

<sup>1814</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Jamaica," section 5.

<sup>1815</sup> Jamaica Information Service, *\$8 Million for Possibility Programme in the Office of the Prime Minister*, [online]

April 3, 2007 [cited December 14, 2007]; available from [http://www.jis.gov.jm/parliament/html/20070402t110000-0500\\_11608\\_jis\\_8\\_million\\_for\\_possibility\\_programme\\_in\\_the\\_office\\_of\\_the\\_prime\\_minister.asp](http://www.jis.gov.jm/parliament/html/20070402t110000-0500_11608_jis_8_million_for_possibility_programme_in_the_office_of_the_prime_minister.asp).

## Jordan

<i>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</i> <sup>1816</sup>	
Working children, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working boys, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working girls, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%):	
- Agriculture	-
- Manufacturing	-
- Services	-
- Other	-
Minimum age for work:	16
Compulsory education age:	16
Free public education:	Yes
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	98
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	91
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%):	-
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2004:	96
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes

### Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

During the 2007-2008 reporting period, there were reports of working children throughout Jordan, though reports were particularly prevalent in urban areas.<sup>1817</sup> Children work in the informal sector in agriculture, domestic labor, and in small family businesses.<sup>1818</sup> According to a 2002 study by the Ministry of Labor (MOL), children also work in automobile repair, carpentry, sales, blacksmithing, tailoring, construction, and food services.<sup>1819</sup> A small study conducted in the city of Irbid in 2003 found that some working children are victims of physical, verbal, and sexual abuse in the workplace and are exposed to hazardous chemicals and dangerous working conditions.<sup>1820</sup>

### Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Jordanian law sets the minimum working age at 16 years, except for apprentices who can be employed at a younger age.<sup>1821</sup> For hazardous jobs, the minimum age is 18 years.<sup>1822</sup> Jordanian law states that 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.<sup>1823</sup> 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.<sup>1824</sup>

Compulsory labor is prohibited by the Constitution except in circumstances of war, natural disaster, or as a result of a conviction by a court of law.<sup>1825</sup> The law prohibits voluntary recruitment into the Government Armed Forces for children less than 17 years.<sup>1826</sup> The law provides for the death penalty for anyone who uses a minor in the production, transportation, sale, or purchase of drugs.<sup>1827</sup> Jordanian law prohibits trafficking in children.<sup>1828</sup> It is illegal to induce a female under the age of 20 years to engage in prostitution or to entice any child under 15 to commit sodomy, and it is punishable by up to 3 years in prison.<sup>1829</sup>

The Child Labor Unit (CLU) of the MOL is primarily responsible for monitoring child labor and reviewing and ensuring the enforcement of existing legislation. The Government, however, has provided little training on child labor to its 85 MOL inspectors and no fines had been issued by

the end of 2007.<sup>1830</sup> 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, which are difficult to monitor. Additionally, children who are self employed, employed by family members, and those that work for no wages fall outside the scope of the labor code.<sup>1831</sup>

### **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," includes the elimination of the worst forms of child labor as a goal.<sup>1832</sup> The Jordanian National Plan of Action (NPA) for Children 2004-2013 aims to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in Jordan by 2014 and to decrease the number of child laborers under 16 years.<sup>1833</sup>

USDOL supported a USD 1 million ILO-IPEC project undertaken with the cooperation of the Ministries of Labor, Education, and Social Development to combat child labor in the urban services sector in Jordan. The program ended September 30, 2007. Over 1,700 children were withdrawn or prevented from child labor through educational services or training opportunities.<sup>1834</sup>

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<sup>1816</sup> For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section. For data on ratifications and ILO-IPEC membership, see the Executive Summary. For minimum age for admission to work, age to which education is compulsory, and free public education, see Government of Jordan, *Labour Code, Law No. 8 of 1996*, section 73; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/45676/65048/E96JOR01.htm#c1>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Jordan," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2007*, Washington, DC, March 11, 2008, section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100598.htm>.

<sup>1817</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Jordan," section 6d.

<sup>1818</sup> Ibid.

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<sup>1819</sup> Mohammed Shahateet and Nihaya Issa Dabdub, *Estimating Child Labour in Jordan: 1991-2005*, Ministry of Labor, Amman, October 2002, 15-16.

