

³⁹⁹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, reporting, January 7, 2009, para 26.

³⁹⁹¹ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, reporting, January 16, 2009, para 12.

Vanuatu

*Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor*³⁹⁹²

Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2006:	108.3
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2006:	87.8

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding the incidence and nature of child labor in Vanuatu.*

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding child labor laws and enforcement in Vanuatu.*

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 Vanuatu to address exploitive child labor.

* 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*.

³⁹⁹² For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section.

Venezuela

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In Venezuela, children can be found working in agriculture and small- to medium-sized businesses, scavenging in garbage dumps, and participating in gold mining.³⁹⁹³ Children work in the formal and informal economic sectors. Some of them work as street vendors and store retailers.³⁹⁹⁴ According to the Government of Venezuela Statistics Office, 142,098 children work in the agricultural sector, 14,057 in the manufacturing sector, and 36,852 in the construction sector.³⁹⁹⁵ Minors are engaged in commercial sexual exploitation and pornography.³⁹⁹⁶ Trafficking in children is a

problem. There are reports of the trafficking of children internally and internationally for the purposes of sexual exploitation and forced labor.³⁹⁹⁷ Indigenous children are trafficked and forced to work as miners and prostitutes in illegal gold mining camps.³⁹⁹⁸ Child prostitution in urban areas and child sex tourism in resort destinations appear to be growing.³⁹⁹⁹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum employment age at 14 years. However, children 12 to 14 years may be authorized to work in certain circumstances that do not compromise the health, education, or

development of the child. They are prohibited from work in mining and smelting factories.⁴⁰⁰⁰ Children 14 to 16 years may work in activities allowed by the law with previous legal authorization. Children 14 to 17 years may not work in any activity expressly prohibited by law or which affects their development.⁴⁰⁰¹ While children under 16 years may work up to 6 hours per day, 30 hours per week, the Labor Code allows them to work 8 hours per day if the workload is light. Children under 18 years may only work between the hours of 6 a.m. and 7 p.m.⁴⁰⁰² Children under 16 years are prohibited from working in the entertainment industry without authorization.⁴⁰⁰³

Adolescents, a municipal agency that protects the rights of children. Minor workers are also entitled to the same rights and benefits provided to adult workers.⁴⁰⁰⁵ Employers who hire minors must keep a registration, make sure the children undergo medical examinations every year, and notify authorities if they hire a minor as a domestic worker.⁴⁰⁰⁶ Minors may not be paid by piece work or less than other workers for equal work. Labor Code provisions likewise apply to minors working under apprenticeships.⁴⁰⁰⁷

Employing or profiting from the employment of a minor in work for which they are physically unfit is punishable by 6 months to 2 years of imprisonment.⁴⁰⁰⁸ Fines are established for violations of the registration, medical, and social security system requirements, as well as for employers that impede child labor inspections.⁴⁰⁰⁹ Fines are also established for employing any minor 8 to 12 years, and employing or profiting from the employment of a child 12 to 15 years of age who does not have authorization to work.⁴⁰¹⁰ Hiring a child under 8 years is punishable by 1 to 3 years in prison.⁴⁰¹¹

Forced labor and trafficking of persons is prohibited by law.⁴⁰¹² According to the Organic Law for the Protection of Children and Adolescents, forced child labor is punishable by 1 to 3 years of incarceration, and prison terms for slavery and slave trafficking are 6 to 12 years.⁴⁰¹³ Trafficking children internationally is punishable by 2 to 6 years in prison, and fines apply for transferring a child to a third party or transporting a child without authorization.⁴⁰¹⁴ However, the Organic Law on the Right of Women to a Violence-Free Life establishes prison sentences of 15 to 25 years to any person who participates in the trafficking of women, girls, and adolescents for the purpose of sexual exploitation, forced labor, slavery, illegal adoption, or trafficking of organs directly or indirectly.⁴⁰¹⁵ Child trafficking by members of organized groups is punishable by 10 to 18 years of incarceration.⁴⁰¹⁶ Persons who promote or assist human trafficking may be punished with prison sentences ranging from 4 to 10 years. The sentence will increase by 50 percent if health, life, or integrity is endangered.⁴⁰¹⁷

