



International
Labour
Office

PHILIPPINES CHILD LABOUR DATA COUNTRY BRIEF

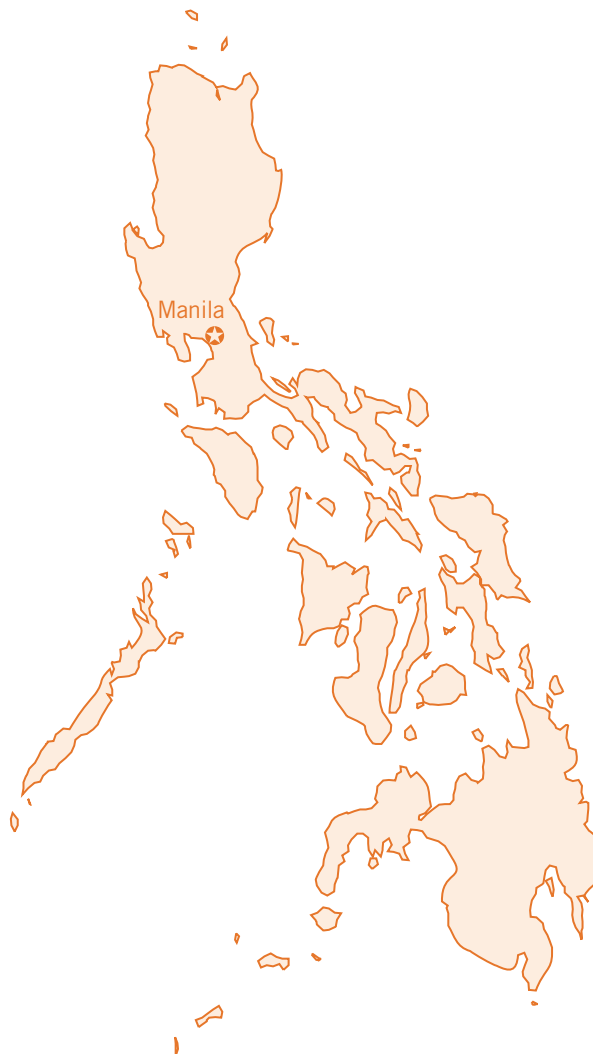


International
Programme on
the Elimination
of Child Labour
(IPEC)

SELECTED SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS

Population (millions)	81.6
Population under 15 years (percentage of total)	35.7
Literacy rate (percentage of people ages 15 and above)	92.6
Net primary school enrolment rate	94
GDP per capita, PPP	\$4,614
Human Development Index Value	0.763
HDI ranking	84/177

Source: 2004 data from UNDP Human Development Report 2006
Human Development Indicators, 2001



I. Legislative Framework

RATIFIED CONVENTIONS RELATING TO CHILD LABOUR

Convention	Ratification	Entry into force
The Minimum Age Convention (No. 138) (minimum age specified: 15 years)	04-06-1998	04-06-1999
The Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (No. 182)	28-11-2000	28-11-2001
Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)	21-08-1990	20-09-1990

RELEVANT NATIONAL LEGISLATION

- Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines, 1986;
- Labour Code;
- Republic Act No. 7658 (Act Prohibiting the Employment of Children below 15 Years of Age in Public and Private Undertakings), 1993;
- Republic Act No. 679 (1952) as amended by Republic Act No. 1131 and Presidential Decree No. 148;
- Department Order No. 4, series of 1999;
- Article 14, Section 2 – 2, Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines - Free and compulsory education for children ages 6-12.

REGULATION OF WORK FOR PERSONS BELOW 18 YEARS

Regulation of work for persons below 18 years	Age	Legislation
General minimum age for admission to employment or work	15 years	Republic Act 76 58; Section 139 (a) of the Labour Code
Admission to light work activities	No minimum age for light work specified	
Admission to hazardous work	18 years	Section 139 (c) of the Labour Code; Section 2 of Republic Act Types of hazardous work determined: Section 3 of the Department Order No. 4, Series of 1999

II. Child Labour Indicators

Key child labour indicators can be derived from the Philippines Child Labour Survey (PCLS), conducted by the National Statistics Office in 2001. The survey was carried out within the framework of the Statistical Information and Monitoring Programme (SIMPOC) of the ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC). The PCLS was a nationwide survey that collected information on the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of working children from 5 to 17 years of age.

