

<sup>3364</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Togo," section 5.

<sup>3365</sup> U.S. Embassy- Lome, reporting, February 28, 2008.

<sup>3366</sup> USDOL-ILAB, *Combating Exploitive Child Labor in Togo Through Education* Project Summary, October, 2007. 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/ILAB20071498.htm>.

<sup>3367</sup> ILO-IPEC, *Amendment to Project Document "Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa"*, Project Document Amendment Geneva, September 3, 2004. See also ILO-IPEC,

*Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, Technical Progress Report, Geneva, September 1, 2007, 1-3. See also ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 12, 2007. See also ILO-IPEC Geneva official, LUTRENA Project Table III.C. Final Report March 2008 E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 24, 2008.

<sup>3368</sup> ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication, December 12, 2007. See also ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, February 27, 2008.

## Tonga

### *Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor*<sup>3369</sup>

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 (%), 2005:	111
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	95
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%):	-
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2004:	89
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No

### Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Some family-owned operations in Tonga may employ child family members. The National

Center for Women and Children (NCWC), a Government-supported NGO, reports that an increasing number of children are either not attending school or dropping out of school to work in the informal sector.<sup>3370</sup> A public health facility reported that a number of underage girls were engaging in commercial sexual activities throughout the year, but no further information is available.<sup>3371</sup>

### Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Tonga does not have legislation setting the minimum age for work.<sup>3372</sup> The law prohibits slavery.<sup>3373</sup> The owning and/or operating of a brothel, pimping, and soliciting 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.<sup>3374</sup> The law also prohibits any person from assaulting a child, abducting girls, and procuring or attempting to procure any girl under the age of 21 years for trafficking in prostitution. The maximum punishment for these offenses is imprisonment for up to 5 years.<sup>3375</sup> Tonga maintains a military, called the Tonga Defense Force (TDF).<sup>3376</sup> There is no military conscription in Tonga. The minimum age of voluntary service is 18 years.<sup>3377</sup>

According to USDOS, the Government did not conduct any investigations related to trafficking in persons during the reporting period.<sup>3378</sup>

### **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.

---

<sup>3369</sup> For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section. For data on ratifications and ILO-IPEC membership, see the Executive Summary. For minimum age for admission to work, age to which education is compulsory, and free public education, see U.S. Embassy- Suva, *reporting*, December 10, 2007. See also Paula Bloomfield, *Kingdom of Tonga on the Occasion of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Children*, New York, May 8-10, 2002; available from <http://www.un.org/ga/children/tongaE.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Tonga," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2007*, Washington, DC, March 11, 2008, section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100540.htm>.

<sup>3370</sup> U.S. Embassy- Suva, *reporting*, December 10, 2007.

<sup>3371</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007:

---

Tonga," section 5. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Tonga*, accessed December 18, 2007; available from <http://www.ecpat.net/>.

<sup>3372</sup> U.S. Embassy- Suva, *reporting*, December 10, 2007.

<sup>3373</sup> Government of Tonga, *Constitution of Tonga*, (1988), article 2; available from [http://www.paclii.org/to/legis/consol\\_act/cot238/](http://www.paclii.org/to/legis/consol_act/cot238/).

<sup>3374</sup> Government of Tonga, *Criminal Offenses Act*, (1988), articles 80-81.

<sup>3375</sup> *Ibid.*, 125-126, 129.

<sup>3376</sup> U.S. Embassy- Suva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 14, 2008.

<sup>3377</sup> U.S. Department of State, *Background Notes: Tonga*, [online] October 2007 [cited February 7, 2008]. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Tonga," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from [http://www.child-soldiers.org/resources/global-reports?root\\_id=159&category\\_id=165](http://www.child-soldiers.org/resources/global-reports?root_id=159&category_id=165). See also U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, *The World Factbook: Tonga*, [online] January 24, 2008 [cited February 7, 2008]; available from <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/tn.html>.

<sup>3378</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Tonga," section 5.

## **Trinidad and Tobago**

### **Incidence and Nature of Child Labor**

Working children in Trinidad and Tobago are involved in agriculture, scavenging, stocking goods, car repair and washing, construction, fishing, and begging. Children also work as shop assistants, cosmetologists, domestic servants, and street vendors.<sup>3379</sup> These activities are reported as generally being part of a family business.<sup>3380</sup> Additionally, children are reported to be victims of commercial sexual exploitation, though no specific data is available.<sup>3381</sup>

### **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 that have been approved as vocational or technical training by the Ministry of Education.<sup>3382</sup> Children under 18 years are prohibited from working between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m., except in a family business or within other exceptions.<sup>3383</sup> One such exception allows children 16 to 18 years to work at night in sugar factories.<sup>3384</sup> Violations of these regulations are subject to sanctions.<sup>3385</sup>

There is no compulsory military service in Trinidad and Tobago, and the minimum age for voluntary military service is 16 with parental consent.<sup>3386</sup> Trafficking may be prosecuted under laws that pertain to kidnapping, procurement of sex, prostitution, slavery, and indentured servitude.<sup>3387</sup> The law prohibits the procurement of minors under 16 for prostitution or sexual offenses, with penalties