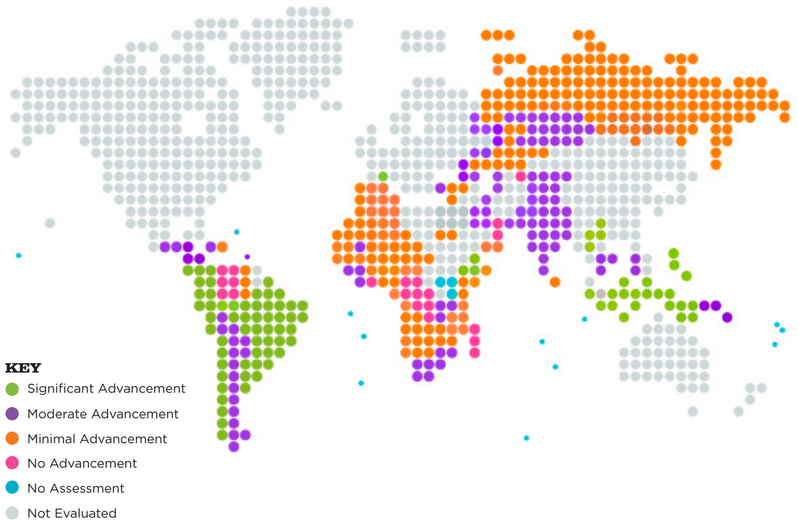
2012 Assessment of Country Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Country Assessments

- Afghanistan
- Albania
- Algeria
- Angola
- Anguilla
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Bahrain
- Bangladesh
- Barbados
- Belize
- Benin
- Bhutan
- Bolivia
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Brazil
- British Indian Ocean Territory
- British Virgin Islands
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Cape Verde
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Chile
- Christmas Island
- Cocos (Keeling) Islands
- Colombia
- Comoros
- Congo, Dem Rep of
- Congo, Rep of
- Cook Islands
- Costa Rica
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Djibouti
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- El Salvador
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)
- Fiji
- Gabon
- Gambia
- Georgia
- Ghana
- Gibraltar
- Grenada
- Guatemala
- Guinea
- Guinea Bissau
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Heard Island and McDonald Islands
- Honduras
- India
- Indonesia
- Iraq
- Jamaica
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kiribati
- Kosovo
- Kyrgyz Republic
- Lebanon
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Macedonia
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Maldives
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Mauritius
- Moldova
- Mongolia
- Montenegro
- Montserrat
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Nepal
- Nicaragua
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Niue
- Norfolk Island
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Panama
- Papua New Guinea
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines
- Pitcairn Islands
- Russia
- Rwanda
- Saint Kitts
- Saint Lucia
- Saint Vincent
- Samoa
- Sao Tome and Principe
- Senegal
- Serbia
- Seychelles
- Sierra Leone
- Solomon Islands
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Sudan
- Sri Lanka
- St. Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha
- Suriname
- Swaziland
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- Timor-Leste
- Togo
- Tokelau
- Tonga
- Trinidad & Tobago
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Turks and Caicos Islands
- Tuvalu
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- Uruguay
- Uzbekistan
- Vanuatu
- Venezuela
- Wallis and Futuna
- West Bank and the Gaza Strip
- Western Sahara
- Yemen
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Global Overview



