

**Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories,
Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia**

We would like to suggest adding the action Plans in the section “Government efforts - National Strategies”: Governmental Action Plan on Human Rights (2018-2020) and Anti-trafficking Action Plan (2017-2018).

Also, in the section “Government Efforts - Targeted Government Action - Programs and Agencies for Victim Support”, we would like to suggest indicating: “Social rehabilitation and child care state program: state budget for 2018 is 28 200 000 Gel. The Government of Georgia implements the state program on Social Rehabilitation and Child Care annually, providing different services for the beneficiaries, including services for women and children, elderly and persons with disabilities”.

In the same section (Programs and Agencies for Victim Support) under the description of the State Fund for Protection and Assistance of (Statutory) Victims of Human Trafficking we would suggest emphasizing that one of the main goals of the Fund is protection, support and rehabilitation of victims of violence against women/domestic violence, including minors: “MoLSHA program to protect, assist and rehabilitate trafficking and violence against women/domestic violence victims, including minors implements the Government’s Rehabilitation and Reintegration Strategy, which includes operating trafficking shelters (in Batumi and Tbilisi) and crisis centers (in Tbilisi, Gori, Kutaisi and Ozurgeti).”

Under the programs and Agencies for Enforcement, we would like to suggest replacing “Ministry of Labour Health and Social Affairs of Georgia” with “Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia” and “Department of Labor Inspection within MOLHSA” with “Labour Condition Inspecting Department within MOLHSA”.

With regard to the Labour Condition Inspecting department, please be informed that the department was established in March 2015 and it works in the following directions:

- Occupational Safety and Health at Workplace;
- Forced Labour and Labour Exploitation.

Since 2015, the department is implementing “State Program on Working Conditions Inspection”, under which:

- In 2015 - inspected 118 Objects;
- In 2016 - inspected 188 Objects;
- In 2017 - inspected 279 Objects;
- In 2018 - inspected 216 Objects.

Regarding forced labour and labour exploitation direction, the inspection is based on N112 Decree of the Government of Georgia. For this purpose:

- In 2016 - inspected 99 Companies;
- In 2017 - inspected 133 Companies;
- In 2018 - inspected 154 Companies.

During all of these above mentioned inspection visits, child labour and/or forced labour and labour exploitation have not been revealed.

Lastly, in the section “Government Efforts - Targeted Government Action”, it is important to add that in March 7, 2018 parliament of Georgia adopted “The Law of Georgia on Occupational Safety” in order to define the general principles of basic requirements and preventive measures that are related to OSH at workplace. The law regulates the rights, obligations and responsibilities of state authorities, employers, employees, as well as representatives of employees, to ensure safe and healthy working conditions.

According to the law, there are three levels of non-compliances: Non-Essential non-compliance; Essential non-compliance and Critical non-compliance. Also, the sanction system includes three levels:

- a) Warning;
- b) Financial Sanction;
- c) Suspension of Working Process.

The sanction section of the law was enacted from August 1, 2018. Based on the law, up to 90 companies were inspected and were given relevant administrative offence reports (Warning and Financial Sanctions) and improvement instructions.

Currently, parliament of Georgia is discussing a new draft law on Occupational Safety, which will change the existing law in 2019. According to the amendments, the new draft law has increased status to the organic law and is going to cover all sectors of economic activities and public service. The draft law is in full accordance with EU directives and international standards of International Labour Organization (ILO).

The information given below is in correspondence to the section “**Measurement – Child Labour**” and is based on the results of **National Child Labour Survey (2015)** conducted by **National Statistics Office of Georgia with the support of International Labour Organization**.

Child labour

According to the survey results, 24.4 thousand children, or 4.2% of the total number of 5-17 year-old children living in Georgia, are involved in child labour. This includes 15.6 thousand children occupied with hazardous work (63.9% of children in child labour), while the remaining 8.8 thousand children are engaged in child labour other than hazardous work.

Major child labour characteristics

Approximately 79% (19.2 thousand children) of children in child labour are boys, accounting for 6.3% of the total number of boys aged 5-17 years, while the number of girls in child labour equaled 5.2 thousand (1.9% of total number of girls aged 5-17).

