

Although research found no evidence that child labor exists in Grenada, in 2022, the government made no advancement in efforts to prevent the worst forms of child labor. The government's ability to prevent children from being subjected to the worst forms of child labor is limited because existing laws require the use of force, threats, abuse of power, or other forms of coercion, and therefore do not comprehensively prohibit child trafficking. Grenada has also not identified activities prohibited for children or criminally prohibited the use, procuring, or offering of a child for all forms of commercial sexual exploitation. In addition, the government has not published data on labor inspectorate funding.



I. PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOR

Table 1 provides key indicators on children's work and education in Grenada. 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	Unavailable
Attending School (%)	5 to 14	Unavailable
Combining Work and School (%)	7 to 14	Unavailable
Primary Completion Rate (%)		123.0







Source for primary completion rate: Data from 2018, published by UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2023. (1)
Data were unavailable from International Labor Organization's analysis, 2023. (2)

Research found no evidence that child labor exists in Grenada.

II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR CHILD LABOR

Grenada has ratified all key international conventions concerning child labor (Table 2).

Table 2. 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 3). However, gaps exist in Grenada's legal framework to adequately protect children from the worst forms of child labor, including the minimum age for hazardous work.

NO ADVANCEMENT

Table 3. Laws and Regulations on Child Labor

Standard	Meets International Standards	Age	Legislation
Minimum Age for Work	Yes	16	Articles 32 and 35 of the Employment Act (3)
Minimum Age for Hazardous Work	No		
Identification of Hazardous Occupations or Activities Prohibited for Children	No		Article 40 of the Employment Act (3)
Prohibition of Forced Labor	Yes		Article 25 of the Employment Act; Article 4 of the Constitution; Articles 2 and 9–12 of the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act (3-5)
Prohibition of Child Trafficking	No		Articles 2, 9–11, and 14 of the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act (5)
Prohibition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	No		Articles 137(29) and 188 of the Criminal Code; Articles 2 and 12 of the Electronic Crimes Bill; Articles 2 and 10 of the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act (5-8)
Prohibition of Using Children in Illicit Activities	Yes		Articles 22 and 23 of the Drug Abuse (Prevention and Control) Act (9)
Minimum Age for Voluntary State Military Recruitment	N/A†		
Prohibition of Compulsory Recruitment of Children by (State) Military	N/A†		
Prohibition of Military Recruitment by Non-state Armed Groups	No		
Compulsory Education Age	Yes	16	Articles 2 and 15 of the Education Act (10)
Free Public Education	No		Article 16 of the Education Act (10)

† Country has no standing military (11)

The government has not identified by national law or regulation the types of hazardous work prohibited for children; however, night work is prohibited for those under age 18. (3) Although Grenada's Employment Act and Education Act allow holiday employment for children over 14 years of age, this does not meet international standards as it does not determine the activities for which light work may be permitted or limit the number of hours for light work. (3,10) Despite establishing heightened penalties for traffickers of children, the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act does not sufficiently prohibit the trafficking of children because it requires the use of force, threats, abuse of power, or other forms of coercion to classify an act as human trafficking. (5) The Criminal Code, Electronic Crimes Bill, and Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act also do not criminally prohibit the use, procuring, or offering of a child for all forms of commercial sexual exploitation. (5,7) Moreover, laws providing for free basic education do not meet international standards because they permit schools to charge tuition fees for some students who reside in Grenada but are not citizens. (10)

III. ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS ON CHILD LABOR

The government has established relevant institutional mechanisms for the enforcement of laws and regulations on child labor (Table 4).

Table 4. Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement

Organization/Agency	Role & Activities
Ministry of Labor	Enforces laws related to child labor through its Labor Commission, which generates a list of workplaces to inspect. (12) Inspections are conducted at random as well as based on complaints, and unannounced inspections can be conducted in any sector, including the private sector and on farms. (12) Although labor inspectors are not authorized to assess penalties, they inform the Royal Grenada Police Force (RGPF) if a child labor violation is found. The RGPF then conducts a criminal investigation, and charges can be laid against violators through the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP). (12,13)

Table 4. Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement (Cont.)

Organization/Agency	Role & Activities
Royal Grenada Police Force (RGPF)	Investigates crimes and enforces laws related to child labor. If child labor is confirmed, the RGPF is notified and works with the Child Protection Authority and Ministry of Social Development, Housing & Community Empowerment to have the child removed from the home, if needed. (14) Upon finding sufficient evidence of a criminal violation, submits findings for possible prosecution by the DPP. Helps the Child Protection Authority and the Ministry of Social Development, Housing & Community Empowerment provide emergency services to children. (15)
Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP)	Represents the State of Grenada and is responsible for prosecuting criminal cases in lower and high courts. Authorized to institute, overtake, or discontinue criminal prosecutions. (12) Functions independently, with overarching oversight of all public prosecutions. (12)

Labor Law Enforcement

In 2022, labor law enforcement agencies in Grenada took actions to address child labor (Table 5). However, gaps exist within the operations of enforcement agencies that may hinder adequate labor law enforcement, including insufficient financial resource and human resource allocation.

