

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

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.

³³⁶⁹ 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>.

³³⁷⁰ U.S. Embassy- Suva, *reporting*, December 10, 2007.

³³⁷¹ 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/>.

³³⁷² U.S. Embassy- Suva, *reporting*, December 10, 2007.

³³⁷³ Government of Tonga, *Constitution of Tonga*, (1988), article 2; available from http://www.paclii.org/to/legis/consol_act/cot238/.

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

³³⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, 125-126, 129.

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

³³⁷⁷ 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. 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>.

³³⁷⁸ 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.³³⁷⁹ These activities are reported as generally being part of a family business.³³⁸⁰ Additionally, children are reported to be victims of commercial sexual exploitation, though no specific data is available.³³⁸¹

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.³³⁸² 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.³³⁸³ One such exception allows children 16 to 18 years to work at night in sugar factories.³³⁸⁴ Violations of these regulations are subject to sanctions.³³⁸⁵

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

of up to 15 years of imprisonment.³³⁸⁸ Procurement is considered an offense, whether committed in Trinidad and Tobago or elsewhere.³³⁸⁹ The operation of a brothel is punishable by imprisonment for 5 years, and allowing minors under 16 to be on the premises of the brothel for sexual purposes is subject to imprisonment for 10 years.³³⁹⁰ Any person responsible for a girl younger than 16 who causes or encourages commercial sexual exploitation of the minor is subject to imprisonment for 2 years.³³⁹¹

child labor and mechanisms for receiving and addressing child labor complaints.³³⁹⁷ In general, the Government's capacity to pursue its commitment to protect the rights and welfare of children is limited by lack of funds and expanding social needs.³³⁹⁸

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Ministry of Social Development continued to implement its Revised National Plan of Action for Children, which includes specific goals for combating commercial sexual exploitation of children and exploitive child labor.³³⁹⁹ The Government of Trinidad and Tobago participated in the second phase of a USD 750,000 regional project to combat the worst forms of child labor in the Caribbean, funded by the Government of Canada and implemented by ILO-IPEC.³⁴⁰⁰

³³⁷⁹ U.S. Embassy- Port of Spain, *reporting*, August 24, 2004. See also The Protection Project, "Trinidad and Tobago," in *2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*, 2005; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org/trinidad.doc>.

³³⁸⁰ U.S. Embassy- Port of Spain, *reporting*, August 24, 2004.

³³⁸¹ Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, *Revised National Plan of Action on Children*, Ministry of Social Development, Port of Spain, August 2006, 89. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *CSEC Overview: Trinidad and Tobago*, accessed December 11, 2007; available from <http://www.ecpat.net/>. See also The Protection Project, "Trinidad and Tobago."

³³⁸² Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, *Miscellaneous Provisions (Minimum Age for Admission to Employment) Act, 2007*, article 4. See also Right to Education, *Constitutional Guarantees: Trinidad and Tobago*, [online] [cited December 14, 2007]; available from http://www.right-to-education.org/content/age/rin_and_tob.html. See also Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Trinidad and Tobago*, 25-26.

³³⁸³ Right to Education, *Constitutional Guarantees: Trinidad and Tobago*. See also U.S. Embassy- Port of Spain, *reporting*, November 30, 2007.

³³⁸⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Trinidad and Tobago," section 6d.

³³⁸⁵ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Trinidad and Tobago*, 35.

³³⁸⁶ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Trinidad and Tobago," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from <http://www.child->

<i>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</i> ³³⁹²	
Working children, 5-14 years (%), 2000:	3.5
Working boys, 5-14 years (%), 2000:	4.5
Working girls, 5-14 years (%), 2000:	2.6
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%):	
- Agriculture	-
- Manufacturing	-
- Services	-
- Other	-
Minimum age for work:	16
Compulsory education age:	12
Free public education:	Yes
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	95
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	85
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%), 2000:	97
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2004:	91
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Associated

The Ministry of Labor and Small and Micro-Enterprise Development and the Ministry of Social Development are currently responsible for enforcing child labor provisions.³³⁹³ Labor inspectors have the authority to enter, inspect, and examine at all reasonable hours any premises when there is reasonable cause to believe that violations are taking place.³³⁹⁴ Labor inspectors are trained to recognize child labor situations.³³⁹⁵ Laws concerning the worst forms of child labor, traditionally considered to be crimes, are enforced by the Police Service.³³⁹⁶ According to USDOS, enforcement of child labor laws is weak due to the lack of a comprehensive Government policy on

soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=838. See also, Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Trinidad and Tobago - a Guide to Legislative Reform*, ILO Subregional Office for the Caribbean, June 2005, 32.

³³⁸⁷ U.S. Embassy- Port of Spain, *reporting, November 30, 2007*. See also U.S. Embassy- Port of Spain, *reporting, March 1, 2007*.

³³⁸⁸ Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, "Republic of Trinidad and Tobago," in *Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences against Children*, 2006, section 17-18; available from <http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaTrinidadTobago.pdf>.

³³⁸⁹ The Protection Project, "Trinidad and Tobago." See also U.S. Embassy- Port of Spain, *reporting, March 1, 2007*.

³³⁹⁰ Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, "The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago," section 21-22.

³³⁹¹ *Ibid.*, section 8.

³³⁹² 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 Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, *Miscellaneous Provisions (Minimum Age for Admission to Employment) Act, 2007*, No.3 of 2007, Fifth session, Eighth Parliament (February 26, 2007), article 4; available from <http://www.tparliament.org/bills/acts/2007/a2007-03.pdf>. See also Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Trinidad and Tobago- A Guide to Legislative Reform*,

ILO Subregional Office for the Caribbean, June 2005, 25; available from <http://www.ilocarib.org.tt/childlabour/library.htm>.

See also U.S. Department of State, "Trinidad and Tobago," 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/2007/100655.htm>.

³³⁹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Trinidad and Tobago," section 6d.

³³⁹⁴ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Trinidad and Tobago*, 37.

³³⁹⁵ U.S. Embassy- Port of Spain, *reporting, November 30, 2007*.

³³⁹⁶ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Trinidad and Tobago*, 40.

³³⁹⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Trinidad and Tobago," section 6d.

³³⁹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trinidad and Tobago," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78907.htm>.

³³⁹⁹ Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, *Revised National Plan of Action on Children*, I.

³⁴⁰⁰ ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 12, 2007.

Tunisia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In Tunisia, children can be found working in the informal sector, particularly in agriculture and vending, primarily during their summer vacations from school. Children in the informal sector are also involved in the handicraft industry.³⁴⁰¹ There is some evidence of exploitation of children in domestic service and agriculture.³⁴⁰²

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for employment is 16 years, with some exceptions. Children at least 13 years old may perform light work.³⁴⁰³ They may also begin working as apprentices or through vocational

training programs at 14 years. Children younger than 16 years may work in family businesses, as long as their work does not negatively affect their mental or physical health or interfere with school.³⁴⁰⁴ This exception does not apply to hazardous work as defined by the Labor Code.³⁴⁰⁵

The minimum age for hazardous work is 18 years, and the Ministry of Social Affairs has the authority to determine which jobs fall under this category.³⁴⁰⁶

The law restricts non-agricultural night work by prohibiting children under 14 years from working between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. and children between 14 and 18 years from working between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Children working in the agriculture industry