

WORKING PAPER SERIES

Girls at Work:
Insights from
the NSO Survey of Working Children



WORKING PAPER SERIES ON CHILD LABOUR
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Long before the financial crisis, the Philippines has had an extensive and severe problem of child labour. While there are some indications that the proportions of working children may have stabilized and possibly marginally declined in the past five years, the absolute numbers are said to be increasing given the country's high population growth rates. Unlike Indonesia and Thailand, poverty in the Philippines has not dramatically declined; hence the stickiness in the numbers of working children.

The most comprehensive data on child labour is the NSO nationwide survey on working children in the Philippines of 1995. Attached to the labour force survey of July of that year, the survey results now constitute the primary database on working children in the Philippines. This survey was supported and funded by the ILO's IPEC programme, less people forget!

Findings of the Survey

While the NSO survey data has been extensively quoted, there has been very limited assessment of the different distributional patterns of child labour, especially from the point of view of gender.

The survey data provides tremendous evidence about a number of things about work of men and women. The data dramatically shows that many of the issues and concerns of women in the workplace start at childhood when the girl child is introduced to the world of work.

On overall population

The Philippines is literally a young nation with a high percentage of young people in its overall population. Children between the ages 5-17 number 22.4 million, comprising a third of the overall Philippine population. Of the total, boys slightly outnumber the girls, 11.5 million boys to 10.8 million girls.

Working children ages 5-17.

Using a time frame of the last twelve months, 3.7 million children of the ages 5-17 worked. Working children form 16% of the overall population of children between ages 5-7. That means, that one out of six children of ages 5-17, works. Sixty six percent or 2.4 million of these working children; girls numbered 1.2 million. One of five boys work (19.9%), one out of 9 girls work (11.1%).

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The disparities in the numbers of working boys and girls are a result of a statistical methodology for labor force participation in the Philippines that systematically disregards housekeeping as having economic value. This undervaluation and underreporting of women's work is the reason for the invisibility of many of the girl child workers.

Of the total number of working children 217,561 (5.7%) were between ages 5-9; 1.6 million (44.3%) were between the ages 10-14; and 1,806,596 (50%) were between the ages 15-17. Almost half (49%) were between the ages 5-14. The distribution of boys and girls across age categories are more or less equal; although it would seem that girls may be starting to work an earlier age.

	Overall (%)	Boys (%)	Girls (%)	Girl/Boy Ratio
Philippines	100	100 (66.4%)	100 (33.6%)	1.0
Age				
5-9	5.7	5.5	6.1	1.1
10-14	44.3	43.3	48.4	1.1
15-17	50	51.2	47.6	.9

Working children are largely rural children. However, compared to the boys, there is a higher percentage of girls in the urban sector.

	Overall (%)	Boys (%)	Girls (%)	Girl/Boy Ratio
Urban	33.3	30.6	38.7	1.3
Rural	66.7	69.4	61.3	.9

The highest numbers of working children are found in Regions 4 (Southern Tagalog), 6 (Negros), and 11 (Northern Mindanao). These regions also have large populations. The proportions of boys and girls across regions are more or less equal, except notably for the National Capital Region.

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Administrative Regions	Overall (%)	Boys (%)	Girls (%)	Girl/Boy Ratio
NCR	3.2	1.9	5.9	3.1
CAR	2.2	2.	2.3	
Region 1	6.9	7.1	6.4	.9
Region 2	5.9	5.7	6.2	.9
Region 3	7.6	7.6	7.7	1.0
Region 4	12.4	11.9	13.3	1.1
Region 5	9.1	9.4	8.5	.9
Region 6	10.7	10.4	11.3	1.1
Region 7	6.7	6.7	6.7	
Region 8	6.4	7.0	5.1	.7
Region 9	4.9	4.9	4.7	1.0
Region 10	5.9	6.2	5.2	.8
Region 11	10.3	10.2	10.5	1.0
Region 12	5.1	5.4	4.6	.9
ARMM	2.7	3.3	1.6	.5

Gender segmentation of the labor market starts early. Farming and retail trade absorbs the larger proportions of working children, both boys and girls, but the distributional differences are clear. Girls are more spread out across categories; the boys are focused on a few sectors.. Girls dominate in personal services, restaurant and catering, wholesale and retail trade, non-food manufacturing. Boys are over-represented in farming, fishing, mining and quarrying, transport and communication, construction. Boys and girls are about equal in food manufacturing.

