

In 2020, Brazil made moderate advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The government published two updated versions of the national "Dirty List" containing information on employers that the Ministry of Economy had found to be using slave labor, including that of children. The Labor Prosecutor's Office, the Federal Highway Police, and the Brazilian Association for the Defense of Women, Children, and Youth signed an agreement to incorporate human trafficking issues in the Mapear Project, which maps points along Brazil's federal highways that are high risk for the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents. Moreover, the National Commission for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor was re-established after its dismantlement in 2019, and the government approved a constitutional amendment to increase support for the Fund for the Maintenance and Development of Basic Education and the Appreciation of Teaching Professionals, with the aim of leveling the amount spent per student, per year, across the country. The government also secured a \$1 billion loan for Bolsa Família to provide benefits to 3 million more participants, including 990,000 children. However, children in Brazil are subjected to the worst forms of child labor, including in commercial sexual exploitation, sometimes as a result of human trafficking. Children also engage in child labor in agriculture, including in the production of coffee. Although Brazil made meaningful efforts in all relevant areas during the reporting period, prohibitions against child trafficking require the use of threats, violence, coercion, fraud, or abuse to be established for the crime of child trafficking and, therefore, do not meet international labor standards. Furthermore, the reported number of labor inspectors is likely not sufficient to provide adequate coverage of the workforce, and local governments lack the capacity to fully implement and monitor the National Program to Eradicate Child Labor and other social protection programs.



### I. PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOR

Children in Brazil are subjected to the worst forms of child labor, including in commercial sexual exploitation, sometimes as a result of human trafficking. (1-3) Children also engage in child labor in agriculture, including in the production of coffee. (4,5) The 2019 National Household Survey, published in December 2020, estimated that approximately 1.8 million children ages 5 to 17 engaged in child labor—337,000 children ages 5 to 13, and 1.4 million adolescents ages 14 to 17. Of the 1.8 million children found in situations of child labor, 706,000 children were found to be working in hazardous conditions. (6) The survey also revealed a decrease of approximately 200,000 child laborers since 2016. (6) Table 1 provides key indicators on children's work and education in Brazil. Data on some of these indicators are not available from the sources used in this report.

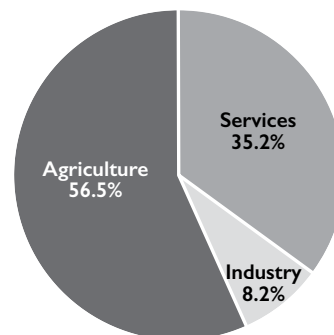
**Table 1. Statistics on Children's Work and Education**

Children	Age	Percent
Working (% and population)	5 to 14	2.1 (638,943)
Attending School (%)	5 to 14	98.0
Combining Work and School (%)	7 to 14	2.4
Primary Completion Rate (%)		Unavailable

Primary completion rate was unavailable from UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2021. (7)

Source for all other data: International Labor Organization's analysis of statistics from Pesquisa Nacional por Amostra de Domicílios (PNAD) Continua, 2015. (8)

**Figure 1. Working Children by Sector, Ages 5-14**



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Based on a review of available information, Table 2 provides an overview of children’s work by sector and activity.

**Table 2. Overview of Children’s Work by Sector and Activity**

Sector/Industry	Activity
Agriculture	Harvesting of <i>açaí</i> , and citrus fruits, and the production of bananas, cocoa, coffee, corn, cotton,† manioc, mate tea, pineapples,† rice, sisal,† soy, sugarcane,† and tobacco† (4,5,9-13)
	Cattle ranching and raising livestock, including hogs, poultry, and sheep (5,10,14,15)
	Fishing and harvesting mollusks† (5,10,16)
	Forestry, including logging,† extracting carnauba palm leaves, and producing charcoal† (5,10,17-19)
Industry	Slaughtering animals,† including for beef production (20,21)
	Processing manioc/cassava flour† and cashews† (22-24)
	Production of ceramics† and bricks† (19,25,26)
	Production of footwear and textiles, including garments (10,14,19,27)
	Work in stone quarries† (19,28)
Services	Rolling straw cigarettes (29)
	Street work,† including vending,† washing cars,† and garbage scavenging† (19,26,30,31)
	Work in markets and fairs, including hauling fruits and vegetables and transporting heavy loads (20,32,33)
	Restaurant food delivery, including by bicycle (34)
	Selling alcoholic beverages† (26,30,32)
Categorical Worst Forms of Child Labor‡	Artistic and sports related activities and cultural work (14,35)
	Domestic work† (19,32)
	Commercial sexual exploitation, including use in the production of pornography, sometimes as a result of human trafficking (1-3,31)
	Forced domestic work, sometimes as a result of human trafficking (36)
	Forced labor in agriculture, including in the production of coffee and manioc (4,37)
	Use by gangs to perform illicit activities, including drug trafficking, sometimes as a result of human trafficking (32,38-40)

