# Brazil

# Significant Advancement

In 2014, Brazil made a significant advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The Government created mobile inspection units to coordinate child labor law enforcement efforts between regional Ministry of Labor and other local inspectors. Law 12.978 was signed; it specifies penalties in the Penal Code for the commercial sexual exploitation of children. Inspectors carried out inspections targeting child labor in 165 commercial establishments in the state of Bahia during Brazil’s Carnival season in February, and in many tourist sites during the World Cup in June. The National Education Plan was also signed, and an additional 9 million schools participated in the More Education (*Mais Educação*) program. However, children are engaged in child labor, including in agriculture, and in the worst forms of child labor, including in commercial sexual exploitation sometimes as a result of human trafficking. Some local governments lack adequate resources to fully implement national programs to combat child labor, including programs to combat child trafficking.

# Prevalence and Sectoral Distribution of Child Labor

Children in Brazil are engaged in child labor, including in agriculture. Children are also engaged in the worst forms of child labor, including in commercial sexual exploitation sometimes as a result of human trafficking.([1-5](#_ENREF_1))

In 2014, the 2012–2013 National Household Survey results indicated that there were 486,000 child laborers (ages 5 to 17) in Brazil. This figure represents a 15 percent reduction in child labor, providing the lowest estimate of child labor in Brazil’s history.([54](#_ENREF_54)) Results also indicate that 96 percent of working children attended school.([6](#_ENREF_6)) More than 258,000 children ages 10 to 17 work in domestic service in third-party homes.([5](#_ENREF_5)) However, National Household Survey results exclude many vulnerable populations. The Government has not conducted in-depth research on hard-to-reach populations, such as children engaged in domestic work, drug trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation, or labor in indigenous communities. In 2014, the Federal Highway Police, the NGO Childhood Brazil, and the ILO mapped out 1,969 risk points for the commercial sexual exploitation of children in Brazil. The southeastern and northeastern regions of Brazil were identified as having the most risk points.([7](#_ENREF_7), [8](#_ENREF_8)) Table 1 provides key indicators on children’s work and education in Brazil.

**Table 1. Statistics on Children’s Work and Education**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Working children, ages 5 to 14 (% and population):** | 3.5 (1,116,499) |
| **Working children by sector, ages 5 to 14 (%)** |  |
| Agriculture | 56.4 |
| Industry | 9.9 |
| Services | 33.7 |
| **School attendance, ages 5 to 14 (%):** | 97.2 |
| **Children combining work and school, ages 7 to 14 (%):** | 4.0 |
| **Primary completion rate (%):** | Unavailable |

*Primary completion rate was unavailable from UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2015.*([9](#_ENREF_9))

*Source for all other data: Understanding Children’s Work Project’s analysis of statistics from PNAD Survey, 2011.*([10](#_ENREF_10))

Based on a review of available information, Table 2 provides an overview of children’s work by sector and activity.

**Table 2. Overview of Children’s Work by Sector and Activity**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sector/Industry** | **Activity** |
| Agriculture | Production of apples,\*† Palm used to produce oil (*babassu*),\*† beans,\*† cashews,† citrus,\*† coffee,\*† corn,\*† cocoa,\*† cotton,† manioc,† mate tea,\*† pineapple,† rice,† sisal,† sugarcane,\*† tobacco,† tomatoes,\*† charcoal,† and strawberries\*† ([11-39](#_ENREF_11)) |
| Cattle ranching† and animal slaughter,† including for beef production† ([11](#_ENREF_11), [40](#_ENREF_40), [41](#_ENREF_41)) |
| Mollusk harvesting\*† ([24](#_ENREF_24), [42](#_ENREF_42)) |
| Industry | Production of ceramics† and bricks† ([43-45](#_ENREF_43)) |
| Production of garments,\*† footwear,† and leather\*† ([25](#_ENREF_25), [31](#_ENREF_31), [38](#_ENREF_38), [45-47](#_ENREF_45)) |
| Work in quarries\*† ([48](#_ENREF_48), [49](#_ENREF_49)) |
| Services | Street work,† including vending, and begging ([5](#_ENREF_5), [50](#_ENREF_50)) |
| Garbage scavenging† ([23](#_ENREF_23), [50](#_ENREF_50)) |
| Automobile washing and repair† ([25](#_ENREF_25), [38](#_ENREF_38), [51](#_ENREF_51)) |
| Work in markets,\*† hauling fruits and vegetables ([25](#_ENREF_25), [51](#_ENREF_51)) |
| Artistic work and playing in soccer clubs\* ([52-54](#_ENREF_52)) |
| Domestic work† ([5](#_ENREF_5), [55](#_ENREF_55)) |
| Categorical Worst Forms of Child Labor‡ | Commercial sexual exploitation sometimes as a result of human trafficking ([1-4](#_ENREF_1)) |
| Domestic work, begging, and playing in soccer clubs as a result of human trafficking\*† ([1](#_ENREF_1), [56](#_ENREF_56), [57](#_ENREF_57)) |
| Used in illicit activities, including drug trafficking,\*† sometimes as a result of human trafficking ([1](#_ENREF_1), [5](#_ENREF_5)) |
| Forced labor in the production of manioc\*† ([14](#_ENREF_14)) |

