

# Macedonia

## *Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor<sup>2227</sup>*

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:	15
Compulsory education age:	18
Free public education:	Yes*
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	97.9
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	91.8
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%):	-
Survival rate to grade 5 (%):	-
ILO Convention 138:	11/17/1991
ILO Convention 182:	5/30/2002
CRC:	12/2/1993**
CRCOPAC:	1/12/2004
CRCOPSC:	10/17/2003
Palermo:	1/12/2005
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No

\*In practice, must pay for various school expenses

\*\*Succession

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

Children work on the streets in Macedonia begging and performing minor services such as selling cigarettes and other small items. These activities also occur in bars or restaurants, sometimes at night.<sup>2228</sup> Children also work in the informal sector on family farms, usually outside school hours.<sup>2229</sup> Street children are predominantly of the Roma minority ethnic group but also include ethnic Albanians, Turks, and Macedonians.<sup>2230</sup> Roma children are organized into groups to beg for money at busy intersections, on street corners, and in restaurants.<sup>2231</sup>

Children are trafficked for sexual exploitation.<sup>2232</sup> Girls from socially and economically vulnerable families in Macedonia are at the highest risk of becoming victims.<sup>2233</sup>

### **Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years. The employment of minors in work that is harmful to their health and morals is prohibited.<sup>2234</sup> Minors are further prohibited from working overtime, working at night between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., or performing physically demanding work. Minors are also not permitted to work underground in mines or underwater.<sup>2235</sup> The law allows children to work in film or advertisements with parental consent and after a Ministry inspection of the workplace. Additionally, children 14 years of age can work as apprentices or in vocational education programs if the work is part of an official education program.<sup>2236</sup> Employers who illegally employ minors may face a fine.<sup>2237</sup>

Forced labor is prohibited by the Constitution.<sup>2238</sup> Individuals under 18 years are prohibited from serving in the Armed Forces.<sup>2239</sup> Trafficking in persons is also prohibited.<sup>2240</sup> The law establishes a minimum prison sentence of 5 years for trafficking of children. The law also specifies a minimum sentence of 8 years for a person convicted of trafficking or complicity in trafficking of children for the purpose of sexual exploitation.<sup>2241</sup>

Penalties for making a profit from child prostitution range from 3 to 5 years of imprisonment while penalties for mediating child prostitution range from 5 to 10 years of imprisonment.<sup>2242</sup> However USDOS reports that using minors for prostitution is punishable as trafficking.<sup>2243</sup>

Enforcement of laws regulating the employment of children is the responsibility of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy. According to USDOS, although a legal framework is in place, there has

been weak implementation of child labor laws and policies.<sup>2244</sup>

Trafficking enforcement efforts were led by the Ministry of the Interior, and victim protection was headed by the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy.<sup>2245</sup> The Government of Macedonia increased the number of trafficking cases prosecuted in 2008 to 57 cases, up from 55 cases in 2007.<sup>2246</sup>

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

The Government of Macedonia has created a National Action Plan for the Rights of Children that includes strategies to address the worst forms of child labor.<sup>2247</sup> The Government in conjunction with UNICEF has published an Action Plan to Combat Trafficking of Children in the Republic of Macedonia 2009-2012.<sup>2248</sup>

The Government funds two centers in Skopje that provided services to street children.<sup>2249</sup> The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare assumed responsibility for some services in trafficking shelters previously provided by NGOs. The Government created a national database for trafficking victims, which bridges social welfare centers, the Ministry of Social Welfare, and the Ministry of the Interior in order to better track and identify trafficking victims.<sup>2250</sup> From May to August 2008, a nationwide trafficking awareness survey was conducted by the Ministry of the Interior, which identified a lack of awareness in high risk communities. The Government held special victim awareness training in many high-risk communities as well as awareness seminars for the media on its role on combating trafficking.<sup>2251</sup> The Government provided financial and personnel support to NGOs as part of its anti-trafficking plan developed to raise awareness and provided anti-trafficking training to its armed services stationed abroad.<sup>2252</sup>

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<sup>2227</sup> For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section. For ratifications and ILO-IPEC membership, see the Introduction. For minimum age for admission to work, see Government of Macedonia, *Constitution of Macedonia, 1991*,

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(November 17, 1991), article 42; available from [http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/mk00000\\_.html](http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/mk00000_.html). For age to which education is compulsory, see U.S. Department of State, "Macedonia," 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/eur/119091.htm>. For free public education, see Government of Macedonia, *Constitution*, article 44. See also U.S. Department of State, "Macedonia," 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/index.htm>.

<sup>2228</sup> Divna Lakinska, *Assessment of Policies, Situation and Programmes for Children on the Streets in Macedonia*, Skopje, June 2005, 25 and 103; available from [www.unicef.org/tfyr-macedonia/STREET\\_CHILDREN\\_STUDY\\_2005.doc](http://www.unicef.org/tfyr-macedonia/STREET_CHILDREN_STUDY_2005.doc) See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Macedonia," section 6d.

<sup>2229</sup> U.S. Embassy- Skopje, *reporting*, August 26, 2005.

