

Although research found no evidence that child labor exists in Anguilla, in 2021, the government made no advancement in efforts to prevent the worst forms of child labor. The law does not prohibit the involvement of children in illicit activities, including the production and trafficking of drugs. In addition, the minimum ages for work and hazardous work do not meet international standards, and Anguilla lacks a list of prohibited hazardous occupations and activities for children.

I. PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOR

Research found no evidence that child labor exists in Anguilla. Table 1 provides one key indicator on children's education in Anguilla. (1)

Table 1. Statistics on Children's Work and Education




Children	Age	Percent
Primary Completion Rate (%)		95.6

Source for primary completion rate: Data from 2019, published by UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2022. (1)

II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR CHILD LABOR

British Overseas Territories (BOTs) recognize the jurisdiction and sovereignty of the United Kingdom (UK), but are not constitutionally part of the UK. They are self-governing, except in the areas of foreign affairs and defense. (2) Domestic UK law does not generally apply unless explicitly extended to Anguilla. Under Article 35(4) of the ILO Constitution, when the UK ratifies a Convention, the Territory must consider if it will accept the Convention. (2) If the Convention is accepted, it is considered applicable to that territory. The following Convention has been extended to and accepted by Anguilla (Table 2).

Table 2. 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 3). 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 3. Laws and Regulations on Child Labor

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

Table 3. Laws and Regulations on Child Labor (Cont.)

Standard	Meets International Standards	Age	Legislation
Prohibition of Forced Labor	Yes		Articles 242 and 243 of the Criminal Code; Chapter I, Section 4 of the Constitution Order (5,6)
Prohibition of Child Trafficking	Yes		Articles 242, 243, 247, and 248 of the Criminal Code (5)
Prohibition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	Yes		Article 244 of the Criminal Code (5)
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 (7)
Free Public Education	Yes		Article 106 of the Education Act (7)

* Country has no conscription (8)

† Country has no standing military (8)

The minimum age of 12 for work does not meet international standards. The minimum age of 14 for hazardous work also does not meet international standards as it applies only to industrial undertakings, transportation of passengers or goods by roads or rail, and work on ships. (3,4) Anguilla lacks a list of prohibited hazardous occupations and activities for children. However, there is a prohibition of night work for children under age 16 in the manufacturing of raw sugar, and a prohibition of night work in other industrial undertakings for children under age 18. (3) In addition, Anguilla's laws do not criminally prohibit the use of children in illicit activities, including in the production and trafficking of drugs. (5,9,10) As 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. (4,7)

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, including its worst forms. However, Anguilla has established institutional mechanisms for the enforcement of laws and regulations on child labor. (Table 4).

Table 4. Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement

Organization/Agency	Role
Department of Labor of the Ministry of Finance, Economic Development, Investments, and Tourism	Through the Employment of Children (Restriction) Act, the Labor Commissioner has the authority to enforce all labor laws pertaining to child labor and may freely enter and inspect any premises where violations of child labor laws may be occurring. The Labor Commissioner also is the head of the Department of Labor. (4) Research was unable to determine whether the Labor Commissioner undertook any such inspections during the reporting period.
Department of Social Development of the Ministry of Social Development	Safeguards the well-being of children and investigates reports of child abuse, neglect, or allegations that a child is otherwise at risk of harm. Has jurisdiction over both child protection and juvenile justice services. (11,12)
Royal Anguilla Police Force Safeguarding Investigation Unit	Investigates child protection cases and conducts forensic interviews and examinations of children. (11,12)

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 5).

Table 5. Key Mechanisms to Coordinate Government Efforts on Child Labor

Coordinating Body	Role & Description
Ministry of Social Development	Has primary responsibility for child protection efforts and oversees the Interagency Child Protection Protocol. Remained active during the reporting period. (11,13)

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 policies that include the Child Safeguarding National Action Plan and an Interagency Child Protection Protocol. (11,14) Research was unable to determine whether activities were undertaken to implement Anguilla's key policies related to child labor during the reporting period.

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.