Table Comparison of the Distribution of Working Boys and Working Girls, by economic sector, in percentages, 1995

Industry	Overall (%)	Boys (%)	Girls (%)	Girl/Boy Ratio
Farming	55.9	63.4	41.1	.7
Fishing	6.8	9.2	1.9	.2
Forestry/Logging	1.2	1.4	.7	.5
Mining and Quarrying	.3	.5		<
Wholesale and retail trade	16.4	10.5	27.9	2.7
Transportation and	1.6	2.4	.1	<

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communication				
Construction	1.3	1.9	.1	<
Utilities	.1	.1	.1	-
Health Services	.1	.0	.1	>
Education services	.1		.2	>
Food Mfg.	1.7	1.7	1.6	-
Non-food mfg.	4.0	2.9	6.3	2.2
Restaurant/catering	1.6	.9	3.1	3.4
Personal Services	6.8	3.2	14.0	4.4
Other Business/Industry	2.1	1.7	2.9	1.7

Given their young ages, working children have low levels of education. It does seem however that the working girls are better education, with higher percentages in secondary school.

Table 13. Comparison of the Distribution of Working Boys and Working Girls, by highest educational attainment, in percentages, 1995

Highest Grade Completed	Total	Boys	Girls	Girl/Boy Ratio
No grade	2.8	3.2	2.0	.6
Grade 1-5	39.2	41.3	35.1	.9
Elementary Grad	17.7	18.9	15.4	.8
1 st - 3 rd year	31.7	30.3	34.4	1.1
HS Grad	7.1	5.2	10.7	2.0
College Undergrad	1.5	1.1	2.3	2.0

In terms of type of work, boys dominate in agricultural work. There are high proportions of girls in services and sales. Boys and girls are about equal in production. But as will be seen in place and location of work, girls are more heavily involved in sub-contracting production systems.

Table. Comparison of the Distribution of Working Boys and Working Girls, by type of work, in percentages, 1995

	Overall (%)	Boys (%)	Girls (%)	Girl/Boy Ratio
Professional, Technical and related workers	.2	.2	.2	
Clerical and related	.5	.6	.3	.5

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workers				
Sales workers	16.4	10.6	27.7	2.6
Service workers	8.8	3.9	18.5	4.7
Agricultural husbandry	63.9	74.1	44.1	.6
Production, crafts, transportation	9.2	9.5	8.5	.9
Workers, NEC	1.0	1.2	.6	

Most working children (60%), boys or girls, are in unpaid family work in their own households and establishments. Nearly 20% work in private establishments; 8% work in private households. In comparing the data of the boys and girls, we see that girls are over-represented as workers in private households. Boys, on the other hand, have relatively higher percentages than the girls as paid workers in household enterprises and as self-employed.

Table 4. Comparison of the Distribution of Working Boys and Working Girls, by status of employment, in percentages, 1995

Status in employment	Overall (%)	Boys (%)	Girls (%)	Girl/Boy Ratio
Worker in a private household	7.9	4.9	14.0	2.9
Worker in a private Establishment	19.9	20.9	18.0	.9
Paid worker in own HH enterprise	1.4	1.6	1.0	.6
Self-employed w/o any paid employee	6.8	8.1	4.2	.5
Unpaid worker in own HH operated farm or business	60.2	61.5	57.6	.9
Unpaid worker for other members who work for others	.6	.6	.5	.8

Most working children work in family farms (53%) and their own homes (17.2%). But jobs are indeed segregated, literally and physically. Girls are proportionately found more in employers' homes, their own homes, office or factory, and the markets. Boys dominate in the farms, the mines and quarries, the streets. Girls seem "sheltered"; boys are highly visible.

