

Angola

<i>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</i>	
Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working in 2001:	25.7% ¹³²
Minimum age for admission to work:	14 ¹³³
Age to which education is compulsory:	Through grade 6 ¹³⁴
Free public education:	Yes ^{135*}
Gross primary enrollment rate in 1999:	64% ¹³⁶
Net primary enrollment rate in 1998:	61.0% ¹³⁷
Percent of children 5-14 attending school in 2001:	65.4% ¹³⁸
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	6/13/2001 ¹³⁹
Ratified Convention 182:	6/13/2001 ¹⁴⁰
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes, associated ¹⁴¹
*Must pay for school supplies and related items.	

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In 2001, approximately 25.6 percent boys and 25.9 percent of girls ages 5 to 14 were working in Angola.¹⁴² Children often work on family farms in subsistence agriculture.¹⁴³ Some children in rural areas also work in diamond mining.¹⁴⁴

The combination of poverty and years of war has led to an influx of orphaned and abandoned children working in urban areas.¹⁴⁵ Children in urban areas often work as domestic servants and street vendors in the informal sector. Governmental and UNICEF estimates for the number of street children in Luanda vary between 1,500 and 10,000.¹⁴⁶ Street children are also common in

¹³²UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*, March 1, 2007.

¹³³ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed October 20, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/ratific.pl?Angola>.

¹³⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Angola," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78718.htm>.

¹³⁵ Ibid.

¹³⁶ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, *Gross Enrolment Ratio. Primary. Total*, accessed December 20, 2006; available from <http://stats.uis.unesco.org/>.

¹³⁷ Ibid.

¹³⁸ UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹³⁹ ILO, *Ratifications by Country*.

¹⁴⁰ Ibid.

¹⁴¹ ILO-IPEC, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour; Highlights 2006*, Geneva, October 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipcc/prod/eng/20061019_Implementationreport_eng_Web.pdf.

¹⁴² UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Rates*.

¹⁴³ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, December 18, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, September 16, 2005.

¹⁴⁴ Rafael Marques, "Beyond 'Conflict Diamonds': A New Report on Human Rights and Angolan Diamonds" (March 24, 2005).

¹⁴⁵ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting, September 16, 2005*.

¹⁴⁶ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, August 23, 2004. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5, 6d.

the Benguela and Huambo provinces.¹⁴⁷ Some of the street children were displaced or separated from their families and communities during the civil war, and live on the streets.¹⁴⁸ However, the majority of the street children only work on the streets, returning to their family homes at night or on weekends.¹⁴⁹ Children on the streets work by shining shoes, washing cars, carrying water, and begging.¹⁵⁰ Many are exploited in prostitution and are at high risk of sexual and other forms of violence and trafficking.¹⁵¹ There have been reports of Angolan children crossing the border into Namibia to engage in prostitution with truck drivers.¹⁵²

Angola is a country of origin for children trafficked to Namibia and South Africa for domestic service and sexual exploitation, as well as for selling goods and illegal money changing.¹⁵³ Internally, children are trafficked primarily for forced labor (commercial agriculture, portering and street vending) and sexual exploitation including forced prostitution.¹⁵⁴ Economically vulnerable children are the most susceptible to trafficking.¹⁵⁵ Children are also trafficked for use as couriers for cross-border trade between Namibia and Angola.¹⁵⁶

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

By law, the minimum age for employment in Angola is 14 years,¹⁵⁷ and the legal minimum age for apprenticeship is 14 years.¹⁵⁸ Children between 14 and 18 are not permitted to work at night, under dangerous conditions, or in activities requiring great physical effort. Children under 16 years are restricted from working in factories.¹⁵⁹

Angolan laws prohibit forced or bonded child labor.¹⁶⁰ The minimum age for voluntary recruitment of men for military service is 18 years and 20 years for women.¹⁶¹ Trafficking in

¹⁴⁷ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, conference call to USDOL official, March 9, 2005.

¹⁴⁸ Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, August 23, 2004.

¹⁴⁹ United Nations, *Humanitarian Situation in Angola: Monthly Analysis, October-November 2004*, 2004; available from <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/0/cc3855c3fc3ff171c1256f70003834fa?OpenDocument>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5.

¹⁵⁰ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, December 18, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5.

¹⁵¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5. See also Governo de Unidade e Reconciliação Nacional República de Angola, *Relatório de Seguimento das Metas da Cimeira Mundial pela Infância*, December 2000, 13; available from http://www.unicef.org/specialsession/how_country/edr_angola_pt.PDF.

¹⁵² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5.

¹⁵³ Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Angola (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65988.htm>.

¹⁵⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Angola."

¹⁵⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, March 2, 2007.

¹⁵⁶ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, March 2, 2007.

¹⁵⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, July 15, 2000.

¹⁵⁸ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, December 18, 2006.

¹⁵⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, July 15, 2000.

