

Dominican Republic, Project Revision, April 19, 2007, 1-2. See also CARE, *Primerio Aprendo Project: Combating Exploitive Child Labor through Education in Central America and the Dominican Republic*, Project Revision, September 29, 2006.

¹¹⁸³ CARE, *Primerio 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, 5.

See also ILO-IPEC, *Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children*, Project Addendum, 22-23.

¹¹⁸⁴ ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 18, 2008.

¹¹⁸⁵ U.S. Department of State, *U.S. Government Funds Obligated for Anti-Trafficking in Persons Projects, Fiscal Year 2007*, [online] February 2008 [cited February 11, 2009]; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/101295.htm>.

East Timor

*Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor*¹¹⁸⁶

Population, children, 10-14 years, 2001:	100,087
Working children, 10-14 years (%), 2001:	85.2
Working boys, 10-14 years (%), 2001:	84.5
Working girls, 10-14 years (%), 2001:	85.9
Working children by sector, 10-14 years (%), 2001:	
- Agriculture	91.8
- Manufacturing	-
- Services	8.2
- Other	-
Minimum age for work:	15
Compulsory education age:	Not compulsory
Free public education:	Yes*
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2007:	90.9
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2007:	63.0
School attendance, children 10-14 years (%), 2001:	86.3
Survival rate to grade 5 (%):	-
ILO Convention 138:	No
ILO Convention 182:	No
CRC:	4/16/2003**
CRCOPAC:	8/2/2004**
CRCOPSC:	4/16/2003**
Palermo:	No
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No

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

**Accession

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In East Timor, many children in rural areas work in agriculture, including on coffee farms.¹¹⁸⁷

Children are also engaged in domestic service, primarily for adoptive families and their relatives; a small percentage work for third parties. Most of these children work in return for school fees or shelter.¹¹⁸⁸ In urban areas, children are found working in the streets, selling a variety of items.¹¹⁸⁹

Throughout the country, children are found working in construction under hazardous conditions. In coastal areas, children work in fishing.¹¹⁹⁰ Children are commercially exploited for sexual purposes, including prostitution.¹¹⁹¹

There are reports of internal trafficking of girls from rural areas to the capital, Dili, for commercial sexual exploitation.¹¹⁹²

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years, although children working in vocational schools or in family-owned businesses are exempt.¹¹⁹³ It is illegal for children between 15 and 18 years to perform work that jeopardizes their health, safety, or morals. However, the law allows for light work for children older than 12 years.¹¹⁹⁴ According to USDOS, enforcement of the labor code is limited due to a lack of resources and capacity.¹¹⁹⁵

The law forbids compulsory labor.¹¹⁹⁶ The minimum age for conscription into military service is 18 years.¹¹⁹⁷ Trafficking is prohibited, and the penalty for trafficking minors is imprisonment of 5 to 12 years.¹¹⁹⁸

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

The Government works with children's rights and local women's NGOs to raise awareness on prevention of human trafficking and child sex abuse.¹¹⁹⁹ USDOS and the Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship are supporting an anti-trafficking program that aims to build the capacity and raise awareness of the Government.¹²⁰⁰

¹¹⁸⁶ For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section. For ratifications and ILO-IPEC membership, see the Introduction. For minimum age for admission to work, see U.S. Department of State, "East Timor," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2008*, Washington, DC, February 25, 2009, section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2008/index.htm>. For age to which education is compulsory, see U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: East Timor," section 5. See also Government of East Timor, *Constitution of the Democratic Republic of East Timor*, (2002), article 59. See also USDOL consultant, Researcher's comments on East Timor to USDOL official, August 15, 2007. For free public education, see U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: East Timor," section 5. See also Government of East Timor, *Constitution of East Timor*, article 59.

¹¹⁸⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: East Timor," section 6d. See also ILO, *Rapid Assessment on Child Labor in Timor Leste*, Jakarta, December 2007, executive summary, 10-11.

¹¹⁸⁸ ILO, *Rapid Assessment on Child Labor in Timor Leste*, executive summary, 10-11. See also U.S. Embassy-Dili, *reporting*, February 12, 2008. See also USDOL consultant, Researcher's comments, August 15, 2007.

¹¹⁸⁹ ILO, *Rapid Assessment on Child Labor in Timor Leste*, executive summary, 10-11. 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: East Timor*, Geneva, June 28, 2007, 245.

¹¹⁹⁰ ILO, *Rapid Assessment on Child Labor in Timor Leste*.

¹¹⁹¹ Cathleen Carson, *Trafficking in East Timor: A Look into the Newest Nation's Sex Industry*, ALOLA, 2004, 7, 32. See also ILO, *Rapid Assessment on Child Labor in Timor Leste*.

¹¹⁹² U.S. Department of State, "East Timor (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: East Timor*, Washington, DC, June 4, 2008; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2008/>.

¹¹⁹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: East Timor," section 6d. See also Government of East Timor, *Labour Code*, (May 1, 2002), section 11.

¹¹⁹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: East Timor," section 6d. See also Government of East Timor, *Labour Code*, section 11. See also Ministry of Labor official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 8, 2007.

¹¹⁹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: East Timor," section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Dili, *reporting*, February 12, 2008. See also USDOL consultant, Researcher's comments, August 15, 2007.

¹¹⁹⁶ Government of East Timor, *Constitution of East Timor*, section 50.

¹¹⁹⁷ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "East Timor," in *Child Soldiers Global Report*, London, 2008. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 8 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict: Concluding Observations: East Timor*, Geneva, February 1, 2008.

¹¹⁹⁸ Government of East Timor, *Immigration and Asylum Act*, No. 9, (2003), article 81.

¹¹⁹⁹ U.S. Embassy- Dili, *reporting*, February 13, 2009.

¹²⁰⁰ IOM, *Timor-Leste*, [online] August 2007 [cited January 12, 2009]; available from <http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/activities/asia-and-oceania/east-and-south-east-asia/timor-leste>. See also U.S. Department of State, *USG Funds Obligated in FY2008 for TIP Projects*, 2009.