The number of boys employed in economic activity who are not involved in child labour exceeds that of girls nearly 2.5 times. Overall, 91.6% (279 thousand children) of boys and 97.1% (264.5 thousand children) of girls aged 5-17 are not involved in any kind economic activity.

Table 1.1. Distribution of children aged 5-17 by economic activity status and sex (%)

Type of activity	Boy	Girl	Total
Child labour	6.3	1.9	4.2
Working children not in child labour	2.1	1.0	1.6
Not working children	91.6	97.1	94.2

The number of 5-13 year-old employed children (automatically falling under child labour given that they are below the minimum age for admission into light work) equals 12.6 thousand children, constituting 3.1% of the total number of children in the age group. The percentage share of children in child labour aged 14-15 and 16-17 in the total number of children of the respective age groups constitutes 5.3% and 8.6%. The number of working children not in child labour in the highest two age groups is almost identical, equaling 4.4 thousand and 4.9 thousand children, respectively.

Table 1.2. Distribution of children aged 5-17 by economic activity status and age groups (%)

Type of activity	5-13 years	14-15 years	16-17 years
Child labour	3.1	5.3	8.6
Working children not in child labour	-	5.2	5.6
Not working children	96.9	89.5	85.8

Although the number of children living in urban settlements is higher than the number of children living rural areas, child labour incidence in the rural areas is considerably higher. Only 1.2% (about 4 thousand) of children living in urban areas are engaged in child labour, and 0.4% (1.4 thousand children) of working children are not in child labour. On the other hand, in rural areas the shares of working children in child labour and in permissible work equal 8.3% (20.5 thousand children) and 3.2% (7.9 thousand children), respectively.

Table 1.3. Distribution of children aged 5-17 by economic activity status and area of residence (%)

Type of activity	Urban	Rural
Child labour	1.2	8.3
Working children not in child labour	0.4	3.2
Not working children	98.4	88.6

The survey shows that 63.9% of children in child labour are engaged in “hazardous work”, while the remaining 36.1% - in “child labour other than hazardous work”.

67.4% of 5-17 year-old boys in child labour are involved in hazardous work and 32.6% - in child labour other than hazardous work. The respective rates for girls stand at 51.4% and 48.6%.

Among 5-13 year-old children engaged in child labour 31.6% are involved in hazardous work, while the remaining 68.4% - in “child labour other than hazardous work”. Due to the fact that the minimum working age in Georgia is 16 years, 100% of the 16-17 year-old children engaged in child labour fall into the hazardous work category.

Detailed data on children involved in hazardous work and child labour other than hazardous work by different disaggregation are presented in Table 1.4.

Table 1.4. Distribution of children aged 5-17 by categories of child labour

	Child labour, thousand children	Hazardous work (%)	Child labour other than hazardous work (%) ¹
Total	24.4	63.9	36.1
<i>Sex</i>			
Boy	19.2	67.4	32.6
Girl	5.2	51.4	48.6
<i>Age groups</i>			
5-13 years	12.6	31.6	68.4
14-15 years	4.4	96.6	3.4
16-17 years	7.4	100	-
<i>Area of residence</i>			
Urban	3.9	78.6	21.4
Rural	20.5	61.1	38.9

Children in Hazardous Work

In Georgia, 15.6 thousand children are involved in hazardous work, accounting for 4.2% of the total number of 5-17 year 9% of the total number of children in child labor, and 46.4% of children in employment. The survey shows that the majority of children employed in hazardous work (9.0 thousand children) have night work as the hazardous work criterion; this group of children represents 57.9% of the total number of children involved in hazardous work. 5.5 thousand children are employed in unhealthy environment, accounting for 35.2% of all children engaged in hazardous work. Another major problem represents the fact that children handle heavy loads at the workplace. Proportion of such children equals 24.5% of children involved in hazardous work. It should be noted that it is primarily boys who have to handle heavy loads. Children also work

¹ Includes only children 5-15 years of age according to the definition of child labour different from hazardous work.

long hours (8.7%) operate machinery/heavy equipment (9.1%) or are engaged in such kind of occupations which are hazardous for a child (12.7%).

