafficking.\footnote{1373}

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\item Ibid., Articles 396, 404, and 410.\footnote{1360}
\item Ibid., Articles 204 and 391.\footnote{1361}
\item Ibid., Article 406.\footnote{1362}
\item Ibid., Articles 26 and 411.\footnote{1363}
\item Government of the Dominican Republic, \textit{Law on Drugs and Controlled Substances in the Dominican Republic}, (May 30, 1988), Article 85; available from http://www.unifr.ch/derechopenal/ley.htm.\footnote{1364}
\item The Protection Project, 2005 \textit{Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children}.\footnote{1365}
\item Government of the Dominican Republic, \textit{Ley Orgánica de las Fuerzas Armadas de la República Dominicana}, 873, (1996), Article 30; available from http://www.secfaa.mil.do/Ley1.htm.\footnote{1366}
\item Government of the Dominican Republic, \textit{Código para la protección de los derechos de los Niños, Niñas, y Adolescentes}, Article 34.\footnote{1367}
\item U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Dominican Republic."\footnote{1368}
\item Ibid., Section 5.\footnote{1369}
\item U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, \textit{reporting} December 16, 2006.\footnote{1370}
\item U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Dominican Republic."\footnote{1371}
\item Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Dominican Republic."\footnote{1372}
\item U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Dominican Republic." See also U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, \textit{reporting}, \textit{March} 2, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Dominican Republic."\footnote{1373}
\end{enumerate}
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Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of the Dominican Republic has both a National Plan to Eradicate the Worst Forms of Child Labor (2006-2016) and an Action Plan for the Eradication of Abuse and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Boys, Girls, and Adolescents.  

The government supported several child labor, trafficking, and commercial sexual exploitation awareness campaigns, workshops, and trainings, and provides some funding to NGOs that work with trafficking victims. The SET has formed provincial and municipal child labor committees. The armed forces provide educational and recreational programs for working and at-risk children and run a shelter for such children. The Technical Institute for Professional Development trains trafficking victims and at-risk children, especially those in the Boca Chica area. The Tourism Police provides counseling services to abused children, including victims of trafficking. CONANI operates a referral center for child victims of commercial sexual exploitation in Boca Chica and runs seven shelters for children.

The SET participates in several ILO-IPEC projects funded by USDOL, including three projects to specifically support the government’s Timebound Program to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor. The first USD 1.3 million project, which ended in 2006, withdrew 2,079 children and prevented 1,330 children from exploitive labor; it also developed a community-based child labor monitoring system. A second USD 4.4 million project, which also ended in 2006, withdrew 2,858 and prevented 6,757 children from exploitive labor in agriculture, commercial sexual exploitation, urban work, and trafficking. In 2006, a third USD 2.7 million, 39-month project began that aims to withdraw 2,900 children and prevent 2,200 children from exploitive labor. The Office of the First Lady administers a program to provide income-
generating opportunities to families of children at-risk for commercial sexual exploitation, including beneficiaries of ILO-implemented projects.\textsuperscript{1383} The government also participates in a USDOL-funded USD 8.8 million regional project to eliminate commercial sexual exploitation of children in Central America and the Dominican Republic, targeting 713 children for withdrawal and 657 children for prevention.\textsuperscript{1384} As part of an effort to build capacity to improve labor law compliance among the CAFTA-DR partners, USDOL is providing USD 2.85 million for a project to strengthen outreach efforts in the agriculture sector in the region, where child labor is a serious problem.\textsuperscript{1385} A second regional project targeting hazardous agricultural child labor was funded by USDOL for USD 900,000 and completed in 2005, withdrawing 1,405 and preventing 5,744 children from working in hazardous labor conditions.\textsuperscript{1386}

Additionally, the government participates in two USDOL-funded Child Labor Education Initiative projects including a USD 5.5 million, 4-year regional project implemented by CARE to strengthen the government and civil society’s capacity to combat child labor through education, and withdraw or prevent 2,780 children from exploitive child labor. Also, a USD 3 million, 4-year project implemented by DevTech Systems, Inc. seeks to withdraw 3,170 children and prevent 1,047 from entering exploitive labor by improving the quality of and access to basic education.\textsuperscript{1387}

\begin{small}
\textsuperscript{1383}ILO-IPEC, \textit{Preparatory Activities}, 11.


\end{small}
Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In East Timor, many children work in agriculture; some children work in the streets of the capital, Dili, selling items and washing cars. There are unconfirmed reports of children used to smuggle goods across the border into Indonesia.

Authorities have recognized that child trafficking is a problem, but there is little information about the nature of the trafficking. Most trafficked children are brought to East Timor for prostitution. There have been reports of girls trafficked into East Timor, but their countries of origin are unknown. Although East Timor was not previously considered a source country, starting in 2006, there is evidence that East Timorese girls are targeted for trafficking.

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

| Percent of children ages 5-14 estimated as working: | Unavailable |
| Minimum age for admission to work: | 15 |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | Not defined |
| Free public education: | Yes |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003: | 146% |
| Net primary enrollment rate: | Unavailable |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school: | Unavailable |
| Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | Unavailable |
| Ratified Convention 138: | No |
| Ratified Convention 182: | No |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | No |

*Guaranteed by law, but no system has been established to ensure that education is available.*

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1393 Ibid.
1398 Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: East Timor," section 5.
are reports of internal trafficking of girls from rural areas to the capital, Dili, for commercial sexual exploitation.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years and prohibits work by a child between 15 and 18 years that would jeopardize their health, safety or morals. However, the official minimum age of 15 does not apply to family-owned businesses, and children working in vocational schools are exempted. Further, the law allows for light work for children older than 12. According to the U.S. Department of State, enforcement of the labor code is limited, especially outside of the capital, Dili.

The law forbids compulsory work. Trafficking is prohibited, and the penalty for trafficking minors is imprisonment of 5 to 12 years. The U.S. Department of State also reports no enforcement efforts or prosecutions of traffickers during 2006. In fact, the U.S. Department of State has stated that credible reports suggest that police and customs officials have colluded with traffickers.

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of East Timor to address exploitive child labor.

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Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, 19 percent of boys and 11.7 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Ecuador. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (67.5 percent), followed by services (20.9 percent), manufacturing (9.7 percent) and other sectors (1.9 percent). A large percentage of working children between the ages of 5 and 17 are found in rural areas of the sierra, or highlands, followed by the Amazon and urban coastal areas. In urban areas,
children beg on the streets, work in commerce selling candies and newspapers, or provide services as messengers, domestic servants, shoe shiners, garbage collectors and recyclers.\textsuperscript{1421} The commercial sexual exploitation of children occurs in Ecuador.\textsuperscript{1422} An ILO report estimates that 5,200 children are engaged in prostitution.\textsuperscript{1423} Colombian women and girls are trafficked to Ecuador for commercial sexual exploitation. However, most victims are trafficked within the country’s borders.\textsuperscript{1424} According to the U.S. Department of State, Ecuador has been making significant progress in identifying and punishing trafficking.\textsuperscript{1425}

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years and identifies categories of dangerous work that are prohibited for minors.\textsuperscript{1426} Child labor provisions do not apply to children involved in formative cultural or ancestral practices as long as they are not exposed to physical or psychological harm.\textsuperscript{1427} The law prohibits adolescents from working more than 6 hours per day or more than 5 days per week.\textsuperscript{1428} The law also prohibits adolescents from working in mines, garbage dumps, slaughterhouses, and quarries, and from working with hazardous materials or in jobs that could be hazardous to the child’s physical or mental health.\textsuperscript{1429} The Labor Inspectorate and the municipalities oversee labor contracts and work permits for adolescents between 15 and 18 years.\textsuperscript{1430} The law prescribes sanctions for violations of child labor laws, such as monetary fines and the closing of establishments where child labor occurs.\textsuperscript{1431}

The law specifically calls for children in Ecuador to be protected in the workplace and against economic exploitation. The law also protects minors against trafficking, prostitution, pornography, and the forced use of illegal drugs and alcohol.\textsuperscript{1432} Trafficking in persons for both sexual exploitation and for non-sexual purposes is prohibited\textsuperscript{1433} and can carry up to a 35-year jail term.\textsuperscript{1434} The law punishes individuals involved in child prostitution regardless of the


\textsuperscript{1422} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ecuador." See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, \textit{Ecuador}.


\textsuperscript{1425} Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, \textit{Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment}, [online] 2006 [cited January 31, 2007]; available from http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/78948.htm.

\textsuperscript{1426} Government of Ecuador, \textit{Código de la Niñez y Adolescencia}, Articles 81-95.

\textsuperscript{1427} Ibíd., Article 86.

\textsuperscript{1428} Ibíd., Article 84.

\textsuperscript{1429} Ibíd., Article 87.

\textsuperscript{1430} Ibíd., Articles 88-93.

\textsuperscript{1431} Ibíd., Articles 81, 82, 95.


\textsuperscript{1434} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in persons Report- 2006: Ecuador." See also U.S. Embassy Official-Quito, E-mail communication to USDOL Official, August 18, 2006.
victim's consent. The age of consent is 18. The law establishes 6 to 12 years in prison for promoting child sex tourism. The age of compulsory military service is 18 years.

The Specialized National Police Unit for Children (DINAPEN) leads actions against trafficking. With USG assistance, Ecuador has increased the number of trafficking law enforcement officials and prosecutors. A specialized 36-member police unit and an 8-member trafficking intelligence unit were created during 2006. The Government has been actively conducting new investigations and prosecutions under the anti-trafficking legislation. During this year, Ecuadorian authorities arrested 41 persons and reported 15 cases of trafficking that reached some stage of prosecution. One trafficker was sentenced to 9 years in prison. Rescued minors returned to their families or were directed to specialized NGOs.

In 2006, the Ministry of Labor permanently hired 28 child labor inspectors who are currently operating in 22 provinces. Inspections were conducted in businesses and plantations, resulting in fines for flower and banana plantations, brick makers, and furniture makers. The fines collected will be reinvested, with some of the funds going to education scholarships for the identified children.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Ecuador, through the National Committee for the Progressive Elimination of Child Labor (CONEPTI), oversaw its National Plan for the Progressive Elimination of Child Labor 2003-2006 (PETI Plan). In 2006, CONEPTI was strengthened through the establishment of a Technical Secretariat with the operating capacity to follow up on projects, negotiate agreements, promote awareness, train stakeholders on program goals and make policy decisions regarding inspectors and social controllers.

In 2006, the Inter-Institutional Commission for Combating Trafficking in Persons approved a National Plan to combat trafficking. The plan lays the framework for combating illegal migration and trafficking, sexual and labor exploitation, prostitution, pornography and other

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1440 Embassy of Ecuador, Actions Undertaken by the State of Ecuador to Prevent and Eradicate Child Labor, 2006.
1441 Catholic Relief Services, SOY! Project, technical progress report, Quito, September 20, 2006.
1442 Embassy of Ecuador, Actions Undertaken by the State of Ecuador to Prevent and Eradicate Child Labor.
1445 Embassy of Ecuador, Actions Undertaken by the State of Ecuador to Prevent and Eradicate Child Labor.
forms of exploitation of women and minors.\textsuperscript{1447} The government has provided training and resources to combat trafficking, and continued to work with civil society to train officials, raise public awareness, and improve victims’ protection.\textsuperscript{1448}

In October 2006, The Ministry of Tourism launched an awareness raising campaign to prevent the commercial sexual exploitation of children related to tourism. The USD 60,000 campaign will produce posters, billboards and brochures to be distributed and displayed at highways, airports and tourist agencies.\textsuperscript{1449}

The National Institute for Children and Family (INNFA) began efforts to raise awareness on trafficking in persons through radio, television and other initiatives. The government worked with the private sector for distributing anti-trafficking messages at several venues, such as public theaters and local air flights, and through fliers enclosed with bank and credit card statements.\textsuperscript{1450}

The Government of Ecuador supports education programs that contribute to the withdrawal or prevention of children from exploitive labor. INNFA implements several educational programs for working children. One program reintegrates working children and adolescents from the ages of 8 to 15 into the school system to complete the basic education cycle. Another program provides vocational training and alternative recreational activities to working children between 8 and 17 years, as well as raising the awareness of parents on the dangers of exploitive labor. For adolescents 10 to 17 years who have not completed primary schooling and are more than 3 years behind their peers, INNFA offers an accelerated learning program to help them complete the equivalent of basic education.\textsuperscript{1451}

As part of its social protection network, the Social Protection Program (PPS) at the Ministry of Social Welfare provides scholarships for children who left school for economic reasons to reinsert child laborers back into the school system.\textsuperscript{1452}

The Ministry of Labor has implemented a pilot awareness-raising project for the eradication of child labor in the Tarqui Market of the city of Manta. The project provides services to 260 children who were withdrawn and 500 children who were prevented from the worst forms of child labor in the area.\textsuperscript{1453}

A USD 4 million Timebound Program, funded by USDOL and implemented by ILO-IPEC through 2008, complements the government’s plan to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in the country. This project targets 2,120 children for withdrawal and 2,880 children for prevention

\textsuperscript{1448} U.S. Department of State, \textit{Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment}.
\textsuperscript{1450} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ecuador."
\textsuperscript{1453} Embassy of Ecuador, \textit{Actions Undertaken by the State of Ecuador to Prevent and Eradicate Child Labor}. 

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In addition, the Government of Ecuador participates in a USD 3 million USDOL-funded 4-year program implemented by Catholic Relief Services to combat exploitive child labor through access to quality education. This project targets 619 children for withdrawal and 9,701 children for prevention from work in the banana and cut flower industries. An ongoing USD 4 million USDOL-funded project, initiated in 2005 by World Learning and Development and Self-management (DYA), combats child labor within the indigenous population through the provision of education services. This project targets 2,124 indigenous children for withdrawal and 4,054 indigenous children for prevention from exploitive work in the Sierra, Amazon, and Quito. Ecuador also participates in a USD 2.1 million global SIMPOC project funded by Canada with technical assistance from ILO-IPEC. To address trafficking in persons, including children, the State Department’s Trafficking in Persons Office and USAID fund six programs in Ecuador with a total cost of nearly USD 1.3 million.

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1456 U.S. Department of Labor, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary: Project Wiñari - Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor through Education in Ecuador, 2005.
1457 ILO-IPEC, IPEC Projects from all Donors except USDOL, November 3, 2006.
1458 U.S. Embassy Official-Quito, E-mail communication to USDOL Official, August 7 2007.
Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2005, approximately 9.5 percent of boys and 3.7 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Egypt. A large proportion of working children are found in the agricultural sector, where children are hired each year for the cotton harvest. Children are also found working on construction sites and in light industry. Children work in a number of hazardous sectors,

1463 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
1464 Ibid.
1465 Ibid.
1466 Ibid.
1467 Ibid.
1468 Ibid.
including leather tanning, pottery making, glassworks, blacksmithing, working metal and copper, battery repair and carpentry, mining and quarrying, carpet weaving, auto repair, and textile and plastics manufacturing. Reports indicate a widespread practice of poor rural families arranging to send their daughters to cities to work as domestic servants in the homes of wealthy citizens. Child domestic workers are excluded from the protections of the labor code and are highly susceptible to exploitation, including physical and sexual abuse as well as harsh working conditions. Urban areas are also host to large numbers of street children who have left their homes in the countryside to find work, and often to flee hostile conditions at home. Street children work shining shoes, collecting rubbish, begging, cleaning and directing cars into parking spaces, and selling food and trinkets. Street children are particularly vulnerable to becoming involved in illicit activities, including pornography and prostitution. In Egypt, children from rural areas are reportedly trafficked internally for agricultural work or domestic labor.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law prohibits the employment of children under 14 years. The law also prohibits juveniles 14 to 17 from working more than 6 hours per day; requires at least a 1 hour break; and prohibits juveniles from working overtime, on holidays, more than 4 consecutive hours, or between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. However, these provisions do not apply to children working in the agricultural sector, small family enterprises, and domestic service. The law also allows the employment of children 12 to 14 years in seasonal jobs that do not harm their health or affect

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1475 Ibid., cover page, 9, 49.


1480 Ibid., Article 103. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR), "CEACR Comments".
their schooling, and children 12 to 18 may participate in certain types of apprenticeship training. Children under 16 are prohibited from working in 44 hazardous industries, including agricultural activities involving the use of pesticides.

Egyptian law does not specifically prohibit trafficking in persons, however, prohibitions exist against forced labor, rape, prostitution; traffickers may be prosecuted for the abduction of children. The law prohibits forced labor and makes it illegal for a person to entice or assist a male under 21 or a female of any age to depart the country to work in prostitution or other “immoral” activities. The law also prohibits the incitement of any person under 21 to commit any act of prostitution or “immorality,” including the use of children in the production, promotion or distribution of pornography. Violations of these laws are punishable with imprisonment for 1 to 7 years. The minimum age for compulsory recruitment into the armed forces is 18 years. Children may enter the armed forces at 16 but may not engage in combat operations.

The Child Labor Unit within the Ministry of Manpower and Migration (MOMM) coordinates investigations into reports of child labor violations and ensures enforcement of the laws pertaining to child labor. A separate unit within the MOMM is responsible for child labor inspections in the agricultural sector. The U.S. Department of State reports that enforcement in state-owned businesses is adequate, although enforcement in the private and informal sectors is lacking. There is a shortage of labor inspectors trained to identify in cases involving child labor and intervene in such cases. The U.S. Department of State reports that the Government of Egypt has made modest efforts to prosecute trafficking cases.

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1481 U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Egypt," Section 6d. See also ILO-IPEC, Gender, Education and Child Labour in Egypt, 28. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR), "CEACR Comments".
1482 Government of Egypt, Decree Concerning the Rules and Procedures Regulating Vocational Apprenticeship, Decree No. 175 of 2003, (August 31), Articles 1-16.
1483 Government of Egypt, Decree Determining the System of Employing Children, and the Conditions, Terms and Cases in which They Are Employed as well as the Works, Vocations, and Industries in which it is Prohibited to Employ Them, According to the Different Stages of Age, Decree No. 118 of 2003, (June 30), Articles 1-9. See also U.S. Embassy- Cairo, reporting, August 18, 2003. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR), "CEACR Comments".
1488 U.S. Embassy- Cairo, reporting, August 18, 2003. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR), "CEACR Comments".
Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government’s National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) continues to implement activities to combat the worst forms of child labor, among other goals. The NCCM is collaborating with the MOMM, the Egyptian Trade Union Federation (ETUF), ILO, UNICEF, and the Ministries of Social Affairs, Agriculture, Education, Health, and Interior to implement action programs to reduce child labor. While the action programs began with technical support from ILO-IPEC, the NCCM, the ETUF, UNICEF, and the AFL-CIO Solidarity Center, the MOMM now operates the projects independently. With support from the EU and other donors, the NCCM is implementing a large-scale project addressing children’s issues, with a focus on priority areas including child labor, street children, girls’ education, and prevention of harmful practices against girls. The Egyptian Prime Minister earmarked 100 million Egyptian pounds (USD 17.5 million) in matching funds towards this initiative. The NCCM is also implementing projects in the governorates of Sharkia, Menofia, Minya, and Damietta to shift working children into non-hazardous activities and gradually eliminate all forms of child labor. The Government of Egypt is supporting the USD 5.09 million USDOL-funded UN WFP project to combat exploitive child labor through education. The project aims to withdraw 4,300 children and prevent 6,000 children from exploitive labor.

The NCCM and MOMM are also collaborating with other line ministries and NGOs to increase awareness of child labor and strengthen enforcement of existing laws. The NCCM and the Ministry of Interior are training police officers to raise awareness of child rights and best practices for dealing with at-risk children and youth. The NCCM and MOMM are also working with the Ministry of Information on awareness-raising campaigns in all 26 governorates to highlight the negative impact of child labor on children, their families and their employers and to educate them about relevant legislation and enforcement issues. The MOMM is collaborating with the Ministry of Education to identify governorates with high dropout rates and has increased child labor inspection in those areas. The MOMM and the Ministry of Agriculture are cooperating to prevent underage children from working in the cotton sector and to provide children working legally with the necessary protection while they engage in agricultural activities.

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1492 U.S. Embassy- Cairo, reporting, September 1, 2004. See also U.S. Embassy - Cairo, reporting, Cairo, September 12, 2005. See also ILO-IPEC, Gender, Education and Child Labour in Egypt.
1495 U.S. Embassy- Cairo, reporting, March 2, 2005.
1496 USDOL, Combating Exploitive Child Labor through Education in Egypt, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, DC.
1497 U.S. Embassy - Cairo, reporting, September 12, 2005.
1498 Ibid.
1499 U.S. Embassy- Cairo official, personal communication to USDOL official, May 26, 2005.
Since 2003, the NCCM and UNICEF have also been implementing the National Strategy for the Protection and Rehabilitation of Street Children (also launched under the auspices of the Egyptian first lady), which aims to rehabilitate and reintegrate street children into society.  

El Salvador

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2003:</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age at which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>114%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2003:</td>
<td>80.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2003 percentage of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>10/12/2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Must pay for school supplies and related items.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2003 in El Salvador, the majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (51.2 percent), followed by services (35.3 percent), manufacturing (12.4 percent), and other sectors (11 percent). Most working children work in family-operated businesses without pay. Working is more common for children in rural areas than in urban areas, and among

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1502 Constitution of the Republic of El Salvador, Title 2, Chapter 1, Section 2.
1507 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
1510 Ibid.
1512 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
Children work in sugar cane harvesting, fishing, and garbage scavenging. Some children work long hours as domestic servants in third-party homes. Commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking of children, especially girls, continues to be a problem. El Salvador is reported to be a transit point for girls trafficked to such places as Mexico, the United States, and neighboring Central American countries. Some children are also trafficked internally from rural areas to urban areas, port cities, and border regions for commercial sexual exploitation. At-risk groups include girls, rural and poor children, uneducated adolescents, adolescent mothers and underage foreign females.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years. Children 12 to 14 can be authorized to perform light work, as long as it does not harm their development or interfere with their education. There are also exceptions for artistic representations. Children under 16 years are prohibited from working more than 6 hours per day or more than 34 hours per week, regardless of the type of work. Children under 18 are prohibited from working at night.

Forced labor is prohibited, except in cases specified by the law. With parental consent, children between 16 and 18 years may volunteer for military service. The law prohibits trafficking in persons. Criminal penalties for trafficking range from 4 to 8 years of imprisonment, and increase by one-third if the victim is under 18 years. The law provides for penalties of 8 to 12 years of imprisonment for the inducement, facilitation, or promotion of prostitution of a person younger than 18, and penalties of 6 to 12 years of imprisonment for the production or distribution of pornography involving minors.

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1518 Ibid.
1523 *Decreto No. 457*, 116.
1527 Ibid.
Enforcement of child labor laws is the responsibility of the Ministry of Labor.\textsuperscript{1529} The U.S. Department of State reports that inspectors focus on the formal sector, where child labor is less frequent.\textsuperscript{1530} The Child Labor Unit of the Ministry of Labor was strengthened in 2006 to increase capacity to conduct inspections, through the hiring of additional technical and inspection officers.\textsuperscript{1531} The Ministry of Labor has 163 labor inspectors, including 24 who work specifically on child labor issues.\textsuperscript{1532} During 2006, the Labor Ministry concentrated on monitoring and inspecting sugarcane plantations, resulting in the removal of 149 children from working in sugarcane.\textsuperscript{1533} The National Committee Against Trafficking in Persons comprises 15 government agencies that are responsible for combating trafficking.\textsuperscript{1534} In 2006, about 55 children were rescued from trafficking circumstances by Salvadoran authorities.\textsuperscript{1535}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The Government of El Salvador has launched a 2006-2009 National Plan for the Eradication of the Worst Forms of Child Labor, identifying the following as strategic areas of intervention: strengthening of the legal framework; strengthening of institutions; enhancement of educational interventions; provision of health care; provision of recreational, cultural, and sports activities; improving income generation; and strengthening of communication and awareness raising.\textsuperscript{1536} The Government of El Salvador continues to participate in various USDOL-funded child labor projects implemented by ILO-IPEC. These include a USD 4 million Child Labor Education Initiative, which aims to prevent and withdraw children from exploitive labor through the provision of education services.\textsuperscript{1537} Also, there is a USD 7.3 million project to support a National Timebound Program to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in fishing, sugar cane harvesting, commercial sexual exploitation, and garbage-dump scavenging, which entered its second phase in 2006.\textsuperscript{1538} The two USDOL-funded projects, together, aim to withdraw 12,610 and prevent 26,388 children from exploitive child labor.\textsuperscript{1539}

The Government of El Salvador also participates in regional projects funded by USDOL. These include a USD 8.8 million regional project implemented by ILO-IPEC that seeks to withdraw 713 children and prevent 657 children from commercial sexual exploitation in the region.\textsuperscript{1540}

\textsuperscript{1530} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{1533} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{1535} Ibid. See also Ambassador of El Salvador, Letter to USDOL official, January 8, 2007.
\textsuperscript{1537} ILO-IPEC, *El Salvador TBP (II)*, project document.
The government also participates in a USD 5.7 million Central America regional Child Labor Education Initiative project to strengthen government and civil society’s capacity to reduce and prevent exploitive child labor through education. This project implemented by CARE-USA seeks to withdraw or prevent 2,984 children from exploitive child labor regionally.\(^{1541}\) With support from the Government of Italy, ILO-IPEC is also working with the Government of El Salvador and other governments of the region to complete a 4-year regional project to reduce the activities of children scavenging in garbage dumps.\(^{1542}\)

\(^{1541}\) CARE-USA, APRENDO Project: Combating Exploitive Child Labor Through Education in Central America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua) and the Dominican Republic, project document, August 16, 2004.

Equatorial Guinea

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In Equatorial Guinea, children work on family farms and as market vendors in family businesses; there were also unconfirmed reports of foreign children working as market vendors in non-family businesses. Children from Benin, Nigeria, and Cameroon are trafficked predominantly into the commercial sector of Malabo and Bata. West African children were most vulnerable to trafficking by relatives or family acquaintances who required them to work in the agricultural sector in addition to the commercial sector. Girls are trafficked to Equatorial Guinea from Togo, Nigeria, and China for commercial sexual exploitation, while other children work as farmhands, street vendors and household servants.

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children ages 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
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<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
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*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

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1550 ILO, Ratifications by Country.
1551 Ibid.
1553 Ibid.

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Child Labor Law and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment is 14 years. Children under 16 years are prohibited from work that might harm their health, safety, or morals.

A government decree bans all children under the age of 16 years from being on the streets after 11 p.m. The decree forbids parents or tutors from exploiting children in labor such as street vending, car washing, or working in bars or restaurants. Under the decree, youth found in the above situations will be automatically arrested, and businesses that employ minors, including family businesses, will be sanctioned. The U.S. Department of State reports that the Ministry of Labor does not enforce the child labor laws effectively.

Forced or compulsory child labor is forbidden. The law prohibits the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, but the government did not conduct any arrests or prosecutions. Law enforcement officials have not received training on trafficking issues and have not investigated any trafficking cases.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In February 2006, Equatorial Guinea adopted a 5-year National Plan of Action on Trafficking. The government conducted several activities to raise awareness, including a radio campaign to about the trafficking law.

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1560 Ibid. Section 6c.
Eritrea

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In Eritrea, children work on the street, in the agricultural sector, and as domestic servants.1573 Children living in rural areas often work in family businesses, including subsistence farming, and engage in such activities as fetching firewood and water, and herding livestock. Children are expected to work from about age 5 by looking after livestock and working in the fields.1574 For children working in urban areas street vending is typical, however this is not widely prevalent.1575 Many underage apprentices work in shops and workshops such as garages or metal workshops in towns.1576

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

| Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working: | Unavailable |
| Minimum age of work: | 141564 |
| Age which education is compulsory: | 71565 |
| Free public education: | Yes1566 |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002: | 63%1567 |
| Net primary enrollment rate in 2002: | 45%1568 |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school: | Unavailable |
| As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | 86%1569 |
| Ratified Convention 138: | 2/22/20001570 |
| Ratified Convention 182: | No1571 |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | No1572 |

* Must pay for school supplies and related items.

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1566 Ibid.
1571 Ibid.
1574 ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention*.
1576 ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention.*
Children are reportedly involved in prostitution. However, specific data on the commercial sexual exploitation of children in Eritrea is lacking.  

Although the law prohibits recruitment of children under 18 into the armed forces, concerns exist regarding the training and recruiting of children for military service. The government requires all secondary school students to complete their final year of education at a location adjacent to the Sawa military training facility in order to graduate, regardless of age. In addition to not qualifying for graduation, students who do not attend this final year of secondary education cannot sit for examinations to be eligible for advanced education. There is concern that this school is under the authority of the military; at least one official stated that the students are considered members of the armed forces. According to the U.S. Department of State, students attend the Sawa military training camp and undergo military training during their final year of secondary school.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

Eritrean law sets the minimum age of employment and apprenticeship at 14 years. Young persons between 14 and 18 may not work between the hours of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. or more than 7 hours per day. Children under 18 years are not permitted to work jobs that have been specified as dangerous or unhealthy, including jobs that involve heavy lifting, contact with toxic chemicals, underground work, commercial sexual exploitation, the transport industry, dangerous machines, or exposure to electrical hazards.  

The recruitment of children under 18 years into the armed forces is prohibited. Child prostitution, pornography, and sexual exploitation are criminal offenses. Trafficking in persons is prohibited.

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1578 UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports under Article 44 - Concluding Observations*, para 57.
1585 UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Addendum: *Eritrea*, para 68.
1586 Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Eritrea," Section 6d.
1587 UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Addendum: *Eritrea*, para 88.
The Ministry of Labor and Human Welfare (MLHW) is responsible for enforcing child labor laws, but according to the U.S. Department of State, inspections are infrequent because of the ministry’s finite resources. Legal remedies available to the labor ministry include criminal penalties, fines, and court orders. As of 2004, the most recent year for which information is available, no labor inspection reports had referred to cases of child labor.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Eritrea is implementing a national plan of action on child labor that primarily focuses on integrating or reintegrating children with families, communities, and schools as a means of preventing or rehabilitating children engaged in child labor. The MLHW works with children at-risk of entry into work by providing a small subsidy to their families to help with food and clothing, as well as counseling services to help children reintegrate into their nuclear or extended families. At-risk children are also enrolled or reenrolled at local schools, and the MLHW tracks their development through local committees or ministry employees. Additionally, the government provides school-aged street children with allowances to purchase uniforms and books necessary for school participation. Street children who are no longer of school age are provided with private vocational training designed to reintegrate them into the community.

Through state media, the government routinely provides information on its strategy and obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and has focused on the issue of child labor, in particular commercial sexual exploitation, in awareness-raising campaigns for the general public. Officials charged with enforcing child labor laws have received training.
Ethiopia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2005, approximately 58.1 percent of boys and 41.6 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Ethiopia. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (95.2 percent), followed by services (3.4 percent), manufacturing (1.3 percent), and other sectors (0.2 percent). 

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

| Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2005: | 50.1% |
| Minimum age of work: | 14 |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | Not compulsory |
| Free public education: | Yes |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2005: | 93% |
| Net primary enrollment rate in 2005: | 56% |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2005: | 29.2% |
| Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | Unavailable |
| Ratified Convention 138: | 5/27/1999 |
| Ratified Convention 182: | 9/2/2003 |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | Yes, associated |

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

1606 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
1608 Ibid.
The number of working children is higher in the Amhara, Oromiya, Southern Nation, Nationalities and Peoples (SNNPR) and Tigray regions compared with other regions.\textsuperscript{1610} Most children in Ethiopia work for their families without pay.\textsuperscript{1612} In both rural and urban areas, children often begin working at young ages, with many starting work at 5.\textsuperscript{1613} In rural areas, children work in agriculture on commercial and family farms, and in domestic service.\textsuperscript{1614} Children in rural areas, especially boys, engage in activities such as cattle herding, petty trading, plowing, harvesting and weeding, while other children, mostly girls, collect firewood and water.\textsuperscript{1615} In urban areas, many children, including orphans, work in domestic service.\textsuperscript{1616} Child domestic workers work long hours, which may prevent them from attending school regularly. Many feel unable to quit their jobs and fear physical, verbal, and sexual abuse from their employers while performing their work.\textsuperscript{1617} Children in urban areas work in construction, manufacturing,\textsuperscript{1618} shining shoes, making clothes, portering, directing customers into taxis, petty trading, and herding animals.\textsuperscript{1619} Estimates of the population of street children vary, with the government estimating it to be between 150,000 and 200,000 for the whole country, and UNICEF estimating it to be 600,000 children. In the capital city of Addis Ababa alone, there are an estimated 50,000 to 60,000 street children according to the government, and 100,000 according to UNICEF. Some of these children work in the informal sector in order to survive.\textsuperscript{1620}

\textsuperscript{1610} UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.


\textsuperscript{1613} Tassew Woldehanna, Bekele Tefera, Nicola Jones, and Alebel Bayrau, Child Labour, Gender Inequality and Rural/Urban Disparities: Ethiopia, 15-17. See also Lorenzo Guarcello, Scott Lyon, and Furio Camillo Rosati, The Twin Challenges of Child Labor and Youth Employment in Ethiopia, 6.

\textsuperscript{1614} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ethiopia," Section 6d.


\textsuperscript{1617} Kifle, Rapid Assessment of Child Domestic Workers in Addis Ababa, 18-19, 22. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ethiopia," Section 6d.

\textsuperscript{1618} Lorenzo Guarcello, Scott Lyon, and Furio Camillo Rosati, The Twin Challenges of Child Labor and Youth Employment in Ethiopia, 11.

\textsuperscript{1619} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ethiopia," Section 6d.

\textsuperscript{1620} Ibid., Section 5.
In 2006, various regions of Ethiopia were affected by floods and drought. The drought in Ethiopia’s Somali region has caused many children to drop out of school and start working.1621

The commercial sexual exploitation of children is increasing in Ethiopia, particularly in urban areas.1622 Young girls, some as young as 11, have reportedly been recruited to work in brothels, where they are sought by customers who believe them to be free of sexually transmitted infections.1623 Girls are also exploited as prostitutes in hotels, bars, resort towns and rural truck stops. Reports indicate that some young girls have been forced into prostitution by their family members.1624

Within Ethiopia, children are trafficked from rural to urban areas for domestic service, commercial sexual exploitation, and forced labor in street vending and other activities.1625 Reports indicate that children have been trafficked from Oromiya and SNNPR to other regions of the country for forced or bonded labor in domestic service.1626

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years.1627 The law forbids employers to employ “young workers,” defined as children 14 to 18 years, when the nature of the job or the conditions under which it is carried out might endanger the life or health of a child. Prohibited activities include transporting goods by air, land, or sea; working with electric power generation plants; and performing underground work.1628 Young workers are prohibited from working more than 7 hours per day, between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., during weekly rest days, and on public holidays.1629

The law states that children have the right to be protected against exploitive practices and work conditions and should not engage in employment that could threaten their health, education, or

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1623 Ibid.

1624 Ibid.


1626 Ibid., Section 6d.


1628 Ibid., Chapter II. Working Conditions of Young Workers, Section 89, Articles 1, 3-5.

1629 Ibid., Chapter II. Working Conditions of Young Workers, Sections 90 and 91.
well-being. Most forms of human trafficking have been criminalized under the new penal code; the trafficking of women and children carries a penalty of up to 20 years of imprisonment and a fine. The law also prohibits the compulsory or forced labor of children. The minimum age for conscription and voluntary recruitment into the military is 18 years.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA) is charged with the enforcement of child labor laws, but, according to the U.S. Department of State, the MOLSA’s efforts to provide oversight and resources have been inadequate. Some efforts have been made to enforce child labor laws in the formal industrial sector; however, this was not where most child labor occurred in the country.

The MOLSA, in collaboration with local police, is responsible for monitoring trafficking. The Ministry of Justice is responsible for enforcing laws related to trafficking. In July 2006, the government convicted and sentenced a trafficker to 13 years in prison and imposed a fine.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In 2006, the MOLSA conducted a national workshop and established a committee to develop a national child labor policy.

Ethiopia is one of four countries participating in the 4-year, USD 14.5 million Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together (KURET) project, funded by USDOL and implemented by World Vision in partnership with the International Rescue Committee and the Academy for Educational Development. The KURET Project aims to withdraw or prevent a total of 30,600 children from exploitive labor in HIV/AIDS-affected areas of these four countries through the provision of educational services. In 2006, the government indicated its support for KURET’s Alternative Basic Education (ABE) centers by committing to pay part of their staffing costs. Ethiopia also participates in the 5-year USDOL-funded Reducing Child Labor through Education (CIRCLE 1) global project being implemented by Winrock International through

1633 Ibid., Section 6c.
1636 Ibid., Section 5.

In 2006, the IOM trained judges, prosecutors, and police officers on trafficking.\footnote{1641}{U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ethiopia," Section 5.} The government undertook efforts to combat trafficking, including a program to raise public awareness on the dangers of migrating to the Middle East, consulting with the IOM, showing videos on the perils of human trafficking to passport applicants, and inspecting the employment contracts of prospective domestic workers who wanted to work overseas.\footnote{1642}{Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ethiopia."} In Addis Ababa police stations, NGOs operated child protection units, which referred children who had been rescued from trafficking to an NGO for care pending their return home. The child protection units also collected data on rescued children to facilitate their reunification with their families.\footnote{1643}{U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ethiopia."} A USAID-funded center in Addis Ababa provides shelter, medical care, counseling, and reintegration assistance to girls victimized by trafficking.\footnote{1644}{Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Ethiopia: Centre for Helping Victims of Trafficking Opens", IRINnews.org, [online], June 29, 2004 [cited January 31, 2007]; available from http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=41909. See also ECPAT International, The First-ever Centre to Help Victims of Trafficking Opened in the Ethiopian Capital, Addis Ababa, on Tuesday, Addis Ababa, June 29, 2004; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/IRC/tmpNews.asp?SCID=1446.} NGOs, such as the Forum on Street Children-Ethiopia, provided assistance to children engaged in commercial sexual exploitation, including such services as a drop-in center, shelter, educational services, skills training, guidance, assistance with income-generating and employment activities, and family reunification services. Such assistance often accompanies interaction with the government in order to develop long-term policy and program objectives.\footnote{1645}{ECPAT International, Annual Report 2004-2005, Bangkok; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/annual_report/index.asp. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ethiopia," Section 5.}
Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children work in agriculture in Fiji, including in the tobacco sector. Children also work in the informal sector, in family businesses, and on the streets. Children shine shoes, repair cars, and work as domestics in homes. Children are sexually exploited through prostitution, pornography, and child sex tourism.

### Fiji

**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
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<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>96%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>4/17/2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

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1650 Ibid.
1651 Ibid.
1653 Ibid.
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for work at 15 years. The law states that no child under 12 years shall be employed in any capacity whatsoever and sets guidelines for the employment of “children”, defined as 12 to 15, and “young persons”, defined as 15 to 18. Children may not work more than 6 hours a day, and young persons more than 8 hours a day. Children may not work in any industrial undertaking, and neither children nor young persons may be employed in dangerous working conditions or during the night.

The Constitution prohibits forced labor. The law also prohibits the forcible procurement of women and girls into prostitution within and outside the borders of Fiji, as well as the sale, purchase, or hiring of minors less than 16 years for prostitution, illicit sexual intercourse or any unlawful immoral purpose. It also prohibits the production and possession of obscene materials depicting both adults and children. Penalties for those violating these statutes range from 2 to 5 years of imprisonment, with the possibility of corporal punishment. Currently, there is no law on the minimum age of conscription into the military. The minimum age for voluntary military service is 18 years. The law criminalizes trafficking in persons, and violators can be punished with a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison, as well as fines. The U.S. Department of State has reported that the country’s child labor laws and enforcement mechanisms are insufficient because of the lack of a comprehensive child labor policy and of resources to investigate reports of child labor.

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1658 Government of Fiji, Employment Ordinance, Article 2. See also APPLIS, List of Ratifications of International Labour Conventions: Fiji.
1659 Government of Fiji, Employment Ordinance, Articles 59-71. See also Government of Fiji, Employment Amendment Act, No. 6, (June 1996), Article 65.
Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Child labor and human trafficking are closely related in Gabon. Children are trafficked into the country from Benin, Guinea, Nigeria, Mali, and Togo, and to a lesser extent from Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. Trafficked boys are subject to forced labor in small workshops and as street vendors, while girls who have been trafficked work as domestic servants and in the informal commercial sector, including in restaurants and market vending. Children trafficked from Nigeria are found working as mechanics. Children are also trafficked to Gabon for commercial sexual exploitation. There are reports of girls who were trafficked for domestic labor escaping their employers and then facing sexual abuse and exploitation in prostitution. Poor families in surrounding countries send their children with

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

| Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working: | Unavailable |
| Minimum age for admission to work: | 16 |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | 16 |
| Free public education: | Yes |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004: | 130% |
| Net primary enrollment rate in 2001: | 77% |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school: | Unavailable |
| As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | 69% |
| Ratified Convention 138: | No |
| Ratified Convention 182: | 3/28/2001 |
| ILO-IPEC Participating Country: | Yes |

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

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1673 Ibid.
1677 Ibid.
1678 Ibid.
traffickers to live and work in the homes of affluent Gabonese families in exchange for an education and/or monthly wages. Trafficked children, however, reportedly receive only rudimentary room and board, are denied educational opportunities, and seldom receive wages.\textsuperscript{1680} Trafficked children work long hours and are subject to physical abuse.\textsuperscript{1681}

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years. Younger children, however, may work with the consent of the Ministries of Labor, Education, and Public Health. Children between 14 and 16 years may work as apprentices with permission from the Ministry of National Education.\textsuperscript{1682} The employment of children in jobs that are unsuitable for them because of their age, state, or condition, or that interfere with their education is also prohibited.\textsuperscript{1683} Children under 16 years who have been removed from exploitive labor must be placed in appropriate reception or transit centers.\textsuperscript{1684} Children under 18 years are prohibited from working at night in industrial establishments, except in family enterprises; however, children over 16 years are permitted to work in certain industries that, by their nature, must be continued at night, such as the refinement of sugar and firing steel and sheet metal.\textsuperscript{1685} The law imposes a fine for violations of minimum age laws and a larger fine along with a prison term of 2 to 6 months for repeat violators.\textsuperscript{1686}

Gabon’s trafficking law outlines measures to protect children under 18 years from trafficking and stipulates imprisonment and a fine for perpetrators.\textsuperscript{1687} Trafficked children must be repatriated to their country of origin at the expense of their employer or guardian.\textsuperscript{1688} Gabonese law also prohibits forced labor, slavery, abduction, and pimping.\textsuperscript{1689} The penalty for imposing forced labor is a fine, and recurring violations are punishable with imprisonment for 2 to 6 months and a heavier fine.\textsuperscript{1690} Procurement of a minor for the purpose of prostitution is

\begin{footnotesize}
\item[1681] ECPAT International CSEC Database, Gabon. See also The Protection Project, "2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons: Gabon." See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "GABON: Laws fail to curb child trafficking racket".
\item[1683] Government of Gabon, Code du travail, Articles 82 and 177.
\item[1684] Ibid., Article 6.
\item[1686] Government of Gabon, Code du travail, Articles 167 and 168.
\item[1687] Ibid., Article 195.
\item[1689] ILO, The Effective Abolition of Child Labor.
\end{footnotesize}
punishable by imprisonment for 2 to 5 years and a fine.\textsuperscript{1691} The minimum age for voluntary recruitment into the military is 20 years; there is no conscription.\textsuperscript{1692}

The Government of Gabon purchased 10 patrol boats for its security forces and navy to in part combat maritime child trafficking, and Gabonese security forces conducted a series of anti-trafficking sweeps that resulted in suspected traffickers being handed over to prosecutors.\textsuperscript{1693} As of June 2006, two child trafficking cases were being prosecuted; five individuals remained in police custody under investigation, and the remaining 15 cases had been dismissed.\textsuperscript{1694}

Minimum age laws for the protection of Gabonese children were strictly enforced in urban areas, but rarely in rural areas.\textsuperscript{1695} Theoretically, the law also protects foreign children in Gabon, many who are victims of child trafficking, but these victims rarely report abuse.\textsuperscript{1696} The Ministry of Justice is responsible for the enforcement of child labor laws, while the Ministry of Labor is charged with receiving, investigating, and addressing child labor complaints. However, the U.S. Department of State reported that the number of labor inspectors was inadequate, and complaints were not routinely investigated.\textsuperscript{1697}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The government has undertaken several measures to raise awareness of trafficking issues and the anti-trafficking law, including the organization of town hall meetings by the Ministry of Justice, extensive coverage of trafficking stories by the government-controlled media, and placement of anti-trafficking posters in schools and other public venues with the help of UNICEF.\textsuperscript{1698} The government established a National Programme of Action to combat child trafficking, and a National Plan to Fight against Child Labor.\textsuperscript{1699}

The Government of Gabon participates in a USD 9.3 million regional USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC project to combat the trafficking of children for exploitive labor in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA) that targets 9,000 children for withdrawal and prevention.\textsuperscript{1700} Additionally, the Governments of Gabon and Nigeria have a signed agreement that all Nigerian child trafficking victims are placed directly with the Nigerian Embassy.\textsuperscript{1701} With funding from the U.S. Department of State, UNICEF and Caritas Gabon are constructing a shelter for victims of child trafficking.

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\textsuperscript{1691} Government of Gabon, *Penal Code*, Articles 260 and 261; available from [hard copy on file].


\textsuperscript{1694} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Gabon."

\textsuperscript{1695} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Gabon," Section 6d.

\textsuperscript{1696} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{1697} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{1698} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Gabon."


\textsuperscript{1701} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Gabon."
trafficking, which will revert to the government after 5 years.\textsuperscript{1702} UNICEF has also worked to raise awareness on child trafficking through workshops and seminars, radio and television messages, and posters.\textsuperscript{1703} In collaboration with UNICEF, the government operates a toll-free hotline for child trafficking victims. The call center provides trafficking victims with free transportation to a shelter.\textsuperscript{1704}

In July 2006, 24 of the 26 governments represented in the ECOWAS and the ECASS participated in a Joint Ministerial Conference on Trafficking in Persons held in Nigeria to develop a common understanding of trafficking in West and Central Africa and to adopt a common set of strategies against trafficking. During the Ministerial Conference, Gabon was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions.\textsuperscript{1705} As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the U.S. Department of Labor-funded, ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to improve management and control of borders, including ensuring that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to assist each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.\textsuperscript{1706}


\textsuperscript{1703} UNICEF, At a Glance: Gabon. [online] [cited September 18, 2006]; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/gabon.html.


\textsuperscript{1705} ILO-IPEC, LUTRENA, September 2006 technical progress report. See also Catholic Relief Services official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 2, 2006.

In rural areas of The Gambia, most working children work on farms. Working children in urban areas work as taxi or bus attendants. Working girls are most likely to work as street vendors, selling food items such as candy, water, and fruits for their parents. Working boys are most commonly found doing such odd jobs as hauling items or sweeping. Many children between 14 and 16 work in technical sectors such as lumbering, sewing, or masonry. Children who are sent to Koranic schools are often forced to beg in the streets for their teachers.

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1713 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
1715 Ibid.
Commercial sexual exploitation of children, including prostitution, is common in The Gambia. Gambian men called “sugar daddies” are also reported to offer gifts to young girls in exchange for sexual favors. Visiting European pedophiles exploit children through sex tourism.

Child trafficking is also a problem in The Gambia. Boys are trafficked for a wide range of work including, but not limited to, sexual exploitation, fishing, and begging.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment in The Gambia at 16 years. Gambian law prohibits economic exploitation and hazardous work, or work that interferes with education for children under 16. Children 16 to 18 can only engage in light work and are not permitted to work at night. However, children may serve as apprentices at 12.

All employees are given employee labor cards that include their age. These cards are registered with the labor commissioner who is authorized to enforce child labor laws. However, the U.S. Department of State reports that inspections rarely occurred. Child Protection Units within the Police Department also handle child-related law enforcement. There is a Children’s Court that likewise handles child labor cases.

Forced labor, including by children, is prohibited by law. Children under 18 may not be recruited into the armed forces. The law prohibits promoting child prostitution and procuring a child for sexual exploitation in The Gambia or elsewhere. Penalties for such offenses range from 10 to 14 years imprisonment. Trafficking of children is specifically prohibited under Gambian law, which stipulates a penalty of life imprisonment. Enforcement of law pertaining to trafficking in children is primarily the responsibility of the Tourism Security Unit. The Department of Labor under the Department of State for Trade and Employment was responsible for implementing provisions on the worst forms of child labor.

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1721 Department of State for Education Official, Interview, September 4, 2006.
1725 Children's Act, 2005, Article 43(1).
1727 Children's Act, 2005, Articles 42-43.
1728 Children's Act, 2005, Article 51.
1731 Ibid.
1732 Ibid., Section 5.
1733 Children's Act, 2005, Article 59(1).
1734 Ibid., Articles 29-38.
1735 Ibid., Article 39.
1737 Ibid.
Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of The Gambia is implementing its 2004-2008 National Policy for Children in The Gambia, which includes components addressing child economic and sexual exploitation. To educate hotel personnel about child sexual tourism, the Child Protection Alliance (CPA), a consortium of government agencies and NGOs, conducted several awareness campaigns. With the help of the Department of State for Justice, the CPA launched a government-funded trafficking education campaign during the year. CPA has also aired radio programs that covered such issues as child trafficking, and they teamed up with another local NGO for a child trafficking workshop.

Georgia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Child work is prevalent in rural areas of Georgia. Approximately 77.4 percent of working children work on family farms and about 18.4 percent work in family enterprises. It has been estimated that more than 2,500 children work in the streets begging or selling small items. Sexual exploitation, including child prostitution and pornography, is reported to occur; however, no statistics are available. Girls are especially affected.

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

| Percentage of children 7-14 estimated as working in 2000: | 21.5% |
| Minimum age of work: | 16 |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | 14 |
| Free public education: | Yes |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002: | 95% |
| Net primary enrollment rate in 2002: | 93% |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school: | Unavailable |
| Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | Unavailable |
| Ratified Convention 182: | 7/24/2002 |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | Yes, associated |

1744 Ibid.
1746 Ibid.
1747 This statistic is not available from the data sources that are used in this report. Please see the “Data Sources and Definitions” section for information about sources used. Reliable data on the worst forms of child labor are especially difficult to collect given the often hidden or illegal nature of the worst forms, such as the use of children in the illegal drug trade, prostitution, pornography, and trafficking. As a result, statistics and information on children’s work in general are reported in this section. Such statistics and information may or may not include the worst forms of child labor. For more information on the definition of working children and other indicators used in this report, please see the “Data Sources and Definitions” section.
1748 This statistic is not available from the data sources that are used in this report. Please see the “Data Sources and Definitions” section for information about sources used.
Trafficking is also a problem, and street children are more vulnerable to the threat. Children from Ukraine, Moldova, Russia, and other parts of the former Soviet Union, are trafficked through Georgia to Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, Greece, and Western Europe. Organized crime rings have become involved in trafficking, kidnapping women and children to sell into sexual servitude.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for work at 16. However, children as young as 14 may work with parental consent if the work does not damage the minors’ health or hinder their studies. Children between 16 and 18 are permitted to work 36 hours per week, while children 14 to 16 may work only 24 hours per week. Children under 18 are not permitted to work in heavy, harmful, or dangerous work, including underground work. Examples of dangerous or harmful work include mechanical engineering, metallurgy, and welding. Employment of children under 18 between 10:00 pm and 6:00 am and during holidays is prohibited. Minors are also banned from selling alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and magazines and newspapers containing pornographic materials; and from working in gambling institutions, night clubs, and bars.

The law provides that sexual contact with any person under 16 is a crime and states that any person involving children under 18 in prostitution or other sexual depravity may be punished with imprisonment from 3 months up to 3 years. Production, sale, distribution, or promotion of child pornography is punishable by imprisonment of up to 3 years. The punishment for involving a minor in the production of pornographic material is 5 years of imprisonment. The law prohibits trafficking in minors for sexual exploitation, forced labor, and other forms of exploitation. Punishment for these crimes is imprisonment from 5 to 12 years, and in extreme cases up to 20 years. The minimum age for entry into the armed forces is 18.

The Office of Labor Inspection within the Ministry of Health and Social Security, which was previously charged with the enforcement of labor laws, was disbanded in 2006. Inspections are

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1757 Ibid.
1758 Georgi Glonti, Problems Associated with Organized Crime in Georgia, Institute of Legal Reforms of Georgia, Tbilisi; available from http://ilr.iatp.ge/Publications/Publications.html
1762 Ibid., 40.
now conducted by the Labor Department of the Ministry of Health and Social Security. The Labor Department employs six inspectors but has no reports of any child labor complaints.\textsuperscript{1768} Between April 2006 and February 2007, the Georgian Government investigated 28 trafficking cases, of which 16 were prosecuted. Nine of these cases resulted in convictions, with an average sentence of 10 years.\textsuperscript{1769} In 2006, Georgia made considerable progress in improving victim safeguards through the implementation of a victim-centered national referral mechanism, establishment of the nation’s first trafficking victims’ shelter, and the dedication of ongoing funding for victim assistance.\textsuperscript{1770}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

In August 2003, the Government of Georgia approved a National Plan of Action for Children (2003-2007), which identified several goals and strategies to provide for street children and eliminate child labor and child sexual exploitation.\textsuperscript{1772} The Ministry of Education and the Child and Environment Organization, an NGO, operate shelters in the capital city of Tbilisi.\textsuperscript{1773} The Ministry of Internal Affairs sponsors a center for the rehabilitation of minors, which regularly provided medical and psychological assistance to child and adolescent victims of prostitution before returning them to their guardians.\textsuperscript{1774}

In April 2006, the government adopted and implemented a strict new anti-trafficking law. The passage of this legislation made it easier to prosecute traffickers, increased minimum sentences for convicted traffickers, and clarified the government’s responsibilities for victim identification and assistance. The Government of Georgia established the Permanent Anti-Trafficking Coordination Council in September 2006, replacing the temporary body established earlier in 2005. The new Council drafted a comprehensive 2007-2008 National Action Plan to fight trafficking, which was approved by the President in January 2007. During 2006, the government printed and distributed 200,000 anti-trafficking brochures at Georgia’s main points of entry.\textsuperscript{1775}

\textsuperscript{1769} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Georgia." See also U.S. Embassy- Tbilisi, Email communication to USDOL Official, August 6, 2007.
\textsuperscript{1770} U.S. Embassy- Tbilisi, Email communication to USDOL Official, August 6, 2007.
\textsuperscript{1773} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: Georgia."
\textsuperscript{1774} U.S. Embassy- Tbilisi, Email communication to USDOL Official, August 6, 2007.
\textsuperscript{1775} Ibid.
In 2000, approximately 24.5 percent of boys and 24 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Ghana. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (71 percent), followed by services (22.6 percent), manufacturing (5.8 percent), and other sectors (0.6 percent). In rural areas, children engage in agriculture, including work on cocoa farms. Some children use machetes in harvesting and carry heavy loads. In urban centers, children

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistical Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:</td>
<td>24.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum age for work:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2005:</td>
<td>88%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2005:</td>
<td>65%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:</td>
<td>63%</td>
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<tr>
<td>As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>63%</td>
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<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

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In 2000, approximately 24.5 percent of boys and 24 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Ghana. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (71 percent), followed by services (22.6 percent), manufacturing (5.8 percent), and other sectors (0.6 percent). In rural areas, children engage in agriculture, including work on cocoa farms. Some children use machetes in harvesting and carry heavy loads. In urban centers, children

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1782 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.


1785 Ibid.


1787 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.


Some children, mostly girls, are engaged in \textit{Trokosi}, a religious practice indigenous to the southern Volta region, which involves pledging primarily children and young women to atone for family members’ sins by helping with the upkeep of religious shrines and assisting during prayers. During their period of atonement, which can last from a few months to 3 years, \textit{Trokosis} sometimes live near their shrines of service, often with members of their extended family. A \textit{Trokosi} is expressly forbidden from engaging in sexual activity during the atonement period.\footnote{U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ghana," Section 6d.} Opinions differ on whether \textit{trokosi} constitutes forced or ritual servitude, which is banned under the law;\footnote{U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ghana," Sections 2c. and 5.} but Ghana’s Ministry of Manpower, Youth, and Development and the
Cocoa Board have stated that the Trokosi system represents ritual servitude. There is no evidence of physical or sexual abuse being a systematic part of the practice, but instances of sexual abuse may occur. United States Embassy investigations into Trokosi did not yield credible evidence of systematic or widespread abuses associated with the practice.

Ghana is a source, transit, and destination country for child trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor. Ghanaian children are trafficked to Côte d’Ivoire, Togo, Nigeria, and The Gambia for domestic service and labor exploitation. Girls are trafficked to the Middle East for forced labor in domestic service and, in isolated instances, to Western Europe for commercial sexual exploitation. Children from Côte d’Ivoire, Togo, Benin, and Nigeria are trafficked to Ghana for forced labor in domestic work and commercial sexual exploitation.

