



International
Labour
Office

BRAZIL CHILD LABOUR DATA COUNTRY BRIEF



International
Programme on
the Elimination
of Child Labour
(IPEC)

SELECTED SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS

Population (millions)	183.9
Population under 15 years (percentage of total)	28.2
Literacy rate (percentage of people ages 15 and above)	88.6
Net primary school enrolment ratio (2002/3)	93
GDP per capita, PPP	\$8,195
Human Development Index Value	0.792
HDI ranking	69/177

Source: 2004 data from UNDP Human Development Report 2006



I. Legislative Framework

RATIFIED CONVENTIONS RELATING TO CHILD LABOUR

Convention	Ratification	Entry into force
The Minimum Age Convention (No. 138) (minimum age specified: 16 years)	28-06-2001	28-06-2002
The Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (No. 182)	02-02-2000	02-02-2001
Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)	24-09-1990	24-10-1990

RELEVANT NATIONAL LEGISLATION

- Federal Constitution of 5 October 1988 (as amended 2000);
- Decree No. 5452 of 1 May 1943, which approves the Consolidated Labour Act (as amended in 2002);
- Act No. 8069 of 13 July 1990, Statute of the Child and Adolescent;
- Order No. 20 of 13 September 2001 (as amended in 2002).

REGULATION OF WORK FOR PERSONS BELOW 18 YEARS

Regulation of work for persons below 18 years	Age	Legislation
General minimum age for admission to employment or work	16 years (except for apprentices: 14 years)	Section 7 (33) of the Federal Constitution; Section 403 of the Labour Act; Section 60 of the Statute of the Child and Adolescent
Admission to light work activities	Not specified	
Admission to hazardous work	18 years	Section 7 (33) of the Federal Constitution; Section 403 to 405 of the Labour Act Types of hazardous work determined: Order No. 20 fo 13 September 2001 (Annex 1)

II. Child Labour Indicators

Key child labour indicators can be derived from the Brazil National Child Labour Survey (NCLS) in 2001. The survey was carried out within the framework of the Statistical Information and Monitoring Programme (SIMPOC) of the ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC). The NCLS was an independent survey intended to collect information on the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of boys and girls ages 5 to 17 years and their households.

Children's activities

Results from the Brazil National Child Labour Survey (SIMPOC, 2001) indicate that 9.1 per cent (1.5 million) of boys and 4.5 per cent (0.7 million) of girls ages 5-14 work, resulting in 6.8 per cent (2.2 million) of all children in that age group working. Approximately 0.6 per cent (0.2 million) of children aged 5-14 participate in the labour force without attending school. The percentage is twice as high for boys (0.8 per cent) as for girls (0.4 per cent). The percentage of children working without attending school is four times as high in rural areas as in urban areas (1.6 per cent vs. 0.4 per cent). The gender gap between working children who do not attend school is much higher in rural areas (1.3 percentage points, i.e. boys: 2.2 per cent vs. girls: 0.9 per cent) than in urban areas (0.2 percentage points, i.e. boys: 0.5 per cent vs. girls: 0.3 per cent).

CHILDREN AGED 5-14, BY SEX, TYPE OF ACTIVITY AND RESIDENCE

Sex	Activity	Urban		Rural		Total	
		%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Male	Work only ^a	0.5	64,429	2.2	71,699	0.8	136,128
	Study only ^b	88.9	11,906,057	62.9	2,020,085	83.8	13,926,142
	Work and study ^c	4.3	571,965	24.9	797,923	8.3	1,369,888
	Total work*	4.8	636,394	27.1	869,622	9.1	1,506,016
	Total study**	93.1	12,478,022	87.8	2,818,008	92.1	15,296,030
	Neither	6.4	857,557	10.0	320,773	7.1	1,178,330
Female	Work only ^a	0.3	36,381	0.9	26,930	0.4	63,311
	Study only ^b	91.3	12,061,306	77.2	2,312,278	88.7	14,373,584
	Work and study ^c	2.4	318,501	11.5	344,146	4.1	662,647
	Total work*	2.7	354,882	12.4	371,076	4.5	725,958
	Total study**	93.7	12,379,807	88.7	2,656,424	92.8	15,036,231
	Neither	6.0	795,067	10.4	311,949	6.8	1,107,016
Total	Work only ^a	0.4	100,810	1.6	98,629	0.6	199,439
	Study only ^b	90.1	23,967,363	69.8	4,332,363	86.2	28,299,726
	Work and study ^c	3.4	890,466	18.4	1,142,069	6.2	2,032,535
	Total work*	3.7	991,276	20.0	1,240,698	6.8	2,231,974
	Total study**	93.4	24,857,829	88.2	5,474,432	92.4	30,332,261
	Neither	6.2	1,652,624	10.2	632,722	7.0	2,285,346