\* Evidence of this activity is limited and/or the extent of the problem is unknown.

† Determined by national law or regulation as hazardous and, as such, relevant to Article 3(d) of ILO C. 182.

‡ Child labor understood as the worst forms of child labor *per se* under Article 3(a) – (c) of ILO C. 182.

In Brazil, human trafficking is a problem in border areas. Brazilian and Paraguayan indigenous children are trafficked for domestic service; Paraguayan indigenous children are trafficked for the purpose of begging; adolescents, including some from Haiti and South Korea, are trafficked to play in soccer clubs.([1](#_ENREF_1), [56](#_ENREF_56))

While there are no overall statistics available, the commercial sexual exploitation of children is a large problem throughout Brazil, especially in tourist areas in the cities of Fortaleza, Manaus, Rio de Janeiro, and in the slums (*favelas*) of Rio de Janeiro.([58](#_ENREF_58)) Highway stops are areas for the commercial sexual exploitation of children. Young girls are victims of commercial sexual exploitation at rest-stop bars in Caracaraí, a highway stop on the route from Manaus, Brazil to Venezuela.([4](#_ENREF_4))

Reports indicate that every day, on average, eight primary and secondary schools close in rural areas. In 2013, approximately 3,300 schools had closed because of high costs and infrastructure problems.([59](#_ENREF_59), [60](#_ENREF_60)) In the last 5 years, at least 13,000 schools have closed for the same reason.([61](#_ENREF_61))

# Legal Framework for the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Brazil has ratified all key international conventions concerning child labor (Table 3).

**Table 3. 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 has established laws and regulations related to child labor, including its worst forms (Table 4).

**Table 4. Laws and Regulations Related to Child Labor**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Standard** | **Yes/No** | **Age** | **Related Legislation** |
| Minimum Age for Work | Yes | 16 | Article 7, Title II of the Constitution; Article 403 of the Labor Code ([62](#_ENREF_62), [63](#_ENREF_63)) |
| Minimum Age for Hazardous Work | Yes | 18 | Article 7, Title II of the Constitution; Article 2 of Decree 6.481 of 2008 ([62](#_ENREF_62), [64](#_ENREF_64)) |
| Prohibition of Hazardous Occupations or Activities for Children | Yes |  | Decree 6.481 of 2008 ([64](#_ENREF_64)) |
| Prohibition of Forced Labor | Yes |  | Article 149 of the Penal Code ([65](#_ENREF_65)) |
| Prohibition of Child Trafficking | Yes |  | Article 231-A of the Penal Code ([65](#_ENREF_65), [66](#_ENREF_66)) |
| Prohibition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children | Yes |  | Articles 218-B and 227–228 of the Penal Code; Articles 240–244A of the Statute of the Child and Adolescent ([65](#_ENREF_65), [67](#_ENREF_67)) |
| Prohibition of Using Children in Illicit Activities | Yes |  | Article 4 of Decree No. 6.481 of 2008; Articles 33–40, Chapter II of Law 11.343 of 2006 ([64](#_ENREF_64), [68](#_ENREF_68)) |
| Minimum Age for Compulsory Military Recruitment | Yes | 18 | Article 5 of Law 4.375 of 1964 ([69](#_ENREF_69)) |
| Minimum Age for Voluntary Military Service | Yes | 17 | Article 5 of Law 4.375 of 1964 ([69](#_ENREF_69)) |
| Compulsory Education Age | Yes | 17 | Article 208 of the Constitution ([62](#_ENREF_62)) |
| Free Public Education | Yes |  | Article 208 of the Constitution ([62](#_ENREF_62)) |