† Determined by national law or regulation as hazardous and, as such, relevant to Article 3(d) of ILO C. 182.

‡ Child labor understood as the worst forms of child labor *per se* under Article 3(a)–(c) of ILO C. 182.

The COVID-19 pandemic severely affected the Brazilian economy, resulting in an increase in the number of children engaging in child labor. In June 2020, the Special Secretariat for Social Security and Labor reported a 271 percent increase in the number of child labor cases across the country. (41) Research conducted by UNICEF, in collaboration with the Labor Prosecutor’s Office in São Paulo, also showed a 26 percent increase in the number of children engaged in child labor in the state between April and July 2020. (42,43) In addition, research found an increase in child labor in street work, including begging and vending, and labor prosecutors investigated several cases of children working for food delivery apps. (34,43,44)

The overall scope and magnitude of commercial sexual exploitation of children is unknown; however, in 2020, the Federal Highway Police, in collaboration with Childhood Brazil, published its biennial report identifying 3,651 areas along highways throughout the country where children are vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation. Areas are assessed according to the risk of exploitation and the implementation of preventative mechanisms and strategies within each state. (3) According to the report, the states of Paraná, Minas Gerais, Bahia, Goiás and Rio Grande do Sul have the highest number of these vulnerable areas. Furthermore, the recent report also indicated a 0.4% decrease in these vulnerable areas in relation to its previous publication. (3) Child sex tourism is particularly common in tourist and coastal areas, and girls from other South American countries are also exploited for commercial sex in Brazil. (36,45)




The ILO and the Labor Prosecution Office (MPT) of Brazil published a report indicating that at least 8,000 children and adolescents in the country were found to be working in the production of cocoa. The study was conducted July 2017 through June 2018, and aims to expose companies and hold them accountable for their child labor and forced labor violations. (46,47)

Research found that some schools, particularly those in rural areas, are overcrowded, have poor infrastructure, and lack basic resources and teachers. (31,48) Although birth registration documents are required for school enrollment under Brazilian law, school registration cannot be denied to children lacking proper documentation. State and municipal governments implement this law and assist vulnerable families with acquiring birth registration documents; however, occasionally there may be delays in processing school registration while children are being registered for birth certificates. (12,49) In 2016, the Senate approved draft legislation that would alter the national Education Law to remove the requirement of birth certificates for school registration. Subsequently, the draft legislation was also approved by the Education Committee in 2018, and by the Constitution, Justice and Citizenship Committee in 2019. (50,51) The legislation is currently awaiting a final vote in Brazil's Chamber of Deputies. (12,50,51)

## II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR CHILD LABOR

Brazil has ratified all key international conventions concerning child labor (Table 3).

**Table 3. Ratification of International Conventions on Child Labor**

Convention	Ratification
 ILO C. 138, Minimum Age	✓
ILO C. 182, Worst Forms of Child Labor	✓
 UN CRC	✓
UN CRC Optional Protocol on Armed Conflict	✓
UN CRC Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography	✓
 Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons	✓

The government has established laws and regulations related to child labor (Table 4). However, gaps exist in Brazil's legal framework to adequately protect children from the worst forms of child labor, including child trafficking.