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Table 5. Comparison of the Distribution of Working Boys and Working Girls, by place of work, in percentages, 1995

Place of work	Overall (%)	Boys (%)	Girls (%)	Girl/Boy Ratio
Own house	17.2	12.2	27.1	2.2
Employer's House	7.3	3.1	15.7	5.1
Other person's house or place	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.1
Office/factory	1.8	1.2	2.9	2.4
Farm	53.0	60.6	37.9	.6
Street	3.0	3.6	1.8	.5
Market	4.0	2.7	6.4	2.4
Mines/quarry/const.	1.4	2.1	.1	.1

What is the nature of the employment? The distribution of boys and girls across the categories are comparable. One could say though that boys are more likely to work for different employers than the girls.

Table. Comparison of the Distribution of Working Boys and Working Girls, by nature of employment, in percentages, 1995

	Overall (%)	Boys (%)	Girls (%)	Girl/Boy Ratio
Permanent	30.7	31.4	29.3	.9
Short Term/Casual	35.5	34.7	37.0	1.1
Seasonal/school vacation	28.1	27.7	28.9	1.0
Work for different Employers	4.9	5.4	3.9	.7
Others	.7	.7	.8	1.1

Education

Education is one of the child's basic human rights, and one of the more deleterious effects of early child work are the effects on education.

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In the Philippines, 70% of the working children combine school and work. The gender gap favors the girls. Nearly 75% of the working girls attend school; only 66% of the boys do.

Table. Comparison of the Distribution of Working Boys and Working Girls, by school attendance and the effects of work on schooling, in percentages, 1995

	Overall	Boys	Girls	Girl/Boy Ratio
School Attendance				
Presently attending school/Attended school last year	68.9	65.7	74.8	1.1
Not attending school/did not attend school last year	29.8	33.7	22.5	.7

With regard to the effects of work on schooling, 57% of the girls and 46% of the boys say that they have no problems. Working students complain of low grades (41.4%), absenteeism (25.3%) and tardiness (26%). Working students tend to be chronic dropouts.

Table . Comparison of the Distribution of Working Boys and Working Girls, by problems encountered in school, in percentages, 1995

Problems Encountered	Overall	Male	Female	Female/Male Ratio
None	20.1	17.7	24.5	1.4
Difficulty in catching up with lessons	22.1	22.9	20.7	.9
Teachers are not supportive	4.7	4.6	5.0	1.1
High cost of transportation/supplies	28.5	27.2	30.9	1.1
No time to study	6.6	6.4	6.9	1.0
School too far from the residence	23.8	22.2	25.6	1.1
Other problems	3.3	3.1	3.8	1.2

Table Comparison of the Distribution of Working Boys and Working Girls, by effects of

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work on schooling, in percentages, 1995

Effects of schooling				
None	49.8	46.0	57.0	1.2
Low Grades	7.9	8.4	7.0	.8
Absenteeism	4.8	5.1	4.3	.8
Tardiness	4.9	4.9	4.9	
Other Effects	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3

Working Conditions

Of special attention in discussions of child labour are the subsets within the overall population of working children who are engaged in hazardous and dangerous work, or are found in hazardous workplaces or are involved in economic activities which impair their natural growth, health and access to schooling. Working children who are most at risk include those who:

Work at a young age. 1.8 million working children are between the ages 5-14. Of this, 217,561 are between 5-9 years old. There is some evidence that there are higher percentages of girls in the younger age categories than boys.

Work long hours. 19.5% work more than 5 hours a day, 5% work more than 10 hours per day. Among children who report on working hours, there is some indication that girls, proportionately more than the boys, work longer hours.

Table 7. Comparison of the Distribution of Working Boys and Working Girls, by normal working hours, in percentages, 1995

No. of hours per day	Overall (%)	Boys (%)	Girls(%)	Girl/Boy Ratio
1-4	49.9	48.4	53.1	1.1
5-8	14.1	4.5	32.9	7.3
9-10	3.5	1.8	6.8	3.8
More than 10	1.8	.9	3.6	4.0
Not reported	30.7	44.4	3.6	
No of hours actually worked				
Less than 40 hours	78.7	79.3	77.4	1.0

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Forty hours or more	17.5	17.6	17.2	1.0
NR	2.0	1.0	3.9	

Work at night. While not prevalent, 4% of those between the ages 10-14 and 7% of those between the ages 15-17 worked at night. Affected children are mainly those in retail trade, personal services, and fishing.