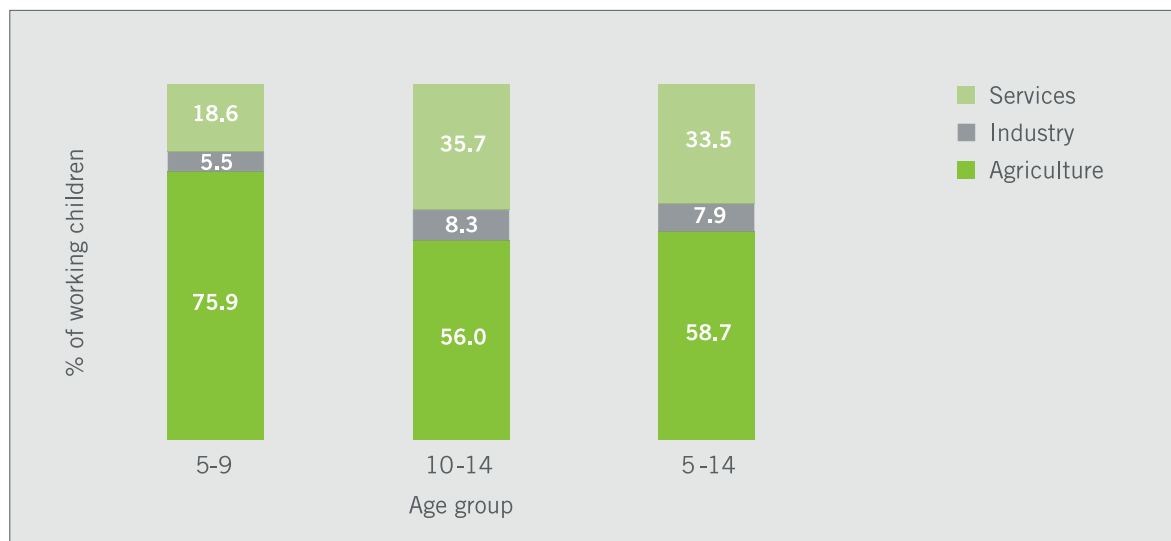
* "Total work" refers to children that work only and children that work and study, i.e. a+c.

