

# Working Children in the Republic of Moldova: The Results of the 2009 Children's Activities Survey



July 2010

International Programme on the  
Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC)



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**International Labour Organization (ILO)  
National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) of the Republic of Moldova**

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## FOREWORD

Child labour represents a phenomenon that has begun to attract more and more attention from the international community. Actions undertaken for the prevention and elimination of child labour have been and remain a priority for international organizations and national governments, including the Government of the Republic of Moldova.

By ratifying international tools such as ILO Convention No. 138 on Minimum Age for Admission to Employment and ILO Convention No. 182 on the Elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labour, the Republic of Moldova has committed itself to undertaking the necessary measures for combating child labour at the national level.

The design and implementation of effective policies in this area require a multilateral analysis of the phenomenon of child labour. In order to successfully analyze and develop solutions to the problem of child labour, comprehensive, qualitative and internationally comparable statistical data is a necessity.

For this purpose, during the 4th quarter of 2009, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) carried out the household survey entitled Children's Activities in the Republic of Moldova. This statistical survey was launched in compliance with the Resolution on Child Labour Statistics adopted by the 18th International Conference of Labour Statisticians in December 2008.

The analysis of the survey results that are presented in this report are expected to contribute to a better understanding of the nature and characteristics of child labour in Moldova, the factors that lead children to work, and the impact of child labour on children's health and school attendance. Understanding these aspects of the child labour phenomenon are of the utmost importance for the establishment and implementation of activities aimed at preventing and eliminating child labour in the Republic of Moldova.

By offering an objective and scientifically-reasoned picture of the child labour phenomenon in the Republic of Moldova, this analytical report offers valuable information not only for specialists directly involved in actions to combat child labour, but for the entire society.

Implementation of the statistical survey and development and publication of the analytical report were carried out with support from the Statistical Information and Monitoring Programme on Child Labour (SIMPOC), a division within the International Labour Organization's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC), and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Moldova.

On this occasion, we would like to express our gratitude to Mr. Mustafa Hakkı ÖZEL, IPEC Senior Statistician, who has assisted NBS throughout the entire process of survey organization and implementation, as well as our sincere thanks to the author of the analytical report, Ms. Meltem Dayioğlu, of the Department of Economics at Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Turkey and the Centre of Contemporary Central Asia and the Caucasus at the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies in the UK.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2009, the National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova, in collaboration with IPEC and UNICEF, conducted the Children's Activities Survey (CAS) as a module of a larger, regularly conducted Labour Force Survey (LFS). The CAS was designed to provide indicators on three main aspects of children's lives: economic activity, schooling and unpaid household services. By analyzing the findings of the CAS, the following report aims to understand the prevalence of child employment and child labour in Moldova, the correlates of employment and schooling, and the possible consequences of employment as measured by health and schooling outcomes.

The CAS was conducted with a total sample size of 11,526 households containing 34,157 individuals, 6,784 of whom were children between the ages of 5-17. Based on data collected for the week preceding the survey, 178,000 children, or 29.8 percent of children in Moldova aged 5-17 years, were estimated to be economically active (i.e. part of the labour force). Since very few children aged 15-17 (the group of children for whom unemployment information is available) are unemployed, economically active children are predominantly those who are in employment. Although a substantial gender gap of approximately 11 percentage points exists, the rates of economic activity are fairly high for both boys and girls. Perhaps the most striking feature of the child employment figures given in Table E.1 is the high employment rates among the very young – which reach as high as 17.6 percent among boys aged 5-11 years. The employment rate continues to increase as children grow older, with approximately 50 percent of boys and 35 percent of girls aged 12-14 and 15-17 employed. Despite the high employment rate among children, the hours of work per week can be considered low, at an estimated nine hours per week.

**Table ES.1: Distribution of boys and girls by age group and labour status**

(in thousands)	Age 5-17		Age 5-11		Age 12-14		Age 15-17	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Child population	304	293	139	132	176	74	89	87
Employed	107	70	24	13	39	26	44	31
Labour force*	107	71	24	13	39	26	44	32
Employment rate (%)	35.1	24.0	17.6	9.8	50.9	35.5	48.9	35.8
LFPR (%)	35.3	24.1	17.6	9.8	50.9	35.5	49.6	36.1

Notes: The labour force includes both employed and unemployed; however, unemployment is relevant only for children aged 15-17, and according to CAS data, the number of unemployed among children aged 15-17 is too few to produce reliable estimates. LFPR refers to the Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR).

Most boys and girls (83.5% and 88.7%, respectively) carry out unpaid household services (i.e. perform household chores) for the members of their household. Looked at by age, 76.9 percent of children aged 5-11, 95.7 percent of children aged 12-14 and 92.0 percent of those aged 15-17 perform unpaid household services. In other words, it is rather unusual for children in Moldova, especially older children, not to perform unpaid household services.

In terms of schooling, attendance is near universal among compulsory school-aged children (i.e. children ages 7-15). School attendance rates are somewhat lower among older children, at an estimated 77.7 percent for boys and 89.2 percent for girls aged 16-17.

Overall, 57.8 percent of children aged 7-17 combine schooling with several hours of unpaid household services per week (Table ES.2), and a sizeable proportion (30.1%) attend school, perform unpaid household services and also engage in market work. Very few children are solely engaged in economic activity (0.4%) or in performing unpaid household services (0.9%).

**Table ES.2: Proportion of children (aged 7-17) engaged in multiple activities by sex (%)**

	All	Boys	Girls
School + Economic activity + Unpaid household services	30.1	34.2	25.8
School + Economic activity	0.7	1.3	0.0
School + Unpaid household services	57.8	50.2	65.7
Economic activity + Unpaid household services	2.4	3.4	1.4
School only	7.0	8.5	5.4
Economic activity only	0.3	0.4	0.1
Unpaid household services only	0.9	1.0	0.9
Inactive (Idle)	0.9	1.1	0.7

While no appreciable difference exists between the school attendance rates of working and non-working children of compulsory school age, among older children, attendance rates are significantly lower for those who work compared to those who do not (Table E.3). Still, most school-leavers complete their compulsory schooling before exiting the education system. Performing unpaid household services does not seem to affect the school attendance rates of either boys or girls.

**Table ES.3: School attendance rates by sex, age and labour status (%)**

	Age 7-15		Age 16-17	
School attendance rates of:	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
All children	98.8	99.4	77.7	77.7
Non-working children	98.6	99.3	87.8	87.8
Working children	99.0	99.6	66.0	66.0

In terms of type of employment, the overwhelming majority of working children (95.3%) are engaged in agricultural activities (Table ES.4). Most are elementary workers who perform unpaid work for other members of their households (Tables ES.5 and ES.6). Children who work for pay (i.e. wage workers and own-account workers) are limited to 7.2 percent of boys who work and 4.1 percent of girls who work. The move to paid work often also entails a move out of agriculture to other sectors of employment.

**Table ES.4: Distribution of children in employment by type of economic activity (%)**

Economic activity (NACE rev.1)	All	Boys	Girls
Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	95.3	94.9	96.0
Manufacturing	0.7	0.8	0.5
Construction	1.1	1.6	0.4
Wholesale and retail trade	1.4	1.0	2.1
Hotels and restaurants	0.3	0.3	0.2
Transport, storage and communication	0.1	0.2	0.0
Real estate, renting and business activity	0.1	0.1	0.1
Community, social and personal services	0.3	0.3	0.4
Other activities	0.7	1.0	0.4

**Table ES.5: Distribution of children in employment by occupation (%)**

Occupation (ISCO-88)	All	Boys	Girls
Technicians and associate professionals	0.1	0.2	-
Clerks	0.1	0.2	-
Service and sales workers	1.0	0.4	1.9
Skilled agricultural workers	0.7	0.7	0.8
Craft and related trades workers	0.5	0.6	0.3
Plant and machine operators, assemblers	0.1	0.2	0.1
Unskilled agricultural workers	94.3	94.0	94.7
Unskilled work other than agriculture	3.2	3.8	2.2

**Table ES.6: Distribution of children in employment by status in employment (%)**

Status in employment	All	Boys	Girls
Wage worker (employee)	4.0	4.8	2.9
Own-account worker	1.9	2.4	1.2
Unpaid family worker	94.1	92.9	96.0
Total number of children employed	177,000	107,000	70,000

According to the national definition of child labour, children in Moldova involved in both SNA and non-SNA activities may be considered child labourers. The former group includes children who work in hazardous economic activities or occupations, children employed for hours considered to be excessively long for their age, and children who work under hazardous conditions, whereas the latter group includes children engaged in hazardous unpaid household services, defined as domestic chores carried out by children for other household members for more than 27 hours per week. According to this definition, 109,000 children in Moldova are estimated to be child labourers. This figure corresponds to 18.3 percent of all children aged 5-17 and about 60 percent of working children.

On closer examination, Moldova's child labour problem is found to stem primarily from the hazardous conditions under which children work. In fact, children working under hazardous conditions comprise the majority of both child labourers in general (62.1%) and children in hazardous work in particular (90.5%) (Table ES.7). Children who work despite being considered too young to work for even one hour per week constitute another sizeable proportion (24.4%) of child labourers. In contrast, less than 15 percent of children are classified as child labourers based on the type of economic activity or occupation in which they are engaged or the number of hours they work, and even fewer children (less than 1%) are categorized as child labourers because of excessive involvement in unpaid household services.



Table ES.7: Distribution of child labourers by types of risks faced (%)

Child Labourers	All		Boys		Girls	
Activities within the SNA	100		100		100	
<b>a) Children in hazardous work</b>	68.6	100	70.5	100	65.2	100
<i>In hazardous economic activity</i>	1.8	2.6	2.4	3.4	0.7	1.1
<i>In a hazardous occupation</i>	3.7	5.4	4.4	6.2	2.5	3.8
<i>Hours of work exceed 42 hours/week</i>	1.0	1.5	1.0	1.4	1.0	1.5
<i>Employed under hazardous conditions</i>	62.1	90.5	62.7	88.9	61.0	93.6
<b>b) Working children aged 5-11 years</b>	24.4	100	25.2	100	23.1	100
<b>c) Children aged 12-14 working more than 13 hrs/week, aged 15-16 working more than 24 hrs/week &amp; age 17 working more than 35 hrs/week</b>	3.1	100	3.3	100	2.7	100
Activities outside the SNA						
<b>d) Children in hazardous UHS (unpaid household services for more than 27 hrs/week)</b>	4.0	100	1.0	100	9.1	100
Number of child labourers	109,000		69,000		40,000	

Although boys constitute a larger proportion of child labourers (63.1%) than girls, both boys and girls tend to face similar risks (Table ES.7). The majority of both boys (70.5%) and girls (65.2%) are classified as child labourers because they are engaged in hazardous work; an additional 25.2 percent of boys and 23.1 percent of girls are classified as child labourers because they are too young to work at all; and those employed in non-hazardous work beyond the number of hours permissible for their age constitute 3.3 percent of boy and 2.7 percent of girl child labourers. Differences exist, perhaps unsurprisingly, in the proportion of girls (9.1%) and boys (1.0%) engaged in hazardous (i.e. excessive hours of) unpaid household services. Furthermore, whereas a higher percentage of girls (93.6%) than boys (88.9%) are classified as involved in hazardous work based on adverse working conditions, a higher percentage of boys (9.6%) than girls (4.9%) are classified as involved in hazardous work because they are employed in industries or occupations that require their immediate removal.

In line with empirical findings from other developing countries, older children, those from rural areas and those whose households cultivate kitchen gardens<sup>1</sup> stand at a substantially higher risk of employment and child labour than other children in Moldova. Boys are also at a higher risk of both employment and child labour than girls. Quite interestingly, although children from households with migrant members abroad are not, in general, found to be at a lower risk of either employment or child labour,<sup>2</sup> their risk of engaging in wage work is reduced.

With regard to school attendance, despite the strong predictive power of rural residence and kitchen gardens on child employment and child labour, neither factor is a significant correlate of child schooling. Furthermore, and quite contrary to the experience of many other developing countries, girls are more likely to attend school than boys<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This analysis relies on the kitchen garden as a proxy for a household-based establishment serving household members

<sup>2</sup> Findings related to the migration of household members may have been affected by the omission of remittances from the multivariate model due to lack of data.

<sup>3</sup> This result follows from multivariate analysis, which accounts for individual and household-level characteristics.

Among working children, 10.9 percent of boys and 8.5 percent of girls suffered from some sort of work-related illness or injury during the 12 months preceding the survey, the most common of which was extreme fatigue; however, in only a very few cases were children forced to stop work or school permanently as a result of illness/injury. Close to 37.2 percent of working boys and 35.2 percent of working girls work under unfavourable conditions, mostly in extreme cold or heat, in environments with dust/fumes, or with dangerous tools. Moreover, about 7.5 percent of both working boys and girls complain of being treated badly at work – most commonly in the form of being constantly shouted at – and the great majority of these children are unpaid family workers.

The finding that most child labour takes place within household establishments requires that interventions be household-based, which necessitates a fuller understanding of household dynamics. Increasing family awareness of the potential risks faced by working children could be a cost-effective first step towards improving their working conditions. In addition, given that the majority of working children also attend school, reaching children through their schools may provide a convenient way to increase their awareness towards the risks faced at work and their rights as children as guaranteed by the CRC and other international conventions. Understanding the needs of and devising appropriate measures to reach out-of-school children, most of whom are older children aged 16-17, would constitute another obvious step towards addressing the problem of child labour in Moldova.



## INTRODUCTION

The 2009 Children's Activities Survey (CAS) was conducted by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) of the Republic of Moldova, in collaboration with IPEC and UNICEF, as a module of the Labour Force Survey in the last quarter of 2009. The survey covered 11,526 households containing 34,157 individuals, 6,784 of whom were children between the ages of 5-17 years. The CAS was designed to provide indicators on three main aspects of children's lives: economic activity, schooling and unpaid household services. By analyzing the findings of the CAS, the following report aims to understand the prevalence and characteristics of child employment and child labour in Moldova, the correlates of employment and schooling, and the possible consequences of employment as measured by health and schooling outcomes.

A primarily agrarian country, Moldova is ranked 117 out of 177 countries in terms of human development (UNDP, 2009). It is placed among a group of countries with medium-level human development and considerably below other European countries as well as many CIS countries. Although Moldova is not too far behind its European neighbours in terms of educational achievement and life expectancy at birth, its rank on the Human Development Index is considerably lowered by its low per capita income (a GDP per capita of US \$2,550 in terms of PPP in 2007).

Unlike some other ex-Soviet countries, Moldova lacks mineral resources and has only a small industrial base. As a result, its economy relies heavily on agriculture and the processing of agricultural products, with agricultural products (corn, wheat, vegetables, fruits, tobacco, meat and dairy) constituting 60 percent of export value (NCPM and ORC Macro, 2006). In terms of value-added by sector, agriculture constitutes 21.6 percent of GDP, compared to 17.6 percent for industry and 60.6 percent for services, whereas in terms of employment, agriculture accounts for 23.8 percent of employment, compared to 19.8 percent for industry (including construction) and 56.4 percent for services. In 2007, a household-based study conducted by the WFP in the rural areas of Moldova (where 60 percent of the population reside) found that over 85 percent of rural households own some land and the overwhelming majority operate a so-called 'kitchen garden' where they carry out subsistence agriculture. Whereas the average size of rural landholding was estimated to be 1.8 ha., the average size of a kitchen garden was estimated to be 0.21 ha. (WFP, 2008).

The country's narrow economic base has resulted in a high poverty rate, with 48.5 percent of the population living below the national poverty line in 2002, making Moldova the poorest country in Europe (World Bank, 2010). A World Bank report strongly linked poverty in Moldova to economic growth (World Bank, 2004), with the recession of 1997-1999 leading to an increase in the poverty rate from 47 percent to 71 percent, and the ensuing recovery in 2000-2002 (during which time annual growth averaged close to 5.0 percent) bringing the poverty rate back down to 48.5 percent. The report predicted that even if Moldova were to grow by 8.0 percent over five years, the poverty rate would not fall below 20 percent. More recent data from the 2007 and 2008 Household Budget Surveys<sup>4</sup> reported absolute poverty rates of 25.8 percent and 26.4 percent, respectively, confirming the link between economic conditions and poverty (Ministry of Economy, 2009). Moreover, although an in-depth analysis of the impact of the recent global economic crisis on poverty in Moldova has yet to be carried out, given that the economy shrank by about 7 percent in 2009, it is not too farfetched to assume that poverty has become more widespread and, possibly, more acute.

Widespread poverty within Moldova and higher earning opportunities in surrounding countries have led many Moldovans to migrate abroad. The 2005 Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) (NCPM and ORC Macro, 2006) found that 17 percent of households had at least one migrant member, and another study found that about half a million Moldovans were either working abroad or had done so during the 12 months preceding the survey and intended to do so again in the future (Cuc, Lundback and Ruggiero, 2005). Accordingly, migrants were found to constitute 38.7 percent of the workforce in 2003. According to the UNDP (2009), the emigration rate<sup>5</sup> over the 2000-2002 period was 14.3 percent, while remittances, over 80 percent of which originated from other European

<sup>4</sup> Unfortunately, differences in methodology preclude comparisons between these and earlier surveys.

<sup>5</sup> Emigration rate is calculated as the total stock of emigrants to the resident population plus the number of emigrants.

countries, equalled 38.3 percent of GDP. Based on more recent data for 2008 and 2009, numbers of emigrants aged 15-64 have been estimated at 310,000 and 295,000 respectively (NSC, 2010a), or 12.0 percent and 11.4 percent of all individuals aged 15-64. Another UNDP study (2006) highlights the rather unequal distribution of remittances, with the lowest income groups receiving the least in remittances. The importance of remittances as a source of income implies that the global financial crisis is likely to increase the poverty risk for many households. Indeed, not only did remittances in the last quarter of 2008 fall by 17.0 percent over the previous quarter, the last quarter of 2008 also registered the highest poverty rate since the first quarter of 2007 (Ministry of Economy, 2009, p. 8).

What do these background characteristics imply for children in Moldova? First, the size of the agricultural sector and the fact that subsistence agriculture is widespread implies that work is readily available for children. Second, the association between poverty and work among children observed in many countries around the world suggests that children in Moldova are also likely to be at a high risk of employment. Third, while widespread emigration may offer families a way out of poverty, hence reducing their need to rely on child labour as a coping strategy, the finding that remittances do not reach the poorer segments implies a double burden for children from poor families in which a household member is absent: not only do they suffer the consequences of low family income, but they might need to contribute to it, if the household receives no or minimal remittances, by substituting for adult labour. Emigration of parents, which could result in children living with only one parent or with other relatives, would be of particular concern, and the 2005 DHS for Moldova estimates that only about 66 percent of children aged 5-14 live with both parents. Finally, emigration may involve not only adults, but children as well, and in this regard it should be noted that the trafficking of children has been a major concern in Moldova.

Against what might be considered unfavourable background characteristics, the high level of education of the majority of Moldovan adults and the well-established schooling system might be instrumental in keeping children out of work that is unsuitable for their capacities as children. Furthermore, Moldova is signatory to a number of international legal documents designed to protect the rights of children. Moldova ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in 1993, ILO Convention No. 138 on Minimum Age in 1999 and ILO Convention No. 182 on the Elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labour in 2002. In 1993, the government identified certain jobs as harmful or dangerous to children – defined, in accordance with the CRC and ILO Convention No. 182, as individuals under 18 years of age – and thus prohibited children from employment in these areas. The government also established age 16 as the minimum age for admittance to employment, which corresponds to the end of compulsory schooling. Although it is unclear how these laws can be enforced in what is largely an agrarian economy, they nevertheless demonstrate the government's commitment to the protection of children's rights.

This report aims not only to understand the scale of the child labour problem in Moldova, but to look for clues as to the possible correlates of the problem, keeping in mind the background characteristics described above. Accordingly, Section 1 of this report explains the survey methodology and the data set used in this analysis. Section 2 examines children's activities and the nature of their work by presenting an account of the activities of working children that details their work hours, their places of work, the type of work in which they engage and their earnings from work. In order to place these activities in perspective, this section also includes a brief account of the labour market in general, as well as analyses of children's school attendance and unpaid household services ('chores'). Section 3 examines individual and household-level correlates of child employment and schooling, and Section 4 provides a detailed account of risks and hazards children face at work and their school outcomes as measured by school attendance, school starting age and days absent from school. Section 5 concludes the report.

## SECTION 1: Survey methodology and data set

### 1.1. Sample Design

In the last quarter of 2009, with financial and technical support from ILO/IPEC and UNICEF, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) of the Republic of Moldova conducted for the first time a Children's Activities Survey (CAS). The survey aimed to provide an understanding of the prevalence of employment among children and child labour, the main characteristics of working children, and the potential consequences of employment as measured by school and health outcomes.

The CAS was conducted as a module of a larger, regularly conducted Labour Force Survey (LFS), which is the main survey instrument used to collect labour market data in Moldova. The sample size was chosen so as to allow for representative estimates of key child-labour indicators for the country at large as well as for urban and rural areas and for the four statistical regions of the country, namely, North, Centre, South and Chisinau Municipality, which includes the capital city.<sup>6</sup> Table 1.1 shows the distribution of primary sampling units (PSUs) and individuals surveyed across regions.

Regions	No. of PSU's	No. of Households	No. of individuals	No. of children aged 5-17
<i>Urban</i>	54	4,073	11,101	1,799
<i>Rural</i>	96	7,453	23,056	4,985
North	46	3,349	9,239	1,765
Centre	46	3,563	11,054	2,366
South	32	2,398	7,906	1,725
Chisinau Municipality	26	2,216	5,958	928
<b>Total</b>	150	11,526	34,157	6,784

The sample structure of the CAS differs slightly from that of the LFS, which is designed to survey the same households five times over a 14-month period, whereas households are interviewed only once for the CAS. (For detailed information on the methodology of the LFS/CAS, see Appendix D.) The majority of households with children (76.3%) were interviewed during October, 14.3 percent were interviewed in November, and 9.4 percent were interviewed in December. Out of 14,694 households selected, 11,526 were interviewed for the LFS, but of these, only 4,559 households (39.5%) contained any children between the ages of 5 and 17. In total, the CAS identified 6,784 children aged 5-17, and of these, information was collected on 6,770 children, either from the children themselves, or, in their absence, from another household member, for a response rate of 99.8 percent.

### 1.2. Questionnaires

The CAS questionnaire was developed based on the ILO/SIMPOC model Child Labour Survey questionnaire and was appended as a module to the LFS, which is conducted quarterly and is addressed to individuals 15 years of age and over. Like most labour force surveys, it collects information on basic demographics, employment outcomes and inactivity. Since 2006, the LFS has also collected information on labour market earnings of adults; however, this information is not publicly released.

The CAS consists of 43 questions distributed over four main sections, namely: Educational Attainment; Economic Activity; Unpaid Household Services; and Health and Safety Issues. Although the questionnaire is addressed to children aged 5-17, in 36.3 percent of cases (n=2,454 children), another household member answered the questionnaire on the child's behalf. As Table 1.2 shows, the proportion of children answering the questionnaire themselves increased with age up until age 14 (76.6%), but decreased thereafter up until age 17 (62%). It should be noted that because there is no information available to indicate whether children were interviewed alone or in the presence of another household member, even in cases where children answered the questionnaire themselves, it is not possible to rule out the influence of adults or other children in the household on their responses.

<sup>6</sup> Households from the separatist-controlled region of Transnistria were excluded from the sample.

**Table 1.2: Rates at which children themselves provided responses, by age**

Age	%	Age	%	Age	%
5	35.6	10	64.4	15	75.1
6	47.7	11	69.3	16	63.8
7	56.6	12	69.8	17	62.0
8	57.1	13	70.4		
9	60.3	14	76.6	All	63.8

### 1.3. Distribution of children by age group and place of residence

Table 1.3 shows the distribution (unweighted) of children surveyed by age group and place of residence. In total, the survey covered 3,006 children aged 5-11, 1,660 children aged 12-14 and 2,118 children aged 15-17. Overall, 73.5 percent of children resided in rural areas. In terms of regions, the greatest number of children (34.8%) resided in the Centre, followed by the North, South and Chisinau Municipality.

**Table 1.3: Distribution of the child sample by age group and place of residence (unweighted)**

	Age 5-17	Age 5-11	12-14 ani	Age 15-17
Urban	1,799	823	401	575
Rural	4,985	2,183	1,259	1,543
<b>Region</b>				
North	1,765	820	443	502
Centre	2,366	1,000	599	767
South	1,725	762	417	546
Chisinau Municipality	928	424	201	303
<b>Total number of children</b>	6,784	3,006	1,660	2,118

**Table 1.4: Distribution of children (in %) by age group and place of residence (weighted)**

	Age 5-17	Age 5-11	Age 12-14	Age 15-17
<b>Age group</b>	100.0	45.3	25.0	29.7
<b>Urban/rural</b>				
Urban	33.2	34.9	28.8	34.5
Rural	66.8	65.1	71.2	65.5
<b>Region</b>				
North	29.6	30.4	31.2	27.0
Centre	31.6	29.7	32.9	33.4
South	22.5	22.5	22.4	22.4
Chisinau Municipality	16.4	17.3	13.5	17.3
<b>Total number of children</b>	598,000	271,000	150,000	177,000



Given that the sample is not self-weighting, Table 1.3 does not provide the true distribution of children by age or place of residence. In order to provide a more accurate understanding of the distribution of children by age and place of residence, a weighted version of the sample distribution is provided in Table 1.4. Accordingly, children aged 5-11 represented 45.3 percent of children aged 5-17, whereas children aged 12-14 and children aged 15-17 represented 25.0 percent and 29.7 percent, respectively. Overall, 66.8 percent of children were found to reside in rural areas, although this figure is slightly higher (71.2%) for children aged 12-14 than for other age groups. Although slight differences in the regional distribution of children by age group were noted, the overall distribution is as follows: North: 29.6 percent; Centre: 31.6 percent; South: 22.5 percent; Chisinau Municipality: 16.4 percent.

#### 1.4. Household structure of households with children

The majority of children (80%) are sons/daughters of the household head, and most others (17.7%) are grandchildren, with the number of children unrelated to the household head negligible (Table 1.5). Rates vary slightly by age, with higher rates of sons/daughters among children aged 15-17 (86.2%) than among those aged 5-11 (75.4%).

**Table 1.5: Relationship of children to head of household by age group (%) (weighted)**

	Age 5-17	Age 5-11	Age 12-14	Age 15-17
Head of household	0.2	-	-	0.6
Spouse	0.0	-	-	0.0
Son/Daughter	80.0	75.4	81.1	86.2
Brother/sister	0.7	0.4	0.8	1.1
Son/daughter-in-law	0.0	-	-	0.1
Grandchild	17.7	22.7	16.8	11.0
Other relative	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.7
Other non-relative	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3
<b>Total number of children</b>	598,000	271,000	150,000	177,000

**Table 1.6: Household structure of children (%) (weighted)**

	Age 5-17	Age 5-11	Age 12-14	Age 15-17
Nuclear - both parents present	66.3	65.5	65.5	68.0
Nuclear - one-parent present	8.4	6.2	10.0	10.4
Extended household – both parents present	14.6	17.2	14.1	11.1
Extended household – one parent present	6.4	6.8	6.6	5.6
Children not living with either parent	4.4	4.3	3.8	5.0
<b>Total number of children</b>	598,000	271,000	150,000	177,000

Table 1.6 shows the household structure of children in more detail. Based on this information, it can be observed that 4.4 percent of children do not reside with either of their parents, 13.3 percent reside with their mother only and 1.3 percent with their father only. Moreover, 66.3 percent of children reside in nuclear households with both parents, 8.4 percent in one-parent nuclear households, 14.6 percent in extended households with both parents present and 6.4 percent in one-parent extended households.

#### 1.5. Definitions of individuals in employment and child labourers

Definitions of key concepts as they are used in the remainder of this report are provided below. (For other definitions used in the survey, see Appendix A.)

Children in employment (working children): Children (aged 5-17) are defined as working (or employed) if they worked for at least one hour during the reference period or if they had a job or business from which they were

temporarily absent. The UN System of National Accounts (SNA) delineates what is and what is not an economic activity. Broadly speaking, all market-oriented activities, production for own-consumption and certain services rendered for and by household members (such as major household repairs, fetching water or carrying firewood for household use) are considered economic activities, and those engaged in them are considered to be employed.

**Child labour:** Child labour in Moldova is defined as children who are engaged in work unsuitable for their capacities as children or in work that may jeopardize their health, education or moral development. The national definition is based on ILO Convention No. 138 on Minimum Age (1973) and ILO Convention No. 182 on the Elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labour. The minimum age for employment in Moldova is 16 years; however, children aged 15 years can also work if they receive parental consent. Regardless of their age, children are barred from hazardous work, which includes unconditional worst forms of child labour (e.g. child prostitution and pornography, slavery and work in slave-like working conditions, child soldiering and involvement in illicit activities) as well as any other work that might be harmful to a child's physical, social or psychological development, as defined in detail by the government of Moldova in 1993 (see Appendix B). Thus, child labour includes:



- i) Children employed in hazardous industries, including mining and quarrying and construction;
- ii) Children employed in hazardous occupations, including, but not limited to, extraction and building trades; metal, machinery and related trades; precision handicrafts, printing and related trades; machine operators and assemblers; and drivers and mobile-plant operators;
- iii) Children working under hazardous conditions that involve carrying heavy loads, operating any machinery/heavy equipment, exposure to adverse conditions such as dust/fumes, fire/gas/flames, or loud noise, etc. as well as children who are verbally or physically abused;
- iv) Children aged 5-11 who are employed (even if only for 1 hour per week);
- v) Children aged 12-14 who work between 14 and 42 hours per week;
- vi) Children aged 15-16 who work between 25 and 42 hours per week;
- vii) Children aged 17 who work between 36 and 42 hours per week; and
- viii) Children performing unpaid household services for more than 27 hours per week.

As Table 1.7 clearly shows, not all working children are regarded as child labourers, but some children engaged in hazardous unpaid household services are. As ILO Convention No. 182 recognizes, the latter group of children, although engaged in activities outside the scope of the SNA, can also be at risk and must therefore be counted as child labourers if they carry out these activities for excessively long hours or if they use unsafe equipment, carry heavy loads, work in dangerous locations, etc. For the purposes of this report, estimates of hazardous unpaid household services are based on the amount of time spent in such activities. It is also important to mention that because the CAS is not designed to capture rare events such as child trafficking, prostitution and child pornography, the child labour estimates given in this report are likely to be biased downward.