*Selected Statistics and Indicators
on Child Labor⁴⁰⁰⁴*

Population, children, 10-14 years (%), 2005:	2,753,796
Working children, 10-14 years (%), 2005:	5.4
Working boys, 10-14 years (%), 2005:	7.1
Working girls, 10-14 years (%), 2005:	3.6
Working children by sector, 10-14 years (%), 2005:	
- Agriculture	28.3
- Manufacturing	8.0
- Services	61.1
- Other	2.6
Minimum age for work:	14
Compulsory education age:	15
Free public education:	Yes*
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2007:	106
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2007:	92.2
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%), 2005:	94.9
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2006:	97.8
ILO Convention 138:	7/15/1987
ILO Convention 182:	10/26/2005
CRC:	9/13/1990
CRCOPAC:	9/23/2003
CRCOPSC:	5/8/2002
Palermo:	5/13/2002
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes

*In practice, must pay for various school expenses

The law establishes that children who work must be registered in the child labor registry kept by the Council for the Protection of Children and

The sexual exploitation of children is prohibited and punishable by 3 to 8 years of incarceration.⁴⁰¹⁸ Inducing, supporting, or facilitating the prostitution of a minor to another party may result in 3 to 18 months of incarceration. If the crime is done repeatedly, or for profit, it is punishable by 3 to 6 years of incarceration.⁴⁰¹⁹ The punishment for using minors to commit crimes is 1 to 4 years in prison.⁴⁰²⁰

The law prohibits child pornography and penalizes it through fines and prison sentences of between 3 months and 4 years.⁴⁰²¹ However, producing or selling child pornography by organized criminal groups may result in prison terms of 16 to 20 years.⁴⁰²² Using any form of information technology to depict child pornography is punishable by 4 to 8 years of incarceration and fines, with penalties increased under certain circumstances.⁴⁰²³

Punishments of 2 to 6 years of incarceration are established for the recruitment of minors into criminal organizations, with the prison sentence ranging from 4 to 8 years if the perpetrator is an authority figure.⁴⁰²⁴

The minimum recruitment age for the Government Armed Forces is 18 years. Secondary students are required to complete 2 years of pre-military instruction.⁴⁰²⁵

USDOS reports that the Ministry of Labor and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (INPSASEL) enforced child labor laws effectively in the formal sector, but less effectively in the informal sector.⁴⁰²⁶ INPSASEL provides training to labor inspectors on child labor.⁴⁰²⁷ State and local Councils on the Rights of Children and Adolescents, the local Councils for the Protection of Children and Adolescents, Courts for the Protection of Children and Adolescents, and the Children's and Adolescents' Ombudsmen make up the System for the Protection of the Child and Adolescent, which is responsible for defending the rights of children.⁴⁰²⁸ There is no information available on the number of trafficking investigations, or convictions, or sentences for the trafficking of children.⁴⁰²⁹

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

In 2008, the Government of Venezuela launched a program, Neighborhood Children Mission, which aims to protect the rights of children and provide services to vulnerable and poor children. The program, in Phase I, will offer services to 3,600 vulnerable children, including street children, working children, and children at risk of working. In Phase II, the program will provide educational, sports, and cultural activities to poor children.⁴⁰³⁰

The Venezuelan Government participates in a 4-year USD 3.3 million regional initiative to combat child labor in South America, funded by the Government of Spain and implemented by ILO-IPEC.⁴⁰³¹ The Government of Venezuela continued to raise awareness of commercial sexual exploitation of children, forced child labor, and child sex tourism.⁴⁰³² The Government is implementing a National Plan of Action against Sexual Abuse and Commercial Sexual Exploitation.⁴⁰³³ However, research did not uncover information about the current activities carried out under this program.