<sup>1820</sup> Muntaha Gharaibeh and Shirley Hoeman, "Health Hazards and Risks for Abuse Among Child Labor in Jordan," *Journal of Pediatric Nursing* 18, no. 2 (2003), 141 and 143. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Jordan (ratification: 2000)*, [online] 2004 [cited December 5, 2007]; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-displayAllComments.cfm?hdroff=1&ctry=1850&conv=C182&Lang=SP>.

<sup>1821</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Jordan," section 6d.

<sup>1822</sup> Government of Jordan, *Labour Code*, chapter VIII, section 73-74. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Jordan," section 6d.

<sup>1823</sup> ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Jordan (ratification: 2000)*.

<sup>1824</sup> Government of Jordan, *Labour Code*, chapter VIII, section 75-76. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Jordan," section 6d.

<sup>1825</sup> Government of Jordan, *Constitution of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan*, (1952), Chapter 2, article 13; available from <http://www.mfa.gov.jo/uploads/const.pdf>.

<sup>1826</sup> Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Jordan," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London 2004; available from [http://www.child-soldiers.org/document\\_get.php?id=957](http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=957).

<sup>1827</sup> ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Jordan (ratification: 2000)*.

<sup>1828</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Jordan," section 5.

<sup>1829</sup> ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Jordan (ratification: 2000)*. See also Government of Jordan, "Jordan," in *Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences against Children*, 2006, article 310; available from <http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/CsaJordan.pdf>.

<sup>1830</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Jordan," section 6d.

<sup>1831</sup> ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Jordan (ratification: 2000)*.

<sup>1832</sup> ILO-IPEC, *National Programme to Eliminate Child Labour in Jordan, Technical Progress Report*, Geneva, March 13, 2007, 2.

<sup>1833</sup> UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank Surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

<sup>1834</sup> ILO-IPEC, *National Programme to Eliminate Child Labour in Jordan, Technical Progress Report*, Geneva, September 2007.

## Kazakhstan

<i>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</i> <sup>1835</sup>	
Working children, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working boys, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working girls, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%):	
- Agriculture	-
- Manufacturing	-
- Services	-
- Other	-
Minimum age for work:	16
Compulsory education age:	16
Free public education:	Yes
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	105
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	91
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%):	-
Survival rate to grade 5 (%):	-
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Associated

### Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Most working children in rural areas of Kazakhstan are involved in agriculture.<sup>1836</sup> Many children from Uzbekistan and the Kyrgyz Republic migrate to south Kazakhstan with their families during the harvest season to work in the cotton and tobacco industries.<sup>1837</sup> Children working in the cotton and tobacco industry suffer from little rest time, malnutrition, and limited access to health care.<sup>1838</sup> 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 at

gas stations.<sup>1839</sup> Many Tajik refugee children are found begging in markets, on public transportation, and in the streets.<sup>1840</sup>

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.<sup>1841</sup> There have been reports of children being forced into prostitution by their parents.<sup>1842</sup> Children who work as domestic servants are often outside the view of law enforcement officials and thus are vulnerable to exploitation.<sup>1843</sup> The trafficking of children is a problem in Kazakhstan.<sup>1844</sup> Abandoned or orphaned children are especially vulnerable to child trafficking and sexual exploitation.<sup>1845</sup>

### Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

A new Labor Code was adopted in May 2007.<sup>1846</sup> The law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years.<sup>1847</sup> However, children may work at 15 years with parental consent, if they have completed their compulsory education.<sup>1848</sup> Children 14 years or older may perform light work with parental consent, if the work does not interfere with school attendance or pose a health threat.<sup>1849</sup> Children ages 16 and 17 may only work up to 36 hours per week, and children ages 14 and 15 may work no more than 24 hours per week.<sup>1850</sup> Children under 18 years are prohibited from working overtime, at night, under hazardous conditions, or in occupations that might be harmful to their health and moral development, such as gambling, night clubs, or the transport and sale of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, narcotics, and psychotropic substances.<sup>1851</sup> Children under 18 years must receive an annual medical examination in order to work.<sup>1852</sup> The state labor authority and state healthcare authority jointly