Table 1.7: Framework for the statistical identification of child labour

Grupe de vârstă	General production boundary				
	SNA production			Non-SNA production	
	Light work	Regular work	Worst forms of child labour		Hazardous unpaid household services
			Hazardous work	Worst forms of child labour other than hazardous work	
Children aged 5-11 years	Below min age for light work	Below min age for work	Employment in industries and occupations designated as hazardous, or work for more than 42 hrs/week, or under hazardous conditions in industries and occupations not designated as hazardous	Children trafficked for work; forced and bonded child labour; commercial sexual exploitation of children; use of children for illicit activities and armed conflict	Unpaid household services for more than 27 hours per week
Children aged 12-14 years	13 hrs or less per week	14-42 hrs per week			
Children aged 15-16 years	24 hrs or less per week	25-42 hrs per week			
Children 17 years of age	35 hrs or less per week	36-42 hrs per week			

Note: Based on schematic representations used by ILO.

 Denotes child labour as defined by the resolution.  Denotes activities not considered child labour

**Economically active children:** Covers children in employment as well as unemployed children. The unemployment status is only relevant for children aged 15-17.

**Adult Employment:** Covers individuals 18 years of age and over who have worked for at least one hour during the reference period as employees, on their own account, or as unpaid family workers.<sup>7</sup> Also included are:

- ix) Individuals temporarily absent from work for reasons such as vacation, sick leave, maternity leave (for a period stipulated by the law), unpaid leave, education/training purposes, workplace conflict or strike, inadequate work due to bad weather, unfavourable economic conditions, lack of inputs or technical difficulties;
- x) Individuals with valid employment contracts who have not been remunerated temporarily or for an indefinite period;
- xi) Individuals employed full-time or part-time but seeking other work;
- xii) Retirees, students, and individuals registered with an employment agency as well as pension and benefit recipients who worked during the reference period;
- xiii) Unpaid family workers, including those temporarily absent during the reference period; and
- xiv) Members of the armed forces (including regular troops and conscripts).

<sup>7</sup> In line with official statistics, certain tables in this report include children aged 15-17 with adults. All such instances are clearly marked.

Individuals engaged in subsistence farming (production for own consumption only) for less than 20 hours per week are excluded from the definition of adult employment used by the NBS of Moldova.<sup>8</sup> This exception constitutes the main difference in the definitions of employment used for children and adults and is likely to lead to significant disparities in employment estimates for the two groups, given the largely rural, agrarian nature of the Moldovan economy. For this reason, in order to facilitate meaningful analysis when comparing adult and child employment rates, this report uses a broader definition of employment for adults as well as children that includes at least one hour per week of activity related to subsistence agriculture.

<sup>8</sup> The 20-hour cut-off point is based on a resolution concerning the economically active population adopted by the 13th ICLS that states: "Persons engaged in the production of economic goods and services for own and household consumption should be considered as in self-employment if such production comprises an important contribution to the total consumption of the household."

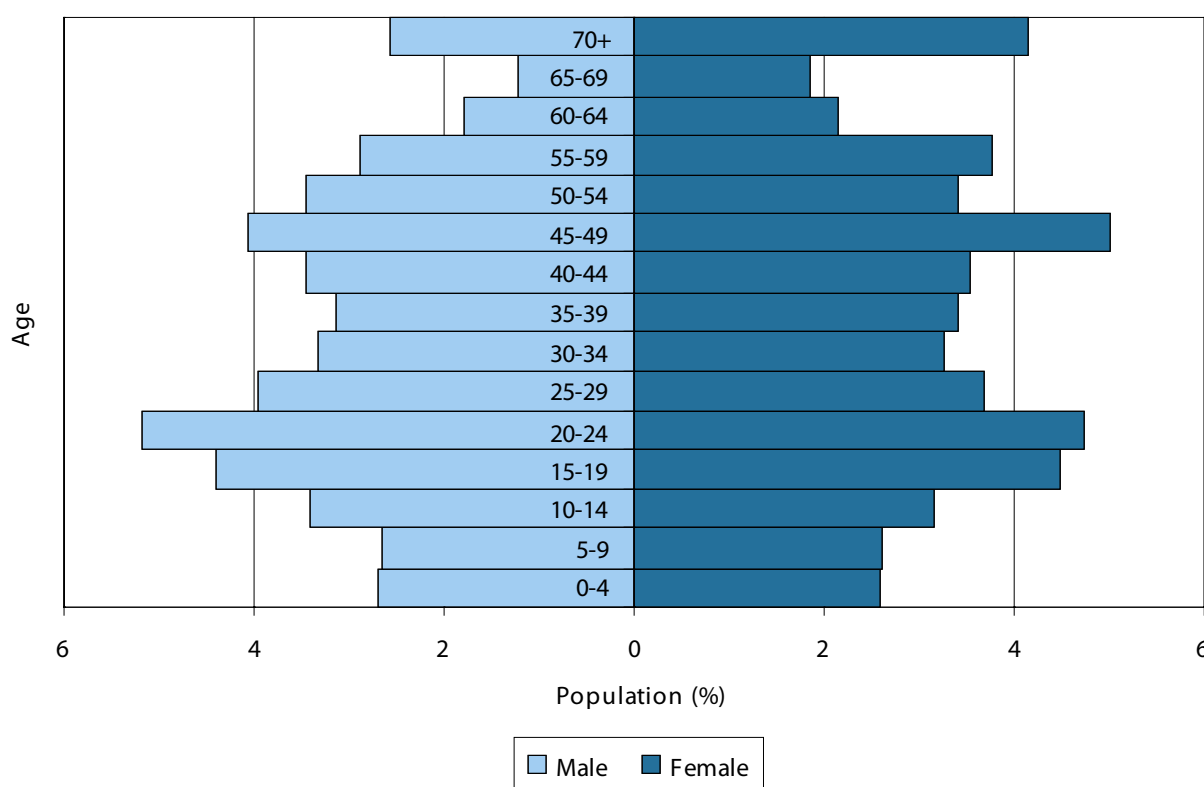
## SECTION 2: Children's activities and the nature of their work

This section of the report begins by providing basic demographic information on the population of Moldova and a short description of the labour market that is intended to serve as a background against which children's activities and the nature of their work can be understood. It is followed by a detailed analysis of children's activities comprised of economic work, unpaid household services and school attendance as well as an in-depth examination of the nature of children's employment in the labour market. The section ends with a brief examination of the socio-economic backgrounds of working children.

### 2.1. Demographics and general labour market characteristics<sup>9</sup>

The total population of Moldova is estimated at 3,568,000, 598,000 (16.8%) of whom are children aged 5-17 (Table 2.1). Boys constitute a slightly higher proportion (50.9%) of children in this age group. The population pyramid for Moldova (Figure 2.1) has a narrow bottom, which is illustrative of a low fertility rate, and bulges out towards the top, which is indicative of an aging population. Indeed, the median age in Moldova is estimated to be quite high, at 34 years, and 6.7 percent of the population is aged 70 or older. The indentation towards the centre of the pyramid reflects a relatively lower proportion of both men and women in their early middle ages (25-45 years) and is likely to be the result of emigration. This is supported by LFS data for the fourth quarter of 2009, which estimates that 13.4 percent of members of households in Moldova aged 18-60 were residing abroad at the time of the survey. Put differently, LFS data shows 18.2 percent of households to have at least one migrant member living abroad, which is in line with the DHS (2005) estimate cited earlier. However, this data most likely underestimates the average annual migration rate, since it includes only individuals who maintain an attachment to a household in Moldova and since the fourth quarter coincides with a low season for most economic activities in which temporary migrant labour is engaged (e.g. agriculture, construction and tourism). The NBS estimates that at any given time, 4 percent of all households reside abroad. As a result of a combination of low fertility and high migration rates, the average annual population growth between 2000 and 2008 was negative, at an estimated -1.5 percent (World Bank, 2010).

**Figure 2.1 Population pyramid, by age and sex**



<sup>9</sup> In the interest of consistency, the adult employment definition is used throughout this section of the report in calculating activity rates of children aged 15-17.

**Table 2.1: Distribution of population by age group and labour status**

(in thousands)	Total	Age 15+	Age 15-19	Age 20-24	Age 25-64	Age 65 +
Total Population	3,568	2,958	317	354	1,939	349
Population aged 0-4	189					
Population aged 5-14	421					
LF (E + U)		1,198	36	114	1,028	19
Employed E		1,123	31	99	974	19
Unemployed U		76	6	15	55	-
LFPR		40.5%	11.5%	32.2%	53.1%	5.5%
Unemployment Rate		6.3%	15.8%	13.1%	5.3%	-

Note: Adult definition of employment is used for all individuals.

The labour force participation rate (LFPR) for individuals age 15 and older is estimated at 40.5 percent. The participation rate increases with age, from 11.5 percent among individuals aged 15-19 to 32.2 percent among those aged 20-24 and 53.1 percent among those aged 25-64. Participation rates are relatively low compared to OECD and EU averages. In contrast to the low LFPR, the overall unemployment rate in Moldova is high, at 6.3 percent for individuals age 15 and older. This rate is even higher for individuals aged 15-19 (15.8%) and aged 20-24 (13.1%).

In line with the official definition of employment used by the NBS (see Section 1.3), the figures in Table 2.1 exclude an individual's involvement in subsistence agriculture for up to 20 hours per week if it takes place in a kitchen garden for a household's own consumption. Re-estimating economic activity rates based on an extended definition of employment that includes involvement in subsistence agriculture for less than 20 hours per week results in substantial increases for all age groups, as seen in Table 2.2. Accordingly, the LFPR of individuals aged 15 and older increases from 40.5 percent to 62.6 percent, and the unemployment rate drops from 6.3 percent to 4.3 percent. The most substantial changes in activity rates are observed among the very young and old; specifically, among individuals aged 15-19, the LFPR increases (by more than 25 percentage points) to 37.8 percent and the unemployment rate decreases (by more than half) to 7.5 percent, whereas among individuals aged 64 and older, the LFPR jumps from 5.5 percent to 51.7 percent. Even among individuals aged 25-64, who presumably have easier access to both domestic and international labour markets, the LFPR increases substantially (from 53.1% to 72.1%), thus highlighting the importance of subsistence agriculture in the lives of individuals of all ages.

**Table 2.2: Distribution of population using extended definition of employment**

(in thousands)	Age 15+	Age 15-19	Age 20-24	Age 25-64	Age 65 +
Total Population	2,958	317	354	1,939	349
LF (E + U)	1,850	120	153	1,397	181
Employed E	1,799	117	142	1,360	181
Unemployed U	51	3	11	37	-
LFPR	62.6%	37.8%	43.2%	72.1%	51.7%
Unemployment Rate	4.3%	7.5%	9.9%	3.6%	-

**Table 2.3: Labour force participation and unemployment rates by age group and sex (%)**

	Age 15 +		Age 15-19		Age 20-24		Age 25-64		Age 65 +	
	Official Definition of Employment*									
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
LFPR	43.6	37.7	13.4	9.7	32.3	32.1	55.9	50.4	8.6	3.6
Unemployment Rate	7.5	5.1	13.3	19.3	14.2	11.8	6.6	4.1	-	-
	Extended Definition of Employment									
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
LFPR	63.4	61.8	42.0	33.7	42.5	44.0	72.2	72.0	55.7	49.2
Unemployment Rate	5.0	3.6	7.0	8.2	10.1	9.7	4.4	2.8	-	-

Note: Adult definition of employment is used for all individuals.

Not only does the extended definition of employment draw attention to the importance of subsistence agriculture for a substantial part of the population, it is also useful for understanding the activity patterns of children (described in the next section) and women. As Table 2.3 shows, using Moldova's official definition of employment, labour force participation and unemployment rates of men tend to be higher than those of women; however, when the extended definition of employment is used, the gender gap in participation shrinks significantly. For example, the gap between men and women aged 25-64 decreases from 5.9 percentage points to 2.2 percentage points when the extended definition is used, indicating that women are more likely to be involved in subsistence agriculture than men.

**Table 2.4: Distribution of working population by age and type of economic activity (%)**

NACE-Rev1	Age 15+	Age 15-19	Age 20-24	Age 25-64	Age 65+
Agriculture & fishing	23.8	41.0	13.5	23.6	57.3
Mining	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.7
Manufacturing	10.8	10.5	18.4	10.2	1.8
Electricity, gas, water	2.2	0.2	0.3	2.6	0.0
Construction	6.3	6.2	7.5	6.3	1.7
Wholesale and retail trade	16.3	15.4	20.2	16.0	11.1
Hotels and restaurants	2.8	5.4	6.6	2.4	0.0
Transport, storage	5.9	1.4	5.4	6.2	1.7
Financial intermediary	1.6	0.0	3.4	1.5	0.8
Real estate	3.0	0.8	3.1	3.1	1.3
Public administration	6.3	15.7	5.9	6.0	7.1
Education	10.2	0.8	7.0	10.7	13.3
Health and social work	6.4	0.0	3.0	7.0	3.1
Other personal/ community services	3.4	2.1	5.5	3.2	0.0
Private households	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.0
No. of individuals	1,123,000	31,000	99,000	974,000	19,000

Note: Adult definition of employment is used for all individuals.



In order to understand the main characteristics of the labour market in Moldova, it is helpful to examine the type of economic activity carried out by employed individuals. Since, individuals engaged in subsistence agriculture are, by definition, employed in the agricultural sector, the official definition of employment is used to chart out employment patterns. Even under this more restrictive definition, the agricultural sector accounts for the largest percentage of the employed population – including 23.6 percent of prime age adults aged 25-64 and 41.0 percent of younger individuals aged 15-19. Agriculture is followed by wholesale/retail trade, which accounts for 16.3 percent of employed individuals, and manufacturing, which accounts for 10.8 percent. The education sector also employs a significant portion (10.2%) of the employed, although jobs in this sector are filled primarily by older individuals. If public administration, education and health – the three sectors that are predominantly public (97.4%) – were to be grouped together as a single sector, it would follow agriculture as the second-largest sector of employment, accounting for 22.9 percent of all employed individuals. It is also interesting to note that 15.7 percent of individuals aged 15-19 are employed in public administration. This figure is accounted for primarily by individuals aged 18-19 in the military service, who, as noted earlier, are considered to be part of the workforce. Overall, the public sector accounts for the employment of 30.1 percent of all employed individuals and 38.8 percent of all individuals employed in non-agricultural work.

The general employment patterns described above differ somewhat between men and women. While agriculture remains the largest employer of both men and women, wholesale and retail trade, manufacturing, construction and transportation are also significant employers of men (Tables 2.5 and 2.6), whereas public administration, education and health as a group play an important role in employing women (31.3%, as opposed to 14.5% of men).

**Table 2.5: Distribution of male working population by age and type of economic activity**

<b>NACE-Rev.1 (%)</b>	<b>Age 15+</b>	<b>Age 15-19</b>	<b>Age 20-24</b>	<b>Age 25-64</b>	<b>Age 65+</b>
Agriculture & fishing	26.9	43.8	17.5	26.4	61.7
Mining	0.8	0.0	0.2	0.8	1.2
Manufacturing	11.1	7.8	16.4	10.9	3.0
Electricity, gas, water	3.4	0.3	0.5	3.9	0.0
Construction	11.0	9.2	12.0	11.1	2.8
Wholesale and retail trade	14.5	6.9	20.4	14.4	2.9
Hotels and restaurants	1.6	2.6	3.9	1.4	0.0
Transport, storage	9.1	2.3	7.6	9.7	2.7
Financial intermediary	1.3	0.0	1.6	1.3	1.3
Real estate	3.0	0.5	3.1	3.1	1.2
Public administration	7.5	25.8	7.9	6.8	9.4
Education	4.4	0.0	2.3	4.6	11.6
Health and social work	2.6	0.0	1.9	2.7	2.2
Other personal and community services	2.8	0.3	4.8	2.8	0.0
Private households	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0
No. of individuals	566,000	18,000	51,000	486,000	12,000

Note: Adult definition of employment is used for all individuals.

**Table 2.6: Distribution of female working population by age and type of economic activity**

<b>NACE-Rev.1 (%)</b>	<b>Age 15+</b>	<b>Age 15-19</b>	<b>Age 20-24</b>	<b>Age 25-64</b>	<b>Age 65+</b>
Agriculture & fishing	20.6	36.9	9.2	20.9	50.7
Mining and quarrying	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
Manufacturing	10.5	14.4	20.6	9.6	0.0
Electricity, gas, water	1.1	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.0
Construction	1.5	2.0	2.8	1.4	0.0
Wholesale and retail trade	18.2	27.7	20.0	17.7	23.7
Hotels and restaurants	4.1	9.5	9.6	3.5	0.0
Transport, storage	2.7	0.0	3.1	2.8	0.0
Financial intermediation	1.9	0.0	5.3	1.7	0.0
Real estate, renting	3.1	1.4	3.1	3.1	1.6
Public administration	5.0	1.1	3.8	5.3	3.6
Education	16.0	1.9	12.0	16.8	15.9
Health and social work	10.3	0.0	4.1	11.3	4.5
Other personal and community services	3.9	4.8	6.3	3.7	0.0
Private households	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.8	0.0
No. of individuals	556,000	12,000	48,000	488,000	8,000

Note: Adult definition of employment is used for all individuals.

Although skilled agricultural workers account for only 8.1 percent of men and 7.8 percent of women, in line with the strong dominance of agriculture, the majority of men (26.2%) and women (20.9%) are categorized as holding elementary occupations. Craft and related trade workers (15.7%), plant and machine operators/assemblers (15.7%) and professionals (10.3%) constitute the next most commonly held occupations for men, whereas most women work as service and sales workers (23.0%), elementary workers, professionals (18.6%), or technicians/associate professionals (12.3%).

**Table 2.7: Distribution of employed men and women (age 15+) by occupation (%)**

<b>Occupations (ISCO-88)</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Men</b>	<b>Women</b>
Legislators and senior officials	7.7	9.2	6.2
Professionals	14.4	10.3	18.6
Technicians and associate professionals	8.3	4.5	12.3
Clerks	2.5	0.5	4.6
Service and sales workers	15.6	8.3	23.0
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	8.0	8.1	7.8
Craft and related trades workers	10.6	15.7	5.4
Plant and machine operators, assemblers	8.5	15.7	1.3
Elementary occupations	23.6	26.2	20.9
Armed forces	0.8	1.5	0.0
Number of employed	1,123,000	566,000	556,000

Note: Adult definition of employment is used for all individuals.

**Table 2.8: Distribution of employed men and women (age 15+) by status in employment (%)**

Status in employment	All	Men	Women
Employee	73.4	69.2	77.7
Employer	0.9	1.4	0.4
Own-account worker	23.5	27.7	19.1
Unpaid family worker	2.3	1.7	2.8
Number of employed	1,123,000	566,000	556,000

Note: Adult definition of employment is used for all individuals.

The majority (73.4%) of working individuals are employees, and another sizeable proportion (23.5%) work on their own account (Table 2.8). A greater proportion of women than men work as employees (77.7% and 69.2%, respectively), whereas a smaller proportion of women than men work on their own-account (19.1% and 27.7%, respectively). Interestingly, considering the extent of agricultural activity in Moldova, the proportion of unpaid family workers among both men and women is rather low.

Although employment status differs somewhat among age groups, wage work remains the dominant form of employment. The proportion of employees is lowest among those aged 15-19 (60.5%) and highest among those aged 20-24 (81.3%). The proportion of own-account workers, on the other hand, is highest among the elderly (53.7%) and lowest among those aged 20-24 (14.3%). The proportion of unpaid family workers is highest among those aged 15-19; however, the rate of unpaid family workers is low even for this age group (17.1%).

**Table 2.9: Distribution of working population by age group (age 15+) and status in employment (%)**

Status in employment	Age 15+	Age 15-19	Age 20-24	Age 25-64	Age 65+
Employee	73.4	60.5	81.3	73.6	42.4
Employer	0.9	-	0.3	1.0	-
Own account worker	23.5	22.5	14.3	23.8	53.7
Unpaid family worker	2.3	17.1	4.1	1.6	3.9
Number of employed	1,123,000	31,000	99,000	974,000	19,000

Note: Adult definition of employment is used for all individuals.

## 2.2. Children's activities

Children's activities are analyzed below under three separate headings: employment (economic activity), unpaid household services (chores) and school attendance.

### 2.2.1. Employment

An estimated 177,000 children in Moldova between the ages of 5 and 17 work. This figure represents 29.7 percent of all children in this age group (Table 2.10). Even among children under age 12, the prevalence of employment in Moldova is estimated to be quite high. Looked at by age, employment rates among children aged 5-11, 12-14 and 15-17 are estimated to be 13.8 percent, 43.3 percent and 42.3 percent, respectively. It is also interesting to note that 5.3 percent of all working children held more than one job during the reference week.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>10</sup> The unemployment rate among children aged 15-17 is estimated at 1.2 percent; however, due to the low number of children reported to be unemployed, this estimate might not be very precise.

**Table 2.10: Distribution of child population by age group and labour status**

	Age 5-17	Age 5-11	Age 12-14	Age 15-17
Child population	597,000	271,000	150,000	177,000
Working (n)	177,000	37,000	65,000	75,000
Working (%)	29.7	13.8	43.3	42.3

**Table 2.11: Distribution of child population by sex, age group and labour status**

	Age 5-17		Age 5-11		Age 12-14		Age 15-17	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Child population	304,000	293,000	139,000	132,000	76,000	74,000	89,000	87,000
Working (n)	107,000	70,000	24,000	13,000	39,000	26,000	44,000	31,000
Working (%)	35.1	24.0	17.6	9.8	50.9	35.5	48.9	35.8

The employment rate among boys (35.1%) exceeds that of girls (24%) by about 10 percentage points (Table 2.11). The gender gap in employment is smaller among younger children aged 5-11 (7.8%) than among children aged 12-14 (15.4%) and aged 15-17 (13.1%).

Based on the number of hours in employment<sup>11</sup> – an average of 9 hours per week – the work carried out by children can be considered light.<sup>12</sup> Boys work slightly more hours per week (9.8) than girls (7.9).<sup>13</sup>

**Table 2.12: Distribution of children in employment by hours worked and sex (%)**

Distribution of working children			
Hrs of work per week	All	Boys	Girls
14 hours or less	86.1	83.4	90.2
15-43 hours	12.9	15.3	9.2
44 hours or more	1.1	1.4	0.6

Less than 1.4 percent of boys and 1.0 percent of girls work 44 or more hours per week (Table 2.12). In fact, the majority of both boys (83.4%) and girls (90.2%) work 14 hours or less per week. In other words, despite the rather high prevalence of work among children, the intensity of this work is low – thus painting a brighter picture than that suggested by employment rates alone.

Given that the CAS was conducted during the winter months and that agriculture plays an important role in the lives of rural households in Moldova, it is likely that the above estimates of working children, which are based on a short reference period of one week, do not accurately reflect the yearly activity rates of children. Indeed, when the reference period for employment is extended to cover the past 12 months, the estimated employment rate increases to 36.6 percent. This increase is somewhat higher for girls (from 24.0% to 32.1%, an increase of 8.1 percentage points) than it is for boys (from 35.1% to 40.9%, an increase of 5.8 percentage points) (Table 2.13).

**Table 2.13: Work prevalence among children in the past 12 months**

	Age 5-17		Age 5-11		Age 12-14		Age 15-17	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Child population	304,000	293,000	139,000	132,000	76,000	74,000	89,000	87,000
Working (n)	124,000	94,000	27,000	15,000	43,000	34,000	54,000	44,000
Working (%)	40.9	32.1	19.8	11.3	56.9	46.6	60.1	51.0

<sup>11</sup> Including the main job as well as additional jobs held over the week. <sup>15</sup>

Abaterea standardă este de 8,7 și 6,4 ore, respectiv.

<sup>12</sup> Standard deviation: 7.9 hours.

<sup>13</sup> Standard deviation: 8.7 and 6.4 hours, respectively.

Analizând sensibilitatea ratelor estimate ale ocupării la perioada selectată de referință după vârstă, vedem că cel Estimated employment rates of older girls are the most affected by the change in reference periods. Whereas the use of a 12-month reference period results in an increase of no more than 3.0 percentage points for either girls or boys aged 5-11, these increases are 11.1 percentage points and 15.2 percentage points, respectively, for girls aged 12-14 and aged 15-17. Extending the reference period also increases the gap in employment rates among age groups. On the basis of a short-reference period, the employment rates of children aged 12-14 and those aged 15-17 are not very different (although the gap between them is statistically significant); however, when the reference period is extended to 12 months, the gap between these two groups, as well as between them and younger children, increases significantly. This implies that the nature of work carried out over the year changes more for older children aged 12-17 than for younger children aged 5-11.

### 2.2.2. Unpaid household services ('household chores')

The majority of children (86.1%) carry out unpaid household services (i.e. perform 'household chores') for the members of their households (Table 2.14).<sup>14</sup> While the ratio of children performing unpaid household services is 76.9 percent among children aged 5-11, this figure increases to 95.7 percent among children aged 12-14 and 92.0 percent among those aged 15-17. These figures indicate that it is rather unusual, especially in the case of older children, not to perform unpaid household services.

**Table 2.14: Children providing unpaid household services by age group**

	5-17 ani	5-11 ani	12-14 ani	15-17 ani
Child population	597,000	271,000	150,000	177,000
Unpaid household services (N)	514,000	208,000	143,000	162,000
Unpaid household services (%)	86.1	76.9	95.7	92.0

Although providing unpaid household services is common among all children, involvement is greater among girls than among boys (Table 2.15). On average, while 88.7 percent of girls provide unpaid household services, the ratio is roughly five percentage points lower among boys (83.5%), and this gender gap remains fairly constant regardless of age group.

**Table 2.15: Children providing unpaid household services by age group and sex**

	Age 5-17		Age 5-11		Age 12-14		Age 15-17	
	Boys	Girls	Băieți	Fete	Băieți	Fete	Băieți	Fete
Child population	304,000	293,000	139,000	132,000	76,000	74,000	89,000	87,000
Unpaid Household Services (N)	254,000	260,000	103,000	105,000	71,000	72,000	80,000	82,000
Unpaid Household Services (%)	83.5	88.7	74.1	79.8	93.4	98.0	89.7	93.4

The types of unpaid household services performed by girls and boys also differ, with girls more involved in cooking, doing laundry and washing dishes and boys more involved in cleaning utensils and repairing household equipment (Table 2.16). Shopping for the household, cleaning the house or yard and caring for children, the sick and the elderly are activities that are equally common among boys and girls. Overall, children tend to be involved mainly in shopping for the household, cleaning the house/yard and washing dishes. The finding that relatively few children are involved in caring for children or sick/elderly household members has positive implications for the school outcomes of children discussed in the next section, since these activities are potentially more rigid in terms of time.

<sup>14</sup> In contrast to economic activity, which is assessed based on a minimum threshold of 1 hour/week, no minimum threshold is used in assessing unpaid household services.

**Table 2.16: Types of unpaid household services performed by children (%)**

Activity	All	Boys	Girls
Shopping for household	70.5	71.2	69.8
Cooking	27.7	11.8	43.3
Doing laundry	25.8	11.4	40.0
Washing dishes	65.2	42.0	87.9
Cleaning house/yard	85.1	82.0	88.1
Cleaning utensils	5.1	9.5	0.9
Repairing household equipment	3.1	6.0	0.3
Caring for children	15.4	14.4	16.4
Caring for elderly/sick	3.3	3.5	3.1
Other household tasks	1.8	2.9	0.7
Total no. of children providing unpaid household services	514,000	254,000	260,000

**Table 2.17: Average hours of unpaid household services performed by children per week**

Activity	All	Boys	Girls
Shopping for household	1.7 (1.1)	1.6 (1.1)	1.7 (1.1)
Cooking	2.4 (1.8)	1.9 (1.3)	2.5 (1.9)
Doing laundry	2.1 (1.3)	1.8 (1.2)	2.1 (1.3)
Washing dishes	1.8 (1.2)	1.6 (0.9)	2.0 (1.2)
Cleaning house/yard	2.3 (1.4)	2.2 (1.2)	2.4 (1.5)
Cleaning utensils	1.3 (0.6)	1.3 (0.6)	1.4 (0.7)
Repairing household equipment	1.6 (1.1)	1.6 (1.1)	1.9 (0.7)
Caring for children	3.8 (3.4)	3.6 (2.9)	4.0 (3.7)
Caring for old/sick	2.9 (2.4)	2.8 (2.7)	2.9 (2.1)
Other household tasks	3.1 (2.3)	3.0 (2.2)	3.4 (2.7)
All unpaid household services	6.4 (5.3)	5.0 (3.9)	7.7 (6.0)
Total no. of children providing unpaid household services	514,000	254,000	260,000

Note: Standard deviations are given in parentheses.

On average, children who provide unpaid household services do so for 6.4 hours per week (Table 2.17). Although girls spend an average of 2.7 hours more on unpaid household services than boys, the overwhelming majority of both girls and boys spend less than 15 hours per week on unpaid household services (Table 2.18). Only 2.6 percent of boys and 10.5 percent of girls provide unpaid household services for 15 hours or more per week, and only 0.1 percent of girls spend excessively long hours (44 or more) on unpaid household services. Most of these activities require at most 1.5-2.5 hours per week, although caring activities tend to be more time-consuming. For example, girls who care for children spend 4.0 hours per week in this activity, whereas girls who care for the sick/elderly spend 2.9 hours per week. The corresponding figures for boys involved in such activities are 3.6 and 2.8 hours per week.

**Table 2.18: Distribution of children by hours of unpaid household services provided per week (%)**

Hours of chores per week	Percent of children performing chores		
	Total	Boys	Girls
14 hours or less	93.4	97.4	89.5
15-43 hours	6.5	2.6	10.4
44 hours or more	0.1	-	0.1

As discussed above in Section 1.3, Moldovan national legislation considers children who spend excessive amounts of time (more than 27 hours per week) providing unpaid household services to be child labourers. Based on this assessment, less than 1 percent of children who provide unpaid household services can be considered child labourers. Although this figure is higher for girls (1.6%) than for boys (0.3%), involvement in hazardous unpaid household services (as measured by time spent) does not appear to be a major issue for children in Moldova.



### 2.2.3. School

Compulsory education in Moldova is comprised of 10 years of school that consists of one year of pre-school, four years of primary school (Grades 1-4) and five years of gymnasium (Grades 5-9). Children may attend pre-school at ages 3-6, and they normally start primary school at age seven, so that they can be expected to have completed their compulsory schooling by age 16.<sup>15</sup> As noted earlier, children are legally prohibited from entering employment until they reach age 16 or until they have completed their basic education. After completing their compulsory education, children can enrol in a lyceum (three years of general education geared towards preparing students for higher education), a general secondary school (two years), a vocational secondary school (three years), or a secondary professional school or college (two-to-five years).

