

Grenada

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

The Government of Grenada has indicated a desire to determine the extent of poverty in Grenada and possible solutions to this problem.¹⁰⁷⁰ In 1990, under the auspices of the WFP, the government began a school meals program throughout the nation's pre-primary and primary schools, a textbook program, and a program to upgrade some of the country's pre-schools. Under the school meal program, children pay a minimal fee to their school for a daily meal. The textbook program helps children from low-income families obtain the necessary tools to enhance their educational opportunities.¹⁰⁷¹

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Statistics on the number of working children under the age of 15 in Grenada are unavailable. Child labor is reportedly not a significant problem in Grenada, although some children help with the periodic harvesting of family spice or banana fields.¹⁰⁷²

Education is free and compulsory in Grenada between the ages of 6 and 14 years.¹⁰⁷³ In 1998, the gross primary enrollment rate was 125.5 percent, while the net primary enrollment rate was 97.5 percent.¹⁰⁷⁴ Despite the high enrollment rate, poverty, poor school facilities, and the periodic need to help with family farm harvests have resulted in approximately a 7 percent absenteeism rate among primary school children.¹⁰⁷⁵

¹⁰⁷⁰ Grenada's GDP is one of the lowest per capita in the region. See U.S. Embassy–Bridgetown, unclassified telegram no. 1126, June 2000 [hereinafter unclassified telegram 1126].

¹⁰⁷¹ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention: Initial Reports of States Parties Due in 1992, Addendum, Grenada*, CRC/C/3/Add. 55, [hereinafter *Initial Reports of States Parties*], p. 5, para. 24, at <http://www.hri.ca/fortherecord2000/documentation/tbodies/crc-c-3-add55.htm> on 11/5/01.

¹⁰⁷² Unclassified telegram 1126.

¹⁰⁷³ *Initial Reports of States Parties*, p. 6, para. 31.

¹⁰⁷⁴ An explanation for the high net primary enrollment rate in 1991 was unavailable. See UNESCO, *Education for All: Year 2000 Assessment* [CD-ROM].

¹⁰⁷⁵ Unclassified telegram 1126.

¹⁰⁷⁶ Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, 1999, Article 32, p. 132 [copy on file].

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Under the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, the minimum age for employment in Grenada is 16 years.¹⁰⁷⁶ The Constitution prohibits forced labor and slavery.¹⁰⁷⁷ There are no laws that specifically address trafficking in persons and there were no reports that children were trafficked to, from, within or through the country.¹⁰⁷⁸ The Ministry of Labor enforces child labor laws in the formal sector through periodic checks.¹⁰⁷⁹ Grenada has not ratified ILO Convention 138 or ILO Convention 182.¹⁰⁸⁰

¹⁰⁷⁷ The Grenada Constitution Order, 1973, Chapter 1, Section 4, at <http://www.georgetown.edu/pdba/Constitutions/Grenada/gren/73eng.html>.

¹⁰⁷⁸ *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2000—Grenada* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of State, 2001) [hereinafter *Country Reports 2000*], Section 6f, at <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrpt/2000/wha/index.cfm?docid=757>.

¹⁰⁷⁹ *Ibid* at 6d.

¹⁰⁸⁰ ILO, International Labour Standards and Human Rights Department, at <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl-ratif&conv.cfm?Lang=EN>.

NOTE: Hard copies of all Web citations are on file.