Although Brazil‘s legal minimum age for work is higher than the international standard, it includes an exemption for apprenticeships to begin at age 14. As of 2013, the labor justice system has sole authority to grant work permits, which includes authorizations for children ages 14 and 15 to work in apprenticeships.([70](#_ENREF_70), [71](#_ENREF_71)) In 2014, the courts and the Public Ministry in the state of São Paulo issued recommendations to judges regarding granting work authorizations for children under 16.([72](#_ENREF_72))

Brazil’s definition of forced labor, which is broader than that of the ILO Conventions, includes strenuous work and unacceptable or degrading working conditions as a form of forced labor. However, the Penal Code’s definition of trafficking in persons does not cover human trafficking for the purposes of labor, and only penalizes human trafficking cases in which the victim has been moved.([65](#_ENREF_65), [66](#_ENREF_66)) Resolution 93 of 2010 allows officials to grant permanent visa status to foreign victims of human trafficking or labor exploitation, including of commercial sexual exploitation, forced labor, and indentured labor.([73](#_ENREF_73)) A new amendment to the Constitution, Amendment 81, which was approved on June 5 of 2014, permits the confiscation of urban or rural properties in which forced or slave labor is found, but it requires regulations in order to be implemented.([74](#_ENREF_74))

On May 21, 2014, Law 12.978 was signed, changing the legal title of Article 218-B of the Penal Code to further specify that children and adolescents are protected as vulnerable people from commercial sexual exploitation. The penalty for this crime is 4 to 10 years in prison and the crime cannot be expunged from the perpetrator’s record.([75](#_ENREF_75)) On August 4, 2014, Law 6742/2014 was passed in Rio de Janeiro, specifying the City Government’s plan for eradicating the commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents, which entails the creation of public policies and interagency coordination, research, and awareness-raising campaigns, as well as increasing victim protection rights.([76](#_ENREF_76))

On December 1, 2014, the Government signed Decree 13.046, which alters Law No. 8.069 (the Child Statute), stipulating that all public and private entities who work in child care must have trained professionals who can identify and report suspected situations of abuse of children and adolescents.([77](#_ENREF_77))

# Enforcement of Laws on the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government has established institutional mechanisms for the enforcement of laws and regulations on child labor, including its worst forms (Table 5).