School attendance<sup>16</sup> among children of compulsory school age (7-15 years) is estimated at 99.1 percent. Furthermore, nearly 90 percent of children age 6 and one-fourth of those aged 5 also attend school. School attendance among children who are beyond the age for compulsory schooling (16-17 years) is estimated to be rather high as well (83.5%). While the overwhelming majority (97.6%) of children age 5 attend pre-school, a significant proportion (25.8%) of children age 6 have already started primary school. (The mean age at which children start primary school is estimated at 6.8 years.)

Less than one percent of children above six years of age have never attended school. Of these, the majority do not attend due to “disability/illness” (78.8%). Other reasons given for never attending school are as follows: “cannot afford schooling” (9.8%); “not interested in school” (5.1%); “family does not allow schooling” (4.7%); and “school not available” (1.6%). The vast majority of children who start school but leave at some point do so after completing their compulsory education.<sup>17</sup> Those who drop out before completing their compulsory education represent only 6.4 percent of all school-leavers and only 0.2 percent of all children aged 7-17.

School attendance rates of girls are higher than those of boys, with the largest gender gap among children attending non-compulsory schooling. For example, among children age 5 (the overwhelming majority of whom are in pre-school), the estimated school attendance rates are 21.6 percent for boys and 28.9 percent for girls. The corresponding rates for boys and girls age 6 (some of whom are already in primary school) are 88.4 and 89.3 percent, respectively (this gap is not statistically significant). The schooling gap shrinks further for boys and girls of compulsory school age (7-15), who have estimated school attendance rates of 98.8 percent and 99.4 percent, respectively ( $p < 0.10$ ). Among children aged 15-17, the gender gap increases again, reaching almost 11.5 percentage points, with estimated attendance rates of 77.7 percent for boys and 89.2 percent for girls ( $p < 0.00$ ). The growing gender gap beyond compulsory schooling implies that the opportunity cost of attending school is higher for boys than for girls. This may be related to greater employment opportunities for boys, which would be consistent with the finding of a higher employment rate among older boys than among older girls.

**Table 2.19: School attendance rates by sex, age and labour status (%)**

	Age 7-15		Age 16-17	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
<b>School attendance rates of:</b>				
All children	98.8	99.4	77.7	89.2
Non-working children	98.6	99.3	87.8	92.7
Working children	99.0	99.6	66.0	82.6

<sup>15</sup> Children who start school at age 6 may complete their basic education at age 15.

<sup>16</sup> School attendance is established based on a question in the CAS that inquires about children's current schooling status, as follows: “Are you currently attending school or pre-school?”

<sup>17</sup> CAS data includes information on the highest grade attended, but does not include information on grade completed. This analysis assumes children have completed the highest grade attended.



While there is no appreciable difference between the school attendance rates of working and non-working children of compulsory school age, among children beyond the age of compulsory schooling, the attendance rate of working children is significantly lower than those of non-working children (Table 2.19). The difference is most marked among boys aged 16-17: while 87.8 percent of non-working boys aged 16-17 attend school, the attendance rate is only 66.0 percent for those who work. A similar although smaller gap can be observed between the attendance rates of working and non-working girls aged 16-17 (82.6% and 92.7%, respectively).

**Table 2.20: School attendance rate by sex, age and provision of unpaid household services (%)**

	Age 7-15		Age 16-17	
School attendance rates of:	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
All children	98.8	99.4	77.7	89.2
Children providing unpaid household services	95.3	93.6	61.5	71.9
Children not providing unpaid household services	99.2	99.7	80.2	90.6

When the relationship between children's school attendance and their unpaid household services is examined, findings indicate that children who perform unpaid household services actually have higher school attendance rates than those who do not. This holds true in the case of younger and older children, but the gap is more pronounced among the latter. Given that performing unpaid household services has been found to be part of the daily life of children in Moldova, these outcomes are not surprising. Not 'doing chores' for even one hour a week would constitute an unusual situation, and it is likely that whatever is preventing children from performing chores – illness, disability, or, perhaps, employment – is also preventing them from attending school.

#### **2.2.4. Children in multiple activities**

The majority (57.8%) of children aged 7-17 combine schooling with a few hours of unpaid household services, performed for the members of their household (Table 2.21). Another sizeable proportion (30.1%) attend school, engage in economic activity and carry out unpaid household services. The proportion of children who solely attend school is limited to 7 percent of all children, while the proportions engaged solely in economic activity or unpaid household services are limited to 0.4 and 0.9 percent, respectively. Less than one percent of all children are inactive, i.e. do not attend school, engage in economic activity, or provide unpaid household services.

**Table 2.21: Proportion of children (aged 7-17) engaged in multiple activities by sex (%)**

	All	Boys	Girls
School + Economic activity + Unpaid household services	30.1	34.2	25.8
School + Economic activity	0.7	1.3	0.0
School + Unpaid household services	57.8	50.2	65.7
Economic activity + Unpaid household services	2.4	3.4	1.4
School only	7.0	8.5	5.4
Economic activity only	0.3	0.4	0.1
Unpaid household services only	0.9	1.0	0.9
Inactive (Idle)	0.9	1.1	0.7

Time-use patterns differ somewhat between boys and girls, with the main difference being that boys are more likely to be involved in all three activities (34.2% of boys, compared to 25.8% of girls), whereas girls are more likely to combine school and unpaid household services only (65.7% of girls, compared to 50.2% of boys) (Table 2.21). It is very uncommon for either boys or girls to be engaged solely in economic activity or perform unpaid household services without attending school.

## 2.3. Nature of children's employment in the labour market

### 2.3.1. Type of economic activity, occupation, and workplace

The overwhelming majority (95.3%) of employed children aged 5-17 are engaged in agriculture. This finding holds true for both boys and girls, 94.9 and 96.0 percent of whom, respectively, are found in this sector (Table 2.22). A closer look at the activities of children in agriculture indicates that they are engaged primarily in 'mixed farming', i.e. raising both crops and farm animals (Eurostat, 1996). The other most common sectors of activity in which boys are found are construction (1.6%) and wholesale/retail trade (1.0%). In the case of girls, while very few are found in construction, 2.1 percent are employed in wholesale and retail trade.

**Table 2.22: Distribution of children in employment by type of economic activity (%)**

Economic activity (NACE rev.1)	All	Boys	Girls
Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	95.3	94.9	96.0
Manufacturing	0.7	0.8	0.5
Construction	1.1	1.6	0.4
Wholesale and retail trade	1.4	1.0	2.1
Hotels and restaurants	0.3	0.3	0.2
Transport, storage and communication	0.1	0.2	0.0
Real estate, renting and business activity	0.1	0.1	0.1
Community, social and personal services	0.3	0.3	0.4
Other activities	0.7	1.0	0.4

**Table 2.23: Distribution of children in employment by occupation (%)**

Occupation (ISCO-88)	All	Boys	Girls
Technicians and associate professionals	0.1	0.2	-
Clerks	0.1	0.2	-
Service and sales workers	1.0	0.4	1.9
Skilled agricultural workers	0.7	0.7	0.8
Craft and related trades workers	0.5	0.6	0.3
Plant and machine operators, assemblers	0.1	0.2	0.1
Unskilled agricultural workers	94.3	94.0	94.7
Unskilled work other than agriculture	3.2	3.8	2.2

The overwhelming majority (97.5%) of working children are employed in elementary occupations, primarily as unskilled agricultural workers (Table 2.23). In addition, 1.9 percent of girls are employed as service and sales workers.

**Table 2.24: Distribution of children in employment by workplace (%)**

Place of work	All	Boys	Girls
At household dwelling	1.2	1.4	0.8
Client's place	0.5	0.7	0.1
Formal office	0.4	0.5	0.3
Factory/atelier	0.6	0.7	0.5
Plantation/farm/garden	95.3	94.9	96.0
Construction site	0.3	0.5	-
Shop/kiosk/café/restaurant/hotel	0.7	0.8	-
Different places (mobile)	0.9	0.5	0.6
Fixed street/market stall	0.1	0.0	1.5

In line with children's type of activity and occupation, the overwhelming majority of children (95.3%) work in a farm or garden (Table 2.24). This rate is slightly higher among girls than among boys, but the difference is negligible. In addition, 1.4 percent of boys and 0.8 percent of girls work at their own household dwelling.

### 2.3.2. Status in employment

The majority of employed children (94.1%) work as unpaid family workers (Table 2.25). Wage and own-account workers constitute only 4.0 percent and 1.9 percent of employed children, respectively. Status in employment changes only slightly between boys and girls, with a slightly higher percentage of employed girls (96%) than boys (92.9%) working as unpaid family workers. In contrast, the proportions of wage and own-account workers are lower among girls than boys.

**Table 2.25: Distribution of employed boys and girls by status in employment (%)**

Status in employment	All	Boys	Girls
Wage worker (employee)	4.0	4.8	2.9
Own-account worker (self-employed)	1.9	2.4	1.2
Unpaid family worker	94.1	92.9	96.0
Numbers of employed	177,000	107,000	70,000

Children who work as wage and own-account workers are, on average, older than those who work as unpaid family workers. Overall, the average age of a working child is 13.6 years; however, the average age of child wage workers and own-account workers is 15.6 and 15.2 years, respectively, whereas the average age of a child working as an unpaid family worker is 13.4 years. Another factor that differentiates wage and own-account workers from unpaid family workers is the number of hours spent at work. On average, while wage workers and own-account workers put in 29.8 and 19 hours per week, respectively, unpaid family workers work for only 7.9 hours per week.

Looked at as a whole, these age- and sex-related findings suggest that children start work as unpaid family workers and the majority of them, especially girls, continue as unpaid family workers until they reach adulthood. Very few children, most often boys, change their status in employment from that of unpaid family worker to wage or own-account worker as they grow older.

It is important to note that a change in work status also entails a move away from agriculture. Although agricultural work still plays an important role in child employment, only 55.7 of wage workers and 58.4 percent of own-account workers are engaged in agricultural work, compared to 97.7 percent of unpaid family workers. Moreover, fewer wage workers (close to two-thirds) and own-account workers (80.0%) than unpaid family workers (98.8%) are classified as elementary workers.

### 2.3.3. Earnings

As noted above, the proportion of children who work for pay is very low, with wage workers (employees) and own-account workers (the self-employed) accounting for, respectively, only 4.0 percent and 1.9 percent of all working children. Among wage workers, roughly two-thirds are paid either daily (32.8%) or on a monthly basis (31.8%), one-quarter upon completion of their work, and the remaining 9.6 percent paid either hourly (5.3%) or weekly (4.3%). The estimated average monthly earnings of children employed as wage workers (at the time of the survey) was 808.4 Moldovan Lei (MDL),<sup>18</sup> compared to 706.2 MDL for own-account workers.<sup>19</sup> A gender gap in wages was also noted among children, with girls earning significantly less per month (533.2 MDL) than boys (892.6 MDL).<sup>20</sup>

At the time of the survey, the minimum wage in Moldova was 600 MDL per month.<sup>21</sup> Accordingly, it seems that the majority of children working as employees and on their own account earned an income above the minimum wage; however, this is not true for all of these children. For example, the average monthly earnings of girls fell short of the minimum wage. Overall, 64.5 percent of children who are gainfully employed (as either employees

<sup>18</sup> Standard deviation: 614 MDL.

<sup>19</sup> Standard deviation: 740 MDL.

<sup>20</sup> Due to the small sample size, all gainfully employed children are combined for comparison by sex. The standard deviations for point estimates are 702.7 MDL for boys and 442 MDL for girls.

<sup>21</sup> At the time of the survey (the fourth quarter of 2009), 600 MDL=52 USD.<sup>24</sup> Vezi NSC data base: <http://statbank.statistica.md/pxweb/Database/EN/04%20NIV/NIV01/NIV01.asp>

or on their own account) are estimated to earn an income below the minimum wage, with girls slightly over-represented among this group. Whereas girls constitute 27.2 percent of the gainfully employed, they constitute 30.2 percent of children earning less than minimum wage.<sup>22</sup>

Since the CAS does not include data on household income and expenditure, it is not possible to determine the share of children's incomes in household budgets. However, according to the most recent Household Budget Survey conducted by the NBS, the average monthly household disposable income in the fourth quarter of 2008 was 1,227.5 MDL per capita (NSC, 2010b). Although this figure includes both households with and without children, it indicates that children's earnings represent a significant contribution (as much as 20%) to the household budget. According to the CAS, while 56 percent of children reportedly spend their earnings on themselves, 28.5 percent give all or part of their earnings to their families and another 8.6 percent use their earnings to pay school fees or purchase school supplies.

### 2.3.4. Child labour

Included in the definition of child labour are children who perform hazardous work as well as other children who, due to their age or working hours, are considered to be facing various risks to their physical, social, psychological or educational development as a result of their employment (see Section 1.3 on definitions). An estimated 109,000 children in Moldova – 18.3 percent of all children aged 5-17 – are child labourers. Since child labour includes children who carry out excessive amounts of unpaid household services, this figure cannot be readily compared to working children. Dropping such children from the ranks of child labourers reduces the child labour estimate slightly to 105,000 children, representing 17.5 percent of all children and 59.1 percent of working children. These figures indicate that not only is the child employment rate quite high in Moldova, but that the majority of children face various risks that require them to be withdrawn from work immediately.

As noted earlier in Section 1, for a sizeable proportion of children (36.2%) responses to the CAS were provided by a household member other than the child, and in some cases children were interviewed in the presence of other household members. These occurrences might have led to the underestimation of child labour estimates reported above, if respondents intentionally or unintentionally failed to report the true nature of the working conditions of children. While the issues of who the respondent is and how the interview is conducted may affect child employment estimates as well as child labour estimates, it is likely that child labour estimates are more sensitive to these issues due to the need for more precise information on the nature of work and working conditions in estimating child labour.

**Table 2.26: Distribution of child labourers by types of risks faced (%)**

Table 2.26: Distribution of child labourers by types of risks faced (%)						
Child Labourers	All		Boys		Girls	
Activities under SNA						
a) Children in hazardous work	68.6	100	70.5	100	65.2	100
<i>In hazardous economic activity</i>	1.8	2.6	2.4	3.4	0.7	1.1
<i>In hazardous occupation</i>	3.7	5.4	4.4	6.2	2.5	3.8
<i>Hours of work exceed 42 hours/week</i>	1.0	1.5	1.0	1.4	1.0	1.5
<i>Employed under hazardous conditions</i>	62.1	90.5	62.7	88.9	61.0	93.6
b) Working children aged 5-11 years	24.4	100	25.2	100	23.1	100
c) Ages 12-14 working more than 13hrs/week, ages 15-16 working more than 24hrs/week & age 17 working more than 35hrs/week	3.1	100	3.3	100	2.7	100
Activities outside of SNA						
d) Children in hazardous UHS (unpaid household services for more than 27 hrs/week)	4.0	100	1.0	100	9.1	100
Total number of child labourers	109,000		69,000		40,000	

In order to provide a better understanding of the gravity of the child labour problem and to help identify measures that can be taken to address it, child labourers are grouped into mutually exclusive categories according to risk (see Section 1.5, Table 1.7). In examining the types of risk to which working children are exposed, Table 2.26 distributes working children considered to be involved in child labour in such a way that children are counted only

<sup>22</sup> Because information on adult earnings is not publicly released, comparisons cannot be made between child and adult earnings.

once, even if they face multiple risks. For example, children working in mining and construction are categorized as involved in hazardous economic activity, regardless of whether or not they work an excessive number of hours. It may be understood from this procedure that eliminating one type of risk does not necessarily mean that the prevalence of child labour will decrease, although it does imply a reduction in the severity of the problem. Moreover, it should be noted that while the implicit ranking of risks is not based on hard evidence, the grouping of risks does help shed light on possible routes of action that may be helpful in tackling the problem of child labour.

As Table 2.26 indicates, 68.6 percent of child labourers are engaged in hazardous work. Children too young to work for even one hour per week constitute another sizeable proportion (24.4%) of child labourers. Children working above the statutory hours for their age in non-hazardous occupations/industries or conditions also constitute 3.1 percent of child labourers, and children in hazardous unpaid household services make up the remaining 4.0 percent of child labourers. A closer look at the largest group of child labourers – i.e. those engaged in hazardous work – reveals the problem of child labour in Moldova to arise not because of the type of economic activity or occupation in which children are employed, or because they work excessively long hours (less than 10 percent of children in hazardous work face such risks), but primarily because of poor working conditions. In fact, hazardous working conditions account for 90.1 percent of children in hazardous work and 62.1 percent of all child labourers. These findings indicate that regulating the working conditions of children in their existing jobs, as well as withdrawing very young children from the labour market, would be instrumental in reducing the problem of child labour.

A higher proportion of boys (22.6%) than girls (13.7%) are classified as child labourers, which results in boys accounting for 63.1 percent of child labour. However, the risks faced by boys and girls are fairly similar (see Table 2.26). The majority of both boys (70.5%) and girls (65.2%) are classified as child labourers because they are engaged in hazardous work. An additional 25.2 percent of boys and 23.1 percent of girls are classified as child labourers because they are too young to work at all, 3.3 percent of boys and 2.7 percent of boys are considered child labourers because they work in excess of the number of hours permitted for their age in non-hazardous work, and 9.1 percent of girls and 1.0 percent of boys are considered child labourers because they engage in hazardous unpaid household services (i.e. spend an excessive amount of time each week on 'household chores'). Among children in hazardous work, adverse working conditions are a problem for a larger proportion of girls (93.6%) than boys (88.9%), whereas among child labourers in general, a larger proportion of boys (9.6%) than girls (4.9%) are employed in industries or occupations that require their immediate removal.

**Table 2.27: Risks faced by working children in hazardous work (%)**

<b>Work environment</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>
Carrying heavy loads at work	47.1	55.0	33.2
Operating machinery/heavy equipment	28.3	29.6	26.0
Dust/fumes	34.8	34.4	35.5
Fire, gas, flames	0.8	0.9	0.5
Loud noise or vibration	4.8	5.7	3.1
Extreme cold or heat	37.6	39.2	34.9
Dangerous tools	38.5	38.9	37.6
Work underground	0.0	0.0	0.0
Work at heights	5.3	5.4	5.1
Work in water/lake/pond/river	0.1	0.2	0.0
Workplace too dark or confined	0.3	0.4	0.0
Insufficient ventilation	1.5	1.4	1.7
Chemicals	2.4	2.8	1.6
Explosives	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other unfavourable conditions	0.4	0.5	0.2
Constantly shouted at	16.5	16.5	16.4
Repeatedly insulted	8.1	9.4	5.7
Beaten/physically hurt	2.5	3.2	1.2
Sexually abused	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number of children in hazardous work	68,000	43,000	25,000

Table 2.27 shows the distribution of children in hazardous work according to workplace risk. The most common risk faced by working children is carrying heavy loads at work (47.1%), followed by working in extreme cold or heat (37.6%), working with dangerous tools (38.5%), working in environments with dust/fumes (34.8%), operating machinery/heavy equipment (28.3%) and being constantly shouted at (16.5%). Workplace risks are similar for boys and girls, with the exception that larger proportions of boys carry heavy loads and operate machinery or heavy equipment.

The overwhelming majority (91.7%) of child labourers in hazardous work are unpaid family workers. This outcome is unsurprising, given that 94.1 percent of working children are unpaid family workers. Wage workers and own-account workers, respectively, account for the remaining 5.9 percent and 2.4 percent of child labourers. These results indicate that unfavourable working conditions are as much of a problem for children who work alongside their parents as they are for children who work for other employers.

**Table 2.28: Distribution of child labourers by type of economic activity (%)**

<b>Economic activity (NACE rev.1)</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>
Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	93.8	93.4	94.4
Manufacturing	1.2	1.3	0.9
Construction	1.9	2.5	0.8
Wholesale and retail trade	1.6	1.0	2.6
Hotels and restaurants	0.4	0.4	0.4
Transport, storage and communication	0.1	0.2	0.3
Real estate, renting and business activity	0.2	0.1	-
Community, social and personal services	0.3	0.1	0.6
Other activities	0.8	1.0	0.1
Number of child labourers	105,000	68,000	37,000

Note: Covers economically active children only.

The distribution of child labourers across different types of economic activity follows the distribution of working children (Table 2.28). The overwhelming majority of child labourers are found in agriculture (93.8%), followed by construction (1.9%) and wholesale/retail trade (1.6%). The distribution of child labour by type of employment is quite similar for boys and girls, with 93.4 percent of boys and 94.4 percent of girls working in agriculture; however, boys are over-represented in construction and manufacturing, while girls are found more often in wholesale/retail trade.

**Table 2.29: Distribution of child labourers by occupation (%)**

<b>Occupation (ISCO-88)</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>
Technicians and associate professionals	0.1	0.1	-
Clerks	0.1	0.1	-
Service and sales workers	1.3	0.6	2.6
Skilled agricultural workers	1.2	1.1	1.3
Craft and related trades workers	0.8	0.9	0.6
Plant and machine operators, assemblers	0.2	0.2	0.1
Unskilled agricultural workers	92.2	92.1	92.3
Unskilled work other than agriculture	4.3	4.9	3.2
Number of child labourers	105,000	68,000	37,000

Note: Covers economically active children only.



The occupational distribution of child labourers shows an overwhelming concentration in elementary occupations: 92.2 percent of child labourers are found to work as unskilled agricultural workers and 4.3 percent as elementary workers outside of agriculture (Table 2.29). This pattern of occupational distribution holds true for both boys and girls, and it mimics the pattern observed for the working child population in general. The fact that the industrial and occupational distributions of child labourers are quite similar to those of working children in general stresses the point made earlier that what distinguishes child labourers is not the type of work in which they are engaged, but rather, the conditions under which they are required to work.

## 2.4. Household characteristics of working children

In this section of the report, the general household and geographic characteristics of working children and child labourers are analyzed to see whether these two groups of children differ in any way from the child population at large.

The household characteristics of children discussed in this section, namely, household size, composition and structure, migration, female headship and household income are naturally interdependent. More information on the effects of these factors on child employment and schooling is given in the multivariate analysis in Section 4.

### 2.4.1. Household size and composition

Households of children aged 5-17, on average, consist of 4.4 members. Both working children and child labourers come from slightly larger households ( $p < 0.00$ ) (Table 2.30). Overall, children under age five constitute 3.7 percent of all household members, children aged 5-17 years account for 40.1 percent and adults account for 56.2 percent. Households with working children and child labourers have a higher proportion of children aged 5-17 ( $p < 0.00$ ), but not necessarily a lower proportion of working age adults (i.e. adults aged 18-64). (The proportion of working age adults is also lower in households of working children and child labourers, but the difference is not statistically significant.)

**Table 2.30: Household size and composition**

	All	Working children	Child labourers
<b>Household size</b>	4.4 (1.4)	4.6 (1.5)	4.7 (1.5)
<b>Household composition (%)</b>			
Children aged 0-4 years	3.7	2.9	3.2
Children aged 5-17 years	40.1	41.1	41.3
Adults aged 18-64 years	53.5	53.2	52.9
Adults aged 65 years and over	2.7	2.7	2.6

Note: Covers households with children aged 5-17 only. Figures in parentheses are standard deviations.

**Table 2.31: Household structure of working children and child labourers (%)**

Household structure	All	Working children	Child labourers
Nuclear household – both parents present	66.3	70.6	70.2
Nuclear household – one parent present	8.4	7.2	6.9
Extended household – both parents present	14.6	13.2	13.9
Extended household – one parent present	6.4	4.9	4.8
Children not living with either parent	4.4	4.1	4.1
Total number of children	598,000	177,000	109,000

In terms of household structure, when compared to children in general, larger proportions of working children and child labourers reside in nuclear households with both parents. Conversely, a smaller proportion of working children and child labourers live in extended households. The proportion of working children and child labourers who do not reside with either of their parents is also slightly lower than among children in general ( $p < 0.10$ ). The lower employment rate of children in extended households may be related to household size and/or pooling of resources, which would reduce the need to employ children.

### 2.4.2. Migration status

At the time of the survey, 31.4 percent of all children aged 5-17 had at least one absent adult household member,<sup>23</sup> who, in the majority of cases, had migrated abroad (Table 2.32). Higher proportions of working children (39.8%) and child labourers (39.3%) had at least one absent household member than the average child (31.4%).

**Table 2.32: Proportion of children with absent household members (in %)**

	All	Working children	Child labourers
At least one member absent from household but in country	5.9	9.7	8.6
At least one member migrated abroad	27.5	33.0	33.7
At least one member migrated abroad or absent but in country	31.4	39.8	39.3
No absent member	68.6	60.2	60.7

In terms of employment rates, while 37.7 percent of children from households with at least one absent member work, only 26.0 percent of children from household with no absent members work. Similarly, while 22.9 percent of children with absent household members are child labourers, the corresponding figure for those with no absent members is 16.1 percent. In both cases, the differences in the employment rates are statistically significant. It is also interesting to note that children from households in which an absent member has migrated abroad have lower employment rates (35.7%) than children from households in which an absent member resides elsewhere in the country (49.2%), although the child labour rates are similar in both cases (22.5% of the former and 26.9% of the latter). It is possible that an absent household member located elsewhere in the country signifies a lack of resources to migrate abroad, and thus lower remittances, leading to the employment of children.

### 2.4.3. Female-headed households

Female-headed households constitute 32.5 percent of all households with children aged 5-17. In nearly half of such households, the spouse is absent. It is interesting to note that a smaller proportion of working children than non-working children (28.7% vs. 33.2%,  $p < 0.00$ ) come from households headed by a woman. The same is true for child labourers (26.1% vs. 33.2%,  $p < 0.00$ ). Moreover, rates of child employment as well as child labour are lower among children residing in a household headed by a woman (26.7% and 15.0%) than by a man (31.0% and 19.8%). In both cases, the differences are statistically significant.

### 2.4.4. Household assets

The CAS did not include questions on household income, consumption expenditures or assets owned. However, responses to questions on economic activity make it possible to infer whether or not the household possesses a subsidiary plot on which it carries out livestock farming, cultivation of fruits and vegetables or other similar activities for the household's own consumption and/or sale. Accordingly, 62.3 percent of all households with

<sup>23</sup> This figure excludes absent children. Among children aged 5-17, 1.7 were reported to be absent from the home and residing elsewhere in the country, whereas 0.8 percent had reportedly migrated abroad.



children aged 5-17 are estimated to cultivate a subsidiary plot.<sup>24</sup> In such households, 41.8 percent of children are employed, compared to only 5.1 percent of children from households that do not cultivate any subsidiary plot. (As noted earlier in Section 2.1, the existence of a subsidiary plot/kitchen garden plays a substantial role in determining adult employment as well.)

#### 2.4.5. Urban-rural differentiation

In terms of geographic distribution, 67.0 percent of children aged 5-17 live in rural areas. The prevalence of work among rural children (40.9%) is considerably higher than among children living in urban areas (7.0%). The prevalence of child labour is also higher among children in rural areas (24.9%) than among children in urban areas (5.0%). As a result of the higher proportion of children living in rural areas, combined with the higher rate of rural child employment, 92.0 percent of all working children and 90.9 percent of child labourers are found in rural areas.

The significantly higher prevalence of employment and child labour in rural areas when compared to urban areas holds true for both boys and girls. While 47.3 percent of boys and 34.1 of girls in rural areas work, the corresponding figures for boys and girls in urban areas are 9.6 percent and 4.5 percent, respectively. Similarly, 30.6 percent of boys and 18.7 percent of girls in rural areas are child labourers, as compared to 5.9 percent of boys and 4.1 percent of girls in urban areas.

#### 2.4.6. Regional differentiation

For statistical purposes, Moldova is divided into four regions: North, Centre, South and Chisinau Municipality. About 30 percent of the child population lives in the North, 32 percent in the Centre, 23 percent in the South and 16 percent in the Chisinau Municipality.

The prevalence of employment among children varies with region of residence. Whereas rates of child employment are similar in the North (29.1%) and South (30.5%), they are significantly higher in the Centre (42.3%) and significantly lower in Chisinau Municipality (5.1%). Considering that the prevalence of work among children is higher in rural areas, it is perhaps unsurprising that child employment is higher in the Centre, which is the region with the highest proportion of children residing in rural areas (at 83.4%). However, the prevalence of child labour does not show as much regional differentiation as that of child employment. Although the Chisinau Municipality has the lowest child labour rate (2.8%), rates in the Centre, South, and North are similar, at 23.5 percent, 22.2 percent and 18 percent, respectively.

**Table 2.33: Prevalence of employment and child labour among children by region (%)**

Region	Distribution of child population	Employment prevalence among children	Child labour prevalence among children	Children living in rural areas of the region
North	29.6	29.1	18.5	71.4
Centre	31.6	42.3	23.5	83.4
South	22.5	30.5	22.2	76.2
Chisinau Municipality	16.4	5.1	2.8	13.3

<sup>24</sup> A subsidiary plot is considered to exist if either children or adults report cultivating land. Estimated on the basis of adult responses only, the percentage drops slightly, to 60.6%. However, given that the existence of a subsidiary plot is assessed based on usage at the time of the survey rather than actual ownership, it is likely that these percentages are underestimates. Indeed, the 2005 LFS, which included a specific question on ownership, estimated that 97 percent of households in rural areas owned a subsidiary plot.

Variations in child employment and child labour rates by region are similar for boys and girls. The highest rates for both boys (48.7%) and girls (35.6%) are found in the Centre, followed by the South and North. Chisinau Municipality has the lowest employment rates for both boys (7.0%) and girls (3.3%). Variations in child labour rates by region are smaller than variations in employment rates by region for both boys and girls (Table 2.34).

**Table 2.34: Prevalence of employment and child labour among children by region and sex (%)**

Region	Employment prevalence among boys	Employment prevalence among girls	Child labour prevalence among boys	Child labour prevalence among girls
North	34.8	23.0	22.8	13.5
Centre	48.7	35.6	28.9	17.7
South	35.7	24.9	26.5	17.7
Chisinau Municipality	7.0	3.3	4.0	1.7

Owing to their fairly similar child labour rates, the North, Centre and South appear to warrant equal attention in terms of child labour policy. At the same time, the significantly higher rates of child labour among boys than among girls requires that special attention be directed towards boys, most obviously among those working in hazardous industries and occupations.