**Table 4. Laws and Regulations on Child Labor**

Standard	Meets International Standards	Age	Legislation
Minimum Age for Work	Yes	16	Article 403 of the Labor Code (52)
Minimum Age for Hazardous Work	Yes	18	Article 2 of the Hazardous Work List (53)
Identification of Hazardous Occupations or Activities Prohibited for Children	Yes		Hazardous Work List (53)
Prohibition of Forced Labor	Yes		Articles 149 and 149-A of the Penal Code (54,55)
Prohibition of Child Trafficking	No		Article 149-A of the Penal Code; Article 244-A of the Child and Adolescent Statute (55,56)
Prohibition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	Yes		Articles 218-A, 218-B, 227 and 228 of the Penal Code; Articles 240, 241 and 244-A of the Child and Adolescent Statute (54,56)
Prohibition of Using Children in Illicit Activities	Yes		Articles 33 and 40 of the National System of Public Policies on Drugs; Article 244-B of the Child and Adolescent Statute (56,57)
Minimum Age for Voluntary State Military Recruitment	Yes	17	Article 127 of the Military Service Regulation (58)
Prohibition of Compulsory Recruitment of Children by (State) Military	Yes		Article 5 of the Military Service Law (59)

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**Table 4. Laws and Regulations on Child Labor (Cont.)**

Standard	Meets International Standards	Age	Legislation
Prohibition of Military Recruitment by Non-state Armed Groups	No		
Compulsory Education Age	Yes	17	Article 4 of the National Education Law (60)
Free Public Education	Yes		Article 4 of the National Education Law (60)

The national "Dirty List," which contains information on employers that the Ministry of Economy has found to be using slave labor, including that of children, was updated in April and October 2020. The April edition included 184 employers found to be using slave labor, 41 of which were new additions, while the October edition contained only 3 new employers. (61) The lower number of additions in the October version reflected the adoption of restrictive measures related to the pandemic, including for labor inspections. (61)

Prohibitions against child trafficking require the use of threats, violence, coercion, fraud, or abuse to be established for the crime of child trafficking and, therefore, do not meet international labor standards. (55) As the minimum age for work is lower than the compulsory education age, children may be encouraged to leave school before the completion of compulsory education. (52,60)

### III. ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS ON CHILD LABOR

The government has established institutional mechanisms for the enforcement of laws and regulations on child labor (Table 5). However, gaps exist within the operations of enforcement agencies that may hinder adequate enforcement of their child labor laws.

**Table 5. Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement**

Organization/Agency	Role
Ministry of Economy	Oversees the Special Secretariat of Social Security and Labor, which is responsible for the enforcement of labor laws, including those related to child labor and forced labor. Its Under Secretariat for Labor Inspection is responsible for conducting unannounced inspections at sites in which forced labor is suspected, including forced child labor. (41) Upon finding children in hazardous working conditions, Ministry of Economy officials immediately remove these children and return them to their families or refer them to social services providers. (62) In 2020, the Ministry launched the <i>IPÉ</i> system, a complaint mechanism developed in conjunction with ILO, which centralizes all forced labor complaints. All complaints are forwarded directly to the Inspection Division for the Eradication of Slave Labor overseen by the Special Secretariat of Social Security and Labor. (63)
Labor Prosecution Office (MPT)	Prosecutes child labor and forced labor violations by working with prosecutors from its National Committee to Combat Child and Adolescent Labor, an in-house body that coordinates efforts to combat child labor. Collects fines for forced labor violations and allocates funds for initiatives that address child labor and forced labor. (41) Led by the Ministry of Public Union. (41,64)
Military, Civil, and Federal Police	The Military Police operate at the local level and refer cases to the Civil Police for investigation. The Federal Police, in turn, work on interstate or international cases and maintain a database to track cases of human trafficking for sexual exploitation. (12) The Federal Highway Police also help identify areas in which children are at high risk of commercial sexual exploitation. (3,41)
Ministry of Justice and Public Security	Leads efforts to combat human trafficking, and oversees the operations of Advanced Posts ( <i>Postos Avançados</i> ) and state-run Anti-Trafficking Coordination Centers ( <i>Núcleos de Enfrentamento</i> ). Provides guidance to federal, state, and local government officials on referrals for victims of human trafficking, including to Anti-Trafficking Coordination Centers, Specialized Social Assistance Reference Centers, and NGOs. (41) Eight Advanced Posts operate throughout the country to identify human traffickers and potential victims in high-transit areas, including airports and bus stations. (41)
Special Courts for Childhood and Youth	Oversee legislative issues related to the eradication of child labor, and guarantee the fair and adequate entry of adolescents into the labor force, in compliance with the 1990 Child and Adolescent Statute. Provide protection and care to victims through court psychologists. (41,65)

### Labor Law Enforcement

In 2020, labor law enforcement agencies in Brazil took actions to combat child labor (Table 6). However, gaps exist within the operations of the Ministry of Economy that may hinder adequate labor law enforcement, including human resource allocation.