¹⁶⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Angola." See U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 6c.

persons is not specifically prohibited in Angola, but laws prohibit kidnapping, forced labor or bonded servitude, prostitution, illegal entry into the country,¹⁶² and pornography.¹⁶³ Under Angolan law, sexual relations with a child under 12 years is defined as rape. Rape is illegal, and punishable by up to 8 years' imprisonment. Sexual relations with a child between 12 and 15 years may be defined as sexual abuse, and can result in up to 8 years of imprisonment.¹⁶⁴ Prostitution is illegal in Angola but the law is not consistently enforced.¹⁶⁵ In 2006, Immigration Services began enforcing a law that requires unaccompanied minors to present documentation for international travel.¹⁶⁶

The National Institute for the Child (INAC) is responsible for the day-to-day management of children's affairs.¹⁶⁷ The Inspector General of the Ministry of Public Administration, Employment, and Social Security (MAPESS) has the ultimate authority to enforce labor laws, and the Ministry of Family and Women's Affairs plays a major role in the investigation of child labor complaints.¹⁶⁸ MAPESS maintains employment centers that screen out prospective employees who are under 14 years.¹⁶⁹ In the first half of 2006, MAPESS conducted 2,038 workplace inspections and discovered 22 minors employed by formal sector companies.¹⁷⁰ The Government of Angola does not have the capacity to regulate labor in the informal sector, where most children work.¹⁷¹ The U.S. Department of State reports that in practice, neither MAPESS nor the Ministry of Family and Women's Affairs provide adequate protection for children.¹⁷²

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government's Special Task Force (comprised of representatives from the Ministry of Social Assistance and Reintegration, the National Institute for Children, and the Ministry of Women and Family) continues to implement a plan to address the needs of street children.¹⁷³ The Ministry of Health provided funds to combat child prostitution through nurses aiding in raising children's awareness about HIV/AIDS.¹⁷⁴

In July 2006, the Government of the Republic of Angola was one of 24 West and Central African countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons,

¹⁶¹ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Angola," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=757.

¹⁶² U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Angola." See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, October 15, 2002.

¹⁶³ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, October 15, 2002.

¹⁶⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5.

¹⁶⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Angola." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, March 2, 2007.

¹⁶⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 5.

¹⁶⁸ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, October 15, 2002, U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, September 16, 2005.

¹⁶⁹ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, September 16, 2005.

¹⁷⁰ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, December 18, 2006.

¹⁷¹ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, September 16, 2005.

¹⁷² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Angola," Section 6d.

¹⁷³ United Nations, *Humanitarian Situation in Angola: Oct.-Nov. 2004*. See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, April 10, 2007.

¹⁷⁴ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting*, March 2, 2007.

especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in the West and Central African Regions.¹⁷⁵ As part of the Multilateral Cooperative Agreement, the governments agreed to put into place a child trafficking monitoring system; to ensure that birth certificates and travel identity documents cannot easily be falsified or altered; to provide assistance to each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims; and to improve educational systems, vocational training and apprenticeships.¹⁷⁶

Anti-trafficking programs supported by the government include training for border post directors, basic assistance and reintegration services for trafficking victims (including literacy and skills training for children), and research on the extent of and the government's response to trafficking in the provinces of Kuando Kubongo, Luanda Norte, Luanda Sul, and Cabinda.¹⁷⁷ The INAC has used newspaper ads, radio public service announcements and government interviews to raise awareness on the commercial sexual exploitation of children. The campaign has reached more than half of the country's population.¹⁷⁸

A World Bank program that ended in December 2006 supported the Angola Emergency Demobilization and Reintegration Project, which aimed to meet the special needs of female, disabled and underage ex-combatants in establishing sustainable livelihoods.¹⁷⁹ UNICEF's 2006 humanitarian program in Angola includes the continuation of family reunification activities for war-affected children.¹⁸⁰

¹⁷⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, technical progress report, Washington, DC, September 1, 2006, 10-11.

¹⁷⁶ ECOWAS and ECASS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006. See also Emmanuel Goujon, "African States Sign Up to Fight Human Trafficking," *Agence France-Presse*, July 7, 2006. See also U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting, March 2, 2007*.

¹⁷⁷ U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting, March 2, 2006*.

¹⁷⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Angola."

¹⁷⁹ The World Bank, *Angola-Emergency Demobilization and Reintegration Project*, PID11534, February 27, 2003; available from http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2003/01/11/000094946_0301090403297/Rendered/PDF/multi0page.pdf. See also The World Bank, *Projects and Operations: Emergency Demobilization and Reintegration Project*, accessed October 16, 2006 2006; available from <http://web.worldbank.org/external/projects/main?pagePK=104231&piPK=73230&theSitePK=40941&menuPK=228424&Projectid=P078288>.

¹⁸⁰ UNICEF, *Angola-Humanitarian action*, [online] 2006 [cited October 12, 2006]; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/angola_31231.html?q=printme.