## SECTION 3: Determinants of child employment, Child labour and schooling

This section of the report examines the correlates of child employment, child labour and school attendance within a multivariate framework that explores possible connections between the factors identified in Section 2 of this report and children's work and school outcomes. Since decisions regarding time use differ depending on whether children live with their parents or have set up their own households, 27 children identified as either married, a household head, or living with a child household head are dropped from the original sample of 6,770 children aged 5-17, leaving a working sample of 6,743 children.

A rich literature exists on child employment and schooling. (For an earlier review see Basu and Van 1998; for a more recent review see Edmonds 2005. This section draws freely from Dayioglu 2009.) This literature has identified the following main determinants of child employment and schooling:

- Age of the child. Older children are expected to have a higher likelihood of employment, since the opportunity cost of time spent away from work – i.e., the forgone wage or loss of economic output – increases with age. For the same reason, the opportunity cost of schooling increases with age, which reduces the likelihood of older children attending school.
- Sex of the child. Girls usually have a lower likelihood of employment than boys, but a higher likelihood of performing unpaid household services ('chores'). A number of explanations have been proposed to explain this systematic difference. According to one argument, girls have a comparative advantage over boys in performing unpaid household services, perhaps because they work more closely with and thus learn from their mothers. Another argument suggests that unpaid household services performed at home have been defined as socially acceptable work activities and environments for girls.
- Parental age and education. Younger parents are likely to be more educated as a result of general trends towards increased schooling over the long-term. To the extent that more educated parents also demand more schooling for their children, children with younger and more educated parents are more likely to attend school and less likely to enter employment. Education and age can also be indicators of the earning capacity of parents, in which case children of younger and less educated parents would be at a disadvantage.
- Employment status of household head. Poverty is shown to be closely linked to high child labour and low schooling. Because CAS data does not include information on household income, consumption or assets owned, the age, education and employment status of the household head are used as indicators of the household's economic standing.
- Female head of household. Female headship often indicates that the male breadwinner is either absent from the household or unable to work. This has two implications: (1) If the absent bread-winner does not remit back, the household income will be lower, increasing the risk of a child dropping out of school and/or entering work; and (2) If it is the father's networks that help place a child in a job, the father's absence will reduce the risk of a child dropping out of school and/or entering work.
- Size, age composition and structure of household. The age composition of the household shows the ratio of dependents to working-age adults. The larger the share of dependents, the higher the risk of a child entering employment and/or dropping out of school. The household structure, i.e. who the child lives with, might have implications for employment and schooling outcomes for two different reasons: (1) The structure itself may represent a coping strategy against income risks; and (2) It may determine the allocation of resources within the household in favour of children of the household head over other children.
- Households with migrant members. A household's income may depend heavily on remittances. While the ability to migrate and remit back might diminish the poverty risk of the sender's household, reducing the need for children to work and/or drop out of school, the inability to remit back or insufficient remittances might burden children, who could end up substituting for absent household members. Remittances may also affect children's work and school outcomes by promoting gratitude among the recipients, thus increasing their willingness to spend the income on children's education, which is regarded as a common good (Gonzalez-Konig and Wodon, 2007). In general, findings of what is a growing literature on the role of remittances in determining child labour and schooling suggest that school outcomes improve and child

labour decreases in connection with remittances (see, for example, Ebeke, 2010; Elbadawy and Roushdy, 2009; Dimova, Epstein, and Gang, 2008; Lu and Treiman, 2007; Acosta, 2006).

- Agricultural assets. Studies have repeatedly shown that children are more likely to work when a household establishment exists (see, for example, Bhalotra and Heady, 2003; Basu, Das and Dutta, 2009). The CAS data does not specifically provide information on the existence of a household establishment, but the data on adult economic activity can be utilized to identify households that cultivate subsidiary plots or 'kitchen gardens'.
- Region of residence. Local labour markets and the quality of schooling may differ by region of residence. This analysis distinguishes between urban and rural areas and between four regions of the country: North, Centre, South and Chisinau Municipality.

Since the dependent variables – child employment, child labour and school attendance – are binary (taking a value of 0 or 1), a probit model is used to estimate the probability of child employment, child labour and school attendance. The findings of the probit models are presented in three separate sections below, along with a discussion of the factors associated with a higher than average risk of employment for children aged 5-17. In each case, the correlates are understood to have the effects described above.

### 3.1. Correlates of child employment

Table 3.1 shows the results of the probit analysis of child employment.<sup>25</sup> The model predicts the probability of employment among children to be 16.9 percent.<sup>26</sup> While this figure indicates that the employment risk of an average child is quite high, it is also considerably lower than the 29.7 percent observed rate of employment.

Among a child's individual characteristics, age and sex are both found to be strongly correlated with a child's likelihood of employment. In line with theory, older children are predicted to be at a higher risk of employment than younger children. However, although the likelihood of employment increases with age, it does so at a decreasing rate, so that the risk of employment peaks at age 15 and decreases thereafter (see Figure 3.1). Boys are also at a higher risk of employment than girls. This corresponds to the situation observed in many developing countries, and it can be partially explained by girls' greater involvement in unpaid household services.

<sup>25</sup> Since the coefficients estimated cannot be readily interpreted, the marginal effects showing the impacts of a unit change in covariates on the probability of child employment are also presented.

<sup>26</sup> The prediction is carried out at the mean of the variables used in the model.

Table 3.1: Likelihood of child employment based on probit equations

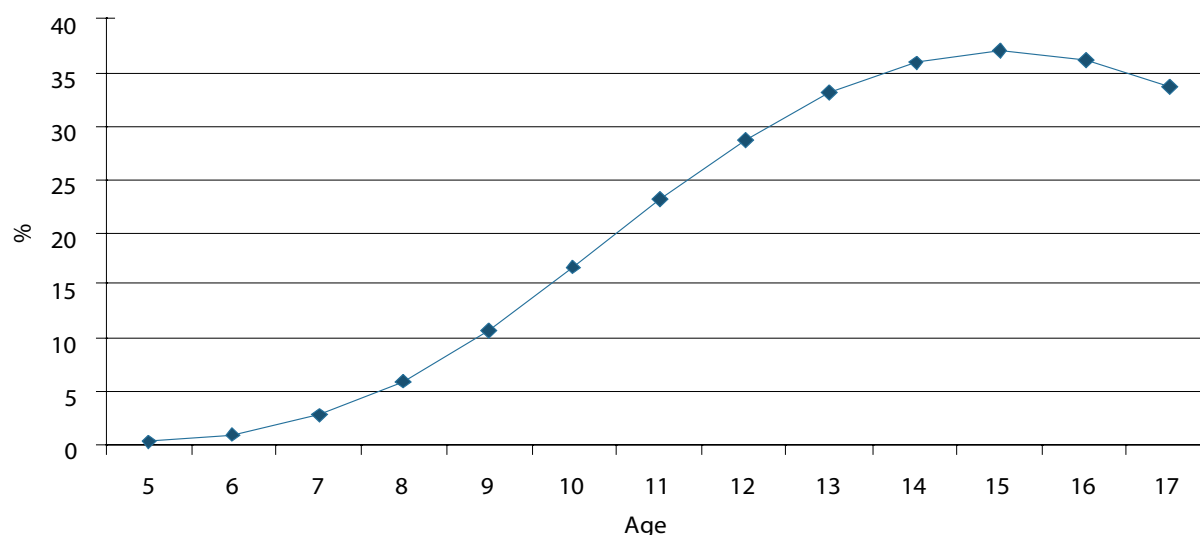
	All		Boys		Girls	
	Coeff	M. effect	Coeff	M. effect	Coeff	M. effect
Vârsta coChild's age	0.740***	0.187***	0.777***	0.241***	0.731***	0.136***
	[0.057]	[0.013]	[0.078]	[0.023]	[0.079]	[0.013]
Child's age squared (1/100)	-2.457***	-0.619***	-2.622***	-0.812***	-2.386***	-0.442***
	[0.232]	[0.055]	[0.318]	[0.095]	[0.321]	[0.055]
Female child	-0.470***	-0.118***				
	[0.043]	[0.011]				
Own child of household head	-0.111	-0.029	0.006	0.002	-0.303	-0.063
	[0.139]	[0.037]	[0.179]	[0.055]	[0.212]	[0.049]
Head of household: age	-0.004	-0.001	-0.008	-0.002	0.002	0.000
	[0.018]	[0.004]	[0.023]	[0.007]	[0.026]	[0.005]
Head of household: agesq (1/100)	0.006	0.001	0.019	0.006	-0.014	-0.003
	[0.018]	[0.004]	[0.023]	[0.007]	[0.026]	[0.005]
Head's educ: lyceum	0.159*	0.042*	0.227**	0.073**	0.07	0.013
	[0.084]	[0.023]	[0.112]	[0.038]	[0.113]	[0.022]
Head's educ: secondary voc.	0.175**	0.045**	0.282***	0.090***	0.018	0.003
	[0.082]	[0.022]	[0.108]	[0.036]	[0.109]	[0.020]
Head's educ: secondary prof.	0.132	0.035	0.180	0.058	0.039	0.007
	[0.108]	[0.030]	[0.144]	[0.049]	[0.142]	[0.027]
Head of HH educ: higher	0.079	0.021	0.304*	0.101*	-0.280*	-0.046*
	[0.121]	[0.032]	[0.163]	[0.058]	[0.167]	[0.024]
Head employed	0.268***	0.067***	0.224***	0.068***	0.339***	0.062***
	[0.053]	[0.013]	[0.069]	[0.021]	[0.075]	[0.013]
Spouse of head: age	0.051*	0.013*	0.068**	0.021**	0.027	0.005
	[0.027]	[0.007]	[0.034]	[0.011]	[0.041]	[0.008]
Spouse of head: agesq (1/100)	-0.058**	-0.015**	-0.081**	-0.025**	-0.025	-0.005
	[0.029]	[0.007]	[0.037]	[0.011]	[0.044]	[0.008]
Spouse of head, educ: lyceum	-0.059	-0.015	-0.054	-0.016	-0.071	-0.013
	[0.089]	[0.022]	[0.118]	[0.036]	[0.118]	[0.021]
Spouse of head, educ: sec. voc.	-0.031	-0.008	-0.07	-0.021	0.039	0.007
	[0.090]	[0.022]	[0.118]	[0.036]	[0.120]	[0.023]
Spouse of head, educ: sec. prof.	-0.166	-0.039	-0.227*	-0.066*	-0.087	-0.015
	[0.101]	[0.023]	[0.137]	[0.037]	[0.139]	[0.024]
Spouse of head, educ: higher	-0.082	-0.02	-0.214	-0.062	0.136	0.027
	[0.127]	[0.030]	[0.172]	[0.046]	[0.168]	[0.035]
Spouse of head, absent	1.198**	0.385**	1.254	0.446	1.017	0.262
	[0.601]	[0.215]	[0.786]	[0.280]	[0.886]	[0.285]
Female head of household	0.037	0.009	0.109	0.034	-0.072	-0.013
	[0.072]	[0.018]	[0.096]	[0.031]	[0.097]	[0.017]
Household size	0.028	0.007	0.031	0.01	0.033	0.006
	[0.020]	[0.005]	[0.027]	[0.008]	[0.026]	[0.005]
Proportion of 5-17 year-olds	-0.538	-0.136	-0.833*	-0.258*	-0.068	-0.013
	[0.358]	[0.090]	[0.469]	[0.145]	[0.492]	[0.091]
Proportion of 18-64 year-olds	-0.556	-0.14	-0.698	-0.216	-0.216	-0.04
	[0.393]	[0.099]	[0.521]	[0.161]	[0.548]	[0.101]
Proportion of 65 year-olds and above	0.555	0.14	-0.677	-0.21	2.369***	0.439***
	[0.600]	[0.152]	[0.810]	[0.250]	[0.788]	[0.148]
Nuclear household	0.339**	0.081**	0.176	0.053	0.544**	0.090**
	[0.166]	[0.037]	[0.208]	[0.062]	[0.241]	[0.036]
One parent nuclear household	0.25	0.069	0.346	0.117	0.13	0.026
	[0.206]	[0.062]	[0.263]	[0.095]	[0.302]	[0.064]
Extended household with parents	0.024	0.006	0.129	0.041	-0.132	-0.023
	[0.148]	[0.038]	[0.194]	[0.064]	[0.198]	[0.033]
Extended household with one	-0.011	-0.003	0.128	0.041	-0.209	-0.034
	[0.164]	[0.041]	[0.215]	[0.072]	[0.217]	[0.032]
Parent	0.190**	0.052**	0.166	0.054	0.246*	0.052*
	[0.097]	[0.028]	[0.134]	[0.046]	[0.132]	[0.031]
Household with absent members residing elsewhere in country						

Table 3.1: Likelihood of child employment based on probit equations

	All		Boys		Girls	
	Coeff	M. effect	Coeff	M. effect	Coeff	M. effect
Household with migrant members abroad	0.068 [0.057]	0.017 [0.015]	-0.034 [0.076]	-0.01 [0.023]	0.171** [0.076]	0.033** [0.015]
Subsidiary plot/kitchen garden	1.044*** [0.100]	0.221*** [0.017]	1.038*** [0.128]	0.276*** [0.028]	1.072*** [0.133]	0.163*** [0.017]
Rural	1.009*** [0.205]	0.215*** [0.036]	0.986*** [0.270]	0.263*** [0.060]	1.118*** [0.253]	0.171*** [0.032]
North	0.579*** [0.171]	0.162*** [0.052]	0.549** [0.235]	0.181** [0.081]	0.656*** [0.216]	0.143*** [0.054]
Centre	0.932*** [0.192]	0.269*** [0.061]	1.027*** [0.256]	0.346*** [0.089]	0.746*** [0.251]	0.163*** [0.063]
South	0.306 [0.190]	0.083 [0.055]	0.346 [0.238]	0.114 [0.082]	0.287 [0.270]	0.059 [0.060]
North*rural	-0.426* [0.234]	-0.095* [0.045]	-0.285 [0.310]	-0.083 [0.084]	-0.703** [0.296]	-0.101** [0.032]
Centre*rural	-0.515** [0.246]	-0.115** [0.048]	-0.521 [0.322]	-0.146 [0.080]	-0.493 [0.315]	-0.079 [0.043]
South*rural	-0.156 [0.248]	-0.037 [0.056]	-0.074 [0.311]	-0.023 [0.093]	-0.339 [0.331]	-0.054 [0.045]
Constant	-8.428*** [0.679]		-8.831*** [0.895]		-8.698*** [0.952]	
Observed probability	0.297		0.351		0.240	
Predicted probability at mean	0.169		0.238		0.108	
Wald chi2(33)	1132.54		689.83		580.45	
Prob > chi2	0.000		0.000		0.000	
Pseudo R2	0.324		0.331		0.311	
Observations	6,743		3,433		3,310	

Notes: Robust standard errors in brackets. Covers children ages 5-17. Reference categories for dummy variables include less than secondary schooling for household head's and his/her spouse's schooling, proportion of 0-4 year-olds for household composition, no parents present for household structure, Chisinau Municipality for regions. \* significant at 10%; \*\* significant at 5%; \*\*\* significant at 1%.

Figure 3.1: Predicted probability of employment by age



When household characteristics are examined, the education, and employment of the household head are found to be significant correlates of child employment. Contrary to expectations, higher education levels of the household head, where significant (at lyceum/secondary general education and secondary vocational levels), increase the risk of child employment. The likelihood of a child's employment is also higher when the household head is employed. One plausible explanation for these findings is that the employment of the household head is instrumental in generating employment opportunities for children. This conjecture is supported by the finding that a great majority of adults are employed in agriculture, a sector that offers extensive work opportunities for children. The education level of the spouse of the household head, however, is not found to be a significant correlate of child employment. While the household head's age appears to have no impact on the risk of child employment, this risk increases at a decreasing rate with the age of the household head's spouse. The absence of the household head's spouse also increases the risk of child employment, perhaps because children substitute for the absent household member.

While neither household size nor composition nor being the daughter/son of the household head appears to affect a child's risk of employment, children from nuclear households in which both parents are present have a higher risk of employment. It is possible that not being part of an extended household and/or not being able to supply migrant labour reduces a household's income opportunities, thereby increasing children's risk of employment. Since the model already accounts for household size, mere numbers cannot account for the difference in risk levels related to the different household structures; rather, it is likely that these differences are related to a household's ability or inability to buffer against risks through income pooling. In terms of absent household members, children from households with an absent member who resides elsewhere in the country – but not from households where a member has migrated abroad – are also at a higher risk of employment. The importance of household structure variables is illustrated in Table 3.2. For example, whereas the average probability of a child's employment is 16.9 percent, the probability is slightly higher (18.5%) for children in nuclear families with both parents present and without any absent members.<sup>27</sup> In contrast, children living in extended households with both parents present and without any absent members have an employment probability of 11.3 percent. Children who live in extended households with only one parent present and with at least one migrant member living abroad also have an employment probability of 11.3 percent, but if any member is absent and residing elsewhere in the country, the risk goes up to 14.5 percent. It should be noted that although the probability of employment changes according to household structure and migration status, in no case is the difference more than 5 percentage points from the mean in either direction. It is, however, surprising that children from households supplying migrant workers abroad do not have a reduced risk of employment. This may have to do with the amount of remittances received by a household and how they are used, for which no information is available.

**Table 3.2: Predicted probability of employment by migration status (%)**

<b>Scenarios: Child lives in...</b>	<b>Employment probability</b>
Nuclear family with parents, no absent member	18.5
Extended household with parents, no absent member	11.3
Extended household with one parent, migrant member abroad	11.9
Extended household with one parent, absent member resides in country	14.5
Average child	16.9

Children from households with kitchen gardens as well as children from rural areas also have a higher likelihood of employment. A child living in a rural area in a household that cultivates a subsidiary plot/kitchen garden has a 39.0 percent predicted probability of employment, which is more than twice the average. In contrast, a child who resides in an urban area in a household with a kitchen garden has only a 9.9 percent predicted probability of employment, and a child in an urban area whose household does not have a kitchen garden has a predicted probability of employment of a mere 1.0 percent.

Living in the North, Centre, or South of the country as opposed to the Chisinau Municipality also results in a higher risk of employment for children. Predicted risks are 16.8 percent, 24.6 percent and 16 percent, respectively,

<sup>27</sup> Whereas the marginal effects for dummy variables in tables are calculated by holding all other variables at their mean values and computing the change in the dependent variable as the dummy variable assumes a value of 1 and 0, the marginal effects in the text are computed by setting all related dummy variables to zero except for the one under analysis. As a result, the marginal effects given in the text may differ slightly from those reported in tables.

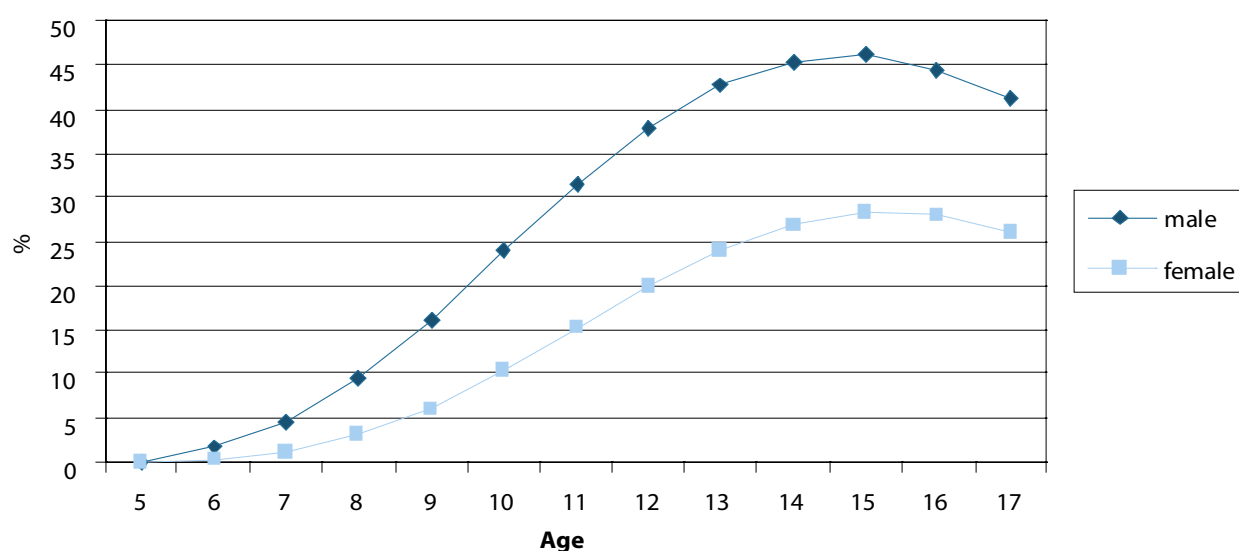


for the North, Centre and South, as opposed to 8.9 percent for the Chisinau Municipality. Considering that the average risk for children in Moldova in general is 16.9 percent, only children in the Centre have an above-average risk of employment. This is true for children in both urban and rural areas of the region, where the risk of child employment is 31.2 percent and 16.3 percent, respectively. By comparison, children in the North and South have a predicted employment risk of 22.6 and 22.5 percent, respectively, in rural areas and of 9.1 percent and 5.4 percent, respectively, in urban areas. Although predicted rates of child employment in the Chisinau Municipality are also considerably higher in rural areas (18.3%) than urban areas (2.8%), the differences among regions indicate that it is not only the rural character that increases the risk of child employment, but other factors that could not be accounted for in the model, such as the industrial structure of the region.

### 3.1.1. Correlates of employment for boys and girls

Table 3.1 also includes the results of separate probit analyses of child employment conducted for boys and girls. In both cases, the predicted probability of employment<sup>28</sup> is lower (23.8% for boys and 10.8% for girls) than the observed rate (35.1% for boys and 24% girls). While some of the factors associated with an increased risk of employment are similar for boys and girls, there are also some differences between the two.

Figure 3.2: Predicted probability of employment by age and sex



The likelihood of employment for both boys and girls increases with age until the age of 15, after which it decreases slightly; however, the rate of increase is slower for girls than boys (Figure 3.2). As a result, the gender gap in employment increases with age, which is suggestive of diverging gender roles. The slightly lower risk of employment for girls and boys beyond the age of compulsory schooling might have to do with children's transition from subsistence farming to employment in the formal sector.

The levels of education of the household head and his/her spouse exert different effects on the likelihood of employment for boys and for girls. Whereas lyceum, secondary general, secondary vocational and university education of the household head increase the likelihood of employment for boys, a girl's likelihood of employment decreases if the household head has a university education. If the spouse of a household head has a secondary professional school education rather than less than secondary education, the risk of a boy's employment increases, but a girl's risk is not affected. The increases in risk associated with increases in the level of education of the household head may have to do with a greater ability of an educated household head to generate employment

<sup>28</sup> At mean values of explanatory variables.



for himself/herself as well as for children. Although the age of the household head does not affect the likelihood of employment for either boys or girls, boys (but not girls) in households where the head's spouse is older are more likely to work, perhaps as a substitute for him/her. Finally, both boys and girls have a higher likelihood of employment if the head of their household is employed, which, again, may be connected to a greater ability to generate employment as a result.

While household size does not affect the employment probability of either boys or girls, the age composition of the household does. For any given household size, a higher proportion of children aged 5-17 reduces the probability of employment for boys, whereas a higher proportion of older household members (age 64+) increases the probability of employment for girls. Both these findings may be related to one household member substituting for another. In the former case, older boys may be substituting for their younger counterparts, and in the latter case, girls may be substituting for older household members. While it is likely that these types of substitutions are made possible by some type of division of labour along age and gender lines, there is no data available to confirm this. The employment probability of girls is also affected by household structure, with girls from nuclear families with both parents present as well as girls from households with absent members both having a higher likelihood of employment than other girls.

Both boys and girls from households that cultivate kitchen gardens are at a distinctly higher risk of employment, as are boys and girls residing in rural (as opposed to urban) areas. In terms of region, boys from the North, Centre and South have a higher likelihood of employment than boys from the Chisinau Municipality, whereas girls from the North and Centre but not from the South have a higher likelihood of employment than other girls.

### **3.1.2. Determinants of wage employment**

Given the literature on the link between child labour and international migration and remittances, the results of the probit analysis presented above might be considered surprising. The lack of information on remittances no doubt complicates the analysis, and might, in fact, be instrumental in generating the observed results. Furthermore, given the nature of employment in Moldova— the fact that it is basically family work in subsistence agriculture – perhaps these findings are not that unusual. To the extent that families maintain kitchen gardens, migration and/or remittances may have very little effect on children's involvement in agricultural work. If anything, migration may increase their involvement, as in the case of girls, as they substitute for absent household members, since imperfect labour markets in rural areas and small farm sizes do not make it feasible to hire wage labour.

Since the above arguments are less relevant for children employed as wage workers, the model presented in Table 3.1 has been re-estimated in order to understand the effects of migration on the employment status of children in wage work (See Appendix C).<sup>29</sup> The results indicate that the probability of wage work is reduced among children from households in which a member has migrated abroad, but that an absent household member residing elsewhere in Moldova has no effect on the likelihood of a child engaging in wage work. Therefore, given the finding that among working children, those employed for a wage work for longer hours than other working children, it can be suggested that emigration and/or remittances play a role in reducing, to a certain extent, the problem of child labour.

In addition to migration, some other variables have been found to have different effects on the wage employment of children as compared to child employment in general. For example, higher levels of education for the household head, where significant, reduce the likelihood of a child entering into wage employment, whereas the employment status of the household head, the existence of a kitchen garden, urban/rural residence and region of residence, which have statistically significant effects on child employment in general, do not appear to affect a child's risk of wage employment. Although household size does not have an effect on the risk of wage employment, a higher proportion of elderly dependents increases the likelihood of a child's employment as a wage worker.

<sup>29</sup> Due to the small sample size, it is not possible to provide separate analyses for boys and girls.

### 3.2. Correlates of child labour

The results of probit analysis indicate similarities between the correlates of child employment and child labour (Table 3.3). For instance, age is an important determinant of both child employment and child labour, with the likelihood of both increasing with age, although at a decreasing rate. However, this increase peaks at age 15 for child employment compared to age 14 for child labour, perhaps due to the fact that older children are permitted to work more hours than younger children before being classified as child labourers (See definitions, Section 1.3). In line with the findings on child employment, boys are more likely than girls to become child labourers.