Have no days off. A higher percentage of the boys (92%) have a free day off or free time compared to the girls 87.4%. What they do during their free time is also markedly different. Boys tend to socialize and to go out with friends; the girls are likely to sleep and rest, study and read.

Table. Comparison of the Distribution of Working Boys and Working Girls, by recreation time, in percentages, 1995

	Overall (%)	Boys (%)	Girls(%)	Girl/Boy Ratio
Recreation and Leisure Time				
Have day off/free time	90.2	91.7	87.4	1.0

Table. Comparison of the Distribution of Working Boys and Working Girls by activity done during recreation time, in percentages, 1995

Activity done during free time (multiple responses)	Overall (%)	Boys	Girls	Girl/Boy Ratio
None	9.5	9.3	9.8	1.0
Play with friends	73.8	79.8	62.0	.8
Go to movies, amusement centers	21.2	22.3	18.9	.8
Window shopping	4.9	3.5	7.5	2.1
Sleep/rest	69.6	68.7	71.5	1.0
Study/read	47.1	41.4	58.4	1.4
Other activities	14.2	12.5	17.6	1.4

Work without adult supervision. 17% of working children do not have adult supervision; of the children below 15 years of age, 20% have no adult supervision.

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Are exposed to hazardous environments. 60% (2.2 million children) are exposed to hazardous work environments, consisting of physical difficulties and chemical exposures. Girls are less likely to be exposed (47.2%) to physical, chemical and biological hazards compared to the boys. The proportions are also quite high.

Table Comparison of the Distribution of Working Boys and Working Girls, by exposure to hazardous working conditions, in percentages, 1995

	Boys	Girls	Girl/Boy Ratio
Exposed to hazardous conditions	60.2	52.8	.9
Chemicals	28.5	20.2	.7
Physical Environment	54.4	45.0	.8
Biological	20.7	17.0	.8
Not exposed	36.0	47.2	1.3

Girls are especially vulnerable to sexual abuse and harassment. An important category of hazard, that is, isolation and vulnerability to sexual abuse, is not a question that is easily taken during a randomized national survey. That this hazard affects girls more than boys is likely, given the nature of girls' work and the location of their workplace. In a study on intra-family and household abuse (Sobritchea, 1997), victims of child abuse, in particular, sexual abuse and harassment, are predominantly young girls. More than half of the cases of domestic violence against children involved some form of sexual abuse. Relatives are often the perpetrators - the father (28.9%), uncle (16.1%), stepfather (12.8%) male neighbour (9.5%). But employers too are responsible (6.6%).

Experience work related problems of exhaustion, stress, risk and danger. 80% of working children have work related problems. The most significant problems involve exhaustion (63.3%), stress (55%), physical burden (47%) and boredom (52%). 17% find work, or aspects of it, risky and dangerous. More boys than girls complain. A higher percentage (26.5%) of girls see no problem in their work compared to 16.3% of the boys. Girls are also less likely to consider their work or parts of it anyway to be dangerous or hazardous (9.1%). Yet, there are at least half of the girls find work exhausting (56.1%) stressful (49.4%) and boring (50%) and a third suffer from heavy physical work.

Table. Comparison of the Distribution of Working Boys and Working Girls, type of work-related problems, in percentages, 1995

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Work-related problems	Overall (%)	Boys (%)	Girls (%)	Girl/Boy Ratio
Exhausted from work	63.3	67.1	56.1	.8
Heavy physical work	47.6	54.4	34.7	.6
Stressful work	55.6	58.9	49.4	.8
Boredom	52	53	50	.9
Work is risky or dangerous	17.6	21.7	9.7	.4
No problem	19.8	16.3	26.5	1.6

Suffer injuries and illnesses from work. 24% or 869, 199, working children at least one work related injury or illness. Many of the children simply continue working when injured or ill. Those who do fall ill hardly go to a doctor. This is simply because their work is informal, and in many cases illegal, thus such work would be hardly be covered, it at all, by social protection.

