

CAMEROON

MEET A CHILD

A Cameroonian family itself forced **Lina & Risa**, young Cameroonian girls, aged 14 and 17, to work as domestics in their homes at Washington, D.C. The girls were recruited with the promise of studying in the U.S. in exchange for providing childcare

TOTAL POPULATION 16,064,000
CHILD POPULATION 6,907,520

Population Reference Bureau -
2004

TOTAL CHILD LABOUR

During the year 1999-2003, UNICEF projected a total Child Labour of 8169180 in the age group 5-14 yrs.

State of World's Children 2005,
UNICEF

ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE POPULATION

In 2010, the economically active population is estimated to be 7,800,000 of which 405,000 would be children in the age group 10-14 yrs. This represents 18.3% of children in that age group

ILO, Bureau of Statistics,
Economically Active Population

GENDER RATIO

990 females for 1000 males

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

CHILDREN OUT OF SCHOOL

Data Not Available

PROGRESS ON PRIMARY EDUCATION MDG

Data Not Available

CHILD SLAVERY

Children are trafficked for forced labor on cocoa plantations.

US Dept. of State, Trafficking in
Persons Report 2005

CHILD TRAFFICKING

Cameroon is a source, transit, and destination country for women and children trafficked for the purposes of sexual exploitation and forced labor. Most trafficking is internal and children are at greatest risk.

US Dept. of State, Trafficking in
Persons Report 2005

Children are trafficked to the United Kingdom for commercial sexual exploitation.

Cameroon is a destination country for Nigerian children trafficked and exploited in commercial agriculture, prostitution, and street vending, or in small shops.

According to a 2000 study sponsored by the International Labor Organization, some 550,000 children are allegedly victims of the human trade and/or of the worst forms of labour in Cameroon. Among them, 33.1% work in the domestic sector, 19.8% are hawkers, 7% work in restaurants, bars and eating-houses, 7% in prostitution and the remainder work in markets and car washes.

Girls were internally trafficked from the Adamawa, North, the Far North provinces, and from the Northwest Province to Douala and Yaounde to work as domestic servants, street vendors, or prostitutes

CHILD PROSTITUTION

Children are trafficked to the United Kingdom for commercial sexual exploitation.

US Dept. of State, Trafficking in Persons Report 2005

According to the World Organisation Against Torture, prostitution is becoming commonplace in Cameroon and numerous children are sexually abused or exploited by their guardians.

CHILDREN USED IN CRIME

No Confirmed Data

CHILD SOLDIERS

There were no reports of under-18s in government armed forces, although under-18s could volunteer with parental consent.

CHILD LABOUR IN UNORGANISED SECTOR

According to a 2000 study by the ILO and Ministry of Labor, child labor existed chiefly in urban areas and in the informal sector such as street vending, car washing, agricultural work, and domestic service.

According to statistics from the Ministry, 72.2 percent of girls between the ages of 6 and 14 were enrolled in school, compared with 81.3 percent for boys of the same age group.

Children are also employed in the cocoa industry and engage in certain hazardous tasks such as application of pesticides and use of dangerous tools like machetes.

ECPAT CSEC Database,
http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/index.asp

US Dept. of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2004, February 2005

ECPAT CSEC Database,
http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/index.asp

CSUCS, Global Report on Child Soldiers, 2004

US Dept. of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2004, February 2005

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