**Table 3.3: Likelihood of child labour based on probit equations**

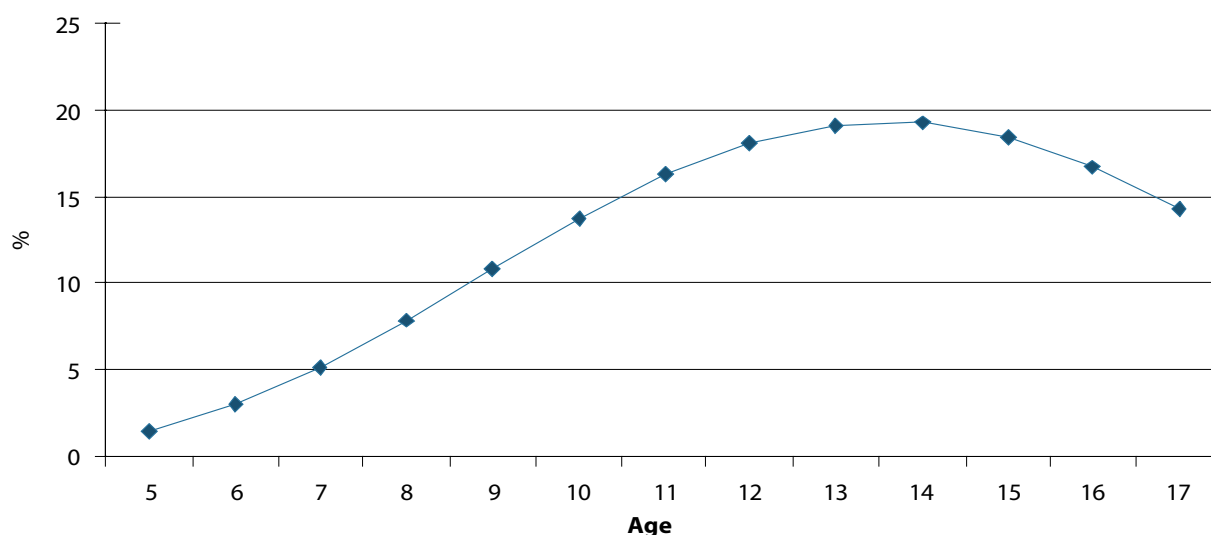
	All		Boys		Girls	
	Coeff	M. effect	Coeff	M. effect	Coeff	M. effect
Vârsta coChild's age	0.477***	0.095***	0.474***	0.115***	0.509***	0.078***
	[0.046]	[0.009]	[0.063]	[0.015]	[0.066]	[0.011]
Child's age squared (1/100)	-1.753***	-0.350***	-1.725***	-0.419***	-1.900***	-0.292***
	[0.194]	[0.039]	[0.269]	[0.064]	[0.283]	[0.045]
Female child	-0.392***	-0.078***				
	[0.043]	[0.009]				
Own child of household head	0.13	0.025	0.139	0.032	0.096	0.014
	[0.137]	[0.025]	[0.176]	[0.039]	[0.210]	[0.030]
Head of household: age	0.003	0.001	0.028	0.007	-0.031	-0.005
	[0.019]	[0.004]	[0.023]	[0.006]	[0.026]	[0.004]
Head of household: agesq (1/100)	-0.002	0.000	-0.023	-0.005	0.029	0.004
	[0.018]	[0.004]	[0.023]	[0.006]	[0.026]	[0.004]
Head's educ: lyceum	0.086	0.018	0.081	0.020	0.086	0.014
	[0.080]	[0.017]	[0.106]	[0.027]	[0.111]	[0.018]
Head's educ: secondary voc.	0.123	0.025	0.156	0.039	0.074	0.012
	[0.078]	[0.016]	[0.101]	[0.026]	[0.105]	[0.017]
Head's educ: secondary prof.	0.029	0.006	0.062	0.015	0.001	0.000
	[0.103]	[0.021]	[0.135]	[0.034]	[0.144]	[0.022]
Head of HH educ: higher	-0.039	-0.008	0.097	0.024	-0.182	-0.026
	[0.127]	[0.025]	[0.158]	[0.041]	[0.178]	[0.023]
Head employed	0.138**	0.027**	0.145**	0.035**	0.145*	0.022*
	[0.055]	[0.011]	[0.068]	[0.016]	[0.076]	[0.011]
Spouse of head: age	0.033	0.007	0.054	0.013	0.007	0.001
	[0.025]	[0.005]	[0.033]	[0.008]	[0.036]	[0.006]
Spouse of head: agesq (1/100)	-0.038	-0.008	-0.069*	-0.017*	-0.003	0.000
	[0.026]	[0.005]	[0.036]	[0.009]	[0.039]	[0.006]
Spouse of head, educ: lyceum	-0.038	-0.008	-0.143	-0.033	0.114	0.018
	[0.084]	[0.016]	[0.110]	[0.025]	[0.113]	[0.019]
Spouse of head, educ: sec. voc.	-0.032	-0.006	-0.102	-0.024	0.071	0.011
	[0.089]	[0.017]	[0.114]	[0.026]	[0.120]	[0.020]
Spouse of head, educ: sec. prof.	-0.198*	-0.036*	-0.409***	-0.084***	0.062	0.010
	[0.101]	[0.017]	[0.131]	[0.023]	[0.138]	[0.023]
Spouse of head, educ: higher	-0.173	-0.032	-0.338**	-0.071**	0.046	0.007
	[0.127]	[0.021]	[0.168]	[0.030]	[0.182]	[0.030]
Spouse of head, absent	0.879	0.230	1.090	0.337	0.638	0.127
	[0.579]	[0.184]	[0.775]	[0.274]	[0.820]	[0.202]
Female head of household	-0.132*	-0.026*	-0.138	-0.033	-0.132	-0.02
	[0.076]	[0.014]	[0.098]	[0.022]	[0.105]	[0.015]
Household size	0.056***	0.011***	0.079***	0.019***	0.039	0.006
	[0.021]	[0.004]	[0.027]	[0.006]	[0.027]	[0.004]
Proportion of 5-17 year-olds	-0.084	-0.017	-0.466	-0.113	0.580	0.089
	[0.350]	[0.070]	[0.439]	[0.107]	[0.498]	[0.077]
Proportion of 18-64 year-olds	0.012	0.002	-0.106	-0.026	0.346	0.053
	[0.393]	[0.078]	[0.499]	[0.121]	[0.558]	[0.086]
Proportion of 65 year-olds and above	0.791	0.158	0.868	0.211	1.022	0.157
	[0.581]	[0.117]	[0.769]	[0.188]	[0.821]	[0.127]
Nuclear household	0.115	0.022	-0.002	-0.001	0.296	0.043
	[0.150]	[0.029]	[0.192]	[0.047]	[0.239]	[0.032]

Table 3.3: Likelihood of child labour based on probit equations

	All		Boys		Girls	
	Coeff	M. effect	Coeff	M. effect	Coeff	M. effect
One parent nuclear household	0.024 [0.196]	0.005 [0.040]	0.052 [0.247]	0.013 [0.062]	-0.001 [0.313]	0.000 [0.048]
Extended household with parents	-0.098 [0.140]	-0.019 [0.026]	-0.074 [0.181]	-0.018 [0.042]	-0.187 [0.208]	-0.026 [0.026]
Extended household with one parent	-0.117 [0.145]	-0.022 [0.026]	-0.129 [0.190]	-0.03 [0.041]	-0.095 [0.218]	-0.014 [0.030]
Household with absent members residing elsewhere in country	0.005 [0.100]	0.001 [0.020]	0.222* [0.131]	0.059* [0.038]	-0.313** [0.142]	-0.040** [0.014]
Household with migrant members abroad	0.094* [0.056]	0.019* [0.012]	0.072 [0.072]	0.018 [0.018]	0.103 [0.078]	0.016 [0.013]
Subsidiary plot/kitchen garden	0.640*** [0.094]	0.113*** [0.014]	0.624*** [0.122]	0.136*** [0.024]	0.668*** [0.126]	0.089*** [0.015]
Rural	0.445** [0.210]	0.082** [0.035]	0.555** [0.280]	0.122** [0.054]	0.315 [0.298]	0.045 [0.040]
North	0.652*** [0.211]	0.151*** [0.056]	0.485* [0.269]	0.129* [0.077]	0.816*** [0.254]	0.158*** [0.059]
Centre	0.601*** [0.194]	0.136*** [0.048]	0.710*** [0.256]	0.194*** [0.075]	0.413 [0.291]	0.071 [0.055]
South	0.182 [0.189]	0.039 [0.042]	0.178 [0.261]	0.045 [0.069]	0.206 [0.265]	0.034 [0.047]
North*rural	-0.276 [0.262]	-0.05 [0.043]	-0.101 [0.330]	-0.024 [0.075]	-0.462 [0.353]	-0.059 [0.037]
Centre*rural	-0.113 [0.248]	-0.022 [0.046]	-0.232 [0.319]	-0.053 [0.069]	0.091 [0.376]	0.014 [0.061]
South*rural	0.354 [0.246]	0.081 [0.064]	0.331 [0.326]	0.089 [0.096]	0.375 [0.358]	0.068 [0.076]
Constant	-6.327*** [0.601]		-7.149*** [0.813]		-6.043*** [0.854]	
Observed probability	0.182		0.226		0.136	
Predicted probability at mean	0.120		0.160		0.084	
Wald chi2(33)	599.93		376.56		328.36	
Prob > chi2	0.000		0.000		0.000	
Pseudo R2	0.170		0.179		0.151	
Observations	6,743		3,433		3,310	

Notes: Robust standard errors in brackets. Covers children ages 5-17. Reference categories for dummy variables include less than secondary schooling for household head's and his/her spouse's schooling, proportion of 0-4 year-olds for household composition, no parents present for household structure, the Chisinau Municipality for regions. \* significant at 10%; \*\* significant at 5%; \*\*\* significant at 1%.

Figure 3.3: Predicted probability of child labour by age



In terms of household characteristics, neither the age of the household head or the household head's spouse nor the education level of the household head is a significant correlate of child labour. However, children in households where the head's spouse has a secondary professional education are at reduced risk of child labour. Children from households headed by women are also less likely to become child labourers (although this factor does not affect the likelihood of child employment in general.) In contrast, children from larger households and households where the head is employed are more likely to be child labourers. Although household structure is not found to be a significant correlate of child labour, children with migrant household members abroad have a higher likelihood of becoming child labourers.<sup>30</sup>

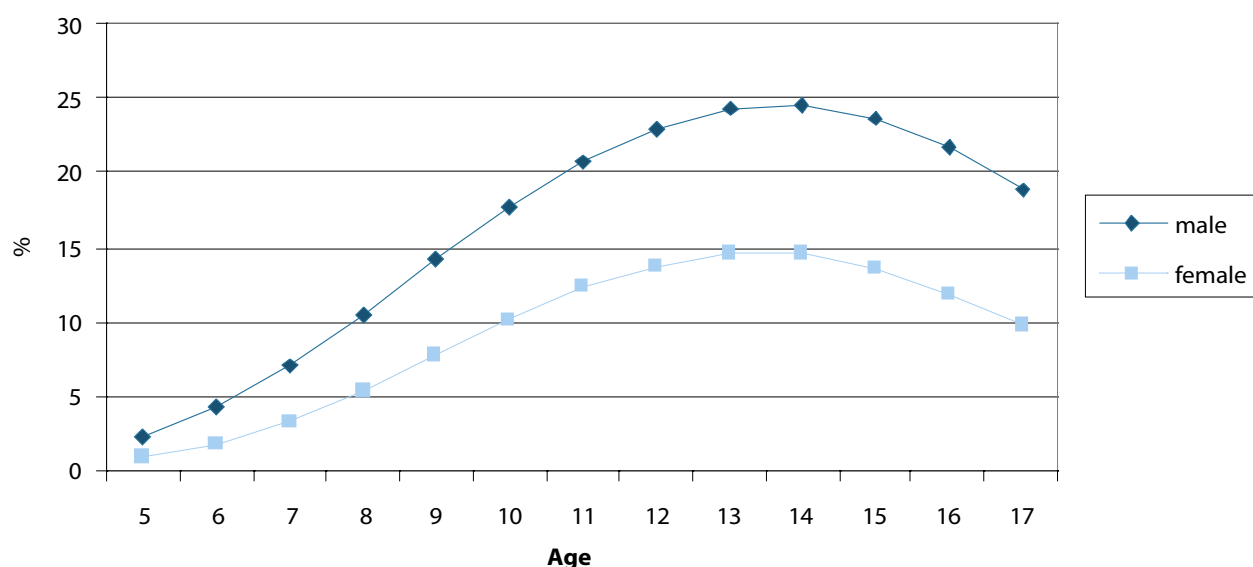
In line with the findings for child employment, coming from a household that cultivates a kitchen garden and residing in a rural area increase a child's risk of becoming a child labourer (by 11.3 percentage points and 7.3 percentage points, respectively). Region of residence is also found to affect child labour, with residence in the North, Centre and South carrying a higher risk than residence in the Chisinau Municipality. However, given that the risks for the North, Centre and South vary by no more than 2 percentage points, whereas the difference in risk between these three regions and the Chisinau Municipality is between 7-9 percentage points, any reduction in the risk of becoming a child labourer appears to be related more to whether or not a child resides in an urban area and/or the Chisinau Municipality than whether s/he lives in the North, Centre or South.

### 3.2.1. Correlates of child labour for boys and girls

Age is an important determinant of child labour for both boys and girls, with the likelihood of both increasing with age, although at a decreasing rate. However, whereas this increase peaks at age 14 for boys, the peak comes at age 13 for girls (Figure 3.4). Although the level of education of the household head and the head's spouse is generally an insignificant determinant of child labour for both boys and girls, boys from households in which the spouse has a secondary professional or university education are at a lower risk of child labour. Coming from a household in which the household head is employed increases the risk of child labour for both boys and girls.

A larger household size increases the risk of child labour for boys, but not for girls. Coming from a household with an absent member who resides elsewhere in the country also increases the risk of child labour for boys, whereas the same situation lowers the risk of child labour for girls. For both boys and girls, the risk of child labour increases substantially with the existence of a kitchen garden, although the increase is greater for boys (13.6%) than for girls (8.9%).

Figure 3.4: Predicted probability of child labour by age and sex



<sup>30</sup> The significance level is at 10%.

Region of residence is an important determinant of child labour for both boys and girls, with those residing outside the Chisinau Municipality at an increased risk for child labour. Residence in a rural area also affects the likelihood of becoming a child labourer for both boys and girls. However, while residence in a rural area increases a boy's likelihood of becoming a child labourer by 11.2 percentage points, the corresponding increase among girls amounts to only 4.0 percentage points. Likewise, residing in a rural area of the Centre region as opposed to a rural area of the Chisinau Municipality increases a boy's risk by 12.0 percentage points, compared to 7.3 percentage points for girls.

### 3.3. Correlates of child schooling

Since school attendance among children of compulsory school age is nearly universal (see Section 2), with attendance rates starting to decline only when children reach age 16, this section of the report looks at the correlates of school enrolment for children aged 16-17, for whom non-attendance becomes an option. Table 3.4 shows the results of probit analysis of the school attendance of children aged 16-17.

Attendance rates for children age 16 and age 17 are estimated at 88.5 and 80.4 percent, respectively. As with child employment and child labour, age is again found to be an important determinant of school attendance. A predicted attendance gap of 8.5 percentage points exists between children age 16 and age 17, with those age 16 more likely to attend school. Girls are also more likely to attend school than boys, with the gender gap in attendance rates averaging 9.8 percentage points.

In terms of household characteristics, higher education levels of the household head and the household head's spouse, where significant, increase children's likelihood of school attendance. For example, children in a household where the head (or the head's spouse) has completed lyceum, secondary professional or university education have a higher probability of school attendance than children where the household head (or spouse) has less than secondary schooling.

Sons and daughters of the household head are less likely (by 11.3%) to attend school than children not directly related to the household head. This surprising finding may be indicative of financial constraints that limit children's schooling or of the availability of other options for children of the household head, such as employment or migration. The latter explanation seems unlikely, since relationship to the household head was not found to be a significant correlate of child employment and very few children are migrants.

**Table 3.4: Likelihood of school attendance of children aged 16-17 based on probit equations**

	All		Boys		Girls	
	Coeff	M. effect	Coeff	M. effect	Coeff	M. effect
Child's age	-0.429*** [0.100]	-0.075*** [0.017]	-0.505*** [0.136]	-0.124*** [0.034]	-0.306* [0.157]	-0.029* [0.015]
Female child	0.557*** [0.100]	0.098*** [0.018]				
Own child of household head	-1.122*** [0.294]	-0.113*** [0.021]	-1.460*** [0.378]	-0.206*** [0.035]	-0.979* [0.537]	-0.050* [0.016]
Head of household: age	-0.048 [0.049]	-0.008 [0.009]	-0.070 [0.057]	-0.017 [0.014]	-0.015 [0.081]	-0.001 [0.008]
Head of household: agesq (1/100)	0.036 [0.045]	0.006 [0.008]	0.065 [0.053]	0.016 [0.013]	-0.008 [0.075]	-0.001 [0.007]
Head's educ: lyceum	0.570*** [0.162]	0.082*** [0.021]	0.484** [0.223]	0.103** [0.043]	0.804*** [0.239]	0.057*** [0.016]
Head's educ: secondary voc.	0.259 [0.159]	0.043 [0.026]	0.295 [0.205]	0.070 [0.047]	0.354 [0.240]	0.031 [0.020]
Head's educ: secondary prof. or higher	0.981*** [0.282]	0.125*** [0.024]	1.082*** [0.301]	0.192*** [0.039]	1.006** [0.392]	0.068** [0.019]
Head employed	0.168 [0.120]	0.03 [0.022]	0.09 [0.151]	0.022 [0.038]	0.441** [0.172]	0.044** [0.021]
Spouse of head: age	-0.092 [0.079]	-0.016 [0.013]	-0.057 [0.088]	-0.014 [0.022]	-0.207 [0.168]	-0.020 [0.015]
Spouse of head: agesq (1/100)	0.100 [0.077]	0.017 [0.013]	0.061 [0.087]	0.015 [0.021]	0.232 [0.177]	0.022 [0.016]

**Table 3.4: Likelihood of school attendance of children aged 16-17 based on probit equations**

	All		Boys		Girls	
	Coeff	M. effect	Coeff	M. effect	Coeff	M. effect
Spouse of head, educ: lyceum	0.272*	0.043*	0.344	0.076	0.116	0.010
	[0.163]	[0.023]	[0.223]	[0.045]	[0.232]	[0.020]
Spouse of head, educ: sec. voc.	0.434**	0.064***	0.491*	0.103*	0.277	0.023
	[0.207]	[0.024]	[0.253]	[0.045]	[0.272]	[0.019]
Spouse of head, educ: sec. prof. or higher	0.615***	0.087***	0.507*	0.107*	0.826**	0.059**
	[0.209]	[0.025]	[0.268]	[0.047]	[0.322]	[0.020]
Spouse of head, absent	-1.873	-0.525	-1.39	-0.436	-4.534	-0.969
	[1.961]	[0.636]	[2.175]	[0.746]	[3.908]	[0.202]
Female head of household	-0.203	-0.037	-0.078	-0.019	-0.306	-0.032
	[0.176]	[0.034]	[0.231]	[0.059]	[0.236]	[0.027]
Household size	-0.120***	-0.021***	-0.096*	-0.023*	-0.145**	-0.014**
	[0.046]	[0.008]	[0.057]	[0.014]	[0.063]	[0.006]
Proportion of 5-17 year-olds	1.251	0.217	2.605*	0.638*	-0.412	-0.039
	[0.927]	[0.160]	[1.544]	[0.379]	[1.180]	[0.112]
Proportion of 18-64 year-olds	1.285	0.223	2.579	0.632	-0.455	-0.043
	[0.977]	[0.168]	[1.602]	[0.392]	[1.260]	[0.120]
Proportion of 65 year-olds and above	0.315	0.055	0.534	0.131	0.261	0.025
	[1.317]	[0.228]	[2.004]	[0.490]	[1.797]	[0.170]
Nuclear household	1.247***	0.285***	1.574***	0.449***	0.665	0.082
	[0.227]	[0.064]	[0.299]	[0.091]	[0.409]	[0.063]
One parent nuclear household	1.102***	0.110***	1.614***	0.203***	0.558	0.037
	[0.334]	[0.020]	[0.431]	[0.030]	[0.590]	[0.026]
Extended household with parents	1.192***	0.111***	1.324***	0.190***	1.475***	0.055***
	[0.271]	[0.015]	[0.322]	[0.026]	[0.470]	[0.012]
Extended household with one parent	0.449	0.060	0.243	0.053	0.950*	0.045*
	[0.292]	[0.029]	[0.407]	[0.078]	[0.509]	[0.013]
Household with absent members residing elsewhere in country	0.138	0.022	0.184	0.042	-0.042	-0.004
	[0.195]	[0.029]	[0.253]	[0.052]	[0.311]	[0.031]
Household with migrant members abroad	0.133	0.022	0.258	0.060	0.047	0.004
	[0.128]	[0.021]	[0.167]	[0.038]	[0.187]	[0.017]
Subsidiary plot/Kitchen garden	-0.195	-0.033	-0.237	-0.056	-0.058	-0.005
	[0.167]	[0.027]	[0.215]	[0.049]	[0.266]	[0.024]
Rural	-0.037	-0.006	0.025	0.006	-0.341	-0.03
	[0.387]	[0.066]	[0.469]	[0.116]	[0.503]	[0.039]
North	-0.223	-0.041	-0.376	-0.1	0.06	0.005
	[0.340]	[0.067]	[0.415]	[0.117]	[0.543]	[0.049]
Center	-0.789***	-0.162***	-0.982***	-0.276***	-0.504	-0.055
	[0.301]	[0.069]	[0.358]	[0.108]	[0.465]	[0.059]
South	-0.507	-0.105	-0.352	-0.094	-0.726	-0.097
	[0.379]	[0.090]	[0.451]	[0.130]	[0.493]	[0.089]
North*rural	-0.452	-0.094	-0.283	-0.075	-0.656	-0.088
	[0.468]	[0.115]	[0.565]	[0.163]	[0.671]	[0.122]
Center*rural	0.496	0.075	0.497	0.108	0.448	0.037
	[0.418]	[0.053]	[0.507]	[0.095]	[0.616]	[0.043]
South*rural	-0.013	-0.002	-0.45	-0.125	0.588	0.041
	[0.482]	[0.085]	[0.588]	[0.184]	[0.653]	[0.031]
Constant	10.347***		10.027***		12.784***	
	[2.367]		[2.937]		[4.370]	
Observed probability	0.844		0.783		0.905	
Predicted probability at mean	0.901		0.838		0.955	
Wald chi2(33)	223.27		174.97		98.25	
Prob > chi2	0.000		0.000		0.000	
Pseudo R2	0.237		0.258		0.220	
Observations	1,411		709		702	

Notes: Robust standard errors in brackets. Covers children ages 16 and 17. Reference categories for dummy variables include less than secondary schooling for household head's and his/her spouse's schooling, proportion of 0-4 year-olds for household composition, no parents present for household structure, the Chisinau Municipality for regions. \* significant at 10%; \*\* significant at 5%; \*\*\* significant at 1%.



**Table 3.5: Predicted probability of school attendance by household structure**

Scenarios: Child lives in...	School attendance probability (%)
Nuclear family with parents (son/daughter of head)	89.9
Nuclear family with one parent (son/daughter of head)	87.2
Extended household with parents (son/daughter of head)	88.9
Extended household with parents (not son/daughter of head)	99.0
Child does not live with either parent (not son/daughter of head)	87.6
Average child	90.1

Children from larger households are less likely to attend school, although household composition does not seem to play a role. Household structure is also a significant correlate of children's school attendance. In fact, the relationship of the child to the household head may be interpreted within the context of household structure (Table 3.5). As Table 3.5 shows, the attendance rates of children reaches their peak at 99 percent among children who live in extended family households with both parents present, but where neither parent is the head of the household. In contrast, among children in nuclear family households with both parents, the probability of school attendance is 89.9 percent. This figure drops by about 2.5 percentage points when only one parent is present and by about 2 percentage points when neither parent is present. It is possible that household headship in an extended family setting reflects power relations based on income or culture, either of which might be instrumental in increasing children's schooling. At the same time, it must be noted that living in an extended household and perhaps, as a result, not being the household head in itself represents a choice that may affect children's schooling outcomes. For example, parents who have a strong desire to educate their children may be more likely than less motivated parents to choose to live in an extended household setting in order to make it possible for their children to attend school. In other words, unobserved parental characteristics might play a role in generating the observed outcomes.

In contrast to their strong association with high levels of child employment and child labour, neither the existence of a kitchen garden nor rural residence is a significant correlate of school attendance. Regional variation does exist, to a certain extent, with residence outside the Chisinau Municipality associated with lower school attendance rates. Interestingly, although predicted probabilities of both child employment and child labour are highest in rural areas of the Centre, the probability of school attendance is also high, at 91.4 percent, compared to only 83.8 percent for the rural North and 87.3 percent for the rural South. In contrast, children in urban areas in the Centre are likely to have lower attendance rates; for example, the predicted school attendance rate of children in urban areas of the Centre is about 14 percentage points lower than children in urban areas of the Chisinau Municipality.

### **3.3.1. Correlates of school attendance for boys and girls**

Predicted probabilities of boys' and girls' school attendance (at mean values of explanatory variables) exceed the observed rates by about five percentage points. Although the factors associated with lower school attendance are similar for boys and girls, their marginal effects reflect certain differences. For instance, while older boys and girls have a lower likelihood of school attendance than younger boys and girls, the drop in attendance is sharper for boys than for girls. For boys with average household characteristics, the probability of school attendance drops from 88.7 percent at age 16 to 75.9 percent at age 17, compared to a corresponding drop from 96.0 percent to 92.6 percent for girls. Being the child of a household head also has a more important impact on the school attendance of boys than girls. While the school attendance probability is 20.6 percentage points lower for sons of household heads than for other boys, the difference in probability is only 5.0 percentage points lower for daughters of household heads than for other girls.

Household structure affects the school attendance of both boys and girls, but in different ways. Whereas girls residing in an extended household setting with either both parents or one parent have a higher probability of school attendance than other girls, for boys, compared to not living with either parent, all other types of family structures, except for extended households with only one parent, result in higher school attendance rates. Table 3.6 shows the combined effect of household structure and a child's relationship to the household head for both boys and girls. While for girls, the lowest attendance rate (92.7%) is predicted for those in one-parent nuclear

families, for boys, the lowest rate (80.5%) is predicted for those not living with either parent. The greater effect of household structure on the probability of school attendance for boys in comparison to girls is striking, with rates varying by less than 10 percentage points for girls, compared to more than 20 percent for boys.

**Table 3.6: Predicted probability of school attendance of boys and girls by household structure (%)**

Scenarios: Child lives in...	Boys	Girls
Nuclear family with parents (son/daughter of head)	83.5	94.0
Nuclear family with one parent (son/daughter of head)	84.4	92.7
Extended household with parents (son/daughter of head)	76.5	99.1
Extended household with parents (not son/daughter of head)	98.6	100
Child does not live with either parent (not son/daughter of head)	80.5	96.9
Average child	83.8	95.5

Higher levels of education of both the household head and the spouse of the household head may increase the likelihood of school attendance for both boys and girls; however, the school attendance of boys seems to be relatively more responsive to such differences in education. For example, while the probability of school attendance is 24.2 percentage points higher for boys with household heads who have either a secondary professional or university education compared to those with household heads who have less than a secondary school education, the corresponding difference among girls is only 11.7 percentage points.

Both boys and girls from larger households stand at a lower likelihood of attending school. While the composition of the household does not affect the school attendance of girls, a higher share of children aged 5-17 increases boys' likelihood of attending school. Absent household members do not affect the school attendance rates of boys or girls. Similarly, children from households that operate kitchen gardens do not have a reduced likelihood of school attendance.

With the exception of the North, girls residing outside of the Chisinau Municipality do not have a lower likelihood of attending school.<sup>31</sup> For boys, residence in any region outside the Chisinau Municipality decreases the likelihood of school attendance, with the difference particularly noticeable in the South, despite the fact that the South is not the region with the greatest likelihood of employment among boys.<sup>32</sup>

<sup>31</sup> The 'North' variables are jointly statistically significant ( $p < 0.1$ .)

<sup>32</sup> The 'Region' dummies are jointly statistically significant ( $p < 0.05$ ).



## SECTION 4: Health and school outcomes of children in employment

Working children in general and child labourers in particular are viewed as vulnerable groups because of their inability to protect themselves from the potentially damaging consequences of work. Apart from the obvious cases where the destructive effects of work are reflected in bodily harm, documenting the negative consequences of employment is not an easy task, given the wide range of effects that are not readily observable or that only become apparent over an extended period of time. In addition, the factors that lead children to drop out of school may confound the effects of work. Finally, not knowing the counterfactual – i.e. how a working child would have developed had he or she not worked – makes it even more difficult to ascertain the true effects of work on children. Notwithstanding these caveats, documenting the working conditions as well as the schooling outcomes of children can provide important information as to the potential dangers children face from work, which can in turn provide important clues for the future well-being of working children as they reach adulthood.

The CAS includes a series of questions that aim to provide an understanding of the schooling outcomes of children and the conditions under which they work. This section of the report examines actual and potential health outcomes as measured by the illnesses/injuries working children experienced during the year preceding the survey, their working conditions and the way in which they are treated at work. School outcomes are measured by school attendance, school starting age and school days missed. Questions related to schooling are asked of both working and non-working children; however, any discrepancies observed between the two groups cannot be attributed to the negative consequences of work, since they may be the result of common underlying factors that simultaneously affect decisions related to both work and school.

### 4.1. Health outcomes of children in employment

Of the 219,000 children aged 5-17 (or 36.6% of this age group) estimated to work at any time over a 12-month period, roughly 10 percent have suffered from some sort of work-related illness or injury (Table 4.1). The majority of working children (3.9%) complain of extreme fatigue, while other common complaints include dislocation/sprains (2.4%), fever (1.9%) and respiratory problems (1.8%).

Although a greater proportion of boys (10.9%) than girls (8.5%) are estimated to have suffered from a work-related illness or injury, the difference is minimal, especially given the fact that the rate of child labour is higher among boys than girls. Extreme fatigue is the most common complaint of both boys and girls, whereas physical injuries (cuts, fractures, sprains, etc.) are estimated to affect boys at higher rates than girls. This may have to do with the fact that a larger proportion of working boys (24.8%) than girls (13.3%) carry heavy loads or operate machinery/heavy equipment at work (12.3% of employed boys and 9.4% of employed girls).

**Table 4.1: Work-related illnesses/injuries of children (%)**

Type of illness/injury suffered	All	Boys	Girls
Superficial cuts/injuries	1.4	1.8	1.0
Fracture	0.4	0.7	0.1
Dislocation/sprain	2.4	2.9	1.8
Burns, corrosions, frostbite	0.9	0.8	1.0
Respiratory-related problem	1.8	1.6	1.9
Eye problem	0.4	0.4	0.4
Skin problems	1.5	1.4	1.6
Stomach problem/diarrhoea	1.1	1.0	1.3
Fever	1.9	1.7	2.2
Extreme fatigue	3.9	4.3	3.5
Any illness/injury	9.8	10.9	8.5
Number of employed in past 12 months	219,000	124,000	94,000

Note: The reference period for employment is the year preceding the survey.

**Table 4.2: Consequences of child's most serious illness/injury (%)**

Consequence	All	Boys	Girls
Not serious – did not stop work or going to school	76.6	75.9	77.7
Stopped work or attending school for a short time	20.4	20.9	19.6
Stopped work or attending school completely	3.0	3.2	2.7
Number of injured in past 12 months	21,000	13,000	8,000

Note: The reference period for employment is the year preceding the survey.

For 76.6 percent of children who reported a work-related illness or injury during the previous year, even the most serious illness/injury was not serious enough to prevent them from going to work or school (Table 4.2); However, in 20.4 percent of cases, children temporarily stopped going to work or school, and in 3.0 percent of cases, children ceased work or school permanently. No appreciable differences were observed in the consequences of work-related illness/injury among boys and girls.

In terms of children's work environments, 18.8 percent of working children work in extreme cold or heat, 16.9 percent in dusty environments and 15.5 percent with dangerous tools (Table 4.3). Overall, the work environments of 36.3 percent of working children demand improvement. Risks related to the workplace affect a slightly higher proportion of working boys (37.2%) than girls (35.3%).

**Table 4.3: Proportion of children subject to unfavourable work environments (%)**

Work environment	All	Boys	Girls
Dust/fumes	16.9	17.6	16.0
Fire, gas, flames	0.5	0.5	0.4
Loud noise or vibration	3.3	4.0	2.4
Extreme cold or heat	18.8	19.4	18.1
Dangerous tools	15.5	16.9	13.7
Work underground	0.0	0.0	0.0
Work at heights	2.7	3.2	2.1
Work in water/lake/pond/river	0.0	0.1	0.0
Workplace too dark or confined	0.2	0.3	0.0
Insufficient ventilation	1.1	1.1	1.0
Chemicals	1.5	2.1	0.7
Explosives	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.2	0.3	0.1
Any of above	36.3	37.2	35.2
Number of employed	219,000	124,000	94,000

Furthermore, 7.6 percent of working children (7.6% of boys and 7.5% of girls) are subjected to unfavourable treatment at work (Table 4.4). The most common type of mistreatment reported was being constantly shouted (6.6%) and repeatedly insulted (3.6%). As noted above in Section 2, because responses to the CAS were sometimes provided by adults instead of children or by children in the presence of other household members, it is likely that these figures are underestimates.

**Table 4.4: Children subjected to unfavourable treatment at work (%)**

Treatment	All	Boys	Girls
Constantly shouted at	6.6	6.6	6.5
Repeatedly insulted	3.6	3.9	3.2
Beaten/physically hurt	0.9	1.2	0.6
Sexually abused	0.0	0.0	0.0
Any of the above	7.6	7.6	7.5
Number of employed	219,000	124,000	94,000

The finding that the overwhelming majority of children (93.5%) work as unpaid family workers implies that the unfavourable conditions children face at work are known to their parents, who may work under similar conditions as well. Indeed, while 8.2 percent of children reported to work under unfavourable conditions are employees and 2.8 percent are own-account workers, the vast majority (89.2%) are unpaid family workers. The majority of children (87.7%) reported to have had a work-related illness/injury or to have been mistreated at work (94.1%) are also unpaid family workers. These findings indicate the need to closely monitor the work environments of children employed as unpaid family workers, which is arguably a more challenging task than monitoring the work environments of wage-earning children.<sup>33</sup>

## 4.2. Schooling outcomes of working and non-working children

### 4.2.1. School attendance rates

As discussed earlier, school attendance among compulsory school-aged children is almost universal: 99.1 percent of children aged 7-15 attend school, and rates do not differ significantly between boys and girls. Moreover, neither economic work nor unpaid household services deter the school attendance of compulsory school-aged children, most likely because children spend only a few hours per day engaged in economic activities and unpaid household services and because the types of work they perform can be carried out before or after school hours.

