

Although research found no evidence that child labor exists in Anguilla, in 2020 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. (1) Table 1 provides one key indicator on children's education in Anguilla. Data on key indicators on children's work are not available from the sources used in this report. (2)

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, 2021. (2)
All other data were unavailable from International Labor Organization's analysis, 2021. (3)

II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR CHILD LABOR

British Overseas Territories (BOTs) recognize the jurisdiction and sovereignty of the United Kingdom (UK), but they are not constitutionally part of the UK. They are self-governing, except in the areas of foreign affairs and defense. (4) 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. (4) If the Convention is accepted, it is considered applicable to that territory. The following Conventions have been extended to and accepted by Anguilla (Table 2). (4)

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 and 3–4 of the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act; Articles 1–2 of the Employment of Children (Restriction) Act (5,6)
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 (5,6)
Identification of Hazardous Occupations or Activities Prohibited for Children	No		Article 6 of the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act (5)
Prohibition of Forced Labor	Yes		Article 242 of the Criminal Code; Chapter 1, Section 4 of the Constitution Order (7,8)
Prohibition of Child Trafficking	Yes		Article 242 of the Criminal Code (7)
Prohibition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	Yes		Article 242 of the Criminal Code (7)
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 (9)
Free Public Education	Yes		Article 106 of the Education Act (9)

* No conscription (10)

† No standing military (10)

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. (5,6) 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 manufacturing of raw sugar, and a prohibition of night work in other industrial undertakings for children under age 18. (5) In addition, Anguilla does not prohibit the use of children in illicit activities, including in the production and trafficking of drugs. (7,11,12) 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. (6,9)

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	Enforces child labor laws through the Labor Commissioner, pursuant to the Employment of Children (Restriction) Act. (6)
Department of Social Development of the Ministry of Social Development	Safeguards the well-being of children and investigates reports of child abuse. (13)
Royal Anguilla Police Force	Investigates child protection cases. (13,14)

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	Implements child protection efforts and ensures that Anguilla complies with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. (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 established the Child Safeguarding National Action Plan, Safeguarding and Child Protection Protocols and Procedures, and an Inter-Agency Child Protection Protocol. (13,15,16) 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. However, the Government of Anguilla has established the Safeguarding Children in Anguilla Project, which may contribute to the prevention of child labor. (13,17) Research was unable to determine whether activities were undertaken to implement Anguilla's social programs related to child labor during the reporting period.

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 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
	Ensure that the law establishes age 15 as the minimum age for work in all sectors.	2016 – 2020
	Establish age 18 as the minimum age for all hazardous work.	2011 – 2020
	Determine the types of hazardous work prohibited for children, in consultation with employers' and workers' organizations.	2017 – 2020
	Ensure that the law prohibits the use of children in illicit activities, including in drug trafficking and production.	2014 – 2020
	Ensure that the law criminally prohibits the recruitment of children under age 18 by non-state armed groups.	2016 – 2020
	Raise the minimum age for work to the age up to which education is compulsory.	2018 – 2020
Government Policies	Publish activities undertaken to implement key policies related to child labor to address child labor during the reporting period.	2020
Social Programs	Collect and publish data on the extent and nature of child labor to inform policies and programs.	2017 – 2020

REFERENCES

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- 3 ILO. Analysis of Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Statistics from National Household or Child Labor Surveys. Analysis received March 2021. For more information, please see “Children’s Work and Education Statistics: Sources and Definitions” in the Reference Materials section of this report.
- 4 U.S. Embassy- London. Reporting. January 24, 2017.
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- 13 Government of Anguilla, Ministry of Health and Social Development. Safeguarding Children in Anguilla: A Policy Guideline. 2015.
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