

Although research found no evidence that child labor exists in Anguilla, the government made a minimal advancement in efforts to prevent the worst forms of child labor in 2018. During the reporting period, the government worked with the United Kingdom's Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service to develop a National Social Protection Policy and Action Plan and provided awareness-raising sessions, school programs, training, and workshops on child protection. However, the law does not prohibit the involvement of children in illicit activities and the minimum age for work does not meet international standards.

I. PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOR




Research found no evidence that child labor exists in Anguilla. (1-5)

Data on key indicators on children's work and education are not available from the sources used in this report. (4,5) However, the Government of Anguilla collected data on child labor for 2018 at the request of the Child Safeguarding Unit, which is part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland's Foreign and Commonwealth Office Overseas Territories Directorate. (3,6)

II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR CHILD LABOR

British Overseas Territories (BOTs) are under the jurisdiction and sovereignty of the United Kingdom (UK), but they are not constitutionally part of the UK. (7) They are self-governing, except in the areas of foreign affairs and defense. Domestic UK law does not generally apply unless explicitly extended to BOTs. (7) Under Article 35(4) of the ILO Constitution, when the UK ratifies a Convention, the Territory must consider if it will accept the Convention. If the Convention is accepted, it is considered applicable to that territory. The following Convention has been extended to Anguilla (Table 1). (7,8)

Table 1. Ratification of International Conventions on Child Labor

	Convention	Ratification
	ILO C. 138, Minimum Age	
	ILO C. 182, Worst Forms of Child Labor	
	UN CRC	✓
	UN CRC Optional Protocol on Armed Conflict	
	UN CRC Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography	
	Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons	

The Government of Anguilla has established laws and regulations related to child labor (Table 2). However, gaps exist in Anguilla's legal framework to adequately protect children from the worst forms of child labor, including the minimum age for work.

Table 2. Laws and Regulations on Child Labor

Standard	Meets International Standards	Age	Legislation
Minimum Age for Work	No	12	Articles 1 and 3–4 of the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act; Articles 1–2 of the Employment of Children (Restriction) Act (9,10)
Minimum Age for Hazardous Work	No	14	Articles 1 and 3–4 of the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act; Articles 1–2 of the Employment of Children (Restriction) Act (9,10)
Identification of Hazardous Occupations or Activities Prohibited for Children	No		Article 6 of the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act (9)

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Table 2. Laws and Regulations on Child Labor (Cont.)

Standard	Meets International Standards	Age	Legislation
Prohibition of Forced Labor	Yes		Article 4 of the Constitution Order; Articles 147–148 and 152–153 of the Criminal Code (11,12)
Prohibition of Child Trafficking	Yes		Articles 152–153 of the Criminal Code (11)
Prohibition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	Yes		Articles 147–148, 150, and 152–153 of the Criminal Code (11)
Prohibition of Using Children in Illicit Activities	No		
Minimum Age for Voluntary State Military Recruitment	N/A†		
Prohibition of Compulsory Recruitment of Children by (State) Military	N/A*†		
Prohibition of Military Recruitment by Non-state Armed Groups	No		
Compulsory Education Age	Yes	17	Article 117 of the Education Act (13)
Free Public Education	Yes		Article 106 of the Education Act (13)

* No conscription (14)

† No standing military (8,14)

The minimum work age of 12 does not meet international standards. There is also a minimum work age of 14, but it only applies to industrial undertakings, transportation of passengers or goods by roads or rail, and work on ships. (9,10) Moreover, the minimum age of 14 for hazardous work does not meet international standards. However, there is a prohibition of night work for children under age 16 in manufacturing of raw sugar, and a prohibition of night work in other industrial undertakings for children under age 18. (9) Additionally, Anguilla does not prohibit the use of children in illicit activities, including the production and trafficking of drugs. (11,15,16) The law does not criminally prohibit the recruitment of children by non-state armed groups. (11)

Because the minimum age for work is lower than the compulsory education age, children may be encouraged to leave school before the completion of compulsory education.

III. ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS ON CHILD LABOR

As there is no evidence of a problem, there appears to be no need for enforcement actions to address child labor. However, in Anguilla, the UK government has established an institutional mechanism for the enforcement of labor laws (Table 3).

Table 3. Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement

Organization/Agency	Role
Department of Labor of the Ministry of Finance, Economic Development, Investments, and Tourism	Enforces child labor laws through the Labor Commissioner, pursuant to the Employment of Children (Restriction) Act. (17)
Department of Social Development of the Ministry of Social Development	Safeguards the well-being of children and investigates reports of child abuse. (18,19)
Royal Anguilla Police Force	Investigates child protection cases. (18,19)

IV. COORDINATION OF GOVERNMENT EFFORTS ON CHILD LABOR

As there is no evidence of a problem, there appears to be no need for mechanisms to coordinate efforts to address child labor. However, the Government of Anguilla has established a mechanism to coordinate its efforts to address child labor (Table 4).

Table 4. Key Mechanisms to Coordinate Government Efforts on Child Labor

Coordinating Body	Role & Description
Ministry of Social Development	Implements child protection efforts and ensure that Anguilla complies with the CRC. (19)

V. GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON CHILD LABOR

As there is no evidence of a problem, there appears to be no need for policies to address child labor. However, the Government of Anguilla has established the Child Protection National Action Plan, Safeguarding and Child Protection Protocols and Procedures, and an Inter-Agency Child Protection Protocol. All of these policies may contribute to the prevention of child labor. (20,21,22,23)

In 2018, the Government of Anguilla worked with the UK's Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (CAFCASS) to develop a National Social Protection Policy and Action Plan. The Action Plan includes programs for child protection. (6)

VI. SOCIAL PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS CHILD LABOR

As there is no evidence of a problem, there appears to be no need for programs to address child labor. However, the Government of Anguilla has established the Safeguarding Children in Anguilla Project and the Child Safeguarding in the Overseas Territories Regional Project, which may contribute to the prevention of child labor. (24,25)

During the reporting period, the Government of Anguilla worked with CAFCASS to provide awareness-raising sessions, school programs, training, and workshops on child protection. (6)

VII. SUGGESTED GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO ELIMINATE CHILD LABOR

Based on the reporting above, suggested actions are identified that would advance the continued prevention of child labor in Anguilla (Table 5).

Table 5. Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor

Area	Suggested Action	Year(s) Suggested
Legal Framework	Ensure that the law establishes age 15 as the minimum age for work in all sectors.	2016 – 2018
	Establish age 18 as the minimum age for all hazardous work.	2011 – 2018
	Determine the types of hazardous work prohibited for children, in consultation with employers' and workers' organizations.	2017 – 2018
	Ensure the law prohibits the use of children in illicit activities, including drug trafficking and production.	2014 – 2018
	Ensure that the law criminally prohibits the recruitment of children under age 18 by non-state armed groups.	2016 – 2018
	Raise the minimum age for work to the age up to which education is compulsory.	2018

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