**Table 5. Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Organization/Agency** | **Role** |
| Ministry of Labor and Employment (MTE) | Conduct labor inspections, enforce child and forced labor laws, and monitor child and forced labor cases.([25](#_ENREF_25)) Labor inspections are planned by regional offices based on MTE’s goals, analyses of labor market data, and available human and financial resources.([78](#_ENREF_78)) Has special units composed of labor inspectors, the Federal Police, and federal labor prosecutors, to conduct forced labor inspections.([25](#_ENREF_25)) Work with the Ministry of Justice and other government agencies when they find foreign workers who have been trafficked and work under forced labor conditions.([79](#_ENREF_79)) In 2014, created the Mobile Inspection Group to Combat Child Labor, which promotes initial connections and coordinates with child protection networks about activities against child labor and the worst forms of child labor, along with regional MTE representatives, and also with the MTE, the State Prosecutor, Child Protection councils, and City Halls.([57](#_ENREF_57)) |
| Federal Labor Prosecutor’s Office (MPT) | Prosecute child labor violations by working with 24 prosecutors from the National Committee to Combat Child and Adolescent Labor, (COORDINFÂNCIA), an in-house body that directs the MPT’s efforts to combat child labor.([80](#_ENREF_80), [81](#_ENREF_81)) Carry out awareness-raising campaigns. Monitor whether child labor policies are implemented and whether municipalities budget the required 5 percent for initiatives to protect children’s rights.([25](#_ENREF_25), [81](#_ENREF_81), [82](#_ENREF_82)) |
| Federal Police | Investigate some cases of forced labor, human trafficking, and commercial sexual exploitation of children.([25](#_ENREF_25)) |
| Federal Public Ministry (MPF) | Investigate and prosecute cases of forced labor and human trafficking.([23](#_ENREF_23)) |
| Ministry of Justice (MOJ) | Lead efforts to combat human trafficking. Oversees state-run centers (*núcleos*) for addressing local anti-trafficking strategies in 16 states.([83](#_ENREF_83)) |
| Office of the President’s Secretariat of Human Rights (SDH) | Coordinate efforts to protect human rights, including combating forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Sponsor Dial 100, a human rights violation hotline which directs complaints to appropriate institutions for follow-up.([25](#_ENREF_25)) |
| Office of the President’s Secretariat for Women’s Policies | Operate Dial 180, a hotline that receives complaints about violence against women.([7](#_ENREF_7), [84](#_ENREF_84)) |
| Federal Highway Police | Collaborate with the MPF and MTE mobile inspection units in identifying risk points for forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation, with a focus on the highway system.([85](#_ENREF_85), [86](#_ENREF_86)) |
| Advanced Posts and Nucleus (*Núcleos*) | Refer human trafficking victims to services. Also, as of January 2014, these interagency units assisting possible human trafficking victims, at transit points now produce and publish quarterly progress reports.([83](#_ENREF_83)) |

\* Agency responsible for child labor enforcement was created during the reporting period.

Law enforcement agencies in Brazil took actions to combat child labor, including its worst forms.

***Labor Law Enforcement***

In 2014, the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MTE) had 2,711 labor inspectors who worked in all 26 states. The MTE’s budget reached $29.8 billion, a $2 billion increase over its 2013 budget.([83](#_ENREF_83)) Reports indicate that while funding is sufficient for inspections, the number of labor inspectors is too low.([83](#_ENREF_83))

During the reporting period, the MTE carried out 9,798 child labor inspections, an increase from 8,339 child labor inspections in 2013. Of the 9,798 child labor inspections, 3,241 inspections involved the worst forms of child labor.([83](#_ENREF_83)) No information is available on how many inspections had occurred as a result of complaints.([57](#_ENREF_57)) The majority of the inspections were carried out in the states of Bahia, Goias, Minas Gerais, Pernambuco, and Rio de Janeiro. Inspectors are able to make unannounced visits and inspections take place within a large range of economic activities in both the formal and informal sectors.([83](#_ENREF_83)) However, inspectors are not permitted to enter private homes and family farms where child labor may be found.([83](#_ENREF_83))

Prior to the start of the FIFA (soccer) World Cup in Brazil, the Government and different civil society members launched many awareness-raising campaigns about preventing the commercial sexual exploitation of children. The Office of the President’s Secretariat of Human Rights (SDH) allocated approximately $3.4 million in funding for projects to fight the commercial sexual exploitation of children.([7](#_ENREF_7), [87](#_ENREF_87)) Targeted child labor inspections also took place in the state of Bahia in 165 commercial establishments during Brazil’s Carnival season, from February 24 to 26, and in many tourist sites during the FIFA World Cup, from June 12 to June 17.([88](#_ENREF_88), [89](#_ENREF_89)) During the 2014 FIFA World Cup season, Dial 100 received 726 complaint calls related to child labor.([57](#_ENREF_57)) In addition, states have established mechanisms to receive child labor complaints. For example, the Secretariat for Social Development in the state of Minas Gerais receives such complaints through its human rights hotline.([83](#_ENREF_83), [90](#_ENREF_90))

In 2014, the MTE removed 5,522 children from child labor and removed 1,509 individuals from forced and exploitative labor conditions. No information is available on how many children were rescued from forced and exploitative labor.([83](#_ENREF_83), [91](#_ENREF_91)) Between January and September 2014, the Pernambuco Regional Office removed 843 children and adolescents from conditions of child labor, resulting in the highest number of children found and rescued from child labor in any one state in Brazil.([92](#_ENREF_92)) In 2014, in two separate cases, individuals were convicted for violating child labor laws. Total fines issued for these cases were $223,474.([57](#_ENREF_57)) Research did not uncover how many children were referred to social services.