The internal trafficking of children is also a problem. Within Ghana, children are trafficked to work in cocoa farming, domestic service, street vending, portering, the fishing industry, and commercial sexual exploitation. The IOM estimates that thousands of children have been trafficked internally to work in the fishing villages lining Lake Volta. Typically, boys trafficked internally come from the north and are trafficked to Lake Volta for fishing or to the west for mining, while girls come from the north or east and are trafficked to Accra and Kumasi for work in portering, domestic service, and trading. There were reports of children being given away, leased, or sold by their parents to work in agriculture, fishing, shops, quarry mines, domestic service, and commercial sexual exploitation. The common cultural practice of “adoption,” in which impoverished parents send their children to live with affluent relatives and family friends, has helped contribute to the problem of child trafficking in Ghana.

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1800 Ministry of Manpower Youth and Employment and the Ghana Cocoa Board, National Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Cocoa, iv, vi, and 8.
1804 U.S. Embassy- Accra, Ghana: Update on Worst Forms of Child Labor, para 6E.
1807 Ibid., Sections 5 and 6d.
1808 U.S. Embassy- Accra, Ghana: Update on Worst Forms of Child Labor, para 6E.
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Ghanaian law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years, and at 13 years for light work. Light work is defined as work that is not harmful to the health or development of a child and does not affect the child’s attendance or ability to benefit from school. The law stipulates that children 15 years and older, or children who have completed basic education, can work as apprentices if the craftsman provides food, training, and a safe and healthy work environment. Children under 18 years may not engage in night work, which is defined as work conducted between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. The law prohibits persons under 18 years from engaging in hazardous labor, which includes work in mines or quarries; at sea; in bars, hotels, or places of entertainment; in manufacturing that involves chemicals; in places that operate machinery; or in any job that involves carrying heavy loads. Employers who violate any of the above provisions regulating children’s employment, with the exception of those related to apprenticeships, are subject to a fine and/or 2 years of imprisonment. Employers who operate in the formal sector must keep a register with the dates of birth or apparent ages of the children they employ; failure to keep this register is punishable by a fine.

The law prohibits forced or bonded labor by anyone, including children. Ritual servitude is illegal in Ghana and is punishable by 3 years of imprisonment. The law prohibits persons with custody, charge, or care of a child under 16 years from encouraging or causing that child to become involved in prostitution. It is a misdemeanor to procure females under age 21, except “known prostitutes,” for prostitution. Sexual relations with a girl under 14 years is against the law and is punishable by imprisonment of 1 to 10 years. Ghanaian law contains specific provisions against trafficking in persons, providing another person for trafficking, and using a trafficked person. Each of these offenses carries a penalty of at least 5 years of imprisonment. The law mandates that police officers respond to all requests for assistance from trafficking and offer protection to persons who report cases of alleged trafficking, even if such a person is not the victim. The law provides for the rescue, temporary shelter and care, counseling, family tracing, and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking; it also establishes a

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1810 The Children’s Act, Sections 89-90.
1811 Ibid., Articles 98-99.
1812 Ibid., Article 88.
1813 Ibid., Article 91.
1817 ILO Committee of Experts, Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, No. 182: Ghana.
Human Trafficking Fund to assist victims.\textsuperscript{1821} The minimum age for military recruitment is 18 years, and there is no conscription.

The Ministry of Manpower, Youth, and Employment is the agency responsible for enforcing child labor laws. District labor officers and other district officials are responsible for conducting annual workplace inspections and investigating allegations of violations. Inspectors must provide employers with information about child labor laws. There were no prosecutions for child labor violations in 2006, and inspections were limited mainly to the formal sector, although most working children are found in the informal sector.\textsuperscript{1822} According to the U.S. Department of State, enforcement of child labor laws in Ghana was inconsistent and ineffective.\textsuperscript{1823}

The Domestic Violence Victim Support Unit of the police is responsible for enforcing anti-trafficking laws. The Ministry of Manpower, Youth, and Employment’s Department of Social Welfare is responsible for providing assistance to trafficking victims.\textsuperscript{1824}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

In 2006, the Ministry of Manpower, Youth, and Employment released its 5-year National Program for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in the Cocoa Sector, which is a component of the Government of Ghana’s National Timebound Program for Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labor. The objective of the national cocoa sector program is to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in cocoa production by 2011, and contribute to the elimination of other worst forms of child labor by 2015.\textsuperscript{1825} The program seeks to accomplish its objective through the following strategies: 1) improve the knowledge base on child labor in cocoa, to help inform the certification and monitoring called for by the Protocol for the Growing and Processing of Cocoa Beans and their Derivative Products (the Harkin-Engel Protocol); 2) strengthen the legal framework, focusing on enforcement of current laws, for addressing the worst forms of child labor in cocoa growing areas; 3) mobilize key stakeholders in cocoa growing areas to collaborate on awareness-raising campaigns and other efforts to eliminate child labor, and particularly the worst forms of child labor; 4) develop and implement interventions that will eliminate the worst forms of child labor in cocoa, thus emphasizing the various stages of the process of cocoa production; 5) promote universal basic education and the development of human capital in cocoa growing areas; 6) develop and implement interventions that will reduce the need for child labor in cocoa production; and 7) build capacity at the central, regional, district, and community levels to effectively address child labor in Ghana, and the worst forms of child labor in cocoa in particular.\textsuperscript{1826} The program is funded by the government, cocoa industry partners, and multilateral and bilateral donors; the Ministry of Manpower, Youth, and Employment is overseeing its implementation.\textsuperscript{1827}

\begin{flushright}
\textsuperscript{1821} Ibid., Sections 10, 14-22.  \\
\textsuperscript{1822} U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Ghana,” Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Accra, Ghana: Update on Worst Forms of Child Labor, para 3B.  \\
\textsuperscript{1823} U.S. Embassy- Accra, Ghana: Update on Worst Forms of Child Labor, para 3B.  \\
\textsuperscript{1824} U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Ghana,” Section 5.  \\
\textsuperscript{1825} Ministry of Manpower Youth and Employment and the Ghana Cocoa Board, National Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Cocoa, iv, vii, 32.  \\
\textsuperscript{1826} Ibid., vii-viii, 16.  \\
\textsuperscript{1827} Ibid., 31.
\end{flushright}
The Government of Ghana included child labor as a problem to be addressed in its Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy for 2006-2009, indicating that priority will be given to special programs to combat the worst forms of child labor, including commercial sexual exploitation and child trafficking. The government has released its National Policy Guidelines on Orphans and Other Children Made Vulnerable by HIV/AIDS, which includes children engaged in the worst forms of child labor and street children as target groups.

In 2006, USDOL awarded a USD 4.3 million contract to Tulane University for a project to oversee public and private efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in the cocoa sector in Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire. In partnership with the West African Health Organization, Tulane University will study the health effects on children working in hazardous conditions in the cocoa sector and report to USDOL and Congress annually on the status of child labor monitoring and verification systems, as well as the child labor-free cocoa certification system mandated by the Harkin-Engel Protocol, which should cover a minimum of 50 percent of the cocoa-growing regions in Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire. The Harkin-Engel Protocol is a voluntary agreement signed by the World Cocoa Foundation and the Chocolate Manufacturers Association in September 2001; it is named for Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) and Representative Eliot Engel (D-NY), whose offices negotiated the agreement and witnessed its signing. Along with a joint statement issued October 1, 2005, the Harkin-Engel Protocol requires the chocolate and cocoa industry to take action to address exploitive child labor, particularly the worst forms, in West Africa’s cocoa sector.

The government collaborates with ILO-IPEC on a 4-year, USD 4.75 million USDOL-funded Project of Support to the Ghana Timebound Program which establishes timeframes for progress on the elimination of selected worst forms of child labor in Ghana. The project aims to withdraw 4,700 children and prevent 5,300 children from exploitive labor through the provision of educational services. The government also collaborated with ILO-IPEC on the 4-year, USD 6 million West Africa Child Labor in Agriculture and Cocoa Program (WACAP). This project was funded with USD 5 million from USDOL, and USD 1 million from the International Confectionery Association and ended in April 2006. The WACAP Project withdrew a total of 8,813 children and prevented 2,880 children from exploitive labor in five countries, including Ghana. The government collaborated with ILO-IPEC on the USD 5.3 million, regional

1831 Ibid.
project, Building the Foundations for Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Anglophone Africa, funded by USDOL. This project withdrew a total of 6,611 children and prevented 8,061 from exploitive labor in five countries, including Ghana. The government is also participating in the second phase of the regional anti-trafficking LUTRENA project implemented by ILO-IPEC in West and Central Africa with activities in Ghana. The first phase of this project in Ghana was funded by USDOL; the second phase in Ghana is being funded by the Danish International Development Agency. Ghana also participates in a 5-year, USDOL-funded Reducing Child Labor through Education (CIRCLE 1) global project, being implemented by Winrock International through 2007, which aims to reduce exploitive child labor through the provision of educational opportunities. The government also collaborated with ILO-IPEC on the implementation of several other child labor and education projects, including a USD 1.53 million regional project funded by Canada to provide skills training to urban youth. The government also worked with ILO-IPEC to conduct workshops on the commercial sexual exploitation of children in tourism. USAID and the international cocoa industry fund the Sustainable Tree Crops Program in Ghana, a public-private partnership that promotes sustainable tree crop systems, including coffee, cocoa, and cashews, and contains a component to prevent and eliminate the worst forms of child labor on farms.

Ghana was one of the ECOWAS/ECASS governments that participated in a Joint Ministerial Conference on Trafficking in Persons held in Nigeria in July 2006. The purpose of the Joint Ministerial Conference was to develop a common understanding of trafficking in West and Central Africa and to adopt a common set of strategies against trafficking in persons, especially women and children. During the Ministerial Conference, Ghana was 1 of 24 ECOWAS/ECASS countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa, and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral Cooperation Agreement, governments agreed to put into place a child trafficking monitoring system created by the LUTRENA project to improve management and control of borders, including ensuring that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to assist each other in the investigation, arrest

document. See also USDOL, West Africa Cocoa/Commercial Agriculture Program to Combat Hazardous and Exploitative Child Labour (WACAP), project summary.


ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication, November 16, 2006.


and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training, and apprenticeships.\textsuperscript{1840}

Ghana’s police academy training includes a trafficking component, and the government, through its Department of Social Welfare, operates two facilities for rescued child victims of trafficking. The government signed a Memorandum of Understanding with IOM in 2006 to set up a new rehabilitation center for child victims of trafficking.\textsuperscript{1841} The government also collaborated with IOM on the implementation of the Yeji Trafficked Children Project, which works with fishermen, children, and parents to remove children from exploitive labor in fishing on Lake Volta, and to rehabilitate, return and reintegrate them into their communities. The project, funded by the U.S. Department of State, also works with at-risk communities to prevent child trafficking through the provision of material assistance and awareness-raising campaigns.\textsuperscript{1843}


\textsuperscript{1841} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report - 2006: Ghana."

Grenada

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding the incidence and nature of child labor in Grenada.*

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding child labor laws and enforcement in Grenada.*

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Grenada to address exploitive child labor.

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* For more information, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor’s 2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor.

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Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment</td>
<td>92%1844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment</td>
<td>84%1845</td>
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</table>

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Guatemala

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 21 percent of boys and 11.1 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Guatemala. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (62.6 percent), followed by services (23.4 percent), manufacturing (10.7 percent), and other sectors (3.2 percent). The majority of children participating in the labor force are of indigenous heritage and from rural areas. On average, children in the labor force work 6.5 hours per day and 5

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1852 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
1855 Ibid.
1857 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
Child labor mostly occurs in the informal sector and in small family enterprises.\footnote{1859}{ILO-IPEC, \textit{Estudio Cualitativo Sobre el Trabajo Infantil en Guatemala: Informe Final}, Guatemala City, April 2003, 40, Cuadro No. 14; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/spanish/standards/ipec/simpoc/guatemala/report/gt_2003.pdf.} Guatemalan children are victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation across the country, especially in the border areas. Street children tend to be especially vulnerable to trafficking; they have been recruited to steal, participate in illegal drug activities, and transport contraband. Migrant minors unable to cross the border with Mexico remain in border towns and are forced into prostitution. Children are also forced into begging on the streets and are trafficked to Mexico to work at municipal dumps.\footnote{1861}{Government of Guatemala, \textit{Código Penal}, Articles 188-189; available from http://www.oas.org/JURIDICO/MLA/sp/gtm/sp_gtm-int-text-cp.pdf.}

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The Constitution and the labor code set the minimum age for employment at 14 years.\footnote{1862}{Government of Guatemala, \textit{Constitución, 1985}, Article 102. See also Government of Guatemala, \textit{Código de Trabajo}, Article 148.} In some exceptional cases, the Labor Inspectorate can issue work permits to children under 14, provided that the work is related to an apprenticeship, is light and of short duration and intensity, is necessary because of extreme poverty of the child’s family, and does not interfere with the child’s ability to meet compulsory education requirements.\footnote{1863}{U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guatemala," Section 6d. \textit{U.S. Embasy - Guatemala City, reporting}, March 8, 2007.} Minors aged 14 to 17 are prohibited from working at night, working overtime, performing unhealthy and dangerous tasks, or working in bars or other establishments where alcoholic beverages are served.\footnote{1864}{U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guatemala," Section 6d. \textit{U.S. Embasy - Guatemala City, reporting}, March 8, 2007.} The workday for minors less than 14 years is limited to 6 hours per day or 36 hours per week; minors ages 14 to 17 may work a maximum of 7 hours per day or 42 hours per week.\footnote{1865}{Government of Guatemala, \textit{Constitución, 1985}, Article 102. See also Government of Guatemala, \textit{Código de Trabajo}, Article 148.} The Municipality of Guatemala prohibits minors under 18 years from working at waste disposal sites in Guatemala City.\footnote{1866}{ILO NATLEX, \textit{Acuerdo gubernativo 250-2006}, 2006 [cited December 15 2006]; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=es&p_country=GTM&p_classification=04&p_origin=COUNTRY&p_sortby=SORTBY_COUNTRY.} In May 2006, a governmental agreement went into effect, which determined the worst forms of child labor in Guatemala, established sanctions for violations, and called for inter-institutional coordination to combat the problem.\footnote{1867}{ILO NATLEX, \textit{Acuerdo 006-2005 Consejo Municipal} 2005 [cited December 15 2006]; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=es&p_country=GTM&p_classification=04&p_origin=COUNTRY&p_sortby=SORTBY_COUNTRY.}

The law prohibits child pornography and prostitution. Procuring and inducing a minor to engage in prostitution are crimes that can result in fines and 6 years of imprisonment; the penalty increases by two-thirds if the victim is younger than 12 years.\footnote{1868}{ILO NATLEX, \textit{Acuerdo 006-2005 Consejo Municipal} 2005 [cited December 15 2006]; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=es&p_country=GTM&p_classification=04&p_origin=COUNTRY&p_sortby=SORTBY_COUNTRY.} Trafficking is prohibited, with
penalties of 7 to 12 years of incarceration. Punishments are increased by one-third if the victim is a minor.\textsuperscript{1869} Guatemalan law prohibits forced or compulsory labor, including by children.\textsuperscript{1870} Legislation adopted as part of the Peace Accords protects children under 18 from military recruitment and deployment into armed conflicts. However, starting at 16, children can carry out national service in special projects.\textsuperscript{1871}

The Ministry of Labor’s Child Workers Protection Unit is responsible for enforcing child labor regulations as well as educating children, parents, and employers regarding the labor rights of minors.\textsuperscript{1872} According to the U.S. Department of State, funding for child labor prevention programs is insufficient.\textsuperscript{1873} The Ministry of Foreign Affairs leads the Inter-Institutional Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons. The Public Ministry operates the Office of Special Prosecutor for Crimes against Women, Children and Victims of Trafficking. This office has formed a task force with immigration authorities, the National Civilian Police (PNC), international organizations, and local NGOs, including Casa Alianza, which conducted a number of bar raids in 2005.\textsuperscript{1874} Their joint operations led to 35 arrests for commercial sexual exploitation of minors.\textsuperscript{1875} The government also participated in anti-TIP raids in collaboration with civil society groups to rescue minors from sexual exploitation in brothels and bars.\textsuperscript{1876} Nonetheless, according to a NGO study cited by the U.S. Department of State, immigration officials reportedly took bribes to facilitate traffickers’ movement of children across Guatemala’s border, and brothel owners allowed police and immigration officials to have sex with minors without charge.\textsuperscript{1877} A former National Police official, Rudy Giron Lima, owned three bars involved in the prostitution of minors, but there have been no further developments in the criminal investigation of this case.\textsuperscript{1878} There were no prosecutions or convictions of public officials involved in the trafficking of minors as of early 2006.\textsuperscript{1879}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The Government of Guatemala, through its National Commission for the Elimination of Child Labor, is implementing the National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor and the Protection of the Adolescent Worker.\textsuperscript{1880} The government is also implementing the National


\textsuperscript{1870} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guatemala," Section 6c.


\textsuperscript{1872} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guatemala," Section 6d.

\textsuperscript{1873} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{1874} Ibid., Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Guatemala (Tier 2)," in Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from http://www.state.gov/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm.

\textsuperscript{1875} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Guatemala."

\textsuperscript{1876} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guatemala," Section 5.

\textsuperscript{1877} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{1878} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{1879} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Guatemala."

\textsuperscript{1880} ILO, Ficha País:Guatemala. See also Ministry of Labor and Social Security, Plan de acción. Comité Técnico de Seguimiento para la prevención y erradicación del trabajo infantil doméstico., 2005; available from
Plan of Action against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents in Guatemala.  

The Government of Guatemala is currently participating in a number of ILO-IPEC implemented projects. These projects include a USD 8.7 million USDOL-funded project to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children in Central America, Panama, and the Dominican Republic. This project targets 713 children for withdrawal and 657 children for prevention from trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation throughout the region. The project includes activities to remove and prevent children from exploitive work, as well as awareness raising, institutional capacity building, and regional and national coordination in Guatemala.  

A USD 2.7 million ILO-IPEC project, funded by the Government of Italy, combats child labor in the garbage dump sector. The Government of Guatemala also participates in a Canadian-supported USD 500,000 ILO-IPEC project focused on combating child labor through strengthening labor ministries and worker organizations, and it participates in a USD 14 million regional ILO-IPEC project funded by Spain. As part of an effort to build capacity to improve labor law compliance among the CAFTA-DR partners, USDOL is providing USD 2.85 million for a project to strengthen outreach efforts in the agriculture sector in the region, where child labor is a serious problem. In addition, the Government of Guatemala participates in a USD 5.7 million USDOL-funded regional Central America project implemented by CARE to combat exploitive child labor through the provision of education. The project targets 470 children for withdrawal and 1,410 children for prevention from work in exploitive child labor, and aims to strengthen government and civil society's capacity to combat child labor through education.

During 2006, the Secretariat of Social Welfare, a government agency, operated four shelters that provided services to trafficking victims, including job training and counseling.
Guinea

Incidences and Nature of Child Labor

The majority of working children in Guinea are found in the informal sector, carrying out activities such as subsistence farming, small-scale commerce, and mining. Children also work in granite and sand quarries as well as apprentices to mechanics, electricians, and plumbers. Girls younger than 14 years old are exploited in prostitution.

Guinea is a source, transit, and destination country for trafficking in persons. Children are trafficked for forced labor in agriculture, mining, begging, and domestic work. Girls are also

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

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<th>Statistics</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
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* In practice, must pay for school fees.

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1894 Ibid.
1896 Ibid.
1901 Ibid.
trafficked for sexual exploitation. The majority of girls trafficked to Guinea are from Nigeria, Ghana, Mali, and Burkina Faso. Some also come from Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, and Senegal.

Displacement of civilians occurred after many years of conflict in neighboring countries. Guinean children in the forest regions of the country who have been displaced are especially vulnerable to sexual and economic exploitation. UNICEF discovered several unaccompanied minors from Sierra Leone and Liberia, who were being forced to work in plantations, mines, and private homes, in N’Zerekore and Kissidougou.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years, except with the consent of authorities, and excludes anyone under 14 years from being apprenticed. Workers less than 18 years are not permitted to work at night or for more than 10 consecutive hours per day. The law prohibits forced or bonded labor and hazardous work by children under 18 years. Hazardous work is defined as any work likely to endanger the health, safety, or morals of children. The Ministry of Labor determines which jobs are considered hazardous. Violations of these laws are punishable by fines and sentences of 8 days to 2 months in prison.

Trafficking in persons is prohibited by law, as is procurement or solicitation for the purposes of prostitution. Violation of the procurement or solicitation law can result in imprisonment for 2 to 5 years when the crime involves a minor less than 18 years. The U.S. Department of State reports that the government has not actively monitored child or adult prostitution or taken action when the prostitution of minors was brought to its attention. The penalty for trafficking is 5 to 10 years of imprisonment and the confiscation of money or property received through trafficking activities. However, according to the U.S. Department of State, the Guinean courts have not yet been known to prosecute a trafficking case. The official age for voluntary recruitment or conscription into the armed forces is 18 years.

While the government spoke out against child labor, according to the U.S. Department of State, it lacked the financial and legislative resources to combat it.
Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In July 2006, Guinea was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.1912 Guinea also has a national action plan to combat trafficking and, as part of this, has launched a national information campaign.1913 Sixteen ministries are involved in the fight against trafficking, coordinating via a National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Persons. The Ministry of Social Affairs and the Promotion of Women and Children heads this committee, which has limited effectiveness because of severe resource constraints.1914

Between 2002 and 2006, Guinea participated in a USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC regional project to combat hazardous and exploitative child labor in the cocoa sector, West Africa Cocoa/ Commercial Agriculture Programme (WACAP), in which 799 children in Guinea were withdrawn and prevented from exploitive labor through the provision of education or training opportunities.1915 The government also takes part in a 4-year USD 4 million USDOL-funded education initiative, which targets the withdrawal and prevention from exploitive labor of 4,800 children.1916

1913 U.S. Embassy- Conakry, reporting, March 2, 2007, para 2C.
1914 Ibid., para 2B.
**Guinea-Bissau**

### Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 64.4 percent of boys and 64.0 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Guinea-Bissau. Most working children can be found in the informal sector. In urban areas many children work as street vendors. Children also work as shoe shiners and car washers. Many serve as trade apprentices in workshops where they may perform hazardous

<table>
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<th>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000: 64.2%</td>
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<td>Minimum age for admission to work: 14</td>
</tr>
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<td>Age to which education is compulsory: 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education: Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2001: 70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2001: 45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000: 37.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138: No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182: No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country: No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.*

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1923 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
1925 Ibid.
1927 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
1929 African Young Workers and Children Movement representative, Interview with USDOL consultant, May 24, 2006. See also ILO official, Interview with USDOL consultant, May 26, 2006.
1930 African Young Workers and Children Movement representative, Interview, May 24, 2006. See also Network of Young Educators official, Interview with USDOL consultant, May 25, 2006. See also Independent Consultant, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 5, 2006.
work such as that involving metallurgy, mechanics or carpentry. Some children, including orphans, live with other families as unpaid domestic servants. In rural areas, children perform unpaid farming and cattle herding. For four months, during the annual cashew harvest, some children are partly or completely withdrawn from school to work in the fields.

Girls are sometimes exploited as prostitutes in Guinea-Bissau, but the extent of this problem is unknown. Children, primarily boys, are trafficked for begging and agricultural labor. Most come from the Bafata and Gabu regions and are trafficked to Senegal; some are sent to other locations such as Mali and Guinea. Some children are sent by their parents from rural to urban areas to attend Koranic schools where some are exploited and forced to beg or shine shoes to earn money for the school masters. Some teachers also require children to do agricultural work on plantations. To a lesser extent, children from neighboring Guinea may also be trafficked to Guinea-Bissau.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The minimum age for employment is set at 14 years. For heavy or dangerous labor, including work in mines, the minimum age is 18 years. Working minors may not work overtime and must have fulfilled the compulsory education requirements, except in areas where no schools are available. Fines are established for violations of Labor Code provisions involving children.

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1931 African Young Workers and Children Movement representative, Interview, May 24, 2006. See also Network of Young Educators official, Interview, May 25, 2006. See also Cooperation and Development official, Interview, June 12, 2006.
1932 African Young Workers and Children Movement representative, Interview, May 24, 2006. See also Association for Children's Rights official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 6, 2006. See also Cooperation and Development official, Interview, June 12, 2006.
1934 U.S. Embassy- Dakar, reporting, August 2, 2004, para 2. See also Association for Children's Rights official, Interview, June 6, 2006. See also Cooperation and Development official, Interview, June 12, 2006. See also PLAN International, Interview, June 13, 2006. See also Ministry of Education official, Interview, June 14, 2006.
1937 Ibid. See also African Young Workers and Children Movement representative, Interview, May 24, 2006. See also Network of Young Educators official, Interview, May 25, 2006. See also Laudolino Carlos Medina, Executive Secretary of the Association of Friends of Children, Interview with USDOL Consultant, June 6, 2006.
However, the Code applies only to certain kinds of work that involve wage payments and may not apply to many types of work performed by children.\textsuperscript{1942}

Prostituation is illegal, as is the use of violence, threats, or other coercive actions to transport victims to foreign countries.\textsuperscript{1943} The practices of selling and kidnapping of children are also criminal offenses.\textsuperscript{1944} Laws against kidnapping and removal of minors, sexual exploitation, and abuse may be used to prosecute trafficking cases.\textsuperscript{1945} To prevent trafficking, the law requires that persons traveling with children outside of the country submit their personal identification documents as well as the identification documents of the children’s parents or of the children.\textsuperscript{1946} Boys under 16 years may volunteer for the armed forces with the consent of their parents or tutors; the compulsory recruitment age is 18.\textsuperscript{1947} Forced child labor is prohibited.\textsuperscript{1948}

According to the U.S. Department of State, although age requirements are generally respected in the formal sector, these requirements were not enforced by the Ministries of Justice or Civil Service and Labor in the informal sector.\textsuperscript{1949} Child labor violations are not prosecuted in courts, as there is a lack of child labor inspectors or awareness regarding relevant laws. Perpetrators often flee before court hearings, as many victims believe that they will incur related financial costs, although the Public Prosecution Service may provide a lawyer at no cost for those who cannot afford one.\textsuperscript{1950} The Ministry of Interior has an inspector responsible for crimes against children who coordinates law enforcement efforts on trafficking. The government has detained suspected traffickers, but there have been no trafficking prosecutions.\textsuperscript{1951} The U.S. Department of State reports that deference to religious teachers and some instances of corruption negatively affect the enforcement of laws regarding child trafficking.\textsuperscript{1952}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The Government of Guinea-Bissau, including its embassy in Senegal, cooperates with Senegalese authorities to provide trafficking victims with services. During 2006, the government repatriated 92 trafficked children from Senegal.\textsuperscript{1953} It also provides funding to a local NGO whose efforts include eradicating child trafficking.\textsuperscript{1954}

\textsuperscript{1942} General Labor Inspectorate official, Interview, May 26, 2006.
\textsuperscript{1944} UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial Reports of States Parties*, para 263.
\textsuperscript{1946} UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial Reports of States Parties*, para. 176.
\textsuperscript{1947} Ibid., para. 137.
\textsuperscript{1948} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guinea-Bissau,” Section 6c.
\textsuperscript{1949} Ibid., Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{1950} Network of Young Educators official, Interview, May 25, 2006. See also Children Guardianship official, Interview with USDOL consultant, May 30, 2006.
\textsuperscript{1952} Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Guinea-Bissau (Tier 2),” in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/.
In July 2006, 24 of the 26 governments represented in ECOWAS and the ECASS participated in a Joint Ministerial Conference on Trafficking in Persons held in Nigeria to develop a common understanding of trafficking in West and Central Africa and to adopt a common set of strategies against trafficking in persons, especially women and children. During the Ministerial Conference, Guinea-Bissau was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.


Guyana

% of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000: 26.3%\textsuperscript{1957}
Minimum age for admission to work: 15\textsuperscript{1958}
Age to which education is compulsory: 15\textsuperscript{1959}
Free public education: Yes\textsuperscript{1960}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004: 129\%\textsuperscript{1961}
Net primary enrollment rate in 2002: 93\%\textsuperscript{1962}
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000: 95.8\%\textsuperscript{1963}
As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: 64\%\textsuperscript{1964}
Ratified Convention 138: 4/15/1998\textsuperscript{1965}
Ratified Convention 182: 1/15/2001\textsuperscript{1966}
ILO-IPEC Member: Yes, associated\textsuperscript{1967}

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000 in Guyana, approximately 28.7 percent of boys 5 to 14 years were estimated to be working compared to 23.9 percent of girls in the same age group\textsuperscript{1968}. Children work as porters, domestic servants, street vendors, and wait staff in bars and restaurants\textsuperscript{1969}. Some are found working in sawmills, markets, mining, and the illicit drug trade\textsuperscript{1970}. Guyanese girls are reported to be trafficked for sexual exploitation within Guyana and to neighboring countries\textsuperscript{1971}. There are reports of child prostitution\textsuperscript{1972}.

\textsuperscript{1960} Ibid., Section 5.
\textsuperscript{1963} UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
\textsuperscript{1966} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{1968} UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
\textsuperscript{1970} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{1971} U.S. Department of State, "Guyana (Tier 2 Watch List)," in Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm. See also U.S. Department of
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years, with some exceptions. Children less than 15 years of age may be employed in technical schools provided such work is approved and supervised by the public authority. Children younger than 16 years are prohibited from night work and employment in industrial undertakings. There are penalties of fines for employers and parents who are guilty of direct involvement with child labor.

All forms of trafficking are prohibited by law, and penalties include life imprisonment, forfeiture of property, and payment of full restitution to the trafficked person. Special provision is made for the evidence of victims who are children, defined as persons under 18 years. Although child pornography or prostitution is not specifically mentioned in Guyanese law, the laws prohibit the selling, publishing, or exhibiting of any obscene matter and the abduction of a girl under 18 years for “unlawful carnal knowledge.” Also, the law sets the age of sexual consent at 16, thus prohibiting sex with children younger than 16, regardless of profession of consent. Forced labor, including by children, is prohibited by the constitution. The law sets the minimum age for voluntary enlistment in the armed forces at 18 years.

The Ministry of Labor, Human Services and Social Security has principal responsibility for enforcing legislation relating to child labor. The Ministry of Labor has 20 labor officers who have authority to enter all workplaces to conduct inspections, including inspections concerning child labor. Within the Ministry, an anti-trafficking in persons unit has been established to

1975 Clive Pegus, A Review of Child Labour Laws of Guyana, Section 4.2.1 and 4.2.4. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Guyana," Section 6d.
1977 Ibid., Section 4.3.2. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: Guyana," Section 5.
1980 Clive Pegus, A Review of Child Labour Laws of Guyana, Section 4.3.5. See also Interpol, Legislation on Sexual Offences Against Children.
enforce anti-trafficking laws. In the areas of worst forms of child labor, including trafficking, the Ministry’s enforcement efforts are supported by the Guyanese police force. In addition, the Ministry of Education has responsibility for enforcing provisions of the Education Act relating to the employment of children. As such, the Ministry of Education’s attendance officers are authorized to enter any premise or place between 6 a.m. and 5 p.m. on any day except Sunday and enquire whether any child resides or is employed there. However, the Ministry was unable to provide information regarding the number of violations of child labor laws in 2006.

Although there are laws that restrict child labor, according to the U.S. Department of State, the Ministry of Labor lacks sufficient inspectors to enforce child labor laws effectively, particularly in the country’s interior.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Guyanese Government continues to participate in a USDOL-funded USD 2 million project implemented by an NGO (Partners of the Americas) to combat exploitive child labor through education, which aims to withdraw 1,267 and prevent 1,777 children from exploitive labor. The project aims to build the capacity of the Guyanese Government to combat child labor by advocating for the establishment of a permanent coordinating institution within the government to lead efforts to combat child labor, and the development of a National Strategy on Child Labor.

1989 Ibid., 32.
Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Haiti work on family farms and in the informal sector. Children also engage in street vending. In general, because of high unemployment and job competition, there is very little child labor in the industrial sector and on commercial farms. Past reports indicate that Haitian children have worked on sugar plantations in the Dominican Republic. Some recent reports indicate that the practice of transporting Haitians to harvest sugarcane in the Dominican Republic has been largely curtailed.

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Data or Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children ages 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age of work:</td>
<td>15&lt;sup&gt;1994&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>11&lt;sup&gt;1995&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes&lt;sup&gt;1996&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
<td>No&lt;sup&gt;1997&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>No&lt;sup&gt;1998&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC Participating Country:</td>
<td>Yes&lt;sup&gt;1999&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

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<sup>1998</sup> Ibid.


The most common form of work for children in Haiti is domestic service. The practice of sending children, particularly girls, from poor rural areas to work as domestic servants for relatively richer families is a common traditional custom. While some of these children, referred to as “restaveks,” are cared for and receive an education, many are victims of trafficking. Such children receive no schooling; are sexually exploited and physically abused; and work under conditions of forced labor. Many children who live on the streets in Haiti are former domestic servants. Boys are also victims of trafficking under the restavek practice, in which they are sent to stay with better-off families and find themselves forced to work in agriculture. Save the Children and UNICEF estimated in 2002 that the number of victims of internal trafficking in Haiti was between 176,000 and 300,000.

In addition to internal trafficking, children are trafficked from Haiti to the Dominican Republic. An IOM/UNICEF study in 2002 found that more than 2,000 Haitian children are victims of such trafficking each year. Inconclusive evidence suggests that some Haitian children are sent to live with families in the Dominican Republic, where some of them are required to work rather than attend school, raising the possibility that such children are victims of trafficking. Girls are also trafficked from the Dominican Republic to Haiti for commercial sexual exploitation. In 2003, ILO-IPEC published a rapid assessment on the commercial sexual exploitation of children in Haiti, which found that the majority of the child commercial sex workers surveyed were street children in the 13 to 17 age range, with some as young as 9 or 10 years old. Haitians are trafficked to the United States, Europe, and Canada, but it is unclear if children are among those trafficked.

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2010 ILO-IPEC, Etude exploratoire sur l'exploitation sexuelle des mineurs à des fins commerciales, Port-au-Prince, 2003, 50, 52. See also Chief of the Cabinet of the Minister of the Feminine Condition and Rights of Women, Interview with USDOL consultant, July 14, 2006.
Despite the generally peaceful 2006 elections, Haiti has continued to experience insecurity. Children are involved with armed groups in the country; they work as porters, spies, messengers, and combatants.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The minimum age for work in industrial, agricultural, or commercial enterprises in Haiti is 15 years. The minimum age for employment as a domestic servant is also 15 years. Children ages 15 to 18 must obtain a work authorization from the Ministry of Labor. Employing a child without a work authorization is punishable by fines. Children less than 18 years of age are prohibited from night work in industrial jobs, and minors (of undefined age) are prohibited from hazardous work.

The law prohibits forced labor, including by children. The law also prohibits the corruption of youth below the age of 21, including by prostitution, with penalties ranging from 6 months to 3 years imprisonment. Child trafficking is illegal. The law obligates Haitians over age 18 to perform military service, but the military forces have been disbanded by presidential order.

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor (MAST), through the Institute of Social Welfare and Research (IBESR), is responsible for enforcing child labor laws. According to the U.S. Department of State, the agency has insufficient resources to investigate child labor violations. IBESR also often takes the lead on anti-child trafficking efforts. The Haitian National Police’s Brigade for the Protection of Minors is responsible for investigating crimes against children, which also include trafficking. The Brigade, which has 18 full-time officers,

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2015 Government of Haiti, *Loi relative à l'interdiction et à l'élimination de toutes formes d'abus, de violences, de mauvais traitements ou traitements inhumains contre les enfants*, (June 5, 2003), article 1. See also Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor official, Interview with USDOL consultant, July 17, 2006. See also U.S. Embassy - Port-au-Prince official, Interview with USDOL official, March 21, 2007.


2017 Ibid., Articles 337 and 340.

2018 Ibid., Articles 333 and 334.

2019 Ibid., Article 4. See also Government of Haiti, *Loi relative à l'interdiction et à l'élimination de toutes formes d'abus*, article 2.


monitors the movement of children across the border with the Dominican Republic. In February 2007, the Brigade arrested the owner of an orphanage involved in trafficking 32 children through fraudulent adoptions. The U.S. Department of State reports, however, that a lack of resources, training, and established procedures hamper the work of the Brigade. The police and Ministry of Interior have posted border agents at the country’s international airport to watch for children who might be victims of trafficking. According to the U.S. Department of State, however, a dysfunctional judicial system and corruption, as well as attention to other issues such as the elections and controlling the country’s violence, prevent the government from effectively addressing child trafficking.

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The government has established a 5-year National Protection Plan for Children in Difficult Situations and Vulnerable Children that includes strategies to reduce child domestic work, combat child trafficking, and rehabilitate children involved in armed groups. As part of the 2004-2006 Interim Cooperation Framework, an assistance program supported by various bilateral, multilateral, and UN agencies, MAST developed a 2-year plan to open shelters and protect children, including victims of trafficking. Two shelters have been opened, but they were not functioning during the reporting period. Government officials from several ministries received training on trafficking issues during 2006. The government refers victims of trafficking to NGOs that provide return and reintegration services. It also provides a small sum to repatriated persons, who may be victims of trafficking, to aid in their return to their origin communities.

The government also participated in a USD 430,000 Canadian-funded project implemented by ILO-IPEC to eradicate and prevent the worst forms of child labor, which ended in September 2006.

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2027 U.S. Embassy - Port-au-Prince, reporting, March 6, 2007.
2035 ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.
Honduras

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2002, approximately 13.3 percent of boys and 5.0 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 years were working in Honduras.\textsuperscript{2046} The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (59.1 percent), followed by services (28.5 percent), manufacturing (10.9 percent), and other sectors (1.4 percent).\textsuperscript{2047} Children work on melon and sugarcane farms, as lobster divers, in

\begin{table}[h]
\centering
\begin{tabular}{|l|c|}
\hline
\textbf{Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor} & \\
\hline
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2002: & 9.2\%\textsuperscript{2036} \\
Minimum age for admission to work: & 16\textsuperscript{2037} \\
Age to which education is compulsory: & 13\textsuperscript{2038} \\
Free public education: & Yes\textsuperscript{2039} \\
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004: & 113\%\textsuperscript{2040} \\
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004: & 91\%\textsuperscript{2041} \\
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2002: & 80.1\%\textsuperscript{2042} \\
Percentage of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: & Unavailable \\
Ratified Convention 138: & 6/9/1980\textsuperscript{2043} \\
Ratified Convention 182: & 10/25/2001\textsuperscript{2044} \\
ILO-IPEC participating country: & Yes\textsuperscript{2045} \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\end{table}

\textsuperscript{2039} \textit{Constitución de la República de Honduras}, 1982, Article 171; available from http://www.georgetown.edu/pdba/Constitutions/Honduras/hon82.html.
\textsuperscript{2042} UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, \textit{Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates}.
\textsuperscript{2046} UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, \textit{Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates}.
\textsuperscript{2047} Ibid.
garbage disposal sites, the *maquila* sector, and as domestic servants. Children have been involved in the sale of drugs in Olancho and Comayagua.  

Honduran children are trafficked internally for commercial sexual exploitation. Children from rural areas are trafficked to urban and tourist centers such as San Pedro Sula, the North Caribbean Coast, and the Bay Islands. Between 20 and 30 children, mostly girls, are trafficked daily across the border with Guatemala for sexual exploitation. A national NGO reported that there were 10,000 child trafficking victims during 2006.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years. Children 14 to 15 years are permitted to work with parental consent and the Ministry of Labor’s permission. The law prohibits a child younger than 14 years from working, even with parental permission. If children 14 or 15 years are hired, an employer must certify that they have finished or are finishing compulsory schooling. Individuals who allow or oblige children to work illegally face fines as well as prison sentences of 3 to 5 years. Children under 16 are prohibited from working at night and in clubs, theaters, circuses, cafes, bars, in establishments that serve alcoholic beverages, or in jobs that have been determined to be unhealthy or dangerous. No child under age 16 is allowed to work in hazardous conditions, which are defined by Honduran law to include standing on high scaffolding; exposure to toxic substances; diving underwater; working in tunnels or underground; working with wood-cutting machines, ovens, smelters, or heavy presses; and exposure to vehicular traffic, high-voltage electrical currents, and garbage. Children under 17 years may only work 6 hours per day and for no more than 30 hours per week.

According to the U.S. Department of State, enforcement of child labor laws by the Ministry of Labor is not effective outside the *maquila* sector. Violations occur mostly in the agricultural export sector, family farming, small-scale services, and commerce.

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2055 *Código de la Niñez y de la Adolescencia*, 1996, Artículos 119 and 120.
2056 *Código de Trabajo*, Articulo 133.
2058 *Código de Trabajo*, Artículos 128 and 129.

In Honduras, the child and adolescent code states that children are protected against sexual exploitation, child prostitution, and child pornography; violators face 3 to 5 years of imprisonment.\footnote{Código de la Niñez y de la Adolescencia, 1996, Artículos 134 and 141.} The penal code indicates that those who promote or facilitate child prostitution are punished with 7.5 to 12 years of imprisonment and fines.\footnote{Government of Honduras, Legislation of Interpol member states on sexual offences against children: Honduras, [database online] 2004 [cited June 22, 2005], Article 148; available from http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaHonduras.asp.} A new anti-trafficking law increased penalties and defined new offenses in relation to trafficking in persons. The law establishes fines and prison terms of 4 to 20 years for prostitution, incest, lechery, knowingly infecting someone with HIV/AIDS, abuse, and pornography related to trafficking.\footnote{U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Honduras," Section 6d.} A criminal code reform that includes the classification of the conducts related to the commercial sexual exploitation of children was approved in 2006.\footnote{ILO-IPEC, Stop the Exploitation: Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic, technical progress report, March 15, 2006.} The U.S. Department of State reports that enforcement of the new law has been limited.\footnote{Ibid., Section 5.} However, the Office of the Special Prosecutor for Children has cooperated with the Governments of Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, and Nicaragua to locate and repatriate children who were trafficking victims. As a result of this international cooperation, 53 trafficked children have been returned to Honduras.\footnote{Ibid., Section 5.}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**


The Government of Honduras is currently participating in a number of ILO-IPEC implemented projects including a USD 8.7 million 2002-2009 USDOL-funded regional project that works to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children. The project targets 713 children for withdrawal and 657 children for prevention from trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation in the region.\footnote{ILO-IPEC, Stop the Exploitation: Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic, 2002.} As part of an effort to build capacity to improve labor law compliance among the CAFTA-DR partners, USDOL is providing USD 2.85 million for a project to strengthen
outreach efforts in the agriculture sector in the region, where child labor is a serious problem.\footnote{2072} Another ILO-IPEC implemented USD 500,000 project, funded by the Netherlands, works to combat child domestic work through education and training. A USD 2.7 million ILO-IPEC project funded by Italy combats child labor in garbage dumps. The Government of Honduras participates in a USD 500,000 ILO-IPEC project funded by Canada that focuses on combating child labor through strengthening labor ministries and workers. Honduras also participates in a USD 14 million ILO-IPEC regional project funded by Spain.\footnote{2073}

In addition, the Government of Honduras is participating in a 2004-2008 USD 5.7 million USDOL-funded regional project implemented by CARE to combat child labor through education. The project targets 470 children for withdrawal and 1,410 children for prevention from exploitive child labor.\footnote{2074}

\footnote{2073} ILO-IPEC, \textit{IPEC Projects from All Donors Except USDOL}, November 3, 2006.
# Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 4.1 percent of boys and 4.0 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in India. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (73.3 percent), followed by manufacturing (12.4 percent), services (11.5 percent) and other sectors (2.8 percent). According to the Government of India, the largest number of working children

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

| Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000: | 4.1% |
| Minimum age for admission to work: | 14 in specified hazardous occupations and processes |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | 14 |
| Free public education: | Yes* |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004: | 116% |
| Net primary enrollment rate in 2004: | 90% |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000: | 71.5% |
| As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | 79% |
| Ratified Convention 138: | No |
| Ratified Convention 182: | No |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | Yes |
| *Implementing legislation has not been passed. |

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2078 Ibid.


2081 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.


2084 Ibid.


2086 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
can be found in the State of Uttar Pradesh, followed by Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Bihar. The government also found that most working children are in rural areas working in agriculture and related activities such as livestock tending, forestry, and fishing. Children work in hazardous conditions in numerous industries, including quarrying, gemstone polishing; *zari* (embroidery or sewing of beads and colored threads to fabric); hybrid seed production; and the manufacture of matches, bricks, carpets, locks, glassware, fireworks, leather goods, brassware and other metal goods, *bidis* (cigarettes), and sporting goods. In addition, they are found in service industries such as hotels, restaurants, and tourism. Within all economic sectors, the highest number of child laborers can be found in the informal economy. Activities in which children are working in the informal economy include vending food and other goods; repairing vehicles; construction; food preparation; scavenging; shoe-shining; car washing and repair; begging; and domestic service in private homes. The majority of child domestic workers are girls 12 to 17, but some are reportedly as young as 5 or 6 years, and many work very long hours and suffer abusive treatment.

Some reports indicate that large numbers of children work under forced or bonded labor conditions in India. Past reports have identified forced or indentured child labor in floriculture; quarrying including the production of quarried stones; and the production of brass goods, footwear, locks, and silk thread and cloth. More recent reports point to the existence of forced or indentured child labor in cottonseed production; other agricultural activities; circuses; rice mills; fishing; shops; domestic work; carpet weaving; salt making; and the manufacture of gemstones, fireworks, glassware, silver goods, matches, *bidis*, leather goods, and bricks. The vast majority of bonded laborers are from former scheduled castes and tribal groups.

The commercial sexual exploitation of children is a problem in India. Many are sold into commercial sexual exploitation by their impoverished families. Child sex tourism has been reported in the State of Goa and other popular tourist destinations. There is increasing

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2090 Ibid. See also International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, "India: Economic Boom Masks Widespread Child Labour," *Trade Union World* no. 6 (October 2004), 2.
awareness of boys being exploited in prostitution and sex tourism.\footnote{2096}{The traditional practice of child marriage, although illegal, is sometimes used to coerce children into commercial sexual exploitation.\footnote{2097}{There are also reports of children forced to work as soldiers by armed opposition groups.\footnote{2098}}}

India is a source, transit, and destination country for minors trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, industrial and agricultural labor, and begging.\footnote{2099}{Bangladeshi, Nepali, and Indian girls from rural areas are trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation in major urban centers such as Mumbai (Bombay), Kolkata (Calcutta), and New Delhi. Indian girls are also trafficked to the Persian Gulf to work as domestics or for commercial sexual exploitation, and Bangladeshi girls are trafficked through India into prostitution in Pakistan.\footnote{2100}{Boys as young as 4 from India, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Bangladesh are trafficked through India to the Middle East and Gulf countries to work as camel jockeys, although the practice has greatly decreased.\footnote{2101}{The majority of children trafficked are Indians trafficked within the country and even within the same state. Children living in conflict areas, such as the northeastern states, are especially vulnerable to trafficking.\footnote{2102}}}

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

15 occupations and 57 processes. \(^{2104}\) Children and adolescents 14 to 18 may work limited hours in factories during the daytime, if they have been granted a certificate of fitness. \(^{2105}\) Children of any age may be employed in all other activities, if employers adhere to restrictions including a maximum 6-hour workday with a 1-hour rest period, at least 1 day off per week, and no night work or overtime work. Penalties include fines or imprisonment of 3 months to 1 year, or up to 2 years for repeat offenses. \(^{2106}\)

Bonded child labor is illegal in India. The law provides for district-level vigilance committees to investigate allegations of bonded labor; persons found using bonded labor may be fined and imprisoned for up to 3 years. \(^{2107}\) The state of Tamil Nadu charged district-level officials with the responsibility of investigating cases of bonded labor and releasing anyone found in bondage. The state reports that 13,051 of the 35,884 identified have been released from bondage and rehabilitated at the cost of USD 4 million. As of 2006, 803 of the 884 employers against whom cases were filed had been convicted. \(^{2108}\) The commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking of boys and girls is prohibited by law. Penalties include imprisonment of 7 to 14 years for procuring, inducing, or taking a minor 16 to 18 from one place to another for prostitution; the penalty can increase to a life sentence if the victim is under 16. \(^{2109}\) It is illegal to cause any person to produce or deal in narcotic or psychotropic substances; punishment consists of fines and imprisonment of up to 20 years. \(^{2110}\) There is no compulsory conscription into the Indian military. \(^{2111}\)

The enforcement of child labor and bonded labor laws is primarily the responsibility of state and local governments, with the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MOLE) providing oversight and coordination. \(^{2112}\) As of December 2006, state governments had identified 1,672 violations of the ban prohibiting children from engaging in hazardous work, based on the 23,166 inspections they had conducted. \(^{2113}\) In late 2006, Delhi police and NGOs raided several factories where children had been working under exploitive conditions and rescued more than 100 children. \(^{2114}\) Police forces in other states, including Assam and West Bengal, also conducted raids in 2006 to free children in trafficking situations. Raids were often carried out collaboratively with

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\(^{2104}\) U.S. Embassy- New Delhi, reporting, October 17, 2006. See also Government of India, *Child Labour-Prohibition and Regulation Act (as amended)*, Schedule.


\(^{2106}\) Government of India, *Child Labor- Prohibition and Regulation Act (as amended)*, Articles 7, 8, 14.


\(^{2108}\) US Embassy- New Delhi official, E-mail communication, August 5, 2007.


\(^{2113}\) US Embassy- New Delhi official, E-mail communication, August 5, 2007.

\(^{2114}\) U.S Embassy- New Delhi, reporting, January 11, 2007.
NGOs. However, the U.S. Department of State reports that overall enforcement of child labor laws is inadequate, because of insufficient resources, poorly trained inspectors, low inspector salaries, and social acceptance of child labor. Law enforcement against bonded labor is similarly inadequate. According to Human Rights Watch, there is a lack of meaningful action by vigilance committees, and the U.S. Department of State reports that penalties are too light to serve as an effective deterrent.

In September 2006, the government established a “nodal cell” responsible for central oversight of anti-trafficking law enforcement efforts. For the most part, however, trafficking crimes are investigated and prosecuted at the state level. Officials continued to arrest and convict persons involved in trafficking, but the U.S. Department of State reports that enforcement is inadequate relative to the scope of the problem. According to the U.S. Department of State, enforcement efforts are hampered by police corruption, and a study by ECPAT points to lack of training as a problem. ECPAT also states that complicated procedures thwart efforts to prosecute crimes related to the commercial sexual exploitation of children. During the reporting period, however, three state governments established, with substantial U.S. Government and UNODC assistance, the first state-level anti-trafficking police units in the country, which has led to an increase in rescues of sex trafficking victims and arrests of traffickers.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

India’s National Charter for Children (2003) enshrines the country’s commitments to protect children from hazardous child labor and to provide universal access to primary education with a focus on children with special needs. The MOLE oversees the National Policy on Child Labor (1987), which lays out concrete actions for combating child labor, including legislative reforms and projects to provide direct assistance to children. These direct assistance projects, collectively known as the National Child Labor Projects (NCLP) Scheme, operate in districts with a high incidence of hazardous labor to identify working children, withdraw them from hazardous work, and provide non-formal education, vocational training, mainstreaming into formal education, stipends, and nutrition supplements. NCLP Societies have been established in 250 districts, in more than 3,700 schools. The MOLE began public campaigns to raise

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2117 U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: India." See also Human Rights Watch, Small Change, 47.
2118 Ibid.
2120 US Embassy- New Delhi official, E-mail communication, August 5, 2007.
awareness on child labor, and conducted videoconferences with states to coordinate efforts.\textsuperscript{2124} The MOLE’s Grants in Aid Scheme operates in a number of districts that do not have NCLP Societies. The program funds projects to provide working children with education and vocational training opportunities, health care, and nutrition.\textsuperscript{2125} The MOLE also supports a program to train factory inspectors on child labor laws and regulations and sensitize them to the issue of child labor.\textsuperscript{2126} The States of Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu are implementing state-level action plans to eliminate child labor.\textsuperscript{2127}

The Government of India and USDOL jointly fund and collaborate on the USD 40 million INDUS project, which targets 80,000 children for withdrawal from work in 10 hazardous sectors: bidis, brassware, bricks, fireworks, footwear, glass bangles, locks, matches, quarrying, and silk. The project, implemented by ILO-IPEC, is designed to complement the NCLP program and government primary education initiatives. Target areas are 21 districts in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh, as well as the National Capital Territory of Delhi. The project is scheduled to continue through September 2008.\textsuperscript{2128}

The national and state governments collaborate on a program to rescue and rehabilitate bonded laborers, which includes surveys to identify bonded laborers, stipends of 20,000 rupees (USD 441), as well as training and education for each rescued bonded laborer; and awareness-raising activities. The National Human Rights Commission, an independent body established by the government, works with the MOLE to provide training for district magistrates charged with implementing these identification and rehabilitation programs.\textsuperscript{2129}

The government’s Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Women and Children commits both the national and state governments to legal and regulatory reform, law enforcement, public awareness programs, and rescue, rehabilitation, and reintegration of victims.\textsuperscript{2130} The Ministry of Women and Child Development coordinates a wide range of anti-trafficking activities in collaboration with NGOs and state governments, including awareness-raising programs; victim rescue; and the provision of counseling, legal aid, medical care, repatriation, and rehabilitative services.\textsuperscript{2131} In 2006, the Home Ministry partnered with UNODC to hold a conference to raise awareness about trafficking and announce resource commitments aimed at addressing the problem.\textsuperscript{2132} In August 2006, the government ratified the

\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{2124} US Embassy- New Delhi official, E-mail communication, August 5, 2007.
\item \textsuperscript{2125} Ministry of Labour and Employment, \textit{Annual Report of the Ministry of Labour}, 6, 82 and 84.
\item \textsuperscript{2126} U.S. Embassy- New Delhi, \textit{reporting}, September 14, 2005.
\item \textsuperscript{2127} U.S. Embassy- New Delhi official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, February 2, 2007.
\item \textsuperscript{2130} Ambassador Robert D. Blackwill, "Dealing With Trafficking in Persons: Another Dimension of US-India Transformation (Mumbai, February 18, 2003); available from http://www.state.gov/p/sca/rls/rm/17900.htm.
\item \textsuperscript{2131} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: India," Section 5.
\item \textsuperscript{2132} Ibid.
\end{itemize}
UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography.\textsuperscript{2133}

The Department of Education’s Education Guarantee Scheme and Alternative and Innovative Education Program provides non-formal education to out-of-school children, including child laborers.\textsuperscript{2134}

\textsuperscript{2133} U.S. Embassy New Delhi, \textit{reporting}, March 1, 2007.
Indonesia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

The majority of child work in Indonesia occurs in rural areas. Children work in agriculture on palm oil, cacao, tobacco, and sugar plantations. Children also work in fisheries, construction, manufacturing, footwear production, food processing, and the small-scale mining sector. Other children work in the informal sector selling newspapers, shining shoes, street vending, scavenging, and working beside their parents in family businesses or cottage industries.

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for work:</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>117%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
<td>6/7/1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Must pay for exam fees, school supplies, and related items.


2139 Ibid.

2140 Ibid.


2142 Ibid.


There are also large numbers of street children. Children, primarily females, are also exploited in domestic service and are often subject to forced labor.

Indonesia is primarily a source, and to a lesser extent destination, country for individuals trafficked internationally and internally, including children. Children, primarily girls, are trafficked internationally from Indonesia to Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, and Singapore, and are trafficked internally mainly from rural to urban areas. There is emerging evidence that girls are also trafficked into Indonesia, mainly from China. Girls are primarily trafficked both internationally and domestically for commercial sexual exploitation and domestic work, whereas boys are trafficked internally to work on fishing platforms. There are increasing reports of children being trafficked to work in organized begging rings. Children are also exploited in the production of pornography and in the international sex industry. They are also known to be involved in the production, trafficking, and/or sale of drugs. Children have been used as combatants in civilian militia groups in the past, but there was no evidence of this occurring in 2006; it remains unclear whether children are used in other capacities within such groups. Children were not officially recruited into the Indonesian armed forces, but there are allegations of children being used as guards, guides, cooks, informants, and errand-runners.

The December 26, 2004 tsunami and the May 27, 2006 Yogyakarta earthquake left thousands of children in Indonesia orphaned or separated from their families and without access to schooling.
thus increasing their vulnerability to trafficking and other forms of labor and sexual exploitation. Many of these children are still displaced, without families, and highly vulnerable to exploitative child labor.\textsuperscript{2153}

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for work at 15.\textsuperscript{2154} The law contains an exception for employing children from 13 up to 15 years to perform light work that does not disrupt their physical, mental, and social development. A set of requirements is outlined for employment of children in this age range, including a maximum of 3 hours of work per day, parental permission, and no disruption of schooling.\textsuperscript{2155} Employing and involving children under 18 in the worst forms of child labor or economic exploitation are prohibited under the law; failure to comply can result in criminal sanctions of 2 to 5 years of imprisonment. The law defines the worst forms of child labor as slavery; use of children in prostitution, pornography and gambling; use of children for the production and trade of alcohol, narcotics, and addictive substances; and all types of work harmful to the health, safety and morals of children. The law identifies a list of such harmful activities and provides detailed descriptions and examples of these activities. These include jobs requiring children to work with machines; jobs where physical, chemical, or biological hazards are present; jobs with inherent hazards such as construction, offshore fishing, lifting heavy loads etc; and jobs that harm the morals of the children including working in bars, massage parlors, discoteques, or promoting alcohol or drugs to arouse sexual desire.\textsuperscript{2156} Persons who expose children to such hazardous activities are liable to terms of up to 5 years of imprisonment or a fine.\textsuperscript{2157} An Indonesian decree calls for general programs to ban and abolish worst forms of child labor and improve family income, and for specific programs for non-formal education and returning children to school by providing scholarships.\textsuperscript{2158} Additional specific legal sanctions are laid out against offenses of commercial sexual exploitation, child trafficking, involving children in the production or distribution of alcohol or narcotics, and involving children in armed conflict. Anyone exercising legal custody of a child under 12 years for the purpose of providing that child to another person, knowing that the child is going to be used for the purposes of begging, harmful work, or work that affects the child's health, may face a maximum sentence of


\textsuperscript{2154} Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration, *Concerning Jobs that Jeopardize the Health, Safety and Morals of Children*, Article 3.