Table 1.7 Children engaged in hazardous work

	Number of children in hazardous work, thousands	Share of children in hazardous work, %
Designated Hazardous industries	0.8	5.4
Designated Hazardous occupation	2.0	12.7
Night work	9.0	57.9
Long hours of work	1.4	8.7
Handling heavy loads	3.8	24.5
Operate of machinery/ heavy equipment	1.4	9.1
Unhealthy environment	5.5	35.2

Most children involved in hazardous work are boys, and the reasons for hazardous work are more varied for boys compared to girls. 54.3% of boys engaged in hazardous work at night, while 37.6% are employed in unhealthy environment. Handling heavy loads (28.3%) and operate of machinery/heavy equipment (9.7%) are also mentioned. With regard to girls, night work is the hazardous work criterion for 74.8% of girls, and unhealthy environment - for 23.3% of girls (Figure 1.1 and Figure 1.2)².

Figure 1.1 Share of boys employed in hazardous work, by main categories of hazardous work (%)

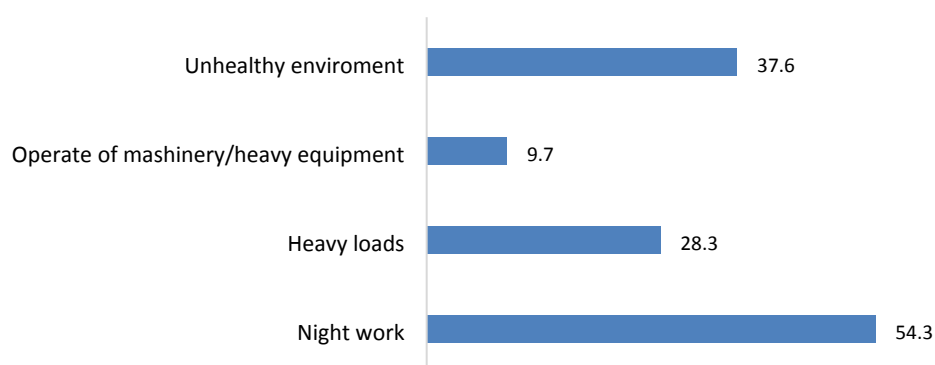
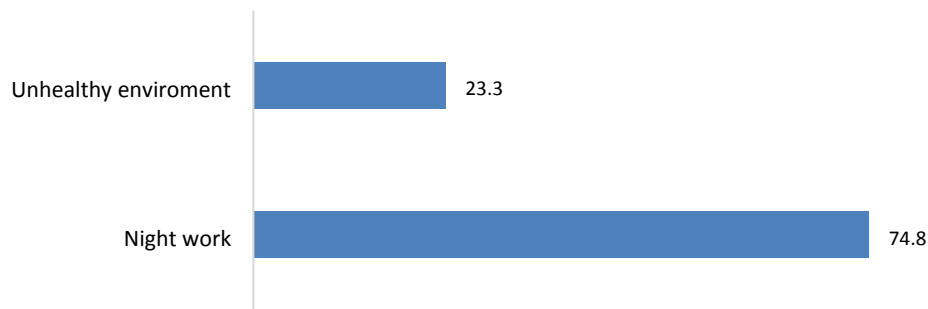


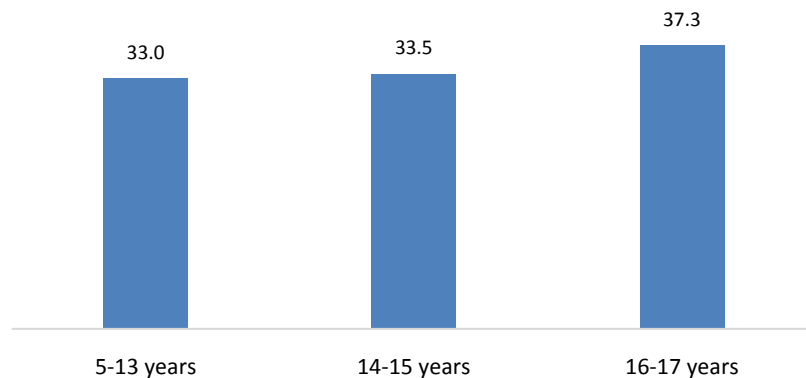
Figure 1.2 Share of girls employed in hazardous work, by main categories of hazardous work (%)

² The sum of the data can be different from 100% due to possibility of multiple responses.