Children's activities

Results from the Philippines Child Labour Survey indicate that 13.4 per cent (1.4 million) of boys and 8.4 per cent (0.8 million) of girls ages 5 to 14 are in economic activity. A combined total of 11.0 per cent (2.2 million) of all children in that age group are working.

1.6 per cent (0.3 million) of children participate in the labour force without attending school. The percentage is approximately thrice as high for boys (2.5 per cent) than for girls (0.8 per cent). Children in rural areas are more likely to work without attending school than those in

urban areas (2.3 per cent vs. 0.9 per cent). The gender gap between these working children attending school is higher in rural areas (2.5 percentage points, i.e. boys: 3.5 per cent vs. girls: 1.0 per cent) than in urban areas (0.7 percentage points, i.e. boys: 1.2 per cent vs. girls: 0.5 per cent).

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

Sex	Activity	Urban		Rural		Total	
		%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Male	Work only ^a	1.2	54,204	3.5	199,950	2.5	254,154
	Study only ^b	84.0	3,788,076	68.7	3,958,140	75.4	7,746,216
	Work and study ^c	6.5	295,301	14.4	828,266	10.9	1,123,567
	Total work*	7.7	349,505	17.8	1,028,216	13.4	1,377,721
	Total study**	90.5	4,083,377	83.1	4,786,406	86.3	8,869,783
	Neither	8.3	373,260	13.4	774,823	11.2	1,148,083
Female	Work only ^a	0.5	22,167	1.0	50,662	0.8	72,829
	Study only ^b	86.2	3,699,997	77.5	4,115,766	81.4	7,815,763
	Work and study ^c	5.2	224,496	9.5	505,519	7.6	730,015
	Total work*	5.7	246,663	10.5	556,181	8.4	802,844
	Total study**	91.4	3,924,493	87.0	4,621,286	89.0	8,545,779
	Neither	8.0	345,454	12.0	638,596	10.2	984,050
Total	Work only ^a	0.9	76,372	2.3	250,612	1.6	326,984
	Study only ^b	85.1	7,488,073	72.9	8,073,906	78.3	15,561,979
	Work and study ^c	5.9	519,797	12.0	1,333,785	9.3	1,853,582
	Total work*	6.8	596,169	14.3	1,584,397	11.0	2,180,566
	Total study**	91.0	8,007,870	85.0	9,407,691	87.6	17,415,561
	Neither	8.2	718,714	12.8	1,413,419	10.7	2,132,133

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

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

Almost 60 percent of children 5-14 years are involved in household chores. Girls are more likely than their male counterparts to participate in household chores (62.3 vs. 55.6 per cent). The older the children, the more likely gets their involvement in non-economic activities in their own household.

PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN INVOLVED IN HOUSEHOLD CHORES*, BY AGE AND SEX

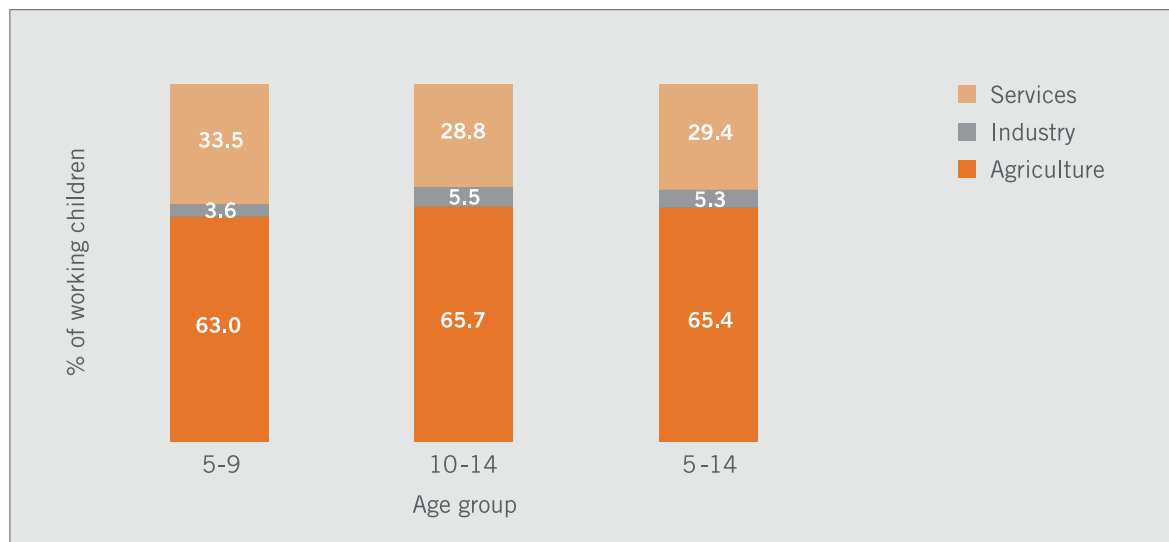
Age	Male	Female	Total
5	18.2	18.7	18.4
6	26.2	30.4	28.2
7	40.5	46.0	43.1
8	51.8	57.9	54.7
9	60.2	62.7	61.4
10	62.5	72.3	67.2
11	68.8	78.7	73.7
12	72.0	81.6	76.6
13	74.6	82.7	78.6
14	74.1	82.5	78.1
Total	55.6	62.3	58.9

* Children performing household chores for at least one hour per day

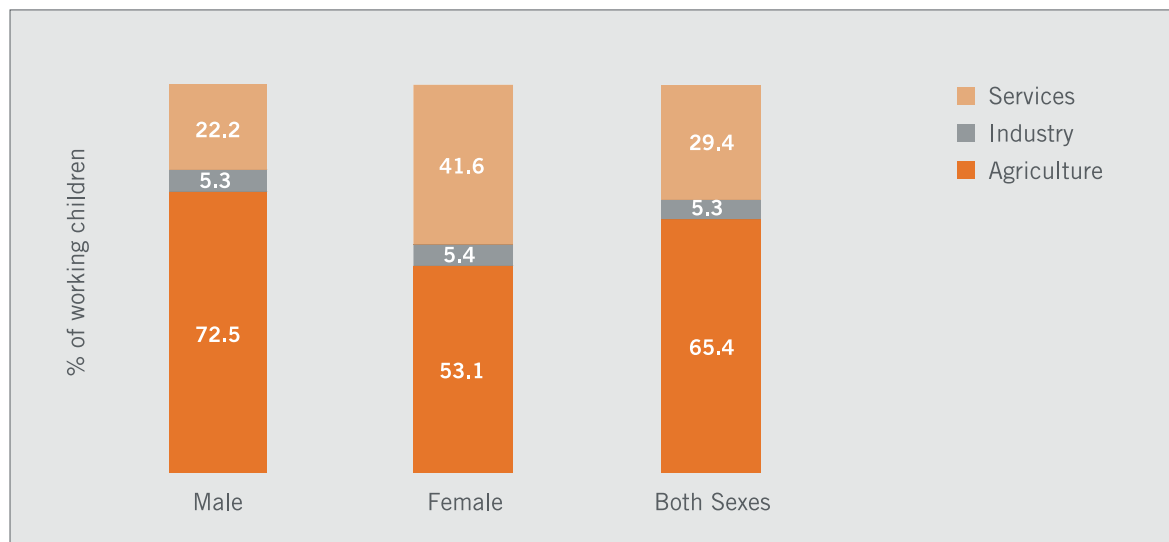
Characteristics and conditions of child labour

Among working children 5-14 years, 65.4 per cent are employed in the agricultural sector, 5.3 per cent are employed in the industrial sector and the remaining 29.4 per cent work in services. A similar pattern can be observed among the age sub-categories 5-9 and 10-14. Girls are more likely than boys to be employed in the services sector (41.6 vs. 22.2 per cent) and less likely to work in agricultural activities (53.1 vs. 72.5 per cent).