***Criminal Law Enforcement***

For 2014, no information is available on the number of investigators responsible for enforcing criminal laws related to the worst forms of child labor. Research did not uncover how many investigations on the worst forms of child labor were carried out during the reporting period.

The Secretariat for Women’s Policies Dial 180 hotline (renamed Disque-Denúncia in March 2014) received 485,105 calls in 2014, 140 of which were human trafficking complaints, compared with 263 complaints during the same period in 2013.([93](#_ENREF_93), [94](#_ENREF_94)) State nucleusesreported having identified 170 victims of sex trafficking and 2,145 victims of human trafficking for the purpose of labor exploitation; many of the latter had been identified by the MTE.([7](#_ENREF_7), [57](#_ENREF_57)) The Government does not distinguish between adult trafficking and child trafficking cases in its public reporting, so it is difficult to discern how many of these victims were children.

The Government did not report comprehensive data on human trafficking prosecutions and convictions in Brazil. However, as part of the Second National Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons, there are concentrated efforts on data collection.([7](#_ENREF_7)) In 2014, Brazil’s National Council of Justice created 15 Judicial State Committees to Combat Trafficking in Persons which aim to coordinate data sharing among the courts.([7](#_ENREF_7))

There is no central database to record violations of the laws against the commercial sexual exploitation of children, including in child prostitution and pornography.([83](#_ENREF_83)) The Government did not report the number of children identified or rescued from commercial sexual exploitation in 2014.([57](#_ENREF_57)) Safernet Brazil, a partnership between the Government and an NGO, receives online complaints about human rights violations, including about child pornography and human trafficking. Safernet Brazil hosts a helpline to provide counseling support and a one-stop Web site with information about cybercrimes in Brazil.([95](#_ENREF_95), [96](#_ENREF_96)) In 2014, Safernet received more than 189,211 complaints, 51,553 of which pertained to child pornography.([97](#_ENREF_97))

Brazil faces challenges in collecting comprehensive data on human trafficking because of the lack of legislation that covers all forms of human trafficking.([98](#_ENREF_98)) Furthermore, most local governments lack adequate resources to combat human trafficking and assist human trafficking victims, including victims of commercial sexual exploitation.([23](#_ENREF_23))

# Coordination of Government Efforts on the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government has established mechanisms to coordinate its efforts to address child labor, including its worst forms (Table 6).

**Table 6. Mechanisms to Coordinate Government Efforts on Child Labor**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Coordinating Body** | **Role & Description** |
| National Council for the Rights of Children and Adolescents (CONANDA) | Monitor policies to protect children’s rights, including the rights of working children. Includes 28 sitting council members, 14 of whom are representatives from the Executive Branch and 14 are NGO representatives.([99](#_ENREF_99), [100](#_ENREF_100)) |
| Interagency Committee to Implement Strategies to Ensure the Protection of Children’s and Adolescents’ Rights | Coordinate the implementation of policies to protect children’s and adolescents’ rights, including the National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor and the Protection of Working Adolescents. Composed of nine government entities, including the National Council of the Federal Public Ministry and the Labor Justice Commission, and led by the SDH.([101](#_ENREF_101)) |
| National Committee for the Eradication of Child Labor (CONAETI) | Lead the implementation of the National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor and the Protection of Working Adolescents. Coordinated by the MTE; includes 17 government agencies, as well as representatives from trade unions, business associations, and civil society organizations.([102](#_ENREF_102), [103](#_ENREF_103)) |
| Intersectoral Committee to Combat Sexual Violence Against Children and Adolescents | Monitor the implementation of the National Plan to Combat Sexual Violence Against Children. Led by the SDH.([104](#_ENREF_104)) |
| National Commission to Combat Human Trafficking | Coordinate the implementation of the Second National Plan to Combat Human Trafficking. Chaired by the MOJ.([7](#_ENREF_7)) |
| Labor Justice Commission for the Eradication of Child Labor and the Protection of Adolescent Decent Work | Direct efforts led by the Labor Courts (*Justiça do Trabalho*) to eradicate child labor.([105](#_ENREF_105)) |
| Anti-Trafficking Interagency Coordination Centers (*Núcleos)* | Coordinate activities carried out by local, state, and federal agencies to combat human trafficking. There are currently 16 states with coordination centers.([23](#_ENREF_23)) |