Table. Comparison of the Distribution of Working Boys and Working Girls, by experience of injury or illness, in percentages, 1995

	Overall (n, %)	Boys (n, %)	Girls (n, %)	On %
Total Children with experience of injury or illness	869,199 (23.7%)	624,385 (26.0%)	244,814 (19.3%)	.7
Injuries				
Contusions, abrasions	134,742 (15.5%)	102,251 (16.3%)	32,692 (13.4%)	.8
Cuts, wounds, punctures	597,360 (68.7%)	437,647 (70.1%)	159,713 (65.2%)	.9
Amputation of body parts	1,101 (.1%)	658 (.1%)	442 (.2%)	2.0
Crushing injuries	29,837 (3.4%)	23,897 (3.8%)	5,940 (2.4%)	.6
Dislocations, fractures and sprains	45,909 (5.3%)	35,493 (5.7%)	10,416 (4.3%)	.8
Burns	57,489 (6.6%)	42,740 (6.8%)	14,750 (6.0%)	.9
Other injuries	12,356 (1.4%)	8,539 (1.4%)	3,816 (1.6%)	1.1
Illnesses				
Skin diseases	189,872 (21.8%)	131,924 (21.1%)	57,948 (23.7%)	1.1
Body aches and pains	517,668 (59.6%)	367,724	149,945	1.0

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		(58.9%)	(61.2%)	
Eye strain/eyesight impairment	31,340 (3.6%)	19,830 (3.2%)	11,510 (4.7%)	1.5
Hearing impairment	10,114 (1.2%)	8,412 (1.3%)	1,702 (.7%)	.5
Respiratory	47,460 (5.5%)	31,551 (5.1%)	15,909 (6.5%)	1.3
Gastro-intestinal	48,063 (5.5%)	35,322 (5.7%)	12,741 (5.2%)	.9
Other illnesses	61,539 (7.1%)	46,293 (7.4%)	15,246 (6.2%)	.8

In a study cited earlier on sexual abuse, a related complaint of young girl victims of abuse were symptoms of sexually transmitted diseases (STD) and various gynaecological problems such as vaginal discharges, inspections, pelvic pains and pregnancy.

Young workers are able to express the areas in their workplace that require improvement. The requests reflect the nature of their work and the different types of workplaces. Higher proportions of girls seek improvements in ventilation, lighting, workspaces, cleanliness. A high percentage of boys complain about flooding in their work areas. Noise is a problem for both boys and girls.

Table 11. Comparison of the Distribution of Working Boys and Working Girls, by areas for improvement of working conditions, in percentages, 1995

	Boys	Girls	Girl/Boy Ratio
Total % of Children that expressed need for improvement of workplace	15.6	15.7	-
Inadequate ventilation	9.4	22.0	2.3
Inadequate lighting	7.5	11.4	1.5
Inadequate working space	16.0	24.1	1.5
Lack of clean water supply	27.2	25.8	1.0
Too noisy	13.7	25.8	.9
Unsanitary surroundings	22.5	33.2	1.5
Flooding of the work area	27.1	21.0	.8
Other improvements	23.9	10.1	.4

Given a choice, both boys and girls would like to continue working. A slightly higher percentage of girls would like to stop working. Reasons to continue working are similar: improve family incomes and the standard of living; desire to have the household enterprise operate fully; and a small portion would like to pay their family debts.

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Table. Comparison of the Distribution of Working Boys and Working Girls, desire to continue working or not, in percentages, 1995

Continue work or not/If so, why?	Overall	Boys	Girls	Girl/Boy Ratio
Continue working	54	56.7	49.1	.87
Would stop working	44.6	42.7	48.1	1.13
Why				
Incomes/Standard of living	60.1	61.8	56.4	.91
Pay debts	3.6	3.6	3.5	.97
HH can operate fully	17.7	17.2	18.8	1.09
Other reasons	18.2	17.0	20.8	1.22

The movement of young people to places away from home also starts very early. Much like the adults, the movement is dominated by the girls.