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

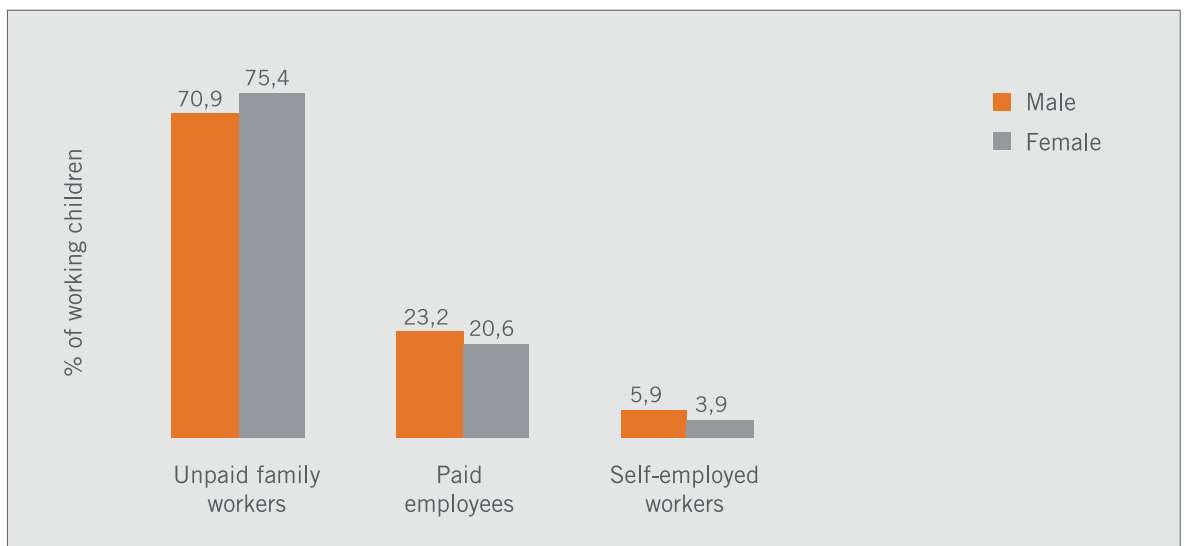


DISTRIBUTION OF WORKING CHILDREN AGED 5-14 BY INDUSTRY AND SEX



A large percentage of working children 5-14 years are employed as unpaid family workers (70.9 per cent in the case of boys and 75.4 per cent in the case of girls). More working boys (29.1 per cent) than girls (24.5 per cent) are salaried or self-employed.

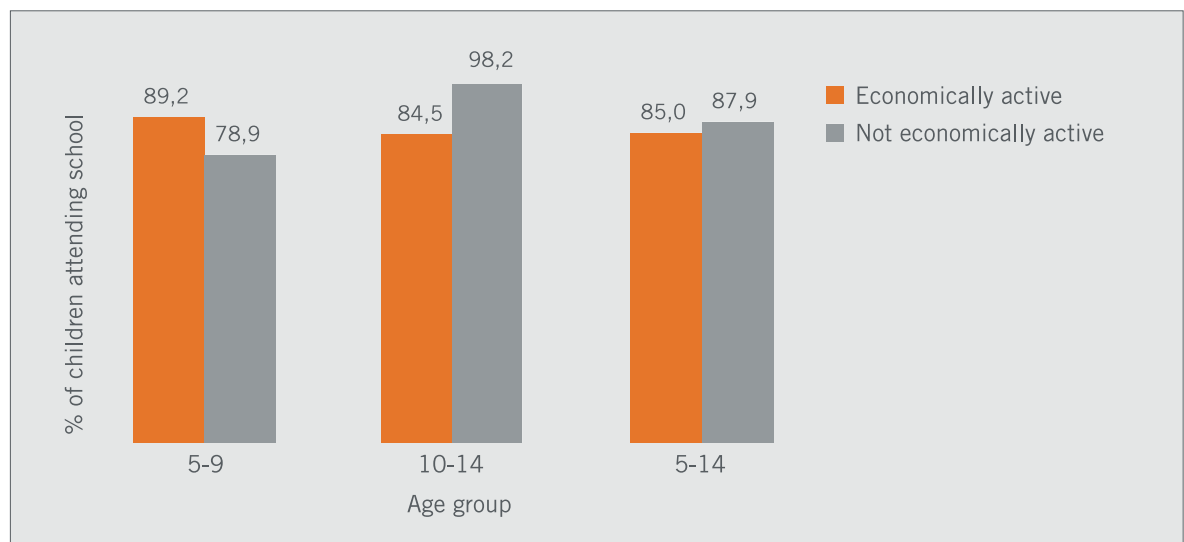
DISTRIBUTION OF WORKING CHILDREN AGED 5-14 BY STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT AND SEX



