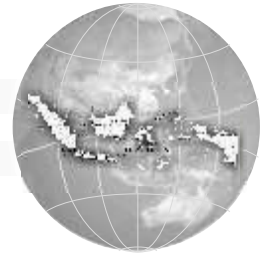


# INDONESIA



Total Population: 209,255,000

CRC

138

182

Child Population: 77,805,000

✓

✓

✓

## TOTAL CHILD LABOUR

The ILO estimated that between 6 and 8 million children worked during the year, and World Vision, an international NGO, estimated that there were 6.5 million children working in the country.

According to the Department of Manpower, the number of working children increased after the economic downturn from approximately 2 million in 1997 to an estimated 2.5 million at mid-year. According to recent government statistics, 8% of all children between the ages of 10 and 14 work. Half of them go to school and also work, and half work exclusively. Unofficial estimates of working children are higher.

For the year 2000, the ILO projected 1,685,000 economically active children, 729,000 girls and 955,000 boys between the ages of 10 and 14, representing 7.8% of this age group.

According to data from the Bureau of Statistics Centre in 1998, child labour between the ages of 10 and 14 years was estimated to be 1,809,955.

In 1998, child labour in the age group of 5 to 9 years was estimated to be 203,000.

A prominent NGO estimated in 1998 that 1.92 million children worked more than four hours per day. Of this number, 1.67 million worked in rural areas and 249,000 worked in urban areas. According to the NGO's estimates, boy workers outnumbered girl workers in the rural areas: 1.01 million boys worked and 662,000 girls worked. By contrast, girls outnumbered boys in the urban areas: 119,402 boys worked and 130,000 girls worked.

## CHILD SLAVERY

Several thousand children are forced to work on fishing platforms off the east coast of North Sumatra in conditions of bonded labour. They live in isolation on the sea and work 12 to 20 hours per day.

## CHILD TRAFFICKING

Indonesia is a source country for domestic and internationally trafficked persons, primarily young women and girls. Indonesians are trafficked to Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan, Malaysia, Brunei, the Persian Gulf countries, Australia, Korea, and Japan; and there are reports that they are trafficked to Europe and the United States.

In June, police uncovered a syndicate involved in trafficking young women, many below 18, to work in brothels on islands in Riau province, near Singapore.

NGOs and the media report that women and girls are trafficked to Malaysia, Taiwan, and Japan as sex workers. In addition, some government officials believe that women are trafficked as prostitutes to Saudi Arabia.

Around 40 females are sent to Taiwan and Hong Kong every month.

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## CHILD PROSTITUTION

Official statistics reported 75,106 registered prostitutes in 1999, up from 72,000 in 1995. However, NGOs estimate that there are as many as 1.3 million prostitutes in the country, 30% of who may be under 16 years of age.

Indonesia's Ministry of Social Affairs said 60% of 71,281 registered prostitutes are aged 15 -20.

An initial moderate estimate of the prevalence of child prostitution in Indonesia is that around 30% of the total sex workers in the country are under 18 years. This constitutes around 40,000 to over 150,000 based on different estimates of the number of sex workers.

A university professor estimates that about 150,000 children enter prostitution each year. The prevalence of child prostitutes appears to vary by region. According to a recent NGO study, about 15% of the prostitutes in parts of Central Java were between 16 and 20 years old.

30% of the girls in Semarang, Indonesia, who are homeless, are forced into prostitution for survival.

## CHILDREN USED IN CRIME

No confirmed data.

## CHILD SOLDIERS

The total number of child soldiers is greater than 1,000.

Volunteers from 17 years of age are taken in the armed forces.

Recent reports have indicated that children between 7 and 12 years of age have been participating in the violence on the islands with both sides. Allegedly, children are sent to fight with firebombs in their backpack.

## CHILD SERVANTS

In Indonesia, according to the statistics of Central Bureau of Statistics (1999), there are 1,341,712 domestic workers in Indonesia; 310,378 of them are between 10 and 18 years old, which is about 23%. In Jakarta the estimated number of child domestic workers are 70,792.

Although accurate figures are unavailable, estimates put the number of child domestic workers as high as 1.5 million. Observers agree that this number increased in 1998 as a result of the economic crisis.

## OTHER HAZARDOUS CHILD LABOUR

**Commercial Fishing** - There were about 1,900 jermals in these four regencies in 1995 and each jermal has an average of 6 to 10 children on it. Based on a higher number of jermals, observed by the author from several sources, the number of child labourers working on the jermal is between 12,000 to 19,000. Even according to lower Department of Fisheries data, the number would still be around 2,000 to 3,700.

**Garbage Disposal** - Some children work as scavengers in dumpsites. In the Bantar Gebang dumpsite in Bekasi (south of Jakarta), an NGO working with children there, estimates that as many as 550 children aged 7 to 15 work at the dump to help their parents. About 74% of the children are under 12.

**Gold Mining** - In 2000, the ILO called on the government to stop the employment of up to 3,000 children in Central Kalimantan in gold mining. The media reported the use of mercury in Central Kalimantan gold mining, underscoring the danger posed to these children.

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