



CRC

138

182

Total Population: 61,095,000

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Child Population: 32,108,000

## TOTAL CHILD LABOUR

For the year 2000, the ILO projected 3,375,000 economically active children, 1,632,000 girls and 1,743,000 boys between the ages of 10-14, representing 41.1% of this age group.

Children in rural Ethiopia start assuming household or farm responsibilities as early as four years of age. Some 15% of the boys and about 20% of the girls start participating in work activities before they celebrate their fifth birthday.

## CHILD SLAVERY

Involuntary servitude and slavery were officially abolished in 1942, but there are numerous anecdotal accounts of young people, especially girls, being sent by their families into involuntary servitude in Saudi Arabia and other Arabian Peninsula states to work as house servants and nannies, some of whom are kept in bondage.

## CHILD TRAFFICKING

Under aged girls are sent to the Middle East as house servants and nannies, and some of them are kept in sexual bondage.

## CHILD PROSTITUTION

A study carried out by the NGO FORUM revealed that in the Mercato area, hotels, bars and landladies, most of them former prostitutes, are engaged in renting rooms to young girls for prostitution. The age of girls engaged in prostitution in this area is reported to be between 15 and 18 years.

According to another study carried out by the same organisation in 2000 in Dessie, one of the growing cities in the country, sexual harassment, and child prostitution and the enticement of schoolgirls for sexual reasons were found to be prevalent in the city.

In October 1999, the National Steering Committee Against Sexual Exploitation of Children reported that child prostitution is on the increase especially in major urban centres; however, there are no statistics available.

## CHILDREN USED IN CRIME

There are approximately 200,000 street children in urban areas, of which 150,000 reside in Addis Ababa; however, the figures are difficult to estimate, and observers believe the problem is growing. These children beg, sometimes as part of a gang, or work in the informal sector in order to survive.

## CHILD SOLDIERS

An estimated 14,000-20,000 Ethiopian government troops were captured over the years by the Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front (EPLF) with at least several hundred estimated to be at most 14 years old.

ILO, International Labour Office - Bureau of Statistics, Economically Active Population 1950-2010, STAT Working Paper, 1997

Centre for Development Research, ZEF Bonn, Assefa Admassie, The Incidence of Child Labour in Africa with Empirical Evidence from Rural Ethiopia, No 32, Bonn, October 2000

EI, EI Barometer on Human and Trade Union Rights in the Education Sector, 1998

US Dept. of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices - 1998, 26 February 1999

ECPAT, CSEC Database citing FORUM study [http://www.ecpat.net/eng/ecpat\\_inter/projects/monitoring/online\\_database/index.asp](http://www.ecpat.net/eng/ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/index.asp)

ECPAT, CSEC Database citing FORUM study [http://www.ecpat.net/eng/ecpat\\_inter/projects/monitoring/online\\_database/index.asp](http://www.ecpat.net/eng/ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/index.asp)

US Dept. of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices - 2000, February 2001

US Dept. of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices - 2000, February 2001

Ilene Cohn and Guy Goodwin Gill, Child Soldiers, 1994, citing T. Lansen, "Dragged from soccer field", Sydney Morning Herald, 11 June 1998

# ETHIOPIA

In Ethiopia, credible sources reported that thousands of teenage boys were forcibly recruited into the Ethiopian army, particularly during the build-up to the major offensive launched against Eritrea in May. Children (primarily from Oromos and Somali ethnic groups) were targeted in schools and also press-ganged from marketplaces and villages. Once recruited, children were reportedly sent to camps for military training and indoctrination and then sent to fight.

HRW, World Report 2001

Ethiopia also accused Eritrea of using child soldiers and circulated lists of Eritrean children whom Ethiopia had taken as prisoners of war.

HRW, World Report 2001

Internal armed opposition groups have also been known to recruit children, some as young as 11 years old. Thousands of children were recruited, many forcibly, during the recent border conflict with Eritrea.

CSUCS, Global Report on Child Soldiers - 2001, 12 June 2001

## CHILD SERVANTS

Child domestic workers are common.

US Dept. of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices - 1999, 25 February 2000

## OTHER HAZARDOUS CHILD LABOUR

A research study of child labour sponsored by CETU's National Federation of Farm, Plantation, Fishery, and Agro-industry Trade Unions and published in 1999 focused on rural locations. The study reported that 30% of the workers on state farms surveyed were between the ages of 7 and 14. Child workers, who worked alongside parents hired by the state, typically worked 6 days a week, received no benefits, and earned less than \$10 (80 birr) a month. At one plantation, 75% of the children worked 12-hour days.

US Dept. of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices - 2000, February 2001 citing CETU's National Federation of Farm, Plantation, Fishery, and Agro-industry Trade Unions