The Government of Venezuela and the government members and associates of MERCOSUR are carrying out the *Niño Sur* (Southern Child) initiative to defend the rights of children and adolescents in the region. The initiative aims to raise awareness of commercial sexual exploitation, improve country legal frameworks, and exchange best practices to tackle issues related to victim protection and assistance.⁴⁰³⁴ The Venezuelan Ministry of Tourism is part of the Joint Group for the Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism, which conducts prevention and awareness-raising campaigns to combat the commercial exploitation of children in Latin America. Created in 2005, it includes the Ministries of Tourism of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, and Uruguay.⁴⁰³⁵

During the reporting period, the Government of Venezuela trained public officials on anti-

trafficking efforts and operated a national hotline to receive trafficking complaints. It conducted a campaign to raise public awareness of the dangers of human trafficking and encourage trafficking victims to both denounce traffickers and utilize services available to victims provided by NGOs.⁴⁰³⁶ The Government also supported anti-trafficking activities implemented by NGOs and international organizations. UNODC provided anti-trafficking training to government officials.⁴⁰³⁷

³⁹⁹³ U.S. Embassy- Caracas, *reporting*, February 20, 2009. See also U.S. Embassy- Caracas, *reporting*, June 18, 2008. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Second Periodic Reports of States Parties due in 1997: Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela*, prepared by Bolivarian Government of Venezuela, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of Children, April 5, 2007, para 187; available from <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/47b962182.html>. See also Carmen Arcaya, "Niños y Niñas que Trabajan Tienen Esperanzas," *El Impulso*, December 12, 2008; available from <http://www.redandi.org/verPublicacao.php5?L=ES&idpais=16&id=7986>.

³⁹⁹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Venezuela," in *Country Report on Human Rights Practices- 2008*, Washington, DC, February 25, 2009; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2008/index.htm>. See also Delia Meneses, "La Calle como Casa y Escuela," *El Universal*, January 25, 2009; available from http://guarenasguatire.eluniversal.com/2009/01/25/ccs_art_la-calle-como-casa-y_1241334.shtml. See also Carla Villamedina, "Tres Millones de Niños, Niñas y Adolescentes Trabajan en Venezuela," *Red Andi*, June 13, 2007; available from <http://www.redandi.org/venezuela/>. See also Carla Villamedina, "¿Están Protegidos los Niños, Niñas y Adolescentes que Trabajan en Venezuela?," *Red Andi*, June 10, 2008; available from <http://www.redandi.org/venezuela/>.

³⁹⁹⁵ U.S. Embassy- Caracas, *reporting*, June 18, 2008.

³⁹⁹⁶ *Ibid.* See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Second Periodic Reports: Venezuela*, para 187. See also Carmen Arcaya, "Carmen Arcaya, Niños y Niñas que Trabajan Tienen Esperanzas."

³⁹⁹⁷ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Second Periodic Reports: Venezuela*, para 187. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Venezuela," sections 5 and 6c. See also U.S. Department of State, "Venezuela (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008*, Washington, DC, June 4, 2008; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2008/>. See also UNODC, *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, February 2009; available from

http://www.unodc.org/documents/Global_Report_on_TIP.pdf.

³⁹⁹⁸ UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, *Eighteenth Periodic Reports of State Parties Due in 2004: Venezuela. Addendum*, prepared by Government of Venezuela, pursuant to Article 9 of the Convention on the Elimination of Race Discrimination, June 14, 2004, para 190; available from <http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/Documentsrset?OpenFrameSet>. See also U.S. Embassy- Caracas, *reporting*, February 20, 2009.

³⁹⁹⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: Venezuela."

⁴⁰⁰⁰ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, article 96. See also Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica del Trabajo*, 5.152, (June 19, 1997), articles 249-251; available from http://www.analitica.com/bitblib/congreso_venezuela/ley_del_trabajo.asp#Vc1.

⁴⁰⁰¹ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, article 96, para 1. See also Government of Venezuela, *Constitución de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela*, article 89(6).

⁴⁰⁰² Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, article 102. See also Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica del Trabajo*, articles 255 and 257.

⁴⁰⁰³ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica del Trabajo*, articles 249-251.

⁴⁰⁰⁴ 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 Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, (October 2, 1998), article 105; available from http://www.analitica.com/bitblib/congreso_venezuela/lopna.asp. For age to which education is compulsory, see Government of Venezuela, *Constitución de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela*, (December 30, 1999), articles 102-103; available from <http://www.gobiernoenlinea.ve/legislacion-view/sharedfiles/ConstitucionRBV1999.pdf>. For free public education, see Government of Venezuela, *Constitución de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela*, article 103.

⁴⁰⁰⁵ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, articles 96-104, 110-111. See also Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica del Trabajo*, articles 258-261.

⁴⁰⁰⁶ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, article 105. See also Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica del Trabajo*, articles 262 and 265.