Assessment by Region

Global Breakdown

143 countries

Asia & the Pacific

33 countries

Europe & Eurasia

22 countries

Latin America & the Caribbean

29 countries

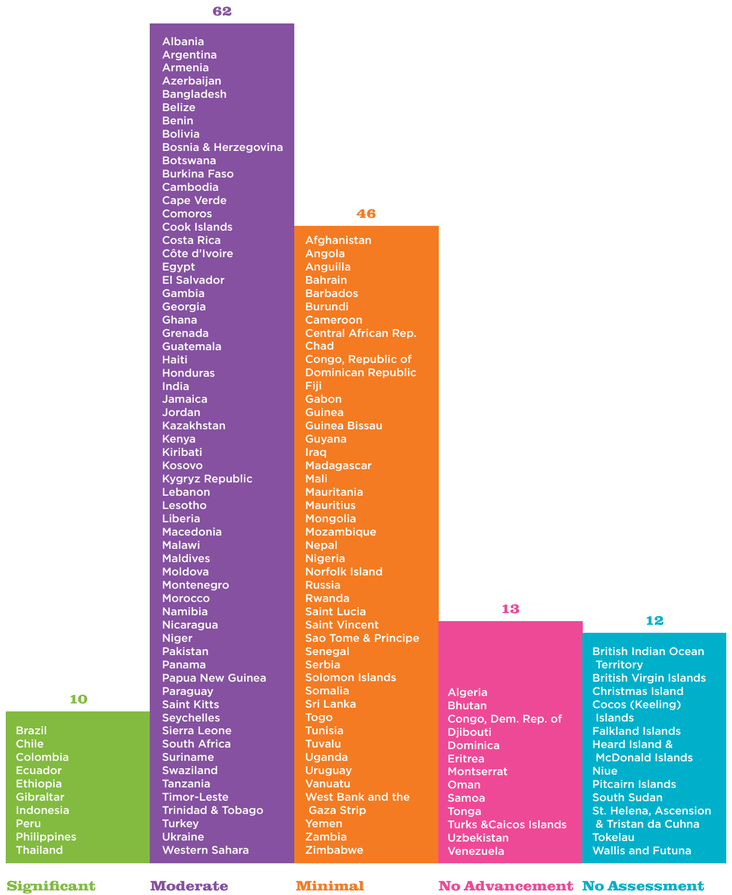
Middle East & North Africa

12 countries

Sub-Saharan Africa

47 countries

Country Assessment by Advancement Level



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, *2012 Report on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*

Young girl working at clay mine, Peru. © ILO/A. Rosa

Worldwide, the International Labor Organization (ILO) estimates 168 million children are working as child laborers, of which about 85 million participate in hazardous labor. Global estimates from the ILO place the number of children forced into labor or sexual exploitation at 6 million. The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs works every day to protect children around the world from harmful child labor and other violations of their fundamental human rights.

2012 Regional Outlooks

Asia and the Pacific

Meaningful efforts:

- Improved legal frameworks, particularly related to child domestic service and access to education.
- Increased social programs to address child domestic service and access to education, and increased targeted monitoring of child labor.

Challenges and existing gaps:

- Lack of adequate legal protections, specifically for children in hazardous labor.
- Lack of effective intra-government coordination and enforcement.
- Lack of funding for labor inspections.

Europe and Eurasia

Meaningful efforts:

- Improved legal and policy frameworks, particularly related to trafficking in persons.
- Ratification of international standards, particularly ILO Conventions 138 and 182.

Challenges and existing gaps:

- Lack of data on the prevalence of the worst forms of child labor.
- Lack of effective intra-government coordination and enforcement.
- Lack of targeted social programs for children in the worst forms of child labor.

Latin America and the Caribbean

Meaningful efforts:

- Improved legal frameworks, particularly related to safety and health protections for children who work.
- Expansion and piloting of programs that increase the reach of education.
- Regional collaboration on strengthening legal frameworks, enforcement practices, and programs.

Challenges and existing gaps:

- Limited/weak inspection systems.
- Lack of targeted social programs for children in hazardous work.

Middle-East and North Africa

Meaningful efforts:

- Improved legal and policy frameworks.

Challenges and existing gaps:

- Economic and political instability as a risk factor for an increase in child labor.
- Lack of data on the prevalence of the worst forms of child labor, which may impede implementation of child labor elimination efforts.
- Lack of effective enforcement of child labor laws.