A source indicates that state-level coordinating committees on trafficking in persons have faced challenges due to a lack of funding. The state of Pernambuco’s Committee on Combating Trafficking in Persons stopped meeting in the first quarter of 2014; it officially dissolved during the reporting period due to financial and administrative setbacks.([7](#_ENREF_7))

# Government Policies on the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Brazil has established policies related to child labor, including its worst forms (Table 7).

**Table 7. Policies Related to Child Labor**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Policy** | **Description** |
| National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor and the Protection of Working Adolescents (2011–2015) | Guides the Government of Brazil’s efforts to combat child labor, including its worst forms.([106](#_ENREF_106), [107](#_ENREF_107)) |
| National Plan to Combat Sexual Violence Against Children and Adolescents (2011–2020) | Lays out a set of strategies to prevent sexual violence, protect children’s rights, and assist child victims of sexual violence, as well as their families. Discussed throughout Brazil, harmonized with other child-related policies.([108](#_ENREF_108)) |
| National Plan for Children and Adolescents (2011–2020) | Outlines the policy framework to promote children’s rights. Aims to expand and coordinate policies and actions to address child labor.([109](#_ENREF_109)) In January 2014, the National Council for the Rights of Children and Adolescents established guidelines for states and municipalities to develop 10-year plans for children and adolescents based on the goals and objectives of the National Plan.([110](#_ENREF_110)) |
| Second Plan to Combat Forced Labor (2012–2016) | Establishes the policy framework to address forced labor, including forced child labor.([108](#_ENREF_108), [111](#_ENREF_111)) |
| Second Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons (2012-2016) | Guides efforts to combat human trafficking, including child trafficking.([112](#_ENREF_112)) Focuses on prevention, assistance to victims, and suppression of criminal activity.([83](#_ENREF_83)) |
| Decent Work National Plan and the Decent Work Agenda for Youth | Outlines policies to provide decent work opportunities and increase access to education and vocational training.([113](#_ENREF_113), [114](#_ENREF_114)) |
| National Educational Plan (2014–2024)† | Aims to expand access to education and improve the quality of education. Has 20 goals, including universal basic education; an end to illiteracy; and conversion of 50 percent of public schools into full-time schools, extending the number of school hours to 7 or more per day. Under the Plan, 10 percent of Brazil’s GDP will be allocated to education.([115-117](#_ENREF_115)) |
| 4-Year Development Plan (2012–2015) | Seeks to achieve sustainable development that reaches all regions and promotes social equality through access to quality education, technological innovation, and environmental sustainability. Aims to lift 16 million people out of extreme poverty, and build 2 million houses for low-income families.([118](#_ENREF_118)) |
| Declaration of the Regional Initiative: Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labor (2014–2020)† | Aims to increase regional cooperation on eradicating child labor by 2020 through signatories’ efforts to strengthen monitoring and coordination mechanisms, government programs, and South-South exchanges. Reaffirms commitments made in the Brasilia Declaration from the Third Global Conference on Child Labor (October 2013), and signed by Brazil at the ILO’s 18th Regional Meeting of the Americas in Lima, Peru (October 2014).([119-121](#_ENREF_119)) |

† Policy was approved during the reporting period.

In September 2014, Brazil participated in the First Meeting of the Working Groups of the XVIII Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor to foster continued dialogue and cooperation on labor issues throughout the Americas. Held in Bridgetown, Barbados, these discussions promoted the exchange of information on policies and programs that seek to formalize the informal sector, uphold workers’ rights, and prevent and eliminate child labor.([122](#_ENREF_122))

# Social Programs to Address Child Labor

In 2014, the Government of Brazil funded and participated in programs that include the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor, including its worst forms. The Government has other programs that may have an impact on child labor, including its worst forms (Table 8).