Table 5. Labor Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor

Overview of Labor Law Enforcement	2021	2022
Labor Inspectorate Funding	Unknown (15)	Unknown (12)
Number of Labor Inspectors	5 (15)	4 (12)
Mechanism to Assess Civil Penalties	Yes (3)	Yes (3)
Training for Labor Inspectors Provided	N/A (15)	No (12)
Number of Labor Inspections Conducted at Worksite	54 (15)	45 (12)
Number of Child Labor Violations Found	0 (15)	0 (12)
Number of Child Labor Violations for Which Penalties Were Imposed	N/A (15)	N/A (12)
Number of Child Labor Penalties Imposed that Were Collected	N/A (15)	N/A (12)
Routine Inspections Conducted	Yes (15)	Yes (12)
Routine Inspections Targeted	Yes (15)	Yes (12)
Unannounced Inspections Permitted	Yes (3)	Yes (3)
Unannounced Inspections Conducted	Yes (15)	Yes (12)
Complaint Mechanism Exists	Yes (15)	Yes (12)
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Labor Authorities and Social Services	Yes (15)	Yes (12)

While research indicates that the budget for the Ministry of Labor is estimated to have decreased from the previous year, the amount allocated to the labor inspectorate is unknown. (12) The government directly employed four labor inspectors to enforce labor laws, a decrease for the second year in a row. (12,13,15) Labor inspectors also did not receive training during the reporting period on laws and enforcement of laws related to child labor. (12) There were no child labor-specific inspections conducted as there is no evidence of child labor in Grenada. However, site visits were conducted in the construction, business services, manufacturing, agriculture, public service, telecommunications, and hospitality and tourism sectors. (12)

Criminal Law Enforcement

Research did not find information on whether criminal law enforcement agencies in Grenada took actions to address child labor. (Table 6).

NO ADVANCEMENT

Table 6. Criminal Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor

Overview of Criminal Law Enforcement	2021	2022
Training for Criminal Investigators Provided	Yes (15)	Yes (12)
Number of Investigations	0 (15)	0 (12)
Number of Prosecutions Initiated	N/A (15)	N/A (12)
Number of Convictions	N/A (15)	N/A (12)
Imposed Penalties for Violations Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor	N/A (15)	N/A (12)
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Criminal Authorities and Social Services	Yes (15)	Yes (12)

The government releases annual reports on its criminal law enforcement efforts and crime statistics. (12)

IV. COORDINATION OF GOVERNMENT EFFORTS ON CHILD LABOR

As there is no evidence of a problem, there appears to be no need for mechanisms to coordinate efforts to address child labor.

V. GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON CHILD LABOR

As there is no evidence of a problem, there appears to be no need for policies to address child labor.

VI. SOCIAL PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS CHILD LABOR

As there is no evidence of a problem, there appears to be no need for programs to address child labor.

For information about USDOL's projects to address child labor around the world, visit <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/ilab-project-page-search>

VII. SUGGESTED GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO ELIMINATE CHILD LABOR

Based on the reporting above, the following actions would advance the continued prevention of child labor in Grenada (Table 7).

Table 7. Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor

Area	Suggested Action	Year(s) Suggested
Legal Framework	Determine by national law or regulation the types of hazardous work prohibited for children, after consultation with employers' and workers' organizations.	2009 – 2022
	Ensure that the minimum age for hazardous work is age 18.	2009 – 2022
	Ensure that the law's light work provisions specify the activities in which light work may be undertaken and limit the number of hours for light work.	2014 – 2022
	Ensure that the law criminalizes all forms of child trafficking, including in cases that do not include the use of force, threats, abuse of power, or other forms of coercion.	2015 – 2022
	Enact legislation prohibiting the use, procuring, or offering of a child for all forms of commercial sexual exploitation.	2016 – 2022
	Ensure that the law criminally prohibits the recruitment of children under age 18 by non-state armed groups.	2016 – 2022
	Ensure that laws providing free basic education include all children in Grenada, including non-citizens.	2021 – 2022
Enforcement	Provide sufficient funding and human resources to allow agencies responsible for the enforcement of labor laws to fulfill their mission.	2015 – 2022
	Collect and publish labor law enforcement data, including information on inspectorate funding and the training system for labor inspectors.	2016 – 2022
	Ensure that labor inspectors receive trainings on laws and enforcement of laws related to child labor.	2022
Social Programs	Collect and publish data on the extent and nature of child labor, including the worst forms of child labor, to inform policies and programs.	2009 – 2022

REFERENCES

- 1 UNESCO Institute for Statistics. Gross intake ratio to the last grade of primary education, both sexes (%). Accessed March 15, 2023. For more information, please see "Children's Work and Education Statistics: Sources and Definitions" in the Reference Materials section of this report. <http://data.uis.unesco.org/>
- 2 ILO. Analysis of Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Statistics from National Household or Child Labor Surveys. Analysis received March 2023. Please see "Children's Work and Education Statistics: Sources and Definitions" in the Reference Materials section of this report.
- 3 Government of Grenada. Employment Act, Act No. 14 of 1999. Enacted: 1999. <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/53925/65176/E99GRD01.htm>
- 4 Government of Grenada. Constitution, No. 2155 of 1973. Enacted: 1973. <http://pdba.georgetown.edu/constitutions/grenada/gren73eng.html>
- 5 Government of Grenada. Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act. Enacted: June 11, 2014. Source on file.
- 6 Government of Grenada. Electronic Crimes Bill. Enacted: October 3, 2013. <https://nowgrenada.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Electronic-Crimes-Bill.pdf?x65460>
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- 10 Government of Grenada. Education Act, No. 21 of 2002. Enacted: 2002. https://laws.gov.gd/index.php?option=com_edocman&view=category&id=717&Itemid=185
- 11 U.S. Department of State. Country Report on Human Rights Practices- April 12, 2022: Grenada. Washington, D.C., 2021. <https://www.state.gov/reports/2021-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/grenada/>
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- 13 U.S. Embassy- Bridgetown. Reporting. February 12, 2021.
- 14 U.S. Embassy- Bridgetown official. E-mail communication to USDOL official. March 22, 2022.
- 15 U.S. Embassy- Bridgetown. Reporting. January 18, 2022.