\textsuperscript{2155} Republic of Indonesia, *Manpower Development and Protection Act (no. 13)*, (March 25, 2003), Articles 26, 68, 69.


\textsuperscript{2158} Government of Indonesia, *Decree of the Minister of Home Affairs and Regional Autonomy on the Control of Child Workers*, Law No. 5, (January 8, 2001). Article 5.
4 years of imprisonment. The law also prohibits sexual intercourse outside of marriage with a female recognized to be less than 15 years, engaging in an obscene act with a person under 15 years, and forcing or allowing sexual abuse of a child, with maximum penalties ranging from 7 to 12 years of imprisonment. The law also prohibits trafficking of women and boys, with the Penal Code providing a maximum penalty of 6 years of imprisonment for violations and the Child Protection Act stipulating a prison sentence of 3-15 years and/or a fine.2159 The minimum age for recruitment or enlistment into the armed forces is 18 years.2160 The law protects children in emergencies, including natural disasters.2161

Ministry of Manpower authorities at the provincial and district levels have the responsibility for enforcing child labor laws.2162 The Ministry of Manpower reports that Action Committees on Child Labor have been established in 12 of 33 provinces and in 54 out of 458 districts in Indonesia.2163 The national police’s anti-trafficking unit and other law enforcement bodies have increased efforts to combat trafficking of children. Between January and November 2006, there were 18 trafficking-related convictions.2164 In 2006, there were five convictions specifically for child trafficking.2165 Despite these efforts, the U.S. State Department reports that the Indonesian government does not enforce child labor laws in an effective or thorough manner due to corruption, a lack of resources, and lack of child labor inspections.2166

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The 20-year National Plan of Action (NPA) for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor is currently in its first 5-year phase (2002-2006). The first phase, established by Presidential Decree No. 59 (2002), focuses on mapping child labor problems, raising awareness, and eliminating five priority worst forms of child labor: offshore fishing and diving; trafficking for purposes of prostitution; mining; footwear production; and drug trafficking.2167 The Ministry of Manpower chairs a National Action Committee for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor, which coordinates child labor elimination efforts throughout the country and produces annual reports on the implementation of the NPA.2168

2160 Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Child Soldiers Global Report 2004."
2161 Government of Indonesia, National Child Protection Act, Articles 59 - 60, 78 - 89. See also Government of Indonesia, Law No. 39 Concerning Human Rights, (September 23, 1999), Articles 52-66.
2163 U.S Embassy Jakarta, E-mail communication USDOL official, July 30, 2007.

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Human Rights in Indonesia (2004-2009) contains a specific objective on protecting the rights of the child, with a series of activities aimed at combating trafficking and protecting against sexual exploitation, pornography, and worst forms of child labor. The National Medium Term Development Plan (2004-2009) recognizes the problem of child labor and supports the implementation of the National Plan on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor. The Indonesia Poverty Reduction Strategy (2005-2009) includes objectives of preventing exploitation and the worst forms of child labor, increasing protection for street children and child workers, and preventing child trafficking. In the proposed monitoring and evaluation system, the plan also has a 2009 target to decrease the number of child trafficking cases. Indonesia is a signatory to a multilateral MOU pledging cooperation on trafficking. Other signatories to the “Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking (COMMIT)” include Burma, Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam. The members have a Sub-Regional Plan of Action for 2005-2007, which translates the MOU commitments into concrete actions.

The National Plan of Action to Combat the Trafficking of Women and Children and the National Plan of Action to Combat Commercial Sexual Exploitation are in place to help reduce the trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children. In support of these plans, the national government sponsors a national media campaign to raise awareness on trafficking. Local governments of Bali, Batam, Dumai, Entikong, and Riau Province have established shelters for trafficking victims. The Foreign Affairs Ministry operates shelters at its embassies and consulates in several countries including Kuwait, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, and Singapore. The Indonesian National Police are operating the first-ever medical recovery center for victims of trafficking in Jakarta, and have opened recovery centers in Surabaya, Pontianak, and Makassar. Several districts and provinces have established Anti-Trafficking Committees and district action plans to carry out anti-trafficking activities. In 2006, the number

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of provinces with committees or task forces increased to 17 from 12 in 2005.\textsuperscript{2178} Also in 2006, the numbers of women’s help desks, designed to assist exploited women and children, increased to 280 countrywide.\textsuperscript{2179} The People’s Welfare Coordinating Ministry and the Women’s Empowerment Ministry lead the National Anti-trafficking Task Force developed under the plan; they also carry out monitoring of anti-trafficking efforts, produce annual trafficking reports, and train police and other officials.\textsuperscript{2180}

Several provinces have established a hotline, “Child Helpline 129,” to provide emergency assistance to children, including to child laborers. Several provincial governments, such as East Java, Central Java, Yogyakarata, and Bali, undertook specific child labor activities during 2006, including vocational education and training for child laborers, entrepreneurship training for the parents of child laborers, and education scholarships for child laborers.\textsuperscript{2181} The Ministry of Women’s Empowerment has published non-legally binding guidelines for employing child domestic workers 15 to 18 years, providing good practice examples for employment and policy frameworks related to child domestic workers.\textsuperscript{2182} The government maintains the Commission for the Protection of Indonesian Children, responsible for collecting data and undertaking studies on specified child-related topics, for receiving complaints, and for advising the government on public education.\textsuperscript{2183}

The Government of Indonesia is participating in a USD 4.1 million USDOL-supported ILO-IPEC Timebound Program to progressively eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The program is being implemented from 2003-2007 and aims to withdraw 2,750 children and prevent 9,960 children from exploitative labor in the five priority sectors identified in the National Plan of Action.\textsuperscript{2184} In support of the Timebound Program, USDOL also funds a USD 6 million Child Labor Education Initiative project to combat child trafficking in Indonesia. The project aims to withdraw 1,500 child trafficking victims and prevent 17,932 children from being trafficked.\textsuperscript{2185} In 2006, the Government of Indonesia also participated in a regional USDOL-funded project that withdrew 367 children and prevented 10,378 children from trafficking throughout the region,\textsuperscript{2186} and a regional USDOL-funded awareness-raising project to eliminate the worst forms of child


\textsuperscript{2182} U.S. Embassy- Jakarta official, e-mail communication, August 8, 2006.


In addition, in 2006 the Netherlands completed support to a USD 1.2 million project to eliminate exploitive child domestic work in Indonesia and 7 other countries in the region. Sweden continued to support a USD 428,000 project on child labor and youth employment in Indonesia, Pakistan, Tanzania, Egypt, and Guatemala.

To address the vulnerability of children to worst forms of child labor in the tsunami-stricken areas of Indonesia, USDOL is funding a USD 1.5 million addendum to the ILO-IPEC Timebound Program and a USD 2.5 million addendum to the Education Initiative project. The ILO-IPEC project aims to prevent 3,000 children from entering exploitive labor, and the Education Initiative project aims to prevent 10,530 children from entering exploitive labor.

The U.S. State Department supports a project that provides technical assistance and policy advocacy training to help local governments establish and implement policies to reduce vulnerability to trafficking. This project assisted the Indonesian government in developing and passing an anti-trafficking law and supported 50 projects by Indonesian civil society institutions in the areas of prevention and protection. President Bush included Indonesia as one of eight target countries in his USD 50 million anti-trafficking in persons initiative. Indonesia has received approximately 10 percent of the total funding.

The government is piloting a conditional cash transfer program in six provinces to increase children’s participation levels in education and to reduce child labor. The government is also continuing to implement the “Subsidy for School Operational Costs” to remove basic school fees for poor families affected by the elimination of a national oil subsidy.

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2188 ILO-IPEC official, E-mail Communication to USDOL official, March 1, 2007.
2192 U.S Embassy Jakarta, E-mail communication, July 30, 2007.
2194 ILO-IPEC, Support to the Indonesia National Plan of Action and the Development of the Timebound Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, technical progress report, Geneva, August 1, 2006, Section I. See also Save the Children, Enabling Aceh to Combat Child Labor through Education (ENABLE/ACEH), technical progress report, September 26, 2006, Section I. See also U.S. Embassy Jakarta, reporting, December 18, 2006, 12.
2195 ILO-IPEC, Support to the Indonesia National Plan of Action, technical progress report, August 2006, Section I. See also Save the Children, Enabling Communities to Combat Child Trafficking (ENABLE), technical progress report, Section I.
Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 14.7 percent of boys and 8.3 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Iraq. In urban areas, many children work on the streets shining shoes, begging, scavenging through garbage, carrying loads, and selling items such as food, cigarettes, newspapers, and DVDs. Children are found working in shops and markets, on delivery trucks, and as ticket

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

| Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000: | 11.6% |
| Minimum age for admission to work: | 15 |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | 12 |
| Free public education: | Yes |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004: | 98% |
| Net primary enrollment rate in 2004: | 88% |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000: | 60.5% |
| As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | 77% |
| Ratified Convention 138: | 2/13/1985 |
| Ratified Convention 182: | 7/9/2001 |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | No |

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Coalition Provisional Authority, *Coalition Provisional Authority Order 89*, art. 90.1; available from http://www.iraqcoalition.org/regulations/20040530_CPAORD89_Amendments_to_the_Labor_Code-Law_No.pdf.


UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.


Ibid.


UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
collectors on buses. Children are known to work long hours and under hazardous conditions in automobile repair shops and construction sites. In rural areas, children are found tending livestock and performing seasonal manual labor.

There are reports of children being exploited as prostitutes and working in the drug trade. Girls may also be trafficked to Gulf States.

Young boys have been targeted by gangs for sexual exploitation. Girls may be targeted by staff at private orphanages to be sold into prostitution or trafficked out of Iraq for sexual exploitation. Armed political groups have recruited children as informers, messengers, and as child soldiers.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The minimum age for employment is 15 years. The employment of anyone under 16 years in work detrimental to the worker’s health, safety, or morals is prohibited. Additional legal requirements regarding the employment of children under 18 include a maximum 7-hour workday, a pre-employment medical examination, a daily rest period of 1 hour after 4 hours of work, and a 30-day paid vacation per year. Employers must maintain a register of names of employees under 18, post a copy of the labor provisions protecting children, and keep minors’ medical fitness certificates on file. However, youth 15 or older who are employed in family enterprises are excluded from most of these provisions.

The law prohibits the worst forms of child labor, defined as slavery and similar practices including forced labor, child trafficking, and compulsory recruitment of minors for use in armed conflict; child prostitution; illicit activities such as drug trafficking; and work likely to harm the health, safety, or morals of children. Promoting, assisting, or benefiting from the aforementioned

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2215 Coalition Provisional Authority, Order 89, Article 90.1. See also Government of Iraq, Act No. 71 Promulgating the Labour Code, (July 27, 1987), Article 91.

2216 Coalition Provisional Authority, Order 89, Articles 91.1 and 91.2.

2217 Ibid., Articles 92, 93, 94, 96.
worst forms of child labor is prohibited.\textsuperscript{2218} Violations of Labor Code provisions pertaining to work performed by children, including the worst forms of child labor, may be penalized by imprisonment for 10 days to 3 months or fines.\textsuperscript{2219} There is no compulsory conscription into the Iraqi armed forces, and the minimum voluntary recruitment age is 18.\textsuperscript{2220}

The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA) is responsible for overseeing labor inspections.\textsuperscript{2221} According to the U.S. Department of State, MOLSA’s Child Labor Unit is unable to enforce child labor laws and remove children from exploitive labor situations because of a lack of inspectors, a lack of resources, and the effects of the ongoing insurgency.\textsuperscript{2222} The Ministry of Interior (MOI) is responsible for trafficking issues; however, according to the U.S. Department of State, trafficking is not considered a high priority given the security situation, and is not investigated.\textsuperscript{2223}

\textbf{Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor}

The Ministry of Public Works and Social Affairs (MOPWSA) has a program to provide stipends to ex-child laborers to keep them out of work and to support their schooling. MOPWSA also supports Mercy House in Baghdad, a facility providing support services to ex-street children and other vulnerable populations.\textsuperscript{2224} The MOI operates a program to address the issues of children living on the streets.\textsuperscript{2225} MOLSA operates shelters for orphans, some of whom may be at-risk of becoming involved in exploitive labor.\textsuperscript{2226}

\begin{footnotesize}
\begin{enumerate}
\item Ibid., Articles 91. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, \textit{Iraq} accessed October 18, 2006; available from http://www.ecpat.net. See also Government of Iraq, \textit{Constitution of Iraq}, Article 37.
\item Coalition Provisional Authority, \textit{Order 89}, Article 97.
\item Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Global Report 2004."
\item Government of Iraq, \textit{Act No. 71 Promulgating the Labour Code}, Article 116.
\item U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Iraq," section 6d.
\end{enumerate}
\end{footnotesize}
In 2002, approximately 1.2 percent of boys and 0.6 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 years were working in Jamaica. According to a joint ILO-IPEC Government of Jamaica survey, children work on plantations, farms, gardens, and construction sites, as well as in commercial fishing, shops, and markets. Teenage girls as young as 14 are reported to engage in...
prostitution, especially in tourist areas such as Montego Bay, Kingston, Port Antonio, Ocho Rios, and Negri. 2241 Young girls are exploited in bars, casinos, and “go-go” dance clubs. 2242

Jamaica is principally a source country for women and children trafficked within the country for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor. The majority of victims are Jamaican women and girls, and increasingly boys, who are trafficked from rural to urban and tourist areas for sexual exploitation. Some children are subjected to conditions of forced labor as domestic servants. 2245

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law prohibits the employment of children under 15 years, except by parents or guardians in domestic, agricultural, or horticultural work. 2246 Children between 12 and 14 are allowed to work in family businesses; however, they are limited to work no more than 28 hours per week. 2247 Children between 13 and 15 are permitted to engage in “light work,” defined as non-hazardous work that will not interfere with their education, health, or with physical, mental, spiritual, or social development. 2248 The law also prohibits children under 15 from working at night or in any industrial undertaking. 2249 The law provides for fines and 6 months to 1 year of imprisonment for the violation of child labor laws. 2250 Children under 18 are prohibited from working in nightclubs, establishments that sell or serve alcohol or tobacco, and from begging on the streets. 2251 The employment of children in nightclubs, or knowingly renting or allowing one’s premises to be used for “immoral purposes,” is subject to fines or 1 year of imprisonment. Nightclubs employing children are also subject to the revocation of their operating licenses. 2252 The law prohibits procuring a child younger than 18 years for the purpose of prostitution and allows for punishments up to 3 years of imprisonment. 2253 It also subjects those “carnally knowing” a girl under 12 years to punishment of imprisonment for life. 2254 The law prohibits the sale or trafficking of any child and penalizes violators with a fine and or imprisonment up to ten years.

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2242 ECPAT International, *Jamaica*.
2243 U.S. Department of State, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 26, 2007.
2246 Ibid.
2247 Ibid.
2249 Ibid.
2253 Offenses Against the Person Act, Article 58.
2254 Ibid., Article 48.
years. Minors of at least 17.5 years may voluntarily enlist for military training with parental consent, but they must be 18 years old upon graduating from training. In 2007, the government passed comprehensive anti-trafficking legislation that specifically prohibits the trafficking of children for labor or commercial sexual exploitation. Penalties include fines and up to 10 years imprisonment.

The police are authorized to conduct child labor inspections. However, the lack of officers dedicated to this task contributes to the challenge of effective enforcement, as does the fact that child labor is likely to occur more often in informal sectors. The Child Development Agency (CDA) is responsible for carrying out investigations of abuse and finding places of safety for children subject to exploitation; it makes efforts to prevent child labor violations by conducting public education and community outreach. A police anti-trafficking unit has been established to oversee trafficking policy coordination, and an anti-trafficking coordinator has been appointed in the Office of the Prime Minister. The government is conducting investigations of several trafficking cases and has charged a night club owner for operating a brothel employing children for sexual exploitation. While the police have conducted raids of night clubs, few convictions have resulted.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Jamaica has undertaken a high-profile anti-trafficking campaign to coincide with the 2007 Cricket World Cup. In addition, a comprehensive assessment of trafficking is being implemented to ascertain the extent of the problem. Moreover, in conjunction with the IOM, the government has trained police officers, immigration officers, and other government employees on trafficking investigations. The CDA has been operating shelters for child trafficking victims and has established a mechanism for reporting exploitation.

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2258 U.S. Department of State, E-mail communication, July 26, 2007.
2264 Ibid.
2265 Ibid.
Jordan

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Working children in Jordan are primarily concentrated in the governorates of Amman, Balqa, Irbid, Ma’an, and Zarqa. According to a study by the Ministry of Labor (MOL) published in 2002, children work in automobile repair, carpentry, sales, blacksmithing, tailoring, construction, and food services. Children also work in the informal sector in agriculture, domestic labor, and in small family businesses. Because of deteriorating economic conditions, the number of working street children and child beggars may be greater now than it was 10 years ago. Many child beggars are forced to beg by their parents. Some working children are victims of physical, verbal, and sexual abuse in the workplace and are exposed to hazardous chemicals and dangerous working conditions.

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
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<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2005:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2005:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
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<tr>
<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>4/20/2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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2269 Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Amman, *reporting May 26, 2005.*
2274 Ibid.
2279 Ibid.
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Jordanian law sets the minimum working age at 16 years, except for apprentices, and the minimum age for hazardous jobs at 18 years. Pursuant to the 2004 amendments to the labor code, children under 18 years shall not perform work with mechanically operated equipment; with oil and gas machines; requiring scuba diving equipment; in construction in which the worker is exposed to noise, vibration, high air pressure, radiation, or dust; underground; and in offices, hotels, restaurants, or nightclubs. Minors must be given a rest break after 4 hours of work and may not work more than 6 hours per day during weekends and holidays or at night. Before hiring a minor, a prospective employer must obtain a guardian’s written approval, the minor’s birth certificate, and a health certificate.

Compulsory labor is prohibited, by the Constitution, except in circumstances of war or natural disaster. The law prohibits voluntary enlistment into the government armed forces for children less than 16 years, although children may be enlisted as cadets at 15. A child may be legally recruited into the armed forces at 17. The law provides for the death penalty for anyone who uses a minor in the production, transportation, sale, or purchase of drugs. Jordanian law specifically prohibits trafficking in children. It is illegal to induce a girl under 20 to engage in prostitution or to entice any child under 15 to commit sodomy. Sanctions for these offenses include imprisonment for up to 5 years.

The Child Labor Unit (CLU) of the MOL is primarily responsible for monitoring child labor, collecting and analyzing data, and reviewing and ensuring the enforcement of existing legislation. The MOL’s inspection division, which comprises 72 inspectors, is mandated to

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2283 ILO Committee of Experts, Direct Request CEACR comments on 182.
2289 ILO Committee of Experts, Direct Request CEACR comments on 182.
inspect all registered establishments with more than five employees.\textsuperscript{2292} The government, however, has provided little training on child labor, and inspectors generally try to remedy the situation through informal mechanisms, including referring some adult family members to job training programs.\textsuperscript{2293} According to the National Council for Family Affairs (NCFA) and the ILO Committee of Experts, current labor inspection mechanisms are inadequate in terms of their frequency, scope, outreach, and quality of reporting. Most working children work in establishments employing five workers or less, over which labor inspectors have no jurisdiction.\textsuperscript{2294}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The National Agenda for the years 2006-2015, "The Jordan We Strive For," was passed in late 2006. It includes the elimination of the worst forms of child labor as a major goal.\textsuperscript{2295} The Ministry of Labor launched an aggressive media campaign in June 2006 to raise awareness of child labor issues to discourage the employment of minors.\textsuperscript{2296} The Jordanian National Plan of Action (NPA) for Children 2004-2013 was launched by King Abdullah II and Queen Rania in October 2004.\textsuperscript{2297} Among other goals, the NPA aims to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in Jordan by 2014 and to decrease the number of child laborers under 16 years.\textsuperscript{2298}

USDOL is supporting a USD 1 million ILO-IPEC project to combat child labor in the urban services sector in Jordan, which is being undertaken with the cooperation of the Ministries of Labor, Education, and Social Development. The program aims to withdraw 3,000 and prevent an additional 500 potential workers from the worst forms of child labor over 5 years; mainstream them into non-formal and formal education programs; provide them with pre-vocational and vocational training; and support them with counseling, health care, and recreational activities.\textsuperscript{2299} Recognizing the link between the lack of education and child labor, the Ministry of Education (MOE) addresses child labor issues in its 2003-2015 Educational Development Plan.\textsuperscript{2300}

\textsuperscript{2292} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Jordan," Section 6d. See ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request CEACR comments on 182*.
\textsuperscript{2293} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Jordan," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{2294} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{2295} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{2297} Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Jordan: Government to Launch Awareness Campaign on Child Labor", IRINnews.org, [online], 2006 [cited November 3, 2006]; available from www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=55387&SelectRegion=Middle_East&Select...
\textsuperscript{2300} ILO-IPEC, *National Program in Jordan, project document*, 26-27.
Kazakhstan

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Most working children in rural areas of Kazakhstan are involved in agriculture. Many children migrate to Kazakhstan during the harvest season to work in the cotton and tobacco industry. Children working in the cotton and tobacco industry suffer from limited rest time, malnutrition, and limited access to health care. In urban areas, the country’s increasingly formalized labor market has led to a decrease in many forms of child work. However, children are still found begging, loading freight, delivering goods in markets, washing cars, and working

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2303 U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kazakhstan," Section 5. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Initial reports of Kazakhstan, CRC/C/41/Add.13, paras. 257 and 267.
2305 Ibid.
2311 Ibid., ix.
at gas stations. Reports also indicate a rise in the number of children exploited in prostitution and pornography in urban areas. Police estimate that one-third of all street prostitutes in Kazakhstan are minors. Children working as domestic servants are often less visible to law enforcement officials and thus are vulnerable to exploitation. The trafficking of children is a problem in Kazakhstan.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years. However, children may work at age 15 with parental consent if they have completed their compulsory education. With parental consent, children 14 years or older may perform light work, if the work does not interfere with school attendance or pose a health threat. Children under 18 are prohibited from working in dangerous conditions, overtime, or at night. Children between 16 and 18 may not work more than 36 hours per week. Children between 15 and 16 years (or 14 and 16 years during non-school periods) may not work more than 24 hours per week. The labor authorities determine a list of dangerous occupations in which children are prohibited from working.

The constitution prohibits forced labor, except under a court mandate or in a state of emergency. The minimum age for compulsory military service is 18. The law prohibits the involvement of minors in the creation and advertisement of erotic products. Procuring a minor to engage in prostitution, begging, or gambling is illegal and punishable by up to 3 years of imprisonment. The keeping of brothels for prostitution and pimping is outlawed and punishable by 2 to 5 years of imprisonment. New laws enacted in 2006 impose a 10-year prison sentence if a minor is involved in trafficking and a 12-year sentence if persons are trafficked abroad.

The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws and imposing fines for administrative offenses. The Ministry of the Interior is responsible for investigating criminal child labor offenses. The Ministry of Labor has 400 labor inspectors. Each of the country’s

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2319 Ibid., Sections 46-49.
2324 Ibid.
2326 Ibid., Section 6d.
16 districts has labor inspectors. They are empowered to levy fines for labor violations and refer criminal cases to law enforcement authorities. \textsuperscript{2327} Mandatory licensing laws for tourist agencies were enforced by the Procurator’s Office, and inspections were conducted throughout the year to uncover agencies involved in trafficking. \textsuperscript{2328} However, the U.S. Department of State reports that endemic corruption and bribery of law enforcement officials has hampered anti-trafficking efforts.\textsuperscript{2329}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

A National Plan to Combat Trafficking covering the years 2006-2008 was developed by an interagency working group including the Ministries of Justice, Internal Affairs, Foreign Affairs, Education and Science, Labor and Social Welfare, Culture, Information and Sports; the Procurator General; and the Commission on Women and Family. \textsuperscript{2330} The Children for Kazakhstan National Program (2006-2011) was approved during the 2006. It aims to create a comprehensive national child protection strategy. \textsuperscript{2331}

The government, the IOM, and 19 local NGOs have cooperated on an anti-trafficking information campaign, and the Ministry of Justice has distributed a booklet for Kazakh migrant workers and maintained a hotline for victims. \textsuperscript{2332} In cooperation with the IOM and other NGOs, the government is also participating in several other awareness programs to prevent trafficking, prosecute offenders, and assist victims. \textsuperscript{2333} Local governments have supported and cooperated with NGOs to provide services to victims. \textsuperscript{2334} Public and private media have been required to broadcast government-sponsored anti-trafficking public service announcements. \textsuperscript{2335} The Ministry of Education has stated that anti-trafficking components are included in the curriculum of all high schools and colleges. \textsuperscript{2336}

\textsuperscript{2328} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kazakhstan," Section 5.
\textsuperscript{2330} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kazakhstan," Section 5.
\textsuperscript{2333} IOM, *Combating Trafficking in Persons in Central Asia: Prevention, Prosecution, Protection (ASPPP)*, accessed October 22, 2006; available from http://www.iom.int/iomwebsite/Project/ServletSearchProject?Category=1%3BCounter-Trafficking&region=0%3B%28any%29&title=&keyWord=&resultPerPage=25&event=search&search=Search. See also IOM, *Prevention of Trafficking in Persons and Protection (PTPP) of Victims of Trafficking From, To, Through and Within Kazakhstan*, accessed October 22, 2006; available from http://www.iom.int/iomwebsite/Project/ServletSearchProject&Category=1%3BCounter-Trafficking&region=0%3B%28any%29&country=0%3B%28any%29&title=&keyWord=&resultPerPage=25&event=search&search=Search.
\textsuperscript{2334} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Kazakhstan."
\textsuperscript{2335} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kazakhstan," Section 5.
\textsuperscript{2336} Ibid.
USDOL is funding a 3-year USD 2.5 million ILO-IPEC project that will build the capacity of national institutions to eliminate the worst forms of child labor as well as share information and experiences in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.\footnote{ILO-IPEC, CAR Capacity Building Project, project document, vii.}
Kenya

In 2000, approximately 34.7 percent of boys and 30.4 percent of girls 5 to 14 were working in Kenya. Children work in the informal sector and with their families—in businesses as well as in agriculture. Children work in commercial and subsistence agriculture, and work with their families on tea, coffee, rice, and sugar plantations. Children work in herding and in fisheries.

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

| Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000: | 32.5% |
| Minimum age of work: | 10 |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | 14 |
| Free public education: | Yes |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004: | 111% |
| Net primary enrollment rate in 2004: | 76% |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000: | 74.9% |
| As of 2003 percentage of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | 75% |
| Ratified Convention 138: | 4/9/1979 |
| Ratified Convention 182: | 5/7/2001 |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | Yes |

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

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2344 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
2347 Ibid.
2349 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
Children also work in domestic service, construction, transport, quarries, and mines, including gold mines. Street children work in the informal sector.\textsuperscript{2351}

Children are reported to engage in prostitution in bars, discos, brothels, massage parlors, and on the streets. While the majority of children exploited in prostitution are between 13 and 17, children as young as 9 are reported to be involved.\textsuperscript{2352} Many girls who hawk or beg during the day reportedly engage in prostitution at night. In the agricultural sector, girls are sometimes forced to provide sexual services in order to obtain plantation work. Sudanese and Somali refugee children are also alleged to be involved in prostitution in Kenya.\textsuperscript{2353} The growth of the tourism industry has been accompanied by an increase in children’s involvement in prostitution.\textsuperscript{2354}

In 2006, UNICEF released a study on sex tourism and the commercial sexual exploitation of children along Kenya’s coast. The report found that in the coastal towns of Malindi, Mombasa, Kalifi, and Diana, up to 15,000 girls or up to 30 percent of all children 12 to 18 years living in these areas engage in “casual” prostitution.\textsuperscript{2355} It found that up to 3,000 additional boys and girls were engaged in prostitution on a full-time, year-round basis, and that 45 percent of girls involved in prostitution and sex tourism were between 12 and 13 when they first engaged in transactional sex.\textsuperscript{2356}

Kenyan boys between 15 and 18 years are trafficked to the Middle East for labor exploitation.\textsuperscript{2357} Within Kenya, children are trafficked for domestic service, street vending, agricultural work, and commercial sexual exploitation. Kenya’s coastal area is a known destination for trafficked children to be exploited in sex tourism.\textsuperscript{2358} Poverty, the death of one or both parents, and self-interest may contribute to a family’s decision to place a child with better-off relatives, friends, or acquaintances, who may end up trafficking and/or exploiting the child. Child trafficking in Kenya occurs mainly through personal and familial networks.\textsuperscript{2359}

\textsuperscript{2351} ILO-IPEC, \textit{Supporting the National Plan of Action for the Elimination of Child Labor, project document}, vi, 42. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{2352} ECPAT International CSEC Database, \textit{Kenya}, accessed October 7, 2006; available from http://www.ecpat.net. See also U.S. Embassy- Nairobi official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 11, 2006.
\textsuperscript{2353} ECPAT International CSEC Database, \textit{Kenya}.
\textsuperscript{2354} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Sections 5 and 6d.
\textsuperscript{2356} U.S. Embassy- Nairobi, reporting, December 20, 2006.
\textsuperscript{2358} U.S. Department of State, "Kenya (Tier 2 Watch List)," in \textit{Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006}, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65989.htm. See also U.S. Embassy- Nairobi official, E-mail communication, August 11, 2006.
\textsuperscript{2359} U.S. Embassy- Nairobi official, E-mail communication, August 11, 2006.
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years.2360 The law on minimum age does not apply to children who work in agriculture or apprenticeships.2361 The law, however, prohibits all forms of child labor that are hazardous, exploitive, or would prevent children under 16 years from attending school.2362

The Kenyan Constitution prohibits slavery, bonded and forced labor, and servitude, including by children.2363 The law prohibits the procurement of girls under 21 for the purpose of unlawful sexual relations,2364 the commercial sexual exploitation of children, and the transportation of children for sale.2365 On July 14, 2006, President Kibaki signed into law the Sexual Offenses Act, which specifically criminalizes child trafficking, trafficking for sexual exploitation, child prostitution, child pornography and sex tourism, rape and defilement. For child trafficking, the minimum penalty is 10 years of imprisonment plus a fine, and for trafficking for sexual exploitation, the minimum penalty is 15 years of imprisonment, a fine, or both. If a girl under 14 years is raped, the perpetrator is considered to have committed the lesser offense of “defilement” under Kenyan law. The new law also provides harsher penalties for defilement than it does for rape.2366 The law also prohibits children under 18 years from being recruited into the military and holds the government responsible for protecting, rehabilitating, and reintegrating children involved in armed conflict into society.2367

The Ministry of Labor and Human Resource Development is responsible for enforcing child labor laws, but, according to the U.S. Department of State, the Ministry’s enforcement of the minimum age law continues to be nominal.2368

The police anti-trafficking unit and the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) are responsible for combating trafficking, but, according to the U.S. Department of State, are not yet effective.2369

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2366 Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Nairobi official, E-mail communication, August 11, 2006.
Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Kenya’s National Development Plan for 2002-2008 recognizes child labor as a problem and calls for an evaluation of the impact of child labor on the individual and the country, as well as its implications on the quality of the future labor force.2370

In February 2006, the government renewed the 3-year mandate for the National Steering Committee on the Elimination of Child Labor. An Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee on Child Labor chaired by the vice president is responsible for setting general policy.2371 In December 2006, the Ministry of Home Affairs, in collaboration with the Offices of the President and Vice President and the Ministries of Labor, Education, and Tourism, established a National Steering Committee to combat human trafficking. Several ministries continued to implement trafficking education, awareness, and inspection program for the country’s 68 foreign employment agencies.2372

The Government of Kenya continues to participate in a 4-year, USD 5 million Project of Support to the Kenya Timebound Program on the Elimination of Child Labor funded by USDOL and implemented by ILO-IPEC. The project aims to withdraw 15,000 children and prevent 7,000 children from exploitive labor in domestic service, commercial sexual exploitation, commercial and subsistence agriculture, fishing, herding, and informal-sector street work.2373 The government collaborated with ILO-IPEC on the USD 5.3 million, regional project, Building the Foundations for Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Anglophone Africa, funded by USDOL. This project withdrew a total of 6611 children and prevented 8061 from exploitive labor in five countries, including Kenya.2374 The Government of Kenya also collaborates on the 4-year, USD 14.5 million Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together (KURET) Project funded by USDOL and implemented by World Vision, in partnership with the International Rescue Committee and the Academy for Educational Development. The KURET Project aims to withdraw or prevent a total of 30,600 children from exploitive labor in HIV/AIDS-affected areas of these four countries through the provision of educational services.2375 Kenya also participates in the 5-year USDOL-funded Reducing Child Labor through Education (CIRCLE 1 and 2) global projects implemented by Winrock International through 2008; these projects work with community-based organizations to prevent or reduce exploitive child labor through the provision of education.2376

2371 U.S. Embassy- Nairobi official, E-mail communication, August 11, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kenya," Section 6d.
2373 ILO-IPEC, Supporting the National Plan of Action for the Elimination of Child Labor, project document, i, 42-44.
The government also collaborated with ILO-IPEC on the implementation of two other child labor and education projects, including a USD 1.527 million regional project to provide skills training to urban youth, funded by Canada, and a USD 449,408 project to combat child domestic work in Tanzania and Kenya, funded by Sweden.\textsuperscript{2377}

In 2006, the ECPAT Code of Conduct was signed by 30 hotels on the Coast of Kenya, which is the destination of many foreign tourists visiting the country. The Ministry of Tourism and the Kenya Association of Hoteliers and Caterers have expressed their expectation that all hoteliers and other hospitality and tourism firms sign and implement the ECPAT Code of Conduct.\textsuperscript{2378}

Also in 2006, the government launched a national campaign to end violence against children, including child labor, trafficking, and sexual abuse. The initiative is being spearheaded by the Children’s Department, in collaboration with representatives of UNICEF, NGOs, religious groups, and the private sector, and aims to raise USD 1.4 million to protect children.\textsuperscript{2380} The government has provided shelter and medical services to street children who were involved in commercial sexual exploitation, and it established District Advisory Children’s Centers throughout the country to provide counseling, educational services, medical care, and fostering to orphans and vulnerable children who are at risk of becoming victims of trafficking.\textsuperscript{2381} In 2006, the government worked with the IOM to institutionalize its efforts to fight human trafficking, and the Ministry of Home Affairs was charged with leading the Anti-Trafficking Steering Committee and the Task Force for drafting a National Action Plan on Trafficking. The Child Protection Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs received funding to hire 160 new children’s officers, most of whom will be posted to the field.\textsuperscript{2382}

\begin{flushleft}
\textit{Technical Cooperation Project Summary: Community-Based Innovations to Reduce Child Labor through Education I and II (CIRCLE I and II).}
\textsuperscript{2377} ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.
\end{flushleft}
Kiribati

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

The U.S. State Department reports that child prostitution is a problem in Kiribati. A study conducted in 2005 described the commercial sexual exploitation of young girls by crew members from foreign fishing vessels who give girls cash, food, or other goods in exchange for sexual services.2385

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

No changes have been recorded regarding child labor laws and enforcement since the last reporting period in Kiribati.*

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Kiribati to address exploitive child labor.

* For more information, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor’s 2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor.

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The Kyrgyz Republic

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 1998, approximately 10.2 percent of boys and 8.1 percent of girls ages 7 to 14 were working in The Kyrgyz Republic. Children work selling goods (such as newspapers, cigarettes, candy, alcohol, and gasoline), loading and unloading goods, collecting aluminum and bottles, begging, cleaning and repairing shoes, and washing cars. Some children also work in transportation and construction. The UN estimates that 7,000 children are working in Bishkek. A 2003 UNICEF-supported survey of 207 street and working children in Bishkek found that up to 90 percent of those children did not attend school at all. In southern rural

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Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

| Percentage of children 7-14 estimated as working in 1998: | 9.2% |
| Minimum age of work: | 16 |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | 9 years or until age 14 |
| Free public education: | Yes |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002: | 101% |
| Net primary enrollment rate in 2002: | 89% |
| Percent of children 7-14 attending school in 1998: | 91.6% |
| Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | Unavailable |
| Ratified Convention 138: | 3/31/1992 |
| Ratified Convention 182: | 5/10/2004 |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | Yes, associated |

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2389 Ibid.
2391 Ibid.
2392 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
2396 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
areas, reports indicate that children work in coal mines and in brick making. There were also reports of children mining near uranium waste dumps.

Children are alleged to be taken out of school to harvest cotton. Children also work on commercial tobacco farms. Some schools have reportedly required students to participate in the tobacco harvest in fields located on school grounds. Proceeds from the harvest are collected by the schools and do not go to the children. Children are also found working on family farms and in family enterprises such as selling products at roadside kiosks. ILO reports indicate that a large number of children from rural areas are sent to urban areas to live with wealthier relatives and to work as domestic servants.

Children are vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation in urban areas throughout the country. Children engaged in prostitution are primarily girls between 11 and 16. It has been asserted that at least 20 percent of prostitutes in Bishkek were minors in 2000. The Kyrgyz Republic is considered a country of origin and transit for trafficked children. There are reports of children being trafficked for sexual exploitation and forced labor. The trafficking of Kyrgyz boys to Russia and Kazakhstan for the purpose of sexual exploitation occurs. The internal trafficking of children for sexual exploitation and labor from rural areas to Bishkek and Osh has been reported.

### Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law establishes the minimum age for basic employment as 16, except in limited circumstances. Limited light work is permitted at age 14. The maximum work hours for

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2400 UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, *Kyrgyzstan: Child Labour Remains Rife*.  
2401 Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 6d.  
2402 Ibid. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *NGO Commentaries*, 27.  
2403 Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 6d.  
2406 UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *NGO Commentaries*, 27.  
2409 Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 6d.  
2410 Ibid. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties: Kyrgyzstan*, para. 70.
children ages 14 and 15 are 5 per day and for children ages 16 and 17 are 7 per day. The employment of persons under 18 is banned in certain industries including oil and gas, mining and prospecting, food, entertainment, and machine building.\textsuperscript{2412} Children studying in educational establishments are forbidden from participating in agricultural or other work not related to their schooling.\textsuperscript{2413} The law penalizes parents who restrict their children’s access to schooling, but it is not strictly enforced, especially in rural areas.\textsuperscript{2414} The penalty for preventing a child from attending school ranges from a public reprimand to 1 year of forced labor.\textsuperscript{2415}

Both the Constitution and the law prohibit forced labor, including by children, under most circumstances.\textsuperscript{2416} The minimum age for recruitment to active military service is age 18; however, boys age 17 may volunteer for military schools.\textsuperscript{2417} Prostitution is not illegal, but the operation of brothels, pimping, and recruiting persons into prostitution is punishable by up to 5 years in jail.\textsuperscript{2418} A lack of legal regulation and oversight makes prostitution an ongoing problem.\textsuperscript{2419} The law prohibits trafficking in persons and imposes punishments of up to 20 years imprisonment.\textsuperscript{2420} The law grants immunity from prosecution to victims of trafficking who cooperate with authorities.\textsuperscript{2421}

The General Procurator’s Office and the State Labor Inspectorate are responsible for enforcing child labor laws, but, since many children work in the informal sector and small and medium-sized business that do not have employment contracts, it is difficult to determine their adherence to the law. The Federation of Trade Unions also has the right to carry out child labor inspections when it receives a complaint.\textsuperscript{2422} The Office of the Ombudsman has a special department dealing with the rights of minors. It has the authority to order other agencies to deliver information or conduct investigations.\textsuperscript{2423} The U.S. Department of State reports that child labor laws were not adequately enforced and that the Labor Inspectorate only conducts compliance checks at large industrial sites where child labor is less likely to occur.\textsuperscript{2424}

The Interior Ministry has a special anti-trafficking police unit.\textsuperscript{2425} Prosecution is difficult in trafficking cases due to the reluctance of victims to file charges. Law enforcement is hampered

\textsuperscript{2412} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{2413} UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties: Kyrgyzstan, para. 340.
\textsuperscript{2415} UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties: Kyrgyzstan, para. 67.
\textsuperscript{2419} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 5.
\textsuperscript{2420} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{2421} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic."
\textsuperscript{2422} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{2424} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Kyrgyz Republic," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{2425} Ibid., Section 5.
by widespread corruption. Victims reported that local police, immigration officers, and airport security officials often cooperated with highly organized trafficking operations. Efforts are being made to eliminate government corruption as it relates to trafficking. In February 2006, fines for government officials that violate visa rules for foreigners were increased.

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

In June 2006, the Kyrgyz Government adopted the code “On Children.” It includes sections on children’s rights, freedoms, and the elimination of the worst forms of child labor.

With assistance from the IOM, the government now issues new forgery-resistant passports intended to reduce incidents of human trafficking in the Kyrgyz Republic. An IOM-sponsored program involves strengthening the capacity of local NGOs to assist and reintegrate victims of trafficking. Office space has been provided by local governments for anti-trafficking NGOs. The government has distributed brochures and booklets for migrant workers about the threat of trafficking. Government-run media outlets broadcast programs about trafficking.

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic is participating in a USD 2.5 million USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC sub-regional project that will enhance the capacity of national institutions to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in the Kyrgyz Republic and share information and experiences across Central Asia.

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2426 Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy-Bishkek, Email Communication to USDOL official, July 24, 2007.
2430 IOM, *Development of NGOs Capacity to Provide Assistance to Victims of Trafficking in the Kyrgyz Republic (NCPA)*, [online] [cited June 15, 2005].
2432 Ibid.
Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Working children are more prevalent in poor rural areas and are more likely to come from large families. The proportion of working children 10 to 14 years has been found to be highest in North Lebanon. Children work under hazardous conditions in several sectors, including metal works, construction, automobile repair, equipment installation and maintenance, painting, street work, and seasonal agriculture. In 2000, a government assessment estimated that

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002:</td>
<td>103%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2002:</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* In practice, must pay registration and other fees.

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2441 Ibid.
25,000 children 7 to 14 were working in tobacco cultivation; the majority of whom worked on family enterprises and were unpaid.\textsuperscript{2447} Refugee children are often forced to leave school at an early age to go to work.\textsuperscript{2448} Non-Lebanese children, particularly boys from Palestine and Syria, constitute approximately 10 percent of children 10 to 14 years who work in the formal sector,\textsuperscript{2449} but they account for approximately 85 percent of children working on the street.\textsuperscript{2450} The most common types of street work are selling goods, shoe polishing, and washing car windshields.\textsuperscript{2451}

Child prostitution, including situations in which girls have been forced into prostitution by their own families, has been reported.\textsuperscript{2452} Forty-seven percent of working street children who participated in a 2004 study conducted by the Ministry of Labor (MOL) were forced by adults to work long hours on the streets.\textsuperscript{2453} While children are not known to participate in armed militia attacks, they continue to be involved in militia training and rallies by groups such as Hizbollah and they are known to be involved with various armed groups operating in the country.\textsuperscript{2454}

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years.\textsuperscript{2455} Youth may not work more than 6 hours per day, must have a 13-hour period of rest between workdays, and may not work between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. In addition, youth 14 to 18 must pass a medical examination to ensure that they can undertake the work in which they are to be engaged, and the prospective employer must request the child’s identity card to verify his or her age.\textsuperscript{2456} Penalties for non-compliance with provisions of the Labor Code, including the prohibitions relating to child labor, include

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\textsuperscript{2447} The survey was conducted by the Consultation and Research Institute in Lebanon with the support of the ILO between July and September 2000. See ILO-IPEC, *Child Labour on Tobacco Plantations: A Rapid Assessment*, viii, 7-8.


\textsuperscript{2450} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Lebanon," Section 6d.

\textsuperscript{2451} U. S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Lebanon." See also U.S. Embassy- Beirut, reporting, August 31, 2005.


\textsuperscript{2453} U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Lebanon,” Section 6d.


\textsuperscript{2455} *Code du travail*, Article 22.

fines and up to 1 to 3 months of imprisonment. Vocational training establishments may be permitted to employ children who have reached 13 years by receiving approval from both the Ministry of Labor and the Public Health Services.

Youth under 17 are prohibited from working in dangerous environments that threaten their life, health, or morals. Industrial work and work, such as, mining and quarrying, manufacturing or selling alcohol; work with chemicals or explosives; demolition work; work in tanneries or with machinery; street vending; begging; domestic service; and pornography, is not permitted for children under 16. There are no laws specifically prohibiting trafficking or forced labor; however, other laws are used to address such offenses. The Penal Code prohibits deprivation of personal freedom. The minimum age for voluntary recruitment into the armed forces is 18 years. Prostitution is prohibited. Persons who threaten, intimidates or forces a child into prostitution may be sentenced to 3 to 15 years’ imprisonment.

The MOL is responsible for the enforcement of child labor laws, but, according to the U.S. Department of State, the Ministry does not apply these laws rigorously. In 2005, the most recent date for which information is available, the MOL had a Labor Inspection Team composed of 97 labor inspectors nationwide, but the Child Labor Unit lacked adequate personnel and resources, which limited its ability to investigate conditions in small or informal establishments. In 2006, the Ministry of Justice, the agency responsible for migrant workers, trained 32 officers in effective strategies for combating trafficking during a 2-week course that was held in conjunction with the IOM.

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2459 Code du travail, Article 23.

2460 Ibid.


2463 Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Global Report 2004."


Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

A National Policy and Program Framework (NPPF) to eliminate child labor in Lebanon has been developed by the Child Labor Unit of the MOL in collaboration with the National Steering Committee on Child Labor. The NPPF outlines effective strategies to eliminate child labor in priority sectors within an established timeframe, using common measures of progress and a plan for coordination among all actors. The MOL is implementing the NPPF strategy to combat child labor in cooperation with ILO-IPEC and the National Council for Children. The government is continuing efforts to counter trafficking in persons, including signing a Protocol of Understanding with the Sri Lankan Ministry of Labor to create centers to educate domestic workers destined for Lebanon on workers’ rights and protections under Lebanese law.

The Government of Lebanon is participating in a USDOL-funded USD 3 million regional project implemented by ILO-IPEC that aims to promote the collection and analysis of child labor information; strengthen enforcement and monitoring mechanisms; build capacity; raise awareness on the negative consequences of child labor; and withdraw 3,400 children and prevent 3,500 from engaging in the worst forms of child labor. The government is also participating in a USD 8 million sub-regional project funded by USDOL and implemented by CHF International to combat child labor through education in Lebanon and Yemen. The project aims to withdraw 4,305 children and prevent 3,195 children from entering exploitive labor.

2468 ILO-IPEC, Consolidating Action against the Worst Forms of Child Labour, project document, 8.
2471 ILO-IPEC, Consolidating Action against the Worst Forms of Child Labour, project document, 28, 35-38, 49.
2472 CHF International, Alternatives to Combat Child Labor through Education and Sustainable Services in the Middle East and North Africa (ACCESS-MENA) project document, Silver Spring, MD, January, 2007, cover page, 12.
Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Available information on the occupations in which children work is anecdotal, but suggests that jobs performed by children tend to be gender specific. Boys as young as 4 are employed as livestock herders in the highlands, either for their family or through an arrangement where they are hired out by their parents. Boys also work as load bearers, car washers, and taxi fare collectors. Girls are employed as domestic servants. Some teenage children, primarily girls, are involved in prostitution. UNICEF and the Government of Lesotho (GOL) believe that the number of individuals under the age of 18 who are involved in prostitution is small, but increasing.

Anecdotal evidence indicates that children are trafficked within Lesotho for forced labor and sexual exploitation. Boys may be trafficked, sometimes with the permission of their families, for

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**Lesotho**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children ages 5-14 estimated as working in</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
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<td>Free public education:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

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2476 Ibid.
2479 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
2482 Ibid.
2485 Ibid., Section 5
cattle herding, domestic service, or commercial sexual exploitation. Girls may be trafficked internally for domestic labor and commercial sexual exploitation. According to a 2003 report from the International Organization for Migration, Lesotho children are trafficked into South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Zambia for sexual exploitation.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years, although children between 13 and 15 may perform light work in a home-based environment, technical school, or other institution approved by the government. Also exempt from the minimum age is work performed by a child of any age in a private undertaking of their own family, so long as there are no more than 5 other employees, and each is a member of the child’s family. Although there is no specific listing of work that is likely to jeopardize the health, safety or morals of children, the law in general prohibits employment of children in work that is harmful to their health or development. It sets restrictions on night work by children, and also restricts work by children in mines and quarries. Persons under the age of 16 may not work for more than 4 consecutive hours without a break of at least one hour, and may not work more than 8 hours in any one day. Each employer in an industrial undertaking is required to keep a register of all its employees, including those under the age of 18. The law identifies the “protection of children and young persons” as a principle of state policy.

The law identifies freedom from forced labor and slavery as a fundamental right available to all people. The law further defines forced labor and makes it illegal. The law states that there is no compulsory military service, and the minimum age for voluntary enrollment is 18. Although there are no specific laws that prohibit trafficking in persons, it is illegal to procure

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2492 Ibid., Chapter 2, Section 9


or attempt to procure a women or girl to become a prostitute within Lesotho, or to leave Lesotho so that she may be a prostitute elsewhere.\textsuperscript{2496}

The law sets a penalty of up to 3 months in prison for an industrial employer who employs an underage child or for an employer who fails to keep a register of all employees who are children and young persons (under age 18). The law also dictates imprisonment of up to 6 months for persons who employ a child or young person in violation of restrictions related to dangerous work, required rest periods, parental rights to refuse work for their children, and children’s rights to return each night to the home of their parents or guardians. The use of forced labor—adult or child—may result in up to 1 year in prison.\textsuperscript{2497} The procurement of a girl for prostitution is punishable by a maximum penalty of up to 6 years in prison.\textsuperscript{2498}

The law provides broad powers for the Labor Commissioner and subordinates to perform workplace inspections.\textsuperscript{2499} The Ministry of Employment and Labor has 24 trained inspectors who are responsible for uncovering all violations of the Labor Code, not only those related to child labor. Each quarter a random sample of employers is inspected.\textsuperscript{2500} The Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (CEACR) has noted that little information is forthcoming from the GOL on the effectiveness of its enforcement efforts, and that general concerns have been raised by others to suggest that the provisions of the law related to children may not be adequately enforced. Little information exists on the enforcement of laws related to the unconditional worst forms of child labor. The CEACR has asked the Government “to provide information on the practical application of the penalties laid down in the relevant provisions.”\textsuperscript{2501}

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Lesotho finalized a discussion document on child labor and initiated talks to draft a national child labor action plan.\textsuperscript{2502} The government is also working with ILO-IPEC to implement a USDOL-funded, USD 5 million regional child labor project in Southern Africa. Activities in Lesotho include research on the nature and incidence of exploitive child labor and efforts to build the capacity of the government to address child labor issues.\textsuperscript{2503} The American

\textsuperscript{2496} CEACR, \textit{Worst forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182); Lesotho (ratification: 2001); Direct request, CEACR 2004/75\textsuperscript{th} Session}, [online] [cited January 22, 2007], Article 3(para 3); available from http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/index.cfm?lang=EN.

\textsuperscript{2497} Government of Lesotho, \textit{Labour Code Order}, Sections 3, 7, 124-129. See also CEACR, \textit{Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138); Lesotho (ratification: 2001); Direct request, CEACR 2004/75\textsuperscript{th} Session}.

\textsuperscript{2498} CEACR, \textit{Worst forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182); Lesotho (ratification: 2001); Direct request, CEACR 2004/75\textsuperscript{th} Session}, Article 7 (para 1).

\textsuperscript{2499} Ibid., Article 5.


\textsuperscript{2501} CEACR, \textit{Worst forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182); Lesotho (ratification: 2001); Direct request, CEACR 2004/75\textsuperscript{th} Session}, Articles 5 and 6.


Institutes for Research, with the support of the Government of Lesotho, is implementing another regional, USDOL-funded project. This USD 9 million project intends to prevent 10,000 children from engaging in exploitive labor in five countries, including Lesotho, by improving quality of and access to basic education.\(^{2504}\)

\(^{2504}\) Notice of Award: Cooperative Agreement
Liberia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In rural areas, Liberian children work on family subsistence farms and rubber plantations. In urban areas, children work as market vendors or street hawkers. Children are also engaged in mining, rock crushing, fishing, and transporting loads of sand. Many children

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000: Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work: 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory: 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education: Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2000: 99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2000: 66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000: Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138: No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182: 6/2/2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country: No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

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2511 Ibid.
2516 Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization for Administration official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 26, 2006.
2517 Touching Humanity in Need of Kindness official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 26, 2006.
2518 International Rescue Committee official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 26, 2006.
are employed in domestic service and some are forced by adults to engage in begging and theft.

Child prostitution is an ongoing problem. There are some reports that girls are involved in prostitution to pay school fees and support their families. Liberia is a country of origin, and may be a transit or destination country for regionally trafficked children. Of the few recorded instances of trafficking, all but one occurred within Liberia’s borders. Trafficked children are typically subjected to forced labor in the form of domestic service, agricultural labor, and street vending.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law prohibits the employment of children under 16 during school hours. Children under 16, however, may work for wages if the employer can demonstrate that they are attending school regularly and have a basic education. The law states however that labor recruiters may hire children between 16 and 18 for occupations approved by the Ministry of Labor.

The law prohibits forced and bonded labor and slavery in Liberia. The law criminalizes human trafficking and establishes sentences for traffickers ranging from 1 year to life in prison. Liberian law also prohibits any person under 16 from enlisting in the armed forces.

The Ministry of Labor and the Ministry of Justice have a mandate to monitor compliance with Liberia’s labor laws, including child labor. According to the U.S. Department of State, the government lacks the resources to enforce existing labor laws.

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2522 Ibid.


2524 U.S. Embassy-Monrovia, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 1, 2007.


2534 U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Liberia," Sections 5, 6d, and 6e.
Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In partnership with the Government of Liberia and with funding from USDOL, the International Rescue Committee is implementing a USD 6 million Child Labor Education Initiative project in Sierra Leone and Liberia. The project aims to withdraw a total of 8,243 children and prevent a total of 21,647 children from exploitive child labor by improving access to and quality of education.\(^\text{2535}\)

\(^\text{2535}\) International Rescue Committee, *Countering Youth and Child Labour Through Education (CYCLE)*, 29.
Macedonia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children work on the streets in Macedonia, begging for money, food and clothing; performing minor services, such as washing car windows; and selling cigarettes and other small items. Children also work in the informal sector on family farms (though usually not during school hours). Children sometimes sell small items in bars or restaurants at night. Street children are predominantly of the minority Roma ethnic group, but also include ethnic Albanians, Turks and Macedonians. Romani children are forced by Romani adults to beg for money as a part of an organized group at busy intersections, street corners, and in restaurants.

During the reporting period, there was an apparent downward trend in trafficking activities in Macedonia. The Ministry of Interior registered seven cases and the Ministry of Labor reported 23 internally trafficked “potential victims,” 16 of whom were minors. However, it is unknown what percentage of overall trafficking victims are registered by the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Labor.

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>Minimum age of work:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age at which education is compulsory:</td>
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<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
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<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Must pay for books and other related supplies.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2543 U.S. Embassy- Skopje, reporting, August 26, 2005.
Ministry of Labor. Although Macedonia is not considered to have a significant incidence of sex tourism involving children, a local NGO reported 39 instances when children were used as juvenile prostitutes. Girls and young women from families with social and economic problems, as well as Roma women and children, were among the groups in Macedonia considered to be at the highest risk of becoming victims of trafficking.2547

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15.2552 The employment of minors in work that is “detrimental to their health or morality” is prohibited.2553 Minors are further prohibited from working overtime, working at night between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., or performing work that involves “strenuous physical labor, underground or underwater work or other jobs, which may be harmful or threatening to their health and life.”2554 However, the law allows children to work in film or advertisements with parental consent and after a Ministry inspection of the workplace or children under 14 years to work as an apprentice or in vocational education programs if the work is part of an official education program.2555 Employers who illegally employ minors face a potential fine.2556

The procurement or trade of minors for exploitation is punishable by a mandatory, minimum sentence of 8 years of imprisonment.2557 Penalties for traffickers engaging in sexual exploitation and/or labor exploitation range from a minimum of 4 to a maximum of 15 years imprisonment. Penalties for mediators/organizers of prostitution range from a minimum of a monetary fine to a maximum of 10 years imprisonment. The law provides also for a minimum prison sentence of 8 years for persons who engage in the trafficking of minors or who knowingly engage in sexual relations with a trafficked child.2561 In cases when trafficking cannot be proven due to a lack of evidence, Macedonian law provides for prosecution of perpetrators for mediation in prostitution, an offense that is easier to prove than trafficking.2562

Forced labor is prohibited by the Constitution.2563 Individuals under 18 are prohibited from serving in the armed forces.2564

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2553 Ibid.
2555 U.S. Embassy - Skopje, reporting, August 26, 2005.
2556 Ibid.
2561 U.S. Embassy - Skopje, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 03, 2007.
2562 Ibid.
Enforcement of laws regulating the employment of children is the responsibility of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy. According to the U.S. Department of State, although a legal framework is in place, there has been little practical implementation of child labor laws and policies. The State Labor Inspectorate has not discovered cases of minors working in factories or other businesses in Macedonia. The Government’s Ombudsman’s Office investigates violations of citizens’ legal rights and has a special unit to investigate violations of children’s rights, but had not received a child labor related case as of February 2007.