Attendance rates start to decline among children beyond the age for compulsory school. As noted earlier, among children aged 16 and 17, 87.8 percent of boys and 92.7 percent of girls who do not work attend school, compared to 66.0 percent of boys and 82.6 percent of girls who work. As Table 4.5 shows, the majority of working children who leave school do so immediately after completing their compulsory education.<sup>34</sup> For example, 85.3 percent of working children who leave school attend gymnasium, the final cycle of compulsory schooling, and among these, 91.8 percent attend Grade 9, the final year of compulsory schooling, and 5.9 percent attend Grade 8. An additional 3.6 percent of employed children are reported to have started lyceum and 8.5 percent to have attended some secondary vocational education before leaving school. Based on these findings, it can be estimated that 90.4 percent of all working children complete their compulsory education before leaving school. This implies that for the majority of working children who do not continue beyond compulsory education, leaving school after completing what is required of them is a calculated decision rather than a matter of urgency.

<sup>33</sup> Because status in employment refers to the child's job during the previous week whereas information on work conditions and health outcomes refer to the previous year, it is possible that unfavorable work-related health outcomes are related to a child's previous rather than current employment. However, this is unlikely, given the rather limited job opportunities for children outside their family establishments.

<sup>34</sup> This assumes that children who attended their final year of compulsory education were able to complete the year.

**Table 4.5: Highest school level attended by children aged 16-17 not currently in school (%)**

School level	All	Not employed	Employed
<b>Compulsory schooling (grades 1-9)</b>			
Primary (grades 1-4)	2.2	1.2	2.6
Gymnasium (grades 5-9)	83.2	77.9	85.3
<b>Non-compulsory schooling</b>			
Lyceum (grades 10-12)	4.1	5.1	3.6
Secondary vocational (grades 1-3)	10.3	14.9	8.5
Secondary professional (grades 1-3)	0.2	0.8	-
<b>Number of children</b>	18,000	5,000	13,000

**Table 4.6: Highest grade in gymnasium attended by children aged 16-17 not currently in school (%)**

Highest grade attended (in%)	All	Not employed	Employed
Grade 5	1.4	-	1.9
Grade 6	-	-	-
Grade 7	0.3	-	0.5
Grade 8	4.5	1.0	5.9
Grade 9	93.7	99.1	91.8
Number of children	15,000	4,000	11,000

By comparison, as Tables 4.5 and 4.6 indicate, a larger proportion of non-working children (98%) who are no longer in school have actually completed their compulsory schooling than working children, and a larger proportion of them had also started non-compulsory schooling before leaving the school system (20.8%, as opposed to 12.1% of working children). Hence, it seems likely that for a larger proportion of older working children, the circumstances causing them to leave school were also responsible for their entering work.

With regard to gender differences, while only a slightly higher proportion of employed boys than girls are unable to complete their compulsory schooling before dropping out, among those who continue with some non-compulsory schooling, boys and girls tend to choose different schooling tracks. Whereas girls select lyceums that offer general education, boys opt for vocational training. When the experiences of boys and girls are examined with reference to work status, other interesting differences emerge. For example, the proportion of boys who leave school after one or two years of non-compulsory schooling is significantly higher among boys who do not work (32.6%) in comparison to boys who work (11.6%), whereas the proportion of girls who leave school after one or two years of non-compulsory schooling is significantly lower among girls who do not work (6.0%) in comparison to girls who work (13.5%). However, the compulsory school completion rate among girls who work is slightly lower than among girls who do not work.<sup>35</sup>

**Table 4.7: Highest school level attended by children aged 16-17 not currently in school by sex (%)**

School level (in %)	Not Employed		Employed	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
<b>Compulsory schooling (grades 1-9)</b>				
Primary (grades 1-4)	2.2	-	3.1	1.3
Gymnasium (grades 5-9)	65.2	94.1	85.3	85.3
<b>Non-compulsory schooling</b>				
Lyceum (grades 10-12)	6.2	3.7	0.9	10.8
Secondary vocational (grades 1-3)	24.9	2.3	10.7	2.7
Secondary professional (grades 1-3)	1.5	-		-
Number of children	3,000	2,000	9,000	4,000

<sup>35</sup> Due to the relatively smaller number of observations upon which these estimates rely, population estimates might be less precise than other estimates given.

The main reason (90.1%) given for children aged 16-17 failing to continue with their education is that they have already completed their compulsory schooling. At face value, this response suggests that children (or their parents) intend only to complete what is required of them in terms of education, without going any further. In addition, 3.5 percent of all children who leave school are said to do so because of an illness/injury/disability that prevents them from attending school. Among working children, the rate of those said to leave because they have completed compulsory schooling (89%) is similar to the rate for all children; however, the rate said to leave school due to disability/illness/injury is much lower (1.7%), and the rate said to be uninterested or unsuccessful in school (3.7%) is higher. Only 2.3 percent of working children are reported to be unable to afford schooling or live too far away to attend school, and an even lower proportion are said to leave school in order to learn a trade (0.3) or to work for pay (0.6). It is also interesting to note that among working children who do not attend school, the proportion for whom having completed compulsory schooling is given as the reason for leaving is higher among girls (96.3%) than boys (86.4%), although the difference is not statistically significant.<sup>36</sup>

#### 4.2.2. School-starting age

Most children in Moldova start primary school at age 7. There is very little differentiation in the school starting ages of working and non-working children. While 97.8 percent of non-working children start basic education at age 7 or younger, this is true for 96.5 percent of working children (Table 4.8). Similarly, while 3.5 percent of working children start school after age 7, this is true for 2.3 percent of non-working children.

**Table 4.8: (Primary) School starting age by labor status (%)**

School starting age	Non-working children	Working children
6 years or younger	25.7	20.2
7 years	72.0	76.3
8 years	2.0	3.3
Older than 8 years	0.3	0.2

#### 4.2.3. Days absent from school

Over a quarter of all school-going children missed school at some time during the reference week, although the proportion of working children (28.6%) was slightly higher than that of non-working children (24.8%). Disregarding external factors such as school vacation,<sup>37</sup> teacher absence and bad weather conditions, which, respectively, accounted for 73.0 percent, 0.3 percent and 1.4 percent of children who missed school, the overall proportion of children missing school drops to 8.2 percent. Of these, 65.2 percent were unable to attend school because of illness/injury/disability, 23.8 percent due to work or domestic chores and 11.1 percent for other reasons.

In fact, when the external factors mentioned above are disregarded, differences are observed between working and non-working children in terms of both rates of school absence (11.8 percent of working children and 6.5 percent of non-working children) and reasons for school absence. Among non-working children, the majority (86.9%) of those who did not attend school were absent due to an illness/injury/disability, compared to 40.1 percent of their working counterparts, a significant proportion of whom were reported to miss school to help in a family business (23.7%), work for pay (9%), or help with household chores, i.e. perform unpaid household services (16.2%). In contrast, only 2.0 percent of non-working children reported being absent from school in order to perform unpaid household services. About equal proportions of both groups (11.0%) reported “other reasons” to explain their absences.

<sup>36</sup> This may have to do with the small sample size (Girls: N=46; Boys: N=113)

<sup>37</sup> Schools were closed for two weeks during the survey period as a precaution against seasonal and A1H1 flu viruses.

Irrespective of work status, and excluding external factors, girls are found to miss school less often than boys. While among non-working children, 7.7 percent of boys missed school, this figure is 5.5 percent among girls.<sup>38</sup> Among working children, the corresponding rates are 6.5 percent and 11.8 percent, respectively.<sup>39</sup>

The average number of days missed by children absent from school is 3.9 days per week. Surprisingly, working children are found to miss fewer school days (3.7 days) than non-working children (4 days). However, when absences due to external factors are excluded, the average number of days absent increases to five days (a full school week). Measured in this way, there is no significant difference in the number of days missed between working and non-working children or between girls and boys who work; however, slightly longer absences are estimated for non-working girls than for non-working boys.<sup>40</sup>

#### **4.2.4. Vocational Training**

Vocational training does not appear to be common among children in Moldova, with only 1.2 percent of children aged 10-17 reported to have ever attended skills training. Although this rate is higher (10.8%) among children who no longer attend school, it is clear that even among this group of children vocational training is not looked upon as an alternative to formal education. Moreover, with only 11.0 percent of working out-of-school youth aged 10-17 attending or having previously attended vocational training (as opposed to 10.4% of their non-working counterparts), it does not appear to be viewed by working children as a means of acquiring a trade, either.

<sup>38</sup>  $p < 0.10$

<sup>39</sup>  $p < 0.00$

<sup>40</sup>  $p < 0.10$



## CONCLUSION

The 2009 Children's Activity Survey conducted by the National Bureau of Statistics of Moldova estimates the prevalence of work among children aged 5-17 to be 29.7 percent. Among children aged 12-14 and 15-17, this figure increases further to 43.3 and 42.3 percent, respectively, but it drops to 13.8 percent among children aged 5-11. All these figures are very high when compared to other developing and transition countries. For instance, in 2004, Hagemann et al. (2006) estimated the prevalence of employment among children aged 5-14 to be 18.8 percent in the Asia-Pacific region, 5.1 percent in Latin America and the Caribbean, 26.4 percent in Sub-Saharan Africa and 5.2 percent in "other" developing economies, including transition countries (p.10).

The prevalence of child labour – children who should be immediately removed from work because they face potential risks to their health and development – is also quite high, at an estimated 18.3 percent of all children and almost 60.0 percent of working children. However, on a positive note, very few children in Moldova work excessively long hours (the average is 9 hours per week), very few children are engaged in industries or occupations deemed to be hazardous by national legislation, and school attendance among children of compulsory school age is almost universal. What causes the overwhelming majority of working children to be classified as child labourers are their unfavourable working conditions and entry into employment at too early an age.

The country's rural nature – almost one-quarter of the adult workforce is engaged in agricultural activity – and the farming of subsidiary plots or kitchen gardens – 62.5 percent of households farm kitchen gardens for their own dietary needs – provide ample work opportunities for children. Indeed, the existence of subsidiary plots is found to be associated with an increased risk of both child employment and child labour, as is residence in a rural (rather than an urban) area of the country. Accounting for individual and household-level characteristics of children, the predicted probability of employment for a child aged 5-17 who resides in a rural area in a household that farms a subsidiary plot is 39.0 percent, a rate that is over twice the average probability of child employment. Importantly, neither the existence of a subsidiary plot nor rural residence has an effect on the probability of children's school attendance. In fact, the majority of children are able to combine employment with schooling, with very few children (0.3%) engaged solely in work. This is most likely due to the fact that children work only for a few hours per day in and around the homestead; indeed, the overwhelming majority of working children (94.1%) are unpaid family workers, perform agriculture work (95.3%) and are classified as elementary workers (97.5%).

Since its independence in 1991, Moldova has suffered from poverty rates as high as 70 percent. Although more recent data point to lower poverty rates of around 25 percent, the incomparability of earlier and later data sources prevents a clear assessment of the improvement in living standards. Nonetheless, poverty in Moldova appears to be a chronic problem, and the ongoing emigration of vast numbers of workers to foreign countries attests to income disparities between Moldova and other countries in Europe as well as many CIS countries. Although lack of data makes it impossible to establish a causal link between poverty and child labour in Moldova, given the empirical evidence in the literature linking poverty and child labour in general, the high child employment and child labour rates in Moldova should not be at all surprising.

The supply of migrant workers abroad is another salient feature of the Moldovan economy, as a significant proportion of working age adults leave the country on a temporary basis in search of better income opportunities elsewhere. According to CAS data, 18.2 percent of households in Moldova have at least one migrant member living abroad. Although the findings regarding absent household members are mixed, in general, having an absent household member does not reduce the likelihood of either child employment or child labour. For example, having an absent household member residing elsewhere in the country or abroad increases the employment probability of girls, but has no significant effect for boys. In the case of child labour, an absent member within the country is associated with a higher likelihood of child labour among boys, but a lower likelihood among girls, and if the absent member is abroad, the likelihood of engaging in child labour increases for both boys and girls, but the effect is only marginally significant. As discussed in Sections 2 and 3, a heightened risk of child employment in connection with absent household members can be explained by the need for children to substitute for the absent members, especially in work that takes place in and around the homestead, where the use of hired labour is not a common practice. However, the likelihood of entering into wage employment, as opposed to employment in general, is lower for children from households with an absent member living abroad. Given that children in wage work put in substantially long hours at work, migration abroad does seem to help reduce the severity of child

labour, if not its prevalence. The finding that the risk of wage work does not decrease with an absent household member residing within the country indicates the importance of remittances in producing the observed result. It is, however, interesting to note that the school attendance of 16-17-year-olds, for whom schooling becomes a choice, is not, as expected, affected by the household's supply of migrant workers. This may have to do with the fact that remittances are missing from the model due to lack of data and/or the fact that a very small proportion of children are employed as wage workers, the group for whom employment is significantly affected by migrant household members.

Household structure, which may be related to the migration of household members, correlates with child employment, but not child labour. Moreover, the effects of household structure on child employment and schooling differ for boys and girls. For example, residing in a nuclear family increases the likelihood of employment for girls but has no significant effect on the employment of boys. On the other hand, residing in either a nuclear or extended family household with both parents or in a single-parent nuclear family increases the likelihood of school attendance for boys, whereas the likelihood of girls' attendance increases only for girls living in extended households with both parents. The level of impact household structure has on children's school attendance also varies between boys and girls: whereas changes of up to 20 percentage points can be seen in the school attendance of boys, depending on household structure, the variation in girls' attendance rates is less than half of this. In order to better understand the effects of household structure and the absence of certain household members on children's work and school outcomes, there is a clear need for more specific information on the division of labour within households and on the nature and distribution of remittances.

Most children (86.1%) also provide unpaid household services, i.e. perform chores for the members of their household, with more than 90.0 percent of children age 12 and older providing such services. Spending some time on chores each day (on average, 6.4 hrs/week) seems to be a part of the daily life of children in Moldova, and performing such chores does not appear to affect the schooling of either boys or girls.

No differences were found in the school attendance rates of working and non-working children of compulsory school age. School attendance in Moldova seems to become an issue only beyond compulsory schooling, and even then, attendance rates of children aged 16 (88.5%) and aged 17 (80.4%) stand well above the attendance rates in most other developing countries. For example, in 2008, the average gross enrolment ratio in upper secondary schools was 63 percent for East Asia and the Pacific, 74 percent for Latin America and the Caribbean, 27 percent for Sub-Saharan Africa and 84 percent for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (UNESCO). In Moldova, low school attendance and high employment among children aged 16-17 appear to occur concurrently. Although the present data set is insufficient for establishing causality between the two events, given that the overwhelming majority of school leavers exit upon completion of their compulsory education, it is likely that this group of children aim only to obtain compulsory schooling and nothing more, perhaps because of household income status, or because they do not see the benefit of further schooling given that they will most likely be involved in agricultural work. In order to design appropriate policies capable of retaining children in school longer, it is important that the reasons why children leave school are understood in more detail.

One reason for pursuing additional education in an agrarian country with a low capacity for job creation is that education can pay off through emigration. Considering that the government of Moldova is already supplying close to one-third of jobs, further expansion in this direction is very unlikely, and any other changes in labour market conditions in Moldova in the immediate future are not foreseen. Under these circumstances, some children in Moldova can be expected to migrate abroad in search of work as they enter into adulthood. In order to increase the relevance of school for these children as well as the likelihood of their finding jobs abroad, it is important that skills taught at secondary schools in Moldova are transferable across borders, i.e. that the qualifications are recognized in destination countries.

In examining the health outcomes of working children, 10.9 percent of boys and 8.5 percent of girls were found to suffer from some sort of work-related illness or injury in the 12 months preceding the survey; however, in only a very few cases did the most serious illness/injury result in a child's leaving work or school permanently. The most common health complaint of working children is extreme fatigue. With regard to working conditions, 37.2 percent of working boys and 35.2 percent of working girls work under unfavourable working conditions (mostly in extreme cold or heat, with dust/fumes, or with dangerous tools), and about 7.5 percent of both working boys



and girls complain of being treated badly at work, with being constantly shouted at the most common complaint. Given that the overwhelming majority of working children are unpaid family workers performing agricultural work within a household-based establishment, standard labour regulation and inspection methods are unlikely to be effective in improving their working conditions. Instead, outreach and training might represent a better strategy. By raising awareness among children and their families of the potential dangers children face at work, the working conditions of children could be improved, which would eliminate a significant amount of child labour.

The high rates of school attendance among working as well as non-working children offer an excellent opportunity for increasing awareness of child labour and the potential harm of work. Issues concerning child labour, safety and the rights of children, as guaranteed under the CRC and other international conventions, should be appropriately mainstreamed into the compulsory school curriculum. Although very few children currently benefit from vocational training, a certain percent of school-leavers may be reached through non-standard evening tuition. Furthermore, tailoring skills training to the needs of drop-outs can help attract more children to training programs.

With the exception of the Chisinau Municipality, which has the lowest risk of child labour, regional variations in child labour rates are small, although rural areas have significantly higher child labour rates than urban areas.

Finally, analyses of employment outcomes highlight a substantial increase in the employment rate of older children when a longer reference period is used. While the detailed account of the nature of children's employment included in this report paints a fairly accurate picture of the experiences of the very young, in order to fully understand the economic activities of older children, the CAS needs to be repeated during the summer months when both agricultural activity and emigration are at their height.

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## APPENDIX

### Appendix A: Concepts and definitions

The following concepts and definitions were used in the CAS and appear in this report:

**Adult Employment:** Adult employment covers individuals 18 years of age and over who have worked for at least one hour during the reference period as employees, on their own account, or as unpaid family workers. Also included are:

- i) Individuals temporarily absent from work for reasons such as vacation, sick leave, maternity leave (for a period stipulated by the law), unpaid leave, education/training purposes, workplace conflict or strike, inadequate work due to bad weather, unfavourable economic conditions, lack of inputs or technical difficulties;
- ii) Individuals with valid employment contracts who have not been remunerated temporarily or for an indefinite period;
- iii) Individuals employed full-time or part-time but seeking other work;
- iv) Retirees, students, and individuals registered with an employment agency as well as pension and benefit recipients who worked during the reference period;
- v) Unpaid family workers, including those temporarily absent during the reference period; and
- vi) Members of the armed forces (including regular troops and conscripts).

Individuals engaged in subsistence farming (production for own consumption only) for less than 20 hours per week are excluded from the definition of adult employment used by the NBS of Moldova.

**Child:** In line with the 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the 1999 ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour, a child is defined as an individual under the age of 18. Since it is commonly agreed that a child under age five is too young to engage in work or start school, the CAS considers children aged 5-17 years only.

**Children in employment ('working children'):** Children (aged 5-17) are defined as working (or employed) if they worked for at least one hour during the reference period or if they had a job or business from which they were temporarily absent. The UN System of National Accounts (SNA) delineates what is and what is not an economic activity. Broadly speaking, all market-oriented activities, production for own-consumption and certain services rendered for and by household members (such as major household repairs, fetching water or carrying firewood for household use) are considered economic activities, and those engaged in them are considered to be employed.

**Child labour:** Child labour in Moldova is defined as children who are engaged in work unsuitable for their capacities as children or are in work that may jeopardize their health, education or moral development. The national definition is based on ILO Convention No. 138 on Minimum Age (1973) and ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour. The minimum age for employment in Moldova is 16 years; however, children aged 15 years can also work if they receive parental consent. Regardless of their age, children are not allowed to take up hazardous work, which includes unconditional worst forms of child labour (e.g. child prostitution and pornography, slavery and work in slave-like working conditions, child soldiering and involvement in illicit activities) as well as any other work that might be harmful to a child's physical, social or psychological development, as defined in detail by the government of Moldova in 1993 (see Appendix B). Thus, child labour includes:

<sup>35</sup> În unele tabele, pentru comparabilitate cu statisticile oficiale, este stabilită limita de vârstă 15 ani și peste. Tabelele, în care copiii de 15-17 ani sunt tratați ca adulți, sunt specificate clar.

- i. Children employed in hazardous industries, including mining and quarrying and construction;
- ii. Children employed in hazardous occupations, including, but not limited to, extraction and building trades; metal, machinery and related trades; precision handicrafts, printing and related trades; machine operators and assemblers; and drivers and mobile-plant operators;
- iii. Children working under hazardous conditions that involve carrying heavy loads, operating any machinery/heavy equipment, exposure to adverse conditions such as dust/fumes, fire/gas/flames, or loud noise, etc. as well as children who are verbally or physically abused;
- iv. Children aged 5-11 who are employed (even if only for 1 hour per week);
- v. Children aged 12-14 who work between 14 and 42 hours per week;
- vi. Children aged 15-16 who work between 25 and 42 hours per week;
- vii. Children aged 17 who work between 36 and 42 hours per week; and
- viii. Children performing unpaid household services for more than 27 hours per week.

As Table A.1 clearly shows, not all working children are regarded as child labourers, but some children engaged in hazardous unpaid household services are. As ILO Convention No. 182 recognizes, the latter group of children, although engaged in activities outside the scope of the SNA, can also be at risk and must therefore be counted as child labourers if they carry out these activities for excessively long hours or if they use unsafe equipment, carry heavy loads, work in dangerous locations, etc. For the purposes of this report, estimates of hazardous unpaid household services are based on the amount of time spent in such activities.

**Economic Activity:** Includes all types of establishments or businesses in which persons are engaged in the production and/or distribution of goods and services. The national classification system of industries has been used in the survey.

**Table A.1: Framework for the statistical identification of child labour**

Age group	General production boundary				
	SNA production			Non-SNA production	
	Light work	Regular work	Worst forms of child labour		Hazardous unpaid household services
			Hazardous work	Worst forms of child labour other than hazardous work	
Children 5–11 years of age	Below min age for light work	Below min age for work	Employment in industries and occupations designated as hazardous, or work for more than 42 hrs/week, or under hazardous conditions in industries and occupations not designated as hazardous	Children trafficked for work; forced and bonded child labour; commercial sexual exploitation of children; use of children for illicit activities and armed conflict	Unpaid household services for more than 27 hours per week
Children 12–14 years of age	13 hrs or less per week	14-42 hrs per week			
Children 15–16 years of age	24 hrs or less per week	25-42 hrs per week			
Children 17 years of age	35 hrs or less per week	36-42 hrs per week			

Note: Based on schematic representations used by ILO.

☐ Denotes child labour as defined by the resolution ☐ Denotes activities not considered child labour.

**Economically active children:** Economically active children refer to children in employment as well as unemployed children. The unemployment status is only relevant for children aged 15-17.

**Household:** A household is defined as a person or group of persons who live together in the same house or compound, share the same housekeeping arrangements and are catered for as one unit. Members of a household are not necessarily related (by blood or marriage), and not all those related in the same house or compound necessarily belong to the same household.

**Occupation:** An occupation is defined as a type of economic activity a person usually pursues to earn income in cash or in kind. If more than one occupation is held, the one in which the maximum working hours were spent during the reference period is regarded as the main occupation. If equal time is spent, the one providing the larger share of income is regarded as the main occupation. The national classification system has been used in the survey.

**Work:** Any activity that falls within the production boundary of the UN System of National Accounts (1993 SNA) is considered work. This boundary covers all market production and certain types of non-market production, including production and processing of primary products for own consumption, own-account construction and other production of fixed assets for own use. Whether the activity takes place in the formal or the informal sector, in urban or rural areas, or whether it is paid or not is of no significance; however, unpaid domestic services rendered within the household by and for household members are excluded from this definition of work.

## **Appendix B: Hazardous occupations (defined in accordance with ISCO-88)**

3115 Mechanical engineering technicians

3146 Traffic controllers (excluding air traffic controllers)

4133 Transport clerks

5111 Travel attendants and travel stewards

5139 Personal care and related workers not elsewhere classified

5169 Protective services workers not elsewhere classified

6121 Dairy and livestock producers

6122 Poultry producers

6129 Market-oriented animal producers and related workers not classified elsewhere

6141 Forestry workers and loggers

6142 Charcoal burners and related workers

7111 Miners and quarry workers

7112 Shot firers and blasters

7113 Stone splitters, cutters and carvers

7121 Builders, traditional materials

7122 Bricklayers and stonemasons

7123 Concrete placers, concrete finishers and related workers

7124 Carpenters and joiners

7129 Building frame and related trades workers not elsewhere classified

7131 Roofers

7132 Floor layers and tile setters

7133 Plasterers

7134 Insulation workers

7137 Building and related electricians

7141 Painters and related workers

7143 Building structure cleaners

7211 Metal moulders and core makers

7212 Welders and flame cutters

7213 Sheet metal workers

7214 Structural-metal preparers and erectors

7215 Riggers and cable splicers

7216 Underwater workers

7221 Blacksmiths, hammer-smiths and forging-press workers

7222 Tool-makers and related workers

7223 Machine-tool setters and setter-operators

7224 Metal wheel-grinders, polishers and tool sharpeners

7232 Aircraft engine mechanics and fitters

7233 Agricultural- or industrial-machinery mechanics and fitters

7241 Electrical mechanics and fitters

7242 Electronics fitters

7250 Workers painting metal objects, covering metal objects with other materials

7280 Other metal, machinery, and related workers

7311 Precision-instrument makers and repairers

7313 Jewellery and precious-metal workers

7321 Abrasive wheel formers, potters and related workers

7322 Glass makers, cutters, grinders and finishers

7323 Glass engravers and etchers

7324 Glass, ceramics and related decorative painters

7331 Handicraft workers in wood and related materials

7334 Handcraft workers in bones, horns, ember and similar materials

7341 Compositors, typesetters and related workers

7342 Stereotypers and electrotypers

7343 Printing engravers and etchers

7345 Bookbinders and related workers

7411 Butchers, fishmongers and related food preparers  
7412 Bakers, pastry-cooks and confectionery makers  
7413 Dairy-products makers  
7414 Fruit, vegetable and related preservers  
7415 Food and beverage tasters and graders  
7416 Tobacco preparers and tobacco products makers  
7421 Wood treaters  
7422 Cabinet makers and related workers  
7431 Fibre preparers  
7432 Weavers, knitters and related workers  
7441 Pelt dressers, tanners and fellmongers  
7442 Shoe-makers and related workers  
7450 Construction materials industry and related workers  
7511 Workers repairing and taking care of machinery in rail transport services  
7515 Workers repairing and taking care of machinery in air transport services  
7522 Workers repairing and taking care of fixed equipment telecommunications  
7610 Workers involved in geological explorations

8112 Mineral-ore- and stone-processing-plant operators  
8113 Well drillers and borers and related workers  
8121 Ore and metal furnace operators  
8122 Metal melters, casters and rolling-mill operators  
8123 Metal-heat-treating-plant operators  
8124 Metal drawers and extruders  
8131 Glass and ceramics kiln and related machine operators  
8132 Glass related machine operators  
8133 Ceramics related machine operators  
8134 Binder related machine operators  
8139 Glass, ceramics and related plant operators not classified elsewhere  
8141 Wood-processing-plant operators  
8142 Paper-pulp plant operators  
8143 Papermaking-plant operators  
8151 Crushing-, grinding- and chemical-mixing-machinery operators  
8152 Chemical-heat-treating-plant operators  
8153 Chemical-filtering- and separating-equipment operators  
8154 Chemical-still and reactor operators (except petroleum and natural gas)  
8159 Chemical-processing-plant operators not elsewhere classified  
8161 Power-production plant operators  
8162 Steam-engine and boiler operators  
8163 Incinerator, water-treatment and related plant operators  
8212 Cement and other mineral products machine operators  
8221 Pharmaceutical- and toiletry-products machine operators  
8223 Metal finishing-, plating- and coating-machine operators  
8226 Paint, varnish and similar products related machine operators  
8228 Chemical and glass fiber related machine operators  
8229 Chemical-products machine operators not elsewhere classified  
8231 Rubber-products machine operators  
8232 Plastic-products machine operators  
8240 Wood-products machine operators  
8251 Printing-machine operators  
8252 Bookbinding-machine operators  
8261 Fibre-preparing-, spinning- and winding-machine operators  
8262 Weaving- and knitting-machine operators  
8264 Bleaching-, dyeing- and cleaning-machine operators  
8265 Fur and leather-preparing-machine operators  
8266 Shoemaking- and related machine operators



8269 Textile-, fur- and leather-products machine operators not classified elsewhere  
8271 Meat- and fish-processing-machine operators  
8272 Dairy-products machine operators  
8273 Grain- and spice-milling-machine operators  
8274 Baked-goods, cereal and chocolate-products machine operators  
8275 Fruit-, vegetable- and nut-processing-machine operators  
8276 Sugar production machine operators  
8277 Tea-, coffee-, and cocoa-processing-machine operators  
8278 Brewers, wine and other beverage machine operators  
8279 Tobacco production machine operators  
8281 Mechanical-machinery assemblers  
8282 Electrical-equipment assemblers  
8283 Electronic-equipment assemblers  
8284 Metal-, rubber- and plastic-products assemblers  
8285 Wood and related products assemblers  
8286 Paperboard, textile and related products assemblers  
8290 Other machine operators and assemblers  
8311 Locomotive-engine drivers  
8312 Railway brakemen, signallers and shunters  
8331 Motorised farm and forestry plant operators  
8332 Earth-moving- and related plant operators  
8333 Crane, hoist and related plant operators

9212 Forestry labourers  
9321 Assembling labourers  
9322 Hand packers and other manufacturing labourers  
9332 Drivers of animal-drawn vehicles and machinery  
9333 Freight handlers  
9350 Industry related unskilled workers not elsewhere classified  
9412 Warehouse related unskilled workers (marking, packing, etc.)  
9414 Cleaning related unskilled workers

## Appendix C: Likelihood of wage employment based on probit equations

Table C.1: Likelihood of wage employment based on probit equations

	Coeff	M. effect
VVårsta cVårstaChild's age	0.196***	0.001***
	[0.027]	[0.000]
Female child	-0.377***	-0.001**
	[0.116]	[0.001]
Own child of household head	0.302	0.001
	[0.314]	[0.001]
Head of household: age	0.188**	0.001**
	[0.087]	[0.000]
Head of household: agesq (1/100)	-0.196**	-0.001**
	[0.081]	[0.000]
Head's educ: lyceum	0.005	0.000
	[0.169]	[0.001]
Head's educ: secondary voc.	-0.219	-0.001
	[0.153]	[0.000]
Head's educ: secondary prof.	-0.429*	-0.001*
	[0.228]	[0.000]
Head of HH educ: higher	-0.907***	-0.001***
	[0.345]	[0.001]
Head employed	0.042	0.000
	[0.105]	[0.000]
Spouse of head: age	0.039	0.000
	[0.083]	[0.000]
Spouse of head: agesq (1/100)	-0.037	0.000
	[0.084]	[0.000]
Spouse of head, educ: lyceum	-0.205	-0.001
	[0.170]	[0.000]
Spouse of head, educ: sec. voc.	-0.167	0.000
	[0.206]	[0.000]
Spouse of head, educ: sec. prof.	-0.305	-0.001
	[0.214]	[0.000]
Spouse of head, educ: higher	-0.231	-0.001
	[0.351]	[0.001]
Spouse of head, absent	1.372	0.022
	[2.002]	[0.086]
Female head of household	-0.021	0.000
	[0.178]	[0.001]
Household size	0.059	0.000
	[0.037]	[0.000]
Proportion of 5-17 year-olds	0.483	0.002
	[0.792]	[0.003]
Proportion of 18-64 year-olds	0.765	0.002
	[0.803]	[0.003]
Proportion of 65 year-olds and above	2.852**	0.009**
	[1.112]	[0.004]
Nuclear household	0.112	0.000
	[0.277]	[0.001]
One parent nuclear household	0.114	0.000
	[0.330]	[0.001]
Extended household with parents	0.206	0.001
	[0.302]	[0.002]
Extended household with one parent	0.096	0.000
	[0.320]	[0.001]
Household with absent members residing elsewhere in country	0.127	0.000
	[0.172]	[0.001]
Household with migrant members abroad	-0.256**	-0.001**
	[0.116]	[0.000]

**Table C.1: Likelihood of wage employment based on probit equations**

	Coeff	M. effect
Subsidiary plot/Kitchen garden	0.149	0.000
	[0.165]	[0.000]
Rural	0.05	0.000
	[0.390]	[0.001]
North	0.104	0.000
	[0.355]	[0.001]
Centre	0.349	0.001
	[0.299]	[0.001]
South	-0.217	-0.001
	[0.444]	[0.001]
North*rural	0.123	0.000
	[0.479]	[0.002]
Centre*rural	-0.121	0.000
	[0.439]	[0.001]
South*rural	0.652	0.004
	[0.552]	[0.007]
Constant	-11.643***	
	[2.241]	
Observed probability	.0119	
Predicted probability at mean	.0009	
Wald chi2(33)	239.67	
Prob > chi2	0.000	
Pseudo R2	0.247	
Observations	6,743	

Notes: Robust standard errors in brackets. Covers children ages 5-17. Reference categories for dummy variables include less than secondary schooling for household head's and his/her spouse's schooling, proportion of children aged 0-4 for household composition, no parents present for household structure, the Chisinau Municipality for regions. \* significant at 10%; \*\* significant at 5%; \*\*\* significant at 1%

## Appendix D<sup>41</sup>: CLA Sampling Methodology

The Children's Activities Survey (CAS) was conducted by the National Bureau of Statistics of Moldova in October-December 2009 as a module of the nationwide Labour Force Survey (LFS) that has been implemented in Moldova on a quarterly basis since 1998. The CAS provides reliable estimates on the activities of children aged 5-17 (inclusive) for the nation as a whole; for the four statistical regions of Moldova (North, Centre, South, Chisinau Municipality); by geographical area (urban/rural); and by sex (male/female).

