

³⁶⁹⁹ Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Lome, *reporting, February 6, 2009*, paras 6 and 9.

³⁷⁰⁰ ILO Committee of Experts, *Individual Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Togo (ratification: 1984)*, [online] 2008 [cited January 30, 2009], article 1; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=21641&chapter=9&query=%28togo%29+%40ref&highlight=&querytype=bool&context=0>.

³⁷⁰¹ ILO Committee of Experts, *Individual Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour*, article 3.

³⁷⁰² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Togo," section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Lome, *reporting, February 6, 2009*.

³⁷⁰³ U.S. Embassy- Lome, *reporting, January 23, 2009*.

³⁷⁰⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Togo," section 5.

³⁷⁰⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Combating Exploitative Child Labour, Project Document, September 2008*, Cover Page. See also USDOL-ILAB, *U.S. Department of Labor awards more than \$54 million to eliminate exploitive child labor around the world*, Press Release, October 1, 2007; available from <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/ilab/archive/ILAB20071498.htm>.

³⁷⁰⁶ ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 2008.

Tonga

*Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor*³⁷⁰⁷

Population, children, 5-14 years (%):	-
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:	None
Compulsory education age:	14
Free public education:	Yes*
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2006:	113.1
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	95.9
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%):	-
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2004:	92.1
ILO Convention 138:	No
ILO Convention 182:	No
CRC:	11/6/1995**
CRCOPAC:	No
CRCOPSC:	No
Palermo:	No
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No

*In practice, must pay for various school expenses

**Accession

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Some family-owned operations in Tonga may employ child family members. In 2007, the most recent date such information was available, the National Center for Women and Children, a Government-supported NGO, reported that an increasing number of children were either not attending school or dropping out of school to work in the informal sector.³⁷⁰⁸ There were reports of foreign fishing crews procuring girls for sexual exploitation.³⁷⁰⁹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Tonga does not have legislation setting the minimum age for work.³⁷¹⁰ The law prohibits forced or compulsory work, including slavery.³⁷¹¹ The owning and/or operating of a brothel, pimping, and soliciting a prostitute in a public place are all prohibited by law. Penalties for offenses range from imprisonment for 6 months to 2 years, and may include whipping.³⁷¹² The law also prohibits any person from assaulting a child, abducting girls, and procuring or attempting to procure any girl under 21 years for prostitution either within or outside the country. The maximum punishment for these offenses is imprisonment for up to 5 years.³⁷¹³

There is no military conscription in Tonga. The minimum age of voluntary service is 18 years.³⁷¹⁴

The Department of Immigration, Ministry of Police, Crown Law Office, Tonga Defense Services, resident embassies, and high commissions share information related to criminal matters, including human trafficking.³⁷¹⁵ According to USDOS, the Government did not conduct any investigations related to trafficking in persons during the reporting period.³⁷¹⁶

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 Tonga to address exploitive child labor.

³⁷⁰⁷ For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section. For ratifications and ILO-IPEC membership, see the Introduction. For age to which education is compulsory and free public education, see U.S. Embassy- Suva, *reporting*, December 10, 2007. See also U.S. Department of State, "Tonga," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices-2007*, Washington, DC, March 11, 2008, section 5, 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100540.htm>.

³⁷⁰⁸ U.S. Embassy- Suva, *reporting*, December 10, 2007.

³⁷⁰⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Tonga," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2008*, Washington, DC, February 25, 2009, section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2008/eap/119060.htm>.

³⁷¹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Suva, *reporting*, December 10, 2007.

³⁷¹¹ Government of Tonga, *Constitution of Tonga*, (1988), article 2; available from http://www.paclii.org/to/legis/consol_act/cot238/. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Tonga," section 6c.

³⁷¹² Government of Tonga, *Criminal Offenses Act*, (1988), articles 80-81.

³⁷¹³ *Ibid.*, 125-126, 129.

³⁷¹⁴ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Tonga," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2008*, London, 2008; available from http://www.childsoldiersglobalreport.org/files/country_pdfs/FINAL_2008_Global_Report.pdf. See also U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, *The World Factbook - Tonga*, [online] January 22, 2009 [cited February 3, 2009]; available from <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/tn.html>.

³⁷¹⁵ U.S. Embassy- Suva, *reporting*, February 2, 2009.

³⁷¹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Tonga," section 5.

Trinidad and Tobago

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Although there is no significant evidence of children working in Trinidad and Tobago, the Minister of Labor acknowledges that street children work.³⁷¹⁷ Children are reported to be victims of commercial sexual exploitation.³⁷¹⁸ There are conflicting reports as to whether Trinidad and Tobago is a destination and transit country for the trafficking of children for the purpose of sexual exploitation.³⁷¹⁹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment in public or private industries at 16 years. However, children 14 to 16 years may work in activities in which only family members are employed or if they are enrolled in a vocational or technical

training school.³⁷²⁰ Children under 18 years are prohibited from working between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m., except in a family business or with other exceptions. One such exception allows children 16 to 18 years old to work at night in sugar factories.³⁷²¹ Violators of these regulations are subject to sanctions.³⁷²²

There is no compulsory military service in Trinidad and Tobago; the minimum age for voluntary military service is 16 years with parental or guardian consent.³⁷²³ The ILO Committee of Experts has recommended that the Government of Trinidad and Tobago amend the Defense Act in order to establish the legal minimum age of enlistment at 18 or to allow enlisted children under 18 years of age to leave the service by their own choice upon reaching the age of 18.³⁷²⁴