**Table 8. Social Programs to Address Child Labor**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Program** | **Description** |
| National Plan to Eradicate Child Labor (*Programa de Erradicação do Trabalho Infantil* [PETI])‡ | Ministry of Social Development and the Fight Against Hunger (MDS) conditional cash transfer program that combats child labor by working with families who commit to keep their children in school and out of work. Beneficiaries receive tailored social services based on their needs and vulnerability.([107](#_ENREF_107), [123](#_ENREF_123), [124](#_ENREF_124)) Implemented in more than 3,500 municipalities and more than 820,000 children benefit from the program. Tracks project beneficiaries through a national monitoring system.([107](#_ENREF_107), [124](#_ENREF_124)) |
| Family Grant  (*Bolsa Familia)*‡ | MDS anti-poverty program that supplements family income, targeting rural and urban areas where child labor is prevalent. One condition for family participation is that children under age 18 attend school regularly.([125](#_ENREF_125), [126](#_ENREF_126)) In 2014, 14 million families participated, and funding for families has increased by 44 percent in the past 3 years.([127](#_ENREF_127)) In 2014, the budget was $8.7 billion.([83](#_ENREF_83)) To address noncompliance with the school attendance requirements, the Ministry of Education, the MDS, and local and state governments track school attendance every 2 months. Beginning in December 2014, the municipality of São Paulo expanded the program to include foreign recipients residing in the municipality.([128](#_ENREF_128)) |
| Caring Brazil Program (*Brasil Carinhoso*)\*‡ | MDS program to combat extreme poverty among participants of *Bolsa Familia*, whose monthly income per capita is less than $137. *Brasil Carinhoso* targets families with children ages 0 to 15, and benefits 16.4 million people.([129](#_ENREF_129), [130](#_ENREF_130)) |
| Brazil Without Extreme Poverty (*Brasil sem Miséria*)‡ | MDS program that aims to lift more than 16 million people out of extreme poverty by expanding access to social protection programs, improving productivity and providing access to basic services.([131](#_ENREF_131)) The budget was extended into 2015 with a 4.4 percent increase in funding.([83](#_ENREF_83)) |
| National Program on Job Training and Employment (*Programa Nacional de Acesso ao Ensino Técnico e Emprego* [(PRONATEC)\*‡ | Ministry of Education job training and employment program for youth older than age 16. Program goal for 2014 was $5 billion, providing 8 million openings for professional courses.([132](#_ENREF_132), [133](#_ENREF_133)) Program also included PRONATEC Cup, a special training course for the 2014 World Cup held in Brazil, which included training courses for 240,000 students, and courses for 32,000 students in sign language and in English and Spanish.([133](#_ENREF_133)) |
| More Education Program (*Mais Educação*)‡ | Ministry of Education educational services program. Offers after-school activities and remedial activities to reduce dropout rates and grade repetition, as well as to combat child labor. In 2014, 58.3 million schools participated in the program, an increase from 49.2 million schools in 2013.([127](#_ENREF_127), [134](#_ENREF_134), [135](#_ENREF_135)) |
| National Household Survey‡ | Government-funded annual national household survey that includes child labor.([136](#_ENREF_136)) |
| South-South Cooperation Project‡ | A $461,862 Government of Brazil-funded projects to combat child labor, implemented by the ILO-IPEC to promote South-South cooperation.([137](#_ENREF_137)) In most of the project countries in 2014, an awareness-raising campaign named Pinwheel Caravan—Africa Free of Child Labor was conducted.([142](#_ENREF_142)) |
| Global Action Program on Child Labor Issues Project (2011–2016) | USDOL-funded project implemented by the ILO in approximately 40 countries to support the priorities of the Roadmap for Achieving the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor by 2016 established by The Hague Global Child Labor Conference in 2010. In Brazil, aims to improve the evidence base on child labor and the worst forms of child labor through data collection and research.([138](#_ENREF_138)) |
| Project to Consolidate Efforts to Combat Forced Labor in Brazil and Peru (2012–2016) | A $6 million, USDOL-funded, 4-year project implemented by the ILO to combat forced labor, including forced child labor in Brazil and Peru, and to share Brazil’s good practices with the Government of Peru and Peruvian stakeholders. In 2014, began to develop a monitoring tool to track the implementation of the National Plan to Combat Forced Labor, and it supported activities to promote the exchange of good practices among State Commissions to Combat Forced Labor.([139-141](#_ENREF_139)) Also carried out an exchange activity between the Brazilian and Peruvian Commissions to Combat Forced Labor to share good practices and develop an agenda for further information-sharing activities. In the state of Mato Grosso, will provide livelihood services to 650 victims of forced labor.([141](#_ENREF_141)) |
| Protect Brazil Smartphone Application (*Proteja Brasil*)‡ | Government- and UNICEF-sponsored smartphone and tablet application to report child labor abuses. Launched in 2014.([142](#_ENREF_142)) |
| Social Assistance Reference Centers | MDS and SDH program that provides vulnerable populations, including victims of child labor and human trafficking victims of commercial sexual exploitation, with psychological, social, and legal services. In 2014, there were 2,440 centers, an increase from 2,316 in 2013.([83](#_ENREF_83), [143](#_ENREF_143)) Funding also increased to $15.2 billion in 2014 from $13.7 billion in 2013.([83](#_ENREF_83)) Only 557 centers were certified to assist trafficking in persons victims.([57](#_ENREF_57)) |