### Sample Selection

The LFS employs a complex, two-stage sample design based on probabilistic sampling. In Stage I, all primary sampling units (PSU) from the Multi-dimensional Sample for Social Research (EMDOS) master sample were included, with the PSUs in the EMDOS selected using probability-proportional-to-size (PPS) sampling. Population Census lists (2004) combined with the lists of electricity consumers (2007) were also used as the sampling frame. In Stage II, households were initially selected using simple random sampling (SRS); from these, households identified as having children aged 5-17 – the target population – were selected for interviewing in the CAS. The sampling frame for Stage II was comprised of the LFS sample for the first, second and fourth quarter.

The CAS survey was conducted as an ad-hoc survey using the LFS sample for the first, second and the fourth quarter of 2009. Table D.1 shows the rotational groups of the LFS and Table D.2 shows the estimate of the CAS sample by region. The LFS sample comprises 12,000 households in 150 Primary Sampling Units (PSUs). Due to the rotational structure of the LFS, some households included in the LFS are interviewed in more than one consecutive month/quarter. Consequently, the total sample size for the CAS would be 36,000 households (LFS: Q1+Q2+Q4), if it were to include the multiple appearances of each household in the rotation scheme. However, in calculating the CAS sample size, individual households were counted only once. Thus, the CAS sample size consisted of 18,400 households, comprised of 23 rotational groups (sub-samples) of 800 households each, and was estimated to include 5,054 households with at least one child aged 5-17 years. This sample was obtained by combining a sub-sample of 3,534 households that had been sampled in the LFS for the first and second quarters of 2009 (Rotational Groups a-g and j-s) with a sub-sample of 1,520 households that were not included in the LFS until after the second quarter of 2009 (Rotational Groups t-y). Estimated numbers of children aged 5-17 expected to be interviewed included 2,194 in the first sub-sample and 5,246 in the second sub-sample, for a total estimate of 7,440 children.

<sup>41</sup> This information on survey methodology was provided by the NBS of Moldova.

## Rotational groups

5 rotational groups

Note: Letters represent rotational groups of households, whereas numbers indicate the number of times the group of households is included in the LFS rotation scheme.

**Table D.2: CAS estimated sample size by region**

		Quarters 1+2, 2009 + December 2008				TQuarter 4 - estimation			Total sample size CAS -estimation		
		Total number of selected unique households (17 rotational groups)	Total number of selected unique households with at least one child aged 5 - 17 years old	Total number of population aged 5-17 years old in the unique households from the sample	Total number of selected unique households (6 rotational groups)	Total number of selected unique households with at least one child aged 5 - 17 years old	Total number of population aged 5-17 years old in the unique households from the sample	Total number of selected unique households (23 rotational groups)	Total number of selected unique households with at least one child aged 5 - 17 years old	Total number of population aged 5-17 years old in the unique households from the sample	
Region (Stratus)	PSU										
	North, big communes	15	1275	303	479	450	141	216	1725	444	695
	North, small communes	17	1445	352	518	510	161	239	1955	513	757
	North, cities	9	765	145	186	270	73	96	1035	218	282
	plus Balti	5	595	122	160	210	63	91	805	185	251
	Center, big villages	14	1190	364	563	420	161	238	1610	525	801
	Center, small villages	24	2040	675	1070	720	255	408	2760	930	1478
	Center, cities	8	680	142	196	240	52	63	920	194	259
	South, big villages	11	935	334	536	330	142	205	1265	476	741
	South, small villages	12	1020	336	541	360	146	221	1380	482	762
South, cities	9	765	169	229	270	83	112	1035	252	341	
Chisinau, suburbs	6	510	135	195	180	56	73	690	191	268	
Chisinau, city	20	2380	457	573	840	187	232	3220	644	805	
Total	150	13600	3534	5246	4800	1520	2194	18400	5054	7440	

Probability of PSU selection in Stage I is represented by the equation:

$$p_{1k} = a_k \cdot \frac{M_k}{\sum_{i=1}^m M_k},$$

Where,

$a$  represents the number of PSUs drawn from each stratus (Stage I sample size); and

$M_i$  represents the total population in Locality  $i(i = \overline{1, m})$  of Stratus  $k$ ;

Probability of household selection in Stage II is represented by the equation:

$$p_{2k} = \frac{n_k}{N_k}$$

Where,

$n_k$  represents the number of households sampled in the LFS in PSU  $i$  of Stratus  $k$ ;

$N_k$  represents the total number of households in PSU  $i$  of Stratus  $k$ .

Probability of inclusion in the final CAS sample is represented by the equation:

$$p_f = p_{1k} \cdot p_{2k} = a_k \cdot \frac{M_k}{\sum_{i=1}^m M_k} \cdot \frac{n_k}{N_k},$$

Where,

$a \cdot \frac{M_k}{\sum M_k}$  represents the probability of inclusion in the sample of PSUs selected in Stage I; and

$\frac{n_k}{N_k}$  represents the probability of inclusion in the sample of households selected in Stage II.

## Data Weighting

Data weighting is an efficient procedure used to obtain unbiased estimates of population parameters. The weighting procedure involves assigning extension coefficients ('weights') to each respondent in the sample to show how many individuals from the general population are represented by any given respondent. This requires an initial determination of basic weights, adjusting these weights in line with response rates, and calibrating the adjusted weights using auxiliary information in order to improve the quality of the final estimates.

For those households in the CAS sample that had not participated in the LFS until the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2009, basic weights were computed, whereas for households in the CAS sample that had already participated in the LFS in 2009, the final weights assigned at the time they last participated in the LFS were taken as the basic weights for the CAS. These weights were further adjusted in order to account for differences in weighting among household members, with average household weight calculated using the following equation:

$$w_i^b = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^l ccf_i}{l},$$

Where,

$w_i^b$  represents the basic weight within the CAS;

$ccf_i$  represents the final weight within the LFS; and

$l$  represents the size of Household  $i$ , expressed in persons.

Weighting was adjusted in order to account for non-response at both the household and individual (respondent) level. Non-response adjustment coefficients for households ( $ccort$ ) were obtained for each PSU using the equation:

$$ccort_j = \frac{n_j}{r_j},$$

Where,

$n_j$  represents the sample size of PSU  $j$ ; and

$r_j$  represents the number of households interviewed in PSU  $j$ .

Non-response adjustment coefficients for individuals ( $ccori$ ) were obtained for each PSU using the equation:

$$ccori_j = \frac{c_j}{r_{c_j}}$$

Where,

$c_j$  represents the number of children aged 5-17 years in PSU  $j$ ; and

$r_{c_j}$  represents the number of children interviewed in PSU  $j$ .

Accordingly, corrected weights ( $w_i^{cor}$ ) were determined using the equation:

$$w_i^{cor} = w_i \cdot ccort_j \cdot ccori_j$$

**Table D.3: Reasons for household non-response**

Reason	N	%
Empty dwelling	408	19%
Destroyed, demolished or mobile dwelling	31	1%
Address no longer used as a dwelling place	35	2%
Unable to contact household	354	16%
Refused interview	468	22%
Household absent (long-term)	309	14%
Household resides someplace else in the country	105	5%
Household resides abroad	458	21%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,168</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Data Calibration

After weighting for non-response, data was calibrated in order to adjust the marginal distribution of variables (sex, age urban/rural, region) within the sample to that of the actual population (according to the current demographic statistics as of 1 January 2009). Calibration was performed until population estimates for each variable were adjusted to within 1.0 percent of the actual reported population.



Although monthly distribution of households in the CAS sample that had not previously participated in the LFS were distributed equally across the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter (1/3 for October, 1/3 for November and 1/3 for December), most of the households in the CAS sample that had participated in the LFS during the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarters of 2009 were interviewed in October in order to better capture children working in agriculture. In order to overcome the bias resulting from this unequal monthly distribution, weights were adjusted using the following equation:

$$w_{i,t}^{adj} = w_{i,t}^{cor} \cdot \frac{3567512}{\sum_i w_{i,t}^{cor}} \cdot \frac{1}{3},$$

Where

$t = \overline{10,12}$  represents the months of October, November and December (See Table D.4).

**Table D.4: Adjustment coefficients used for the survey months**

Month	$\sum w_i^{cor}$	Population	Adjustment coefficient
October	2,606,654	3,567,512	1.368617
November	983,938	3,567,512	3.625748
December	853,904	3,567,512	4.177884

After adjusting the weights by month, calibration coefficients for the variable ‘sex’ were obtained using the following equation:

$$w_i^{sex} = w_i^{adj} \cdot \frac{P_s}{\sum_i w_{i,s}^{adj}},$$

Where,

$s = 1,2$ , represents male and female (See Table D.5)

**Table D.5: Calibration coefficients: sex**

Sex	Estimated population	Population demography (Ps)	Calibration coefficient
1 (male)	1,716,494	1,714,931	0.999089
2 (female)	1,851,018	1,852,581	1.000844

Next, calibration coefficients for the variable ‘urban/rural area’ were obtained using the following equation:

$$w_i^{urb} = w_i^{sex} \cdot \frac{P_u}{\sum_i w_{i,u}^{sex}},$$

Where,

$i=1,2$ , represents urban and rural (See Table D.6).

**Table D.6: Calibration coefficients: area of residence (urban/rural)**

Area of residence	Estimated population	Population demography (Pu)	Calibration coefficient
1 (urban)	1,460,272	1,476,099	1.010838
2 (rural)	2,107,239	2,091,413	0.99249

Following this, calibration coefficients for the variable 'age' were obtained using the following equation:

$$w_i^{age} = w_i^{urb} \cdot \frac{P_v}{\sum_i w_{i,v}^{urb}}$$

Where,

$v = \overline{1,2,15}$ , represents 21 age groups created to ensure unbiased estimations (See Table D.7).

**Table D.7: Calibration coefficients: age**

Age group	Estimated population	Population demography (Pv)	Calibration coefficient
11 (0-4 years)	180,877	188,420	1.041702
5 (5 years)	34,533	36,181	1.047722
6 (6 years)	36,090	36,370	1.00777
7 (7 years)	36,736	37,191	1.012393
8 (8 years)	37,841	38,140	1.007894
9 (9 years)	38,264	39,203	1.024538
10 (10 years)	42,755	40,812	0.954544
11 (11 years)	43,028	43,152	1.002892
12 (12 years)	42,102	46,761	1.110669
13 (13 years)	48,564	49,588	1.021083
14 (14 years)	53,209	53,603	1.007395
15 (15 years)	60,702	56,802	0.93575
16 (16 years)	59,279	59,170	0.99816
17 (17 years)	64,979	61,613	0.9482
18 (18-24 years)	475,416	492,858	1.036687
19 (25-49 years)	1,306,822	1,314,208	1.005652
20 (50-59 years)	499,272	482,951	0.967311
21 (60 years and over)	507,043	490,489	0.967352

Finally, calibration coefficients for the variable 'region' were obtained using the following equation:

$$w_i^{zone} = w_i^{age} \cdot \frac{P_z}{\sum_i w_{i,z}^{age}}$$

Where,

$z = \overline{1,4}$  represents region (See Table D.8).

**Table D.8: Calibration coefficients by Region**

Region	Estimated population	Population demography (Pz)	Calibration coefficient
1 (North)	1,064,148	1,057,517	0.993769
2 (Center)	102,1611	1,021,394	0.999788
3 (South)	706,518.7	703,001	0.995021
4 (Chisinau Municipality)	775,235.2	785,600	1.01337

After the first round of calibration, all deviations between the population estimates based on the sample and the actual population according to current demographic statistics were verified for each subpopulation of the calibration variables. The maximum registered deviation was found to be 0.5% (for urban population); therefore, calibration was terminated, with the coefficient  $w_i^{zone}$  established as the final extension coefficient.

## Appendix E: CAS Questionnaires



National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL!

“According to the Law regarding Official Statistics nr. 412-XV from the 9th of December 2004, art. 22, the official statistics bodies assure the confidentiality of individual data and their usage only for statistical purposes.

### LABOUR FORCE QUESTIONNAIRE IN HOUSEHOLDS

CL

Approved by the BNS of the Republic of Moldova by Order No. 93, dated September 2, 2008

#### Dwelling Questionnaire

#### First survey:

County/ Municipality \_\_\_\_\_  
Municipality sector \_\_\_\_\_  
Town \_\_\_\_\_  
Village (commune) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Locality within the village (commune) \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Bloc \_\_\_\_\_ Apartament \_\_\_\_\_

Code of PSU.....[ ][ ][ ][ ][ ] CENTR  
Code of dwelling.....[ ][ ][ ][ ][ ] LOC  
Sequence number of CL in the dwelling.....[ ] CL

#### Chapter 1. DATA ON BUILDING AND DWELLING

If there are several households in the same dwelling, this chapter shall be filled in with data describing the first household. NRA LUNA ANUL	Data  2 0 0 9
<b>1. Destination of the building where the dwelling is located:</b>	
• Habitable	1
• Hostel type, hotel with rooms for common living	2
• Other destination	3
	DCL
<b>2. Dwelling situation</b>	
a. Dwelling registered during the previous survey	1
b. Dwelling newly introduced into the survey	2
c. Dwelling that has to be excluded from the survey:	
• Destroyed, demolished or mobile dwelling that left away	3
• Is not a dwelling any more (modified its destination)	4
• Included into the survey by mistake	5
• Impossible to find	6
• Disappeared due to merging	7
	SIL
Code of the dwelling it merged with	LOC
<b>3. Type of the dwelling</b>	
• permanent (main)	1
• seasonal (second)	2 TIPL
<b>4. Number of households from the dwelling</b>	NRG

Filled in by  
(interviewer) \_\_\_\_\_

Checked by  
(supervisor) \_\_\_\_\_

## Chapter 2. DATA ON HOUSEHOLD

## HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

All persons belonging to the household are entered into this table, including those who are absent at the moment of survey performance (short term military, pupils or students who left for studies, workers fulfilling temporary jobs in another locality etc.). Persons incidentally present in the household at the moment of the survey are not included in the questionnaire, if they have their residence in another place..

## IDENTIFICATION DATA

Attention! Data are entered into these columns at the moment when a person is interviewed for the first time and remain unchanged in the following surveys!

Nr. pers	Name and Surname	Birth date		Sex	Citizenship (cod)	Presence in household	Country (cod)	Marital status	Relationship with the head of the household	FIRST SURVEY			
		Month	Year							Code mother	Code father	Code spouse	Type of education followed for the last 4 weeks
				1) SEX	3) CET	4) PREZ	5) STAT	6) SCIV	7) GRUD	8) CODM	9) CODY	10) CODS	11) FINS
NRP		LUNN	ANN	SEX	CET	PREZ	STAT	SCIV	GRUD	CODM	CODY	CODS	FINS
1													
2													
3													
4													
5													
6													
7													
8													
9													
10													
11													
12													
13													
14													

1) Sex 1 - male 2 - female	3) Citizenship (indicate the country)	4) Presence in the household	5) For persons with presence = 3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10 indicate the name of the country:	6) Marital status	7) Relationship with the head of the household	11) Type of education followed for the last 4 weeks	12) Educational level
	1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____ 7. _____	1. present 2. temporary absent, gone to another locality within the republic temporary absent, left abroad for less than 1 year: 3. for studies 4. for work 5. looking for a job 6. other reasons temporary absent, left abroad for 1 year and more: 7. for studies 8. for work 9. looking for a job 10. other reasons	SURVEY [2] 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____ 7. _____	1. Single 2. Married 3. Widowed 4. Divorced	1. head of the household 2. husband/wife 3. son/daughter 4. father/mother 5. brother/sister 6. son-in-law / daughter-in-law 7. father -in-law / mother-in-law 8. grandfather / grandmother 9. grandson/granddaughter 10. other relative 11. not a relative	1. none 2. school 3. university 4. post-graduate 5. professional training	1. pre-school education or no primary education 2. primary education 3. gymnasium education 4. lyceum education, secondary general 5. secondary vocational education 6. secondary professional education 7. higher education



National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL!

“According to the Law regarding Official Statistics nr. 412-XV from the 9th of December 2004, art. 22, the official statistics bodies assure the confidentiality of individual data and their usage only for statistical purposes.

## LABOUR FORCE QUESTIONNAIRE

CI

## IN HOUSEHOLDS

## Individual questionnaire

Approved by the NBS of the Republic of Moldova by Order No. 93, dated September 2, 2008

Questionnaire shall be filled in only for persons born before \_\_\_\_ (month), year 1994.

**Month** from list of households **LG** shall be transcribed.

- Questions generally refer to last week, from Monday to Sunday, inclusively.
- You may write down only one answer to the question.
- Answer the questions by marking closed boxes ☐ with “x”, inserting figures in open boxes  and writing text in spaces marked by dotted line\_\_\_\_\_
- Figures following the mark ➡ to the right of a box shall indicate the number of the question which is supposed to follow the corresponding answer.
- In cases when there is no ➡ sign after the marked box, the following question shall be addressed.

## IDENTIFICATION OF THE INTERVIEWEE

*Data are taken from the Dwelling Questionnaire (CL)*

Code of PSU .....      CENTR

Code of dwelling.....      LOC

Sequence number of the CL in the dwelling.....  CL

Number of the person from Questionnaire CL .....   NRP

Number of the survey from CL.....  NRA

Person's first and last names.....

Date of birth..... month   year

LUNN ANN

Notes

Interviewer's signature

## INITIAL FILTER

**1. Did you work during last week for a wage/salary or other monetary income or for payment in kind (inclusive in a private enterprise, farm, subsidiary plot, citizens' households, persons on compulsory military service)?**

YES ..... 1 ☐ 3  
NO ..... 2 ☐

LUCR

**2. Last week, did you do any paid or unpaid work for at least one hour (even if you are student, unemployed, housewife or retired person and work only part-time or occasionally)?**

**ATTENTION!** Activities, which are exclusively non-profit, charitable or voluntary, as well as household chores and recreation activities, should not be taken into consideration.

Examples:

- Paid work as part-time or temporary employee;
- Paid work as occasional worker, assistant, substitute;
- Unpaid work on subsidiary plot, in individual enterprise or on farm of another household member;
- Production or sale of agricultural or processed products from subsidiary plot;
- Sale of foodstuffs, beverages, clothes, books, etc. on the street, in the market or at home;
- Renovation of houses, flats, repair of cars or durable goods for other persons for payment;
- Transportation of passengers or goods for payment;
- Paid consultations, private tuition (foreign languages, computer etc.);
- House cleaning or baby-sitting for payment.

YES ..... 1 ☐  
NO ..... 2 ☐ 6

LUCREX

**3. Has this work been done on your own subsidiary plot (or that of another household member)?**

(livestock farming, land plots cultivating and carrying out other agricultural works, selling products obtained from the own subsidiary plot)

YES ..... 1 ☐  
NO ..... 2 ☐ 12

AGR

**4. In general, are the (raw or processed) products obtained from this plot produced exclusively for your own consumption or also for sale?**

- Only for own consumption ..... 1 ☐
- For own consumption and for sale (including barter) ..... 2 ☐ 12

AGRV

**5. How many hours did you work last week?**

- Less than 20 hours ..... 1 ☐
- 20 hours and more ..... 2 ☐ 12

AGRO

**6. Last week, did you have work place from which you were temporarily absent because of vacation, illness, seasonal reasons, bad weather, etc.?**

YES ..... 1 ☐  
NO ..... 2 ☐ 67

LUCR1a

**7. What was the main reason why you did not work last week?**

- Vacation or studies ..... 1 ☐
- Maternity leave ..... 2 ☐ 12
- Illness, accident ..... 3 ☐
- Care of children leave (up to 3 or 6 years) ..... 4 ☐
- Unpaid leave ..... 5 ☐
- Technical unemployment (lack of raw material or energy, lack of orders or clients etc.) ..... 6 ☐ 9

- Strike or labour conflict ..... 7 ☐
- Schooling or training ..... 8 ☐ 12
- Seasonal work (self-employment) ..... 9 ☐ 67
- Seasonal work (wage employment) ..... 10 ☐ 10
- Days off, holidays, variable timetable, temporary inactivity in agriculture ..... 11 ☐
- Family responsibilities (except for maternity leave) ..... 12 ☐ 12
- Bad weather conditions ..... 13 ☐
- Other ..... 14 ☐

**MODUREO**

**8. Were you on leave at the initiative of the administration of the enterprise (of the employer), because there was no work for you?**

- YES ..... 1 ☐
- NO ..... 2 ☐

**COS**

**9. Are you sure that you will return to work:**

- Within 3 months? ..... 1 ☐ 12
- After 3 months? ..... 2 ☐
- Not sure to return ..... 3 ☐ 67

**LOCAS**

**10. Are you sure that you will return to work:**

- Within 6 months? ..... 1 ☐
- After 6 months? ..... 2 ☐
- Not sure to return ..... 3 ☐ 67

**SEZON**

**11. Does your employer pay you a wage or salary during the off-season?**

- YES ..... 1 ☐
- NO ..... 2 ☐ 67

**PLAT**



**PERSON WHO WORKED****MAIN ACTIVITY****12. What was your status in employment?***Read*

- Employee.....1 ☐
- Employer (was having employees) .....2 ☐ 22
- Own account worker .....3 ☐
- Contributing family worker.....4 ☐ 23
- Member of a cooperative.....5 ☐
- On compulsory military service .....6 ☐ 89

**STAP****13. Have you been employed on the basis of:**

- a working contract .....1 ☐
- an agreement .....2 ☐

**CONTRACT****14. Is your contract or agreement of:**

- limited duration? .....1 ☐ 16
- unlimited duration? .....2 ☐

**ANGSAL****15. How long have you been employed in this job?**

- Less than 1 year .....1 ☐
- 1 to 2 years .....2 ☐
- 3 to 5 years .....3 ☐
- 6 to 10 years .....4 ☐ 18
- 11 to 20 year .....5 ☐
- 21 to 30 years .....6 ☐
- 31 years and over.....7 ☐

**TIMPLU****16. Why is your contract or agreement of limited duration?***Suggest*

- Apprenticeship or practice .....1 ☐
- Probation period .....2 ☐
- Seasonal work .....3 ☐
- Occasional work .....14 ☐
- Daily worker.....5 ☐
- Replacement job .....6 ☐
- Public remunerated works.....7 ☐
- Project work (including foreign ones).....8 ☐
- Specific service or task .....9 ☐
- Chain contract (of limited duration).....10 ☐
- Other.....11 ☐

**MOTEMP****17. What is the duration of your contract or agreement?**

- Daily contracts/agreements .....1 ☐
- Less than 1 month .....2 ☐
- 1 to 2 months .....3 ☐
- 3 to 6 months .....4 ☐
- 7 to 12 months .....5 ☐
- 13 to 18 months .....6 ☐
- 19 to 24 months .....7 ☐
- 25 to 36 months .....8 ☐
- More than 36 months.....9 ☐
- I don't know .....10 ☐

**DURCONTR****18. Does your employer pay social contributions for you (pension fund, unemployment fund and medical insurance)?**

- Yes, sure .....1 ☐
- Possibly .....2 ☐
- No.....3 ☐
- I don't know .....4 ☐

**CONTRIB****19. Do you benefit from paid annual leave or compensation for unused leave?**

- Yes.....1 ☐
- NO.....2 ☐
- I don't know .....3 ☐

**CONAN****20. Would you benefit from paid sick leave in case of illness?**

- Yes.....1 ☐
- NO.....2 ☐
- I don't know .....3 ☐

**CONBO****21. What was the ownership form of the enterprise where you worked?**

- Public.....1 ☐
- Private.....2 ☐
- Joint venture (public and private) without ..... 23
- foreign share.....3 ☐
- Foreign .....4 ☐
- Joint venture property (with foreign share).....5 ☐

**PROP****22. How many employees...**

Do you employ permanently? ..... ☐ ☐ ☐ NRSAL  
 Did you employ last week? ..... ☐ ☐ ☐ NRSALT

**23. Where is your place of work?**

- At your home.....1 ☐
- At client's or employer's home .....2 ☐
- Enterprise, plant, factory, office, shop, workshop etc. (separate from the house) .....3 ☐
- On a farm or agricultural plo.....4 ☐
- Construction site .....5 ☐
- Fixed stall in the market or on the street .....6 ☐
- Without fixed location .....7 ☐
- Other.....8 ☐

**PLAS****24. Was your main activity carried out at...?**

- An enterprise, organization, institution (as a legal entity) .....1 ☐
- Private agricultural enterprise (farm) .....2 ☐
- Private enterprise; private notaries' or lawyers' office, partnership (without the right of a legal entity).....3 ☐
- Individual work activity .....4 ☐
- Paid domestic workers employed by households (activity 95) .....5 ☐
- Own auxiliary household .....6 ☐ 26
- I don't know .....7 ☐

**FOJ**

**25. Was the enterprise where you worked registered?**

- Yes..... 1 ☐
- Is being registered..... 2 ☐
- No..... 3 ☐
- I don't know ..... 4 ☐

**REGIS****26. What occupation did you have?**

a. Actually fulfilled profession or function

b. Short description \_\_\_\_\_ Cod ☐☐☐☐**OCUP****27. Does this type of work correspond to your field of training?**

- Yes..... 1 ☐ 29
- No, is below..... 2 ☐
- No, is above..... 3 ☐
- Equivalent but unrelated..... 4 ☐

**DOMEN****28. What is your field of training?**

(To indicate up to 3 fields)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Cod ☐☐☐☐2. \_\_\_\_\_ Cod ☐☐☐☐3. \_\_\_\_\_ Cod ☐☐☐☐**CODDOM**

**29. a) Give the full name of the establishment or enterprise where you worked last week (enterprise: limited liability corporation, joint stock company, cooperative, state enterprise, etc., association, institution, organization; establishment (plant, factory, shop, section, transportation company, etc.)**

\_\_\_\_\_

**b) What is the main activity of the enterprise or establishment where you worked?**\_\_\_\_\_ CAEM ☐☐☐☐**ACT****30. How many persons work at the enterprise (establishment) including yourself?**

- 1-4..... 1 ☐
- 5-9..... 2 ☐
- 10-19 ..... 3 ☐
- 20-49 ..... 4 ☐
- 50-99..... 5 ☐ 32
- 100-199..... 6 ☐
- 200 and more ..... 7 ☐
- more than 9 persons..... 8 ☐
- I don't know ..... 9 ☐

**NRLUCR****31. Specify the concrete number of workers**Attention! To be filled in by the interviewer ☐ **CONCRET****32. At your workplace, are you exposed to factors that have a negative impact on your health?**

- Yes..... 1 ☐
- No..... 2 ☐ 34

**COND****33. Which factors are these? Short description**

Scurtă descriere

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Cod ☐☐☐☐2. \_\_\_\_\_ Cod ☐☐☐☐3. \_\_\_\_\_ Cod ☐☐☐☐**CONDL****34. Is your work full or part time:**

- Full time ..... 1 ☐ 36
- Part time ..... 2 ☐

**PROG****35. What is the main reason why you work part time?***Suggest*

- Education or retraining..... 1 ☐
- Disease or handicap..... 2 ☐
- Didn't find a full time job..... 3 ☐
- Transferred at the initiative of the administration/employer to a part time job ..... 4 ☐
- Lack of customers, orders ..... 5 ☐
- Family responsibilities ..... 6 ☐
- Didn't want a full time job (including due to age reasons)..... 7 ☐
- Other..... 8 ☐

**MOPAR****SECONDARY ACTIVITY**

**36. In current living conditions, with low incomes and high prices, many people carry out a secondary activity in addition to the main one. Last week did you perform any second (permanent, occasional or exceptional) activity for one hour at least, even for nonessential income in cash or in kind?**

- Paid work as part-time or temporary employee;
- Paid work as occasional worker, assistant, substitute;
- Unpaid work on subsidiary plots, in individual enterprise or on farm of another household member;
- Production or sale of agricultural or processed products from subsidiary plot;
- Sale of foodstuffs, beverages, clothes, books, etc. on the street, in the market or at home;
- Refurbishment of houses, flats, repair of cars or durable goods for other persons for payment;
- Transportation of passengers or goods for payment;
- Paid consultations, private tuition (foreign languages, computer etc.);
- House cleaning or baby-sitting for payment.

