

COSTA RICA



Total Population: 3,933,000

CRC

138

182

Child Population: 1,532,000

✓

✓

✓

TOTAL CHILD LABOUR

For the year 2000, 17,246 children between 10-14 years were economically active.

The Ministry of Labor reported that up to 147,000 children between 5 and 17 years of age are employed.

The report on child work in Costa Rica (Patronato Nacional de la Infancia 1999) placed the child and adolescent work force, ages 5 to 17, at 147,087 - with a reference to July of 1998 - which represents 15.4 % of the total of the children in this age range and 10.7% of the total economically active population of the country.

According to the data of the module on child work of the 1998 Home and Multiple Purpose Survey (Encuesta de Hogares y Propósitos Múltiples), the number of children in Costa Rica from 12 to 14 years old who work is 36,328 and for adolescents the number is 80,325.

CHILD SLAVERY

No confirmed data.

CHILD TRAFFICKING

Isolated cases of trafficking have involved persons from Africa, Bolivia, China, Colombia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, and the Middle East.

A local NGO reports that girls from Costa Rica have been transported through Central America and Mexico to work in the sex industry in the United States, Canada, and Europe. There were also reports of girls from the Philippines being trafficked to Costa Rica to work in the sex industry.

CHILD PROSTITUTION

The National Institute for Children, PANI, estimates that as many as 3,000 children in metropolitan San Jose are involved in prostitution.

In San Jose alone there are more than 300 brothels with an average of 10 women and children working in each. This would suggest that some 3,000 women and girls are formally employed as prostitutes in a city of only 278,373 people. 1.1% of the city's entire population is prostituted in brothels.

CHILDREN USED IN CRIME

No confirmed data.

CHILD SOLDIERS

No confirmed data.

ILO, Yearbook of Labour Statistics, 2001

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

DNI, "La prevención y eliminación de las peores formas de trabajo infantil y adolescente un reto para la democracia y el desarrollo humano." DNI- Costa Rica, 2001

DNI, "La prevención y eliminación de las peores formas de trabajo infantil y adolescente un reto para la democracia y el desarrollo humano." DNI- Costa Rica, 2001

US Dept. of State, Trafficking in Persons Report, July 12, 2001

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

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

June Kane, Sold for Sex, 1998

CHILD SERVANTS

In 1992, 28% of youth between the ages of 12 and 19 were working as domestics.

OTHER HAZARDOUS CHILD LABOUR

Street Children - Although no official statistics exist, PANI has identified street children in the urban areas of San Jose, Limon, and Punt arenas as being at the greatest risk.

ECPAT International, Child Prostitution and Sex Tourism - Costa Rica citing Agustin Castros, "Aumenta turismo sexual", Preense Libre, 8 June 1994

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