



Newsletter No 4 (draft)

CHILD LABOUR

The term “child labor” has many definitions depending on who is talking about it. With the existing discrepancy and inconsistency in the definition, it’s quite clear that the magnitude of child labour is very significant with an estimate of approximately 250 million children around the world.

The International Labor Organization, or the ILO, defines child labor as “some types of work” done by children under the age of 18. The ILO also says that child labor includes full-time work done by children under 15 years of age that prevents them from going to school (getting an education), or that is dangerous to their health.

More complete definitions of what child labor is in regard, age restrictions, job types, and exceptions can be found in convention 138, convention 182, and the convention on the rights of the child.

Worked at least one hr in the last seven days	Percent
Yes	20.4
No	79.3
Other	0.3
Total	100

Source: EICV2005

Whereas in the Rwandan labour law (2009) chapter 4 article 72 clearly stipulates that, it is an offence to subject children aged under 18yrs to worst forms of the child labour, according to EDPRS (2007), any one that is employed and is below 16 yrs of age is considered to be in child labour since the Rwandan working age is between 16-64 years.

Worked at least one hr in the last seven days by gender	Percent
Male	9.8
Female	10.6
Total	20.4

Source: EICV2005

From the tables below, 20.4% of the Rwandan population below the age of 16 years is in the child labour. Out of this population, 1.9% is working for wages/salaries while 97.8% doesn’t receive any payment. Also of the 20.4% in the child labour, 9.8% are males while 10.6% females.

Worked for wages or salaries	Percent
Yes	1.9
No	97.8
Other	0.3
Total	100

Source: EICV2005