** "Total study" refers to children that study only and children that work and study, i.e. b+c.

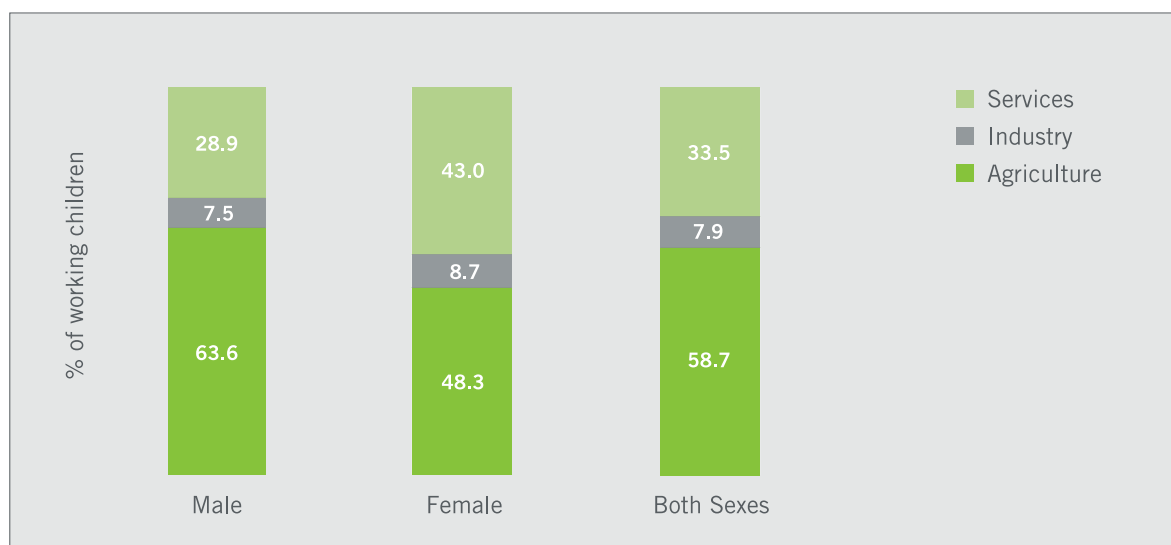
Characteristics and conditions of child labour

Among working children 5-14 years, approximately three out of every five are employed in the agricultural sector, 7.9 per cent are employed in the industrial sector and the remaining 33.5 per cent work in services. This breakdown by industry is also consistent among working children 10-14 years. Among working children 5-9 years, a much higher percentage is engaged in the agricultural sector (75.9 per cent). Girls are more likely than boys to be employed in the services sector (43.0 per cent vs. 28.9 per cent) and less likely to be employed in agriculture (48.3 per cent vs. 63.6 per cent).

DISTRIBUTION OF WORKING CHILDREN AGED 5-14 BY INDUSTRY AND AGE GROUP

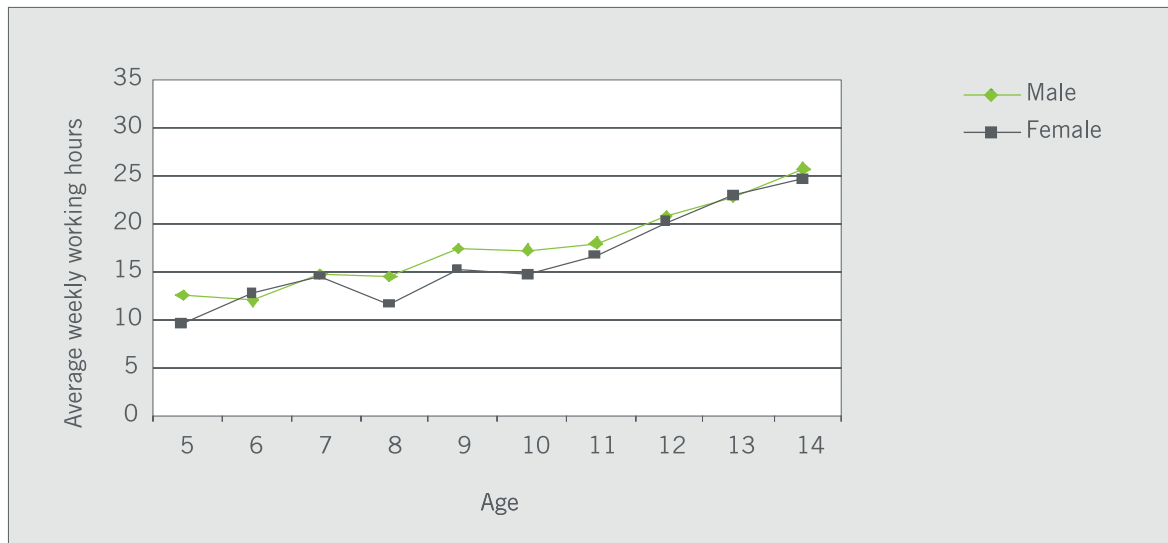


DISTRIBUTION OF WORKING CHILDREN AGED 5-14 BY INDUSTRY AND SEX



Working children aged 5-14 tend to work an average of 18 hours a week. Girls in that age group work approximately as many hours as boys. Boys 8-11 years of age, however, work 2-3 hours more on average than their female counterparts. Working children in the age bracket 12-14 tend to work 20 or more hours a week on average.