\* The impact of this program on child labor does not appear to have been studied.

‡ Program is funded by the Government of Brazil.

Although the National Plan to Eradicate Child Labor (PETI) and Family Grant (*Bolsa Familia*) have reduced child labor in Brazil, challenges remain.([106](#_ENREF_106), [144](#_ENREF_144)) Some PETI beneficiaries are not fully complying with program requirements; reports claim that some children do not attend school, while others combine school and work.([145](#_ENREF_145), [146](#_ENREF_146)) Because of decentralization of PETI and *Bolsa Familia*, local communities are responsible for their implementation; however, they do not have the resources to fully implement and monitor the programs. Despite the increased funding from the Central Government, in some cases, the operational costs of these programs exceed the funding provided by the Federal Government or local governments lack the institutional capacity to implement them.([5](#_ENREF_5), [147](#_ENREF_147), [148](#_ENREF_148)) More than 3,200 municipalities in Brazil carry out policies and programs to combat child labor, but the Government does not have in place an effective monitoring system to track their implementation.

# Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor, including its Worst Forms

Based on the reporting above, suggested actions are identified that would advance the elimination of child labor, including its worst forms, in Brazil (Table 9).

**Table 9. Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor, Including its Worst Forms**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Area** | **Suggested Action** | **Year(s) Suggested** |
| Legal Framework | Ensure that the definition of trafficking in persons is consistent with international standards. | 2011 – 2014 |
| Enforcement | Increase the number of labor inspectors responsible for enforcing laws related to child labor in order to provide adequate coverage of the workforce. | 2014 |
| Make information publicly available on the number, cases of child trafficking and forced labor, including the number of rescued children, investigations, prosecutions, convictions, and children who received social services. | 2012 – 2014 |
| Make information publicly available on the number of criminal investigators for the worst forms of child labor. | 2014 |
| Provide adequate resources to local governments to combat human trafficking and assist victims. | 2012 – 2014 |
| Social Programs | Develop a monitoring system to track the implementation of child labor policies and programs. | 2009 – 2014 |
| Make publically available the number of children who received social services. | 2014 |
| Expand efforts to improve access to primary and secondary education, particularly in rural areas. | 2013 – 2014 |
| Carry out more in-depth research on the worst forms of child labor, particularly with regard to children engaged in domestic work, drug trafficking, and commercial sexual exploitation, as well as child victims of forced labor and child labor in indigenous communities. | 2009 – 2014 |
| Provide local governments with the resources and capacity to fully implement and monitor PETI and *Bolsa Familia*, identify technical assistance needed by communities, and raise awareness. | 2009 – 2014 |
| Ensure that families participating in PETI comply with program requirements to keep children in school and out of work. | 2009 – 2014 |

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