<sup>2230</sup> Divna Lakinska, *Assessment of Policies, Situation and Programmes*, 45.

<sup>2231</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Macedonia," section 5.

<sup>2232</sup> *Ibid.*, section 6c.

<sup>2233</sup> U.S. Embassy- Skopje, *reporting*, February 25, 2008.

<sup>2234</sup> Government of Macedonia, *Constitution*, article 42.

<sup>2235</sup> Government of Macedonia, *Labor Relations Act: Macedonia*, (December 27, 1993), sections 7, 63, 66, 67; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/47727/65084/E93MKD02.htm>.

<sup>2236</sup> U.S. Embassy- Skopje, *reporting*, August 26, 2005.

<sup>2237</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>2238</sup> Government of Macedonia, *Constitution*, article 11.

<sup>2239</sup> Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Macedonia," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2008*, London, 2008; available from [http://www.childsoldiersglobalreport.org/files/country\\_pdfs/FINAL\\_2008\\_Global\\_Report.pdf](http://www.childsoldiersglobalreport.org/files/country_pdfs/FINAL_2008_Global_Report.pdf).

<sup>2240</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Macedonia," section 5.

<sup>2241</sup> Advocates for Human Rights, *Stop Violence Against Women: The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* [online] November 24, 2008 [cited July 29, 2009]; available from <http://www.stopvaw.org/Macedonia.html>.

<sup>2242</sup> S.K.Delevska, *Macedonian Criminal Code undergoes changes*, [online] November 11, 2008 [cited July 29, 2009]; available from [http://www.canee.net/macedonia/vest\\_macedonian\\_criminal\\_code\\_undergoes\\_changes](http://www.canee.net/macedonia/vest_macedonian_criminal_code_undergoes_changes).

<sup>2243</sup> U.S. Embassy- Skopje, *reporting*, February 25, 2008.

<sup>2244</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Macedonia," section 6d.

<sup>2245</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Macedonia," section 5.

<sup>2246</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Macedonia," section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Skopje, *reporting, February 25, 2008.*

<sup>2247</sup> U.S. Embassy-- Skopje, *reporting, December 27, 2007.*

<sup>2248</sup> Government of Macedonia and UNICEF. *Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Children in the Republic of Macedonia 2009-2012.* April 2009; available from

[http://www.unicef.org/tfymacedonia/NAP\\_Children\\_April\\_09\\_-\\_ENG.pdf.](http://www.unicef.org/tfymacedonia/NAP_Children_April_09_-_ENG.pdf)

<sup>2249</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Macedonia," section 6d.

<sup>2250</sup> U.S. Embassy- Skopje, *reporting, November 18, 2008.*

<sup>2251</sup> Ibid.

<sup>2252</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Macedonia," section 5.

## Madagascar

### *Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor*<sup>2253</sup>

Population, children, 6-14 years, 2001:	3,728,808
Working children, 6-14 years (%), 2001:	24.3
Working boys, 6-14 years (%), 2001:	24.8
Working girls, 6-14 years (%), 2001:	23.7
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%):	
- Agriculture	-
- Manufacturing	-
- Services	-
- Other	-
Minimum age for work:	15
Compulsory education age:	14
Free public education:	Yes
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2007:	141.4
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2007:	98.5
School attendance, children 6-14 years (%), 2001:	65.6
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2006:	42.3
ILO Convention 138:	5/31/2000
ILO Convention 182:	10/4/2001
CRC:	3/19/1991
CRCOPAC:	9/22/2004
CRCOPSC:	9/22/2004
Palermo:	9/15/2005
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes

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

In rural areas of Madagascar, children work in agriculture on family subsistence farms and sisal plantations. Children also perform tasks such as

fruit tree picking and cattle herding.<sup>2254</sup> In coastal areas, children work in fishing, deep sea diving, and the shrimp industry.<sup>2255</sup> In the informal sector, children work in bars and restaurants; petty trading; welding and mechanical work; transporting goods by rickshaw; and begging.<sup>2256</sup> Children in the areas of Diego Suarez, Majunga and Manakara work for traveling vendors by loading and selling merchandise.<sup>2257</sup> Children are sent from the South East and Upper Center zones to the cities to work as domestic laborers.<sup>2258</sup>

The 2007-2008 ILO-IPEC lead survey supported by the Government of Madagascar and UNICEF and implemented by the National Bureau of Statistics of Madagascar was published in 2008. The survey report indicates that the majority of children (85 percent) work in rural areas and in agriculture.<sup>2259</sup> The greatest proportion of working children are found in the regions of Vakinankaratra, Betsiboka, Melaky, d'Ihorombe and Amoron'i Mania. The study also found an estimated 90,000 children, many girls, working in the domestic service sector.<sup>2260</sup> In addition, of the children engaged in labor, the study found an estimated 430,000 children (or 23 percent) engaged in the worst forms of child labor. Many of the children engaged in the worst forms of child labor work in hazardous labor in stone quarries and mines.<sup>2261</sup> As of writing, data were not available to UCW for analysis for use in this report. For information on data used in this report, please see the Data Sources and Definitions section.<sup>2262</sup>