Child labour and children's education

Among children 5-14 years, those who are economically active are less likely to attend school than those who are not (85.0 per cent vs. 87.9 per cent). This also applies for children 10-14 years of age. However, among younger children in the 5-9 age bracket, those that are economically active are more likely to attend school than their non-working peers (89.2 vs. 78.9 per cent).

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



Children's activity status and household income* level

Children coming from the poorest households are more likely to be engaged in the labour force, without attending school, than children in households with the highest levels of monthly expenditure (3.7 vs. 0.6 per cent). These findings are consistent for both boys (5.2 vs. 0.4 per cent) and girls (2.1 vs. 0.8 per cent). Only 61 per cent of children coming from the lowest-expenditure households attend school without participating in the labour force, as compared to 89.4 per cent of in the richest households.

PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN BY AVERAGE MONTHLY EXPENDITURE GROUPS, SEX, AND TYPE OF ACTIVITY

Sex	Type of activity	Less than P2000	P2,999 – P3,000	P3,000 – P4,999	P5,000 – P9,999	P10,000 – P14,999	P15,000 and over	Total
Male	Work only	5.2	4.1	3.0	1.4	1.1	0.4	2.5
	Study only	56.9	65.6	73.3	79.9	86.4	89.3	75.4
	Work and study	17.9	14.9	11.8	9.7	5.5	5.2	10.9
	Neither	20.0	15.5	11.8	9.0	7.0	5.1	11.2
Female	Work only	2.1	1.3	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.8
	Study only	65.2	73.4	81.0	85.5	88.4	89.5	81.4
	Work and study	13.5	10.2	7.1	6.5	5.7	5.4	7.6
	Neither	19.2	15.1	11.3	7.7	5.5	4.4	10.2
Total	Work only	3.7	2.8	1.9	0.9	0.8	0.6	1.6
	Study only	61.0	69.2	77.0	82.6	87.4	89.4	78.3
	Work and study	15.7	12.7	9.5	8.2	5.6	5.3	9.3
	Neither	19.6	15.3	11.6	8.4	6.2	4.8	10.7

Note: Totals may not add to 100.0 due to rounding.

* The household expenditure is used as a proxy for income.

III. Information on the worst forms of child labour

RATIFICATION OF SPECIFIC TREATIES

CONVENTION	RATIFICATION	ENTRY INTO FORCE
Optional Protocol to the CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography	28-05-2002	28-06-2002
Optional Protocol to the CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict	26-08-2003	26-09-2003
United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (CTOC)	28-05-2002	29-09-2003
Human Trafficking Protocol, supplementing the CTOC	28-05-2002	25-12-2003
Smuggling of Migrants Protocol, supplementing the CTOC	28-05-2002	28-01-2004
The ILO Forced Labour Convention (No. 29)	Not ratified	

SIMPOC STUDIES

- 2001 Survey on Children 5-17 Years Old (ILO-IPEC and National Statistical Office of the Philippines, 2003).
- Child Soldiers in Central and Western Mindanao: A Rapid Assessment, ILO-IPEC, 2002.
- Children's Involvement in the Production, Sale and Trafficking of Drugs in Cebu City: A Rapid Assessment, ILO-IPEC, 2002.

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