VII. SUGGESTED GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO ELIMINATE CHILD LABOR

Based on the reporting above, the following actions would advance the continued prevention of child labor in Anguilla (Table 6).

Table 6. Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor

Area	Suggested Action	Year(s) Suggested
Legal Framework	Ratify international conventions on child labor.	2020 – 2021
	Ensure that the law establishes the minimum age for work at no less than age 15, and preferably at the age up to which education is compulsory.	2016 – 2021
	Establish age 18 as the minimum age for all hazardous work.	2011 – 2021
	Determine the types of hazardous work prohibited for children, in consultation with employers' and workers' organizations.	2017 – 2021
	Ensure that the law prohibits the use of children in illicit activities, including in the production and trafficking of drugs.	2014 – 2021
	Ensure that the law criminally prohibits the recruitment of children under age 18 by non-state armed groups.	2016 – 2021
Government Policies	Ensure that activities are undertaken to implement the Child Safeguarding National Action Plan and the Interagency Child Protection Protocol and make information about implementation measures publicly available.	2021

NO ADVANCEMENT

REFERENCES

- 1 UNESCO Institute for Statistics. Gross intake ratio to the last grade of primary. Accessed March 3, 2022. For more information, please see “Children’s Work and Education Statistics: Sources and Definitions” in the Reference Materials section of this report.
<http://data.uis.unesco.org/>
- 2 U.S. Embassy- London. Reporting. January 24, 2017.
- 3 Government of Anguilla. Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act. Enacted: December 15, 2000.
<http://www.gov.ai/laws/E055-Employment of Women Young Persons and Children Act/>
- 4 Government of Anguilla. Employment of Children (Restriction) Act, Revised Statutes of Anguilla, Chapter E50. Enacted: 2000.
[http://www.gov.ai/laws/E050-Employment of Children \(Restriction\) Act/](http://www.gov.ai/laws/E050-Employment of Children (Restriction) Act/)
- 5 Government of Anguilla. Anguilla Criminal Code. Enacted: December 15, 2014.
<http://www.gov.ai/laws/C140-Criminal Code/>
- 6 Government of Anguilla. The Anguilla Constitution Order 1982. Enacted: April 1, 1982.
<http://www.constitutionnet.org/vl/anguilla-constitution-1982>
- 7 Government of Anguilla. Education Act, 2011. Enacted: 2012.
<http://www.gov.ai/documents/EducationBill2011.pdf>
- 8 CIA. The World Factbook: Anguilla. Accessed August 6, 2018. Please see “Labor Law Enforcement: Sources and Definitions” in the Reference Materials section of this report.
<https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/anguilla/>
- 9 Government of Anguilla. Drugs (Prevention of Misuse) Act. Enacted: December 10, 2010.
[http://www.gov.ai/laws/D045-00-Drugs \(Prevention of Misuse\) Act/](http://www.gov.ai/laws/D045-00-Drugs (Prevention of Misuse) Act/)
- 10 Government of Anguilla. Drug Trafficking Offences Act. Enacted: December 15, 2004.
[http://www.gov.ai/laws/D050-01-Drugs Trafficking Offences Act \(Designated Countries etc\) Order](http://www.gov.ai/laws/D050-01-Drugs Trafficking Offences Act (Designated Countries etc) Order)
- 11 Government of Anguilla. Interagency Child Protection Protocol. 2019.
<http://www.gov.ai/documents/msd/Interagency Child Protection Protocol ICPP UPDATED 2019.pdf>
- 12 Organization of Eastern Caribbean States. OECS Assessment of Child Protection Services. May 5, 2017.
<https://www.oecs.org/en/our-work/knowledge/library/anguilla-country-report-may-5th-2017/viewdocument/1100>
- 13 Government of Anguilla. Minutes of Executive Council. December 17, 2021.
<http://www.gov.ai/documents/exco/2021/Minutes of 17 December 2021.pdf>
- 14 Government of Anguilla. Child Safeguarding National Action Plan. July 30, 2017.
http://www.gov.ai/documents/dsd/Anguilla_C_SNAP_30 July 2017.pdf