



CRC **138** **182**

Total Population: 1,67,988,000

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Child Population: 59,861,000

TOTAL CHILD LABOUR

More than 2.9 million children under the age of 15 continued to work in 1999.

According to government figures released in April 1999, the number of child labourers has decreased by over 26% since 1996.

For the year 2000, the ILO projected 2,450,000 economically active children 886,000 girls and 1,563,000 boys between the ages of 10-14, representing 14.4% of this age group.

Official figures state that 3 million children between the ages of 10-14 are employed, accounting for 4.6% of the work force.

Workers between 10-17 years are 7.5 million, of which 2 million may be under 14 years.

CHILD SLAVERY

In March the ILO reported that observers have cited over 3,000 girls who were subject to debt servitude and forced into prostitution in the state of Rondonia.

Although the MLE found no children working as forced labourers during the year, in 1999 the Pastoral Land Commission reported 25 children under the age of 16 found working in conditions of forced labour.

A considerable number of children work under conditions approximating forced labour or debt bondage in the mining industry and the plantation economy.

In Amazonia the type of forced child prostitution meets every criteria of slavery.

CHILD TRAFFICKING

Brazil is a source country for victims of both domestic and international trafficking.

The majority of Brazilian trafficking victims are women and girls who are trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation to Europe, Japan, Israel, and the United States.

CHILD PROSTITUTION

Child prostitution is a significant problem throughout the country, but is severe in major coastal tourist cities.

CHILDREN USED IN CRIME

A decrease in the age of entry into drug trafficking is also worth stressing. The average age fell from between 15 and 16 years in the beginning of the 1990s to between 12 and 13 in the year 2000.

The culture of the 'street' involves the children in drug use, assault, robberies, homicide and prostitution.

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CHILD SOLDIERS

There are indications of under-18s in government armed forces as the minimum age of voluntary recruitment is 17.

CHILD SERVANTS

According to the Government's Institute for Applied Economic Research, in 1998 there were approximately 800,000 girls between the ages of 10 and 17 working as domestic servants.

22% of working children are employed in services, of which domestic service is the main occupation.

OTHER HAZARDOUS CHILD LABOUR

The government estimates that 60,000 children work in unhealthy conditions.

Sugar cane growers illegally employ children and adolescents ranging from seven to 17 years of age, many cutting cane with machetes. The charcoal industry, hemp cultivators in the northeast, and orange growers are using illegal child labour. Children also perform various tasks in the mining and logging industries in the Amazon region. In addition, although both the Government and the industry have made strong efforts to eliminate it, there is still some child labour in the shoe industry.

Commercial Agriculture - A report published by the Sergipe state government in 1997 stated that 10,000 children and adolescents between the age of six and 18 were part of the labour force in the orange-growing region, with 54% between the ages of 7 and 14.

Commercial Agriculture - Close to 150,000 children are employed during the country's six months orange harvesting season.

Scavenging - UNICEF estimates that 50,000 children pick through trash dumps to generate income for their families.

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