The Government of Macedonia increased the number of trafficking cases prosecuted in 2006, the most recent year for which this information is available, to 48 cases from 35 cases in 2005. Over 50 traffickers, i.e. half of all suspects, were convicted in 2006, with sentences between 8 months and 13 years’ imprisonment, including victim restitution and confiscation of property. Two police officers were found guilty of trafficking-related crimes and received sentences of 18 months and two years, respectively. A Special Prosecutor’s Office in the Office of Organized Crime in the Ministry of Justice was created in 2005 to improve trafficking enforcement.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

A National Plan of Action and Strategy to combat trafficking was adopted in March 2006. In cooperation with the government, UNICEF is conducting public awareness raising campaigns on street children and child trafficking. ILO-IPEC is implementing a USD 2.2 million, regional project, funded by the German government, to combat the worst forms of child labor in the stability pact countries, which includes Macedonia. IOM and local NGOs are implementing various counter-trafficking projects in cooperation with the government, including the anti-TIP information project “Open Your Eyes” and support for the toll free trafficking SOS number. Border Police officers participated actively in USAID sponsored training, especially as part of the Transnational Referral Mechanism project administered by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development.

2566 Ibid.
2567 U.S. Embassy- Skopje, E-mail communication, August 03, 2007.
2570 U.S. Embassy- Skopje, E-mail communication, August 03, 2007.
2571 Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Macedonia."
2574 ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 1, 2007.
2576 U.S. Embassy- Skopje, E-mail communication, August 03, 2007.
The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare operates one center for street children in Skopje. The center is government funded, and also receives international financial support. According to the Ministry of Labor, on average 275 children a month, who were predominantly Roma, had been served by the center in the past 3 years.2578

2578 U.S. Embassy- Skopje, E-mail communication, August 03, 2007.
Madagascar

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 24.8 percent of boys and 23.7 percent of girls ages 6 to 14 were working in Madagascar. In urban areas, it is common for children to work in domestic service. They also work in bars and restaurants; in petty trading; welding and mechanical work; and transporting goods by rickshaw. Children also engage in salt production near the city of Toliara. In coastal areas, children work in fishing, deep sea diving, and in the shrimp industry. In rural areas, children work in agriculture on family subsistence farms, sisal and other plantations; fruit

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<td>24.3%</td>
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<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>134%</td>
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<td>89%</td>
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<td>Percent of children 6-14 attending school in 2001:</td>
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<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
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2585 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.


2587 ILO, *Ratifications by Country*.

2588 Ibid.


2590 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

tree picking; and cattle herding—which is particularly dangerous because of the high incidence of armed cattle theft. 2592

Malagasy children work in mining and quarrying, often alongside their families. Throughout the country and at Ilakaka (one major site in the south), children are involved in mining precious and semi-precious stones, as well as in informal-sector work in and around the mines. Children also work in stone quarries, performing tasks such as breaking and carrying baskets full of stones. Children as young as 5 years are found working at mining sites, and children as young as 3 years work at stone quarries. 2593 The commercial sexual exploitation of children is a problem in most of Madagascar’s urban areas, including the capital city of Antananarivo; also, child sex tourism is common in small coastal towns and villages, 2594 especially in Tamatave, Nosy Be, and Diego Suarez. 2595 Children exploited in prostitution are known to solicit customers on the streets or in nightclubs. 2596

Children in Madagascar are trafficked internally for sexual exploitation and forced labor. 2597 Malagasy children are trafficked for forced labor in gemstone mining, salt production, and loading produce onto trucks. They are trafficked from rural to urban areas for domestic work and prostitution. 2598 There are reports that an active network is trafficking young girls to Antananarivo for prostitution; in some cases, this was facilitated by family members, friends, and taxi and rickshaw drivers. Some of the children engaged in prostitution in coastal cities were forced into it after being recruited in Antananarivo under false pretenses of employment as domestic workers and waitresses. 2599 In Madagascar, the children at the highest risk of being trafficked include young boys and girls for labor, young girls for commercial sexual exploitation, and babies for international adoption. 2600

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The minimum age for employment is 15 years. 2601 The law also prohibits children from engaging in work that is harmful to their health and normal development. 2602 Children under 18

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2592 Ibid., 5-8. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 6d.


2597 U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Madagascar."


years are prohibited from performing work at night, on Sundays, in places that endanger children’s health, safety, or morals, or in excess of 8 hours a day or 40 hours a week. Parents must give their permission for children to work, and before children are hired, a medical examination is required to ensure that the work to be performed does not exceed their capacity. In 2006, the government modified its child labor laws and increased the penalties for violations. Violations can now result in a fine and 1 to 3 years of imprisonment.

Forced or compulsory labor by children is prohibited under the law. The law prohibits engaging in sexual activities of any kind with children under 14, as well as the production and dissemination of pornographic materials showing children. Engaging in sexual activity with children under 14 is punishable by 5 to 10 years of imprisonment and a fine. The use of children in pornography is punishable by 2 to 5 years of imprisonment and a fine, with increased penalties of 3 to 10 years of imprisonment and a higher fine if children under 15 years are involved. The law also prohibits children under 18 years from entering bars, discotheques, and nightclubs. According to the U.S. Department of State, laws against the commercial sexual exploitation of children are inconsistent with respect to age. There is no law that specifically prohibits trafficking in persons; however, traffickers can be prosecuted under laws prohibiting sex tourism, pedophilia, and labor exploitation. Malagasy law sets the age of conscription for military service at 18 years, but contains no provisions regarding the minimum age for enlistment.

The Ministry of Civil Services and Labor is responsible for conducting labor inspections and enforcing laws related to child labor. However, labor inspectors are not responsible for enforcement in rural areas or the informal sector, where most children work, and, according

to the U.S. Department of State, the government’s enforcement of child labor laws in the informal sector was problematic.\textsuperscript{2615} As of the end of 2006, the government employed 77 labor inspectors.\textsuperscript{2616} Provincial Child Labor Monitoring Units based in Antananarivo, Tulear, and Diego Suarez are responsible for tracking children engaged in the worst forms of child labor and are reporting this information to the National Committee to Combat Child Labor, which is comprised of government, NGOs, and civil society representatives.\textsuperscript{2617} In 2006, the government prosecuted at least three foreign nationals for child sex tourism.\textsuperscript{2618}

The Ministry of Justice is responsible for enforcing laws related to trafficking,\textsuperscript{2619} and the President’s Inter-Ministerial Anti-Trafficking Committee is responsible for monitoring the government’s efforts to fight trafficking.\textsuperscript{2620}

Police officers in the capital continued to enforce the law banning children from nightclubs; however, a lack of vehicles prevented police in other areas from enforcing this law.\textsuperscript{2621}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

In 2006, the Government of Madagascar engaged in numerous activities to combat child labor including opening new reintegration centers in Tamatave and Tulear for children engaged in prostitution and forced labor, as well as continuing to operate another reintegration center in Antananarivo.\textsuperscript{2622} In 2006, a number of ministries conducted awareness raising and other activities, which aimed to prevent child prostitution, child sex tourism, child trafficking, and child labor in the country.\textsuperscript{2623} The government and UNICEF also provided technical assistance to child protection networks consisting of government and civil society representatives that provided rehabilitation, psychosocial services, and vocational and skills training to children engaged in forced labor and prostitution.\textsuperscript{2624}

The Government of Madagascar continues to implement its 15-year National Action Plan on Child Labor, which seeks to address child labor by building organizational and technical capacity, strengthening the regulatory and legal frameworks, developing a national education and

\textsuperscript{2615} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{2619} U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, *reporting, March 6, 2007*.
\textsuperscript{2620} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{2621} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Madagascar," Section 6d.
training program for children involved in the worst forms of child labor, and conducting direct action programs. As part of these efforts, the government is collaborating with ILO-IPEC on the implementation of a 4-year, USD 4.75 million Timebound Program funded by USDOL to combat the worst forms of child labor. The Timebound Program aims to withdraw 6,500 children and prevent 3,500 children from exploitive labor through the provision of educational alternatives, including children working in prostitution, domestic work, stone quarrying, mining, and children working under hazardous and unhealthy conditions in the informal sector, including fishing and sisal plantation work. In 2006, the government and the ILO conducted a red card campaign to raise public awareness on child labor, child trafficking, and child protection. The government also collaborates with ILO-IPEC on two francophone Africa regional child labor projects with activities in Madagascar, funded by France for USD 3.6 million and USD 4.9 million.

The President’s Inter-Ministerial Anti-Trafficking Committee continued to implement its National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons. During 2006, various government ministries collaborated with NGOs to provide several trainings to magistrates, government officials, and police officers on trafficking.

In 2006, USAID awarded a USD 400,000 grant to Catholic Relief Services to implement the Fight Against Trafficking and Abuse program in Madagascar in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice and NGOs over 2 years. The project will target the high-risk areas of Nosy Be, Toamasina, and Toliary; its activities will include raising awareness about human trafficking; building the capacity of local organizations to offer prevention, protection and reintegration services to trafficking victims; and facilitating legal actions to fight trafficking.

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2626 Ibid., 43.
2628 Ibid., 43.
2629 ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.
Malawi

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2004, approximately 38 percent of boys and 34 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Malawi. Children work in agriculture on tea, tobacco, and subsistence farms. Children also work in domestic service, in both urban and rural areas, and reports indicate that they

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2638 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
2643 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
rarely receive wages. Boys work in herding, and children engage in casual labor, including street vending. Bonded labor of entire families, including children, is widespread on tobacco plantations under the “tenant farmer system.”

Malawi is a source and transit country for children trafficked for forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Children are trafficked to South Africa for commercial sexual exploitation. These children are usually between 14 and 18 years and may be recruited with promises of employment, study, or marriage. Children are also trafficked internally for the purposes of forced labor in agriculture. Malawian boys as young as 9 years old are recruited by estate owners from Zambia and Mozambique and trafficked to these countries to engage in agricultural work under harsh conditions. According to the U.S. Department of State, children, including those residing in rural areas, are among the groups most at-risk for trafficking.

Children are exploited in prostitution and the commercial sexual exploitation of children is reported to be increasing in Malawi’s larger cities and towns, communities, tourist resorts, and some rural areas. There are reports that boys as well as girls are being commercially sexually exploited by tourists along Malawi’s lakeshore. In urban areas, children engaging in prostitution are reportedly found outside nightclubs and hotels. In some communities, young

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2653 U.S. Department of State, " Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Malawi.”
girls are reportedly involved in commercial sexual exploitation in exchange for food, clothing, and other commodities. The sexual exploitation of girls is also reportedly perpetrated by teachers and fellow students, with teachers sexually exploiting girls in exchange for money, according to UNICEF. Girls, orphans, street children, and children in female-headed households in rural areas are the groups most vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation.

**Child Labor Law and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age of employment at 14 years. Exceptions are made for certain work in vocational technical schools, other training institutions, and homes. The law also prohibits children between 14 and 18 years from being employed in work that could harm their health, safety, development, education, or morals, or in work that could interfere with their attendance at school or any vocational or training program. Employers are required to keep a register of all employees under the age of 18 years. Violations of any of these laws can result in a fine and 5 years of imprisonment. The law also protects children under 16 years against economic exploitation as well as any treatment, work, or punishment that is hazardous; interferes with their education; or is harmful to their health or physical, mental, or spiritual and social development.

The Constitution prohibits slavery and servitude, as well as any forms of bonded, forced, or compulsory labor. Violators are subject to a monetary fine and 2 years of imprisonment. Trafficking in persons is not specifically prohibited by law, but several laws may be used to prosecute human traffickers. The law prohibits the procuring of any girl under 21 years for the purpose of unlawful sexual relations, either in Malawi or elsewhere. Abduction, the procuring of a person for prostitution or work in a brothel, and involuntary detention for sexual purposes are all prohibited by law. The minimum age for voluntary recruitment into the military is 18 years, although those younger may enlist with parental consent.

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The Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training (MOLVT) and the police are responsible for the enforcement of child labor laws and policies. The MOLVT reported several cases of forced child labor in 2006. Most of these instances of forced labor took place on farms, and the employers were required to pay fines. In 2006, the MOLVT hired 40 new labor inspectors and increased the number of inspections, particularly on agricultural estates. Labor inspectors conducted inspections of tobacco and tea farms, which are considered the most common violators of child labor laws. In rural areas, MOLVT youth committees continued to monitor and report on child labor. According to the U.S. Department of State, the child labor enforcement efforts of labor inspectors and police were hindered by a lack of resources.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development and the police are responsible for handling trafficking cases, and provide assistance to victims. The National Steering Committee on Child Labor and the National Steering Committee on Orphans and Vulnerable Children are responsible for monitoring trafficking. During 2006, the government prosecuted 10 child traffickers, most of whom were trafficking children for the purposes of agricultural work and cattle herding. The Government also arrested several individuals for abducting children for child labor. The Ministry of Women and Child Development ensured that the children were repatriated to their home villages.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Malawi, through its MOLVT, chairs a National Steering Committee on Child Labor, which is implementing an action plan against child labor. The plan calls for drafting a national policy against child labor, reviewing existing legislation, establishing child labor monitoring committees, and coordinating income generation activities. As part of the action plan, the government developed a National Code of Conduct on Child Labor, which is distributed to farm owners. The government recently committed USD 20 million to its 2004-2009 National Plan of Action for Orphans and Vulnerable Children, which includes

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2673 Ibid., Section 5.
2680 UNICEF, Malawi- Background. See also The Policy Project, Recent Successes: Malawi, online [cited October 18, 2006]; available from http://www.policyproject.com/countries.cfm?country=Malawi.
protection for victims of human trafficking, and trafficking prevention and awareness-raising activities.2681

In 2006, the MOLVT established 60 new community child labor committees and conducted child labor trainings for estate owners and teachers. It also provided training to 55 youth activists on child labor and the National Child Labor Code of Conduct.2682 The child labor elimination unit within the MOLVT is working with UNICEF to register violations of child labor laws and build capacity on child labor issues in several districts.2683

The Government of Malawi is participating in a 3-year, USD 2.1 million ILO-IPEC project, funded by USDOL, which aims to withdraw 2,000 children and prevent 3,000 children from entering exploitive labor in tobacco farming and domestic service.2684 Winrock International is implementing a 5-year, USDOL-funded global project with activities to combat exploitive child labor through the provision of basic education in Malawi through 2007.2685

In 2006, the Malawi Law Commission provided judges with training, highlighting laws that could be used to prosecute child trafficking cases. The government held district meetings and educated numerous child protection officers, social workers, police and immigration officers, and judges on trafficking. The government also conducted a public awareness campaign on child trafficking and opened a center in Lilongwe that will provide trafficking victims with food, shelter, medical care, psychosocial services, legal aid, and vocational training. The government, in collaboration with UNICEF and NGOs, operated a center in the southern region for abused and exploited children, including children exploited in prostitution, which offers counseling, rehabilitation, and reintegration services.2686

Mali

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2005, approximately 66.6 percent of boys and 64.9 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Mali. The majority of working children in Mali were found in the agricultural sector (58.2 percent), followed by services (39.5 percent), manufacturing (1.9 percent), and other sectors (0.4 percent). In some cases, children work as street beggars as part of their religious instruction in Koranic schools. Money received from begging on the streets is reportedly used to support these schools. It is also reported in a study in one city that children spend more time begging on the streets than they spend learning in classrooms.

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2005:</td>
<td>65.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2005:</td>
<td>44.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>7/14/2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC Participating Country:</td>
<td>Yes, associated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Must pay for uniforms, school supplies and related items.

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2690 Ibid.
2694 Ibid.
2696 Ibid.
Mali is an origin, transit, and destination country for children trafficked for forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Most trafficking of children is internal. Children have been trafficked internally to the central regions to work in rice fields. Boys have been trafficked to work in other forms of agriculture, gold mining, and begging. Girls were also trafficked from Nigeria for sexual exploitation.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The minimum age for employment and apprenticeship is 14 years. The law allows for children 12 to 14 to be employed with the express authorization of their parents or guardians if they work in the same establishment as and beside their parents or guardians. However, these children may not be employed for more than 4.5 hours per day (2 hours a day if they are in school). Children under 18 years are not allowed to engage in work that threatens their safety or morals, exceeds 8 hours per day or their physical capacity, or occurs at night.

The law prohibits forced or obligatory labor. It also makes child trafficking punishable by 5 to 20 years of imprisonment. The government requires that Malian children under 18 carry travel documents to slow cross-border trafficking. However, a 2005 study published by Save the Children and UNICEF concluded that the legislation is largely ineffective and may result in the increased vulnerability of children because of corruption. The law establishes penalties for sexual exploitation and abuse, however, prostitution is legal. The minimum age for military conscription into the National Youth Service is 18, and military service is reported to be voluntary in practice.

Inspectors from the Ministry of Labor and State Reforms conduct surprise and complaint-based inspections in the formal sector, but according to the U.S. Department of State, lack of resources

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2701 Ibid., Section 5.
2708 Sarah Castle and Aïssatou Diarra, The International Migration of Young Malians: Tradition, Necessity or Rite of Passage, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, 2004.
limit the frequency and effectiveness of the monitoring and enforcement of child labor laws.  
ILO-IPEC led the National Campaign against Child labor, which is responsible for investigating cases of abusive labor reported by NGOs or the media. ILO-IPEC depends on government monitors to carry out these investigations. Enforcement efforts to combat trafficking were limited with only two cases prosecuted during the year. Investigations in trafficking that had begun in 2004 were still open in 2006.

### Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In July 2006, Mali was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action Against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the U.S. Department of Labor-funded, ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.

The Government of Mali participates in a USD 9.5 million regional USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC project to combat the trafficking of children for exploitive labor in West and Central Africa. The project targets 9,000 children for withdrawal and prevention from trafficking in 6 countries, including Mali. The government is also participating in a USDOL-funded program to increase access to quality basic education for children at risk of trafficking in Mali. This project aims to withdraw 250 children and prevent 6,000 from trafficking. ILO-IPEC is also implementing a Time Bound Preparation Project that aims to withdraw 3,000, children and prevent 6,000, from exploitive work in agriculture, mining, the urban informal sector, as well as domestic service from commercial sexual exploitation.

The Ministry for the Promotion of Women, Children, and Family and the Ministry of Labor and Civil Service cooperated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Territorial Administration to develop a program of identification, rehabilitation, education of the

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2712 Ibid.
2716 Ibid.
population, and strengthening of the legal system’s stance on the trafficking of minors.\textsuperscript{2719} As an element of this initiative, the government provides temporary shelter and protection to victims at welcome centers in several cities to help child trafficking victims return to their families.\textsuperscript{2720}

\textsuperscript{2720} Ibid.
Mauritania

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In rural areas in Mauritania, children frequently work with their families in activities such as farming, herding, and fishing. Children perform a wide range of urban informal activities, such as driving donkey carts to deliver water, street vending, and domestic work. They also work in small family businesses, construction and as auto mechanics. In addition, girls from remote areas of the country work as unpaid domestic servants in urban households, and Mauritanian boys (talibes) living with Koranic teachers are forced to be, in some regions for more than 12 hours a day without adequate food and shelter provisions. In remote areas of

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Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

| Percentage of children 5-14 estimated as working: | Unavailable |
| Minimum age for admission to work: | 14 |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | 14 |
| Free public education: | Yes |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004: | 94% |
| Net primary enrollment rate in 2004: | 74% |
| Percent of children 7-14 attending school in 1996: | 41.8% |
| As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | 82% |
| Ratified Convention 138: | 12/3/2001 |
| Ratified Convention 182: | 12/3/2001 |
| ILO-IPEC Participating Country: | No |

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2729 Ibid.
the country where the economy continues to rely on traditional labor and barter arrangements, such as the practice of slavery and indentured servitude that have historically been utilized in Saharan communities, children continued to be exploited in slave-like practices and actual slavery itself. Mauritania is also a source and destination country for trafficking in children for forced labor. Young girls are trafficked to Mali and within Mauritania to serve as domestic servants. Mauritanian boys trafficked within the country are often forced to work as beggars as part of their religious instruction through the Koranic schools.\textsuperscript{2734}

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years unless the child has not yet completed the 9 years of compulsory education in which case the minimum working age may be raised.\textsuperscript{2735} At 12 years, children may perform light work in establishments where their family members are employed, provided that they have the Minister of Labor's authorization and maintain their schooling.\textsuperscript{2736} However, 12-year-olds may not work more than 2 hours a day, with the total combined hours of school and work not to exceed 7 hours a day, and the work must not be harmful to their normal development.\textsuperscript{2737} Children under 14 may not work on Fridays or public holidays, and children under 16 are prohibited from night work.\textsuperscript{2738} The law also bans children under 18 years from work that is beyond their strength or is likely to harm their safety, health, or morals.\textsuperscript{2739} Employers must maintain a registry of employed youths under 18, including hours worked.\textsuperscript{2740} Violation of Mauritania’s child labor laws may result in a prison sentence of 15 days to 1 month and/or a fine.\textsuperscript{2741}

Mauritanian law defines the worst forms of child labor as all forms of slavery and exploitative work, work exceeding the physical capacity of a child or considered degrading, work connected to trafficking in children, and activities requiring children to handle chemicals or dangerous materials, work on Fridays or holidays, and work outside the country.\textsuperscript{2742} With parental consent, or failing that, with permission from the Minister of Defense, children may enlist voluntarily in the military at 16. The law also requires every citizen to register for military service at 17, although there has been no active military registration in recent years.\textsuperscript{2743}

\textsuperscript{2736} Ibid., Articles 153-154.
\textsuperscript{2737} Ibid., Article 154.
\textsuperscript{2738} Ibid., Articles 155 and 164.
\textsuperscript{2741} Ibid., Articles 449-450.
\textsuperscript{2742} U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting, August 18, 2004*.
compulsory labor and trafficking in persons are prohibited by law,\(^{2744}\) with the penalty for the trafficking of children being imprisonment for 5 to 10 years and a fine.\(^{2745}\) In addition, the law establishes penalties for engaging in prostitution or procuring prostitutes, ranging from fines to imprisonment for 2 to 5 years for cases involving minors.\(^{2746}\)

The Ministry of Labor and Employment is the primary agency responsible for enforcing child labor laws and regulations. However, according to the U.S. Department of State, the labor inspectorate, which comprises only eight inspectors and six controllers, lacks the capacity to investigate and address potential violations because of a lack of resources.\(^{2747}\) The Ministry of Justice has established a technical commission to implement the anti-trafficking law, and the government hosted workshops on how to identify, investigate, and prosecute trafficking cases.\(^{2748}\) During 2006, approximately five trafficking cases were brought before the government for prosecution; however, in all cases, the State Prosecutor determined that the persons in question were not victims of trafficking.\(^{2749}\)

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

In 2006, the Government of Mauritania created the National Commission for Human Rights responsible for coordinating government efforts to prevent trafficking and for operating six centers to provide food, shelter, and limited medical care to indigent people, including many boys living with Koranic teachers.\(^{2750}\) The Mauritanian Government also established the Commissariat for Human Rights, Poverty Alleviation and Insertion. The objectives of the commissariat include promoting literacy, education, health care, and addressing economic concerns as well as combating child labor and human trafficking.\(^{2751}\) By October 2006, the government also developed an anti-trafficking action plan for its law enforcement agencies.\(^{2752}\)


\(^{2751}\) Mauritanian Government official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 15, 2006.

Mauritius

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

While the incidence of child labor in Mauritius is low, children work as informal street traders; in agriculture and animal rearing; in garment making; and in bakeries, restaurants, gas stations, shops, woodworking workshops, and other small businesses. Commercial sexual exploitation of girls as young as 13 years reportedly occurs in Mauritius. Some girls are forced

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2760 Ibid.


into the commercial sex industry by family members, while others are exploited by prostitution rings.\textsuperscript{2764}

\textbf{Child Labor Laws and Enforcement}

In December 2006, the Government of Mauritius raised the minimum age of employment from 15 to 16 years, in line with the minimum age of compulsory education.\textsuperscript{2765} It is illegal to employ a young person under age 18 in activities that are dangerous, harmful to health, or otherwise unsuitable, or to require a young person to work more than 10 hours per day or between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m.\textsuperscript{2766} In addition, young persons who have not been fully instructed or are inadequately supervised are prohibited from operating dangerous machinery. The law also provides for the health and safety of young persons working aboard ships.\textsuperscript{2767}

The Ministry of Labor, Industrial Relations and Employment enforces child labor laws, and the U.S. Department of State reports that child labor inspections are frequent. Employers found in violation of child labor laws may be imprisoned for up to 1 year. No cases of child labor were found in 2006.\textsuperscript{2768} The government’s Office of the Ombudsperson for Children investigates violations of child rights and is empowered to investigate cases of unlawful employment of children.\textsuperscript{2769}

The law prohibits forced labor and slavery, and there is no system of military conscription.\textsuperscript{2770} Child pornography and causing, inciting, or allowing any child to engage in prostitution are crimes punishable by imprisonment of up to 8 years, or up to 15 years if the victim is mentally handicapped.\textsuperscript{2771} The law also prohibits the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation, either outside Mauritius or within its borders. These crimes are punishable by up to 15 years of imprisonment.\textsuperscript{2772} A dedicated unit within the

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textsuperscript{2766}Government of Mauritius, \textit{Report of the Government of Mauritius on Worst Forms of Child Labour}.
  \item \textsuperscript{2767}Government of Mauritius, \textit{Comments from the Government of Mauritius}.
  \item \textsuperscript{2768}U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Mauritius," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, reporting, December 19, 2006.
  \item \textsuperscript{2769}U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, reporting, December 19, 2006.
  \item \textsuperscript{2772}Government of Mauritius, \textit{The Child Protection (Amendment) Act} No. 34, (December 16, 2005), Article 13A, Sections 1, 2; available from http://supremecourt.intnet.mu/Entry/Act\%202005/No.%202003\%20PROTECTION\%20(Amendment)%20ACT\%202005.doc.
\end{itemize}
police force, the Minors Brigade, investigates cases of child prostitution. During 2005, the most recent year for which data are available, six cases of underage prostitution were prosecuted. The U.S. Department of State reports that despite the efforts of law enforcement officials, locating and arresting criminals involved in child prostitution remains a challenge because of the illicit nature of these activities.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Mauritius is carrying out a National Plan of Action to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children. Among other goals, the plan aims to develop indicators for monitoring child sexual exploitation and empower the public to protect children against commercial sexual exploitation. The government operates a drop-in center that provides counseling and educational services to children exploited in the commercial sex industry, and it funds local NGOs to educate the public on the issue of commercial sexual exploitation of children. The Ministry of Women’s Rights, Child Development and Family Welfare operates a hotline to respond to children in need of immediate support services, a shelter for children, and a Child Watch Network to detect children at risk and refer them to appropriate authorities.

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2774 Ibid.
2779 Ministry of Women, Family Welfare, and Child Development of Mauritius, Speech by Hon. Arianne Navarre Marie, Minister of Women’s Rights, Child Development & Family Welfare at the Opening Ceremony of the Workshop on Children’s Rights Observatory, November 17, 2004; available from http://www.gov.mu/portal/site/women-site/menuitem.cd538e63b1742c5aa0a07651a0208a0c/?content_id=b9f8757f0658010VgnVCM100000ca6a12acRD.
Moldova

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 31.2 percent of boys and 28.9 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Moldova.\(^{2789}\) It is common for parents to send their children to work on family farms or other forms of work.\(^{2790}\) According to the Government of Moldova, the number of registered cases of the worst forms of child labor increased between 2001 and 2004, the most recent period for which such information is available.\(^{2791}\) The Ministry of Internal Affairs reported that in 2003, 3,681 children were living or working in the street.\(^{2792}\)

Moldova is a major country of origin for children trafficked abroad for sexual exploitation, forced labor, and begging.\(^{2793}\) There have been reports that girls are trafficked internally from


\(^{2785}\) Ibid.


\(^{2787}\) Ibid.


\(^{2789}\) UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.


Estimates on the numbers of child trafficking victims remain limited. In 2004, the IOM reported that 40 percent of trafficking victims were minors at the time of trafficking, and that 12 percent were minors at the time of their return. According to information gathered by ILO-IPEC through a rapid assessment survey, boys and girls as young as 12 years are trafficked, many of them recruited by people they know. Migration for work has left approximately 23,000 children parentless. These children often do not have proper supervision and are at greater risk of being trafficked and being involved in other worst forms of child labor.

## Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years. In certain cases, children 15 years can work with parental or legal authorization, if the work will not interfere with the child’s education or growth. Children between 15 and 16 can only work a maximum of 25 hours a week and no more than 5 hours a day. Children between 16 and 18 years can only work a maximum of 35 hours a week and no more than 7 hours a day. Children must pass a medical exam every year until they reach 18 to be eligible to work. Children under 18 years are prohibited from participating in hazardous work, including work at nightclubs or work involving gambling or selling tobacco or alcohol. Legal remedies, civil fines and criminal penalties exist to enforce the provisions of the labor law, with prison terms of up to 3 years for repeat offenses. The government has approved a list of hazardous work forbidden to children, including underground work, metal work, energy and heat production, and well drilling.

In September 2006, the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports issued two orders concerning child labor. The first prohibits the involvement of students in agricultural work in the autumn of 2006. The Municipal Departments of Education were tasked to monitor the situation and the General Department of Pre-University Education was tasked with enforcement. The second forbids pre-university students from doing work that threatens life or health, allows participation in harvest-related work only with parental permission, and orders teachers to accompany

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2797 PROTECT CEE, Moldova Country Profile, 5.
2798 ILO-IPEC, Balkans Child Trafficking Phase II, project document, 34.
2799 See the Labor Law as cited in U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, reporting, August 26, 2005. See also U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, reporting, December 8, 2006, Section 6d.
2800 U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, reporting, August 26, 2005.
2802 U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, reporting, August 26, 2005. See also U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, reporting, August 26, 2005.
students who work in agriculture. Only 2 weeks of work is permitted, and schools are required to sign agreements with employers regarding pay and working conditions.\textsuperscript{2803}

The constitution prohibits forced labor and the exploitation of minors.\textsuperscript{2804} The law provides for 10 years to life imprisonment for trafficking and using children in the worst forms of child labor, as defined by ILO Convention 182.\textsuperscript{2805} Penalties increased to 15 years to life imprisonment and confiscation of property for repeated or more serious offenses such as trafficking in children, through deception, kidnapping, or abuse of power with violence or by a criminal organization.\textsuperscript{2806} The law protects children under 18 years from prostitution or sexual exploitation.\textsuperscript{2807} The law permits vulnerable youth from 16 to 18 years (including those living in residential institutions, orphans, children from single parent families, and victims of trafficking) to receive benefits from the Unemployment Fund.\textsuperscript{2808} Although the law contains prohibitions against trafficking, some traffickers are prosecuted under less severe pimping charges.\textsuperscript{2809} The minimum age for compulsory military service is 18 years. The minimum age for voluntary military service for officer trainees is 17 years, though participation in active combat is not permitted until 18 years.\textsuperscript{2810}

The Labor Inspection Office is responsible for enforcing all labor laws, including those pertaining to child labor. In 2006, 10 enterprises were sanctioned for failure to create adequate work conditions for minors.\textsuperscript{2811} The law permits inspection of both legal workplaces and workers, including child workers. The inspectors are also allowed to seek assistance from local public administrators to withdraw licenses of employers who repeatedly neglect labor inspection recommendations.\textsuperscript{2812} The U.S. Department of State reports that the Government of Moldova does not enforce its child labor laws effectively.\textsuperscript{2813}

The Ministry of Justice is responsible for addressing juvenile delinquency and the social reintegration of children who have been used for criminal activities and are at risk of trafficking.\textsuperscript{2814} The law stipulates police protection for the victims/witnesses in trafficking cases. The U.S. Department of State and others report that because of financial constraints the law has been inadequately implemented, and very few witnesses feel safe enough to testify in court.\textsuperscript{2815}

\begin{footnotes}
\footnotenumbers
\footnotetext[2803]{U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, \textit{reporting}, December 8, 2006.}
\footnotetext[2804]{Government of Moldova, \textit{Constitution of the Republic of Moldova}, Articles 44 and 50.}
\footnotetext[2805]{U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, \textit{reporting}, August 26, 2005. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2006: Moldova," Section 5, 6d.}
\footnotetext[2806]{U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2005: Ukraine," Section 5.}
\footnotetext[2807]{U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, \textit{reporting}, August 26, 2005.}
\footnotetext[2808]{Ibid.}
\footnotetext[2809]{U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ukraine."}
\footnotetext[2812]{U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, \textit{reporting}, August 26, 2005.}
\footnotetext[2813]{U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Moldova," Section 6d.}
\footnotetext[2814]{ILO-IPEC, \textit{Combatting Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in the Balkans and Ukraine}, technical progress report, RER/03/P50/USA, Bucharest, March 2005, 3.}
\footnotetext[2815]{U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Ukraine." See also Barbara Limanowska, \textit{Trafficking in Human Beings in Southeastern Europe. 2003 Update on Situation and Responses to Trafficking in Human Beings in: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro including the UN}}
\end{footnotes}
Under the law, trafficking victims are permitted to receive benefits, although there are no reports that anyone has done so. The inter-agency Center to Combat Trafficking in Persons is involved in law enforcement in trafficking cases. Border controls are inadequate, especially in Transnistria, and low-paid border guards and migration officials are susceptible to bribery. The government withdrew the licenses of several employment agencies and tourism companies for suspected involvement in trafficking activities.

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The National Strategy of Labor Force Employment (2002-2008) aims to end discrimination against youth of legal working age in the labor market, which is considered an important anti-trafficking strategy. The National Human Rights Action Plan was also revised to include measures to address trafficking in persons.

The Government of Moldova had a Second National Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Trafficking in Persons (2005-2006). The government also participates in the Stability Pact for Southeast European Cooperative Initiative on Trafficking in Human Beings, which fosters regional cooperation and offers assistance to governments to combat trafficking. In partnership with OSCE and the Council of Europe, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Economy and Trade conducted a special training for trafficking investigators.

The Ministry of Economy and Trade has partnered on a small scale with international and local NGOs to provide employment assistance to victims of trafficking and to address the root causes that increase at-risk populations’ vulnerability of being trafficked.

The Government of Moldova participated in a USD 1.5 million USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC regional project to combat the trafficking of children for labor and sexual exploitation. The project worked in partnership with local organizations to strengthen local anti-trafficking committees, support youth centers, provide training to representatives of trade unions and

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2817 Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Moldova," Section 5.


2819 Ibid.


employers’ associations, encourage employment for at risk youth, and improve rehabilitative care. The project withdrew 34 children and prevented 359 children from exploitive labor in Moldova. The government is also participating in the USD 3.5 million USDOL-funded second phase of the project (2006-2009). The project is operating in Albania, Bulgaria, the UN-administered Province of Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, and Ukraine. The project aims to withdraw 1,350 children and prevent 3,150 children from exploitive labor in the region. The government is also participating in the USD 2.2 million German Government-funded ILO-IPEC project to combat child labor in the Stability Pact countries. The Government of Moldova is also supporting three U.S. Government-funded anti-trafficking projects implemented by Catholic Relief Services, Winrock International, and UNDP. The projects aim to assist children and young women who were trafficked or at risk of trafficking.

Various U.S. Government donor agencies have supported establishing a network of transition centers for victims returned to Moldova who were trafficked and for those vulnerable to trafficking. The centers link victims to legitimate employment opportunities and strengthen law enforcement efforts.

In November 2004, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) announced their support to implement the Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (EGPRSP), which contains direct references to trafficking in persons. In an effort to provide youth in Moldova with developmental opportunities, the government’s State Department for Youth and Sports has begun implementation of the National Youth Strategy that includes the establishment of 9 community centers for youth; non-formal education sessions that reach more than 14,000 young people; and financial support to 25 youth NGOs. A draft of the UN Country Common Assessment that will serve as a basis for the development of the UN’s development framework for the years 2005 to 2008 has integrated child labor issues, including the trafficking of children.

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2829 ILO-IPEC official, Email communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.
2831 U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, reporting, August 26, 2005.
2833 Ibid.
Mongolia

### Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Because Mongolia is traditionally a nomadic herding society, most working children can be found in rural areas, in the livestock sector. Boys generally herd and tend livestock, while girls mostly undertake domestic tasks, milking cows and producing dairy products, collecting animal dung for fire, preparing food, washing, shearing wool, and gathering fruit and nuts. Children as young as 5 years old are engaged in informal gold and fluorspar mining. These children face severe health hazards, such as exposure to mercury and handling of explosives in the mines. Children working in mining are also vulnerable to drug abuse and sexual exploitation. The National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia estimates that there are

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2003</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004</td>
<td>104%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004</td>
<td>84%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2003</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade five</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138</td>
<td>12/16/2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182</td>
<td>2/26/2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC Participating country</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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2839 Ibid.
2840 SIMPOC, MICS, and Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Records*.
2842 Ibid.

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2844 Boys generally herd and tend livestock, while girls mostly undertake domestic tasks, milking cows and producing dairy products, collecting animal dung for fire, preparing food, washing, shearing wool, and gathering fruit and nuts.
2845 These children face severe health hazards, such as exposure to mercury and handling of explosives in the mines.
2846 The National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia estimates that there are...
40 to 50 horse racing events each year, and at each event, 2,000 children between the 6 and 16 years are engaged as jockeys. Horse racing poses risks to the life and health of the children involved.  

In urban areas, children sell goods, wash cars, polish shoes, collect and sell coal and wood, and work as porters. Children also work informally in petty trade, scavenging in dumpsites, and working in factories. There were reports of children trafficked internally for commercial sexual exploitation.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years, with some exceptions. Children 15 years may work with the permission of a parent or guardian, as long as employment does not harm their health, physical growth, and moral status. Children 14 years may work in vocational education programs with the consent of a parent or guardian. Children 14 and 15 years may not work for more than 30 hours, and children 16 and 17 years may not work for more than 36 hours per week. Children under 18 may not work at night, in arduous, noxious or hot conditions, or underground. They are also prohibited from working overtime, on public holidays, or weekly rest days.

The Constitution prohibits forced labor, and forcing a child to work is punishable by imprisonment for up to 4 years or fines. Trafficking of a minor is punishable by imprisonment for 5 to 10 years; if committed by an organized group, the term of imprisonment increases to 10 to 15 years. However, contacts within the government acknowledge that legal provisions regarding trafficking are weak and need to be amended. Production and dissemination of pornographic materials involving a person less than 16 years are punishable by imprisonment for 3 to 6 months or fines. Involving a minor in prostitution is also illegal, and if the crime is committed repeatedly or by using violence or threat, it is punishable by a prison

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2851 U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Mongolia."

2852 Ibid.

2853 *Labor Law of Mongolia (as Amended)*, Article 85.

2854 Ibid.

2855 Ibid.

2856 Ibid., Article 26.

2857 Ibid., Article 86.

2858 Ibid.

2859 Constitution of Mongolia, 1992, Article 16(4).


2861 Ibid., Article 113.


2863 Criminal Code of Mongolia, Article 123.
The minimum age for military conscription is 18. Mongolian law prohibits the use of children in forced labor, illicit activities, begging, slavery, and work that is harmful to their health, morals, or safety.

Despite the existing legislative measures to protect children’s rights, the Committee on the Rights of the Child has expressed concern about the insufficient number of implementation measures and some contradictory provisions of the domestic laws that leave children without adequate protection, including the ability of children to engage in work before reaching the compulsory school age.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare’s (MOSWL) Department of Employment and Social Welfare Service and the National Department for Children (NDC) share responsibility for child labor issues. The MOSWL presides over the Labor Code, while the NDC administers the National Plan of Action for the Protection and Development of Children (2002-2010).

State labor inspectors assigned to regional and local offices are responsible for enforcing labor laws, but enforcement has been limited because of the small number of inspectors and the growing number of independent enterprises. The MOSWL is the lead government agency on trafficking issues, but the Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs enforces trafficking-related laws.

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The Government of Mongolia is participating in a USD 2.9 million USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC project. The Mongolia Timebound Program, which is set to run through 2009, is designed to strengthen the country’s ability to take action against the worst forms of child labor in Mongolia and to develop an area-based intervention model at the local level targeting children at risk or engaged in the worst forms of child labor. The program targets children involved in mining, commercial sexual exploitation, work in dumpsites or marketplace, herding and domestic work. The project aims to withdraw 2,700 children from the worst forms of child labor and prevent 3,300 children from engaging in child labor.

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2864 Ibid., Article 115.
2869 Ibid.
2870 U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Mongolia."
2871 U.S. Embassy- Ulaanbaatar, reporting.
2873 Ibid.
The Republic of Montenegro

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in the Republic of Montenegro can be found working on family farms. Roma children also work in the informal sector, selling small items or washing car windows.2881

Children are involved in prostitution. An estimated 15-25 percent of children in prostitution are trafficking victims.2882 Internal trafficking is reportedly on the rise.2883 Roma children are often forced to beg or to perform manual labor by their families, and are trafficked abroad for forced begging and theft rings.2884 Montenegro is also a transit country for trafficked children.2885

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### Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
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<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
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<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.2880

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2878 Ibid.
2882 Ibid., Section 5.
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age of employment is 15 years. Children under 18 years are not permitted to work in jobs that involve particularly difficult physical work, overtime and night work, underground or underwater work, or in jobs that "may have a harmful effect on or involve increased risk for their health and lives." The law provides for monetary penalties for violation of these provisions.

Forced labor is prohibited. Montenegro abolished conscription into the military on August 30, 2006. The minimum age to volunteer for the Montenegro military is 18 years.

The Labor Inspectorate of the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare is responsible for the enforcement of labor laws, including those protecting children from exploitation in the workplace. The Ministry has 40 inspectors covering labor issues. No evidence of child labor violations were discovered through labor investigations through November 2006. The government’s enforcement efforts were generally effective according to the U.S. Department of State.

Traffic in persons is prohibited in Montenegro, with a maximum prison penalty of 10 years. In 2006, there were eight trafficking convictions with prison sentences ranging from 2.5 to 3 years. Police, prosecutors, judges and other officials were trained specifically on trafficking. However, according to the U.S. Department of State there have been reports of corruption among some police and customs officials complicit in trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. The government has not taken action against such officials.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Montenegro continued to sponsor public awareness campaigns on trafficking in 2006 and assumed funding for a trafficking shelter in January 2006.
Morocco

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 1998-1999, approximately 13.5 percent of boys and 12.8 percent of girls ages 7 to 14 were working in Morocco. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (60.6 percent), followed by services (10.1 percent), manufacturing (8.2 percent), and other sectors (21.1 percent). Of the children who work in the agricultural sector, most work on family farms, picking fruit and vegetables or working as shepherds, and do not attend school. Child work is most prevalent in Doukala, an agricultural province south of Casablanca, where an estimated 26.1 percent of children 7 to 14 are working the fields and tending livestock.

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 7-14 estimated as working in 1998-1999</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free public education</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004</td>
<td>106%</td>
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<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004</td>
<td>86%</td>
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<td>Percent of children 7-14 attending school in 1998</td>
<td>51.7%</td>
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<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5</td>
<td>76%</td>
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2903 Ibid.
2909 Ibid.
2911 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
Children in rural areas are reportedly six times more likely to be working than those in urban areas. A large number of children work as junior artisans in the handicraft industry, many of them working as apprentices before they reach 12 years and under substandard health and safety conditions.

Thousands of street children live and work in Morocco’s urban centers. Street children in Morocco engage in diverse forms of work including selling cigarettes, begging, shining shoes, and washing and polishing cars. Street children are predominantly boys, but girls, commonly former household maids who have fled abusive employers, are also seen on the street in increasing numbers. Street children are vulnerable to sexual, physical, and substance abuse, and to being forced into illicit activities such as prostitution, selling drugs, or theft in order to collect money for gang leaders.

Commercial sexual exploitation involves both boys and girls in Morocco. There are official reports of child prostitution in the cities of Agadir, Meknès, Tangier, Marrakech, Fez, and Casablanca. Isolated cases of child pornography have been reported in the country, but the Minister of Human Rights and the Parliamentary Commission on Social Affairs indicates that it goes mostly undetected.

Morocco is a country of destination for children trafficked from sub-Saharan Africa, North Africa, and Asia, and it serves as a transit and origin point for children trafficked to Europe for forced labor, drug trafficking, and commercial sexual exploitation. Children are also trafficked internally for exploitation as child domestic workers and beggars, and for prostitution. A growing number of girls are trafficked to El-Hajeb in the Middle Atlas, where they are forced into prostitution. In urban areas, many girls working as domestic servants can be found in situations of unregulated “adoptive servitude,” in which girls from rural areas are sold by their

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2918 Ibid., 28-29. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006 Morocco," Section 5.
parents, trafficked, and “adopted” by wealthy urban families to work in their homes. Children are also “rented” out by their parents or other relatives to beg. According to a 2004 survey conducted by the Moroccan League for the Protection of Children, children younger than 7 had been offered by their parents to serve as sympathy props for adult beggars.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The minimum age for employment in Morocco is 15 years. The minimum age restriction applies to the industrial, commercial, and agricultural sectors, and extends to children working in apprenticeships and family enterprises. Children under 16 are prohibited from working more than 10 hours per day, which includes at least a 1-hour break. Children under 16 are not permitted to work between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. in non-agricultural work, or between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m. in agricultural activities. It is prohibited to employ children under 18 in stone quarries or for underground work carried out in mines. Employers may not permit workers to use products or substances, equipment, or machinery deemed potentially hazardous to their health or safety, or permit minors to perform activities that pose an extreme danger to them, exceed their capacities, or result in a breach of public morals.

The law provides protection for abandoned children in Morocco, but there are concerns that some persons may be abusing its provisions. According to the law, persons under 18 and unable to support themselves economically are identified as abandoned if their parents are unknown, unable to be located, or incompetent to assume a parental role. These children are then considered eligible for adoption, and adoptive parents are entitled to a stipend from the government. There has been some concern that girls are being fostered at higher rates than boys and then allegedly forced to work, and that this is facilitating the practice of “adoptive servitude.”

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2923 U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, reporting, January 20, 2005.

2924 Royal Decree No.1.03.194 of September 11, 2003, concerning the promulgation of Law no. 65-99 on the Labor Code, (June 6), Article 143. See also U.S. Consulate - Casablanca, reporting, August 25, 2004.


2926 Labor Code, Articles 184 and 188. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006 Morocco," Section 6d.

2927 Labor Code, Article 172.

2928 Ibid., Article 179.

2929 Ibid., Articles 181 and 287.


2931 Ibid., para 43.
The Ministry of Employment, Social Affairs, and Solidarity is responsible for implementing and enforcing child labor laws and regulations. The law provides for legal sanctions against employers who actively recruit children under 15. Violators are punished with a fine, and in case of a second offense, with imprisonment of 6 days to 3 month or additional fine. Other remedies to enforce child labor laws include withdrawal or suspension of one or more civil, national, or family rights, including denial of legal residence in the country for 5 to 10 years. The law enables inspectors and the police to bring charges against employers of children under 15 in all sectors, including apprenticed children and children working in family businesses. However, the informal sector is not closely monitored by the small number of Ministry labor inspectors.

The minimum age for compulsory conscription into government armed forces is 20 years. The prostitution of children, child trafficking, and corruption of minors are prohibited under the law. Those found involved in or who fail to prevent trafficking, including government officials, are subject to fines and prison sentences. Anyone who incites a minor under 18 to commit a vice or who contributes to the corruption of a minor is subject to a prison sentence of 2 to 10 years and a fine. Any person who uses violence, threats, or fraud to abduct (or attempt to abduct) a minor under 18 years or who facilitates the abduction of a minor may be imprisoned for up to 5 to 10 years. If the minor is under the age of 12, the sentence is doubled from 10 to 20 years.

The Ministry of Interior is responsible for implementing and enforcing anti-trafficking activities and regulations. In 2006, the Moroccan Government convicted 3 foreigners for engaging in child sex tourism and 10 others for trafficking in children in Morocco. According to the U.S.
Department of State, law enforcement agencies actively investigate, prosecute, and convict traffickers.\textsuperscript{2943}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The Government of Morocco has put in place a number of action programs toward the achievement of its 2005-2015 National Action Plan to Eliminate Child Labor.\textsuperscript{2944} The focus of the national plan includes improving implementation and raising awareness of child labor laws and improving basic education. Sectoral plans target children in agriculture and herding, the industrial sector (carpets and stitching), metal and auto work, construction, the hospitality industry, food production, street children, and children subjected to commercial sexual exploitation.\textsuperscript{2945} In February 2006, under the direction of the Minister of Labor (MOL), a Child Labor Unit was created in the Directorate of Labor to address the issue directly.\textsuperscript{2946} In May, the MOL announced Ingad, the first program targeting child maids. The program will raise public awareness about the issue, withdraw girls from domestic service and reintegrate them into society.\textsuperscript{2947}

The Government of Morocco is participating in two USDOL-funded projects to eliminate child labor and provide educational opportunities for working children. The first effort is the USD 3 million ADROS: Combating Child Labor through Education project executed by Management Systems International, which aims to eliminate the practice of selling and hiring child domestic workers and to create educational opportunities for child laborers and those vulnerable to child labor.\textsuperscript{2948} As of September 2006, the program had successfully exceeded targets withdrawing 8,779 child maids from exploitive work and placed them in training and educational programs. The second effort in the amount of USD 2.25 million is an ILO-IPEC project that aims to strengthen national efforts against the worst forms of child labor in Morocco and to remove and prevent 5,000 children from work in rural areas of the country.\textsuperscript{2949}

\textsuperscript{2943} Ibid. See also U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, \textit{reporting, January 18, 2007}.

\textsuperscript{2944} U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, \textit{reporting, January 20, 2005}. See also Government of Morocco, \textit{Note on Child Labor}.


\textsuperscript{2946} ILO-IPEC, ILO-IPEC, “technical progress report”. See also U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, \textit{reporting, January 18, 2007}.

\textsuperscript{2947} U.S. Consulate- Casablanca, \textit{reporting, January 18, 2007}.


Mozambique

**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

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<th>Statistic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
<td>15&lt;sup&gt;2950&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>12&lt;sup&gt;2951&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes&lt;sup&gt;2952&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>95%&lt;sup&gt;2953&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>71%&lt;sup&gt;2954&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 7-14 attending school in 1996:</td>
<td>51.7%&lt;sup&gt;2955&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>49%&lt;sup&gt;2956&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
<td>6/16/2003&lt;sup&gt;2957&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>6/16/2003&lt;sup&gt;2958&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC Participating Country:</td>
<td>Yes, associated&lt;sup&gt;2959&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Must pay fees and for school supplies and related items.

**Incidence and Nature of Child Labor**

In Mozambique, some children are forced to work in commercial agriculture, in prostitution and as domestics.<sup>2960</sup> In rural areas, children work on family or commercial farms, often picking cotton or tea. Children also work in the urban informal sector guarding cars, collecting scrap metal, and selling food and trinkets in the streets.<sup>2961</sup> Children are trafficked internally and to South Africa, often with the complicity of family members, for forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Women and girls are trafficked...
both in country and to South Africa for forced labor and sexual exploitation. Also, young men and boys are trafficked in country and to South Africa for farm work and domestic service.  

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment of minors is 15 years. In exceptional cases, the law allows children between 12 and 15 to work with the joint approval of the Ministries of Labor, Health, and Education. The law restricts the conditions under which minors between 15 and 18 may work, and commits employers to provide for their education and professional training.

Children between 15 and 18 are prohibited from working more than 38 hours per week and more than 7 hours per day.

Minors under 18 are not permitted to work in unhealthy or dangerous or physically taxing occupations, must undergo a medical examination, and must be paid at least minimum wage or 2/3 of the adult salary, whichever is more. Violators of child labor laws are subject to fines, the Ministry of Labor has the authority to enforce and regulate child labor laws in both the formal and informal sectors. Labor inspectors may obtain court orders and use the police to enforce compliance with child labor legislation. According to the U.S. Department of State, however, both the Labor Inspectorate and police lack adequate staff, funds, and training to investigate child labor cases, especially outside the capital. The U.S. Department of State claims that the law is enforced in the formal sector but enforcement is inadequate in the informal sector.

The law prohibits the practice of prostitution of any form, including that of children. Procuring a minor is punishable by imprisonment for 6 months to 2 years. Although the law contains provisions that can be applied to the trafficking of children, it does not contain a provision specific to that crime. However, enforcement initiatives dramatically improved. The first trafficking case was tried in March 2006, when two men were convicted of selling a minor. In February 2006, six men were arrested by police for intent to traffic 43 people across the South African border. Several trafficking schemes were broken in 2006, resulting in more than a dozen arrests and the liberation of more than 90 victims. The age for conscription and voluntary recruitment into the military is 18 years. In times of war, however, the minimum age for military conscription may be lowered.

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2965 Ibid.


2968 U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Mozambique."

2969 Ibid.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The government disseminated information and provided education about the dangers of child labor. The public outreach effort includes the provision of training for the police on child prostitution and abuse (including pornography).2971

The Government of Mozambique is participating in a USD 3 million USDOL-funded 4-year program implemented by the American Institutes for Research. The project aims to reduce the number of child laborers in agriculture, domestic work, street work, and commercial sexual exploitation. Through this program, 2,600 children will be withdrawn or prevented from engaging in such activities.2972

In March 2006, the Civic Education Forum, a civil society organization, opened the first shelter for victims of trafficking. The shelter was built on land donated by the Moamba District Government to house and grow food for the residents.2973

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2971 U.S. Department of State official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, February 1, 2007.
Namibia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 1999, approximately 15.5 percent of boys and 13.9 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Namibia. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (91.4 percent), followed by services (8.2 percent), manufacturing (0.4 percent), and other sectors (0.1 percent).2985

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2980 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.


2983 Ibid.


2985 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
Children work in commercial and subsistence agriculture, the informal sector, and domestic service. Children find self-employment in basket weaving, traditional beer making, selling fruits and vegetables, barbering, milking cows, and farming communal land. To support their households, children also tend livestock, hunt, fish, and gather wild foods. Children from Angola, Zambia, and other countries neighboring Namibia reportedly enter the country illegally and work on communal farms. Children from poor rural households frequently assist extended family in urban centers with house cleaning, cooking, and child care, in exchange for food, shelter, and sometimes clothes and money. Numerous HIV/AIDS orphans and other vulnerable children are reportedly engaged in commercial sexual exploitation.

### Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years. The law also prohibits children under 16 years from working in any mine, industrial, or construction setting or underground, and prohibits children under 18 years from engaging in night work, which is defined as any work taking place between 8 p.m. and 7 a.m. The Constitution protects children under 16 years from economic exploitation and states that they are not to be employed in any work that is likely to be hazardous; harmful to their health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development; or that would interfere with their education.

The Constitution prohibits slavery and forced labor. The law prohibits trafficking in persons, protects children from commercial sexual exploitation, and makes it an offense for any adult to solicit or entice a child to participate in prostitution.

The law allows for compulsory military service, but there is no military draft because individuals currently enlist in the armed forces in sufficient numbers. According to the Ministry of Defense policy, the minimum age for voluntary military service is 18 years.

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2987 Ibid., Page 25.
2988 Ibid., Page 31.
2989 Ibid., Page 32.
2990 Ibid., Page 37.
2994 Ibid., Article 9.
2995 Ibid., Article 21.
2996 Ibid., Article 21.
The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws. Ministry inspectors are trained to identify the worst forms of child labor and use existing enforcement mechanisms. In 2006, the ministry continued its regular labor inspections, and five complaints were filed with the ministry regarding child labor. The Women and Child Protection Units of the Namibian Police Force investigate cases involving abduction and child prostitution. The Ministry of Women Affairs and Child Welfare is charged with ensuring that adequate care is provided to children, particularly orphans and other vulnerable children.

Existing national laws comprehensively address the worst forms of child labor in Namibia. The government, however, has difficulty with monitoring working conditions on tens of thousands of communal and commercial farms.

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The Government of Namibia is working with ILO-IPEC to implement a USD 5 million USDOL-funded regional child labor project in Southern Africa, which includes activities in Namibia. Project activities in Namibia include conducting research on the nature and incidence of exploitive child labor and building the capacity of the government to address child labor issues. In collaboration with the government and NGOs, the American Institutes for Research is implementing a regional USD 9 million USDOL-funded project in Southern Africa to improve the quality of and access to basic and vocational education for children who are working or at risk of entering exploitive child labor. Over its lifetime, this project aims to prevent 10,000 children in five countries, including Namibia, from engaging in exploitive labor. With the assistance of the Namibia Agricultural Union and the Namibia Farm Workers’ Union, the Government of Namibia conducts public awareness campaigns on child labor.

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3006 Ibid., page 22.