**Table 6. Labor Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor**

Overview of Labor Law Enforcement	2019	2020
Labor Inspectorate Funding	\$1,902,588 (49)	\$1,759,952 (66)
Number of Labor Inspectors	2,168 (12)	2,084 (41)
Inspectorate Authorized to Assess Penalties	Yes (12)	Yes (67)
Initial Training for New Labor Inspectors	N/A (12)	N/A (41)
Training on New Laws Related to Child Labor	N/A (12)	N/A (41)
Refresher Courses Provided	Yes (12)	Yes (41)
Number of Labor Inspections Conducted	221,949 (68)	166,731 (68)
Number Conducted at Worksite	Unknown	Unknown
Number of Child Labor Violations Found	11,151 (68)	279 (69)
Number of Child Labor Violations for Which Penalties Were Imposed	534 (68)	Unknown (41)
Number of Child Labor Penalties Imposed that Were Collected	566 (68)	Unknown (41)
Routine Inspections Conducted	Yes (12)	Yes (41)
Routine Inspections Targeted	Yes (12)	Yes (41)
Unannounced Inspections Permitted	Yes (12)	Yes (67)
Unannounced Inspections Conducted	Yes (12)	Yes (41)
Complaint Mechanism Exists	Yes (12)	Yes (41)
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Labor Authorities and Social Services	Yes (12)	Yes (41)

In 2020, labor inspectors received three training modules focused on addressing child labor issues. These training modules were part of a 4-module series developed in 2019, and totaled around 144 hours of training. (70) Two of the modules in the series are directed at the study of concepts and national and international legislation related to child labor and the other two address the performance of labor inspections in combating child labor. Of the 3 modules offered in 2020, 435 labor inspectors participated in Module I, 286 in Module II, and 60 in Module III. (70) Moreover, the four-module series has been added to the permanent course catalog at the National School of Labor Inspection and will be updated as necessary and offered to current and new inspectors. (70)

According to the Under Secretariat for Labor Inspection, 810 children and adolescents were removed from situations of child labor across the country during the reporting period. (41) The Municipal Secretariat to Combat Poverty in the city of Salvador also reported identifying 182 cases of child labor during the Carnival festivities, which represented a 22 percent decrease during the same period in 2019, and identified an additional 82 children and adolescents engaged in child labor from March to June 2020. Moreover, in November 2020, the Municipal Secretariat conducted an awareness campaign called "Protection League" on how to identify possible cases of child labor and alerting families to the risks of exposing children to child labor. (41,71)

In 2020, the MPT started investigating an increase in cases of children rolling straw cigarettes, particularly in the state of Minas Gerais. The tobacco industry is also being investigated for their involvement in this increase, which reportedly has worsened during the pandemic. (29,41)

Upon finding children in situations of child labor, including in hazardous working conditions, the Under Secretariat for Labor Inspection immediately removes them from the situation, while also collecting relevant data related to the violation. These data are forwarded to social service providers within the child and adolescent protection network, and reports are sent to the Public Ministry for further guidance. (68) In addition, children over age 14 may be referred to the country's apprenticeship program. (68)

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The number of labor inspectors is likely insufficient for the size of Brazil's workforce, which includes approximately 104.2 million workers. According to the ILO's technical advice of a ratio approaching 1 inspector for every 15,000 workers in industrializing economies, Brazil would employ about 6,947 labor inspectors. (72-74)

### **Criminal Law Enforcement**

In 2020, criminal law enforcement agencies in Brazil took actions to combat child labor (Table 7). However, gaps exist within the operations of the criminal enforcement agencies that may hinder adequate criminal law enforcement, including holding violators of child labor laws accountable in accordance with the law.