In urban and rural settlements, the share of children working in unhealthy environment equals 34.5% and 35.3%, respectively. The proportion of children working in unhealthy environment slightly increases with age. Figure 1.3 shows the share of children working in unhealthy environment for the three age groups.

Figure 1.3 Share of children working in unhealthy environment among children involved in hazardous work by age groups (%)

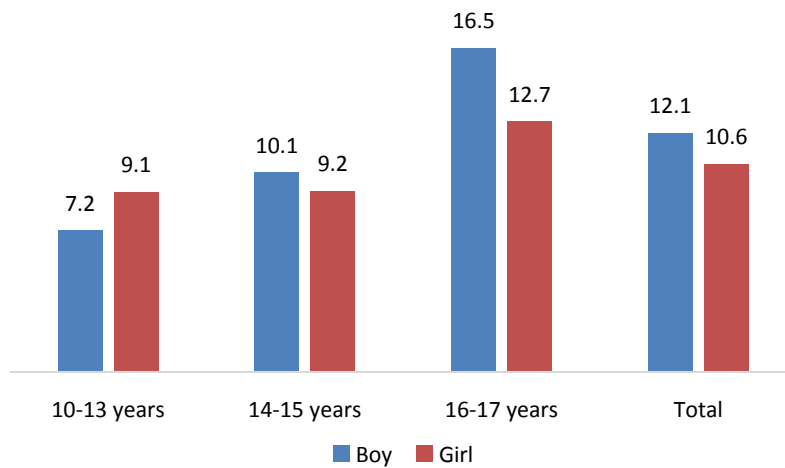


Weekly Work Hours, Children

Employed children aged 10-17 work an average of 11.8 hours per week. For comparison, based on the information given in adult questionnaire, 10-17 year-old children work 21.3% longer (13.1 hours per week on average). In addition, adult questionnaire provides information on children aged 5-9, whose average working hours amount to 6.5 hours per week.

Sex-disaggregated data shows that on average 10-17 year-old boys work 14.2% more hours than girls (12.1 and 10.6 hours per week, respectively). It should be noted that among 10-13 year-old children working hours of girls exceed those for boys (9.1 and 7.2 hours per week, respectively). In the other two age groups, boys work more hours per week than girls. The average working hours increase with age equaling 7.7 hours per week for children 10-13 years of age, 9.9 hours for children aged 14-15 years, and 15.7 hours per week for 16-17 year-old children (see Figure 1.4).

Figure 1.4 Average working hours per week for employed children aged 10-17, by sex and age groups



In terms of urban and rural disaggregation, children work relatively more in urban areas (14.7 hours per week) compared to rural areas (11.1 hours per week). The difference is primarily explained by the fact that in urban areas 31.1% of 10-17 year-old children are engaged in hired labour, compared to only 6.4% of 10-17 year-old children in rural areas. The average number of hours worked by hired employees (27.7 hours per week) is significantly higher than the same figure (9.9 hours per week) for children who named another employment status (their absolute majority worked unpaid in a household business/farm).

The number of children engaged in hired labour increases with age in urban areas. Consequently, 10-15 year-olds work an average of 7.6 hours per week in urban areas, and relatively more - 9.1 hours per week in rural areas. The situation is completely different among children aged 16-17. In this age group average working hours of employed in urban areas significantly exceeds the number of weekly working hours for children employed in rural areas, 21.5 hours and 14.2 hours, respectively.

This can be explained by the fact that among working children aged 16-17 the proportion of those who are involved in hired labour is 32.8 percentage points higher in urban areas than in rural areas (44.9% and 12.1%, respectively).

Boys work more than girls in rural areas, 11.6 and 9.6 hours per week respectively, while the same figure is nearly identical in urban areas and equals 15.0 among boys and 14.7 hours among girls.

Children Only in Economic Activity

Figure 1.5 shows the proportion of children in employment among children of the respective age groups by responses of respondents of two different categories - 5-17 year-old children and adult household members. The results reveal that the figure provided by adult members in all age groups is slightly lower than the information given by children themselves. The difference between responses of these two types of respondents is 1.5 percentage points for 14-15 and 16-17 year age groups, and 0.7 percentage points for the 5-13 year age group.

