

Dominica

*Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor*¹⁰²¹

Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	92
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	84

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 Dominica.*

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

In 2007, ILO CEACR reissued a previous statement to Dominica urging the government to increase the statutory minimum age for work to at least 15 years to be in accordance with ILO Convention No. 138.¹⁰²²

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 Dominica 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*.

¹⁰²¹ For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section.

¹⁰²² ILOLEX Database on International Labour Standards, CEACR: *Individual Observation concerning Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Dominica (ratification: 1983) Published: 2007*, accessed December 13, 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgilex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=9481&chapter=6&query=%28Dominica%29+%40ref&highlight=&querytype=bool&context=0>.

Dominican Republic

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Most work performed by children in the Dominican Republic is in the informal sector.¹⁰²³ In urban areas, children work in markets, garbage dumps, repair shops, and on the streets. They perform activities such as washing cars, shining shoes, street sales, and carrying heavy loads.¹⁰²⁴ Many urban child workers are migrants from other regions.¹⁰²⁵ In rural areas, children work mostly in agriculture and services.¹⁰²⁶ Children also work as domestic servants.¹⁰²⁷ Short school days and a poor educational system contribute to children working.¹⁰²⁸

Past reports indicate that Haitian children plant and cut sugarcane; however, it is unconfirmed if this is continuing.¹⁰²⁹ There have been conflicting reports as to whether trafficking undocumented Haitians for work in the sugarcane plantations has lessened.¹⁰³⁰ However, the practice of trafficking Haitians, including children, to work in agriculture and construction sectors continues.¹⁰³¹ Many Haitian adults and children live in sugarcane worker villages referred to as "bateyes," which lack adequate housing conditions, access to medical services, and other basic needs, and are rife for exploitive child labor.¹⁰³² Dominican-born children of parents of Haitian descent are regularly denied