**Table 7. Criminal Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor**

Overview of Criminal Law Enforcement	2019	2020
Initial Training for New Criminal Investigators	Yes (12)	Yes (41)
Training on New Laws Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor	N/A (12)	N/A (41)
Refresher Courses Provided	Yes (12)	Yes (41)
Number of Investigations	Unknown (12)	Unknown (41)
Number of Violations Found	Unknown (12)	Unknown (41)
Number of Prosecutions Initiated	Unknown (12)	Unknown (41)
Number of Convictions	Unknown (12)	Unknown (41)
Imposed Penalties for Violations Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor	Unknown(12)	Unknown (41)
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Criminal Authorities and Social Services	Yes (12)	Yes (41)

In November 2020, the MPT, Federal Highway Police, and the Brazilian Association for the Defense of Women, Children, and Youth signed an agreement to incorporate the topic of human trafficking in the *Mapear* Project, which maps high-risk areas for the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents along Brazil's federal highways. The agreement also aims to increase research on human trafficking with the goal of creating more efficient methodologies toward combating this crime. (75)

While the government did not provide comprehensive data on criminal law enforcement efforts to combat the worst forms of child labor, the Civil Police of Paraná arrested 14 people for child pornography during operation "Comprehensive Protection." The operation was the largest of its kind conducted in the state, involving 151 police officers serving 24 search and seizure warrants in 16 cities. (41,76) In addition, the Federal Criminal Court of São Paulo sentenced an Ecuadorian couple to 8 years in prison, in addition to fines, for subjecting workers, including adolescents, to forced labor conditions in a clothing factory in São Paulo. The couple was also convicted and sentenced for international human trafficking crimes for recruiting and bringing these victims into Brazil. (77) Research indicates that the victims lived in degrading conditions and were subjected to restricted mobility, surveillance, and had their personal documents confiscated. (77)

The Ministry of Justice, in collaboration with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement in Brasilia, also launched its seventh phase of "Operation Protected Childhood" to combat online child pornography. The latest phase resulted in 109 arrests for crimes related to child pornography throughout 10 states. (78,79) The Civil Police in Minas Gerais also conducted "Operation Angel" aimed at combating the sexual exploitation of children. During the reporting period, investigations over the course of 6 months uncovered the sexual exploitation of girls ages 13–15, after being lured through a website with the promise of gifts. (41) The victims were photographed nude, often times after being drugged, and the material was posted to websites. Because of these investigations, the police arrested four suspects. (41)

During the reporting period, the UNODC began executing its 3-year regional TRACK4TIP program, supported by the U.S. Department of State, across South America and the Caribbean. The program aims to enhance the criminal justice response to human trafficking along migration routes throughout the region. (80,81) In October 2020, Brazilian and Paraguayan investigators and prosecutors held virtual meetings to launch the program. (80)



Although the Judiciary, the MPT, and the federal and state police have databases to track cases of human trafficking for sexual exploitation, information from these databases is not shared in a standardized way with relevant agencies across the country. (49,82) In addition, reports indicate that the judicial system does not sufficiently hold perpetrators accountable for child labor law violations, including forced child labor, which may lead to a sense of impunity among violators. (14,45)

#### IV. COORDINATION OF GOVERNMENT EFFORTS ON CHILD LABOR

The government has established mechanisms to coordinate its efforts to address child labor (Table 8).

