

a growing number of children reportedly involved in prostitution.²⁹⁸¹

* Because of extremely limited information, a determination was made that USDOL would publish full reports on 9 countries and 18 territories, including the country or territory covered here, once every 5 years. For this reason, this report includes shortened profiles for these countries and territories, containing only new information published during the reporting period. For extended profiles on these countries and territories, please see *The Department of Labor's 2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*. The next extended profiles on these countries and territories should appear in *The Department of Labor's 2010 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*.

²⁹⁸⁰ For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section. For free public education, see U.S. Department of State, "Saint Vincent and the Grenadines," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2007*, Washington, DC, March 11, 2008; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100653.htm>.

²⁹⁸¹ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (ratification: 2001)*, [online] 2007 [cited December 13, 2007]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>.

Samoa

<i>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</i> ²⁹⁸²	
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:	15
Compulsory education age:	14
Free public education:	No
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	100
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2004:	90
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%):	-
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2000:	94
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children work as street vendors in Apia, Samoa's capital, and in other outlying areas.²⁹⁸³ 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*).²⁹⁸⁴ Children also work as domestics in private homes and may work long hours that prevent them from attending school.²⁹⁸⁵

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age of employment at 15 years, except for safe and light work suited to the capacity of the child, as determined by the Commissioner of Labor. Children under 15 years may not work with dangerous machinery, in any occupation or place where working conditions are likely to be harmful to their physical or moral health, or on any vessel not under the personal charge of a parent or guardian.²⁹⁸⁶ The law does not state an absolute minimum age for light work, nor does the law include employment restrictions on children between the ages of 15 to 18 years.²⁹⁸⁷ 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.²⁹⁸⁸ Violations of child labor laws are punishable by fines.²⁹⁸⁹

Samoa law prohibits forced or compulsory labor, but this provision does not cover work or service required by Samoan custom.²⁹⁹⁰ The crime of inducing a female of any age into sexual relations with any male through fraudulent means is

punishable by up to 5 years of imprisonment.²⁹⁹¹ Soliciting or procuring a female of any age for prostitution or benefiting from the earnings thereof are crimes punishable by 3 years of imprisonment.²⁹⁹² The abduction of any child under 16 years, or transporting 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.²⁹⁹³ 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.²⁹⁹⁴ There is no minimum age of conscription as there are no armed forces maintained by the Government of Samoa.²⁹⁹⁵

The Ministry of Labor sends complaints of illegal child labor to the Attorney General for enforcement. No cases of child labor were prosecuted during 2007.²⁹⁹⁶

Current Government Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Ministry of Women, Community, and Social Development has implemented a program called "Protection of Children" to educate villagers on issues related to child protection, including child labor and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.²⁹⁹⁷

²⁹⁸² 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 Samoa, *Labour and Employment Act*, (1972), article 32; available from http://www.pacii.org/ws/legis/consol_act/laea1972228/. See also U.S. Department of State, "Samoa," 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/2007/100536.htm>.

²⁹⁸³ U.S. Embassy- Apia, *reporting*, December 2, 2007, para B.

²⁹⁸⁴ Ibid.

²⁹⁸⁵ Ibid. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Initial Reports of State Parties due in 1996: Samoa*, February 16, 2006, 90; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/7a53d58f695d3bf1c125715c0037ae04/\\$FILE/G0640507.pdf](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/7a53d58f695d3bf1c125715c0037ae04/$FILE/G0640507.pdf). See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention: Concluding Observations: Samoa*, October 16, 2006, para 54-55; available from <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G06/446/08/PDF/G0644608.pdf?OpenElement>.

²⁹⁸⁶ Government of Samoa, *Labour and Employment Act*, article 32.

²⁹⁸⁷ Ibid.

²⁹⁸⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Samoa," section 6d.

²⁹⁸⁹ Government of Samoa, *Labour and Employment Act*, article 41.

²⁹⁹⁰ Government of Samoa, *Constitution of the Independent State of Western Samoa 1960*, (January 1, 1962), article 8; available from http://www.pacii.org/ws/legis/consol_act/cotisows1960535/.

²⁹⁹¹ Government of Samoa, *Crimes Ordinance 1961*, (December 16, 1961), article 55 and 58; available from http://www.pacii.org/ws/legis/consol_act/co1961135/.

²⁹⁹² Ibid., article 58L-M.

²⁹⁹³ Ibid., article 83B.

²⁹⁹⁴ Ibid., article 83A.

²⁹⁹⁵ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Samoa," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/library/global-reports?root_id=159&directory_id=165.

²⁹⁹⁶ U.S. Embassy- Apia, *reporting*, December 2, 2007, para B. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Samoa," section 6d.

²⁹⁹⁷ U.S. Embassy- Apia, *reporting*, December 2, 2007, para C.