In 1999, the majority of working children in Nepal were found in the agricultural sector (87.1 percent), followed by services (11 percent), manufacturing (1.3 percent) and other sectors (0.5 percent). According to the National Child Labor Study, 50 types of paid economic activities outside the home have been recorded as involving children. The majority of children work in the informal sector. Children work as domestic servants, porters, rag pickers, rock breakers, carpet factory workers, in mines, in restaurants, and in the transportation sector.

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

| Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 1999: | 39.6% |
| Minimum age for admission to work: | 14 |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | Not compulsory |
| Free public education: | Yes |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2005: | 113% |
| Net primary enrollment rate in 2003: | 75% |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 1999: | 69.2% |
| As of 2004, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | 61% |
| Ratified Convention 138: | 5/30/1997 |
| Ratified Convention 182: | 1/3/2002 |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | Yes |

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 1999, the majority of working children in Nepal were found in the agricultural sector (87.1 percent), followed by services (11 percent), manufacturing (1.3 percent) and other sectors (0.5 percent). According to the National Child Labor Study, 50 types of paid economic activities outside the home have been recorded as involving children. The majority of children work in the informal sector. Children work as domestic servants, porters, rag pickers, rock breakers, carpet factory workers, in mines, in restaurants, and in the transportation sector.

3009 Government of Nepal, Children’s Act, (1992), Chapter 1, Section 2(a) and Chapter 2 Section 17 (1); available from http://www.labournepal.org/labourlaws/child_act.html. See also Child Labor (Prohibition and Regulation) Act (No. 14), (2000), Chapter 2, Section 3(1); available from http://natlex.ilo.org/txt/E00NPL01.htm.
3012 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
3013 Ibid.
3014 Ibid.
3015 Ibid.
3017 Ibid.
3019 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
sector. Depending on the specific sector, children lack rest; work long hours; carry heavy loads; have ear, eye and skin disorders; have musculoskeletal problems; and are at risk of sexual exploitation. Although bonded labor is outlawed in Nepal, the children of former bonded laborers known as Kamaiyas continue to work under forced labor conditions.

Children are exploited through prostitution, sex tourism, and trafficking. Nepal is a source country for children trafficked to India for sexual exploitation. Internal trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation also occurs. While the trafficking of children often leads to their sexual exploitation, there is also demand for trafficked boys and girls to work in the informal labor sector. Some reports indicate many children are trafficked to India to work in carpet factories, circuses, agriculture, road construction, domestic service, and begging. Boys are also trafficked to India to work in the embroidery industry.

In mid-2006, after massive demonstrations and strikes, the Government of Nepal and the Maoist insurgents agreed to a temporary cease-fire and a return to democracy. A comprehensive peace agreement was signed in November 2006. While violence overall has declined, the security situation is still unstable and reforms are moving slowly. Concern has been voiced by rights groups that the peace talks have ignored the disarming and rehabilitation of child soldiers leaving children affected emotionally and physically. There are reports, both before and after signing


the cease-fire agreement, that Maoist insurgents use children as soldiers, cooks, and messengers. There is evidence that unaccompanied children are fleeing areas of civil unrest and are migrating to urban areas because of economic hardship and to avoid recruitment by Maoist insurgents. A network of NGOs that monitor violations against children in armed conflict have documented cases of insurgents destroying schools and using school premises to abduct and recruit thousands of students and teachers from schools.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years. The law prohibits children below 16 years from employment in occupations such as tourism, carpet weaving, factories, mines or other hazardous work harmful to their health or life. Children can work up to 6 hours a day and 36 hours a week, between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. The law only covers formal sectors of employment, leaving the majority of children who work in the informal sector without legal protection. The Child Labor Act imposes a punishment of up to 3 months in prison for employing an underage child. Employing children in dangerous work or against their will is punishable with imprisonment for up to 1 year. The Labor Act allows fines to be levied against employers in violation of labor laws.

The minimum age for voluntary military service is 18 years, but children can begin military training at 15. The law prohibits trafficking in persons and provides for imprisonment for up to 20 years for violations. The law also prohibits the use of children in immoral professions, including taking and distributing immoral photographs. The Kamaiya system, a form of bonded labor, was formally outlawed in 2002, and the law forbids keeping or employing any person as a bonded laborer and cancels any unpaid loans or bonds between creditors and


3033 Government of Nepal, Children's Act, Chapter 1, Section 2(a), Chapter 2, Section 17 and Chapter 5, Section 47(1). See also Child Labor (Prohibition and Regulation) Act (No. 14), Chapter 2, Sec 3.

3034 U.S. Embassy- Kathmandu, reporting, August 20, 2004. See also Child Labor (Prohibition and Regulation) Act (No. 14), Section 2(a), 3(1) and (2), Schedule. See also Government of Nepal, Constitution, Article 20. See also Government of Nepal, Children's Act, Article 17-18.


3036 Child Labor (Prohibition and Regulation) Act (No. 14), Section 19(1) and (2).


3038 Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Child Soldiers Global Report 2004."


3040 Government of Nepal, Children's Act, Chapter 2, Section 16 (2) (3).
The law prohibits children from involvement in the sale, distribution, or trafficking of alcohol and drugs.

The law calls for establishment of a Child Labor Elimination Committee and Child Labor Elimination Fund, both of which have been established. The Central Child Welfare Board and Child Welfare Officers have the responsibility of enforcing child rights legislation. The Ministry of Labor and Transport Management is responsible for enforcing child labor legislation and issues. The U.S. Department of State reports that despite legal protections, resources devoted to enforcement of child labor laws are limited and that the Ministry of Labor employs too few inspectors to address the problem effectively.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Ministry of Labor and Transport Management of Nepal have revised a national Master Plan on Child Labor for 2004-2014. The revised plan calls for eliminating the worst forms of child labor by 2009 and all forms of child labor by 2014. The government is also currently implementing its Tenth Plan 2002-2007, its major development policy framework that details steps on eliminating the worst forms of child labor within 10 years. In support of these policies, USDOL funded a USD 5.5 million project from September 2001 through August 2006 to help the government implement its Timebound Program, targeting 7 worst forms of child labor. Targeted children were porters, rag pickers (recyclers), domestic workers, laborers in the carpet industry and in mines, bonded laborers, and children trafficked for sexual or labor exploitation. The project withdrew 8,750 children and prevented 3,928 children from exploitive labor. World Education and its local partner organizations continue to implement Phase 2 of

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the Brighter Futures Program, a USD 3.5 million child labor educational initiative program funded by USDOL, scheduled to run through September 2009. The project shares knowledge gained at the community level to inform government policies related to child labor and aims to withdraw 15,000 children and prevent 15,000 children from exploitive labor. Additionally, a USD 1.2 million project supported by the Government of Italy to eliminate child labor in the South Asia region was completed in December 2006.

The government continues to take action in order to rescue and rehabilitate freed bonded laborers; however, distribution of land to former Kamaiyas has not been consistent with the level of need. In 2006, USDOL funded the USD 2 million second phase of a project to assist former child bonded laborers and their families. The project aims to withdraw 3,000 children and prevent 6,600 children from exploitive labor.

The government has a National Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking and has established a National Coordination Committee with a National Task Force that provides policy direction and coordinates activities on child trafficking. The government, with the support of NGOs and international organizations, implemented awareness-raising campaigns on trafficking in persons, and a trafficking education campaign for girls in 19 districts. Nepal was part of a USDOL funded USD 3 million regional project that ended in March 2006 to combat trafficking in Asia. The project withdrew 367 children and prevented 10,378 children from trafficking throughout the region.

The Government of Nepal is currently implementing its Education for All National Plan of Action (NPA), which aims to expand education access, provide alternative schooling, and provide non-formal education alternatives. Child laborers are one of the target groups identified in the plan. USAID is providing funding for several programs in Nepal to reduce the vulnerability of children. These include scholarship programs for girls from disadvantaged and conflict-affected families; vocational training for youth and displaced and disadvantaged

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3051 ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 1, 2007.


3053 ILO-IPEC, *Sustainable Elimination of Child Bonded Labour Phase II*, 44.


persons; and an anti-trafficking program targeted at girls exploited by, and at risk of, being trafficked.\textsuperscript{3058}

Nicaragua

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 15.7 percent of boys and 5.8 percent of girls ages 6 to 14 were working in Nicaragua. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (62.5 percent), followed by services (31.8 percent), manufacturing (5.3 percent), and other sectors (0.4 percent). Children work in the production of such crops as coffee, corn, sugar, and

3065 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
3070 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
Children also work in street sales and personal services, such as domestic service in third-party homes. They can also be found working in markets, restaurants and hotels. A small percentage of children engage in mining, stone quarrying, construction, and transport. The majority of children work in the informal sector, and some are engaged in garbage dump scavenging.

Child prostitution and sex tourism are problems in Nicaragua. Nicaragua is a source and transit country for children trafficked for sexual exploitation. Children are trafficked within Nicaragua from rural to urban areas. Children from poor rural areas between the ages of 13 and 18 are among the most vulnerable to trafficking. The most prevalent form of internal trafficking is believed to be the commercial sexual exploitation of minors. Children are also trafficked from Nicaragua to other parts of Central America to work in bars and nightclubs, with Guatemala as the primary destination for girls engaged in prostitution.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years. A ministerial resolution also specifically prohibits children under 14 from work in export processing zones, while another prohibits contracting children under 16 for work at sea.

Children 14 to 16 years cannot work without parental permission. Adolescents 14 to 18 cannot work more than 6 hours a day or 30 hours a week. Adolescents are also prohibited from engaging in work that endangers their health and safety, such as work in mines, garbage dumps, and night entertainment venues, and work that may interfere with schooling. The law provides for fines for violations of child labor laws. The National Commission for the Progressive Eradication of Child Labor and Protection of the Young Worker (CNEPTI) receives revenues from fines.

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3079 Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Managua, reporting, March 27, 2007.
3083 Ley núm. 474, Articles 3-5.
3084 U.S. Embassy- Managua, reporting, December 19, 2006. See also Ley núm. 474, Article 6. See also NATLEX, Decreto núm. 22-97 de creación de la Comisión Nacional para la erradicación progresiva del trabajo infantil y la protección del menor trabajador, 1997; available from
The Constitution prohibits forced labor, slavery, and indentured servitude, although children are not specifically mentioned. The Constitution was amended in 1995 to prohibit military conscription. The minimum legal age for entry into the armed forces is unclear.

Prostitution is legal for individuals 14 years and older, but the promotion and procurement of prostitution is prohibited by law. The law establishes a penalty of 4 to 8 years of imprisonment for those found guilty of recruiting children under 16 years into prostitution, and 12 years of imprisonment for recruiting children under 12 years. Promoting, filming, or selling child pornography is prohibited. The government has approved a law calling for the criminalization of sex tourism, which imposes a penalty of imprisonment of 5 to 7 years for convicted offenders. Trafficking in persons is penalized with 4 to 10 years of imprisonment.

The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws. Within the Ministry of Labor’s Inspector General’s Office, there is a Child Labor Inspector’s Office; however, the Office does not have its own inspectors. The country’s 72 general inspectors and 18 hygiene and safety inspectors are responsible for carrying out regular inspections throughout the country to monitor labor conditions, including child labor violations. The Ministry of Government is responsible for law enforcement in the country, operates an anti-trafficking office, and leads the National Coalition against Trafficking in Persons. The Office of the National Prosecutor, through its specialized Women and Children’s unit, is responsible for prosecuting trafficking cases. The Office of the Human Rights Prosecutor also has separate Special Prosecutors for Women, Children, and Adolescents who investigate trafficking cases. However, the U.S. Department of State notes that the laws addressing trafficking in persons do not protect all


3089 Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia, Article 69.


3091 Código Penal, Article 203.


3094 Ibid.


adolescents under 18 years and that government progress in victim assistance, protection and prosecution of traffickers was limited. In addition, the deficit of data collection and registration of trafficking of persons cases and loose immigration controls between the borders of Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala further weaken government efforts to pursue enforcement actions against traffickers effectively.3098

In October 2006, the Ministry of Labor published the government’s annual list of 49 types of work that are harmful to the health, safety, and morals of children, as required under ILO Convention 182.3099

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

On April 4, 2006, the government’s Policy on Special Protection for Children and Adolescents was enacted. The policy includes special protections for victims of commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking in persons.3100 The government’s National Council for the Integral Attention and Protection of Children and Adolescents is responsible for a 5-year National Plan against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (2003-2008) and a 10-year National Action Plan for Children and Adolescents.3101

Through June of 2006, the Government of Nicaragua participated in a 3-year, USD 3 million USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC Central America regional project to combat hazardous child labor in agriculture. At the regional level, the project withdrew 2,309 children from hazardous agriculture and prevented 2,693 others from becoming engaged in similar activities.3102 The government continues to participate in a 4-year, USD 8.4 million regional project to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children. The project aims to withdraw and prevent 580 children from commercial sexual exploitation in Nicaragua.3103 The government also participated in a USD 500,000 ILO-IPEC project to combat child domestic work funded by the Government of the Netherlands, which ended in February 2006.3104 As part of an effort to build

3100 ILO-IPEC, "Stop the Exploitation" ("Alto a la explotación") Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic, technical progress report, RLA/02/P51 - 05/52/USA, September 13, 2006, 2.
3102 ILO-IPEC, Prevention and Progressive Elimination of Child Labour in Agriculture in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic (Phase II), project document, RLA/03/P50/USA, September 17, 2003. See also USDOL, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary: Prevention and Progressive Elimination of Child Labor in Agriculture in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic (Phase II).
3104 ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 8, 2005.
capacity to improve labor law compliance among the CAFTA-DR partners, USDOL is providing USD 2.85 million for a project to strengthen outreach efforts in the agriculture sector in the region, where child labor is a serious problem.\textsuperscript{3105}

In coordination with the Nicaraguan government, CARE-USA is implementing a USD 5.5 million regional project funded by USDOL to combat exploitive child labor through the provision of quality basic education. The project aims to withdraw and prevent 2,984 children and adolescents from exploitive child labor in the region.\textsuperscript{3106} The government also implements a project to prevent and eradicate child labor in small-scale mining, and another to combat child labor in the tobacco-growing sector.\textsuperscript{3107}

Through its Program for Children and Adolescents at Risk, the Ministry of Family works to remove children from work, provide counseling to children and their families, and coordinate with other government agencies, the police, and NGOs to provide services.\textsuperscript{3108} The ministry also operates a “traffic lights” project to assist children who perform odd jobs around traffic intersections.\textsuperscript{3109} In addition, the Ministry is responsible for the operation of a shelter that provides services to minor victims of commercial sexual exploitation, and a national hotline for victims of abuse and exploitation.\textsuperscript{3110}

The Ministries of Government, Education, Tourism, and the Women’s Division of the National Police continued to implement trafficking awareness campaigns specifically for border police, immigration officials, students, teachers, the press and the tourism industry.\textsuperscript{3111} The government also sponsored an education program in the city of Granada with the Ministry of Tourism to train hotel owners and taxi drivers to discourage the commercial sexual exploitation of children.\textsuperscript{3112} Also, the Nicaraguan branch of INTERPOL collaborates with its counterparts in Guatemala, El Salvador, and in other countries in the region.\textsuperscript{3113}

\textsuperscript{3106} CARE USA, \textit{APRENDO Project: Combating Exploitive Child Labor Through Education in Central America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua) and the Dominican Republic}, project document, 2004.
\textsuperscript{3107} UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, \textit{Written Replies by the Government of Nicaragua Concerning the List of Issues (CRC/C/Q/NIC/3)}, 56.
\textsuperscript{3109} UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, \textit{Written Replies by the Government of Nicaragua Concerning the List of Issues (CRC/C/Q/NIC/3)}, 56.
\textsuperscript{3113} Ibid.
Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 71.8 percent of boys and 60.6 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Niger. Children work in the agricultural, commercial, and artisanal sectors often in family businesses. Children in rural areas work on family farms, gathering water or firewood, pounding grain, tending animals, or working in rice fields. Children work in hazardous conditions in mines and quarries breaking rock; transporting heavy loads in head-pans; washing and processing gold, which may expose children to mercury; and crushing and hoisting ore.

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

| Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000: | 66.2% |
| Minimum age for admission to work: | 14 |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | 7-12 |
| Free public education: | Yes |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004: | 45% |
| Net primary enrollment rate in 2004: | 39% |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000: | 31.1% |
| As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | 74% |
| ILO-IPEC Participating Country: | Yes, associated |

Niger

3121 Ibid.
3123 Ibid.
3125 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
3127 Ibid.
Children also perform domestic work, guard cars, shine shoes, and work as porters. Some boys, whose parents send them from rural areas to cities to attend Koranic schools, are forced by their schoolmasters or marabouts to beg on the streets or do manual labor.

Traditional forms of caste-based servitude, including of children, still exist in isolated parts of Niger. Children’s caste standing often determines the sort of work in which they engage. Depending on the region, children may be involved in agricultural work; cattle rearing; domestic service; or leather, wood, or iron working.

Niger serves as a source, transit, and destination country for children trafficked for forced labor, including commercial sexual exploitation and domestic service. Children are trafficked internally to work in mines, manual labor, and domestic service, as well as for commercial sexual exploitation and begging. Some children are trafficked to Niger for exploitive labor from Benin, Burkina Faso, Gabon, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria, and Togo. Children are trafficked from Niger to North Africa, Europe, and the Middle East for sexual exploitation and domestic service.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years. Children 12 to 14 may work with special authorization for only 2 hours per day or 4 hours during school vacations. Children 14 to 18 may not work for more than 4.5 hours per day and are restricted to certain types of employment. The law also requires that employers guarantee minimum sanitary working conditions for children.

The Labor Code prohibits forced and bonded labor, except for work by legally convicted prisoners. Nigerien law also outlaws all forms of slavery and provides for a prison sentence

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3132 U.S. Embassy- Niamey, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 31, 2006.
of 30 years for violations. There are no laws against trafficking. The law criminalizes the procurement or incitement of a minor for the purpose of prostitution, and establishes fines and prison terms of 2 to 5 years for violations. Nigerien law also punishes the parents of minors or any person encouraging minors to beg and who profit from their begging by 6 months to 1 year of imprisonment. The minimum age for conscription into the military is 18.

The Ministry of Labor is charged with enforcing labor laws, but has very limited resources to do so. The Ministry of Labor had approximately 30 inspectors deployed nationwide who are responsible for enforcing all elements of the Labor Code, including investigating cases of child labor.

The Ministers of Interior, Justice, and the Promotion of Women and Protection of Children share the responsibility for combating trafficking in persons.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Ministry of Labor continued its work with ILO-IPEC and UNICEF on a program to determine the extent of the country’s child labor problem. The Ministry of Mines is cooperating in a USDOL-funded USD 3 million regional project implemented by ILO-IPEC to withdraw 1,500 children from artisanal gold mining and prevent 2,500 children from exploitive work in two mining areas in Niger and Burkina Faso.

The Government of Niger is also participating in a USDOL-funded, USD 2 million Child Labor Education Initiative project implemented by Catholic Relief Services to combat child labor through education. This 4-year project targets 3,200 children from exploitive work in industries such as mining; it also aims to limit children’s exposure to agricultural work, cattle-breeding activities, and domestic service. The government participates in a regional ILO-IPEC project funded by France to combat child labor in Francophone Africa.


3141 U.S. Embassy- Niamey, E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 04, 2005.


3145 Ibid., Section 6d.

3146 ILO-IPEC, Regional Mining, project document, 36.


3148 ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication USDOL official, November 16, 2006.
In July 2006, Niger was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action Against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the U.S. Department of Labor-funded, ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.

The government worked with UNICEF and local NGOs to prevent trafficking. Efforts included the training of police and border security officers to identify victims of trafficking, and facilitating the rehabilitation and repatriation of rescued children. The police also worked with local truckers’ unions to organize homeward transportation for trafficking victims.

Nigeria

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Child labor in Nigeria is prevalent, especially in the informal sectors. Children work on family and commercial farms and as domestic servants. They also work in fishing, mining, quarrying, the transportation industry, construction, and garment manufacturing. Children

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Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

| Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2003: | Unavailable
| Minimum age for admission to work: | 15
| Age to which education is compulsory: | 6-12
| Free public education: | Yes
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004: | 99%
| Net primary enrollment rate in 2004: | 60%
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school: | Unavailable
| As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | 73%
| Ratified Convention 138: | 10/2/2002
| Ratified Convention 182: | 10/2/2002
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | Yes, associated

* In practice, must pay for school fees.

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3162 Ibid.
also work in carpentry, masonry, hairdressing, weaving, dyeing, tailoring, carving, and tanning.\textsuperscript{3166} In urban areas, children work as street peddlers, shoe-shiners, load carriers, car washers, scavengers, and beggars.\textsuperscript{3167}

Children in Nigeria are engaged in the drug trade.\textsuperscript{3168} Commercial sexual exploitation of children is also common in many cities in Nigeria, including the Niger Delta regions of Port Harcourt, Bonny, and Akwa Ebom, and large cities, like Lagos.\textsuperscript{3169} The Government of Nigeria reports children being subjected to forced labor and armed conflict.\textsuperscript{3170}

Nigeria is a source, transit, and destination country for child trafficking.\textsuperscript{3171} Children are reported to be trafficked for involuntary domestic and agricultural labor as well as street peddling, within the country and to countries in West and Central Africa. Children from Benin and other West African countries are also trafficked to Nigeria for forced labor.\textsuperscript{3172} Within the country, boys have been trafficked primarily to work as bonded laborers, street peddlers, and beggars, while girls have been trafficked for domestic service, street peddling, and commercial sexual exploitation.\textsuperscript{3173}

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years, except for light agricultural, horticultural, or domestic work performed for the family.\textsuperscript{3174} The minimum age for apprenticeships is 13 years.\textsuperscript{3175} The law prohibits employing children under 15 years in any industrial undertaking.\textsuperscript{3176} Children under 16 years are prohibited from working underground, on machines, at night, on public holidays, or in dangerous or immoral employment. Children under 16 are also prohibited from working more than 8 hours a day and cannot be required to work for

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\textsuperscript{3172} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Nigeria," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{3173} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{3176} Ibid., Articles 59-61.
more than 4 consecutive hours.\textsuperscript{3177} The Federal Child’s Rights Act of 2003 provides criminal sanctions for violation of child labor laws.\textsuperscript{3178} However, it is legally binding only in the Nigerian states where it has been adopted. Of Nigeria’s 36 states, only the Federal Capital Territory, Anambra, Ondo, Ogun, Oyo, Nasarawa, Ebonyi, and Cross River have adopted the law.\textsuperscript{3179}

The law punishes with imprisonment for life the trafficking of persons under 18 with the intent to prostitute them.\textsuperscript{3180} Inducing a person under 18 years into prostitution whether by force, deception, debt bondage, or with the victim’s consent is punishable by 10 years of imprisonment.\textsuperscript{3181} The law also prohibits forced labor, trafficking in slaves, pornography, drug trafficking, and forced or compulsory recruitment into armed conflict of any person, including children.\textsuperscript{3182} The law applies to all residents of Nigeria and to Nigerians who are convicted outside of Nigeria for trafficking-related offenses.\textsuperscript{3183} It also provides for the rights of victims of trafficking, including the right to access health and social services while a temporary resident, protection of identity, and the right to press charges against the trafficker.\textsuperscript{3184} Nigeria has no military conscription. Recruitment into the professional armed forces is on a voluntary basis. The minimum legal recruitment age is 18.\textsuperscript{3185}

The responsibility of enforcing child labor laws rests with various ministries and agencies at the federal, state, and local levels. The Federal Ministry of Employment, Labor, and Productivity coordinates all efforts to combat child labor through its Inspectorate Department, which includes a Child Labor Unit.\textsuperscript{3186} The law authorizes the Minister of Labor to regulate child domestic service.\textsuperscript{3187} According to the U.S. Department of State, Nigerian federal government initiatives to stem the incidence of child labor have been ineffective, in particular as they have been unable to reach all state and local levels.\textsuperscript{3188} Although the Ministry conducted inspections, the inspections focused on the formal business sector, where the incidence of child labor is not a significant problem.\textsuperscript{3189} The Ministry of Labor has trained approximately 120 labor inspection

\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{3177} Ibid., Articles 59-60. \\
\textsuperscript{3178} U.S. Embassy- Abuja, \textit{reporting}, December 15, 2006, para 8a. \\
\textsuperscript{3179} Ibid. \\
\textsuperscript{3183} Government of Nigeria, \textit{Trafficking in Persons Act}, Sections 14 and 25. \\
\textsuperscript{3184} Ibid., Section 36. \\
\textsuperscript{3186} Gladys Makoju, Deputy Director, Education Sector Analysis, Interview with USDOL Consultant, March 29, 2005. See also U.S. Department of State, ”Country Reports- 2006: Nigeria,” Section 6d. \\
\textsuperscript{3187} Government of Nigeria, \textit{Nigeria Labour Act 1974}, Articles 59 and 65. \\
\textsuperscript{3188} U.S. Department of State, ”Country Reports- 2006: Nigeria,” Section 6d. \\
\textsuperscript{3189} Ibid.}
officers on child labor laws and has an additional 80 officers to perform inspections in high-risk areas such as agriculture, mining, and in the informal sector.  

Enforcement efforts regarding trafficking are the primary responsibility of the National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP). The National Police Force (NPF) and the Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS) also have anti-trafficking units responsible for combating trafficking. The NAPTIP, NPF, and NIS are improving coordination and record-keeping, and the number of trafficking cases investigated and prosecuted is reported to be increasing. Despite this, trafficking is reportedly on the rise, and NAPTIP lacks adequate resources to address all of the victims’ needs. The Ministry of Labor and Productivity is reported to have repatriated 370 trafficked children. At the state level, anti-trafficking police units have been established and staffed in states with the worst trafficking problems.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Nigeria participated in a USD 6 million USDOL-funded regional project, which withdrew or prevented 1,017 children from hazardous work in the cocoa sector and closed in April 2006. In addition, the USAID-supported Sustainable Tree Crops Program incorporates child labor issues into its program in Nigeria. With funding from Canada, France and Norway, the UNODC Global Program against Trafficking in Human Beings provides technical assistance to the government to assess trends in human trafficking. The Governments of Nigeria and Italy are collaborating on a separate UNODC project to reduce the trafficking of women and minors for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation between the two countries.

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3196 Government of Nigeria, Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor, 3.
In July 2006, Nigeria was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action Against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the U.S. Department of Labor-funded, ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.

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Children in Oman work in family businesses, as well as in informal occupations such as agriculture, fishing, cleaning, and delivering messages and other goods. Bedouin children participate in camel racing as part of their cultural heritage, but there are no substantiated reports of foreign children trafficked to work as camel jockeys or for other purposes. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child does not consider the use of child camel jockeys, as practiced in Oman, an issue of concern.3213

It is difficult to ascertain whether any child prostitution, pornography, or trafficking exists in Oman, because of lack of data. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child has noted that a large number of migrant workers enter Oman each year, thus increasing the likelihood that trafficked children may be among them. The Committee has recommended that the government conduct in-depth studies on the commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking of children.3214

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Oman

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

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3211 Ibid.
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age of employment in Oman is 15 years. Minors 15 to 18 years are permitted to work up to 6 hours per day, between the hours of 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., but they may not work overtime or work on holidays or rest days. Workplaces that employ minors are required to post certain items for display, including a copy of the provisions of the law regulating the employment of children; an updated log with the names of minors employed in the workplace with their ages and dates of employment; and a work schedule showing work hours, rest periods, and weekly holidays. In July 2006, a royal decree increased the maximum prison term from 1 week to 1 month for employers who repeatedly use child labor. The minimum legal age to work as a camel jockey is being increased gradually from 14 until it reaches 18 in 2009.

Forced labor by children is prohibited by law. The crime of inciting a minor under 18 years into prostitution is punishable by not less than 5 years of imprisonment. Child pornography is not explicitly outlawed, but the production, possession, or distribution of pornographic material is punishable by up to 1 year of imprisonment. There is no specific legal provision prohibiting trafficking in persons, however, the crime of enslaving a person carries a prison sentence of between 5 and 15 years. Similarly, the crimes of receiving, possessing, maintaining, or causing a person to enter or exit Oman in a state of servitude or slavery are punishable by 3 to 5 years of imprisonment. It is illegal to engage a minor under age 18 in illicit activities such as drug production or trafficking, or any other activity linked with narcotic drugs; such offenses are punishable by the death penalty. The minimum age for voluntary military recruitment is 18.

The Ministry of Manpower (MOM) is responsible for the enforcement of child labor laws, and the U.S. Department of State reports that enforcement is generally sufficient. However, enforcement does not always extend to small family businesses, especially those engaged in


3216 Ibid., Article 78.


3221 Ibid., Articles 34 and 224.


3225 Ibid.

agriculture and fishing.\textsuperscript{3227} The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child has recommended that the Government of Oman strengthen its labor inspectorate in order to better monitor the extent of child labor in both the formal and informal sectors.\textsuperscript{3228} In practice, most employers ask each prospective employee for a certificate indicating that he or she has completed basic education through grade 10. Considering that children usually begin their basic education at age 6, this means that workers, in most cases, will be age 16 when they begin work.\textsuperscript{3229} Registration with the Omani Camel Racing Federation and submission of a passport, photograph, and birth certificate confirming compliance with minimum age laws is required of all persons seeking work as camel jockeys.\textsuperscript{3230}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

In March 2006, the Governments of Oman and Pakistan signed a memorandum of understanding to increase cooperation in combating organized crime and trafficking in persons.\textsuperscript{3231} Oman has also entered into bilateral and multilateral agreements with Saudi Arabia, India, and the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council aimed at combating various forms of child sexual exploitation.\textsuperscript{3232} The government operates a 24-hour hotline to allow citizens to report claims of labor abuses, including trafficking.\textsuperscript{3233}

\textsuperscript{3227} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Oman," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{3228} UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations: Oman*, 14.
\textsuperscript{3230} U.S. Department of State, "Oman (Tier 2 Watch List)."
\textsuperscript{3231} U.S. Department of State official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 14, 2006.
\textsuperscript{3232} ILO Committee of Experts, *ILO Direct Request: Oman*.
\textsuperscript{3233} US Embassy- Muscat official, E-mail communication USDOL official, July 25, 2007.
\textsuperscript{3234} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Oman," Section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Oman (Tier 2 Watch List)."
Pakistan

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 1999-2000, approximately 15.8 percent of boys and 17.2 percent of girls ages 10 to 14 were working in Pakistan. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (78.1 percent), followed by services (13.4 percent), manufacturing (7.1 percent), and other sectors (1.4 percent). The country’s rapid population growth and high rate of urbanization have increased the number of street children in urban areas. Street children work scavenging

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Percent of children 10-14 estimated as working in 1999-2000:</th>
<th>16.4%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
<td>14 in specified hazardous occupations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>Varies by province</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>66%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 10-14 attending school in 1999-2000:</td>
<td>64.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>10/11/2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3241 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
3243 Ibid.
3245 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
Also in urban areas, children work in manufacturing, construction, transport, domestic service, and by assisting in family businesses. In the Northwest Frontier Province and Balochistan province, the children of Afghan refugees are particularly vulnerable to involvement in the worst forms of child labor.

Children are employed in several hazardous activities across the country, including rag-picking; leather tanning; mining; deep-sea fishing; seafood processing; brick-making; and manufacturing of surgical instruments and glass bangles. Children working in carpet-weaving suffer injuries from sharp tools, eye disease and eye strain, respiratory disease due to wool dust, and skeletal deformation and pain due to cramped working conditions. Many working children are vulnerable to physical and sexual abuse, particularly those working far from their families such as street children, child miners, and child domestics working in private homes.

There are reports of children being kidnapped, maimed, and forced to work as beggars. Bonded child labor reportedly exists in Pakistan in the brick, carpet, textile, and rice-milling industries, as well as in agricultural activities; in some cases, children are sold into bondage by their parents. Children working in mining, agriculture and domestic service are often from families who are bonded or indebted to their employers. Commercial sexual exploitation of

3249 U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Pakistan," Section 6d. See also ILO-IPEC, *Time-Bound Programme, project document, 9-10 and Table 2.1.*
children continues to be a problem,\textsuperscript{3255} with some families selling their daughters into prostitution.\textsuperscript{3256} Recent reports have also highlighted the increasing numbers of boys as young as 9 years of age exploited as prostitutes.\textsuperscript{3257} Young boys are also reportedly at high risk of being trafficked within the country.\textsuperscript{3258} Pakistani girls are trafficked into commercial sexual exploitation in Persian Gulf countries, and despite significant government efforts to stop the practice, Pakistani boys continue to be trafficked to the United Arab Emirates and Qatar to work as camel jockeys.\textsuperscript{3259}

Pakistan continues to rebuild from the earthquake of October 8, 2005. Thousands of child survivors were orphaned or separated from their families, making them vulnerable to trafficking and other forms of exploitive child labor.\textsuperscript{3260} In the months following the quake, relief agencies observed a marked increase in children working at small refreshment stands, workshops, restaurants, hotels, shops, and inside private homes.\textsuperscript{3261}

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

It is illegal to employ children under 14 years in factories, mines, or other hazardous occupations or processes.\textsuperscript{3262} The law lists 4 occupations and 34 processes as hazardous, therefore prohibited for children, including work within railway stations, ports, or mines; carpet weaving; construction; and manufacturing of cement, explosives, and other products that involve the use of toxic substances.\textsuperscript{3263} Children 14 to 18 may work in mines, but only for less than 5 consecutive hours between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m., and only with a certificate of fitness. Children 14 to 18 may work in shops and establishments, but no more than 7 hours per day and 42 hours per week, and only between the hours of 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.\textsuperscript{3264} Children 15 years and older may work in factories for up to 5 hours per day, provided they do not work between 7 p.m. and 6 a.m.

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\textsuperscript{3256} U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, reporting, February 28, 2007.

\textsuperscript{3257} ECPAT International, *Prostitution of Boys in Pakistan*, xi, 21, and 39. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Pakistan*.

\textsuperscript{3258} U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, reporting, February 28, 2007.

\textsuperscript{3259} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Pakistan."


\textsuperscript{3262} *Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan*, (1973), Chapter 1, Article 11(3); available from http://www.pakistani.org/pakistan/constitution/part2.ch2.html. See also *The Factories Act, 1934* (as amended to 1997), Article 2.


and have been granted a certificate of fitness. Children of any age may work in non-hazardous occupations, provided they work no more than 7 hours per day and no more than 3 consecutive hours without rest, do not work between 7 p.m. and 8 a.m., and do not work overtime. Employers are also required by law to maintain minimum standards of health and safety in a child’s working environment. Violations can result in a 1-year prison term, or up to 2 years for repeat violations. Children working for their families or in government schools are exempted from these provisions and may work unlimited hours under unregulated conditions.

Forced labor is prohibited by law, and those found in violation face 2 to 5 years of imprisonment. Commercial sexual exploitation of children is a crime, with penalties that can extend up to life imprisonment. Such offenses are defined as selling, letting to hire, or otherwise disposing of a person for the purpose of prostitution, illicit intercourse, or any unlawful and immoral purpose; or buying, hiring, procuring, or otherwise obtaining possession of a person for the same purposes. Parents who cause, encourage, or abet the seduction or prostitution of a girl under 16 years are subject to imprisonment of up to 3 years, as is any person who allows a child under 16 years into a brothel. The law does not specifically prohibit child pornography, but outlaws the circulation of any obscene material, with violations subject to fines and up to 3 months of imprisonment. Importation of a girl for prostitution is punishable by 3 years of imprisonment. Obtaining, securing, selling, purchasing, recruiting, detaining, harboring, or receiving a person by coercion, kidnapping, or abduction for sexual exploitation, slavery, or forced labor is also outlawed. Penalties for these crimes range from 7 to 10 years of imprisonment. Importing, exporting, trafficking, or dealing in slaves is punishable by life imprisonment. The minimum age for voluntary enlistment in the military is 16 years.

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3265 The Factories Act, 1934 (as amended to 1997), Article 54.
3266 Employment of Children Act, Sections 6-7.
3268 Employment of Children Act, Sections 3, 14.
3272 Pakistan Suppression of Prostitution Ordinance (1961), Section 9, as cited in Ibid.
3273 Constitution of Pakistan, Article 11(2). See also Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking and Smuggling Ordinance (2002), as cited in ILO - Regional Project on Combating Child Trafficking for Labour and Sexual Exploitation, Anti-child Trafficking Legislation in Asia, 35. 36.
Child labor and forced labor laws are enforced by provincial governments through the labor inspectorate system.\textsuperscript{3276} The U.S. Department of State reports that enforcement of these laws is weak because of an inadequate number of inspectors; lack of training and resources; corruption; and the exclusion of many small businesses from the inspectorate’s jurisdiction. Employers found in violation of child labor laws often are not penalized, and penalties are generally too minor to act as a deterrent.\textsuperscript{3277} In 2006, the provincial inspectorates conducted only 8,851 child labor inspections resulting in 55 prosecutions, a sharp decline from 2005, and the average fine levied against employers convicted of child labor violations also dropped significantly from 2005 to 2006.\textsuperscript{3278}

The Anti-Trafficking Unit of the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has primary responsibility for enforcing trafficking-related laws.\textsuperscript{3279} With support from IOM, the government has stepped up training for FIA Anti-Trafficking Unit staff, law enforcement officers, attorneys, and judges, to more effectively identify, investigate, and prosecute trafficking cases. Accordingly, the number of cases investigated and prosecuted has increased.\textsuperscript{3280} There are still reports of police officers complicit in commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking of children, but the government has arrested and prosecuted some officials involved in such activities.\textsuperscript{3281}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

In May 2006, the Government of Pakistan adopted a National Action Plan for Children that aims to harmonize federal and state child labor programs and work toward the progressive elimination of child labor.\textsuperscript{3282} Since 2000, the national and provincial-level governments have been implementing a National Policy and Action Plan to Combat Child Labor (NPPA) that calls for immediate eradication of the worst forms of child labor; progressive elimination of child labor from all sectors; educational alternatives to keep children out of work; and rehabilitation of children withdrawn from work.\textsuperscript{3283} The government’s 2003 PRSP reiterates the government’s commitment to the NPPA, and incorporates the reduction of child labor into its target-setting

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\textsuperscript{3276} Government of Pakistan, *Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, 1.
\textsuperscript{3278} U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting. December 18, 2006*.
The National Commission for Child Welfare and Development (NCCWD) oversees the National Project on Rehabilitation of Child Labor, implemented by Pakistan Bait-Ul-Mal, an autonomous body established by the Ministry of Social Welfare and Special Education. The project withdraws children between 5 and 14 years from hazardous labor; provides them free non-formal education and clothing; and provides stipends to the children and their families. As of October 2006, the project had assisted more than 14,000 children. The provincial labor departments of Punjab, Sindh and Northwest Frontier Province have established Child Labor Resource Centers, and the provincial government of Balochistan has established a Child Labor Vigilance Cell, which provide focal points for disseminating information and forging networks of social partners to combat child labor.

With support from the ILO, the National Commission on Abolition of Bonded Labor and Rehabilitation of Freed Bonded Laborers oversees the implementation of the National Policy and Plan of Action for the Abolition of Bonded Labor. As part of implementation, the government provided an initial allocation of 100 million rupees (approximately USD 1.7 million) to educate working children and freed bonded laborers.

USDOL is funding ILO-IPEC through 2008 to support the Government of Pakistan’s Timebound Program, designed to withdraw 10,100 children and prevent 1,700 children from work in the glass bangle, surgical instrument, tanning, coal mining, scavenging, and deep-sea fishing industries. In addition, with the support of USDOL as well as the Swiss, Norwegian, German, and Danish governments and other donors, ILO-IPEC is implementing several other child labor projects targeting children in carpet weaving, soccer ball stitching, and manufacturing of surgical instruments. The project targeting children in carpet weaving will withdraw 21,600 children and prevent 4,400 children from work in that industry. With support from USDOL, Save the Children-UK is implementing two child labor projects in collaboration with federal and provincial governments. The first is a USD 5 million project that will withdraw 8,000 children

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3286 Government of Pakistan, Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour, Annex A.
3289 Government of Pakistan, Time-Bound Programme, project document, 32, 75.
and prevent 4,300 children from work in various hazardous sectors in Punjab province.3291 The second is an approximately USD 4.3 million project that aims to withdraw 7,300 children and prevent 8,220 children from hazardous work in the provinces of Balochistan, NWFP, and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA).3292

The government operates shelters that provide legal representation, vocational training, and rehabilitative care to trafficking victims. The Ministry for Overseas Pakistanis has mounted an information campaign on trafficking and safe migration, with a particular emphasis on the problem of children trafficked to the Middle East as camel jockeys.3293 With support from UNICEF, the federal government and the Punjab provincial government operate programs to repatriate child camel jockeys and provide protective and rehabilitative services.3294

Following the October 2005 earthquake, the government and international organizations took steps to prevent vulnerable children from falling victim to exploitive child labor and trafficking. An immediate ban was imposed on the adoption and relocation of children from quake-affected areas, and this measure was sustained throughout 2006. The Ministry of Social Welfare and Special Education (MSWSE) operated Child Care and Rehabilitation Centers to provide shelter, education, health care, and psychosocial services to quake-affected children. The government established and participated in a multi-sector Technical Working Group to handle issues of registration, rehabilitation, recovery, and resettlement of unaccompanied and orphaned children and adolescents.3295 The Working Group helped formulate a National Strategy and Plan of Action for the Rehabilitation of the Most Vulnerable Population in Earthquake-Affected Areas, which was adopted in 2006. The Plan acknowledges children’s increased vulnerability to harmful child labor and trafficking, and it calls for increased monitoring, protection, and support for quake-affected children.3296 UNICEF and USAID assisted the government in rebuilding schools, reenrolling children, and training teachers;3297 and USDOL provided approximately USD 1.5 million for education and training programs for children in Balakot, NWFP, left vulnerable to hazardous child labor by the disaster. The project targets 500 children for withdrawal and 2,000 children for prevention from hazardous work.3298

3292 Save the Children - UK, Mitigating Child Labour in Pakistan, project document.
3295 ILO-IPEC, Pakistan Earthquake - Child Labour Response, project document, 5-6.
3298 ILO-IPEC, Pakistan Earthquake - Child Labour Response, project document, i, 27, 28.
Panama

In 2003, approximately 7.7 percent of boys and 2.2 percent of girls ages 10 to 14 were working in Panama. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (57.6 percent), followed by services (38.1 percent), manufacturing (3.1 percent), and other sectors (1.2 percent). Rates of work tend to be higher among indigenous than non-indigenous children in

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Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Data</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Percent of children 10-14 estimated as working in 2003</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004</td>
<td>112%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004</td>
<td>98%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 6-14 attending school in 2003</td>
<td>93.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138</td>
<td>10/31/2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182</td>
<td>10/31/2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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3302 Constitution of Panama, Article 91.
3305 UCW Analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
3310 UCW Analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
Children work on commercial and subsistence farms that produce sugar cane, coffee, palm, watermelons, tomatoes, and onions. Some children, including children from indigenous communities in Panama, migrate with their families to other regions of the country in search of paid work, which interrupts their schooling.

Children in urban areas in Panama work in the informal sector. They work in personal services, urban markets, and trash dumps; they bag groceries in supermarkets; and they work as assistants for bus drivers. Many children receive tips rather than salaries, particularly grocery packers in supermarkets. Children also work as domestic servants in third-party homes.

The commercial sexual exploitation of children and child pornography is a problem in Panama. Panama is a source and destination country for children trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation. Children are trafficked within Panama and from Colombia for sexual exploitation. In addition, some rural and indigenous child domestic servants may be trafficking victims who were transported from the western provinces to the capital.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years. Children who have not completed primary school may not begin work until 15 years. However, the law permits children 12 to 14 to perform light domestic and agricultural labor as long as the work does not

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3314 Ibid. See also ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Country Program PHASE II, 4.*


3316 ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Country Program PHASE II, 4.*


3318 U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons- 2006: Panama (Tier 2).” See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Panama,” Section 5.


3320 *Constitution of Panama*, Article 66.

interfere with schooling. The ILO’s Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations has noted that Panamanian law does not provide clear regulations for the conditions under which 12-to-14-year-olds may engage in light labor.

The law prohibits youth 14 to 18 from engaging in potentially hazardous work or work that would impede their school attendance. The law identifies a number of such hazardous forms of work, including work with electric energy, explosives, flammables, and toxic or radioactive substances; work underground; work on railroads, airplanes, or boats; and work in nightclubs, bars, and casinos. Some of these types of work are allowed if the work is performed as part of a training program. Youth under 16 years may work no more than 6 hours a day or 36 hours per week, while those 16 and 17 years may work no more than 7 hours per day or 42 hours per week. Children under 18 may not work between 6 p.m. and 8 a.m. Businesses that employ an underage child are subject to civil fines, while employers who endanger the physical or mental health of a child can face 2 to 6 years of imprisonment.

The law prohibits forced labor by children. Panama does not have armed forces, and therefore has no laws regulating age of conscription.

The law provides for a range of penalties for engaging in the prostitution of minors under 18. These include 4 to 8 years imprisonment and fines for soliciting and paying for prostitution with a minor; 8 to 12 years and fines for engaging in prostitution with a minor under 14 years; and 6 to 10 years of imprisonment and fines for being supported by an underage prostitute. The production, distribution, or promotion of child pornography is punishable by 4 to 6 years in prison and fines. Involvement in sex tourism in which children are victims may result in 5 to 8 years in prison and fines. Trafficking of minors for sexual purposes is punishable with 8 to 10 years in prison and fines. The law provides for indemnification of costs for treatment, housing, legal fees and emotional suffering of trafficking victims.

The President of Panama signed an Executive Decree to legalize Panama’s list of the worst forms of child labor, as stipulated in ILO Convention No. 182 of the Worst Forms of Child

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3322 Código de la familia, Article 716. See also Código del Trabajo (annotated), Article 123.
3323 ILO-Committee of Experts, Direct Request, [5].
3324 Código del Trabajo (annotated), Article 118. See also Código de la familia, Articles 510-512.
3325 Código del Trabajo (annotated), Articles 120 and 122.
3330 Interpol, National Laws: Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences Against Children-Panama Articles 229, 229-A, and 230.
3331 Ibid., Articles 231-D, 231-E, 231-F, 231-G, and 231-H.
3332 Ibid., Article 231G.
3333 Ibid., Articles 231, 231A, 231-B, and 231-C.
Labor. The Decree became official law on June 19, 2006. The law lists 17 classes of work that are considered hazardous by their nature and 12 considered hazardous by their conditions.  

The Ministry of Labor, through its Child Labor Unit, is responsible for enforcing child labor laws, conducting child labor inspections, and imposing penalties on companies that do not comply with the law. At the end of 2006, 369 inspections had been conducted of businesses in the capital city and 139 inspections had been conducted in the interior of the country. Children may file complaints about possible violations of their rights with the National Council for Children and Adolescents Rights; the Children’s Delegate in the Ombudsperson’s Office; or the Ministry of Youth, Women, Children, and Family Affairs.

The Ministry of Government and Justice is responsible for developing policies to combat trafficking in persons, and the Ministry of Social Development provides shelter and related services to victims. The Technical Judicial Police has a special Sex Crimes Unit to investigate sex crimes, including child pornography and trafficking, although the U.S. Department of State noted that inadequate funding was allocated to the Unit. The Attorney General’s office has three prosecutors designated to handle trafficking in persons cases.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In June 2006, Panama adopted its first National Plan against Child Labor (2007-2011). The Plan, developed by the National Commission for the Elimination of Child Labor and the Protection of the Adolescent Worker (CETIPPAT), is comprised of various strategic components. These components include raising awareness, harmonizing national legislation with international conventions; enforcing child labor laws; improving national capacity to inspect and monitor child labor violations; improving the conditions of parents of working children; promoting the education and health of working children; promoting recreational activities for children; and creating and maintaining a database of credible information. During 2006, the government also continued to implement its 12-year National Strategic Plan on

3336 ILO-Committee of Experts, Direct Request, [1]. See also U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Panama,” section 6d.
3340 Ibid.
3341 U.S. Department of State, “Trafficking in Persons- 2006: Panama (Tier 2).”
Children and Adolescents (2003-2015) and the 2003-2006 National Action Plan on Children and Adolescents, which included strategies to address child labor and the sexual exploitation of children.\textsuperscript{3345}

The government continues to participate in the second phase of a USDOL-funded USD 2 million program implemented by ILO-IPEC that aims to combat child labor in the rural and urban informal sectors.\textsuperscript{3346} The first phase, which ended in June 2006, withdrew 967 children and prevented 570 from engaging in exploitive labor.\textsuperscript{3347} The second phase aims to withdraw 750 children and prevent an additional 750 from becoming engaged in exploitive labor.\textsuperscript{3348} Panama is also part of a USDOL-funded USD 8.8 million regional project implemented by ILO-IPEC to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children. The project aims to withdraw and prevent 230 children and adolescents from engaging in or becoming involved in such exploitation in Panama.\textsuperscript{3349} Another USDOL-funded USD 3 million regional ILO-IPEC project to combat hazardous child labor in agriculture ended in June 2006. Panama participated in policy and capacity building activities, but no children were directly targeted for withdrawal or prevention in that program.\textsuperscript{3350} The Government of Panama is also collaborating in a USD 3 million project funded by USDOL and implemented by Creative Associates International to combat child labor through education in Panama. The project aims to withdraw 2,420 children from exploitive work in agriculture and prevent 675 children from becoming engaged in such activities.\textsuperscript{3351}

The Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) supports and implements a number of programs that provide services to vulnerable children, including children engaged in exploitive child labor. Programs include shelters for child and adolescent victims of commercial sexual exploitation; a hotline for citizens to denounce incidents of exploitive child labor; and a Web site for the public to report cases that involve the commercial sexual exploitation or the trafficking of children.\textsuperscript{3352} As part of the government’s strategy to combat poverty, MIDES also provides services to families in situations of extreme poverty, which include a monthly stipend to female heads of household who commit to maintaining their school-aged children in school and participating in

\textsuperscript{3346} ILO-IPEC, \textit{IPEC Country Program PHASE II}.
\textsuperscript{3348} ILO-IPEC, \textit{IPEC Country Program PHASE II}, 33-35.
\textsuperscript{3350} ILO-IPEC, \textit{Prevention and Progressive Elimination of Child Labour in Agriculture in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic (Phase II)}, September 2003, 32-33.
school activities. Also in 2006, MIDES, in collaboration with the ILO, produced and disseminated awareness-raising materials on commercial sexual exploitation, trafficking, and victim protection to public school teachers and the larger community.

The Institute for Human Resources, Capacity Building, and Vocational Training (IFARHU), an independent government agency with its own budget overseen by the Executive Branch, implements a scholarship program for children who have been withdrawn or prevented from exploitative labor. Between January and August 2006, IFARHU provided school scholarships to 2,174 children as part of its “Child Labor Eradication” sub-program. UNICEF is implementing a “community schools” program in the province of Chiriquí to discourage parents from sending children to work on coffee plantations.

The National Commission for the Prevention of Sexual Crimes (CONAPREDES) provides funding to assist victims. CONAPREDES has implemented a media campaign against commercial sexual exploitation that included activities to educate journalists on trafficking issues and to warn adult males who seek commercial sex with minors. Also in 2006, the government incorporated an anti-trafficking message into all lottery tickets nationwide.

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3358 U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons- 2006: Panama (Tier 2)."
Papua New Guinea

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children work in the commercial agriculture sector, including on tea and coffee farms. Children are also seen selling food items on the streets of urban areas and working as domestic servants. Children are involved in commercial sexual exploitation, typically working in bars or nightclubs.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Papua New Guinean law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years, and protects children under 18 years from working in hazardous conditions. Children 11 to 18 may work

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3367 Ibid.
3368 Department of Community Development official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 20, 2006. See also Department of Labor and Industrial Relations officials, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 26 2006.
in family businesses with parental permission, medical clearance, and a work permit from the labor office. Work performed by children between 11 and 16 years must not interfere with school attendance. Work by children under 11 years is prohibited. Penalties for child labor violations range from a fine to 2 years of imprisonment.

The law prohibits forced labor, including by children. Procuring girls under 18 years for sexual relations or obtaining financial gain from the prostitution of minors is also prohibited by law. There is no compulsory military service in Papua New Guinea, and the minimum age for voluntary military service is 16.

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and the Department of Police are responsible for implementing and enforcing child labor laws; however, the U.S. Department of State reports that enforcement by those departments has been poor and that no inspectors specifically address child labor.

**Current Government Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**


UNICEF, with the support of the government, is also implementing a child protection program that includes advocacy for the elimination of the worst forms of child labor.

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3373 U. S. Embassy- Port Moresby, reporting, September 14, 2005.

3374 Department of Labor and Industrial Relations officials, Interview, June 26, 2006.


3379 U. S. Embassy- Port Moresby, reporting, September 14, 2005.


Paraguay

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

| Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 1999: | 6.5% |
| Minimum age for admission to work: | 12 |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | 14 |
| Free public education: | Yes |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003: | 106% |
| Net primary enrollment rate: | Unavailable |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 1999: | 87% |
| As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | 81% |
| Ratified Convention 182: | 3/7/2001 |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | Yes |

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

The majority of working children in Paraguay in 1999 were found in the agricultural sector (52.9 percent), followed by services (41.7 percent), manufacturing (4.0 percent), and other sectors (1.4 percent). Approximately 9.4 percent of all boys ages 5 to 14 were working compared to 3.5 percent of girls in the same age group. Boys work principally in agriculture and unskilled manual labor. Girls work in the same sectors, as well as in the service and sales sectors, including as domestic servants in third-party homes. Under the practice of

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3385 Government of Paraguay, Ley General de Educación, Article 32. See also UNESCO, EFA Global Monitoring Report, 84.
3390 Ibid.
3392 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
3394 Ibid., 30.
criadazgo, many child domestic servants do not receive salaries, but work in exchange for room, board, and financial support for schooling. These child domestic workers are sometimes subject to sexual exploitation. Many children work on the streets in the informal sector, including as newspaper and sundries vendors and as car window washers. Children who work on the streets or who work under the criadazgo system often lack access to education.\(^{3396}\)

According to a 2004 ILO-IPEC report, the number of children in commercial sexual exploitation is estimated to be 3,700 and is believed to be concentrated in three cities of the country (Asunción, Ciudad del Este, Encarnación). In April 2006, the ILO estimated that during 2005 more than 3,500 children ages 5 to 17 had been sexually exploited in Ciudad del Este and that there were 250 minor girl prostitutes in the city.\(^{3397}\) Girls are trafficked along the Brazil-Paraguay-Argentina border for commercial sexual exploitation. There are also reports of Paraguayan children trafficked to Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, and Spain.\(^{3398}\) Poor rural children are trafficked internally to urban areas for commercial sexual exploitation and forced domestic labor. Paraguayan children reportedly are also exploited in neighboring countries for forced domestic labor.\(^{3399}\)

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

Children older than 12 years may enter into work contracts, with parental authorization. Fines are established for employing children under age 12.\(^{3400}\) The minimum age for employment in industrial work is 15 years, with exceptions for children over 12 years working in authorized professional schools and family businesses where the work is not dangerous.\(^{3401}\) Children 14 to 16 years may not work more than 4 hours per day and 24 hours per week. Children 16 to 18 years may not work more than 6 hours per day and 36 hours per week. The maximum daily work hours are reduced to 4 for adolescents that are attending school.\(^{3402}\) Fines are established for employing children under 18 for nighttime industrial work.\(^{3403}\)

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3401 Ibid., Article 119.
Adolescents 14 to 17 may be sent to locations different than specified in the original work contract, as long as they are not uprooted from their families and they remain in school. Adolescents 15 to 18 year olds who work must have a birth certificate, an annual certificate of physical and mental health, and their guardian’s authorization to work. Minors are to be paid at least 60 percent of the legal minimum salary for unspecified labor, and if a minor performs the same work as an adult, he or she must be paid the established legal minimum wage. As stated in the legal code for children and adolescents, employers of adolescent domestic workers must facilitate their school attendance, provide the adolescent with food and a separate bedroom, and register the adolescent with the social security system.

Authorization from the adolescent’s guardian is needed for domestic work, and the appropriate Municipal Council for Children and Adolescent’s Rights must be notified if the adolescent is moved to another location. Employing anyone under 18 years in work that may be harmful to his/her well-being is prohibited and punishable by fines. The “List of Work Endangering Children” decree prohibits minors under 18 from working in 26 broad classifications of work, including crossing national borders, operating dangerous machinery, working as a domestic servant (with exceptions for those 16 and older), and working between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. Although the practice of criadazgo and child domestic labor are on this list, the Department of Legal Affairs states that criadazgo is not completely prohibited for children 16 and older as long as the provisions laid out in the legal code for children and adolescents are followed.

The commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents is prohibited. Penalties of up to 5 years of incarceration or fines are imposed for inducing the prostitution of someone under 18. If the perpetrator acts for profit, or if the victim is under 14, the penalty can increase. Profiting from the prostitution of a person is punishable by up to 5 years of incarceration. The production of child pornography is punishable by 5 to 10 years of incarceration; a prison term of 3 to 8 years applies for the distribution of such material. The use of anyone under 18 in

3404 Government of Paraguay, Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia, Article 59.
3405 Ibid., Articles 60 and 61. See also Government of Paraguay, Código del Trabajo, Modificado 1995, Article 124.
3407 Government of Paraguay, Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia, Articles 63, 64, and 65.
3408 Ibid., Articles 66.
3409 Ibid., Article 54. See also Government of Paraguay, Código del Trabajo, Modificado 1995, Articles 352 and 389.
3411 Ibid. See also Government of Paraguay, Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia. See also Paraguayan Embassy official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 2, 2006.
3412 Government of Paraguay, Código de la Niñez y la Adolescencia, Chapter II, Article 31.
3414 Ibid., Article 140.
3415 Government of Paraguay, Que reprime el comercio y la difusión comercial o no comercial de material pornográfico, utilizando la imagen u otra representación de menores o incapaces, 2861, (January 17, 2006), Articles 1, 2, 3, and 5; available from www.senado.gov.py/leyes/.
sexually explicit performances carries a prison sentence of 3 to 10 years. Increased penalties apply if the crimes relating to child pornography and sexually explicit performances were done for profit or by a member of an organized group. Slavery and trafficking in persons are prohibited. The maximum prison term is 10 years for trafficking a minor for labor or sexual exploitation, or for forcing, deceiving, or coercing a person to leave the country. Although the law establishes 18 years as the minimum age for conscription into the military, boys younger than 18 may join the military in exceptional circumstances.

According to the U.S. Department of State, the government generally does not enforce minimum age requirements for employment. The Secretariats for Women, for Repatriations, and for Childhood and Adolescence (SNNA) have limited effectiveness for combating trafficking and providing assistance to victims because of budgetary constraints; also, the borders are not well controlled. However, the government has arrested individuals for crimes involving child trafficking.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The government worked to implement the National Plan for the Eradication and Prevention of Child Labor (2003-2008). The plan’s objectives include data collection, publicity and education, training, improved legal protections and public policy, and implementation of a monitoring system and interventions. SNNA participates in and organizes programs on human trafficking and child labor, including child domestic servants. The Secretariat for Social Action, with assistance from UNICEF, provides services to children who work on the streets. The government offered some financial support to NGOs that provide services to children who live on the streets or are victims of commercial sexual exploitation. The National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Sexual Exploitation, along with the child labor plan, is part of the National Policy for Childhood and Adolescence (2003-2013).

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3418 Código Penal, Articles 125 and 223.
3421 Ibid., Section 5.
3426 Government of Paraguay, Decreto No. 2616, (May 31.), Article 2; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ipec/documentos/planes_grales_py.pdf. See also Committee for the Rights of Children and Adolescents, ILO, and UNICEF, Plan Nacional de Prevención y Erradicación de la Explotación Sexual de Niñas,
The Government of Paraguay and the other governments of MERCOSUR developed the “Niño Sur” (“Southern Child”) initiative to defend the rights of children and adolescents in the region. The initiative has focused on countering the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents (including trafficking), child labor, and improving youth criminal justice systems. Action strategies include the harmonization of legal frameworks, unified public campaigns and joint actions in border cities.3427

The government participates in a regional USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC project targeting children involved in commercial sexual exploitation and domestic labor. This project seeks to withdraw 2,185 children from exploitive child labor situations and prevent an additional 2,920 children from engaging in child labor.3428 Government secretariats participated in and implemented activities including the creation of an anti-trafficking handbook, inter-institutional meetings on trafficking, and awareness-raising campaigns on trafficking and child pornography.3429 A public utility jointly owned by the Paraguayan and Brazilian Governments, Itaipu Binational, supports an NGO that operates a hotline and shelter for trafficking victims in Ciudad del Este.3430 The government works to repatriate trafficking victims, usually through NGOs, and provides legal, medical, and psychological services to trafficking victims in Asuncion.3431

The Ministry of Education and Culture requires that all schools gather information on the working status of children.3432

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Peru

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 24 percent of boys and 20.5 percent of girls ages 6 to 14 were working in Peru. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (73.2 percent), followed by services (23.9 percent), manufacturing (2.7 percent), and other sectors (0.2 percent). Children work with their families in agriculture and artisanal mining or as domestic workers. In the cities, children often sell goods and services in the streets, and work in garbage dumps. In the outskirts of Lima, children work in the brick making industry. Children and

<table>
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<th>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</th>
</tr>
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<td>Percent of children 6-14 estimated as working in 2000: 22.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work: 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory: Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free public education: Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004: 114%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004: 97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000: 96.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: 90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138: 11/13/2002</td>
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<td>Ratified Convention 182: 1/10/2002</td>
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<td>ILO-IPEC participating country: Yes</td>
</tr>
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3439 SIMPOC, MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
3442 Ibid.
3444 SIMPOC, MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
their families are reportedly held captive in remote areas as they work in food and coca crops for narco-traffickers and terrorists.  

Peru is a source country for children trafficked internally for commercial sexual exploitation and forced domestic labor. Most victims are girls moved from rural to urban areas or from city to city to work in prostitution at nightclubs, bars, and brothels. Children are also exploited in prostitution. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child reports that there are 500,000 child victims of sexual exploitation and violence in the country. 

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The minimum age for employment in non-industrial agricultural work is 15 years; for work in the industrial, commercial, and surface mining sectors it is 16 years; and for work in the industrial fishing sector it is 17 years. Although the general minimum age for employment in Peru is 14 years, the provisions subsequently described in this paragraph restrict the ability of children of that age or younger to work legally. Children 12 to 14 may perform certain jobs, subject to restrictions, only if they obtain legal permission from the corresponding government authorities, can certify that the job is not hazardous, and is not limiting their ability to attend school or training. The Ministry of Labor’s Office of Labor Protection for Minors (PMT) issues permits for children between 12 to 17 to work legally. Children 12 to 14 years are prohibited from working more than 4 hours a day, or more than 24 hours a week; adolescents 15 to 17 years may not work more than 6 hours a day, or more than 36 hours a week. Children working non-paid jobs for family members or in domestic service are entitled to a 12-hour rest period and must have access to education. Regulations require that adolescents working in paid or unpaid domestic service must have access to education. Night work is prohibited for children under 18 years, but a special permit can be issued for adolescents between 15 to 17 years for a maximum of 4 hours’ work a night. Underground work or work that involves heavy lifting, toxic substances, or responsibility for the safety of one’s self and other workers is prohibited for children under 18 years. In July 2006, a Hazardous Occupations for Children

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3453 Government of Peru, *Ley que Aprueba el Nuevo Código de los Niños y Adolescentes*, Ley no. 27337. Book 1, Chapter 1, Article 56.
3455 Government of Peru, *Ley que Aprueba el Nuevo Código de los Niños y Adolescentes*, Ley no. 27337., Articles 61 and 63.
3456 Ibid., Article 57.
3457 Ibid., Article 58.
list was approved. The list includes activities linked to commercial sexual exploitation and domestic work.\textsuperscript{3458} Working adolescents must be paid at the same rate as adult workers in similar jobs.\textsuperscript{3459}

Peruvian law prohibits forced and slave labor, economically exploitative labor, and prostitution.\textsuperscript{3462} The law prohibits the promotion of prostitution, with a penalty of 2 to 5 years imprisonment. The penalty increases to four to 12 years’ imprisonment if the victim is under 14 years of age or if the perpetrator abuses a position of authority or uses violence, deceit, or any means of intimidation.\textsuperscript{3463} Peru’s Penal Code also prohibits pimping. The penalty for this offense is 6 to 12 years if the victim is under age 18 or if violent threats, abuse of a position of authority, or other means of coercion are used.\textsuperscript{3464} Statutes prohibit trafficking in persons and provide penalties of 10 to 15 years of imprisonment for those who move a person under 8 years, either within the country or to an area outside the country, for sexual exploitation (including prostitution, sexual slavery, and pornography).\textsuperscript{3465} The penalty for trafficking or promoting sexual tourism exploiting adolescents ages 14 to 18 is 2 to 6 years in prison. The penalty is 6 to 8 years if the victim is under 14, and, in case of involvement by a government officials or child’s guardian, the penalty is 8 to 10 years in prison.\textsuperscript{3466} Military service is voluntary and prohibited for children under 18.\textsuperscript{3467}

The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws, and its inspectors have legal authority to investigate reports of illegal child labor practices. During 2006, the PMT issued 1,326 work permits for children 12 to 17, the majority of which (1,086) were issued for children between 16 and 17.\textsuperscript{3468} Also in 2006, the Ministry had 236 labor inspectors, with 150 of them working in Lima and focusing on the formal sector of the economy.\textsuperscript{3469} The National Police and local prosecutors have law enforcement authority over child labor violations, and the Prevention Centers for Children and Adolescents (DEMUNA) investigate all violations of the Child and Adolescent Code.\textsuperscript{3470} More than 1,000 DEMUNA offices operate throughout the country.\textsuperscript{3471}

The Ministry of the Interior and the National Police are the entities responsible for addressing domestic trafficking, while the Foreign Ministry and Immigration authorities work on

\begin{footnotesize}
\textsuperscript{3459} Government of Peru, \textit{Ley que Aprueba el Nuevo Código de los Niños y Adolescentes, Ley no. 27337.}, Article 59.
\textsuperscript{3460} Government of Peru, \textit{Ley que Aprueba el Nuevo Código de los Niños y Adolescentes, Ley no. 27337.}, Article 4.
\textsuperscript{3461} Ibid., Article 179.
\textsuperscript{3462} Ibid., Article 181.
\textsuperscript{3463} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Peru." Section 5.
\textsuperscript{3466} Ibid., Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{3467} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Peru." Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{3469} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Peru." Section 6d.
\end{footnotesize}
international trafficking issues.\textsuperscript{3472} During 2006, 2,901 police operations were conducted to combat trafficking in persons, procurement, and child prostitution.\textsuperscript{3473} During the year, prosecutors were processing six trafficking cases from 2005, and as of July, the police passed four additional cases regarding trafficking crimes to prosecutors for further investigation. A total of 23 persons were arrested for trafficking children; charges were brought against seven of the accused.\textsuperscript{3474} The U.S. Department of State reports that the Government of Peru has not increased trafficking prosecutions and convictions since 2005.\textsuperscript{3475} There was only one trial and conviction reported in 2006.\textsuperscript{3476}

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Through the National Committee to Prevent and Eradicate Child Labor (CPETI), the government of Peru works with NGOs, labor unions, and employers’ organizations within the country to implement the National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor.\textsuperscript{3477} The plan focuses on strategic areas such as raising awareness, strengthening judicial and legislative frameworks, generating credible statistics and research, developing social policies based on children’s rights, and strengthening institutional capacities.\textsuperscript{3478}

In 2006, CPETI approved the National Plan against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Boys, Girls and Adolescents.\textsuperscript{3479} The Ministry of Women and Social Development (MIMDES) implements the 2002-2010 National Action Plan for Children and Adolescents. The plan focuses on, among other goals, eliminating the worst forms of child labor for children 6 to 11 years and improving working conditions for adolescents at or above the legal working age.\textsuperscript{3480}

The Government of Peru supports and contributes to a USD 5.5 million regional USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC program to eliminate exploitive child labor in the domestic service and commercial sex sectors.\textsuperscript{3481} The Peru component of this project aims to withdraw 130 children from commercial sex and 120 children from exploitive domestic work, and to prevent 999 children from becoming engaged in such activities.\textsuperscript{3482} The government also participated in a USD 1.5 million 4-year project to combat child labor through education that ended in 2006. The project withdrew 108 children and prevented 544 children from small-scale traditional

\textsuperscript{3472} U.S. Department of State, \textit{Country Reports- 2004: Peru, Section 5.}
\textsuperscript{3474} U.S. Department of State, Country Reports –2006: Peru, Section 5.
\textsuperscript{3475} U.S. Department of State, Trafficking in Persons Interim Assessment, January 19, 2007.
\textsuperscript{3476} U.S. Department of State, Country Reports –2006: Peru, Section 5.
\textsuperscript{3478} Comité Directivo Nacional para la Prevención y Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil (CPETI), \textit{Plan Nacional de Prevención y Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil}, 2005.
\textsuperscript{3482} ILO-IPEC, \textit{The Prevention and Elimination of CDL and CSEC, technical progress report.}
Starting in 2006, the Government of Peru began participating in a new USD 5 million USDOL-funded project to combat child labor through education. This project targets 5,250 children 11-15 for withdrawal and 5,250 children for prevention from exploitive work in the urban informal sector in the poorest districts of Lima, Callao, Trujillo, and Iquitos. A 2006 IDB technical cooperation project supports community groups in implementing actions to reduce child labor in mining, and provide alternative income-generation activities.

The Government of Peru coordinates anti-trafficking activities with NGOs, supporting programs that provide shelters for victims, medical attention, job training, and self-esteem workshops. The Ministry of Interior established a toll-free number to report trafficking crimes, which has received an average of 1,000 calls per month since March. Approximately 15 percent of the calls were found to be related to trafficking crimes. National Police officers have been trained to operate a computerized tracking system for trafficking cases designed and installed by a national NGO.

The Government of Peru, with support from the U.S. Government, receives specialized training on issues related to trafficking in persons, including providing aid to victims, collecting credible statistical data on trafficking cases, and aiding government officials outside of the capital in recognizing cases.

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Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 13.4 percent of boys and 8.4 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in the Philippines. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (65.3 percent), followed by services (29.4 percent), manufacturing (4.2 percent) and other sectors (1.1 percent). Children work on sugarcane plantations, on banana, coconut, and rice plantations, in pyrotechnics production, deep-sea fishing, mining, and quarrying. Children

3490 Ibid.
3491 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
3492 Ibid.
3493 Ibid.
3494 Ibid.
3496 Ibid.
3498 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
3501 See also Godelia E.S. Ricalde, Nonita Adan-Perez, and Mark Anthony P. Nucum, An Annotated Bibliography of Child Labor in the Philippines, 2002; available from www3.pids.gov.ph/dpnet/documents/annotated%20bibliography.pdf See also ILO-IPEC, Supporting the
living on the streets engage in informal labor activities such as scavenging or begging.  

Children, primarily girls, are engaged in domestic service. Children are also involved in the commercial sex industry; children are used in the production of pornography and are exploited by sex tourists.

Children are reportedly trafficked internally from rural areas to major cities, as well as abroad to work in prostitution, drug trafficking, domestic service and other areas of the informal sector. Children are also involved in the production and trafficking of drugs within the country. There are no reports of child soldiers in the government armed forces, but children under 18 are recruited into terrorist organizations, including the Abu Sayyaf Group and the New People’s Army.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law prohibits the employment of children under 15, except when working directly with a parent and when the work does not endanger the child’s life, safety, health or morals, or does not interfere with schooling. The law requires that any child under 15 employed under these guidelines receive a special permit from the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), but

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it does not define any absolute minimum ages for these children. A child is permitted to work as an apprentice at 14. The law sets limits on children’s working hours; it prohibits night work for children under 16 years from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. and forbids children 16 to 18 years from working after 10 p.m. The law also requires formal administration of working children’s income, initiates trust funds for working children, and guarantees their access to education and training. Penalties for violations include fines and prison terms up to 20 years.

Philippine law defines the worst forms of child labor in accordance with ILO Convention 182 and includes criteria for what is considered hazardous work to be prohibited as called for in the convention. Criteria for categorizing work as hazardous include work that degrades the worth and dignity of a child, work performed underground, and handling of explosives or pyrotechnics, among others. The law also specifically prohibits the handling of dangerous machinery or heavy loads; work that entails exposure to extremes of cold, heat, noise, or pressure; work that exposes children to physical, psychological, or sexual abuse; and work that is hazardous. The law criminalizes trafficking of children and adults for exploitation, including trafficking for adoption, sex tourism, prostitution, pornography, the recruitment of children into armed conflict, or under the guise of arranged marriage. The law establishes the penalty of life imprisonment for trafficking violations involving children and provides for confiscation of any proceeds deriving from trafficking crimes. Those who use the services of trafficked persons are also subject to penalties of 15 years of imprisonment. Government employees face additional penalties for breaking the law, which also mandates immediate deportation of foreign offenders following the completion of their prison sentence. The law prohibits the involvement of minors in the manufacturing, delivery, or purchase of dangerous drugs. Slavery and forced labor are prohibited. The law prohibits child prostitution, including engaging in, profiting from, or soliciting prostitution from children. The law also prohibits the use of children in

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3513 Department of Labor and Employment, *Hazardous Work and Activities to Persons Below 18 Years of Age*, Department Order No. 4, (1999), Section 3. See also Ayaka Matsuno and Jonathan Blagbrough, *Child Domestic Labour in South-East and East Asia: Emerging Good Practices to Combat It*, Bangkok, 2006, p. 36.
3515 Ibid. Sections 6, 10, 14.
3516 Ibid., Section 5, 10.
3517 Ibid., Section 6, 10. See also U.S. Embassy-Manila, *reporting*, March 1, 2005.
production of pornographic materials. The minimum age for voluntary recruitment into military service is 18 or 17 for training purposes.

DOLE is responsible for enforcing child labor laws through the labor standards enforcement offices. However, the U.S. Department of State reports that child labor enforcement is weak because of a lack of resources, inadequate judicial infrastructure, and low conviction rates. In addition, child labor laws are not enforced in the informal sector. The National Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Immigration, and the Philippine National Police Criminal Investigation and Detection Group are tasked with counter-trafficking activities, along with an inter-agency group on trafficking headed by the Department of Justice. In August in Negros Occidental, a regional Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking was formed to address child labor and human trafficking in the region.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Philippine National Strategic Framework for Plan Development for Children, 2000-2025, also known as “Child 21,” and the National Program Against Child Labor (NPACL) Framework serve as the primary government policy instruments for the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of programs designed to prevent and eliminate child labor in the Philippines. The National Plan of Action for Decent Work 2005-2007 prioritizes the elimination of the worst forms of child labor. The Medium Term Philippine Development Plan 2004-2010 also includes measures for reducing the incidence of child labor, especially in hazardous occupations. In the plan, the Philippine Government pledges to strengthen mechanisms to monitor the implementation of child protection laws; develop “social technologies” to respond to child trafficking and pornography; and implement an enhanced

3521 Government of the Philippines, Special Protection of Children Act, Article V. See also Government of the Philippines, Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act, Section 4.
3526 U.S. Embassy-Manila official, email communication to USDOL official, August 14, 2006.
program for children in armed conflict.\textsuperscript{3530} In May, the Education Sub-Group of the National Child Labor Committee held its second National Consultative Conference on Child Labor and Education, where an assessment of gains under the Timebound program was presented and where a resolution was issued by all participants to support and contribute toward the Timebound program.\textsuperscript{3531}

The Government of the Philippines, through DOLE, is participating in a USD 10.2 million USDOL-funded Timebound Program implemented by ILO-IPEC and World Vision to eliminate child labor in specified worst forms. The program targets children involved in commercial sexual exploitation, mining and quarrying, pyrotechnics, deep-sea fishing, domestic service, and work on commercial sugar cane farms and aims to withdraw 29,000 and prevent 22,500 children from exploitive work in these sectors.\textsuperscript{3532} USDOL has also funded two additional projects in support of the Timebound Program, including a USD 7 million ILO-IPEC project that aims to withdraw 5,264 and prevent 4,250 children from becoming involved in armed conflict in 7 countries, including the Philippines,\textsuperscript{3533} as well as an additional inter-regional project allocating USD 500,000 in the Philippines to substantially reduce the engagement of children in the worst forms of child labor.\textsuperscript{3534} USDOL also supported a global project aimed at contributing to the elimination of the worst forms of child labor by raising awareness about the hazards of child labor and the benefits of education that ended in August 2006.\textsuperscript{3535}

Additional government projects contributing to the goals of the Timebound Program include a 2-year project to combat child labor in tobacco production in Region I (Ilocos Region).\textsuperscript{3536} UNICEF also works actively with the government to promote children’s rights, protect children from trafficking, and support educational improvements.\textsuperscript{3537} The Netherlands is supporting two

projects in the Southeast Asia Region, including activities in the Philippines, to combat child domestic labor. The UN Trust Fund for Human Security is implementing a USD 1.9 million program in the Philippines and Thailand to empower returned child trafficking victims economically and socially.  

The Government of the Philippines has also committed to monitor the child labor situation systematically on a nationwide basis. The Philippine National Statistics Office (NSO) has conducted two stand-alone child labor surveys in 1995 and 2001. The NSO also gathers information on child labor by including children 5 years and above in its quarterly Labor Force Survey when measuring the economically active population in the Philippines.

Several governmental agencies in the Philippines have ongoing programs to address the needs of children vulnerable to exploitative labor. DOLE continues to implement the Rescue the Child Workers Program to monitor suspected cases of child labor and intervene on behalf of children in affirmed cases. In 2006, DOLE rescued 201 minors in 44 different operations from exploitative labor. In addition, DOLE has a number of social welfare programs targeting working children, including the Working Youth Center and the Bureau of Women and Young Workers’ Family Welfare Program. The government has also begun institutionalizing a computer database on children identified as working that includes their needs and identifies appropriate assistance. The Cebu Chamber of Commerce, in collaboration with the Employers Confederation of the Philippines and ILO, initiated an awards program for Child Labor Free and Child-Friendly Firms. The Department of Social Welfare and Development is the lead government agency that provides support for victims of trafficking; children in armed conflict; and children who have been exploited, abused, or rescued from living on the streets. In February 2007, the Manila International Airport Authority established an inter-agency task force to combat trafficking at Manila’s Ninoy Aquino International Airport.


3538 ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication USDOL Official, March 1, 2007.


3544 Ibid.


The Philippines Education for All National Plan of Action includes child laborers as beneficiaries of education services. The Department of Education (DepEd) is implementing functional education and literacy programs that provide working children with basic education and skills training. DepEd’s Bureau of Alternative Learning System (ALS) promotes, improves and monitors alternative learning interventions for out-of-school youth and groups with special educational needs, and has developed learning modules for parents of working children in areas with a high incidence of child labor. In support of the Timebound Program, DepEd issued Bulletin No. 4 Series 2003 instructing education officials at the national, regional, and local levels to intervene to reduce or eliminate child labor.
In Russian urban areas, children can be found working primarily in the informal sector in retail services, selling goods on the street, washing cars, repairing automobiles, making deliveries, collecting trash, and begging. In rural areas, it is more common to see children working in agriculture. Child work in Russia encompasses not only Russian children, but often children from neighboring countries. Among street children, boys are usually involved in hard physical labor, while girls are more likely to work in trade and prostitution. However, child prostitution involving boys does exist, particularly among homeless and orphaned children.

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Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

| Percent of children ages 5-14 estimated as working: | Unavailable |
| Minimum age for admission to work: | 16¹³⁵⁴ |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | 15 or 16¹³⁵⁵ |
| Free public education: | Yes³⁵⁶ |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2005: | 129%³⁵⁵⁷ |
| Net primary enrollment rate in 2005: | 92%³⁵⁵⁸ |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school: | Unavailable |
| Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | Unavailable |
| Ratified Convention 138: | 5/3/1979³⁵⁵⁹ |
| Ratified Convention 182: | 3/25/2003³⁵⁶⁰ |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | Yes³⁵⁶¹ |

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Russia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In Russian urban areas, children can be found working primarily in the informal sector in retail services, selling goods on the street, washing cars, repairing automobiles, making deliveries, collecting trash, and begging. In rural areas, it is more common to see children working in agriculture. Child work in Russia encompasses not only Russian children, but often children from neighboring countries. Among street children, boys are usually involved in hard physical labor, while girls are more likely to work in trade and prostitution. However, child prostitution involving boys does exist, particularly among homeless and orphaned children.

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³⁵⁶⁰ Ibid.
³⁵⁶¹ Ibid.
³⁵⁶⁴ U.S. Embassy- Moscow, Email communication to USDOL official, August 3, 2007.
³⁵⁶⁵ Ibid.
³⁵⁶⁶ Ibid.
³⁵⁶⁸ U.S. Embassy- Moscow, Email communication, August 3, 2007.
Boys start working at an earlier age than girls do. Homeless and orphaned children on the streets are engaged in prostitution as a means to survive. Some children involved in prostitution are also engaged in day work in some other sector. Child sex tourism remains a concern. Some children are brought to Russia for the purpose of exploitation. The northwestern border areas of Russia are popular destinations for tourists from wealthier Western European nations, particularly Finland. While St. Petersburg and Moscow are both destination sites for child sex tourism, St. Petersburg appears to be much more significant of a destination than Moscow. Russian children, primarily girls, are trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation. Domestic trafficking of children from rural areas to urban centers and from one region to another also occurs. Russia is a major producer and distributor of internet pornography. There has been a ten fold increase in prosecutions for child pornography in the past five years, but it remains a significant problem.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age of employment at 16 years, with some exceptions. Children who have either completed their basic general education or have left the general educational system may work at 15. Children at least 14 years may, with parental consent, perform light work that is not harmful to their health or education. Children younger than 14 may, with parental consent, participate in the creation and/or performance of art works that are not harmful to their health and moral development. The normal working time for employees younger than 16 is 24 hours per week, and 36 hours per week for employees between 16 and 18. Workers younger than 16 may work longer than 5 hours per shift, and for workers between 16 and 18, a shift may not exceed 7 hours. Children under 18 are prohibited from engaging in night work, unhealthy or dangerous work, underground work, or work that may be injurious to

3567 ILO-IPEC, *Analysis of the situation of working children in St. Petersburg*.
3569 ILO-IPEC, *Analysis of the Situation of Working Street Children in Moscow*, 37.
3571 U.S. Embassy- Moscow, Email communication, August 3, 2007.
3574 U.S. Embassy- Moscow, Email communication, August 3, 2007.
3578 U.S. Embassy- Moscow, Email communication, August 3, 2007.
3580 Ibid.
3581 Ibid., Article 92.
3582 Ibid., Article 94.
their moral development.\footnote{3583} Employers must medically screen any prospective employees younger than 18; once hired, these employees must also pass annual medical surveys provided at the expense of the employer.\footnote{3584}

Forced child labor is punishable by imprisonment from 3 to 10 years, rape of a minor is punishable by up to 4 to 10 years’ imprisonment, soliciting a minor for prostitution is punishable by up to 4 years’ imprisonment, and recruiting a minor into prostitution by up to 3 to 8 years’ imprisonment.\footnote{3585} Operating a prostitution business with known minors under 16 is punishable by up to 6 years of imprisonment. If the child is under 14, the sentence may be from 3 to 10 years of imprisonment.\footnote{3586} Sexual relations with a person under 16 is forbidden and punishable by up to 4 years of imprisonment.\footnote{3587} Also prohibited is the making and circulating of pornography depicting known minors; it is punishable by imprisonment for up to 8 years, depending on the age of the child.\footnote{3588} Trafficking of a known minor is punishable by a sentence of 3 to 10 years of imprisonment if committed by an individual, and 8 to 15 years if committed by an organized group.\footnote{3589} The minimum age for military conscription is 18 years.\footnote{3590}

The Federal Labor Inspectorate is responsible for state supervision and control over the observance of the labor code.\footnote{3591} According to the U.S. Department of State, however, the government failed to enforce child labor laws effectively; there were approximately 8,300 cases of child labor violations reported in 2004, the most recent date for which such information is available.\footnote{3592} There have been reports of trafficking-related complicity among Russian officials.\footnote{3593}

### Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Ministry of the Interior and anti-trafficking NGOs completed a trafficking manual that has been used by several police units to assist officers with investigations.\footnote{3594}

\begin{itemize}
\item \footnote{3583} Ibid., Articles 96 and 265.
\item \footnote{3584} Ibid., Article 266.
\item \footnote{3586} See also Government of Russia, \textit{Constitution of the Russian Federation}, (December 25, 1993), Article 37; available from http://www.legislationline.org/upload/legislations/68/7c/40e7c5194d7db79b900b350d2a20.htm.
\item \footnote{3587} Government of Russia, \textit{Criminal Code}, Article 241.
\item \footnote{3588} Ibid., Article 134.
\item \footnote{3589} Ibid., Article 242.1.
\item \footnote{3590} Ibid., Article 127.1.
\item \footnote{3592} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Russia," Section 6d.
\item \footnote{3593} Ibid., section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Moscow, \textit{reporting} June 9, 2004.
\item \footnote{3594} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Person Report- 2006: Russia."}

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Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 29.9 percent of boys and 24.8 percent of 5 to 14 were working in Rwanda. Children work in domestic service for third-party households, in brick making, sand extraction, stone quarrying, and on tea, rice, and sugar cane plantations. Children also work in coffee harvesting, charcoal burning, and manufacturing, and are found in coffee harvesting, charcoal burning, and manufacturing, and are found

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<tr>
<th>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:</strong> 27.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minimum age of work:</strong> 16</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Age to which education is compulsory:</strong> 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Free public education:</strong> Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</strong> 119%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</strong> 73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:</strong> 55.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</strong> 46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ratified Convention 138:</strong> 4/15/1981</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ratified Convention 182:</strong> 5/23/2000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ILO-IPEC participating country:</strong> Yes, associated</td>
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</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

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3601 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
3605 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
working at waste disposal sites.\textsuperscript{3610} In the capital city of Kigali and in provincial capitals, children live on the streets and work as porters, car guards, garbage collectors, and vendors, selling small items such as cigarettes and candy. Street children, particularly girls, are at high risk of sexual exploitation.\textsuperscript{3611}

Child prostitution is a problem in Rwanda,\textsuperscript{3612} particularly in urban areas. Children are engaged in commercial sexual exploitation, including forced prostitution, however the number of children engaged in prostitution remains low. Of the small numbers of girls engaging in prostitution, the majority are between 14 and 18 years.\textsuperscript{3613} Orphans are among the groups at highest risk for being exploited in prostitution.\textsuperscript{3614}

In 2006, an armed group from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) recruited and trafficked Congolese refugee children living in Rwanda for forced labor and soldiering in the DRC.\textsuperscript{3615}

The problem of child labor has been attributed partly to the high incidence of children who have been orphaned and are now heading households as a result of Rwanda’s civil war, 1994 genocide,\textsuperscript{3616} and high incidence of HIV/AIDS.\textsuperscript{3617} Estimates of the number of child-headed households vary, with the 2002 census estimating that there are 15,052 and UNICEF estimating that there are 106,000.\textsuperscript{3618} Children who head households in Rwanda engage in informal work activities, primarily in subsistence agriculture. These households are most often headed by girls,\textsuperscript{3619} and these girls, along with those who work in domestic service, are particularly vulnerable to sexual exploitation.\textsuperscript{3620}

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age of employment at 16 years,\textsuperscript{3621} but this does not apply to children working in subsistence agriculture.\textsuperscript{3622} The Ministry of Labor can make exceptions to the minimum age law for children 14 to 16 years, for apprenticeships or other circumstances, and

\textsuperscript{3613} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Sections 5 and 6d.
\textsuperscript{3614} U.S. Embassy- Kigali, *reporting*, March 1, 2007, Prevention para 28 D.E.
\textsuperscript{3615} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Sections 2d, 5, 6c, and 6d.
\textsuperscript{3616} U.S. Embassy- Kigali, *reporting*, February 27, 2006.
\textsuperscript{3617} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Section 5.
\textsuperscript{3618} U.S. Embassy- Kigali official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 11, 2006.
\textsuperscript{3622} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Rwanda," Section 6d.
allow children to work with parental permission. Children under the age of 16 years are prohibited from working between the hours of 7 p.m. and 5 a.m.; from performing any work deemed hazardous or difficult, as determined by the Ministry of Labor; and must have at least 12 hours of rest between work shifts. The ILO CEACR has detected a gap in the labor code with respect to the age of admission to hazardous work. Children 16 to 18 years are allowed to engage in hazardous work, which is prohibited until 18 years under ILO Conventions 182 and 138.

In 2006, a by-law was adopted in Gicumbi District, which stipulated penalties for employers who engaged children in the worst forms of child labor.

Trafficking is not specifically prohibited by law. However, laws against slavery, forced prostitution, kidnapping, and child labor can be used to prosecute traffickers. The law prohibits forced labor, but not specifically by children. All sexual relations with children are considered rape under Rwandan law. The law also prohibits prostitution and compelling another person to engage in prostitution. These crimes are punishable by imprisonment for up to 5 years and a fine. Penalties are doubled if the crime is committed against a minor under the age of 18 years. If the child is between 14 and 18 years and the crime is committed by a person in a position of authority over the child, it is punishable by a fine and life imprisonment. Using or exploiting children in pornographic publications is prohibited and is punishable by a fine and between 5 and 12 years imprisonment. The law also prohibits the use of children in drug trafficking. The law sets the minimum age for military service at 18 years. However, this law does not apply to the Local Defense Forces, a paramilitary government militia; there

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3632 U.S. Embassy- Kigali, *reporting, March 1, 2007*, Investigation and Prosecution of Trafficking para. 29 A.
3634 Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Child Soldiers Global Report 2004."
are no mechanisms in place to prevent children from being recruited or to remove children from armed conflict. Additionally, the government has not established any penalties for violations of the law against recruiting children under 18 years for military service.

The Ministry of Public Service, Skills Development, and Labor (MIFOTRA) is the ministry responsible for the enforcement of child labor laws. MIFOTRA employs 30 child labor inspectors. Inspectors generally address child labor violations by issuing warnings and educating employers on child labor laws. In some cases, fines were levied against employers who employed children illegally and parents who made their children work to the detriment of their schooling. The government continued to support 12 regional child labor offices; however, these offices were not given adequate resources to identify or prevent child labor. According to the U.S. Department of State, the government lacked the staff and capacity to effectively enforce child labor laws.

The Rwanda National Police, which is part of the Ministry of Internal Security, is responsible for the government’s efforts to fight trafficking and for enforcing laws related to child prostitution. The MIFOTRA and the Ministries of Education, Gender, and Local Government are responsible for providing assistance to children exploited in prostitution.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Rwanda has a National Policy for Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children (OVC), which targets working children, children living in child-headed households, children affected by armed conflict, children exploited in prostitution and sexual abuse, children affected by HIV/AIDS, and street children. The National Policy on OVC includes specific strategies to address child labor, which include improving children’s working conditions, better enforcement of labor laws, supporting income-generating activities for families, strengthening a “catch up” education system, and conducting child labor studies and sensitization campaigns. The Ministry of Gender and Family Protection, the lead implementing agency for the National Policy on OVC, assists local NGOs to provide children exploited in prostitution with housing, health services, and vocational education. The government also provided rehabilitation and training programs to children who had been working in plantations, mines, and quarries. These programs helped children to return to school.

3636 Ibid.
3639 Ibid., Section 5.
3640 U.S. Embassy- Kigali, reporting, March 1, 2007, Prevention para. 28 B.
3641 Republic of Rwanda, National Policy for Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children. See also ILO Committee of Experts, Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, Rwanda.
3642 U.S. Embassy- Kigali, reporting, March 1, 2007, Protection and Assistance to Victims para 30 A-C.
3644 ILO Committee of Experts, Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, Rwanda.

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The Government of Rwanda participated in a global USD 7 million USDOL-funded project implemented by ILO-IPEC to prevent the involvement of children in armed conflict and support the rehabilitation of former child soldiers. The project targets a total of 5,264 children for withdrawal and 4,250 children for prevention from involvement with armed groups in seven countries, including Rwanda. Throughout 2006, children who had been soldiers in the DRC received assistance and reintegration services from the Muhazi child demobilization center in the Eastern province. The Rwanda Demobilization and Reintegration Commission also operates a vocational training center for former child soldiers repatriated from the DRC. The National Poverty Reduction Program, the Local Development Program through Labor-Intensive Public Works, and other local initiatives also provide opportunities for former child soldiers. The government collaborated with the National Demobilization and Reintegration Committee to raise awareness among refugees living in Rwandan camps on the dangers of child soldiering.

The Government of Rwanda is collaborating on the 4-year, USD 14.5 million Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together (KURET) project, funded by USDOL and implemented by World Vision, in partnership with the International Rescue Committee and the Academy for Educational Development. The KURET Project aims to withdraw or prevent a total of 30,600 children from exploitive labor in HIV/AIDS-affected areas of these four countries through the provision of educational services.

The Government of Rwanda continues to provide police officers with training on sex crimes and crimes against children as part of its training curriculum. Specialized training on identifying human trafficking, including trafficking of children, was offered to many police officers in 2006. The government closely monitors security checkpoints and vehicle cargo for signs of trafficking.

The Ministry of Education provides educational services to vulnerable children who were previously out of school, including domestic workers, street children, and children who head their households. The government continues to work with NGOs to assist child-headed households and sensitize local officials to their needs. Local authorities continue to place street children in foster homes or government-run facilities. The government supports 12 centers throughout the country that provide street children with shelter and meets basic needs.

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3645 ILO-IPEC, Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict, project document.
3646 Ibid. See also ILO-IPEC, Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: An Inter-Regional Programme. Annex to the project document, Geneva, September 17, 2006.
3648 ILO-IPEC, Prevention and Reintegration of Children involved in Armed Conflict, Annex to the project document, 4.
3649 Ibid.
3651 World Vision, KURET, project document.
3654 Ibid.
3656 Ibid.
government officials conducted an awareness raising campaign to sensitize employers on child labor.\textsuperscript{3657}

\footnotesize\textsuperscript{3657} Ibid., Section 6d.
Saint Kitts and Nevis

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

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<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate</td>
<td>101%</td>
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<td>in 2004:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate</td>
<td>94%</td>
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</table>

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding the incidence and nature of child labor in Saint Kitts and Nevis.*

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding child labor laws and enforcement in Saint Kitts and Nevis.*

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The ILO CEACR urged the Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis to take appropriate measures to ensure the prevention and elimination of the worst forms of child labor by ratifying ILO Convention No. 182.3660

* For more information, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor’s 2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor.


Saint Lucia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children are trafficked to, from, and within Saint Lucia, often for prostitution.3663

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding child labor laws and enforcement in Saint Lucia.*

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In October 2006, the IOM and the Gender Affairs Division of the Government of St. Lucia took part in a training to identify and aid victims of trafficking.3664

* For more information, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor’s 2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor.

3664 Ibid.
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

There is concern that child prostitution is becoming a larger problem in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.3669

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

New information provided by the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines clarified that complaints regarding child labor can be addressed through the country’s high court system.3670

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to address exploitive child labor.

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Samoa

**Incidence and Nature of Child Labor**

Children are frequently found working as street vendors in Apia, Samoa’s capital. Children in rural areas work on village farms, and those who do not work willingly may be compelled to do so by village chiefs (matai). Children also work as domestics in private homes, and may perform tasks that are potentially injurious or not suited to their physical capacities.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age of employment at 15, except for safe and light work suited to the capacity of the child, as determined by the Commissioner of Labor. Children under 15 may not work on dangerous machinery, in any occupation or place under working conditions likely to be harmful to their physical or moral health, or on any vessel not under the personal charge of his or

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>15</th>
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<td>Free public education:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
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<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
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<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
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<tr>
<td>As of 2000 percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade five:</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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3673 Ibid.
3678 Ibid.
3680 Ibid., Sections 6c and 6d.
her parent or guardian. Since Samoan labor laws cover only employees with a fixed place of employment, the government has not determined whether street vending and other outdoor work by children is illegal. Violations of child labor laws are punishable by fines. The minimum age for work is inconsistent with the age to which schooling is compulsory (14 years). This inconsistency may result in children dropping out of school to work.

Samoan law prohibits forced or compulsory labor, but this provision does not cover work or service required by Samoan custom. The crime of conspiring to induce a female of any age into sexual relations with any male is punishable by up to 5 years of imprisonment. Soliciting or procuring a female of any age for prostitution as well as benefiting from the earnings thereof are crimes punishable by 3 years of imprisonment. Abduction of any child under 16, or taking away or detaining a woman or girl with intent to cause her to have sexual relations with anyone, is punishable by up to 7 years of imprisonment. Kidnapping any person with the intent to transport the individual out of the country or hold the individual for service is a crime punishable by up to 10 years of imprisonment.

The Ministry of Labor refers complaints of illegal child labor to the Attorney General for enforcement. No cases of child labor were prosecuted during 2006, the most recent year for which such information is available.

Current Government Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Samoa to address exploitive child labor.

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3683 Labour and Employment Act, Article 32.
3685 Labour and Employment Act, Article 41.
3688 Ibid., Article 58.
3689 Ibid., Article 83B.
3690 Ibid., Article 83A.
São Tomé and Príncipe

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

- Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000: 15.4%
- Minimum age for admission to work: 6 years
- Age to which education is compulsory: 13 years
- Free public education: Yes
- Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004: 133%
- Net primary enrollment rate in 2004: 98%
- Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000: 68.8%
- As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: 66%
- Ratified Convention 182: 5/4/2005
- ILO-IPEC participating country: No

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2000, approximately 17.2 percent of boys and 13.5 percent of girls 5 to 14 were working in São Tomé and Príncipe. Children work in subsistence agriculture, on plantations, in informal commerce, and in domestic services. Children also work in auto mechanic shops.

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3698 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
3701 Ibid.
3703 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for work in São Tomé and Príncipe is 14 and the law imposes fines on those who employ underage workers. The law prohibits children under the age of 18 from working in unhealthy or dangerous conditions, as well as from working underground. Children under 18 may not work more than 7 hours a day and 35 hours per week. The law prohibits forced or compulsory labor, including by children. Military service is compulsory at 18 years; 17-year-olds may volunteer with parental consent. The law also prohibits trafficking in persons. The government has not prosecuted any cases of child labor law violations.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of São Tomé and Príncipe to address exploitive child labor.

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3706 Government of São Tomé and Príncipe, Lei n° 6/92 de 11 de Junho, Articles 128 and 147. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Consideration of Reports: Sao Tome and Principe, 15. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sao Tome and Principe," Section 6d.
3707 Government of São Tomé and Príncipe, Lei n° 6/92 de 11 de Junho, Article 129. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Consideration of Reports: Sao Tome and Principe, 15.
3712 Ibid.
Senegal

**Incidence and Nature of Child Labor**

In 2005, approximately 33.4 percent of boys and 26.7 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Senegal. The majority of working children can be found in agriculture, hunting, fishing, domestic service, transportation, construction, manufacturing, as well as in automobile repair shops, restaurants, and hotels. Children also work in hazardous conditions in rock quarrying and mining. Children are exploited in such activities as begging, forced labor, prostitution, drug trafficking and other illegal activities, recycling of waste and garbage, and slaughtering of animals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2005: 30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work: 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory: 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education: Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004: 76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004: 66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2004: 47.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: 78%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138: 12/15/1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182: 6/1/2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country: Yes, associated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
* Must pay for school supplies and related items.

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3716 Ibid.
3720 Ibid.
3722 Ibid.
3724 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

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Senegal is a source, transit, and destination country for child trafficking. Boys are trafficked within and to Senegal from The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, and Guinea for forced begging for Koranic teachers. Official statistics put the total number of these boys, known as talibés, at over 100,000. They are vulnerable to sexual and other exploitation. Some Koranic teachers bring children from rural areas to Senegal’s major cities, holding them under conditions of involuntary servitude. Some talibés have revealed to NGOs and shelters that they are often beaten and shackled if they do not bring a minimum amount of money to their Koranic teachers at the end of each day. In 2005, two Koranic teachers were convicted and sentenced to prison for such abuse.

There are reports of young girls trafficked from rural to urban areas for forced domestic service. Senegalese girls are also trafficked both internally and to other countries for exploitive labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Child prostitution occurs on beaches, in bars, and at hotels and other tourist areas.

### Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment, including apprenticeships, is 15 years. With permission from the Minister of Labor, children 12 years and older may perform light work within a family setting, provided that it does not jeopardize their health, morals, or schooling.

The Constitution protects children from economic exploitation and from involvement in hazardous work. Children are prohibited from working at night and cannot work more than 8 hours a day. The law also identifies businesses in which children under 18 years are forbidden from working or can work only under certain conditions. These include workshops

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3727 Ibid., Section 5, U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports - 2006: Senegal."
3730 U.S. Embassy- Dakar Official, E-mail correspondence to USDOL Official, August 11, 2006.
3732 ECPAT International CSEC Database, Senegal.
3736 Government of Senegal, Arrêté Ministériel n° 3748 MFPTEOPTSS, Article 3.
In addition, children under 16 are prohibited from working on fishing vessels.3737 In addition, children under 16 are prohibited from working on fishing vessels.3738

Activities considered to be worst forms of child labor are prohibited by law.3739 The government has identified the worst forms of child labor as forced labor, slavery, prostitution, drug trafficking, forced begging, and work that imperils the health, safety or morality of children. Specific examples of such work include pornography involving children, gold mining, work underwater, work with toxic chemicals or complex tools and machinery.3740 Procuring a minor for the purpose of prostitution is punishable by imprisonment for 2 to 5 years.3741

Under the law, traffickers are subject to imprisonment of between 5 and 10 years.3742 The minimum age for voluntary recruitment into the military is 18 years, and 20 years for compulsory recruitment.3743

The Ministry of Labor and its Social Security Inspectors are responsible for investigating child labor cases and enforcing child labor laws. However, because of a lack of resources, inspectors do not initiate workplace visits and instead depend on violations to be reported. According to the U.S. Department of State, the Ministry of Labor monitors and enforces minimum age laws within the formal sector, including in state-owned corporations, large private enterprises, and cooperatives.3744

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Senegal has raised awareness of the dangers of child labor and exploitive begging through seminars with local officials, NGOs, and civil society. The government is participating in a USD 2 million, USDOL-funded, ILO-IPEC Timebound Program. The project aims to withdraw 3,000 children and prevent 6,000 children from exploitive child labor in agriculture, fishing, begging, and domestic service.3745 The government also participates in a

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3737 Government of Senegal, Arrêté ministériel no 3751 MFPTEOP-DTSS en date du 6 juin 2003, fixant les catégories d'entreprises et travaux interdits aux enfants et jeunes gens ainsi que l'âge limite auquel s'applique l'interdiction, (June 6, 2003), Article 2; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/SERIAL/64612/64952/F364251671/SEN64612.pdf.
3738 Government of Senegal, Arrêté Ministériel no 3750 MFPTEOP-DTSS, Article 10.
3739 Government of Senegal, Arrêté Ministériel no 3748 MFPTEOP-DTSS, Article 3.
French-funded ILO-IPEC project to combat child labor.3746 UNICEF also works to eliminate the worst forms of child labor through its child rights promotion and protection program.3747

To reduce the incidence of exploitative begging, the Ministry of Women, Family, Social Development, and Women’s Entrepreneurship is implementing a program to help support 48 Koranic schools whose teachers do not force their students to engage in the practice.3748

The Government of Senegal’s Ministry of Women, Family, Social Development, and Women’s Entrepreneurship operates the “Ginddi Center” in Dakar to receive and care for street children, including trafficking victims. Children from The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, and Mali also receive assistance at the center. The Center operates a 24-hour toll-free child protection hotline.3749

In July 2006, Senegal was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.3750

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3746 ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.
3748 U.S. Embassy- Dakar official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 11, 2006.
The Republic of Serbia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in the Republic of Serbia can be found working in rural areas on family farms or other family businesses. Children also work in the informal sector, selling small items or washing car windows. Children from poor, rural communities, Roma children and children living with foster families are at the highest risk for entering exploitive child labor including begging, theft, prostitution, dealing narcotics and hard physical labor, according to a study released in March 2006 by the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Policy and the NGO Children’s Rights Center. Roma children are particularly vulnerable to trafficking, both abroad and internally, for forced begging and theft rings.

There have been cases of girls trafficked to Serbia from Moldova and the Ukraine. Trafficking children for sexual exploitation has reportedly increased.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
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<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
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<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

³⁷⁵⁵ Ibid.
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age of employment is 15 years. However, it is not clear if the minimum age for employment applies to self-employed children. Children under 18 are prohibited from hazardous work and can only enter work upon written approval of a parent or guardian and under conditions that do not “jeopardize their health, morals and education,” including work that involves strenuous physical activity; work underground, underwater, or at dangerous heights; or exposure to toxic, carcinogenic substances, extreme temperatures, noise, or vibrations. Further, children under 18 are not allowed to work overtime hours or at night, and are allowed to work no more than 35 hours per week. The law provides for monetary penalties for violation of these provisions. According to the U.S. Department of State, the government is effectively enforcing child labor laws.

Forced labor is prohibited. Males are eligible for conscription into the armed forces at 18, but they can be recruited for voluntary service in the year of their 17th birthday. The criminal law addresses prostitution and pornography. Prostitution involving a minor is punishable by 1 to 10 years of imprisonment. Showing pornographic materials to minors is a criminal offense. The penal code addresses all forms trafficking. From 2005 to 2006, 15 traffickers were convicted, with sentences ranging from 2 to 8 years of imprisonment. A group of traffickers was attempting to traffic Ukrainian girls into Serbia at a border crossing in February 2006 and was interdicted by police following extensive training of police and border guards. According to the U.S. Department of State, there were reports of corruption among some police complicit in a prostitution ring in Novi Pazar, but the government has not responded to these allegations or taken action against public officials allegedly complicit in trafficking.

3763 Ibid.
3764 Ibid.
3768 Ibid., Section 6c.
3772 Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Serbia," Section 5.
Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Issues includes child labor prevention in its regular protection programs for children and families.3774 The National Council submitted an anti-trafficking strategy for 2006-2009 to the Serbian Government for approval, and the government is implementing elements of the plan. To prevent trafficking, the government’s officers have refused more than 4,000 visa applications from countries of known origin of trafficking.3775

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Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding the incidence and nature of child labor in Seychelles.*

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding child labor laws and enforcement in Seychelles.*

Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Seychelles to address exploitive child labor.

* For more information, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor’s 2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor.

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Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Sierra Leone work in family businesses, petty vending, and on family subsistence farms. Street children are employed by adults to sell, steal, and beg. Children also mine alluvial diamond fields.

Within Sierra Leone, children are trafficked to urban areas, where they work in domestic service or engage in prostitution. Children are also trafficked to diamond mining areas, where they are sexually exploited or compelled to work in mining.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment in “light” labor at 12. Children between the ages of 12 and 18 may perform work in certain non-hazardous occupations, if they have parental

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Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

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<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
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<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
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</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

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3780 Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy - Freetown, reporting, January 5, 2007, para 5 and 3.
3781 Ibid.
3784 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
3785 Ibid.
3787 Ibid.
3790 Ibid.
Children under the age of 15 may not engage in any public or private industrial undertaking. The use of forced and bonded labor, including by children, is prohibited by the law. The law prohibits commercial sexual exploitation of children and defines a child as a person under 16. Procuring or attempting to procure a girl for prostitution is punishable by up to 2 years in prison. The law criminalizes all forms of human trafficking. The law also prohibits any person under the apparent age of 17 and 6 months from enlisting in the armed forces without parental consent.

The Ministry of Labor, Social Security and Industrial Relations is charged with administering existing labor laws and preventing the worst forms of child labor. The Ministry of Mineral Resources enforces prohibitions against the use of child labor in mining activities. According to the U.S. Department of State, the government lacks the resources to enforce existing labor laws.

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

In July 2006, Sierra Leone was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions.

In partnership with the Government of Sierra Leone and with funding from USDOL, the International Rescue Committee is implementing a USD 6 million Child Labor Education Initiative project in Sierra Leone and Liberia. The project aims to withdraw a total of 8,243 children and prevent a total of 21,647 children from exploitive child labor by improving access to and quality of education. Sierra Leone also participates in a 5-year, USDOL-funded

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3792 Ibid.
3793 U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sierra Leone," Sections 6c and 6d.
Reducing Child Labor through Education (CIRCLE 1) global project, being implemented by Winrock International through 2007, which aims to reduce exploitive child labor through the provision of educational opportunities.\textsuperscript{3802}

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Anecdotal evidence suggests that children, both boys and girls, are exploited through prostitution in the logging, tourism and fishing industries near logging camps and fishing ports and in Honiara, the capital city. Anecdotal evidence also suggests that children work in logging camps as cooks and in other tasks and are involved in the sale and production of kwaso (homebrewed alcohol).

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

| Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working: | Unavailable |
| Minimum age of work: | 12 |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | Not compulsory |
| Free public education: | Yes |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002: | 107% |
| Net primary enrollment rate in 2002: | 72% |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school: | Unavailable |
| As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | 80% |
| Ratified Convention 138: | No |
| Ratified Convention 182: | No |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | No |

Solomon Islands

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3805 Ibid.


3810 Ibid.


3813 Police official, Interview with USDOL consultant, September 3, 2006. See also Central Magistrate's Court official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 23, 2006. See also Labor Department official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 12, 2006. See also Department of Home Affairs official, Interview, June 20, 2006.
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law prohibits the employment of children under 12. 3814 Children under 12 may participate in light agricultural or domestic labor if they are employed by or in the company of their parents. 3815 Children under 15 are prohibited from working in industry or on ships, except on approved training ships. 3816 Children under 16 are completely prohibited from working in mines. 3817 Male children between 16 and 17 years are allowed to work in mines, but must first obtain a medical certificate to do so. 3818 Children between 16 and 18 are prohibited from working on ships, with some exceptions. Male children between 16 and 18 may be employed on ships that are mainly propelled by means other than steam, provided that the male child is first certified by a medical practitioner. 3819 Male children between 16 and 18 may begin work on a ship without medical clearance, provided that the male child is examined and certified at the first place of call where a medical practitioner is available. 3820 Male children between 16 and 18 are prohibited to work during the night in any industrial undertaking. 3821

Forced or compulsory labor is prohibited, 3822 as is the procurement of girls less than 18 years for the purpose of prostitution. 3823 There are no armed forces in the Solomon Islands; however, the minimum age for recruitment into the border police force is 18. 3824 There are no laws that specifically ban trafficking, but there are several general provisions in the penal code that may be used to prosecute acts of trafficking. 3825

The Commissioner of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws; 3826 however, the Labor Department, over which the Commissioner of Labor presides, does not have labor officers to investigate reports of child labor violations or to enforce the law. 3827 According to the U.S. Department of State, the government devotes few resources to investigating child labor cases. 3828

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3814 Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute, Labor Act, Article 46.
3815 Ibid.
3816 Ibid., Article 47.
3817 Ibid., Article 48.
3818 Ibid., Article 49.
3819 Ibid.
3820 Ibid.
3821 Ibid.
3825 ECPAT International CSEC Database, Solomon Islands.
3827 Labor Department official, Interview, June 12, 2006.
Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In coordination with the Government of the Solomon Islands, UNICEF is planning activities to address the problem of commercial sexual exploitation of children.\textsuperscript{3829}

\textsuperscript{3829} UNICEF official, Interview, June 26, 2006.
Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in rural areas of Somalia are more likely to work than those in urban areas, and perform mostly unpaid farm work. Children often work in herding and agricultural labor, starting at a young age, and are rarely employed in the formal sector. Children who work in markets and on the streets, including children who sell khat, a leaf chewed for its stimulant effect, are vulnerable to violence perpetrated by armed clan militias.

Child prostitution is practiced in the country; however, there is little statistical data available on the extent of the problem. Somalia is a source country for child trafficking. Somali children are reportedly trafficked for forced labor and sexual exploitation by armed militias. Other organized groups are reported to traffic children to South Africa for sexual exploitation. There are reports of children sent to live with relatives and friends in western countries where they work, and send earnings back to family members in Somalia.

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Somalia**

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The use of children in armed conflict is a problem in Somalia. Many children are members of armed gangs and militias. According to the U.S. Department of State, the recruitment of children into militias and other armed groups increased during 2006. It has been reported that the Supreme Council of Islamic Courts forcibly recruited some children in 2006. There are no reports of minors serving in the Somaliland Republic’s armed forces, though it is difficult to determine the age of recruits because of a lack of birth registration records.\(^{3841}\)

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

Somalia has been without a functioning central government since 1991. During the reporting period, control was exerted by four different entities: the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) based in Baidoa, the Supreme Council of Islamic Courts in and around Mogadishu, the self-appointed Independent Republic of Somaliland in the northwest, and the semi-autonomous region of Puntland in the northeast.\(^{3842}\) Although pre-1991 laws prohibited child labor and trafficking, existing government entities have no means for enforcing labor laws.

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the TFG to address exploitive child labor.


\(^{3842}\) U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Somalia."
Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Working children in South Africa are often found in family enterprises without pay, primarily in agriculture and trade. A higher proportion of children in rural areas than urban areas are engaged in some type of work. Rural children fetch wood and water and work in commercial agriculture and on subsistence farms planting and harvesting vegetables, picking and packing fruit, and cutting flowers. Children work as paid domestic servants in the homes of third parties, particularly in urban areas. Many work as unpaid domestic servants, especially on subsistence farms. In urban areas, children work on the streets as vendors, car guards, trolley

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
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<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
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<td>Free public education:</td>
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<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2003:</td>
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</tr>
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<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Poor households may claim an exemption from school fees.*

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3850 Ibid.
attendants, shop assistants, and taxi conductors. Some children are forced into prostitution to support their families.

South Africa is a country of origin, transit, and destination for children trafficked for sexual exploitation and forced labor. Girls are trafficked from Mozambique, Swaziland, Tanzania, China, and Thailand into South Africa for sexual exploitation. Boys are trafficked to South Africa for forced agricultural work from neighboring countries. Boys and girls are trafficked from Lesotho to South Africa for sexual exploitation. Trafficking of children from rural areas to urban areas for domestic service is also a problem. South African girls are occasionally trafficked to Asian and European countries for sexual exploitation.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law establishes the minimum age for employment at 15 years. Employers may hire children less than 15 to work in the performing arts with permission from the South African Department of Labor. Children who are under 18 years may not perform work that is harmful to their well-being and development. The Minister of Labor is authorized to set additional restrictions on the employment of children 15 years and above. The law provides for the right of every child, defined as a person less than 18 years, to be protected from age-inappropriate and exploitive labor practices. The penalty for illegally employing a child under the law is a fine or a maximum jail term of 3 years.