Figure 1.5 Proportion of children in employment by age groups (%)

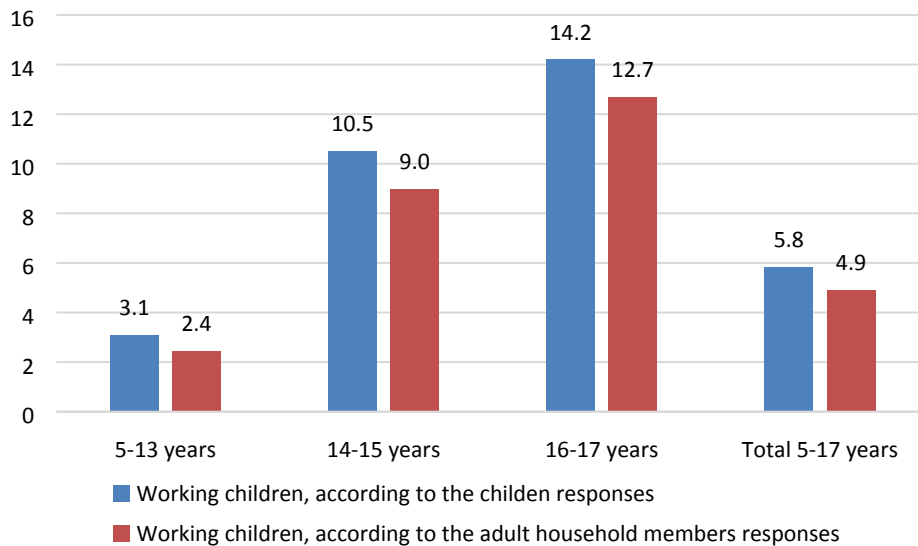
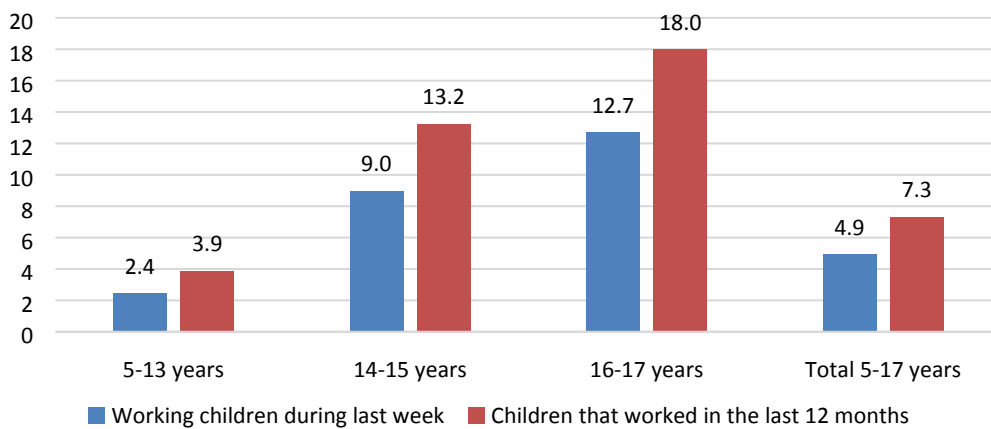


Figure 1.6 gives the information on the share of employed children in the respective age groups. As can be seen, the percentage of children employed in the last seven days is lower than the percentage of children employed over the last 12 months in all three age groups, by 1.5, 4.2 and 5.3 percentage points, respectively. This fact is partly due to seasonality factors. It should be noted that the seasonality effect increases with age.

Figure 1.6 Distribution of 5-17 year-old children in employment by age groups (%)