⁴⁰⁰⁷ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica del Trabajo*, articles 258, 259, 266.

⁴⁰⁰⁸ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, article 256.

⁴⁰⁰⁹ *Ibid.*, articles 240-243.

⁴⁰¹⁰ *Ibid.*, articles 238-239.

⁴⁰¹¹ *Ibid.*, article 257.

⁴⁰¹² Government of Venezuela, *Constitución de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela*, article 54.

⁴⁰¹³ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, article 255. See also Government of Venezuela, *Código Penal*, 5.494, (October 20, 2000), article 174; available from <http://www.mintra.gov.ve/legal/codigos/penaldevenezuela.htm>.

⁴⁰¹⁴ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, articles 231, 232, 266, 267.

⁴⁰¹⁵ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica sobre el Derecho de las Mujeres a una Vida Libre de Violencia*, 38.668, (April 23, 2007), article 56; available from <http://www.fiscalia.gov.ve/leyes/10-LEYDERECHOMUJER.pdf>.

⁴⁰¹⁶ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Contra la Delincuencia Organizada*, 38.281, (September 27, 2005), article 16; available from <http://www.asambleanacional.gov.ve/ns2/leyes.asp?id=298>.

⁴⁰¹⁷ Government of Venezuela, *Ley de Extranjería y Migración*, 37.944, (May 24, 2004), articles 56-58; available from <http://www.acnur.org/biblioteca/pdf/2867.pdf>.

⁴⁰¹⁸ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, articles 33 and 258.

⁴⁰¹⁹ *Ibid.*, article 258.

⁴⁰²⁰ *Ibid.*, article 264.

⁴⁰²¹ *Ibid.*, article 237.

⁴⁰²² Government of Venezuela, *Ley Contra la Delincuencia Organizada*, article 14.

⁴⁰²³ Government of Venezuela, *Ley sobre Delitos Informáticos*, 37.313, (October 30, 2001), articles 24, 27, 28; available from <http://www.abinia.org/ley-contra-delitos-informaticos.pdf>.

⁴⁰²⁴ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, article 265.

⁴⁰²⁵ Government of Venezuela, *Ley de Conscripción y Alistamiento Militar*, 2.306, (September 11, 1978), articles 3, 4, 70, 71; available from http://www.gobiernoenlinea.ve/legislacion-view/view/ver_legislacion.pag. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Venezuela," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2008*, London, 2008; available from http://www.childsoldiersglobalreport.org/files/country_pdfs/FINAL_2008_Global_Report.pdf.

⁴⁰²⁶ U.S. Embassy- Caracas, *reporting, February 20, 2009*.

⁴⁰²⁷ National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, *Minitrass Forma Comisionados Especiales para Inspección de Trabajo*, [online] [cited March 18, 2009];

available from http://www.inpsasel.gov.ve/paginas/noticia_216.htm.

⁴⁰²⁸ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, articles 117-119. See also UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, *Periodic Report of States Parties: Venezuela*, paras 139, 140, 142. See also UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by State Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention: Concluding Observations: Venezuela*, CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, Geneva, October 17, 2007, paras 70-71; available from <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G07/445/90/PDF/G0744590.pdf?OpenElement>.

⁴⁰²⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: Venezuela."

⁴⁰³⁰ Ministry of Popular Power for Participation and Social Protection, *Misión Niños y Niñas del Barrio: Un Paso más Hacia la Patria Nueva*, July 25, 2008; available from http://www.mps.gob.ve/index2.php?option=com_content&do_pdf=1&id=814. Government of Venezuela, *Misión Niñas y Niños del Barrio*, [cited January 29 2009]; available from <http://www.gobiernoenlinea.ve/miscelaneas/mision.es.html>.

⁴⁰³¹ ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 18, 2008. See also ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour 2008: Highlights*, 2009; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ipecinfor/product/viewProduct.do?productId=9471>.

⁴⁰³² U.S. Embassy- Caracas, *reporting*, February 13, 2009.

⁴⁰³³ Inter-american Children's Institute, *VIII Informe al Secretario General de la OEA sobre las Acciones Emprendidas por los Estados Miembros para Combatir la Explotación Sexual Comercial de Niñas, Niños y Adolescentes en las Américas*, July 2007, 78; available from http://www.iin.oea.org/IIN/Pdf/exp_sexual/VIII%20Informe%20ESCNA.pdf.