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3867 Government of South Africa, Basic Conditions of Employment Act, Sections 44(1), 44(2).
The law prohibits all forms of forced labor and establishes a maximum penalty of 3 years in prison for imposing forced labor on another person. The law specifically bans the trafficking of children. The maximum penalty for violating this law is 20 imprisonment. The law establishes 18 years as the minimum age for voluntary military service, military training, and conscription, even in times of national emergency. The law criminalizes the sexual exploitation of children and sets a penalty of up to 10 years of imprisonment and/or a fine for any person who participates in or is involved in such activity. The law also states that children can be arrested for prostitution despite being victims of commercial sexual exploitation. Such cases, however, are generally referred by the Office of the National Director of Public Prosecutions to children’s courts, which determine the children’s need for care.

The South African Department of Labor (SADOL) is tasked with enforcing child labor laws. There are approximately 1,000 labor inspectors nationwide, who have the responsibility of enforcing labor laws, including child labor. According to the U.S. Department of State, the SADOL adequately enforces child labor laws in the formal non-agricultural sector, but less so in other sectors.

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The South African Social Security Agency provides grant assistance to some children 13 years and under to help them meet basic necessities and stay out of the workforce. The Child Protection Unit (CPU) and the Family Violence, Child Protection, and the Sexual Offenses Unit (FCS) within the South African Police Service also are involved in child protection. The CPU offers services to child victims; it also investigates and raises awareness of crimes against children.

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3870 Ibid., 48 and 11 (93).
3874 Government of South Africa, *Child Care Amendment Act*. (1999), Section 50A.
The Government of South Africa enacted the Children’s Bill in 2006. This new legislation specifically outlaws the trafficking of children, creates children’s courts, and establishes a child protection register.\textsuperscript{3880}

The SADOL chairs the Child Labor Intersectoral Group (CLIG), a national stakeholder group that coordinates anti-child labor activities conducted by the government, unions, and NGOs, and raises awareness about child labor and the enforcement of child labor laws.\textsuperscript{3881}

In collaboration with the government, ILO-IPEC is implementing a USD 5 million USDOL-funded regional child labor project in Southern Africa, which includes South Africa. Efforts in South Africa are focused on supporting the Government of South Africa’s Child Labor Program of Action by raising awareness, enhancing capacity for policy implementation and monitoring, and through direct action programs.\textsuperscript{3882} This project aims to withdraw 688 children and prevent 2,216 children from engaging in exploitive labor.\textsuperscript{3883} The American Institutes for Research is also implementing a USD 9 million regional Child Labor Education Initiative project funded by USDOL in Southern Africa. It is also working with the Government of South Africa to improve quality and access to basic and vocational education for South African children who are working in, or are at risk of working in, the worst forms of child labor.\textsuperscript{3884} Over its lifetime, this project intends to prevent 10,000 children in five countries, including South Africa, from engaging in exploitive labor.\textsuperscript{3885}

\begin{flushleft}
\textsuperscript{3880} U.S. Department of State, reporting, January 10, 2007, para 1a.
\textsuperscript{3881} Dawie Bosch & Associates, Towards a National Child Labour Action Programme, 8.
\textsuperscript{3882} ILO-IPEC, Supporting the Time-Bound Programme to eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor in South Africa’s Child labor Action Programme and laying the basis for concerted action against Worst Forms of Child Labor in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, and Swaziland, project document, September 30, 2003, 30.
\textsuperscript{3883} ILO-IPEC, Supporting the Time-Bound Programme to eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor in South Africa’s Child labor Action Programme and laying the basis for concerted action against Worst Forms of Child Labor in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, and Swaziland, project revision, November 3, 2006, Annexure 2.
\end{flushleft}
Sri Lanka

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 1998, approximately 17.9 percent of boys and 11.9 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Sri Lanka. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (71.5 percent), followed by services (14.8 percent), manufacturing (13.1 percent) and other sectors (0.7 percent). Children work in both plantation and non-plantation agriculture, as well as in seasonal agriculture for families. Children also work in the informal sector, which includes family enterprises, small restaurants, stores, and repair shops, in small-scale manufacturing and crafts. Children also work as domestic servants. Some children from rural areas are reportedly victimized in debt bondage as domestic servants in urban households.

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

| Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 1998: | 15% |
| Minimum age for admission to work: | 14 |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | 14 |
| Free public education: | Yes |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004: | 98% |
| Net primary enrollment rate in 2004: | 97% |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 1998: | 97.1% |
| Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | Unavailable |
| Ratified Convention 138: | 2/11/00 |
| Ratified Convention 182: | 3/1/01 |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | Yes |

3890 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
3891 Ibid.
3892 Ibid.
3894 Ibid.
3896 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
The prostitution of children is widespread in the country. The majority of children in prostitution are exploited by local citizens, though there are reports of sex tourism as well. Children are reportedly trafficked internally and internationally for sexual exploitation and domestic labor. Some internally trafficked children, mostly boys, are lured from the conflict-ridden northern and eastern provinces to southern beach and mountain resorts to work in the sex industry, sometimes at their parents’ request.

Conflict intensified in Sri Lanka during 2006 and the use of children in armed conflict remained a pressing concern. Reports indicate that the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), an armed terrorist group fighting for a separate ethnic Tamil state, continue to heavily recruit, often forcibly, thousands of children as soldiers. The LTTE recruit and abduct children as young as 8 to serve in combat and in various battlefield support functions. Many of those recruited by the LTTE are girls. Additionally, forcible recruitment of child soldiers by Karuna, a break-off LTTE faction, increased markedly in 2006. Reports from UNICEF indicate that as of October 2006, 1,598 recruited children remained with the LTTE, and 164 were recruited by Karuna. There are no indications that the government is using child soldiers.

Children continue to be affected by the Indian Ocean tsunami that struck Sri Lanka on December 26, 2004. Thousands of children were orphaned or separated from their families, increasing

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3902 U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Sri Lanka," Section 6c, 6d.


their vulnerability to trafficking and other worst forms of child labor. The government, NGOs and international organizations have provided a number of services to assist affected children, but there continues to be a shortage of schools and economic opportunities for families.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment in most occupations at 14 years. The minimum age for employment at sea is 15 years. The law prohibits all children under 18 to be employed in any hazardous occupation. Children under 14 may be employed in family-run agricultural enterprises or as part of technical training activities. However children under 14 may not be employed during school hours; for more than 2 hours on a school day or Sunday; between the hours 8 p.m. and 6 a.m.; or in any activities that jeopardize health or education. The law limits the work hours of children 14 to 15 years to 9 per day, and the work hours of children 16 to 17 years to 10 per day. The law prohibits young people under 18 from working in industrial facilities after 11 p.m., except in certain training or apprenticeship situations. The law also requires medical certification of children less than 16 years prior to employment in industries. The maximum penalty for child labor violations is 12 months of imprisonment. The law prohibits forced labor, debt bondage, and all forms of slavery by persons of any age. The maximum fine for violating the law pertaining children is 30 years of imprisonment. The 2006 Penal Code Amendment Act strengthened provisions against trafficking. The law also prohibits sexual violations against children, defined as persons under 18 years, particularly with

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regard to child pornography, child prostitution, and the trafficking of children. Penalties for violations related to pornography and prostitution range from 2 to 5 years of imprisonment. \(^{3919}\) Trafficking of children is punishable by imprisonment of 3 to 20 years. \(^{3920}\)

The 2006 Penal Code Amendment Act criminalizes the act of engaging or recruiting a child for use in armed conflict. \(^{3921}\) The minimum age for recruitment into the armed forces is 18 years. \(^{3922}\) The law also protects children affected by tsunami. \(^{3923}\)

In August 2006, parliament passed legislation empowering the Minister of Labor Relations and Foreign Employment to publish regulations prohibiting the employment of children under 18 in hazardous occupations. Forty-nine hazardous occupations have been identified. \(^{3924}\)

The Department of Labor and the Department of Probation and Child Care Services enforce child labor laws, often in collaboration with the police. \(^{3925}\) In the first half of 2006, the Department of Labor received 60 complaints of child labor violations. \(^{3926}\) Most child labor offenses are prosecuted by the police, under the Penal Code. \(^{3927}\) In 2006, the Government created the new Ministry of Child Development. The National Child Protection Authority (NCPA), which was previously an independent authority, is now under the new ministry. \(^{3928}\) NCPA is the primary oversight agency for the protection of children, and its anti-trafficking unit coordinates governmental anti-trafficking activities. NCPA works with 450 social welfare officers at the community level and has established 11 district child protection committees to further raise awareness of child abuse issues, including child labor. \(^{3929}\) The NCPA’s Cyber Watch unit monitors the Internet for advertisements soliciting children for child pornography and pedophilia in Sri Lanka. \(^{3930}\)

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\(^{3921}\) Ibid. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating Child Trafficking for Labor and Sexual Exploitation (TICSA Phase II)*, technical progress report March 2006, 4.

\(^{3922}\) Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Child Soldiers Global Report 2004."


Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The government has integrated its Policy and Plan of Action to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor into the National Plan of Action for Children (NPCA) 2004-2008. The Ministry of Labor Relations and Foreign Employment has committed a budget to implement the child labor components of the plan, which included strengthening child labor laws and enforcement; improving the availability of child labor data; increasing vocational training programs for out-of-school youth; sensitizing the public to child labor issues; and reducing domestic child labor by 30 percent each year. The 2006 Plan of Action for Decent Work also commits the government to eliminating child labor.

The government and the LTTE have agreed to a 3-year Joint Plan for Children Affected by War to end child recruitment and to demobilize and rehabilitate ex-child soldiers. The plan was initiated in 2003 and is scheduled to go through 2007. However, there are reports that the Action Plan is stalled as the LTTE continued to recruit child soldiers.

The government is implementing a National Plan of Action to combat trafficking of children for sexual and labor exploitation, under the purview of the NPCA. The NPCA and other government agencies, with support from international organizations, have various mechanisms in place to care for child trafficking victims, such as rehabilitation camps and other shelters that provide medical care, and counseling services. The government has also committed funding for its anti-Human Smuggling and Investigation Bureau to combat trafficking. The government assists Sri Lankan trafficking victims abroad through its diplomatic missions. The Ministry of Labor Relations and Foreign Employment trains labor inspectors, probation officers and police officers on child labor issues. Training includes trauma and psychosocial counseling, surveillance, legal awareness, as well as training of trainers on these issues. With support from UNICEF, the Sri Lanka Tourist Board is implementing a 2-year campaign to stop the commercial exploitation of children.

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3934 Ibid. See also ILO-IPEC, Child Labour and Responses, 3.


The government has participated, and is currently participating in, several ILO-IPEC projects to combat child labor in Sri Lanka. These include a USD 3 million project funded by USDOL to combat child trafficking in Asia that ended in March 2006. The project withdrew 367 children and prevented 10,378 children from trafficking throughout the region.\textsuperscript{3939} It also includes a global USD 7 million child soldier project funded by USDOL that targets 5,264 children for withdrawal and 4,250 for prevention from serving in armed groups in seven countries, including Sri Lanka.\textsuperscript{3940} The Netherlands and NORAD supported child labor projects, which ended in 2006, and UNICEF is supporting two projects to assist children affected by war, which end in June and December 2007.\textsuperscript{3941} In addition, with USDOL funding, ILO-IPEC and the Sri Lankan government initiated a USD 562,000 project after the tsunami that will continue through 2008. The project aims to strengthen the capacity of government, media, and international organizations to integrate child labor issues into post-tsunami reconstruction policies; monitor the child labor situation in the post-tsunami environment; and provide educational and psychosocial services to tsunami-affected families in Galle and Trincomalee. The project targets 300 children for withdrawal and 2,100 children for prevention from exploitive work.\textsuperscript{3942}

The Ministry of Education initiated a program to improve education for the children of plantation workers, who are considered especially vulnerable to child labor. The program has strengthened formal schools in plantation areas; recruited teachers to work on plantations; provided special education classes to children with learning disabilities; and provided vocational training to dropouts.\textsuperscript{3943}

\textsuperscript{3941} ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication USDOL official, March 1, 2007.
\textsuperscript{3942} ILO-IPEC, \textit{Emergency Response to Child Labour in Selected Tsunami Affected Areas}, project document, 15, 38.
Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

According to an ILO survey, children in Suriname work in agriculture, mining, fishing, timber production, domestic service, construction, the furniture industry, and as street vendors, rice and lumber mill workers, and shop assistants. A large proportion of working children work more than 5 hours per day without adult supervision. Informal sector child labor also occurs in such areas as Nickerie and Saramacca. Children are victims of commercial sexual exploitation in Suriname, especially in gold mining areas in the interior. Boys in particular

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Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

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<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2002:</td>
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<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
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<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2003:</td>
<td>92%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
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<td>Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
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* Must pay for school supplies and related items.

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3945 Ibid., Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, reporting, December 21, 2006.
3953 Schalkwijk and van den Berg, Suriname- The Situation of Children, 49.
3955 Ibid., Section 5. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, Suriname, accessed September 13, 2006; available from http://www.ecpat.net.
are being targeted by the sex tourism industry. Children are reported to be trafficked internally for sexual exploitation.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years, although children from 12 to 14 years may work in family or special vocational settings if the work is not too physically or mentally demanding, or hazardous. Children under 15 years are prohibited from working on fishing boats. Children under 18 years are prohibited from night work and hazardous work, defined as work dangerous to their life, health, and decency. The Minister of Labor is authorized to determine what constitutes hazardous work. Employers are required to maintain a Register of Young Persons. The minimum age for work is inconsistent with the age to which schooling is compulsory (12). This inconsistency may result in children being employed illegally. Employing a child under 14 is punishable by fines and up to 12 months in prison. Parents who permit their children to work, in violation of child labor laws, may be prosecuted.

The law prohibits forced labor, slavery, and practices similar to slavery. The penalty for trafficking of children under age 16 was increased in 2006 to a minimum of 10 years imprisonment. Sexual offenses against girls under 12 years of age are punishable with 12 years imprisonment and with 8 years imprisonment for the same offense against girls ages 12 to 14. Procurement of a minor for illicit sexual purposes is prohibited and is punished by up to 3 years imprisonment. The penalty is increased when the perpetrator makes a living by committing the offense or when the perpetrator is the parent, guardian, or employer of the minor. The law also prohibits brothel operation.

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3964 Ibid.
The Ministry of Labor’s Department of Labor Inspections enforces laws relating to the minimum age for employment and hazardous work through its 40 inspectors in the formal sector. Police officers are responsible for enforcing child labor laws in the informal sector. According to the U.S. Department of State, the Ministry of Labor and the police sporadically enforce child labor laws. No investigations of exploitive child labor cases were done in rural areas during 2006. Laws concerning worst forms of child labor are considered crimes and, as such, are enforced by the Ministry of Justice and Police, in conjunction with the Youth Police Department. The Youth Police are authorized to remove children from the worst forms of child labor and prosecute offenders. Although the U.S. Department of State reports that the country’s law against brothels is not enforced, a special police anti-trafficking unit has conducted limited investigations and raids, including random checks of brothels, to ensure that minors are not working on those premises.

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

In late 2006, the Government of Suriname established a National Commission on Child Labor, consisting of representatives from various ministries, labor unions, the private sector, and NGOs. The Commission is tasked to guide the government on the issue of child labor, review labor legislation, make recommendations, and develop a list of worst forms of child labor. The Government continues to participate in ILO-IPEC’s initiatives to address child domestic labor, commercial sexual exploitation, and child labor in agriculture.

According to the U.S. Department of State, the Ministries of Labor and Social Affairs refer to reducing child labor in their annual policy documents. Also, Suriname government officials often emphasized the importance of reducing this problem.

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3972 Ibid.
3973 Ibid.
3975 Ibid.
3978 Ibid.
Swaziland

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Swaziland work in agriculture (particularly in the eastern region), and as domestic workers and herders. Children are also found working on the streets as traders, hawkers, bus and taxi conductors, load bearers, and car washers. There are reports that Swazi and Mozambican girls are engaged in commercial sexual exploitation in Swaziland and are trafficked to South Africa for domestic labor and forced prostitution.

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Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

| Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working: | 9.6% |
| Minimum age for admission to work: | No |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | 12 |
| Free public education: | No |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2002: | 98% |
| Net primary enrollment rate in 2002: | 75% |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school: | 74.3% |
| As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | 77% |
| Ratified Convention 182: | 10/23/2002 |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | No |

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3988 Ibid.
3990 Ibid.
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law provides children with the right to be protected from work that jeopardizes their health, education, or development. The law distinguishes between a “child” (under 15 years) and a “young person” (between 15 and 17), but does not establish a blanket minimum age of employment. Children under 15 are only allowed to work in firms where family members are employed or in technical schools under supervision. The law prohibits children and young persons under 18 years from working in mines, quarries or underground, in premises that sell alcohol for consumption on site, or in any sector that is dangerous to their safety, health, or moral development. The law also prohibits children from working during school hours and for more than 4 hours continuously. Children may not work between 6 p.m. and 7 a.m., except for an apprenticeship or vocational training approved by the Minister of Labor. Children are limited to 6 hours of work per day and 33 hours per week. The Ministry of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws, but its effectiveness is limited by shortages of personnel to conduct regular inspections, according to the U.S. Department of State.

Children are protected by law from commercial sexual exploitation and child pornography. Forced and bonded labor, including by children, is also prohibited. There is no law prohibiting trafficking in persons. Children under the age 18 are prohibited from enlisting in the military.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Swaziland is working with ILO-IPEC to implement a USDOL-funded regional child labor project in Southern Africa. This USD 5 million project aims to expand the knowledge base on exploitive child labor in Swaziland and facilitate the development of a national child labor action plan. The American Institutes for Research, with the support of

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3995 U.S. Embassy- Mbabane, reporting, December 18, 2006, para A.
3996 U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Swaziland," Section 6d.
4003 Nomthetho Simelane, Scoping Report Swaziland, 11.
4005 Ibid., Section 6c.
4006 Ibid.
the Government of Swaziland and Save the Children Swaziland, is implementing another regional, USDOL-funded project. This USD 9 million project is designed to improve the quality of and access to basic and vocational education for children working or at-risk of working in the worst forms of child labor.\footnote{American Institutes for Research, \textit{Reducing Exploitive Child Labor Southern Africa (RECLISA), project document}, Washington September 8, 2005, 2.} Over its lifetime, this project aims to prevent 10,000 children in five countries, including Swaziland, from engaging in exploitive labor.\footnote{Ibid., 22.}
Tanzania

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 36.2 percent of boys and 34.5 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Tanzania. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (77.4 percent), followed by services (22.4 percent), manufacturing (0.1 percent), and other sectors (0.1 percent). In rural areas, child labor is particularly prevalent. Children work on

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4014 Ibid.
4017 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
4020 Ibid.
4022 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
commercial tea, coffee, sugar cane, sisal, cloves, and tobacco farms, and in the production of wheat, corn, green algae, pyrethrum, and rubber.

Children also work in underground mines and in bars and restaurants close by. Children known as “snake boys” crawl through narrow tunnels in unregulated gemstone mines to help position mining equipment and explosives. In the informal sector, children engage in scavenging, fishing, fish processing, and quarrying. Other children work as street vendors, cart pushers, auto mechanics, barmaids, car washers, and carpenters. Children also work as domestic servants in third-party homes, and some fall prey to exploitation in prostitution when fleeing abusive employers.

The United Republic of Tanzania comprises a union between mainland Tanzania and the neighboring island of Zanzibar. On the island of Zanzibar, children work in fishing, in markets, and at hotels. Zanzibari children also work in the tourism industry, petty trading, clove picking, domestic service, and are involved in commercial sexual exploitation near tourist spots.

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4034 U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam official. Email communication to USDOL official, August 9, 2007.


The exploitation of children in prostitution is a growing problem in Tanzania, where girls, and increasingly boys, are involved in commercial sexual exploitation. On Zanzibar, some girls accept jobs at hotels and then become engaged in prostitution.

In Tanzania, children are trafficked internally; boys are trafficked for exploitive labor in agriculture, mines, and the informal sector, and girls are trafficked from rural to urban areas for forced domestic service and commercial sexual exploitation. A limited number of Tanzanian girls are reportedly trafficked for forced labor in domestic service to South Africa, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom, Oman, and possibly to other countries in Europe or the Middle East. Children at especially high risk of being trafficked include girls, especially those who completed primary school but did not enroll in secondary school; orphaned children living in child-headed households; and children whose families live in poverty.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

Tanzania’s Employment and Labor Relations Act No.6 of 2004 and the Labor Institutions Act No.7 of 2004 took effect in 2006. These laws now prohibit the employment of children under the age of 14 in mainland Tanzania, except for light work that is not likely to harm the child's health and development and that does not prejudice the child's attendance at school. The laws also prohibit children under the age of 18 from being employed in a mine, factory, ship, or other worksite that the Minister of Labor deems to be hazardous.

Zanzibar is governed by its own labor laws. In Zanzibar, the minimum age for employment is 18 years, with some exceptions, such as for children in rural areas over 10 years who are permitted to perform light work, including some agricultural activities and domestic work.
Zanzibari law provides for the following two categories of child labor offenses: (a) ordinary practices for child labor, and (b) worst forms of child labor. The penalty for category (a) offenses is a fine or imprisonment for up to 6 months. For category (b) offenses, penalties include a fine, imprisonment for a minimum of 1 year, or both.  

The law provides for the protection of children from exploitation in the workplace, and prohibits forced or compulsory labor, including a specific prohibition on forced labor by children. Tanzanian law also prohibits the military recruitment of children under 18. It further prohibits the procuring of a child under 18 for indecent exhibition or for sexual intercourse, either inside or outside the country. Tanzanian law considers sexual intercourse with a child under 18 years to be rape (except in cases of marriage), punishable by imprisonment ranging from 30 years to life in cases where perpetrators are 19 years or older.

Although several government agencies have special child labor units and some jurisdiction over matters related to child labor, the primary responsibility for child labor law enforcement in mainland Tanzania lies with the Ministry of Labor, Employment, and Youth Development. In 2006, the government employed 124 national labor inspectors—a decrease from the 145 inspectors reported in the previous year. Enforcement of labor laws by the Ministry of Labor, Employment, and Youth Development remains weak, according to the U.S. Department of State, and is undermined by a lack of personnel and low salaries. At the community level, child labor committees identify and monitor children who engaged in exploitive child labor. The government took actions to address child labor during the year, such as ensuring children’s attendance in school, penalizing parents who failed to enroll their children, and educating formal sector employers on child labor issues.

Zanzibar has its own Ministry of Labor, which is responsible for enforcing the island’s child labor laws.
The Inter-Ministerial Committee to Combat Human Trafficking serves as the coordinating mechanism for government ministries, NGOs, international organizations, and civil society partners. Several ministries of both the Mainland and Zanzibar government participate in the Inter-Ministerial Committee and in mid-2006, the Ministry of Public Safety and Security established an anti-trafficking section in the Criminal Investigation Department.  

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

Tanzania’s National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (NSGRP) 2005-2010 includes specific references to the elimination of the worst forms of child labor. The NSGRP commits the government to reducing the percentage of children engaged in child labor to less than 10 percent by 2010, by providing former child laborers with a range of educational alternatives. It also aims to increase the rates of primary school enrollment, attendance, and completion for child laborers and other orphans and vulnerable children.

In 2006, the government continued its campaign to raise awareness on the worst forms of child labor, including prostitution and forced domestic service. The Ministry of Labor’s Child Labor Unit worked with ILO-IPEC to train to district officials and district child labor coordinators on the worst forms of child labor.

In 2006, USDOL awarded a 4-year, USD 5.09 million cooperative agreement to Winrock International for a Child Labor Education Initiative project in Tanzania, which aims to withdraw 4,975 children and prevent 5,100 children from exploitive child labor in agriculture through the provision of educational services. The government will be collaborating with Winrock International on this new project. ILO-IPEC continued to work with the government to implement its Timebound Program (TBP). The first phase of ILO-IPEC’s Project of Support to the Timebound Program on the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Tanzania ended in August 2006. This USD 5.4 million project funded by USDOL withdrew 16,314 children from and prevented 19,200 children from entering exploitive labor. A USD 4.87 million, 4-year second phase of the TBP was funded by USDOL to continue efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in commercial agriculture, domestic service, mining, fishing, and prostitution in mainland Tanzania.

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by 2010. The second phase also includes activities to combat child labor on Zanzibar. The government also collaborated, through April 2006, on a USD 4 million, USDOL-funded child labor and basic education project implemented by the Education Development Center (EDC), which prevented 1,166 children from exploitive child labor. The Ministry of Education and Vocational Training agreed to continue operating the learning centers established by EDC and broadcasting the radio-based curriculum that served as the core of the project’s efforts. The government also collaborated with ILO-IPEC on the implementation of several other child labor and education projects, including a USD 1.53 million project to provide skills and apprenticeship training to urban youth, funded by Canada; a USD 449,408 project to combat child domestic work in Tanzania and Kenya, funded by Sweden; and a USD 557,729 project to combat hazardous child labor in tobacco farming, funded by the Foundation for the Elimination of Child Labor in the Tobacco Industry.

In 2006, Tanzanian government officials referred victims of trafficking, including children, to NGOs to provide shelter, counseling, and rehabilitation. In support of the IOM’s campaign to increase awareness of the dangers of trafficking, government officials appeared on television and radio programs and immigration officers distributed brochures at 25 border posts. On Zanzibar, the government trained immigration officers and local administrators on trafficking.

4072 Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Dar es Salaam, *reporting, February 28, 2007*.
4073 ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Program on the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Tanzania- Phase II*, project document, 65-66.


Thailand

In rural areas of Thailand, children work primarily in agriculture, in sub-sectors such as rubber plantations, orange orchards, and sugarcane and vegetable production. In urban areas, children work in the service sector (small-scale industry, gas stations, entertainment venues, and restaurants). Children also work in street vending, and in the construction, manufacturing, knitting, garment, and fishing sectors. Large numbers of street children are present in urban centers. Children also work in domestic service. Children are vulnerable to exploitation in the trafficking of drugs in Thailand, and are exploited in prostitution and pornography.

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

| Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working: | Unavailable |
| Minimum age for admission to work: | 15<sup>4076</sup> |
| Age to which education is compulsory: | 16<sup>4077</sup> |
| Free public education: | Yes<sup>4078</sup> |
| Gross primary enrollment rate in 2005: | 97%<sup>4079</sup> |
| Net primary enrollment rate: | Unavailable |
| Percent of children 5-14 attending school: | Unavailable |
| Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: | Unavailable |
| Ratified Convention 138: | 5/11/2004<sup>4080</sup> |
| Ratified Convention 182: | 8/16/2001<sup>4081</sup> |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | Yes<sup>4082</sup> |

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In rural areas of Thailand, children work primarily in agriculture, in sub-sectors such as rubber plantations, orange orchards, and sugarcane and vegetable production. In urban areas, children work in the service sector (small-scale industry, gas stations, entertainment venues, and restaurants). Children also work in street vending, and in the construction, manufacturing, knitting, garment, and fishing sectors. Large numbers of street children are present in urban centers. Children also work in domestic service. Children are vulnerable to exploitation in the trafficking of drugs in Thailand, and are exploited in prostitution and pornography.

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<sup>4077</sup> National Education Act, B.E. 2542, Sections 10, 17.
<sup>4078</sup> Ibid.
<sup>4081</sup> Ibid.
<sup>4087</sup> Emma Porio and Christine Crisol, The Use of Children in the Production, Sales and Trafficking of Drugs, Manila, 2004, 2. See also Vittawan Sunthornkajit, Thanakorn Kiyananunta, Pornvisid Varavarn, and Somrouy
Migrant children from neighboring countries are more likely to be exploited in the aforementioned worst forms of child labor than are Thai citizens.4088

Thailand is a source, transit, and destination country for trafficking in persons, including children, for both labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Trafficking is exacerbated by sex tourism.4089 Boys and girls are trafficked from Burma, Cambodia, China, Laos, and Vietnam for commercial sexual exploitation and begging.4090 Children are also trafficked into Thailand for forced servitude in agriculture, construction, factories, commercial fisheries, and private households, as well as for street begging.4091 Internal trafficking of children occurs and members of northern Thailand’s stateless ethnic tribes are particularly vulnerable.4092

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

On September 19, 2006, a non-violent coup d’état was carried out in Thailand, ousting the Prime Minister and suspending the Constitution. An interim constitution was issued for a 1 year while a replacement for the 1997 Constitution is drafted and democratic elections are held. The coup did not affect any existing laws pertaining to child labor or child protection.4093

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The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years. Employers are required to notify labor inspectors if children under 18 are hired. The law permits children 15 to 18 to work only between 4 p.m. and 10 p.m. with written permission from the Director-General of Labor or a person assigned by the Director-General. Children under 18 may not be employed in hazardous work, which includes any work involving metalwork, hazardous chemicals, poisonous materials, radiation, harmful temperatures or noise levels; exposure to toxic micro-organisms; the operation of heavy equipment; work underground or underwater; work in places where alcohol is sold; in hotels; or work in massage parlors. The maximum penalty for violation of these prohibitions is 1 year of imprisonment. These provisions do not apply to the agricultural and informal sectors (including domestic work). However, the Ministry of Labor has issued regulations to increase protections for child workers carrying out work in their homes and children working in agriculture.

The law guarantees the rights of all children “in Thailand” or “of all nationalities” to be protected by the State against violence and unfair treatment. Violations, such as forcing children to become beggars, to work in dangerous conditions, or to perform obscene acts, all carry penalties of 3 months imprisonment. The law also mandates the establishment of the National Child Protection Committee to provide guidance, oversight and issue regulations for matters of child protection. The law prohibits forced labor except in cases of averting public calamity, war, martial law, or states of emergency. The minimum voluntary age for military recruitment is 18, while the age for compulsory recruitment is 20.

The law prohibits all forms of prostitution and provides specific penalties for cases involving children under 18. Fines and terms of imprisonment under the law are based on the age of the child involved, with more severe terms established for prostitution involving children age 15 and younger. For example, prostitution of children ages 16 to 18 is subject to jail terms of up to 15 years, while the range of penalties is nearly twice as much for those pimping and patronizing children age 15 and under. The law also establishes that government officials who compel others to engage in commercial sexual exploitation face penalties of 15 to 20 years of imprisonment.

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4094 Labour Protection Act of 1998, Chapter 4, Sections 44-45, 49-50.
4095 Ibid., Sections 22, 49-50, 148.
4101 Prevention and Suppression of Prostitution Act, Sections 8-12.
The law prohibits trafficking in persons, defines trafficking-related activities to be punished, and provides for basic protection of victims. The law also provides protection for child victims while testifying in cases of sexual exploitation.

The Ministry of Labor is the primary agency responsible for enforcement of child labor laws and policies. The labor inspection system tends to be more reactive than proactive, with inspectors usually responding to public complaints or newspaper reports, according to the U.S. Department of State. The U.S. Department of State also reports that a lack of resources is largely to blame for weak enforcement of child labor laws. The National Thai Working Group to Combat the Trafficking of Women and Children coordinates government ministries and agencies with overlapping anti-trafficking responsibilities. In 2005, the latest year for which such information is available, the government reported 352 trafficking-related arrests and 74 convictions.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The government maintains “woman and child labor assistance centers” in every province; facilitates the participation of communities in preventing child labor activities by appointing “labor volunteers”; and disseminates information on child labor nationwide through outreach programs. Since 2003 the government has had a MOU with NGOs working on child protection, which provides details on providing services to victims of worst forms of child labor.

The Royal Thai Government has a National Policy and Plan of Action for the Prevention and Eradication of the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children. The policy covers the period 2003-2007, and the Plan of Action was approved with a proposed budget of USD 34.2 million.

The Royal Thai Police have an ongoing public awareness campaign on trafficking and a hotline for reporting suspected trafficking cases. The government is providing training to police officers, prosecutors and judges on anti-trafficking laws. A series of MOU, signed in 2003-2004 between government agencies and domestic NGOs provide guidelines for the treatment of trafficked persons. In line with these guidelines, police are being trained to treat

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4103 Penal Code Amendment Act, Section 282, 283.
4104 Royal Thai Embassy, facsimile communication to USDOL official, September 5, 2002.
4107 Ibid.
4109 U.S. Embassy- Bangkok, reporting, August 30, 2005.
such individuals as victims of trafficking rather than as illegal immigrant workers, and victims are to become the responsibility of the Public Welfare Department instead of being deported. However, the U.S. State Department reports that implementation of the MOUs continued to be unreliable due to insufficient training of law enforcement officials and lack of familiarity with the law.4113

The government also collaborates on trafficking in persons issues with governments of neighboring countries and international organizations to raise awareness, provide shelters and social services, and assist in the repatriation of victims.4114 Along with Burma, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Laos, and Vietnam, Thailand is a signatory to the “Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking (COMMIT).” The members have a Sub-regional Plan of Action for 2005-2007 that translates the MOU commitments into concrete actions.4115 Thailand also participates in the UN Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region (UNIAP), which has activities targeted to children exploited through trafficking.4116 Thailand has bilateral anti-trafficking MOUs with Cambodia and Laos,4117 and is working with UNICEF on several programs to assist children exploited through trafficking.4118

The Department of Social Development and Welfare (DSDW) and IOM cooperate in assisting trafficked individuals in Thailand,4119 and the DSDW works with its counterpart agencies in both Laos and Cambodia to repatriate their nationals.4120 DSDW also operates six regional shelters for trafficked victims4121 and provides legal assistance to child victims, including counseling and

4117 Memorandum of Understanding between the Royal Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Royal Government of the Kingdom of Thailand on Bilateral Cooperation for Eliminating Trafficking in Children and Women and Assisting Victims of Trafficking
rehabilitation services.4122 During 2006, the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security trained government officials on treatment of trafficking victims.4123

The Government of Thailand is a partner in a USD 3.5 million USDOL-funded project initiated in September 2006 to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in agriculture, fishing, services, and domestic work, with emphasis on trafficking across sectors. The project aims to withdraw 1,670 children and prevent 3,330 children from exploitative labor in these sectors.4124 Thailand is also included in a USD 10,670,000 ILO-IPEC Sub-Regional Project, funded by the United Kingdom and Japan through April 2008 to combat trafficking of women and children for exploitative labor in the Mekong sub-region.4125 Further, the Government of Thailand participated in a regional USD 3 million USDOL-funded project that ended in 2006 and that withdrew 367 children and prevented 10,378 children from trafficking throughout the region4126 and a USD 740,000 regional USDOL-funded child labor awareness-raising project to eliminate the worst forms of child labor.4127 The Netherlands is supporting a project in the Southeast Asia Region, including activities in Thailand, to combat child domestic labor. The UN Trust Fund for Human Security is implementing a USD 1.9 million program in the Philippines and Thailand to empower returned trafficking victims economically and socially.4128 The Government of Thailand participates as part of a project between ASEAN and AUSAID on the elimination of trafficking in women and children in four Southeast Asian countries and China’s Yunnan Province.4129

The Ministry of Education is working with UNICEF to provide education assistance and training to girls at high risk of being trafficked.4130

4122 Royal Thai Embassy, facsimile communication, September 5, 2002, 11.
4124 ILO IPEC, Support for National Action to Combat Child Labor.
4128 ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 1, 2007.
Togo

In 2000, approximately 65.8 percent of boys and 63.3 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Togo. Children, including those as young as 5, were working in both urban and rural areas, particularly in family-based farming, small-scale trading, domestic work, and factories. Working children typically did not attend school for at least two-thirds of the year. Children were also employed as prostitutes in bars, restaurants, and hotels.

Togo is a country of origin, destination, and transit for children trafficked for forced labor, especially domestic service and sexual exploitation. Four primary routes for child trafficking in

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

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<th>Value</th>
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<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:</td>
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<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
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<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
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<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:</td>
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<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
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<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
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<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC Participating Country:</td>
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</table>

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4131 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates; March 1, 2007.
4133 Ibid., Section 5.
4134 Ibid.
4138 Ibid.
4140 Ibid.
4142 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
Togo have been documented: (1) trafficking of Togolese girls for domestic and market labor in Gabon, Benin, Niger and Nigeria as well as for prostitution in Nigeria; (2) trafficking of girls within the country, particularly to the capital city, Lomé, often for domestic or market labor; (3) trafficking of girls from Benin, Nigeria and Ghana to Lomé; and (4) trafficking of boys for labor exploitation, usually in agriculture, in Nigeria, Benin and Côte d’Ivoire.\textsuperscript{4145} There are also reports of children trafficked to Cote d’Ivoire, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and to European countries.\textsuperscript{4146} Some parents, misled by false information, send their children abroad with traffickers. Other parents sell children to traffickers in exchange for bicycles, radios, or clothing.\textsuperscript{4147}

\textbf{Child Labor Laws and Enforcement}

On December 5, 2006, the Government of Togo adopted a new labor code raising the minimum employment age in any enterprise to 15 years.\textsuperscript{4148} The law prohibits children under 18 from working at night and requires a daily rest period of at least 12 consecutive hours for all working children.\textsuperscript{4149} It also establishes fines as a punishment for non-compliance.\textsuperscript{4150} The Ministry of Social Affairs and Promotion of Women is the agency responsible for enforcing the new labor code. For certain industrial and technical employment, 18 years is the minimum age for entry. Ministry of Labor inspectors are responsible for enforcing this; but only enforced age restrictions in formal sectors in urban areas.\textsuperscript{4151}

The law defines and prohibits the worst forms of child labor under penalty of imprisonment including slavery or similar practices, indebted servitude, forced or bonded labor, and the use of children in hostilities.\textsuperscript{4152} The minimum age for both voluntary and compulsory recruitment into the military is 18.\textsuperscript{4153} The procurement of children for prostitution or the use of children for the

\textsuperscript{4148} Embassy of Togo official, E-mail communication USDOL official, December 13, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Togo," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{4149} Government of Togo, \textit{Code du Travail}, Ordonnance No. 16, (May 8, 1974), Chapter 2, Article 145; Chapter 6, Article 154.
\textsuperscript{4150} U.S. Department of State official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, February 20, 2007.
\textsuperscript{4151} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Togo."
\textsuperscript{4152} \textit{Code du travail}, (December 5, 2006), Chapter 1, Article 4; Chapter 4, Article 151. Government of Togo, \textit{ Penal Code}, Articles 93 and 94; available from http://209.190.246.239/protectionproject/statutesPDF/Togo.pdf.
production of pornographic materials is also prohibited. The law also makes it illegal to use children to engage in illicit activities, such as the production and trafficking of drugs. Any work whose nature is detrimental to the health, security, or morals of a child is also forbidden. The law punishes child traffickers and their accomplices with a prison sentence of up to 10 years and fines. A number of government ministries are involved in anti-trafficking efforts, including the Ministries of Justice, Labor, and Health. The Government of Togo has cooperated with the Governments of Benin, Ghana, and Nigeria to allow for accelerated extradition of traffickers among those countries.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In July 2006, Togo was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions. As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.

The government has a National Plan of Action on child abuse, child labor, and child trafficking that includes activities such as awareness-raising campaigns, training workshops, and establishing community structures for prevention and reintegration of child trafficking victims.

The Government of Togo participates in a USD 9.5 million regional USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC project to combat the trafficking of children for exploitive labor in West and Central Africa. The project targets 9,000 children for withdrawal and prevention from trafficking in 6 countries.

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4155 Government of Togo, *Code du Travail*, Chapter 1, Article 4; Chapter 4, Article 151, Government of Togo, *Penal Code*, Articles 93 and 94.


including Togo. The government also takes part in a regional ILO-IPEC project funded by France to combat child labor in Francophone Africa.

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4160 ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA).*

4161 ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication USDOL official, November 16, 2006.
Tonga

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

There are no reports of child labor existing in the formal or informal economy. During 2006, there were increased reports of workers on foreign fishing vessels soliciting underage girls for prostitution.  

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Tonga does not have legislation setting the minimum age for work. The law prohibits slavery, which can be interpreted to include forced or bonded labor. The owning and/or operating of a brothel, pimping, and soliciting in a public place are all prohibited by the law. Penalties for offenses range from imprisonment from 6 months to 2 years. The law also prohibits any person from assaulting a child in an indecent manner, abducting girls, and procuring or attempting to procure any girl under the age of 21 for trafficking for prostitution.

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Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Data</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
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<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
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<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>115%</td>
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<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2001:</td>
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<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2001:</td>
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<td>As of 2000, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>92%</td>
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<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
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<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Must pay school fees at the secondary level.

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4165 Ibid.
4166 Ibid.
The maximum punishment for these offenses is imprisonment for up to 5 years. There is no military conscription in Tonga.

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

Development policy in Tonga is currently being guided by the Strategic Development Plan Eight (2006-2009). Among other goals, the plan targets vulnerable groups for assistance, including children and youth, and focuses on improving educational standards.

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4172 Ibid., 125-126, 129.
Trinidad and Tobago

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Trinidad and Tobago are reported to work in agriculture, scavenging, loading and stocking goods, gardening, car repair, car washing, construction, fishing, and begging. Children also work as handymen, shop assistants, cosmetologist assistants, domestic servants, and street vendors. These activities are usually reported as being part of family business. Children are also reported to be victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

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Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

- Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000: 3.5%
- Minimum age for admission to work: 16
- Age to which education is compulsory: 12
- Free public education: Yes
- Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004: 102%
- Net primary enrollment rate in 2004: 92%
- Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000: 97%
- As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: 100%
- ILO-IPEC participating country: Yes

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4176 U.S. Embassy- Port of Spain official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 27, 2007. See also Government of Trinidad and Tobago, Miscellaneous Provisions Act, No.11 of 2006, Fifth session, Eighth Parliament (2006).
4178 Ibid.
4181 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
4184 Ibid.
4186 U.S. Embassy- Port of Spain, reporting, August 24, 2004.
4187 Ibid.
4188 Ibid.
4189 Government of Trinidad and Tobago, National Plan of Action on Children, Port of Spain, 2006.
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment in public or private industries at 16. However, children 14 to 16 may work in activities in which only family members are employed or that have been approved as vocational or technical training by the Minister of Education. Children under 18 are prohibited from working between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. except in a family enterprise or within other limited exceptions. One such exception enables children 16 to 18 to work at night in sugar factories. Violation of these regulations is subject to fines.

The law prohibits the procurement of minors under 16 for prostitution or sexual offenses with penalties of imprisonment up to 15 years. Procurement is considered an offense whether committed in Trinidad and Tobago or elsewhere. The operation of a brothel is punishable by imprisonment for 5 years, and exploiting minors under 16 for commercial sexual purposes in a brothel is subject to imprisonment for 10 years. Any person responsible for a girl younger than 16 who causes or encourages commercial sexual exploitation of the minor is subject to imprisonment for 2 years. There is no compulsory military service in Trinidad & Tobago, and the minimum age for voluntary military service is 16.

The Ministry of Labor and Small and Micro-Enterprise Development and the Ministry of Social Development are currently responsible for enforcing child labor provisions. Labor inspectors have the authority to enter, inspect, and examine at all reasonable hours any premises when there is reasonable cause to believe that violations are taking place. Laws concerning the worst forms of child labor, traditionally considered to be crimes, are enforced by the Police Service. According to the U.S. Department of State, enforcement of child labor laws is weak because there is no comprehensive government policy on child labor and there are no established

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4190 U.S. Embassy- Port of Spain official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 27, 2007. See also Right to Education, Constitutional Guarantees: Trinidad and Tobago, [online] [cited July 5, 2006]; available from http://www.right-to-education.org/content/age/trin_and_tob.html. See also Clive Pegus, A Review of Child Labour Laws of Trinidad and Tobago- A Guide to Legislative Reform, ILO Subregional Office for the Caribbean, June 2005, 26.
4191 Right to Education, Constitutional Guarantees: Trinidad and Tobago. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Trinidad and Tobago," Section 6d.
4192 U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Trinidad and Tobago." Section 6d.
4194 Interpol, Legislation on Sexual Offences Against Children, [online] [cited October 22, 2006]; available from http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaTrinidadTobago.pdf.
4196 Interpol, Legislation on Sexual Offences Against Children.
4197 The Protection Project, "Trinidad and Tobago." 4198 Ibid.
4200 U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Trinidad and Tobago," Section 6d.
4201 Clive Pegus, A Review of Child Labour Laws of Trinidad and Tobago, 37.
4202 Ibid., 40.
mechanisms for receiving, investigating, and addressing child labor complaints. In general, the government’s capacity to carry out its commitment to protect the rights and welfare of children is limited by lack of funds and expanding social needs.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In August 2006, the Ministry of Social Development published the Revised National Plan of Action for Children, which includes specific goals for combating commercial sexual exploitation of children and exploitive child labor. The National Steering Committee for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labor, with the advice and support of the ILO, is participating in a project to withdraw and rehabilitate child laborers at two landfill sites in Trinidad and Tobago.

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4203 U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Trinidad and Tobago," Section 6d.
4204 Ibid., Section 5.
4205 Government of Trinidad and Tobago, National Plan of Action on Children.
4206 U.S. Embassy- Port of Spain, reporting, August 26, 2005.
Select Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

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<th>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:</th>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>110%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade five:</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
<td>10/19/1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>2/28/2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tunisia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In Tunisia, children can be found working in the informal sector, particularly as agricultural workers and vendors, primarily during their summer vacation from school. Also, in the informal sector, children are involved in the handicraft industry, where child labor is sometimes disguised as apprenticeship. There is no widespread form of forced or compulsory labor in Tunisia, although there is some evidence of exploitation of children in domestic service.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment is 16 years, with some exceptions. Children at least 13 years may perform light work in the non-industrial and agricultural sectors. They may also

4209 Ibid.
4214 Ibid.
4219 Ibid., Articles 55 and 56.
begin working as apprentices or through vocational training programs at 14.\textsuperscript{4220} Children younger than 16 may work in family businesses, as long as their work does not negatively affect their mental or physical health or interfere with school.\textsuperscript{4221} This provision does not apply to hazardous work as defined by the Labor Code.\textsuperscript{4222} The minimum age for hazardous work is 18 years, and the Ministry of Social Affairs has the authority to determine what jobs fall in this category.\textsuperscript{4223} The law restricts non-agricultural night work; children under 14 are prohibited from working between 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.; and children between 14 and 18 are prohibited from working between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.\textsuperscript{4224} Children working in the agriculture industry must have fixed rest periods and cannot work between 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.\textsuperscript{4225} Workers in the non-agricultural sector under 18 years may not be paid less than 85 percent of the salary paid to adults.\textsuperscript{4226}

Labor inspectors from the Ministry of Social Affairs are responsible for enforcing labor laws, including child labor laws.\textsuperscript{4227} According to reports received by the U.S. Department of State, overlapping responsibilities among various ministries, lack of resources, and cultural sensitivities sometimes limit the application of these laws.\textsuperscript{4228} The Ministry of Women’s Affairs, Family, Children, and Senior Citizens, and the Ministry of Youth, Sports, and Physical Training are responsible for protecting children’s rights, with a body of Child Protection Delegates answerable to the former and based in each governorate of the country.\textsuperscript{4229} Since the delegates were first established, the Ministry has increased resources, so that office equipment, staff and transportation are available to support the delegates’ protective responsibilities.\textsuperscript{4230} Forced labor is prohibited under the law,\textsuperscript{4232} as well as trafficking in persons.\textsuperscript{4233} Convicted traffickers may be sentenced to prison for 3 to 20 years and fines.\textsuperscript{4234} The law protects children

\textsuperscript{4220} Ibid., Article 53.
\textsuperscript{4221} Ibid., Article 54.
\textsuperscript{4223} Government of Tunisia, \textit{Code du travail}, Article 58.
\textsuperscript{4224} Ibid., Articles 65 and 66.
\textsuperscript{4225} Ibid., Article 74.
\textsuperscript{4227} Government of Tunisia, \textit{Code du travail}, Articles 170 and 171.
\textsuperscript{4230} U.S. Embassy - Tunisia, \textit{reporting}, April 4, 2006.
\textsuperscript{4233} U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2006: Tunisia,” Section 6c.
\textsuperscript{4234} Ibid, Section 5.
less than 18 years from abuse and exploitation, including participation in wars or armed conflicts, prostitution, and hazardous labor conditions. Tunisian law defines “threatened children” to include those who are at risk of sexual exploitation. The law clarifies that sexual exploitation includes prostitution or any other form of sexual deviation, including commercial sexual exploitation, that exploits the child.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any specific policies or programs by the Government of Tunisia to address exploitive child labor.

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Turkey

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 1999, approximately 4.6 percent of boys and 3.7 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Turkey. The majority of working children were found in the agricultural sector (66.7 percent), followed by services (18 percent), manufacturing (13.4 percent), and other sectors (2 percent). Children are engaged in agriculture, metal work, woodworking, textiles and leather goods production, domestic service, automobile repair, furniture making, hotel and catering.


Embassy of Turkey, The Implemented Programs and Measures Taken Against Child Labor in Turkey, Washington, DC, November 9, 2001, 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Turkey," Section 5.


Ibid.

UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.


work, and footwear production. A rapid assessment on working street children in 2001 found that street children in the cities of Diyarbakir, Adana, and Istanbul pick through garbage, shine shoes, and sell various goods, among other activities.

Children are trafficked to Turkey for commercial sexual exploitation and, to a lesser extent, forced labor. Turkey is also used as a transit point for trafficked persons. Internal trafficking also occurs.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law establishes the minimum age for employment at 15 years. The law, however, allows children 14 years to perform light work that does not interfere with their education, and it enables governors in provinces dependent on agriculture to determine the minimum age for work in that sector. Before beginning a heavy and dangerous job, children 15 to 18 years must undergo a physical examination, which is to be repeated every 6 months. Children under 16 are permitted to work no more than 8 hours per day. While attending school, children are prohibited from working more than 2 hours per day or 10 hours per week. Under the law, persons should not be required to perform work unsuitable for their age or capabilities.

The minimum age for recruitment into the armed forces is 19 years. The Ministry of Labor and Social Security (MOLSS) published a list of prohibited occupations for children 15 to 18 years. Children 15 to 18 years are not permitted to work in bars, coffee houses, dance halls, cabarets, casinos, or public baths, or to engage in industrial or night work. The law prohibits underground and underwater work for females of any age and for boys under 18. The law prohibits prostitution under 21 and the sexual exploitation of children. The use of children

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4253 U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Turkey."


in pornographic materials is punishable by imprisonment for 5 to 10 years.\textsuperscript{4262} The law also designates the trafficking of persons as a crime; those convicted face 8 to 12 years in prison.\textsuperscript{4263}

The MOLSS Labor Inspection Board is responsible for enforcing child labor laws in Turkey.\textsuperscript{4264} Approximately 100 field inspectors have been trained to handle child labor issues.\textsuperscript{4265} According to the Board, the MOLSS has been unable to effectively prevent child labor for a variety of reasons, including traditional attitudes, socio-economic factors, and the predominantly informal nature of child labor in Turkey. The work in which many children engage is not covered by labor laws, such as work in agricultural sites/workplaces with fewer than 50 workers, maritime transport, family businesses, small shops, and the informal economy, and therefore cannot be regulated by the inspectorate.\textsuperscript{4266} Therefore, the Board has focused on protecting working children by improving their working conditions.\textsuperscript{4267} The government enforces laws more effectively in medium and large businesses.\textsuperscript{4268}

A Commission on Child Labor Working on the Streets investigates instances of child labor and proposes intervention programs. A parallel committee exists within the Grand Turkish National Assembly.\textsuperscript{4269} The Interior Ministry’s Child Police are specifically responsible for protecting children, including protecting working children from employer abuses.\textsuperscript{4270}

The Task Force on Human Trafficking coordinates government action on trafficking and includes members from the Ministries of Health, Interior, Justice, Finance, and Labor.\textsuperscript{4271}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

In working towards meeting EU accession conditions, priorities for the Government of Turkey include fulfilling obligations to eliminate child labor.\textsuperscript{4272} The Government of Turkey has developed a National Timebound Policy and Program Framework designed to eliminate the

\textsuperscript{4263} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Turkey." Section 5. See also Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Turkey, *Turkey on Trafficking in Human Beings*, June 27, 2005.
\textsuperscript{4264} Ministry of Labor and Social Security Labor Inspection Board, *Report on the Implementation of Labor Inspection Policy*, 5-6. See also Embassy of Turkey, *The Implemented Programs and Measures Taken Against Child Labor*.
\textsuperscript{4267} Embassy of Turkey, *The Implemented Programs and Measures Taken Against Child Labor*, 3-7. See also Embassy of Turkey, *Policies, Programs, and Measures Against Child Labor in Turkey*, Washington, DC, September 6, 2002, 10, 11, 14.
\textsuperscript{4268} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Turkey," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{4271} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Turkey," Section 5.
\textsuperscript{4272} Republic of Turkey Ministry of Foreign Affairs, *Executive Summary of the Turkish National Program for the Adoption of the Acquis*, 2003.
worst forms of child labor and the involvement of children under 15 in all forms of work by 2014.4273

The Government of Turkey is participating in the USD 2.5 million USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC project, Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Turkey- Supporting the Timebound Program for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Turkey (2003-2007). The program includes activities in 11 provinces on the basis of the prevalence of child work in priority sectors of street work, informal economy, and seasonal agricultural labor.4274 The project aims to withdraw 4,000 children and prevent 6,500 children from exploitive labor.4275 The government is cooperating with a USDOL-funded USD 6 million project, Combating Exploitative Child Labor through Education in Turkey, 2004-2008.4276 The project is focused on assisting children working under hazardous conditions in seasonal agriculture in the provinces of Gaziantep, Şanlıurfa, Mardin, Elazig, Agri, and Ankara.4277 The project aims to withdraw 3,500 children and prevent 6,500 children from exploitive labor.4278 The government is also participating in a European Commission-funded USD 6.4 million project to combat the worst forms of child labor in Turkey.4279

The Government of Turkey is taking steps to combat trafficking of persons.4280 The Ministry of Health provides free medical treatment to persons who have been trafficked, and the Ministry of Justice provides free legal services to victims remaining in the country.4281 The government sponsors anti-trafficking training programs for law enforcement officers and a hotline. Anti-trafficking brochures have been printed and distributed by law enforcement officers. Informational passport inserts have been provided by consular officials and at border crossings.4282 Anti-trafficking protocols have been signed with Georgia, Ukraine, and Moldova.4283 With USD 600,000 in U.S. Government funding, IOM began a new trafficking-awareness campaign in Turkey focusing on the negative results trafficking has on families and children.4284

4275 USDOL, Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Turkey - Supporting the Timebound National Policy and Program for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Turkey, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, DC.
4277 IMPAQ International, Combating Exploitative Child Labor through Education in Turkey, project revision, September 19, 2005.
4278 USDOL, Combating Exploitive Child Labor through Education in Turkey, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, DC.
4279 ILO-IPEC official, Email communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.
4280 U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Turkey."
4282 U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Turkey."
4283 Ibid.
Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding the incidence and nature of child labor in Tuvalu.*

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding child labor laws and enforcement in Tuvalu.*

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding government policies and programs in Tuvalu.*

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* For more information, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor’s 2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor.

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Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Child work is common in Uganda. In rural areas, children work in crop farming and in commercial agriculture related to tea, sugar, tobacco, and rice. In urban areas, children sell small items on the streets, work in shops, or are involved in the commercial sex industry. Children are also engaged in domestic work, stone quarrying, stone crushing, and cross-border smuggling. Within Uganda, girls are trafficked from rural areas to urban areas and border towns for sexual exploitation. The high incidence of HIV/AIDS has left many orphans,

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory</td>
<td>Not</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2005</td>
<td>118%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5</td>
<td>70%</td>
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<td>Ratified Convention 138</td>
<td>03/25/2003</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182</td>
<td>6/21/2001</td>
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<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

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4287 U.S. Embassy- Kampala, reporting, December 12, 2006, para 11.
4292 Ibid.
4296 Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Kampala, reporting, Dec. 12, 2006, para 2- 3.
resulting in child-headed homes. The orphans drop out of school to work to survive and to fend for their siblings.4298

Children from northern Uganda and southern Sudan were abducted by the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) and were trafficked to the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo and other areas within northern Uganda and southern Sudan.4299 Upon being abducted by the LRA, children were forced to become cooks, porters, agricultural workers, soldiers, sex slaves, or guards. Many were also beaten, raped, and required to participate in the murder of other children who attempt to escape.4300

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years.4301 Children between the ages of 12 and 14 may engage in light work that does not hinder their education and is supervised by an adult over 18. Children under 12 are prohibited from working in any business or workplace.4302 The law states that no child may be employed in hazardous work or between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m.4303 The Constitution of Uganda states that children under 16 years have the right to be protected from social and economic exploitation and should not be employed in hazardous work; work that would otherwise endanger their health, physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development; or work that would interfere with their education.4304 Attendance in primary school is not required under the law.4305 The absence of such a requirement may result in children entering work illegally.

