

CAMBODIA

MEET A CHILD

Po's parents died of AIDS. He stayed with his grandmother for sometime before he ran away to live in the streets of Phnom Penh. To kill hunger, he took to glue sniffing. He became addicted and resorted to drug trafficking to procure amphetamines. Buddhist monks have come to the rescue of kids like Po and are providing for them.

TOTAL POPULATION **13,107,000**
CHILD POPULATION **5,504,940**

Population Reference Bureau -
2004

TOTAL CHILD LABOUR

According to the National Institute of statistics, about 44.8% of children in the age group 5-14 are working. Majority of them work in the agriculture sector though child labor is also seen in brick and plywood factories, commercial rubber plantations, in salt production; as fish processors and as street vendors

The US Dept.of Labor's 2003 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE POPULATION

For 2010, ILO estimates that the economically active population would be 8,579,000 of which 448,000 would be children in the age group 10-14

ILO, Bureau of Statistics,
Economically Active Population

GENDER RATIO

1063 females for 1000 males

CIA, factbook-2005 (Fig is an estimate for 2005)

CHILDREN OUT OF SCHOOL

In 2001, 305,900 primary school aged children between 6-11 years were out of school

UNESCO's EFA Global Monitoring Report 2005

PROGRESS ON PRIMARY EDUCATION MDG

The EDI is 0.750, which suggests that the progress towards achieving education for all is low

UNESCO's EFA Global Monitoring Report 2005

CHILD SLAVERY

See Child Trafficking

CHILD TRAFFICKING

Sex Slavery has a high incidence in Cambodia. It is estimated that there are close to 80,000 to 100,000 sex slaves and prostitutes in Cambodia or 1 in 150 people in Cambodia are sex slaves or prostitutes. Of these, 30-35% were children according to a UNICEF study in 2000

Cambodia is a transit and destination point for women from Vietnam who are trafficked for prostitution. A third of all sex slaves in Cambodia are from Vietnam. About 70-80% of the sex slaves under 16 years are from Vietnam. Children from China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam are also present but in smaller numbers.

Cambodian children are trafficked to Vietnam and Thailand to work as street beggars

28.8% of the women in prostitution are HIV infected

CHILD PROSTITUTION AND PORNOGRAPHY

See child trafficking

CHILDREN USED IN CRIME

Children as used for trafficking of drugs from the Poipet in Thailand to Phnom Penh. Some street children from Phnom penh do it voluntarily since they could be drug addicts themselves. Some others are forced to do it.

Though figures cannot be ascertained, there are street children who turn to drug trafficking to finance their addiction. Most of these addicted children turn to drugs to survive because glue-sniffing reduces hunger. And once addicted to glue they turn to other sophisticated drugs like amphetamines

CHILD SOLDIERS

Though no children under 18 years are recruited to the army, during the 1993-99 civil war, children were recruited.

CHILD LABOUR IN UNORGANISED SECTOR

27,950 children between the ages of 7 and 17 are in child domestic labor in Phnom Penh alone. There are more girls than boys in the 7-9 age group and 15-17 age group. But in the 10-14 age group, boys outnumber girls

Almost 3/4th of the child domestic labourers don't receive any pay. Almost 26,000 cases of injuries were recorded (some cases several injuries were suffered by the same child), and 17,602 children reported ill-health.

Challenges of Child Sex slavery and trafficking in Cambodia, Research by Future Group, 2001

US Dept. of State, Trafficking in Persons Report 2005

"AIDS orphans turn to street for survival", feature by Vannaphone Sithirath of Inter Press Service

CSUCS, Global Report on Child Soldiers, 2004

Child Domestic Labor in Cambodia: Why it has to stop and how to stop it, ILO, 2004