An estimated 409,917 children are living away from home. More than half (288,018) are older children of the ages 15-17, but there is a relatively large group of children between the ages of 5-14 (121,899). Sixty one percent of children living away from home are girls; 39% are boys.

Table. Children Living Away from Home, by age, in absolute nos., 1995

	Overall	Boys	Girls	Girl/Boy Ratio
Age				
5-14 years	121,899	49,951	71,949	1.4
15-17 years	288,018	110,976	177,042	1.6
5-17 years	409,917	160,927	248,990	1.5
Percentage to total children	100%	39.3%	60.7%	

Away from home, boys and girls perform multiple functions - they study, work, housekeep, look for work or a combination of all four.

Table. Children Living away from home, by activity, in absolute numbers, 1995

Ages 5-17	Overall	Boys	Girls	Girl/Boy Ratio
Philippines	409,917	160,927	248,990	1.6
Working Only	161,525	55,294	106,231	1.9

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Looking for work only	26,964	11,542	15,323	1.3
Studying only	102,431	50,550	51,881	1.0
Housekeeping only	9,109	1,705	7,404	4.3
Working and studying	9,004	3,698	5,306	1.4
Working and Housekeeping	11,539	5,826	5,713	1.0
Looking for work and housekeeping	1,005	1,005		
Studying and housekeeping	26,670	8,274	18,398	2.2
Working, studying and housekeeping	8,020	2,151	5,870	2.7
Looking for work, studying and housekeeping	1,864	1,117	747	.7
Not reported	50,682	18,894	31,708	1.7

In determining the number of boys and girls working, we add all the work categories and include the category of "housekeeping" only. The total number of children working while away from home is 225,867, of which 67% are girls.

Table Children Living Away from Home, at work and in housekeeping by age, in absolute nos., 1995

	Overall	Boys	Girls	Girl/Boy ratio
Age				
5-14 years	48,314	15,396	37,375	2.4
15-17 years	170,698	59,074	111,664	1.9
5-17 years	225,867	76,948	149,922	1.9
Percentage to total children	100%	34.1%	66.6%	

Girls outnumber the boys across all age categories. Overall, girls are younger than the boys when they first start working.

Table. Children Living and Working Away from Home, by type of work, 1995

Type of Work	Overall (%)	Boys (%)	Girls (%)	Girl/Boy Ratio
Sales Workers	10.6	11.4	10.1	.88
Service workers	63.2	31.9	80.3	2.52

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Agricultural Workers	11.1	24.1	4.0	.17
Production, transport, etc.	10.0	20.1	4.5	.22
Workers NEC	4.2	10.6	.7	.66

While it is not shown here, the young workers come from rural households and work in urban centers. A great majority of the girls work in households. Don't these figures remind you of the feminization of migration?

*A note on "Housekeeping Only"

While the national survey module on working children used the Philippine definitions of the labor force, an additional question to screen working children was used, wherein the responsible adult in the household needed to list all activities of all children in the household. Using a multiple response mode, the respondents were given a choice of (a) working; (b) looking for work; (c) housekeeping; (d) studying. In general, we see that most children taken on multiple activities.

The survey results to this screening question are useful in determining the likely extent of under-reporting of the girl child work, especially as she undertakes housekeeping functions.

Table 25. Changes in the Magnitudes of Working Boys and Girls with the introduction of "housekeeping only" and "studying with housekeeping", ages 5-17, 1995

Activity	Overall	Males	Females
Total Child Population, ages 5-17, Philippines	22,381,517	11,523,148	10,858,361
Working Only	641,418	478,247	163,171
Working and looking for work	20,257	16,392	3,866
Working and studying	671,206	497,344	173,861
Working and Housekeeping	559,367	383,640	175,727
Working, looking for work and studying	9,186	6,145	3,041
Working, looking for work and housekeeping	41,956	28,487	13,467
Working, studying and housekeeping	1,569,512	876,176	693,336
Working, looking for work, studying and housekeeping	64,462	43,125	21,336
Not reported	408		408
Total of Working Children	3,577,364	2,303,916	1,247,805