Sub-Saharan Africa

Meaningful efforts:

- Ratification of international standards, particularly the Palermo Protocol and/or the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of a Child.
- Increased number and training of labor inspectors.

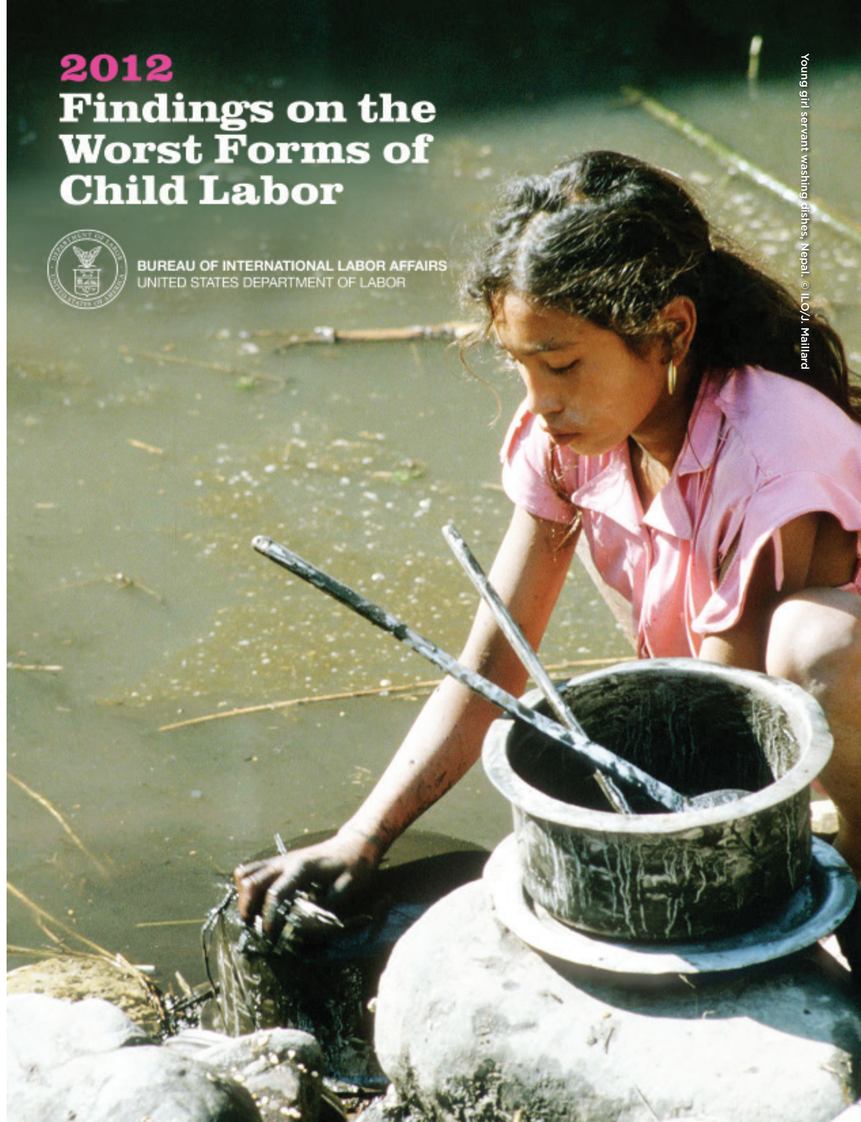
Challenges and existing gaps:

- Limited adoption of hazardous work lists across the region.
- Significant barriers to access to education, including costs, limited numbers of schools, and lack of universal birth registrations.
- Lack of effective enforcement of child labor laws.
- Lack of targeted social programs for children in the worst forms of child labor.
- Continued use of children in armed conflict.

For more information or to contact us, please visit DOL's Web site at:
http://www.dol.gov/ilab/reports/child-labor/findings
or email us at: **ocft@dol.gov**

2012 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor

BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR



Young girl servant washing dishes, Nepal. © ILO/J. Maillard