

Cape Verde

<i>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</i>	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age of work:	16 ⁸⁶²
Age to which education is compulsory:	11 ⁸⁶³
Free public education:	Yes ⁸⁶⁴
Gross primary enrollment rate in 2004:	111% ⁸⁶⁵
Net primary enrollment rate in 2004:	92% ⁸⁶⁶
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
As of 2003, percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	91% ⁸⁶⁷
Ratified Convention 138:	No ⁸⁶⁸
Ratified Convention 182:	10/23/2001 ⁸⁶⁹
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No ⁸⁷⁰

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.⁸⁷¹

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.⁸⁷² Employment contracts entered into by children under 18 can

⁸⁶² U.S. Embassy-Praia, *reporting*, August 26, 2005.

⁸⁶³ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Summary Record of the 746th Meeting: Cape Verde. 07/11/2001*, CRC/C/SR.746, Geneva, November 7, 2001; available from <http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/0/5f332d555df17111c1256b10003a14de?Opendocument>.

⁸⁶⁴ U.S. Department of State. "Cape Verde." In, *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006: Cape Verde*, Washington, DC 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78724.htm>.

⁸⁶⁵ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁸⁶⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Net Enrolment Rate. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁸⁶⁷ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Survival Rate to Grade 5. Total*, accessed December 18, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

⁸⁶⁸ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed January 18, 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

⁸⁶⁹ ILO, *ILOLEX Database of International Labour Standards*, accessed October 30, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

⁸⁷⁰ ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labor- Highlights 2006*, ILO, November 14, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipec/about/countries/countries_en.pdf.

⁸⁷¹ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child: Cape Verde, CRC/C/15/Add.167*, October 12, 2001; available from <http://www.hri.ca/fortherecord2001/documentation/tbodies/crc-c-11-add23.htm>.

⁸⁷² U.S. Embassy- Praia, *reporting*, August 26, 2005.

be invalidated at the request of the parents or legal representatives.⁸⁷³ In general, the normal working hours for those under age 18 may not exceed 38 hours a week and 7 hours a day.⁸⁷⁴ The law prohibits children under age 16 from working at night or in enterprises that produce toxic products.⁸⁷⁵ Those over age 16 are allowed to work at night only when it is essential to their vocational training.⁸⁷⁶ 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.⁸⁷⁷

The law prohibits compulsory labor, including by children.⁸⁷⁸ The compulsory recruitment age for military service is 18 years, but 17-year-olds may volunteer with parental consent.⁸⁷⁹ Although prostitution is legal, the law prohibits the facilitation and procurement of children under 16 for the purpose of prostitution.⁸⁸⁰ 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.⁸⁸¹ 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.⁸⁸² The trafficking of those under 18 is illegal; sentences for trafficking in children have ranged from 2 to 16 years of imprisonment.⁸⁸³

The Director-General for Labor and Inspector General for Labor implement and enforce labor laws, including child labor laws and regulations.⁸⁸⁴ The Ministries of Justice and Labor were responsible for enforcing child labor laws; however, such laws were seldom enforced.⁸⁸⁵

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.

⁸⁷³ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Periodic Reports of States Parties Due in 1994: Cape Verde*, CRC/C/11/Add.23, United Nations, Geneva, January 2001.

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*.

⁸⁷⁷ U.S. Embassy-Praia, *reporting, August 26, 2005*.

⁸⁷⁸ U.S. Department of State. "Cape Verde." In, *Country Reports- 2006: Cape Verde*.

⁸⁷⁹ 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=763.

⁸⁸⁰ The Protection Project, "Cape Verde," in *2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children: A Country-by-Country Report on a Contemporary Form of Slavery*, Washington, DC, 2006; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org/pub.htm>.

⁸⁸¹ Ibid. See also UNICEF, *At a Glance: Cape Verde*, [2006 [cited June 16, 2006]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/capeverde.html?q=printme>.

⁸⁸² The Protection Project, "Cape Verde."

⁸⁸³ U.S. Department of State. "Cape Verde." In, *Country Reports- 2006: Cape Verde*.

⁸⁸⁴ U.S. Embassy-Praia, *reporting, August 26, 2005*.

⁸⁸⁵ U.S. Department of State. "Cape Verde." In, *Country Reports- 2006: Cape Verde*.