**Table 8. Key Mechanisms to Coordinate Government Efforts on Child Labor**

Coordinating Body	Role & Description
National Commission for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor*	Leads implementation of the National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor and the Protection of Working Adolescents. Although the commission was eliminated in 2019, it was re-established in December 2020 and restructured from its original multipartite composition to a tripartite structure made up of six government, six employer, and six employee representatives. (41) Government representatives include the ministries of Economy, Education, Citizenship, Health, Agriculture and Supply, and Women, Family and Human Rights. In addition, six special representatives are allowed to participate in meetings as observers, including from government agencies and national and international organizations. (83)
Inter-Sectoral Commission to Combat Sexual Violence Against Children and Adolescents	Creates proposals for programs and public policies to address sexual violence against children and adolescents. In addition, organizes and disseminates research and guidance on combating this crime. (84) Led by the Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights. (84,85) In 2020, the government reduced the number of entities participating in this committee by half through Decree No.10.482. (86)
National Council for the Rights of Children and Adolescents	Coordinates the implementation of policies to protect children's and adolescents' rights, including the National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor and the Protection of Working Adolescents. Led by the Ministry of Justice's Special Secretariat for Human Rights. (87) In 2020, in response to the pandemic, the Ministry of Economy and MPT coordinated to ensure that apprentices ages 16–17 were allowed to continue to receive remuneration and able to continue their apprenticeships in a virtual setting, whenever possible. (41,88)
Labor Justice Commission for the Eradication of Child Labor and Protection of Working Adolescents	Coordinates efforts to eliminate child labor and ensure that adolescents have decent work opportunities. (89) Includes 11 representatives from the Superior Labor Court and regional labor courts. (90) In June 2020, Bahia State's Secretariat of Justice and Human Rights organized an awareness-raising campaign called "COVID-19: Now more than ever, protect children and adolescents from child labor," aimed at preventing the potential increase of child labor cases during a period of increased unemployment and poverty. (91) In October 2020, in the state of Rio de Janeiro, the bar association <i>Ordem dos Advogados</i> , in partnership with the Association of Labor Justice Magistrates and other institutions, also launched a joint campaign against child labor in the state. The campaign aims to circulate videos recorded on social media platforms by known television personalities on the protection of the fundamental rights of children and adolescents. (92)
National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Persons	Led by the National Secretariat for Justice within the Ministry of Justice and Public Security. Coordinates activities to address human trafficking and advises the Ministry on public policies related to human trafficking, including child trafficking. (45,93) Comprising seven voting members distributed among government and civil society. (45) During the reporting period, the committee signed a technical agreement with the National Council of Justice, which aims to strengthen the National Plan to Combat Human Trafficking and focuses on the connections between organized crime, corruption, and human trafficking. (94)
Anti-Trafficking Coordination Centers ( <i>Núcleos de Enfrentamento</i> )	Coordinate activities to combat human trafficking, including medical, legal, and psychological assistance, in 16 states and the Federal District. (12) In 2020, the Ministry of Justice and Public Security partnered with IOM on a project called Euro Front to create a platform that will allow for the sharing of human trafficking information between states. (80) This new system, which is expected to be completed by July 2021, will also provide participating states with standardized reports, improved record-keeping, and real-time status of human trafficking cases. (80)

\* Mechanism to coordinate efforts to address child labor was re-established during the reporting period.

Rio de Janeiro's Secretariat of Social Assistance and Human Rights published Decree 47739, which established a new Department of Childhood and Adolescence to create public policies related to children and adolescents. The new department will also oversee pre-existing social services programs offered by Social Assistance Reference Centers. (95) In addition, the Vitoria da Conquista city government in Bahia state published a decree establishing a Committee for the Network of Social Protection of Children and Adolescents. This new committee will include representatives from several government and social services entities, including the MPT, and focus on

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creating public policies related to the rights of children and adolescents, including the prevention of the worst forms of child labor. (96)

### V. GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON CHILD LABOR

The government has established policies related to child labor (Table 9). However, policy gaps exist that hinder efforts to address child labor, including funding and implementation.

