



CRC	138	182
✓	✓	✓

Total Population: 12,411,000

Child Population: 5,063,000

## TOTAL CHILD LABOUR

A 1999 report based on a joint national and World Bank study found that 45% of children between the ages of 10 and 17 worked at least part-time. Among children aged 10 to 11, who cannot work legally, 28% worked at least part-time nation-wide. More than 60% of all children live in rural areas and do unpaid agricultural work for their families.

For the year 2000, the ILO projected 59,000 economically active children, 16,000 girls and 43,000 boys between the ages of 10-14, representing 4.3% of this age group.

In 1999, almost one out of two children in the age bracket of 10 to 17 worked.

A 1997, UNICEF report estimated that 37% of the 2.1 million children between the ages of 10-17 worked.

## CHILD SLAVERY

No confirmed data.

## CHILD TRAFFICKING

According to the UN Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography in 1998, and also according to a Spanish government report, there is an organised network exploiting foreign minors, especially from Ecuador. This involved trafficking in minors, mainly girls between 13 and 17 years of age. This network exploited the minors economically (making handicrafts) and not for the purposes of child prostitution.

Children are being trafficked from Ecuador to Venezuela. The children work in virtual slavery conditions as street vendors, domestic workers and prostitutes. They are abducted, sold by parents or lured by false promises.

## CHILD PROSTITUTION

There are instances of prostitution by girls under 18 years of age in urban areas.

Argentina, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Venezuela and Ecuador has a well-documented child sex trade, with the thriving sex tourism sector.

## CHILDREN USED IN CRIME

No confirmed data.

## CHILD SOLDIERS

The Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations Office in Geneva informed the Coalition in March 2001 that "there are no individuals under 18 serving in the Ecuadorian Armed Forces", nor does the Government have evidence of individuals under 18 years of age participating in military activities in Ecuadorian territory.

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

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

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

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

ECPAT, CSEC Database, [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)

CATW Fact Book citing Vladimir Villegas, Congressional Human Rights Commission, Estrella Gutierrez, "Child Traffic in Venezuela Tip of the Iceberg", IPS, 11 January 1998

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

June Kane, Sold for Sex, 1998

CSUCS, Global Report on Child Soldiers - 2001, 12 June 2001 citing the Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations Office in Geneva

# ECUADOR

## CHILD SERVANTS

No confirmed data.

## OTHER HAZARDOUS CHILD LABOUR

Many children under 14 years of age work in the informal sector, shining shoes, collecting and recycling garbage, or as street peddlers.

Commercial Agriculture - In Ecuador, where Human Rights Watch interviewed 45 children who had worked on banana plantations in early 2001, we learned that girls working in banana packing plants routinely experience sexual harassment in the workplace.

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

Human Rights Watch interviews, Balao, Ecuador, May 19, 2001