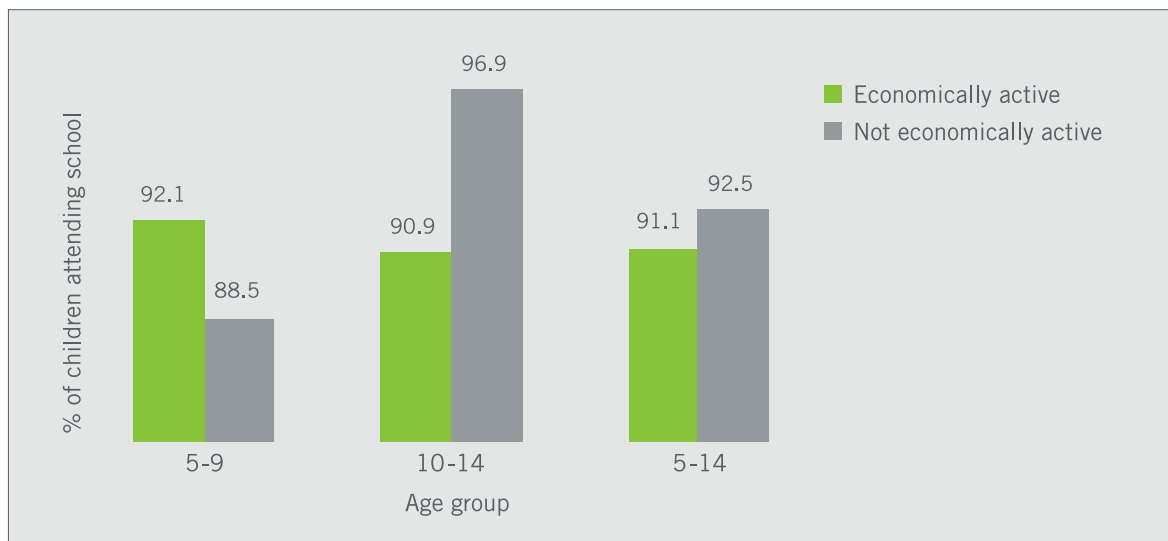
CHILDREN WORKING: AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS BY AGE AND SEX



Child labour and children's education

Among children 5-14 years, those who are economically active are less likely to attend school than those who are not (91.1 per cent vs. 92.5 per cent). The difference is particularly apparent among children 10-14 years of age (90.9 per cent vs. 96.9 per cent). In the 5-9 year age bracket, however, we observe the opposite – economically active children are more likely to attend school than their counterparts who are not economically active (88.5 per cent vs. 92.1 per cent).

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE: CHILDREN IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY VERSUS CHILDREN NOT IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY



III. Information on the worst forms of child labour

RATIFICATION OF SPECIFIC TREATIES

Convention	Ratification	Entry into force
Optional Protocol to the CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography	27-01-2004	27-02-2004
Optional Protocol to the CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict	27-01-2004	26-02-2004
United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (CTOC)	29-01-2004	28-02-2004
Human Trafficking Protocol, supplementing the CTOC	29-01-2004	28-02-2004
Smuggling of Migrants Protocol, supplementing the CTOC	29-01-2004	28-02-2004
The ILO Forced Labour Convention (No. 29)	25-04-1957	25-04-1958

SIMPOC STUDIES

- Tendências do Trabalho Infantil no Brasil entre 1992 e 2002, ILO-IPEC, 2004.
- Aspectos Qualitativos do Trabalho Infantil no Brasil, ILO-IPEC, 2004.
- Pesquisa Nacional por Amostra de Domicílios - Trabalho infantil - 2001, Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística, 2003.
- Child and Adolescent Domestic Work in Selected Years from 1992 to 1999: A National Report, ILO-IPEC, 2003.
- Situation of Children in Drug Trafficking: A Rapid Assessment, ILO-IPEC, 2002.

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