**Table 9. Key Policies Related to Child Labor**

Policy	Description
National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor and the Protection of Working Adolescents III (2019–2022)	Aims to prioritize the prevention and eradication of child labor and the protection of adolescent workers; raise public awareness of child labor and its worst forms, including the risks of child labor; ensure relevant legislative compliance related to the prohibitions of child labor and its worst forms; strengthen family security and stability through the increase of employment opportunities; ensure access to quality education and establish health support systems to child labor victims. (97) In 2020, activities were not undertaken to implement the National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor and the Protection of Working Adolescents due to the termination of the National Commission for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor in 2019. (83)
National Plan to Combat Sexual Violence Against Children and Adolescents (2013–2020)	Identified strategies to prevent the sexual exploitation of children, protect children's rights, and assist child victims. (98) Research was unable to determine whether activities were undertaken to implement the National Plan to Combat Sexual Violence Against Children and Adolescents during the reporting period.
National Plan to Combat Human Trafficking III (2018–2022)	Outlines the government's strategy to address human trafficking. Includes 58 objectives expanding 6 themes: policy management, information management, training, accountability, victim assistance and prevention, and public awareness raising. (45,99) In May 2020, the Federal Highway Police and NGO Childhood Brazil inspected 116 areas throughout 9 states identified as high risk for commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents. (41,100)
Federal Pact for the Eradication of Forced Labor	Aims to establish a database on forced labor, create state-level commissions to combat forced labor, and strengthen inter-agency coordination. Led by the Ministry of Justice's Special Secretariat for Human Rights, and currently signed by 23 of the 27 states. (45,101,102) In 2020, the Labor Inspectors Union began the campaign, "Child labor; a reality few can see," to bring awareness to the challenge of eradicating child labor in Brazil by 2025. (41)
National Education Plan (2014–2024)	Aims to expand access to education and improve the quality of education by allocating 10 percent of Brazil's gross domestic product to public education by 2024. (103) In August 2020, Congress approved a constitutional amendment increasing funding to the Fund for the Maintenance and Development of Basic Education and Appreciation of Teaching Professionals (FUNDEB), and making it a permanent instrument for financing public education. FUNDEB comprises funds from the 26 states and the Federal District. (104) The amendment aims to decrease inequality of resources between education networks by leveling the amount spent per student per year across the country. (104)

‡ The government had other policies that may have addressed child labor issues or had an impact on child labor. (105,106)

Despite the increased funding provided by the constitutional amendment, research found that greater resources are needed to ensure adequate implementation of the National Education Plan. (107,108)

### VI. SOCIAL PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS CHILD LABOR

In 2020, the government funded and participated in programs that include the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor (Table 10). However, gaps exist in these social programs, including the adequacy of programs to assist child victims of human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.



**Table 10. Key Social Programs to Address Child Labor**

Program	Description
National Program to Eradicate Child Labor ( <i>Programa de Erradicação do Trabalho Infantil [PETI]</i> )†	Ministry of Citizenship (MOC) social assistance program that combats child labor through awareness-raising activities, victim identification and protection, and conditional cash transfers. (109) To receive program benefits, family participants must ensure that children are not working and maintain at least 85 percent school attendance. (110) In 2020, conducted awareness-raising campaign throughout municipal, state, and national level institutions. The campaign was coordinated virtually and involved a series of initiatives aimed at raising awareness about protecting the rights of children and adolescents. (41) The campaign also raised awareness of the Dial 100 Human Rights hotline, a human rights violation hotline that directs child labor complaints to appropriate institutions for followup. (41,111)
Family Stipend ( <i>Bolsa Família</i> )†	MOC program that provides families living in poverty with cash transfers. (112) In 2020, additional emergency aid was provided to combat the financial effects of the pandemic, and in October 2020, the World Bank approved a \$1 billion loan to provide Bolsa Familia benefits to 3 million more participants, including 990,000 children. (113,114)
Specialized Social Assistance Reference Centers†	MOC program that provides vulnerable populations, including victims of child labor and commercial sexual exploitation, with psychological, social, and legal services. (115) During Carnival 2020, from February 15 to March 1, the Municipal Secretary of Assistance and Social Development in São Paulo carried out an awareness-raising campaign against child labor and the commercial sexual exploitation of children. During the same period, more than 600 socio-educational counselors, in the regions where the parades took place, worked to identify cases of child labor and potential child victims of sexual exploitation. (41)
South-South Cooperation Projects†	Government of Brazil-funded projects implemented by ILO to combat child labor and promote South-South cooperation. (116) In May 2020, representatives from the ILO, Brazilian Cooperation Agency, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Brazilian Cotton Institute held a virtual meeting to discuss the Decent Work Cotton Project's 2019 progress report and approve the project's 2020 work plan. In addition, a network of labor inspectors was created to discuss labor issues with other Lusophone countries and USDOL during the reporting period. (117)
Roadmap to Assist Victims of Forced Labor*	Creates an integrated network of social services providers and standardizes assistance to victims of slave labor across the country. Led by the Ministry for Women, Family, and Human Rights. (120) In 2020, the Roadmap was disseminated to the states of Santa Catarina, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, Maranhão, Ceará and Mato Grosso do Sul. (120)
USDOL-Funded Projects	<u>Cooperation on Fair, Free, Equitable Employment (COFFEE)</u> , a \$2.2 million project implemented by Verité in Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico to develop tools for businesses to establish systems to prevent, detect, and combat child and forced labor in coffee supply chains. <u>Measurement, Awareness-Raising, and Policy Engagement (MAP16) Project on Child Labor and Forced Labor</u> , a global project with a \$225,000 component in Brazil that supported a National Forced Labor Survey. As of the publication of this report, the results of the survey have not yet been published. (118,119) For additional information, please see our <a href="#">website</a> .