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Percentage share to the total child, boy and girl population (%)	15.9	19.9	11.5
Percentage share of working boys and working girls to total no. of working children (%)	100	64.4	35.6
Add:			
Children in "Housekeeping only"	855,240	363,838	491,402
Total No. of children in work and housekeeping	4,432,604	2,667,754	1,739,207
Percentage share in the total child, boy and girl population	19.8%	23.2%	16.0%
Percentage share of working boys and working girls to the total working children	100%	60.2%	39.8%
Add:			
Children who are "studying and housekeeping"	7,823,995	3,374,560	4,449,436
Total No. of children who are work, housekeeping only and studying and housekeeping	12,256,599	6,042,314	6,188,643
Percentage share in the total child population	54.7%	52.4%	56.9%
Percentage share of working boys and working girls to the total working child population	100%	49.2%	50.4%

Another interesting aspect in the survey results show how young boys, especially those between the ages 5-14 take a larger share in housekeeping function; a share that is diminishes with time, or as he enters the 15-17 age cohort. The reverse seems true for young girls.

Table 23. Comparison of the Activities of Boys, Ages 5-14, 15-17; in %, 1995

	Overall (5-17)	Ages 5-14	Ages 15-17
Philippines	100.0	100.0	100.0
Working Only	4.2	1.4	13.2
Looking for work only	7.8	8.3	2.9
Studying only	34.7	34.6	21.6
Housekeeping only	3.1	3.2	1.5
Working and looking for work	.1	.03	.5
Working and studying	4.3	2.9	8.0
Working and Housekeeping	3.3	1.1	10.6
Looking for work and studying	2.2	2.3	1.0
Looking for work and housekeeping	1.2	1.0	1.5
Studying and housekeeping	29.3	27.6	24.4
Working, looking for work and	.5	.02	.1

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studying			
Working, looking for work and housekeeping	.2	.1	.8
Working, studying and housekeeping	7.6	5.6	12.2
Looking for work, studying and housekeeping	.7	1.3	1.0
Working, looking for work, studying and housekeeping	.4	.3	.6

Table 24. Comparison of the Activities of Girls, Ages 5-14, 15-17; in %, 1995

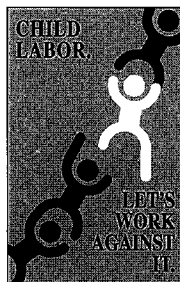
Philippines	5-17	5-14	15-17
	100	100	100.0
Working Only	1.5	.5	5.0
Looking for work only	7.1	8.5	2.1
Studying only	31.2	34.2	20.4
Housekeeping only	4.5	4.1	6.0
Working and looking for work	.35	.01	.12
Working and studying	1.6	1.3	2.8
Working and Housekeeping	1.6	.6	5.2
Looking for work and studying	1.5	1.8	.2
Looking for work and housekeeping	1.3	1.1	1.7
Studying and housekeeping	40.98	40.7	41.9
Working, looking for work and housekeeping	.1	.0	.5
Working, studying and housekeeping	6.4	5.1	11.2
Looking for work, studying and housekeeping	1.9	1.8	2.2
Working, looking for work, studying and housekeeping	.2	.1	.4

International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC)

Child labour is almost invisible to most people, but the numbers of child workers are increasing in many parts of the world. Many children suffer, and may only barely survive, the long hours of work, the heavy burdens, the dangerous tools, the poisonous chemicals. A number cannot escape bonded labour or prostitution. The strongest will go on, forever bearing the physical and emotional scars of early work. At a time when they should be at school and preparing for a productive adulthood, young boys and girls are losing their childhood and, with it, the promises of a better future.

IPEC, the International Labour Organization's technical cooperation program on child labour, works towards its progressive elimination by strengthening national capacities to address child labour problems, and by creating a world-wide movement against it. Current priority target groups are bonded child laborers, children in hazardous working conditions and occupations and children who are particularly vulnerable, i.e., very young working children and working girls.

IPEC's Philippine Working Paper Series is an effort to bring into sharper focus the many dimensions of the child labour problem in the Philippines. The publication of the working papers is intended to contribute to the national dialogue leading to the protection of working children and the elimination of child labour in the country.



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