The law prohibits compulsory and forced labor.4306 While trafficking in persons is not a specific violation under Ugandan law, related offenses cover detaining a person with sexual intent, which is punishable up to 7 years of imprisonment; trading in slaves, which is punishable by up to 10 years of imprisonment; and “defilement,” defined as having sex with a minor, which is a punishable offense with a range of sentences leading up to the death penalty.4307 The minimum age for military service in Uganda is 18.4308 An April 2007 report presented to the Uganda Parliament by the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Forum for Children revealed that there are 5,000 under age soldiers serving in the Uganda Peoples Defense Forces (UPDF) in northern Uganda. The report stated that child recruitment into the army is caused by the difficulty to

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4298 U.S. Embassy- Kampala official. Email communication to USDOL official, July 26, 2007.
4301 The Employment Act, 32 (1-3).
4302 Ibid., Act 6, 32 (1-4).
4303 Ibid., Act 6, part I (2) and 32 (1-5)
4305 U.S. Embassy- Kampala, reporting, Dec. 12, 2006, Section 11.
identify those above 18 years. The report findings also showed that because of poverty, some parents convince their underage children to join the army.\textsuperscript{4309}

The Ministry of Gender, Labor, and Social Development (MGLSD), charged with enforcing child labor laws, investigates child labor complaints through district labor officers,\textsuperscript{4310} and houses a Child Labor Unit.\textsuperscript{4311} Local governments are also empowered to investigate child labor complaints.\textsuperscript{4312} Under the Employment Act No. 6 2006, violation of the provisions of the law is punishable with a fine of 240 currency points. Each curry point is equivalent to Uganda Shillings 2000 (two thousand). According to the U.S. Department of State, the government demonstrates a strong will to combat child labor, but lacks resources to be effective.\textsuperscript{4313}

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Uganda adopted a National Child Labor Policy in November 2006. The objectives of the policy are to integrate child labor issues into national and community-level programs; establish frameworks for coordinating, monitoring, and evaluating child labor programs; and encourage efforts to eliminate child labor.\textsuperscript{4314} The MGLSD also coordinates the Orphans and Vulnerable Children Policy, which extends social services to groups that include children who participate in the worst forms of labor.\textsuperscript{4315}

The government is participating in the “Opportunities for Reducing Adolescent and Child Labor through Education (ORACLE)” project, a 4-year USD 3 million project funded by USDOL and implemented by the International Rescue Committee and the Italian Association for Volunteers in International Service. The ORACLE project contributes to the prevention and elimination of the worst forms of child labor amongst conflict-affected children in Northern Uganda through the provision of transitional and non-formal education and family-based poverty reduction strategies.\textsuperscript{4316} ORACLE aims to withdraw 1,495 children and prevent 1,105 from exploitive labor.\textsuperscript{4317}

The government is also participating in a 3-year USD 3 million regional project that is implemented by ILO-IPEC and funded by USDOL. The objectives of the project are to combat and prevent HIV/AIDS-induced child labor in Uganda and Zambia. To reduce vulnerability to participation in child labor, the project provides vocational and basic education, psycho-social

\textsuperscript{4310} U.S. Embassy- Kampala, reporting, September 2, 2005, para 2b. See also U.S. Embassy- Kampala, reporting, Dec. 12, 2006, para 4.
\textsuperscript{4311} U.S. Embassy- Kampala, reporting, Sep 2, 2005, para 2b.
\textsuperscript{4312} Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Kampala, reporting, Dec. 12, 2006, para 4.
\textsuperscript{4313} U.S. Embassy- Kampala, reporting, Dec. 12, 2006, para 15.
\textsuperscript{4314} Ibid., para 13.
\textsuperscript{4315} U.S. Embassy- Kampala, reporting, Sep 2, 2005.
\textsuperscript{4316} International Rescue Committee, Opportunities for Reducing Adolescent and Child Labor through Education (ORACLE), project document, New York, 2004, II and III.
\textsuperscript{4317} International Rescue Committee, ORACLE Technical Progress Report, New York, September 15, 2006, Annex D.
rehabilitation and social protection to children orphaned by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The project aims to withdraw 1,600 children and prevent 2,000 children from exploitive labor over its lifetime. Another regional program is being implemented by World Vision in Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia and is funded by USDOL. The USD 14.5 million project, “Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Ethiopia Together” (KURET), provides educational alternatives to children who are especially vulnerable to the worst forms of child labor because of HIV/AIDS. The 4-year KURET program aims to prevent or withdraw 30,600 children from exploitive labor in four countries, including Uganda.

The government, tobacco exporters, and unions supported a project that aimed to reduce child labor in the tobacco growing industry by improving access to education. In 2003, the Eliminate Child Labour in Tobacco Foundation funded a 3-year USD 516,560 project to reduce the incidence of child labor in the tobacco industry in the Masindi region of the country.

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4319 Ibid., 21.
Ukraine

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Ukraine are found working in agriculture, trade, services, manufacturing, and construction. Child laborers typically begin working at 12.\textsuperscript{4331} Children in rural areas were approximately twice as likely to work as those in urban areas.\textsuperscript{4332} Child begging is also present in Ukraine.\textsuperscript{4333}

Ukraine is a source country for child pornography available on the Internet, and the commercial sexual exploitation of children is a problem.\textsuperscript{4334} The country is a source country for trafficking

\begin{table}[h]
\centering
\begin{tabular}{|l|c|}
\hline
\textbf{Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor} & \\
\hline
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working: & Unavailable \\
Minimum age of work: & \textsuperscript{16} \textsuperscript{4323} \\
Age to which education is compulsory: & \textsuperscript{15} \textsuperscript{4324} \\
Free public education: & Yes \textsuperscript{4325} \\
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004: & \textsuperscript{95\%} \textsuperscript{4326} \\
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004: & \textsuperscript{82\%} \textsuperscript{4327} \\
Percent of children 5-14 attending school: & Unavailable \\
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5: & Unavailable \\
Ratified Convention 138: & 5/3/1979 \textsuperscript{4328} \\
Ratified Convention 182: & 12/14/2000 \textsuperscript{4329} \\
ILO-IPEC participating country: & Yes \textsuperscript{4330} \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\end{table}

\textsuperscript{4327} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{4332} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{4333} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{4334} Ibid., Sections 5 and 6d. See also ECPAT International, \textit{CSEC Database- Ukraine}.
Children have been trafficked for sexual exploitation and forced labor. Internal trafficking of children is a large problem in Ukraine. Most trafficked girls are subject to commercial sexual exploitation, while boys are trafficked for labor or to sell drugs. Debt bondage (forcing the child to pay off debt incurred as a result of the trafficking) is a common occurrence in trafficking situations involving Ukrainian children.

Street children, victims of domestic violence, orphans, residents of boarding schools, and children with absent parents (often due to migration in search of work or incarceration) are the groups most vulnerable to exploitation in the worst forms of child labor, including commercial sexual exploitation.

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment is 16 years. With government permission and the consent of a parent, 15-year-old children may work in certain non-hazardous industries. With the permission of a parent, 14-year-old children may work in agriculture and the social sector (orphanages, hospitals, elder care, etc.) on a short-term basis if it does not interfere with their education. The employment of an underage child is prohibited by law and is punishable by up to 6 months of imprisonment or judicial restraint for up to 3 years. The sentence is increased to 2 to 5 years of imprisonment if multiple children are involved, if considerable damage is done to the health of the child, or if the child was involved in hazardous work.

Forced labor of children is forbidden by law. The minimum age for military conscription is 18, and age 17 for voluntary recruitment. Pimping or managing a brothel that employs minors is illegal and punishable by 2 to 7 years of imprisonment. Involvement of a child in

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4338 PROTECT CEE, Ukraine Country Profile, 7. See also ILO-IPEC, Rapid Assessment Ukraine, 1.
4339 ILO-IPEC, Rapid Assessment Ukraine, 2.
prostitution is prohibited and offenders can be punished by 3 to 5 years of imprisonment. Importation, sale, distribution, or manufacture of child pornography is punishable by 6 months to 3 years of imprisonment. The sentence is increased to 5 years if the material is on film or video media. If there are repeated child pornography violations or if the act was committed by a group of persons and involved compelling the minor to participate, the sentence is increased to 3 to 7 years of imprisonment. Trafficking of minors 14 to 18 is prohibited by law and is punishable by 5 to 12 years of imprisonment. If the child is under 14, the punishment is 8 to 15 years of imprisonment.

The State Labor Inspectorate and the State Department of Surveillance over Labor Legislation Observance in the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy (MOLSP) are responsible for enforcing child labor policies and laws in the formal sector. There were 708 labor inspectors in Ukraine in 2006. The Labor Inspectorate does not have the authority to inspect informal workplaces. In addition to the Labor Inspectorate, the Ministry of Emergencies and the Ministry of Health also conduct inspections.

The Ministry of the Interior’s (MOI) Anti-trafficking Department is responsible for the enforcement of anti-trafficking laws. It has a staff of approximately 600 officers and branch offices in all 27 regional directorates. In 2005, 446 trafficking victims, 39 percent of whom were children, were returned to Ukraine. In 2005, the police conducted 2,000 raids to investigate suspected instances of child exploitation and trafficking, including checks at 600 photographic and video studios, 2,500 nightclubs, 300 massage parlors, 270 modeling agencies, 420 hotels and campsites, and 1,100 Internet cafes. The MOLSP revoked the licenses of a limited number of employment agencies suspected of involvement in trafficking; however, the MOI reported that MOLSP’s enforcement was not uniformly effective. In 2005, the most recent date for which such information is available, there were 415 criminal prosecutions for

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4346 Interpol, Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences Against Children, October 21, 2006; available from http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/default.asp.
4347 Ibid.
4352 Ministry of Labor and Social Policy- Ukraine official, interview, March 30, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, Trafficking and other Worst Forms of Child Labour In Central and Eastern Europe (Phase II), project document, 35. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Ukraine," Section 6d.
4356 Ibid., 7.
trafficking, an increase of 54.3 percent over 2004. In 2005, the most recent year when such information was available, 115 persons were convicted of trafficking.\footnote{4358} The U.S. Department of State reports that corruption among police and in the courts hampered the enforcement of anti-trafficking laws.\footnote{4359}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

On May 11, 2006, the government approved the State Program to Combat Child Homelessness and Neglect for 2006-2010. The document identifies child labor as a factor related to child homelessness. The program aims to identify and support at-risk families.\footnote{4360} The Government of Ukraine has a National Action Plan for 2006 to 2016 on the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, with separate chapters on the worst forms of child labor, child trafficking, and sexual exploitation.\footnote{4361}

The Department of Juvenile Affairs in the Ministry of Family, Youth, and Sport (MOFYS) and the Criminal Police on Juvenile Affairs in the MOI have the responsibility of identifying working children in the informal sector.\footnote{4362} The Ministry of Health is responsible for providing physical and psychological rehabilitation to child victims of commercial sexual exploitation.\footnote{4363} Children found to be involved in prostitution are often put in boarding schools. Although the boarding schools provide education, room, and board, conditions are usually poor.\footnote{4364}

In cooperation with the IOM and with funding from the European Commission, the government supports shelters for victims in seven cities.\footnote{4365} The government assisted potential trafficking victims through its overseas embassies.\footnote{4366} The government and NGOs cooperated on awareness-raising campaigns.\footnote{4367} A trafficking awareness-raising campaign for teachers and students was managed by the Ministry for Education and Science.\footnote{4368} The government conducted anti-trafficking trainings for investigators, prosecutors, and judges in conjunction with
international organizations. The government and NGOs continue to screen and refer victims found at the airport in Kyiv and the port of Odessa.

The Government of the Ukraine cooperated with ILO-IPEC on a USD 1.1 million USDOL-funded project which ended in August 2006. It improved Ukraine’s policy and legal framework for addressing child labor, raised awareness, conducted research on child labor issues, established a child labor monitoring system, and withdrew 1,617 children and prevented 354 children from the worst forms of child labor. The government participated in a 3-year USD 1.5 million USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC regional project to combat the trafficking of children for labor and sexual exploitation that ended in January 2007. The project withdrew 195 children and prevented 666 children from exploitive labor in Ukraine. Beginning in September 2006, the government supported a USD 3.5 million USDOL-funded project to combat child trafficking and other worst forms of child labor. It operates in Albania, Bulgaria, the UN-administered Province of Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, and Ukraine. The project aims to withdraw 1,350 and prevent 3,150 children from exploitive labor throughout all of the participating countries. In 2006, USAID funded a USD 1.2 million project through the IOM to raise awareness of trafficking in persons among children and young women 12 to 25 years, to provide support to local and national government, and to assist approximately 700 trafficking victims. ILO-IPEC has worked to support community-based centers to assist children from at-risk families, street children and orphans. It also assisted with a program to provide support to children leaving state boarding schools, a group especially vulnerable to trafficking, and train them for life outside of the institution.

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4369 Ibid.
4370 Ibid.
4374 ILO-IPEC, Trafficking and other Worst Forms of Child Labour In Central and Eastern Europe (Phase II), project document, cover page, vi, 69.
Uruguay

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

The majority of child labor in Uruguay occurs in the informal sector. Some children work in agriculture or as street vendors or jugglers.\(^{4385}\) They also work cleaning windshields, begging, and helping their parents as garbage sorters.\(^{4386}\) Commercial sexual exploitation of children occurs in Uruguay, mostly in the areas that border Brazil.\(^{4387}\) Children, including those who are very poor and homeless, are involved in prostitution around factories and in slums, and a specific market for virgin children exists.\(^{4388}\) There are also isolated reports of prostitution of boys.\(^{4389}\)

There is a growing concern of possible child prostitution rings in Montevideo and Punta del Este, with the involvement of hotel staff and taxi drivers.\(^{4390}\)

Reports from children’s rights NGOs indicate that 90 percent of minors who resorted to prostitution did so to assist their families, who

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\(^{4379}\) Constitución de la República, Article 71.


\(^{4383}\) Ibid.


\(^{4386}\) U.S. Department of State, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 27, 2007.


\(^{4388}\) ECPAT International CSEC Database, Uruguay.


\(^{4390}\) Ibid., Section 5.
allowed or actively promoted their involvement. Poor families reportedly have turned their children over to forced domestic service and agricultural labor.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years. Adolescents between 15 and 18 years require government permission to work and must undergo physical exams to identify possible exposure to job-related physical harm. These permits are not granted for hazardous, fatiguing, and night work. The government only grants work permission to minors who either have finished 9 years of compulsory education or who are enrolled in school and are completing compulsory education. Another exception that may be granted by the Adolescent Labor Division of the National Institute for Adolescents and Children (INAU) is for minors ages 13 through 15 to engage in mainly cultural or artistic activities. Minors are not allowed to work for more than 6 hours per day within a 36-hour work week. Further, minors have to rest 1 day a week, preferably Sunday, and cannot work between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Violations of child labor laws are punishable by fines. Parents or adults responsible for working children may be subject to imprisonment of 3 months to 4 years.

Forced or compulsory labor, including by children, is prohibited by law. The legal system addresses sexual exploitation, prostitution, and trafficking involving minors and provides prison terms of 2 to 12 years. The minimum age for voluntary or compulsory military conscription is 18 years.

The INAU bears primary responsibility for implementing policies to prevent and regulate child labor and to provide training on child labor issues. INAU works with the Ministry of Labor

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4391 Ibid.
4393 Código de la niñez y la adolescencia en Uruguay, Article 162.
4396 State, E-mail communication, July 27, 2007.
4398 Código de la niñez y la adolescencia en Uruguay, Article 173.
4403 The National Institute for Adolescents and Children (INAU) was formerly known as the National Institute for Minors (INAME). See also Código de la niñez y la adolescencia en Uruguay, Articles 68 and 223. See also Ministerio de Trabajo y Seguridad Social, * Comite nacional para la Erradicacion del Trabajo Infantil, [online] [cited September 25 2006]; available from http://www.mtss.gub.uy/marnews.htm.*
to investigate complaints of child labor and with the Ministry of the Interior to prosecute cases. INAU has hired 109 inspectors to conduct approximately 2,000 inspections per year, imposing sanctions in 5 percent of the cases. However, the U.S. Department of State reports that a lack of resources and the concentration of child work in the informal sector, which accounts for 40 percent of total employment in Uruguay, make enforcement difficult. Authorities recently investigated the case of a child prostitution ring operating at the border with Argentina. The Crime Prevention Office within the Ministry of the Interior addresses child trafficking and implements a database on cases related to trafficking.

### Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Interdepartmental Commission for the Prevention and Protection of Children Against Sexual Exploitation, along with INAU, has a national plan of action against commercial sexual exploitation of children that includes protection measures for victims and witnesses. However, the organizations reported a lack of resources to pursue their objective. The Ministry of Education has produced anti-trafficking public service announcements on national television. The Government of Uruguay funds various NGOs that assist homeless children and victims of trafficking. Programs for trafficking victims include legal, medical and psychological care, as well as shelter, food, and education. However, according to the U.S. Department of State, care for victims was not available in all parts of the country; shelters could not meet the demand and did not keep records that identified whether they were in fact serving trafficking victims. The government is also participating in an IDB-financed program that includes initiatives to address child labor, reduce school attrition, and improve children’s performance in school. UNICEF is implementing a project to raise awareness of children’s and adolescents’ rights that includes a component on child labor.

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4406 Ibid.
Uzbekistan

In 2000, approximately 19.9 percent of boys and 12.9 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Uzbekistan. Children work in agriculture in rural areas, where the widespread, compulsory mobilization of children to help with cotton harvests has been reported. Schools close in some rural areas to allow pupils and teachers to work during the harvest, sometimes without remuneration. Reports indicate that children have been forced to spray harmful chemicals, with no protection, and to endure poor living conditions on farms located far from their homes and

### Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2000:</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age of work:</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>For 9 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2000:</td>
<td>79.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>Yes, associated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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In 2000, approximately 19.9 percent of boys and 12.9 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Uzbekistan. Children work in agriculture in rural areas, where the widespread, compulsory mobilization of children to help with cotton harvests has been reported. Schools close in some rural areas to allow pupils and teachers to work during the harvest, sometimes without remuneration. Reports indicate that children have been forced to spray harmful chemicals, with no protection, and to endure poor living conditions on farms located far from their homes and

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4419 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
4420 Ibid.
4425 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.
There are reports that children help cultivate rice and raise silk worms in rural areas. Children as young as 7 or 8 routinely work in family businesses in cities during school holidays and vacations. Children also work in street vending, services, construction, building materials manufacturing, and transportation. Older children frequently work as temporary hired workers. The Commission on Minors registered 15,000 children living and working on the streets between 2001 and 2005. Child beggars are present in Tashkent. Minor girls are engaged in forced prostitution and are trafficked internally and externally, including to destinations in the Persian Gulf, Asia, Russia and Western Europe, for sexual exploitation.

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The Constitution sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years. Fourteen-year-olds may only work in light labor that does not negatively affect their health and/or development. Children 14 to 16 years are required to obtain written permission from a parent or guardian in

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4431 Cango.net, *The Situation with Child Labour is Unlikely to Change in the Foreseeable Future*.

4432 Ibid.


order to work, as long as work does not interfere with their studies. Children ages 14 to 16 may only work 12 hours per week while school is in session and 24 hours per week during school vacation. Children 16 to 18 years may only work 18 hours per week when school is in session and 36 hours per week during school vacations.\textsuperscript{4439} In addition to establishing limited work hours for minors, the law prohibits children under 18 years from working in unfavorable labor conditions.\textsuperscript{4440} Prior to employment, children under 18 years must undergo a medical examination to establish their suitability for their chosen work and must repeat the examination at the employer's expense once a year until they become 18.\textsuperscript{4441}

The law prohibits forced labor, except when fulfilling a court sentence.\textsuperscript{4442} The law prohibits profit from promoting prostitution or maintaining brothels. Penalties increase when a child is involved, which can result in jail sentences of 5 to 10 years.\textsuperscript{4443} The law prohibits trafficking, with higher penalties when victims are taken out of the country. The penalty for recruitment for trafficking is 6 months to 3 years in prison. Traffic of children outside the country is punishable with 5 to 8 years in prison.\textsuperscript{4444}

The law does not provide jurisdiction for inspectors from the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection to focus on child labor enforcement.\textsuperscript{4445} Instead, the Prosecutor General and the Ministry of Interior’s criminal investigators are responsible for the enforcement of child labor laws. While enforcement appears effective in deterring child labor in the formal sector, the U.S. Department of State reports that it is not effective in regulating children’s work in family-based employment and in the agricultural sectors. There were no reports of enforcement efforts in the cotton industry.\textsuperscript{4446} An anti-trafficking unit of the Ministry of Internal Affairs investigates trafficking-related crimes.\textsuperscript{4447} The government has investigated numerous trafficking-related crimes through the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MVD) Anti-Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Unit and the Prosecutor's Office.\textsuperscript{4448}

There were no reports of inspections resulting in legal proceedings or administrative penalties for violations of domestic child labor laws.\textsuperscript{4449} Allegations have been made against some local

\textsuperscript{4439} U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, Email Communication to USDOL Official, August 1, 2007.
\textsuperscript{4441} U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, Email Communication to USDOL Official, August 1, 2007.
\textsuperscript{4442} Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 1992, article 37.
\textsuperscript{4443} Penal Code Clauses 121 and 127 as cited by Interpol, Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences Against Children- Uzbekistan, accessed October 22, 2006; available from http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaUzbekistan.asp.
\textsuperscript{4445} U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, reporting, December 20, 2006.
\textsuperscript{4446} Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, reporting, August 26, 2005. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uzbekistan," Section 6d.
\textsuperscript{4447} U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, reporting, August 26, 2005.
\textsuperscript{4448} U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, reporting, December 20, 2006.
\textsuperscript{4449} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uzbekistan," Section 6d.
Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Although the Government of Uzbekistan does not have a comprehensive policy on the eradication of child labor, it publicly acknowledged the existence of child labor in Uzbekistan in 2006. Representatives from the Government of Uzbekistan are working with neighboring countries to gather information about the child labor situation in Central Asia. USDOL has provided funding to ILO-IPEC for a USD 2.5 million sub-regional project to enhance the capacity of national institutions to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in Uzbekistan and to share information and experiences across the sub-region, including in Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajikistan. The German Government has provided funding to ILO-IPEC for a EURO 1 million sub-regional project to combat the worst forms of child labor through education and youth employment in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajikistan.

In 2006, ILO-IPEC launched a social dialogue process on child labor through the creation of a multi-agency government working group that included: UNICEF; Cabinet of Ministers Social Complex; Ministries of Labor, Health, Public Education, Higher and Specialized Education; National Human Rights Center; Children's Fund; and trade unions. The working group met six times in 2006 and once in 2007 during this publication’s reporting period. Topics discussed included cotton picking and street children. In cooperation with ILO-IPEC, the Cabinet of Ministers adopted a four-year national action plan on securing child welfare in Uzbekistan in January 2006. The national action plan includes reviewing the ILO conventions 138 and 182 for ratification and combating child labor in agriculture through revising current practices and establishing a child labor monitoring system.

The government operates an inter-agency working group to combat trafficking in persons, and actively cooperates with local NGOs and the OSCE on anti-trafficking training of law enforcement and consular officials. Through U.S. government programs and non-governmental organizations, Uzbek consular officials abroad and domestic law enforcement officials have received training in dealing with trafficking victims. The government also works with Mahalla organizations, a pre-Soviet system of community–based management and social service provision, to protect children at the community level through a neighborhood monitoring system.


Ibid.


ILO-IPEC, Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Central Asia through Education and Youth Employment (EYE): An Innovative Regional Program, project document, Geneva, 2005, cover page, 42.

U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, Email Communication to USDOL Official, August 1, 2007.

Ibid.

mechanism. The government also has an education campaign through the Mahallas to publicize the dangers and eliminate hazardous conditions for minors.\textsuperscript{4459}

The government allows the IOM to meet returning children rescued from trafficking at the airport, provide assistance, and help them with their preliminary statements to the Interior Ministry.\textsuperscript{4460} In cooperation with the IOM, the government is engaged in a research study to determine the extent of trafficking in Uzbekistan and participates in a trafficking prevention campaign and a law enforcement training program.\textsuperscript{4461} It also actively supported a public awareness campaign including posters on buses, subway cars, and at passport offices as well as advertising on state-controlled television and radio.\textsuperscript{4462} The Cabinet of Ministers approved the ILO Red Card to Child Labor campaign and public service announcements aired on television stations in July 2006.\textsuperscript{4463} Numerous newspaper articles and television programs on victims of trafficking, including minors, have appeared in state controlled media.\textsuperscript{4464}

UNICEF's HIV/AIDS prevention project supports existing government efforts to improve awareness of healthy lifestyles for at-risk adolescents including children engaged in sex work.\textsuperscript{4465} In cooperation with UNICEF in 2007, the government has begun a program to research internal trafficking of children in Uzbekistan.\textsuperscript{4466}

\begin{enumerate}
\item \textsuperscript{4459} U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, \textit{reporting. December 20, 2006.}
\item \textsuperscript{4460} U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uzbekistan," Section 5.
\item \textsuperscript{4461} IOM, \textit{Combating Trafficking in Persons in Central Asia: Prevention, Prosecution, Protection (ASPPP)}, accessed June 15, 2005.
\item \textsuperscript{4462} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Uzbekistan." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Uzbekistan," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, \textit{reporting, December 20, 2006.}
\item \textsuperscript{4463} Ibid.
\item \textsuperscript{4464} U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, \textit{reporting, December 20, 2006.}
\item \textsuperscript{4465} Ibid.
\item \textsuperscript{4466} U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, Email Communication to USDOL Official, August 1, 2007.
\end{enumerate}
Vanuatu

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding the incidence and nature of child labor in Vanuatu.*

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding child labor laws and enforcement in Vanuatu.*

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding government policies and programs in Vanuatu.*

* For more information, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor’s 2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor.

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Venezuela

**Incidences and Nature of Child Labor**

In 2003, approximately 11.4 percent of boys and 6.6 percent of girls ages 10 to 14 were working in Venezuela. The majority of working children were found in the services sector (63.6 percent), followed by the agricultural sector (25.9 percent), manufacturing (8.1 percent), and other sectors (2.4 percent). Most children work in the informal sector.

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**Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children ages 10-14 estimated as working in</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of children 10-14 attending school in 2003:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2003 percentage of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
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</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.*
Venezuela is a source, transit, and destination country for children trafficked for the purposes of sexual exploitation and forced labor.\textsuperscript{4485}

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum employment age at 14, with exceptions. Children ages 12 and 13 can work with permission from the Protection Council if the work is not dangerous and does not obstruct education.\textsuperscript{4486} Fines are established for employing any minor from age 8 to age 12, and employing or profiting from the employment of a child from 12 to 15 years of age who does not have authorization to work. Employing a child younger than 8 years of age is punishable by 1 to 3 years of incarceration.\textsuperscript{4487}

Minors are prohibited from work that poses risks to their development.\textsuperscript{4488} They are prohibited from work in mines, smelting factories, and in places where alcohol is sold, with the exception of hotels, restaurants, planes, and other similar establishments.\textsuperscript{4489} Children under age 16 may not work more than 30 hours per week. The Children’s and Adolescence Protection Code (LOPNA) limits minors’ working hours to 6 per day, however the Labor Code allows those under 16 to work 8 hours per day if the work is intermittent or requires only the minor’s presence.\textsuperscript{4490} Rest periods are established for children under 16 and for minors working as domestic servants. Minors are prohibited from working without authorization after 7 p.m. and before 6 a.m.\textsuperscript{4491}

Working adolescents are required to be registered with the Protection Council and the social security system, are to be provided working credentials and must have medical examinations and a medical certificate.\textsuperscript{4492} Employing or profiting from the employment of a minor in work indicated by their medical exam as detrimental is punishable by 6 months to 2 years of incarceration.\textsuperscript{4493} Fines are established for violations of the registration, medical, and social security system requirements, as well as for employers that impede child labor inspectors.\textsuperscript{4494} Minors may not be paid by piece or less than other workers for equal work.\textsuperscript{4495} Employers must maintain a registry of basic information regarding minor employees and must

\textsuperscript{4485} U.S. Department of State, "Venezuela (Tier 3)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report - 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/.

\textsuperscript{4486} Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, Articles 2 and 96.

\textsuperscript{4487} Ibid., Articles 238, 239 and 257.


\textsuperscript{4489} Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica del Trabajo*, 249-250.


\textsuperscript{4493} Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, Article 256.

\textsuperscript{4494} Ibid., Articles 240-243.

notify designated authorities if they hire a minor as a domestic servant. The Labor Code provisions apply to minors working under apprenticeships. The government is responsible for providing working minors with appropriate educational programs. The executive branch reserves the right to adjust the minimum age for dangerous work. The ILO CEACR has requested that the government ensure that minors are not authorized to engage in hazardous work, except under certain circumstances involving training for children older than 16.

The sexual exploitation of children is prohibited and is punishable by 3 to 8 years of incarceration. Inducing, supporting, or facilitating the prostitution of a minor to another party may result in 3 to 18 months of incarceration. If the crime is done repeatedly, or for profit, it is punishable by 3 to 6 years of incarceration. Punishments for inducing a minor into prostitution are increased to up to 5 years of incarceration if various aggravating circumstances occur. Prison terms for the forced prostitution of a relative range from 4 to 6 years. Punishments for adult perpetrator of crimes, including those crimes involving illegal drugs, are increased if a minor participated in the commission of the crime. The law prohibits and establishes sentences of 1 to 3 years of incarceration for forced child labor, and establishes prison terms of 6 to 12 years for slavery, situations similar to slavery, and slave trafficking. Child trafficking by members of organized groups is punishable by 10 to 18 years of incarceration. The illicit movement of children is prohibited, and trafficking may also be punishable under a law that provides punishments of 2 to 6 years of imprisonment for sending a child outside the country for profit, as well as fines for transferring a child to a third party and for transporting a child without authorization either within the country or internationally. The prison term for profiting from the transfer of a son, daughter, student, or minor in an individual’s care to a third party is from 2 to 6 years, and the same punishment applies for offering payment in exchange for a child. Trafficking may also be punishable under a law that provides prison sentences of 8 to 10 years for human smuggling under circumstances that include when violence, intimidation, or deception are used, with penalties increased if the victim’s life, health or integrity is

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4496 Government of Venezuela, Ley Orgánica del Trabajo, Articles 262 and 265. See also Government of Venezuela, Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente, Article 108.
4497 Government of Venezuela, Ley Orgánica del Trabajo, Article 266.
4498 Government of Venezuela, Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente, Article 59.
4499 Ibid., Articles 238 and 239.
4501 Government of Venezuela, Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente, Articles 33 and 258.
4503 Ibid., Articles 388 and 392.
4504 Ibid., Articles 390 and 392.
4505 Government of Venezuela, Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente, Article 264. See also Government of Venezuela, Código Penal de Venezuela, Article 367.
4506 Government of Venezuela, Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente, Articles 38 and 255. See also Government of Venezuela, Código Penal de Venezuela, Article 174.
4509 Government of Venezuela, Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente, Article 267.
The law prohibits child pornography and punishes it with fines and prison sentences of between 3 months and 4 years. Producing or selling child pornography may result in prison terms of 16 to 20 years. Using any form of information technology to depict child pornography is punishable by 4 to 8 years of incarceration, with penalties increased under certain circumstances. Punishments of 2 to 6 years of incarceration are established for the recruitment of minors into criminal organizations; and the prison sentence ranges for 4 to 8 years if the perpetrator is an authority figure. The minimum recruitment age for the government armed forces is 18. Secondary students are required to complete 2 years of pre-military instruction.

The U.S. Department of State reports that the Ministry of Labor and the National Institute for minors effectively enforced child labor laws in the formal sector, but less effectively in the informal sector. The National Protection System for Children and Adolescents includes institutions such as state and local Councils on Children’s and Adolescents’ Rights that are responsible for monitoring children’s rights and Children’s and Adolescents’ Ombudsmen that are responsible for defending children’s rights. The U.S. Department of State also reports that while the Government of Venezuela has improved its efforts to capture individuals suspected of human trafficking, there were no prosecutions or convictions of traffickers in 2005 and anti-trafficking laws were usually not enforced.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Ministry of Interior and Justice’s Crime Prevention Unit held trainings for government officials that included the theme of trafficking. The government has an anti-trafficking plan and implemented an anti-trafficking awareness raising campaign.

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4511 Government of Venezuela, Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente, Article 237. See also Government of Venezuela, Código Penal de Venezuela, Article 383.
4512 Government of Venezuela, Ley Contra la Delincuencia Organizada, Article 14.
4514 Government of Venezuela, Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente, Article 265.
4519 Ibid.
Yemen

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 27.2 percent of boys and 20.1 percent of girls ages 6 to 14 were working in Yemen. Children living in rural areas are more likely to work than are children in urban areas. Eighty-seven percent of child workers are estimated to work in a family enterprise. The majority of working children work in agricultural sectors, including in the production of qat (a mild narcotic found in Yemen). Children working in agriculture are exposed to hazardous

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4522 Ibid., Section 5.
4523 Ibid.
4526 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
4531 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
4534 Republic of Yemen, PRSP, 11. See also Understanding Children's Work (UCW), UCW in Yemen, 2. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Third Periodic Reports of States Parties due in 2003: Yemen,
Children also work under hazardous conditions as street vendors, beggars, and domestic servants, as well as in the fishing, leather, construction, textile, and automobile repair sectors. Street children and children employed in domestic service and restaurants are particularly vulnerable to sexual abuse and exploitation. Children are trafficked internally for sexual exploitation. Saudi Arabia is the primary destination for children trafficked out of the country, where children between 7 and 16 years are forced to work as street beggars. Children trafficked to Saudi Arabia also work as domestic workers, unskilled laborers, or street vendors. Reports indicate that these children sell such items as flour and basic commodities, as well as qat, which is an illegal substance in Saudi Arabia. Press reports allege that approximately 200 children are trafficked out of the country per week. The minimum age for entering military service is 18 years. However, children are allowed to carry weapons and reportedly participate in ongoing conflicts among tribal groups and in the defense of qat fields.


Understanding Children's Work (UCW), UCW in Yemen, 2. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Third Periodic Reports of States Parties, para 319.


Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum working age at 15 years for the private sector and at 18 years for the public sector. Children between 12 and 15 years may work by special permit. The law prohibits all types of exploitation of children, as well as hazardous or socially damaging working conditions. Moreover, employers must grant every youth a 30-day annual leave for every 12-month period of labor completed. Neither the child nor the parent may waive this annual leave. Further, employers are required to pay young persons not less than two-thirds of the minimum wage provided to an adult for the specific occupation performed. Payments must be made directly to the child. The child labor provisions do not apply to young persons working under the supervision of a guardian if the work is performed under suitable health and social conditions. Penalties for non-compliance with child labor laws include fines and up to 3 months of imprisonment.

Forced or compulsory labor is prohibited, including that performed by children. Children under 18 are prohibited from entering the government armed forces. Although Yemeni law does not specifically prohibit trafficking in persons, there are provisions in the Penal Code to prosecute and punish traffickers. The law stipulates a prison sentence of 10 years for “anyone who buys, sells, or gives as a present, or deals in human beings; and anyone who brings into the country or exports from it a human being with the intent of taking advantage of him.” If the offense is committed against a child, the prison term can be extended to 15 years. Kidnapping is punishable by up to 7 years in prison; kidnapping cases involving sexual assault or murder are punishable by the death penalty.

The Ministry of Labor’s Child Labor Unit is responsible for enforcing child labor laws, but according to the U.S. Department of State, because of a lack of resources, the government’s enforcement of these provisions is limited, especially in rural and remote areas. Prostitution laws have been used to detain and prosecute child victims of commercial sexual exploitation. The government increased the number of convictions for child trafficking in 2005, the most recent date such information is available, from 2 successful convictions from April 2004 to

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4544 Ibid.
4546 Understanding Children's Work (UCW), UCW in Yemen, 31.
4548 Understanding Children's Work (UCW), UCW in Yemen, 2. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Global Report 2004."
March 2005 to 19 convictions from April 2005 to March 2006.\footnote{4553} The arrests were attributed to an increase in patrolling on the Saudi Arabian border.\footnote{4554}

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The Government of Yemen is implementing policies to curb child labor as outlined in the National Strategy to Combat Child Labor.\footnote{4555} The Ministry of Youth & Sports’ National Strategy for Integrating Youth into Development includes strategic actions to combat child labor, such as advocating for the enforcement of laws and legislation that prohibit child labor, and working against any exploitation of young people.\footnote{4556} The Ministry of Human Rights operates a hotline to receive complaints concerning the exploitation, trafficking, and sexual or other abuse of children;\footnote{4557} it has also circulated information on the hotline in areas where child trafficking is prevalent.\footnote{4558} In August 2006, the government presented the Third Five-Year Plan for Socioeconomic Development (2006-2010) that includes a chapter directly addressing child labor through the Childhood and Youth Strategy.\footnote{4559}

The Government of Yemen is participating in a USDOL-funded USD 3 million regional project implemented by ILO-IPEC that aims to promote the collection and analysis of child labor information; to strengthen enforcement and monitoring mechanisms; to build capacity; to raise awareness of the negative consequences of child labor; and to withdraw 3,400 and prevent 3,500 children from engaging in the worst forms of child labor.\footnote{4560} The government is also participating in a USD 8 million sub-regional project funded by USDOL and implemented by CHF International to combat child labor through education in Lebanon and Yemen. The project aims to withdraw 4,305 children and prevent 3,195 children from entering exploitive labor.\footnote{4561}

The Government of Yemen is increasing its efforts to combat trafficking in children.\footnote{4562} Yemeni and Saudi officials met to discuss combating child trafficking for the first time in June 2006. Border and airport officials were trained to identify and prevent child trafficking by the government in cooperation with UNICEF and the IOM.\footnote{4563} The government is also conducting an information campaign to raise awareness among parents and community leaders about the dangers of child trafficking, and it is operating a hotline to report child trafficking.\footnote{4564} The

\footnote{4553} Ibid.  
\footnote{4555} UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Third Periodic Reports of States Parties, para 8.  
\footnote{4557} UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Consideration of Reports, para 56.  
\footnote{4558} U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Yemen."  
\footnote{4559} ILO-IPEC, Supporting the National Policy and Programme Framework for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Lebanon and Yemen, technical progress report, RAB/04/P51/USA, September 2006, 3, 4.  
\footnote{4560} ILO-IPEC, Supporting the National Policy and Programme Framework, project document, 28, 35-38, 49.  
\footnote{4561} CHF International, Alternatives to Combat Child Labor through Education and Sustainable Services in the Middle East and North Africa (ACCESS-MENA) cover page, 12.  
\footnote{4562} UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Consideration of Reports, para 22. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Yemen," Section 5.  
\footnote{4564} Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Yemen."
Yemeni Government, in cooperation with UNICEF and ILO-IPEC, opened a reception center at the Haradh border with Saudi Arabia to receive, rehabilitate, and educate repatriated child trafficking victims, which received more than 300 children during its first 6 months.\textsuperscript{4565}

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 1999, approximately 11.5 percent of boys and 10.8 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Zambia. The majority of working children in Zambia, or approximately 90.1 percent, are found in the agricultural sector, followed by approximately 9.1 percent in services, 0.5 percent in manufacturing, and 0.3 percent in other sectors. Children work in agriculture, domestic service, and transportation. In urban areas, children work in street vending. Children also

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Value</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 1999:</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>Not compulsory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>99%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 1999:</td>
<td>52.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>As of 2001, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>98%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
<td>2/9/1976</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>12/10/2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC Participating Country:</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Must pay for school supplies and related items.

4569 Ibid.
4572 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
4575 Ibid.
4577 UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates.
4579 Ibid.
work in hazardous industries and occupations, including stone crushing, construction,\textsuperscript{4580} and mining.\textsuperscript{4581}

It is estimated that there are approximately 20,000 to 30,000 street children throughout the country.\textsuperscript{4582} Commercial sexual exploitation of children is widespread in Zambia.\textsuperscript{4583} Zambian children are reportedly trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation, agricultural labor, and domestic servitude.\textsuperscript{4584}

**Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years.\textsuperscript{4585} The law prohibits the worst forms of child labor including child prostitution, slavery in all of its forms, military conscription, and work harmful to the safety, health, or morals of children and young people.\textsuperscript{4586} However, children between 13 and 15 years are permitted to perform light work under certain conditions.\textsuperscript{4587} The law defines a child as a person under 15 years; a “young person” is defined as a person between 15 and 18 years.\textsuperscript{4588} A person violating these provisions is subject to imprisonment for up to 3 years.\textsuperscript{4589} In addition, the law makes it a felony for any person to sexually harass a child in the workplace or in a learning institution, with a minimum sentence of 3 years in prison for violators.\textsuperscript{4590}

The law prohibits children who are “under the apparent age of 18” from being recruited into the military without the consent of a parent, guardian, or local District Secretary.\textsuperscript{4591} The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child voiced concern that the law is stated in terms of “apparent age,” which could indirectly contribute to exploitive child labor in the form of underage


\textsuperscript{4583} Ibid. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Zambia: Street Kids Open Their Minds to Govt Plan", IRINnews.org, [online], March 27, 2006 [cited October 16, 2006].


\textsuperscript{4585} Government of Zambia, Constitution of Zambia, 1991, Article 24. See also Government of Zambia, Employment of Young Persons and Children Act (Amendment), Article 5, Section 4A.

\textsuperscript{4586} Government of Zambia, Employment of Young Persons and Children Act (Amendment), Para 3b.

\textsuperscript{4587} Ibid., Para. 5A2.

\textsuperscript{4588} Ibid., Paras. 3a and 3b. See also Government of Zambia, Employment of Young Persons and Children Act (Chapter 274 of the Laws of Zambia), Part I, Para. 2; available from http://annualreview.law.harvard.edu/population/countries/zambia/TH%20EMPLOYMENT%20OF%20YOUNG%20PERSONS%20AND%20CHILDREN%20ACT.htm.

\textsuperscript{4589} Government of Zambia, Employment of Young Persons and Children Act (Amendment), Para. 5A4.

\textsuperscript{4590} U.S. Embassy- Lusaka, reporting, January 17, 2007.

Although Zambia does not have a comprehensive trafficking law, the law prohibits forced labor and trafficking of children. The law prescribes a penalty of 20 years to life in prison for trafficking a child, but does not provide a definition of trafficking.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Security (MLSS) is responsible for enforcing labor laws and has established a child labor unit. The MLSS conducts inspections of workplaces and investigates child labor complaints. The law gives labor inspectors the authority to enter households and farms in order to investigate potential child labor violations. The law also allows the MLSS to bring child labor charges, which can result in a fine or imprisonment. In 2006, the government nearly doubled the amount allocated to the child labor unit of the MLSS. However, the U.S. Department of State reports that resources are still insufficient, which hinders the government’s enforcement capacity.

In January 2007, the High Court found a man guilty of trafficking for attempting to sell his son; this conviction was the first under Zambia’s trafficking law enacted in 2005.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The government included efforts to eliminate and monitor exploitive child labor in its national development plan that was finalized in June 2006. The Government of Zambia developed a strategy to counter trafficking through awareness raising, legal reform, and research; it sought international funding to support these activities. The government continued to provide awareness and training activities for officials tasked with enforcing child labor laws and began to train five labor inspectors as prosecutors.

The Zambian government is collaborating with Jesus Cares Ministries on the second phase of a USD 750,000 USDOL-funded Child Labor Education Initiative project that aims to withdraw and prevent 3,600 children from engaging in exploitive work through the provision of educational services. In 2006, USDOL awarded ILO-IPEC a USD 3.92 million grant to assist

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4592 Ibid.
4600 Ibid.
the government with preparing a national Timebound Program against the worst forms of child labor. The government is participating in a USDOL funded, ILO-IPEC USD 3 million program to combat and prevent HIV/AIDS-induced child labor in Uganda and Zambia. The project aims to implement education and skills training opportunities for 3,600 children withdrawn from child labor and to prevent children from entering work situations through community-based social protection schemes. The government also participated in a USDOL funded ILO-IPEC USD 5.3 million project to build the capacity of governments in Anglophone Africa, including Zambia, to withdraw and prevent children from the worst forms of child labor. Approximately 3,643 children in Zambia were withdrawn or prevented from the worst forms of child labor during the life of the project, which ended in July 2006.

ILO-IPEC is also working with several African governments, including Zambia, on a USD 1.53 million, Canadian-funded project to enhance skill training to combat the worst forms of child labor in the urban informal sector. In addition, the European Economic Community granted USD 257,000 to ILO-IPEC to conduct a study from July to December 2006 on the scale and nature of child trafficking in Zambia.

The government operates two camps for withdrawn and rehabilitated street children, and removed approximately 200 children as of the end of 2006. The government is also implementing a program that provides education and skills training for children who have been removed from the streets, including prostitutes and older youth. The government continues to work with NGOs to relocate street children and place them in educational settings. It also continues to undertake awareness-raising activities to sensitize lawmakers, teachers, and trade union officials about child labor. The government has sponsored efforts, such as articles and speeches by prominent citizens, to raise awareness about child domestic labor among local communities.

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4606 ILO-IPEC, Support to the Development and Implementation of Timebound Measures Against the WFCL in Zambia, project document, ZAM/06/P50/USA, Geneva, September 14, 2006, 5.
4608 Ibid.
4611 ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, November 16, 2006.
4612 Ibid.
4617 Ibid. See also, Jesus Cares Ministries, JCM Progress Report, March 2006.
The Government of Zambia continues to implement its universal primary education program, called the Basic Education Sub-Sector Investment Program (BESSIP), with the support of USAID, the World Bank, and other donors. BESSIP specifically targets working children.

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4619 See U.S. Embassy- Lusaka, E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 29, 2003.
Zimbabwe

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Most working children in Zimbabwe can be found in agriculture, hunting, and fishing. Children also work in domestic service, hotels, food service, mining and quarrying, manufacturing, construction, and other types of work, such as guarding cars. Most working children work as unpaid family workers. UNICEF reports that, in some cases, farmers hire children as unpaid family workers. Most working children work as unpaid family workers. UNICEF reports that, in some cases, farmers hire children as unpaid family workers.

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### Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for work:</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
<td>Not compulsory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate in 2003:</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate in 2003:</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of 2002, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
<td>12/11/2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
<td>Yes, associated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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4627 Ibid.


independent contractors to avoid the appearance of employing children. Children are reported to work on tea estates and sell sugar across the border in Mozambique. Children who engaged in domestic work for third-party households were sometimes not paid by their employers, and children orphaned by AIDS often performed domestic work for their extended relatives without pay. The number of children working in the informal sector continue to increase as more children struggle to fill the income gap left by relatives who are unemployed, ill, or deceased.

Girls in Zimbabwe are increasingly being exploited in prostitution, with some girls reportedly engaging in prostitution to pay for school fees. The number of girls on the streets in urban areas is growing as a result of poverty and HIV/AIDS. The belief that sex with virgins can cure sexually transmitted infections contributed to the sexual exploitation of children. Some reports indicate that girls are being sexually exploited in exchange for passage across the border to South Africa.

Within Zimbabwe, girls are trafficked from rural to urban areas for commercial sexual exploitation in brothels under false pretenses of marriage or employment. Girls from rural areas are also trafficked to urban areas for domestic service, and to farms for agricultural labor. A few South African girls are trafficked into the country for domestic work. Children who had been orphaned by HIV/AIDS and displaced persons were among the groups at highest risk of being trafficked.

The government continues to run national youth service training camps. Youth who deserted the camps indicated that they were subjected to military training, as well as racist and partisan political indoctrination. Additionally, graduates of the program were used to commit acts of political violence.

4633 Ibid.
4634 Ibid.
4635 ECPAT International CSEC Database, Zimbabwe.
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment in Zimbabwe is 15 years. Children between 13 and 15 may be employed if they are apprentices or if their work is an integral part of a vocational training program. At 15, children may engage in light work beyond training programs, and young persons under 18 years are prohibited from performing work that might jeopardize their health, safety, or morals. Child labor offenses are punishable by a fine, imprisonment of 2 years, or both.

The law also prohibits the involvement of children in hazardous labor, defined as any work likely to interfere with the education of children; expose children to hazardous substances; involve underground mining; require the use of electronically powered hand tools, cutting, or grinding blades; expose children to extreme conditions; or occur during a night shift.

No law specifically prohibits trafficking in persons. However, the law does prohibit various types of sexual exploitation, including the transportation of individuals across the border for sexual purposes and procuring individuals for prostitution either inside Zimbabwe or internationally. The law provides penalties of a fine and up to 2 years of imprisonment for those convicted of procuring individuals for prostitution, and it provides a stronger penalty of up to 10 years of imprisonment in cases involving the procurement of children under 10. The law prohibits compulsory or forced labor, including by children, but provides exceptions in cases where such labor is required from a member of a disciplined force, the national youth service, or parents. The law provides penalties of 2 years of imprisonment, a fine, or both, for forced labor violations. The minimum age for both military conscription and for voluntary recruitment into the armed forces is 18 years. The minimum age for joining the national youth service training is 16 years.

The Ministry of Labor’s Department of Social Welfare is responsible for the enforcement of child labor laws; however, it could not conduct inspections or monitoring for lack of personnel.

The Zimbabwe Republic Police, which is officially part of the Ministry of Home Affairs, is responsible for combating trafficking. The government has established Victim Friendly

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Courts, which are mandated to hear trafficking cases. In 2006, the government sentenced a woman to 4 years in prison for having trafficked a child into prostitution.

**Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

In 2006, the Government of Zimbabwe established a task force for coordinating anti-trafficking efforts. The taskforce is comprised of members from the Ministries of Home Affairs, Justice, Parliamentary Affairs, Foreign Affairs, Labor, Social Welfare, Information, and Public Service. Senior government officials participated in a trafficking training workshop conducted by the IOM and officials from law enforcement, immigration, and social services received training to identify and assist victims of trafficking.

Media outlets sponsored by the government ran anti-trafficking messages, including some produced by the IOM, and continued to print and air public service announcements warning against prostitution and employment scams that could result in trafficking. The Ministries of Public Service, Social Welfare, and Labor also collaborated with an NGO to operate a center to help reunite deported children with their families. The center offered psychosocial support for child victims of sexual exploitation.

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4649 Ibid., Sections 1d. and 5.
4654 U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Zimbabwe."
Territories and Non-Independent Countries

There is limited information on the extent and nature of child in non-independent countries and territories eligible for GSP, AGOA, ATPA/ATPDEA, and CBTPA benefits. These countries and territories generally are not eligible to become members of the ILO, so ILO Conventions 138 and 182 do not apply to any of them. Territories are subject to the laws of the sovereign country.

There were few significant changes to report in the status of child labor and efforts to address it in the non-independent countries and territories since the last reporting period. For more detailed information on these issues, please refer to the U.S. Department of Labor’s 2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor.

Anguilla (Territory of the United Kingdom)

During the reporting period, new statistics on education in Anguilla became available. In 2004, the gross primary enrollment rate was 93 percent, and the net primary enrollment rate was 88 percent. Gross and net enrollment ratios are based on the number of students formally registered in primary school and therefore do not necessarily reflect actual school attendance.

British Virgin Islands (Territory of the United Kingdom)

During the reporting period, new statistics on education in the British Virgin Islands became available. In 2004, the gross primary enrollment rate was 108 percent, and the net primary enrollment rate was 95 percent.

Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands (Territories of Australia)

Western Australian state laws on education and child welfare apply to both territories. An amendment to the Western Australia School Education Act extended compulsory education to age 16.

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Cook Islands (Self-Governing State in Free Association with New Zealand)

During the reporting period, new statistics on education in the Cook Islands became available. In 2003, the gross primary enrollment rate was 82 percent.\textsuperscript{4663}

Falkland Islands (Territory of the United Kingdom)

There are no changes to report for the Falkland Islands.

Gibraltar (Territory of the United Kingdom)

There are no changes to report for Gibraltar.

Montserrat (Territory of the United Kingdom)

During the reporting period, new statistics on education in Montserrat became available. In 2004, the gross primary enrollment rate was 108 percent,\textsuperscript{4664} and the net primary enrollment rate was 94 percent.\textsuperscript{4665}

Niue (Self-Governing State in Free Association with New Zealand)

During the reporting period, new statistics on education in Niue became available. In 2004, the gross primary enrollment rate was 87 percent.\textsuperscript{4666}

Norfolk Island (Jointly-Governed Territory of Australia)

There are no changes to report for Norfolk Island.

Pitcairn Islands (Territory of the United Kingdom)

There are no changes to report for Pitcairn Islands.

Saint Helena (Territory of the United Kingdom)

There are no changes to report for Saint Helena.

Tokelau (Self-Administering Territory of New Zealand)

There are no changes to report for Tokelau.

\textsuperscript{4663} UNESCO Institute for Statistics, \textit{Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total.}

\textsuperscript{4664} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{4665} UNESCO Institute for Statistics, \textit{Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total.}

\textsuperscript{4666} UNESCO Institute for Statistics, \textit{Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total.}
Turks and Caicos Islands (Territory of the United Kingdom)

During the reporting period, new statistics on education in the Turks and Caicos Islands became available. In 2004, the gross primary enrollment rate was 94 percent, and the net primary enrollment rate was 81 percent.\textsuperscript{4667,4668}

West Bank and Gaza Strip (Occupied Territories Subject to the Jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children ages 5-14 estimated as working:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum age for admission to work:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age to which education is compulsory:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free public education:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross primary enrollment rate:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net primary enrollment rate:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of children 5-14 attending school:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percentage of Primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 138:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ratified Convention 182:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO-IPEC participating country:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Many children in West Bank and Gaza Strip work on family farms, in family shops, as street vendors, or in small manufacturing enterprises.\textsuperscript{4674} There have been reports of Palestinian terrorist groups using minors to assist in attacks, to smuggle weapons, and to act as human shields.\textsuperscript{4675}

Palestinian children working in Israeli settlements face problems concerning security, exploitation, and harassment.\textsuperscript{4676}

\textsuperscript{4667} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{4668} UNESCO Institute for Statistics, Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total.
\textsuperscript{4672} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{4675} U.S. Department of State, Country Reports- 2006: Israel and the occupied Territories
\textsuperscript{4676} Ibid. Section 6d.
Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for work in the West Bank and Gaza is unclear. The U.S. Department of State lists the minimum working age to be both 14 and 15 years old. There are restrictions on the employment of children between the ages of 15 and 18. The restrictions include prohibitions against night work, work under conditions of hard labor, or jobs that require them to travel outside their domicile. Children between the age of 15 and 18 must be cleared by a medical exam before beginning work, and are to receive a check up every 6 months thereafter. Exceptions are made to those children between the ages of 15 and 18 who work for their direct relatives and under their supervision.

The law also prohibits the exploitation of children, and states that children shall not be allowed to perform work that might damage their safety, health, or education. The law states that the Palestinian Authority (PA) will strive to provide work to anyone who is capable of performing it, and that work is a right, duty, and honor. According to an official from the labor ministry, the PA has interpreted this law to mean that forced and compulsory labor is prohibited. There is no law specifically prohibiting trafficking in persons. No trafficking incidents have been reported. Prostitution is illegal, and there were no reports of prostitution being openly practiced. The law also requires investigations into allegations of recruiting and exploiting children in armed operations, and those responsible for such activities are to be tried in a court of law. The PA is responsible for enforcement of the law; however, with only 10 child labor inspectors as of September 2005, the most recent date such information is available, the PA has had difficulty in efforts to monitor and protect child workers.

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Palestinian Authority to address exploitive child labor.

Western Sahara

There are no changes to report for Western Sahara.

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4677 Ibid. Section 5.
4678 U.S. Department of State, Country Reports- 2005: Israel and the Occupied Territories., Section 6d.
4679 Ibid., Section 6d.
4681 Ibid., Article (99).
4682 U.S. Department of State, Country Reports- 2005: Israel and the Occupied Territories., Section 6c.
4683 Ibid., Section 6c.
4684 Ibid., Section 6c.
4685 Ibid., Section 6c.
4686 Ibid., Section 6c.
4687 Ibid., Section 5.
4688 Ibid., Section 5.
4689 Ibid., Section 5.
4689 U.S. Department of State, Country Reports- 2005: Israel and the Occupied Territories., Section 6d.
Other Territories and Non-Independent Countries

Information on the incidence and nature of child labor, child labor laws and legislation, and government policies and programs to eliminate the worst forms of child labor is unavailable for the following territories and non-independent countries: British Indian Ocean Territory (territory of the United Kingdom), Heard Island and MacDonald Islands (territory of Australia), and Wallis and Futuna (territory of France).
Afghanistan


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Armenia


Bahrain


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———. *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total,* accessed December 18, 2006; available from http://stats.uis.unesco.org/.


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———. *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from http://stats.uis.unesco.org/.


**Barbados**


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ILO official. E-mail communication to USDOL official. November 16, 2006.


Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total, accessed December 18, 2006; available from http://stats.uis.unesco.org/.

Belize


Benin


Catholic Relief Services official. E-mail communication to USDOL official. October 2, 2006.

Catholic Relief Services- staff member. May 15, 2007.

Creative Associates International. *Benin: Equity and Quality in Primary Education.* Washington, DC.


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U.S. Embassy- Cotonou official. E-mail communication to USDOL official. February 19, 2004.


**Bhutan**


Bolivia

"Descubren a niños que vendían droga." Los Tiempos, September 18, 2004, 1.
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