⁴⁰³⁴ Security Argentine Ministry of Justice, and Human Rights, *XII Reunión de Altas Autoridades Competentes en Derechos Humanos y Cancillerías del MERCOSUR y Estados Asociados*, 2008; available from <http://www.derhuman.jus.gov.ar/mercosur/>. See also Argentine Committee of Pursuit and Application of the International Convention on the Rights of Child, *La Iniciativa Nin@Sur, una Instancia Regional que se Afirma*, April 2008; available from http://www.casacidn.org.ar/news_abril/nota1.html.

⁴⁰³⁵ Brazilian Ministry of Tourism, *Ecuador Assume Direção de Grupo Latino-Americano para a Proteção Infante-Juvenil*, November 26, 2008; available from http://200.143.12.85/turismo/opencms/institucional/noticias/arquivos/Ecuador_assume_direcao_de_grupo_latino-americano_para_protecao_infanto-juvenil.html. See also Ecuadorean Ministry of Tourism, *Ecuador Asume Liderazgo en Suramérica para la*

Protección de Menores Jóvenes, November 18, 2008; available from http://www.turismo.gov.ec/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=885&Itemid=43.

⁴⁰³⁶ U.S. Embassy- Caracas, *reporting, February 13, 2009*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: Venezuela."

⁴⁰³⁷ U.S. Embassy- Caracas, *reporting, February 13, 2009*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: Venezuela."

Yemen

*Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor*⁴⁰³⁸

Population, children, 5-14 years, 1999:	5,936,728
Working children, 5-14 years (%), 1999:	11.1
Working boys, 5-14 years (%), 1999:	11.2
Working girls, 5-14 years (%), 1999:	11.0
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%), 1999:	
- Agriculture	92.0
- Manufacturing	1.0
- Services	6.2
- Other	0.8
Minimum age for work:	15
Compulsory education age:	15
Free public education:	Yes
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	87.3
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	75.2
School attendance, children 6-14 years (%), 1999:	55.1
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2004:	66.3
ILO Convention 138:	6/15/2000
ILO Convention 182:	6/15/2000
CRC:	5/1/1991
CRCOPAC:	3/2/2007*
CRCOPSC:	12/15/2004*
Palermo:	No
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes

*Accession

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

A 2003 study by UCW estimated that 87 percent of working children in Yemen work within the family environment.⁴⁰³⁹ The majority of working children are found in agricultural sectors, including in the production of *qat*—a mild narcotic that is legal in Yemen.⁴⁰⁴⁰ Children

working in agriculture are confronted with hazardous conditions and activities, including the use of pesticides and heavy equipment, prolonged exposure to extreme temperatures, and carrying heavy loads.⁴⁰⁴¹ Children also work in hazardous conditions in rock quarries and mines, building, painting, auto shops, welding and glass shops, factories, construction, offshore fishing, garbage collection, and begging.⁴⁰⁴² Children are involved drug and alcohol smuggling, serve as loan guarantees, and are engaged in prostitution.⁴⁰⁴³ Children are employed in domestic service and restaurants where they are particularly vulnerable to sexual abuse and exploitation.⁴⁰⁴⁴ Male street children sell clothes and small appliances, act as porters, collect fares on buses, or wash cars.

Children are trafficked internally for commercial sexual exploitation, labor, and forced begging.⁴⁰⁴⁵ The commercial sexual exploitation of girls as young as 15 years has been reported in the Governorates of Mahweet, Aden, and Ta'iz.⁴⁰⁴⁶ Children are also trafficked internationally for commercial sexual exploitation and, primarily boys, are trafficked to Saudi Arabia for begging, forced labor, or street vending.⁴⁰⁴⁷ Reports indicate that these children sell basic commodities, and smuggle *qat*, which is illegal in Saudi Arabia, and that a high percentage of these children are sexually abused.⁴⁰⁴⁸ According to USDOS, there are reports that Somali girls are trafficked to Yemen for commercial sex work.⁴⁰⁴⁹

Children are allowed to carry weapons and reportedly participate in ongoing conflicts among tribal and family groups.⁴⁰⁵⁰ According to USDOS, there are reports of child soldiering in Saada Governorate.⁴⁰⁵¹