\* Program was launched during the reporting period.

† Program is funded by the Government of Brazil.

‡ The government had other social programs that may have included the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor. (121-126)

In July 2020, the Ministry for Women, Family, and Human Rights began implementing the Roadmap to Assist Victims of Forced Labor to the states of Santa Catarina, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, Maranhão, Ceará, and Mato Grosso do Sul. The National Roadmap aims to create an integrated network of social services providers, support social services entities, and guarantee better results toward eradicating slave labor across the country. (120)

Throughout the reporting period, several states conducted awareness-raising campaigns addressing human trafficking and forced labor. As part of the Freedom in the Air campaign, the MPT and *Infraero*, the government's oversight organization for airports, signed an agreement to train airport professionals on how to recognize potential cases of human trafficking and the process for alerting law enforcement. (80) In addition, the Forum to Combat Trafficking in Persons in the State of Santa Catarina implemented an anti-human trafficking campaign in its capital city, which included awareness-raising messages in thirty local buses, mobile health posts, the local samba performance venue, a bus terminal, and a payment location for a local toll road. (80)

Because the National Program to Eradicate Child Labor is decentralized, municipal governments are responsible for implementation and monitoring, and must report back to state and federal governments. Challenges include responding to the needs of program participants, complex local contexts and geographic areas, excessive program requirements, and high staff turnover. (49) In addition, many states reported a lack of resources to

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adequately assist, identify, refer, and support child trafficking victims, and many did not have specialized shelters for child victims of commercial sexual exploitation. (36)

## VII. SUGGESTED GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO ELIMINATE CHILD LABOR

Based on the reporting above, suggested actions are identified that would advance the elimination of child labor in Brazil (Table 11).

**Table 11. Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor**

Area	Suggested Action	Year(s) Suggested
Legal Framework	Ensure that laws do not require the use of threats, violence, coercion, fraud, or abuse to establish the crime of child trafficking.	2016 – 2020
	Ensure that the law criminally prohibits the recruitment of children under age 18 by non-state armed groups.	2016 – 2020
	Raise the minimum age for work to the age up to which education is compulsory.	2018 – 2020
Enforcement	Publish information regarding the number of labor inspections conducted, number of labor inspections conducted at worksites, number of child labor penalties, including penalties imposed and collected, number of criminal investigations conducted, and number of violations found.	2012 – 2020
	Significantly increase the number of labor inspectors to meet the ILO's technical advice.	2014 – 2020
	Ensure relevant enforcement agencies are able to coordinate on their efforts to collect data on cases regarding human trafficking for sexual exploitation, and ensure that the data are disaggregated by victims' ages.	2009 – 2020
	Ensure that all violators of the worst forms of child labor violations are held accountable in accordance with the law.	2015 – 2020
Government Policies	Ensure that activities are undertaken to implement the National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor and the Protection of Working Adolescents and the National Plan to Combat Sexual Violence Against Children and Adolescents.	2020
	Provide adequate resources to ensure that the goals outlined in the National Education Plan are achieved.	2015 – 2020
Social Programs	Remove barriers to education, including by ensuring an adequate number of trained teachers, improving school infrastructure, and taking steps to enroll children in rural areas.	2013 – 2020
	Expand the accessibility and speedy processing of birth registration services.	2013 – 2020
	Ensure the government publishes the results of the National Forced Labor Survey.	2020
	Support local governments in the implementation and monitoring of the National Program to Eradicate Child Labor.	2009 – 2020
	Provide adequate resources to state governments to ensure that child trafficking victims receive appropriate social services, and ensure the availability of specialized shelters for child victims of commercial sexual exploitation.	2012 – 2020

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