YES..... 1 ☐NO..... 2 ☐ 54**ASEC**

**37. Has this work, in your secondary activity, been done on your own subsidiary plot (or that of another household member)?**

YES..... 1 ☐NO..... 2 ☐ 39**AGRS**

**38. In general, are the (raw or processed) products obtained from this plot exclusively for own consumption or also for sale?**

- Only for own consumption..... 1 ☐ 54
- For own consumption and for sale (including barter)..... 2 ☐

**AGRVS**

**39. What was your status in employment in your secondary activity?**
*Read*

- Employee.....1 ☐
- Employer.....2 ☐
- Own account worker.....3 ☐ 45
- Contributing family worker.....4 ☐
- Member of a cooperative.....5 ☐

**STAPS**
**40. Have you been employed, in your secondary activity, on the basis of:**

- A contract .....1 ☐
- An agreement.....2 ☐

**CONTRACTS**
**41. Does your employer pay social contributions for you (pension fund, unemployment fund and medical insurance) in your secondary activity?**

- Yes, sure .....1 ☐
- Possibly .....2 ☐
- No .....3 ☐
- I don't know .....4 ☐

**CONTRIBS**
**42. Do you benefit, in your secondary activity, from paid annual leave or compensation instead of it?**

- Yes.....1 ☐
- No.....2 ☐
- I don't know .....3 ☐

**CONANS**
**43. Would you benefit, in your secondary activity, from paid sick leave in case of illness?**

- Yes .....1 ☐
- No .....2 ☐
- I don't know .....3 ☐

**CONBOS**
**44. What was the ownership form of the enterprise where you worked in your secondary activity?**

- Public.....1 ☐
- Private.....2 ☐
- Joint venture (public and private) without foreign share.....3 ☐
- Foreign .....4 ☐
- Joint venture property (with foreign share).....5 ☐

**PROPS**
**45. Where is your work place in your secondary activity?**

- At your home.....1 ☐
- At the client's or employer's home .....2 ☐
- Enterprise, plant, factory, office, shop, workshop etc. (separate from the house) .....3 ☐
- On a farm or on agricultural plot.....4 ☐
- Construction site.....5 ☐
- Fixed stall in the market or on the street.....6 ☐
- Without fixed location .....7 ☐
- Other.....8 ☐

**PLASS**
**46. Your secondary activity was carried out at:**

- An enterprise, organization, institution (as a legal entity) .....1 ☐
- Private agricultural enterprise (farm) .....2 ☐
- Private enterprise; private notaries' or lawyers' office (without the right of a legal entity) .....3 ☐
- Individual work activity .....4 ☐
- Paid domestic workers employed by households (activity 95) .....5 ☐
- Own auxiliary household .....6 ☐ 48
- I don't know .....7 ☐

**FOJS**
**47. Was the enterprise (establishment) where you worked in your secondary activity registered?**

- Yes.....1 ☐
- Is being registered .....2 ☐
- No.....3 ☐
- I don't know .....4 ☐

**REGISS**
**48. What occupation did you have in your secondary activity?**

a) Actually fulfilled profession or function

b) Short description \_\_\_\_\_

Cod    
**OCUPS**
**49. a) Give the full name of the establishment or enterprise where you worked last week in your secondary activity (enterprise: limited liability corporation, joint stock company, cooperative, state enterprise, etc., association, institution, organization; establishment (plant, factory, shop, section, transportation company etc.))**

b) What is the main activity of the enterprise or establishment where you worked?

Cod CAEM    
**ACTS**
**50. How many persons work at the enterprise (establishment) where you carry out the second activity (total number, including yourself)?**

- 1-4.....1 ☐
- 5-9.....2 ☐
- 10-19.....3 ☐
- 20-49.....4 ☐
- 50-99.....5 ☐ 52
- 100-199.....6 ☐
- 200 and more .....7 ☐
- more than 9 persons.....8 ☐
- don't know .....9 ☐

**NRLUCRS**
**51. Specify the concrete number of employees**
*Attention! To be filled in by the interviewer*
☐ **CONCRETS**

**52. Besides your main and secondary activity, did you work on a subsidiary plot owned by yourself (or by another member of your household)?**

YES .....1 ☐  
NO .....2 ☐ 54

AGRT

**53. In general, are the (raw or processed) products obtained from this plot exclusively for own consumption or also for sale?**

- Only for own consumption.....1 ☐
- For own consumption and for sale  
(including barter).....2 ☐

AGRVT

**54. Number of hours actually worked last week:**

	Main job/act.	Other job(s)/act.(s)
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday		
Total	<b>DUREP</b>	<b>DURES</b>

a) Total actual hours...(DURECP+DURECS).....☐ ☐  
DURE

**55. Dear interviewer, how many hours did the interviewee work in the reference period according to the answer to the question 64a?**

- 0 hours .....1 ☐ 58
- Less than 40 hours .....2 ☐
- 40 hours.....3 ☐ 58
- 41 hours and more .....4 ☐ 57

SUMORE

**56. What was the main reason why you worked less than 40 hours during the last week?**

- Usually works less than 40 hours .....1 ☐
- Technical unemployment (lack of raw material or energy, lack of orders or clients etc.) .....2 ☐
- Strike or labour conflict.....3 ☐
- Schooling or training.....4 ☐
- Seasonal work .....5 ☐ 58
- Days off, holidays, variable timetable.....6 ☐
- Family responsibilities.....7 ☐
- Bad weather conditions .....8 ☐
- Start or change of job.....9 ☐
- Ended a job without starting a new one .....10 ☐
- Illness or injury.....11 ☐
- Other.....12 ☐

MODURE

**57. What is the main reason that you worked more than 40 hours last week?**

(read):

- To have a higher income .....1 ☐
- Usually works more than 40 hours.....2 ☐
- Exceptionally high workload during last week..3 ☐

- Seasonal work .....4 ☐
- Variable timetable.....5 ☐
- Other .....6 ☐

MOT

**58. Last week, would you have liked to work more hours than you actually worked and get the extra hours paid?**

YES .....1 ☐

NO .....2 ☐ 61

DORADIT

**59. How many additional hours did you have available for work last week?**

.....☐ ☐

OREADIT

**60. In which way would you have liked to work more hours?**

- Increase number of hours in current job(s)/activity(ies) .....1 ☐
- Take an additional job/activity .....2 ☐
- Replace current job(s)/activity(ies) by one(s) with more hours.....3 ☐

MODADIT

**61. Would you like to change your current employment situation?**

YES .....1 ☐

NO .....2 ☐ 64

SIT

**62. What is your main reason for wanting to change your current employment situation?**

- To work more hours with a corresponding increase in earnings .....1 ☐
- To have a higher remuneration per hour .....2 ☐
- Fear or certitude to loose the present job .....3 ☐
- Present job is temporary or occasional.....4 ☐
- To use qualifications/skills more adequately....5 ☐
- o have more convenient working time, shorter commuting time .....6 ☐
- Inadequate working conditions .....7 ☐
- To work less hours with a corresponding reduction of earnings.....8 ☐
- Other reason .....9 ☐

MOCAUT

**63. Did you look for another job/activity during the last four weeks?**

YES .....1 ☐

NO .....2 ☐

CAUTOC

**63a. Did you look for additional job/activity during the last four weeks?**

YES .....1 ☐

NO .....2 ☐

CAUTOCA

EMPLOYMENT RELATED REVENUE		
Attention! Verify the STATUS of person in the main and secondary activities and choose respective question		
	Main activity	Secondary activity
<b>64. Employees (Q12=1 and/or Q39=1).</b> How much did you receive last month, (after deduction of taxes and social security contributions and compulsory medical insurance, but before any others deductions)? 1. Direct regular wages and salaries in cash ..... 2. Remuneration for time not worked ..... 3. Bonuses (irregular)..... 4. Remuneration in kind and services ..... 5. Remuneration for previous period ..... 6. Payment in advance..... <b>7. TOTAL</b> .....	[ ][ ][ ][ ] lei [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei <b>SALARP</b>	[ ][ ][ ][ ] lei [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei <b>SALARS</b>
<b>Indicate the number of order (from CL) of the persons who has declared the revenue from your common activity.</b>	[ ][ ] <b>NRPP</b>	[ ][ ] <b>NRPS</b>
<b>65. Self-employed (Q12&lt;&gt;1 and/or Q39&lt;&gt;1) exclusive agricultural producers for own consumption and unpaid family workers.</b>  <b>a.I What was your income</b> last month from your enterprise, farm, individual activity or auxiliary plot? .....  <b>a.II What were your expenses</b> last month for your enterprise, farm, individual activity or auxiliary plot? .....  <b>b. Last month, did you withdraw</b> any merchandise, row materials or processed (manufactured) products from your enterprise, farm, individual activity or auxiliary plot in order to use them for own consumption by your household? YES.....c NO ..... 2d  <b>c. I. What is the purchase value</b> of merchandise (products) or row materials used for own consumption .....  <b>c.II. What is local sales value</b> of self raw or processed products used for own consumption .....  <b>d. Last month, have you made or received any payments in kind?</b> YES.....e NO ..... 86  <b>e. I. what is the value in cash of made payment</b> ..... <b>e. II. What is the value in cash of received payment</b> .....	[ ][ ][ ][ ] lei <b>PROFP</b>          [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei <b>PROFP1</b>          [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei <b>MARFP</b>          [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei <b>CONSP</b>          [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei <b>NATP</b> [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei <b>NATURP</b>	[ ][ ][ ] lei <b>PROFS</b>          [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei <b>PROFS1</b>          [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei <b>MARFS</b>          [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei <b>CONSS</b>          [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei <b>NATS</b> [ ][ ][ ][ ] lei <b>NATURS</b>

**66. Agricultural producers for own consumption (Q.5=2)**

What is the local sales value of the self-produced agricultural products, which your household used for own consumption during the last month?

1. First product .....  
 2. Second product .....  
 3. Other products .....  
 4. TOTAL .....

le  
 lei  
 lei  
 lei  
**CONSUMP**

**GO TO Q.86****PERSON WHO DID NOT WORK****PERSON LOOKING FOR A JOB****67. Have you been looking for work or for another job during the last 4 weeks?**

- YES .....1  
 NO .....2 Q.69

**CAUTNO****68. What were the methods used during the last 4 weeks to find work or another job?**

	Yes	No
1. Registration at the employment office	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Measures for starting an own business	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Registration at private employment agencies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Placement of announcements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Answering of announcements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Personal visits to employers or decision makers responsible for recruitment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Asking friends, relatives, colleagues, trade unions for assistance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Other method	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**METOD**

If Q.68 has at least one YES answer Q.72, otherwise Q.70

**69. Would you like to work, if a job opportunity were offered to you?**

- YES .....1  
 NO .....2 Q.76b

**DOR****70. What was the main reason for not looking for work during the last 4 weeks?***Suggest*

- Had already found a job and was supposed to start working at a later date .....1
- Was waiting for the results of a vacancy contest or an interview (no other option available) .....2
- Will be re-employed at the previous workplace (exclusive child care leave) .....3 Q.72
- Has undertaken all necessary steps to start his own business at a later date .....4
- Is starting the compulsory military service .....5
- Attended schooling or upgrading courses .....6
- Family responsibilities (including child care leave) .....7 Q.75
- Disease or invalidity .....8
- Does not know how and where else to look for a job .....9

- No longer feels or does not yet feel professionally ready .....10
- Too young or too old to find a job .....11
- Had looked for a job before but had not found any .....12
- Other reasons .....13 Q.75

**MONCAUT****71. Have you been looking for a job during the last year using different methods in order to find a job?**

- YES .....1  
 NO .....2 Q.75

**CAUT****72. What kind of job were you looking for or have you already found?***Read*

- Wage employment .....1
- Self-employment .....2
- Any job .....3 Q.74

**LOCM****73. What kind of working timetable were you looking for?***Read*

- Only full time .....1
- Only part time .....2
- Full time but would accept part time .....3
- Part time but would accept full time .....4
- Any timetable .....5

**PROGC****74. Since when are you without work and looking for a job (are you waiting to be re-employed or have undertaken steps to start your own business)?**

Month ..... LUNC  
 Year ..... ANC

**75. Could you start working in the next 15 days if you were offered now a job?**

- YES .....1 Q.77  
 • NO .....2 Q.76a

**DISP****76a. What is the main reason which prevents you from starting to work in the next 15 days?**

- Attends a type of education or upgrading courses .....1
- Starting the compulsory military service .....2
- Family responsibilities (including child care leave) .....3
- Disease .....4 Q.86
- Pensioner (pension: age pension, disability pension, loss of the bread-winner) .....5
- Voluntary inactive .....6
- Is going to leave abroad for work (or recently has come from abroad) .....7
- Off season period in agriculture .....8 Q.77
- Other reason .....9 Q.86

**MONDISP****76b. What is the main reason why you do not want to work?**

- Attends a type of education or upgrading courses .....1
- Starting the compulsory military service .....2
- Family responsibilities (including



- child care leave).....3 ☐
- Disease.....4 ☐
- Pensioner (pension: age pension, disability pension, loss of the bread-winner) .....5 ☐ 86
- Voluntary inactive.....6 ☐
- s/Is going to leave abroad for work (or recently has come from abroad) .....7 ☐
- Off season period in agriculture .....8 ☐
- Other reason .....9 ☐

MONDISPD

### 77. Which of the following reasons would make you refuse a job?

Read

- Change of domicile.....1 ☐
- A long distance from house.....2 ☐
- Being separate from family .....3 ☐
- Job with low qualification .....4 ☐
- Re-qualification .....5 ☐
- Lack of an employment contract .....6 ☐
- Low remuneration .....7 ☐
- Inadequate work environment .....8 ☐
- Uninteresting work .....9 ☐
- Unfavourable work conditions .....10 ☐
- Would accept a job in any conditions .....11 ☐

MOREF

### PREVIOUS WORK

### 78. Have you ever worked for wages or other monetary income or payment in kind?

- YES .....1 ☐
- NO .....2 ☐ 86

LUCRU

### 79. What was the main reason for which you stopped working?

- Dismissal or staff reduction.....1 ☐
- Break up of the enterprise, bankruptcy .....2 ☐
- End of a temporary activity .....3 ☐
- Retirement .....4 ☐
- Disease or invalidity .....5 ☐
- Beginning of studies or preparing for studies ...6 ☐
- Starting the compulsory military service.....7 ☐
- Family responsibilities (including child care leave) .....8 ☐
- Resignation.....9 ☐
- Off season period in agriculture .....10 ☐

MONLUCRU

### 80. Did you stop working ...?

- More than 8 years ago .....1 ☐ 86
- Less than 8 years ago .....2 ☐

INLUCRU

### 81. When did you stop working?

- Month ..... ☐ ☐ LUNU
- anul ..... ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ANU

### 82. What occupation did you have at your last work place?

a. Actually fulfilled profession or function

b. Short description

Cod ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

OCUPU

### 83 a. Give the full name of the establishment or enterprise where you had the last job (enterprise: limited liability corporation, joint stock company, cooperative, state enterprise, etc., association, institution, organization; establishment (plant, factory, shop, section, transportation company, etc.)

### b) What was the main activity of the enterprise or establishment where you had the last job?

----- Cod CAEM ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ACTU

### 84. What was your status in employment at your last workplace?

Read

- Employee.....1 ☐
- Employer.....2 ☐
- Own account worker .....3 ☐
- Contributing family worker.....4 ☐ 86
- Member of a cooperative.....5 ☐

STAPU

### 85. What ownership form had the enterprise where you had the last job?

- Public.....1 ☐
- Private.....2 ☐
- Joint venture ( public and private) without foreign share.....3 ☐
- Foreign.....4 ☐
- Joint venture property (with foreign share).....5 ☐

PROPU

### REGISTERING AT THE NATIONAL AGENCY FOR LABOUR FORCE EMPLOYMENT

### 86. Have you been registered at any employment agency during the last week?

- YES .....1 ☐
- NO .....2 ☐ 88

OFMS

### 87. Have you received unemployment compensation?

- YES .....1 ☐
- NO .....2 ☐

ALOC

### 88. Are you a member of trade union?

- YES .....1 ☐
- NO .....2 ☐

SIND

### 89. Who answered the questions?

- The person selected for the survey .....1 ☐
- Another member of the household .....2 ☐
- Other person.....3 ☐

RASP

### 90. Date of questionnaire completion:

- Day ..... ☐ ☐ ZI
- Month ..... ☐ ☐ LUN
- Year..... ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ AN

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND COOPERATION!**





National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL!



“According to the Law regarding Official Statistics nr. 412-XV from the 9th of December 2004, art. 22, the official statistics bodies assure the confidentiality of individual data and their usage only for statistical purposes.



# CHILD LABOUR

Approved by the NBS of the Republic of Moldova by Order No.

**Questionnaire shall be filled in only for children ages 5-17**

- Answer the questions by marking closed boxes with “x”, inserting figures in open boxes and writing text in spaces marked by dotted line \_\_\_\_\_
- Figures following the mark ➡ to the right of a box shall indicate the number of the question which is supposed to follow the corresponding answer.
- In cases when there is no ➡ sign after the marked box, the following question shall be addressed.

## IDENTIFICATION OF THE INTERVIEWEE

Data are taken from the Dwelling Questionnaire (CL)

Code of PSU .....	CENTR
Code of dwelling .....	LOC
Sequence number of the CL in the dwelling .....	CL
Number of the person from Questionnaire CL .....	NRP
Number of the survey from CL .....	NRA
Person's first and last names _____	

Date of birth	month	year
	LUNN	ANN

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT	
1. Can you read and write a short, simple statement with understanding in any language?	
Yes.....1	
No.....2	
SCRIS	
2. Are you currently attending school or pre-school?	
Yes.....1	
No.....2	
FREC V	
3. What is the level of school and grade that you are currently attending?	
	grade
pre-school.....1	filter 1
primary(I-IV).....2	
gymnasium (V-IX).....3	
lyceum, secondary general(X-XII).....4	
secondary vocational.....5	
secondary professional.....6	
higher school	
higher-1st cycle.....7	
higher-2nd cycle (PhD).....8	
higher- other (medicine, architecture, etc.)..9	
CLASA	CLASAT
4. At what age did you begin primary school?	
INCEP	
5. Did you miss any school day during the past week?	
Yes.....1	
No.....2	filter 1
LIPS	
6. How many school days did you miss during the past week?	
LIPSZ	
7. What was the main reason why you missed school day(s) during the past week?	
school vacation period.....1	
teacher was absent.....2	
bad weather conditions.....3	

to help family business.....4	filter 1
to help at home with household tasks.....5	
working outside family business.....6	
illness/ Injury/disablement.....7	
other.....8	
MOTLIPS	
8. Have you ever attended school/pre-school?	
Yes.....1	filter 10
No.....2	
FRECVO	
9. What is the main reason why you have never attended school/pre-school?	
too young.....1	
disabled/ illness.....2	
no school/school too far.....3	
cannot afford schooling.....4	
family did not allow schooling.....5	
not interested in school.....6	filter 1
education not considered valuable.....7	
school not safe.....8	
to learn a job.....9	
to work for pay.....10	
to work as unpaid worker in family	
business/farm.....11	
help at home with household tasks.....12	
other.....13	
MOTFR	
10. What is the highest level of school and grade you have attended?	
	grade
pre-school.....1	filter 1
primary(I-IV).....2	
gymnasium (V-IX).....3	
lyceum, secondary general(X-XII).....4	
secondary vocational.....5	
secondary professional.....6	filter 12
higher school	
ciclu I.....7	
ciclu II (masterat).....8	
other (medicină, arhitectură, veterinarie) ..9	
CLASAF	CLASAF

<p><b>11. What was the main reason why you leaved school?</b></p> <p>completed his/her compulsory schooling ... 1</p> <p>too old for school ..... 2</p> <p>disabled/ illness..... 3</p> <p>no school/school too far ..... 4</p> <p>cannot afford schooling ..... 5</p> <p>family did not allow schooling ..... 6</p> <p>poor in studies/not interested in school ..... 7</p> <p>education not considered valuable ..... 8</p> <p>school not safe..... 9</p> <p>to learn a job ..... 10</p> <p>to work for pay..... 11</p> <p>to work as unpaid worker in family ..... 12</p> <p>business/farm ..... 2</p> <p>help at home with household tasks ..... 13</p> <p>other ..... 4</p> <p>MPARAS</p>	
<p><b>12. At what age did you begin primary school?</b></p> <p>.....</p> <p>INCEP2</p>	
<p><b>13. At what age did you leave school?</b></p> <p>.....</p> <p>PARAS</p>	
<p><b>FILTER 1</b></p> <p><b>Dear interviewer, how old is the child?</b></p> <p>5-9 years..... 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 17</p> <p>10-17 year ..... 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 14</p>	
<p><b>14. Have you ever attended/are you currently attending a vocational/skills training course outside of school?</b></p> <p>Yes..... 1</p> <p>No..... 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 17</p> <p>FORMP</p>	
<p><b>15. Have you /will you obtain a certificate for this vocational training?</b></p> <p>Yes..... 1</p> <p>No..... 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 17</p> <p>CERT</p>	

<p><b>16. Describe subject of vocational training received/being received (carpentry, PC user, hairdresser etc.)</b></p> <p>----- CORM</p> <p>MESER</p>																			
<p><b>ECONOMIC ACTIVITY</b></p>																			
<p><b>17. Did you engage in any work for a wage/salary or other monetary income or for payment in kind at least one hour during the past week?</b></p> <p>Yes..... 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 20</p> <p>No..... 2</p> <p>LUCRAC</p>																			
<p><b>8. During the past week, did you do any of the following activities, even for only one hour? (Read each of the following questions and mark yes or no)</b></p>																			
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Yes</th> <th>No</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>1. Run or do any kind of business, big or small, for himself/herself or with one or more partners?</b> <i>Examples: Selling things, making things for sale, repairing things, guarding car, hairdressing, crèche business, transportation of passengers or goods etc.</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2. Do any work for a wage, salary, commission or any payment in kind (excl. domestic work)?</b> <i>Examples: a regular job, contract, casual or piece work for pay, work in exchange for food or housing.</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>3. Do any work as a domestic worker for a wage, salary or any payment in kind?</b></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>4. Help unpaid in a household business of any kind? (Don't count normal housework.)</b> <i>Examples: Help to sell things, make things for sale or exchange, doing the accounts, cleaning up for the business, do any construction or major repair work on his/he business or those of the household etc.</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>5. Do any work or help on his/her own or the household's plot, farm, food garden?</b> <i>Examples: growing farm produce, plugging, harvesting, looking after animals</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Yes	No	<b>1. Run or do any kind of business, big or small, for himself/herself or with one or more partners?</b> <i>Examples: Selling things, making things for sale, repairing things, guarding car, hairdressing, crèche business, transportation of passengers or goods etc.</i>			<b>2. Do any work for a wage, salary, commission or any payment in kind (excl. domestic work)?</b> <i>Examples: a regular job, contract, casual or piece work for pay, work in exchange for food or housing.</i>			<b>3. Do any work as a domestic worker for a wage, salary or any payment in kind?</b>			<b>4. Help unpaid in a household business of any kind? (Don't count normal housework.)</b> <i>Examples: Help to sell things, make things for sale or exchange, doing the accounts, cleaning up for the business, do any construction or major repair work on his/he business or those of the household etc.</i>			<b>5. Do any work or help on his/her own or the household's plot, farm, food garden?</b> <i>Examples: growing farm produce, plugging, harvesting, looking after animals</i>		
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	Yes	No
6. Do any construction or major repair work on his/her own home, plot?		
7. Fetch water or collect firewood for household use?		
8. Produce any other good for this household use? <i>Examples: clothing, furniture, clay pots, etc.</i>		
LUCRAC1-8		
<p align="center"><b>FILTER 2</b> If Q.18 has at list one YES answer 19 20, otherwise 19 19</p>		
9. Even though you did not do any of these activities in the past week, do you have a job, business, or other economic or farming activity you definitely return to?	<p>Yes ..... 1</p> <p>No ..... 2 31</p> <p>LUCRLIPS</p>	
20. Describe the main job/task you were performing <i>e.g. carrying bricks; fitting birds; harvesting maize; etc.</i>	<p>Job/Task ..... CORM</p> <p>Occupation code ..... OCUPAC</p>	
21. Describe briefly the main activity i.e. goods produced and services rendered where you are doing this job task.	<p>Activity/Type ..... CAEM</p> <p>Industry code ..... ACTAC</p>	
22. In addition to your main work, did you do any other work during the past week?	<p>Yes ..... 1</p> <p>No ..... 2</p> <p>ACTSAC</p>	

23. How many hours did you actually work during the week?			
	main	other	
Monday			
Tuesday			
Wednesday			
Thursday			
Friday			
Saturday			
Sunday			
OREAC			Total .....
24. At what age did you start to work for the first time in your life?	<p>.....</p> <p>INCEPL</p>		
25. Where did you carry out your main work during the past week?	<p>at (his/her) family dwelling ..... 1</p> <p>client's place ..... 2</p> <p>formal office ..... 3</p> <p>factory / Atelier ..... 4</p> <p>plantations / farm / garden ..... 5</p> <p>construction sites ..... 6</p> <p>quarry ..... 7</p> <p>shop/kiosk/coffee house/restaurant/hotel ..... 8</p> <p>different places (mobile) ..... 9</p> <p>fixed, street or market stall ..... 10</p> <p>other ..... 11</p> <p>PLASAC</p>		
26. For your main job/work were you a/an....?	<p>employee ..... 1</p> <p>employer (was having employees) ..... 2</p> <p>own account worker ..... 3</p> <p>unpaid family worker ..... 4</p> <p>member of a cooperative ..... 5</p> <p>STAPAC</p>		
27. What was the mode of payment for the last payment period?	<p>piece rate ..... 1</p> <p>hourly ..... 2</p> <p>daily ..... 3</p> <p>weekly ..... 4</p>		

monthly .....5  
upon completion of task.....6  
other .....7  
MODAC

28. What is your average monthly income from the main work?  
.....  
VENITAC

29. What do you usually do with your earnings?  
give all/part of money to my parents/guardians.....1  
employer gives all/part of money to my  
parents/guardians .....2  
pay my school fees.....3  
buy things for school.....4  
buy things for household.....5  
buy things for myself .....6  
save .....7  
other .....8  
UTILV

30. What is the main reason why you work?  
supplement family income .....1  
help pay family debt.....2  
help in household enterprise .....3  
learn skills .....4  
to temporarily replace someone.....5  
other .....6  
MOTLUCR

JOB SEARCH

31. Were you seeking work in the last week?  
Yes.....1  
No.....2  
CAUTAC

32. At any time during the past 12 months did you engage in work?  
Yes.....1  
No.....2  
LUCRAN

HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES

33. Did you have any of the following in the past 12 months because of your work?  

	Yes	No
1. superficial injuries or open wounds		
2. fractures		
3. dislocations, sprains or stains		
4. burns, corrosions, scalds or frostbite		
5. breathing problems		
6. eye problems		
7. skin problems		
8. stomach problems / diarrhoea		
9. fever		
10. extreme fatigue		
11. other		
TRAUMI-11		

FILTER 3

If Q.33 has at least one YES answer 33 34, otherwise 33 36

34. Think about your most serious illness/injury, how did this/these affect your work/schooling?  
not serious- did not stop work/schooling .....1  
stopped work or school for a short time.....2  
stopped work or school completely .....3  
INFL

35. Think about your most serious illness/injury, what were you doing when this happened?  
Job/Task ..... Cod  
Occupation code ..... OCUPTR

36. Do you carry heavy loads at work?  
Yes.....1  
No.....2  
GREUT

<b>37. Do you operate any machinery/heavy equipment at work?</b> Yes.....1 No.....2 <b>39</b> COMPLIC		
<b>38. What type of tools, equipment or machines do you use at work?</b> <i>(Write down 2 mostly used)</i> 1. _____ 2. _____ UNELT1-2		
<b>39. Are you exposed to any of the following at work?</b>		
	Yes	Nu
1. dust, fumes		
2. fire, gas, flames		
3. loud noise or vibration		
4. extreme cold or heat		
5. dangerous tools (knives etc)		
6. work underground		
7. work at heights		
8. work in water/lake/pond/river		
9. workplace too dark or confined		
10. insufficient ventilation		
11. chemicals (pesticides, glues, etc.)		
12. explosives		
13. other things, processes or conditions bad for your health or safety _ _ _ _ _		
NOCIV1-13		
<b>40. Have you ever been subject to the following at work?</b>		
	Yes	Nu
1. constantly shouted at		
2. repeatedly insulted		
3. beaten /physically hurt		
4. sexually abused (touched or done things to you that you did not want)		
5. other _ _ _ _ _		
SITAC1-5		
<b>41. Do you think it is normal to work for a child of your age?</b>		
Yes.....1		
No.....2		
NORM		

HOUSEHOLD TASKS			
<b>42. During the past week did you do any of the tasks indicated below for the household?</b>			
	Yes	Hours	No
1. shopping for household			
2. cooking			
3. washing clothes			
4. washing dishes			
5. cleaning house/yard			
6. cleaning utensils			
7. repair any household equipments			
8. caring for children			
9. caring for old/sick person			
10. other household tasks _ _ _ _ _			
GOSPI-10    ORE1-10			
<b>43. Who answered the questions?</b> the person selected for the survey.....1 another member of the household.....2 RASPAC			