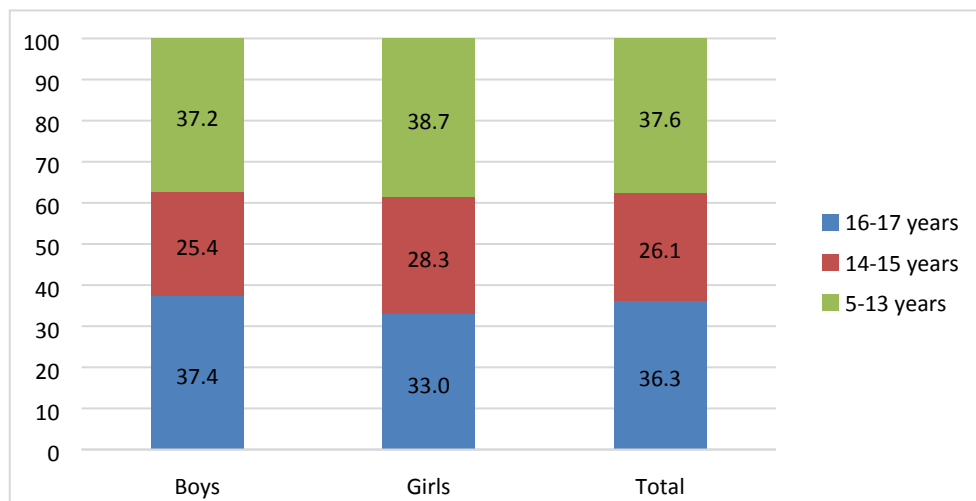
The share of 5-17 year-old children living in Georgia who were occupied with any type of economic activity equals 5.8%, including 1.6% in urban areas, and 11.4% in rural areas. Boys account for 76.5% of employed children.

Table 1.8: Distribution of 5-17 year-old children in employment by age groups and area of residence

Sex	Georgia		Urban		Rural	
	Number, thousand children	%	Number, thousand children	%	Number, thousand children	%
Boy	25.7	76.5	4.0	75.0	21.8	76.7
Girl	7.9	23.5	1.3	25.0	6.6	23.3
Total	33.7	100.0	5.3	100.0	28.4	100.0

The percentage distribution of working children 5-17 years of age in terms of sex and age is given in Figure 1.7.

Figure 1.7 Distribution of children involved in economic activity by sex and age groups (%)



Despite the fact that the largest part of children aged 5-17 (58.4%) lives in urban areas, their participation in economic activity constitutes only 15.7% nationwide. The significantly larger share of working children living in rural areas (84.3%) is essentially conditioned by the high level of employment in agriculture.

Weekly Hours Household Chores

More than half of children aged 5-17 (56.8%) are engaged in household chores, including 61.3% of girls and 52.8% of boys (see Table 5.9).

The data show that engagement of 14-15 and 16-17 year-old children in household chores is nearly identical, constituting 74.1% and 73.8%. 5-13 age group children are involved in household chores to a lesser extent, constituting 49.7% of all children in the age group. The engagement in household chores for girls increases with age, while for boys it reaches the highest level (67.4%) among the 14-15 year-olds (Table 5.8).

In rural areas 59.0% of children are engaged in household chores. The similar rate is 4 percentage point lower in urban areas, amounting to 55.2% (see Table 5.8).

In urban areas, engagement in household chores among children increases with age. A particularly sharp increase (by 23 percentage points) occurs between the 5-13 year age group and the 14-15 age group.

Slightly more than a half of 5-13 year-old children (51.3%) are involved in household chores in rural-type settlements; this rate reaches the highest level among 14-15 year-olds, equaling 77.1%.

Table 1.9 Distribution of children aged 5-17 years old performing household chores, by sex, age and area of residence

	Boy		Girl		Total	
	Number (Thousands)	%	Number (Thousands)	%	Number (Thousands)	%
<i>Total</i>						
5-13 years	101.3	47.2	101.3	52.6	202.6	49.7
14-15 years	29.8	67.4	32.1	81.6	62	74.1
16-17 years	29.8	65.4	33.8	83.4	63.6	73.8
Total	161	52.8	167.1	61.3	328.1	56.8
<i>Urban</i>						
5-13 years	59.3	47.6	56.1	49.6	115.5	48.6
14-15 years	15.7	66.4	16.7	77.1	32.4	71.5
16-17 years	16.1	66.5	17.4	81.1	33.5	73.4
Total	91.1	52.9	90.2	57.8	181.4	55.2
<i>Rural</i>						
5-13 years	42	46.5	45.1	56.8	87.1	51.3
14-15 years	14.2	68.5	15.4	87.2	29.6	77.1
16-17 years	13.7	64	16.4	85.9	30.1	74.3
Total	69.8	52.8	76.9	66.2	146.7	59